

# **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

## **Tobacco Exposure and Policy Survey**

**AUGUST 2001**

### **Respondent Demographics**

The Clark County Health District contracted with The Gallup Organization to conduct the first survey in Clark County that measures residents exposure to environmental tobacco smoke (also known as second-hand smoke), as well as their stance on policy issues.

Among all adults, about one-half (49.6 percent) of survey respondents were male with nearly an equal percentage being female (50.4 percent). Of adults 57.5 percent were between 18-45 years of age; 30.8 percent were between 45-65 years; the remaining 11.7 percent were older than 65 years of age. For ethnicity, 20.1 percent reported being Hispanic or Latino. For race, 76.9 percent were white; 7.6 percent were African American; 1.3 percent were Asian; 8 percent were American Indian; the remainder of responses fell into a number of different categories or adults chose not to answer the question. For annual household income, 3.8 percent earned less than \$15,000; 9.4 percent earned under \$24,999; 40.1 percent earned between \$24,999 and \$54,999; the remaining 39.9 percent had annual household incomes of more that \$54,999; the remaining did not answer the question. A total of 1004 adults were surveyed. The smoking prevalence rate was 29.4%.

Following are highlights of the survey results. A full report will be completed and available at a later date.

### **Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) Exposure**

- Among all adults, 33.7 percent reported being exposed to cigarette smoke at home one or more days within an average week; 17 percent reported being exposed every day of the week.
- A total of 48.1 percent of all adults reported working at a job for money outside of their home in an indoor setting; of this group 47.2 percent reported being exposed to cigarette smoke on the job one or more days of an average work week; and about one-fifth of all workers in the County report being exposed to smoke on the job every day of the week.
- Of those adults who reported working outside the home in an indoor setting, 42.4 percent report that their workplace does not have an official policy that restricts smoking. Policies in most locations 74.9 percent did not allow smoking in any work areas. In the common areas at work, smoking was banned in 46.4 percent of these areas as reported by all working adults.
- When asked if they agreed that people should be protected from second hand smoke, 83.5 percent of all adults agreed or strongly agreed with this statement. Among smokers when asked the same question, 69.4 percent of smokers said they agreed or strongly agreed that people should be protected from ETS.

- Regarding their home environment, 66.9 percent of all adults reported that smoking was not allowed anywhere in their home; 33.9 percent of smokers reported that they too had a no smoking policy in their home.
- Smoking was banned from the family car as reported by 61.4 percent of all adults; for smokers, 25 percent of smokers reported enforcing this ban in their car.
- Within the last year, about one-third (33.9%) of all adults reported that they did not go to a public or private place because they knew they would be exposed to second hand smoke.

## **Policy Issues and Tobacco**

Respondents were asked questions regarding their level of support for banning cigarette smoking in a variety of specific areas in Clark County.

The following are the reported percentages for those who agreed or strongly agreed with a ban on smoking in the listed locations:

Among all respondents:

- On any school property at any time – 89.8%
- In grocery stores – 85.5%
- In convenience stores – 78.6%
- At indoor sporting or community events or fairs – 77.6%
- In all indoor restaurants – 67.1%
- In outdoor cafes and restaurants – 40.7%
- Close to the entrances of businesses and public buildings – 53.8 %
- In bars – 31.8 %
- Public places, like the zoo and playgrounds – 60.2 %

Among respondents who smoke:

- On any school property at any time – 85.1%
- In grocery stores – 81.1%
- In convenience stores – 71.6%
- At indoor sporting or community events – 64.9%
- In indoor restaurants – 39.9%
- In outdoor cafes and restaurants – 11.4%
- Close to the entrances of businesses and public buildings – 36.2 %
- In bars – 7.0 %
- Public places, like the zoo and playgrounds – 42.1%