

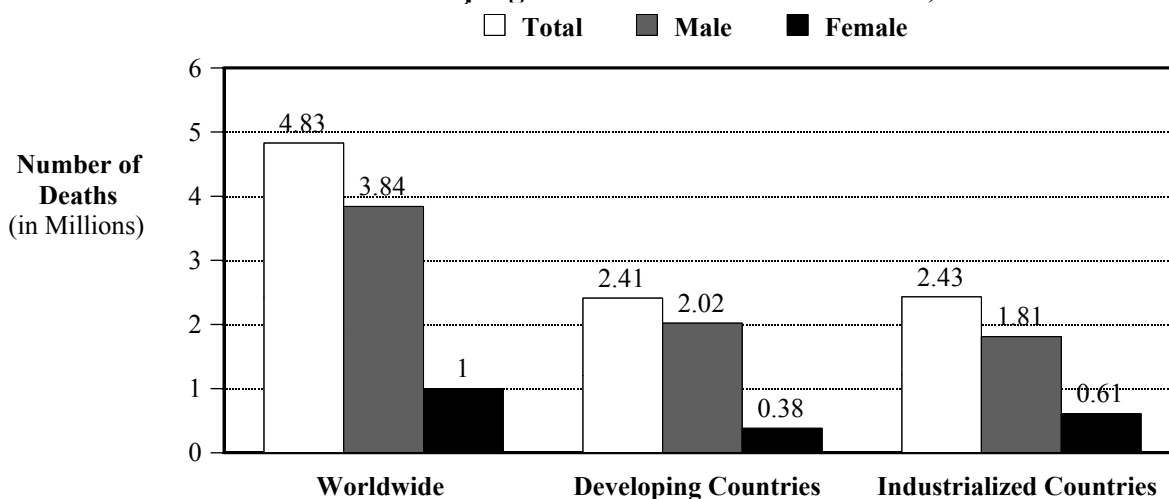
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Smoking Causes 4.83 Million Deaths Globally; Totals in Developing Countries Not Far Behind Industrialized Countries

Smoking was the cause of an estimated 4.83 million deaths worldwide in 2000, according to a recent statistical analysis of smoking-related mortality conducted by the Harvard School of Public Health in conjunction with the School of Population Health at the University of Queensland, Australia. The study found that the number of deaths attributable to smoking in developing countries was nearly equal to that of industrialized countries (2.41 million vs. 2.43 million). Men accounted for about 80% of the total smoking deaths worldwide and accounted for a higher percentage of the total deaths within developing countries (84%) than in industrialized ones (75%). The authors conclude that “the health loss due to smoking will grow larger unless effective interventions and policies that reduce smoking among men and prevent increases among women in developing countries are implemented” (p. 847).

**Estimated Number of Deaths (in Millions) Attributable to Smoking in
Developing and Industrialized Countries, 2000**



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from, Ezzati M., Lopez, A.D., “Estimates of Global Mortality Attributable to Smoking in 2000,” *The Lancet* 362(9387):847-852, 2003. For more information, contact Dr. Majid Ezzati Ph.D. at mezzati@hsph.harvard.edu.

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