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## The Cost of Smokers to Your Company.

1. Cigarette smoking and secondhand smoke cost \$92 billion in productivity losses annually, according to the U.S. Center of Disease Control and Prevention.<sup>1</sup>
2. Smokers, on average, miss 6.16 days of work per year due to sickness (including smoking related acute and chronic conditions), compared to nonsmokers, who miss 3.86 days of work per year.<sup>2</sup>
3. In a study of health care utilization in 20,831 employees of a single, large employer, employees who smoked had more hospital admissions per 1,000 (124 vs 76), had a longer average length of stay (6.47 vs. 5.03 days), and made six times more visits to health care facilities per year than nonsmoking employees.<sup>3</sup>
4. Employees that smoke had about two times more lost production time (LPT) per week than workers who never smoked, a cost of \$27 billion to employers.<sup>4</sup>
5. Businesses pay an average of \$2,189 in workers' compensation costs for smokers compared with \$176 for nonsmokers.<sup>5</sup>
6. The U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) puts a \$3,383 price tag on each employee who smokes: \$1,760 in lost productivity and \$1,623 in excess medical expenditures.<sup>6</sup>
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Source: Americans For Nonsmokers' Rights - [www.no-smoke.org](http://www.no-smoke.org)

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<sup>1</sup>[n.a.], "Annual Smoking Attributable Mortality, Years of Potential Life Lost, and Productivity Losses — United States, 1997-2001," *JAMA, MMWR* 2005; 54: 625-628.

<sup>2</sup>Halpern, M.T.; Shirkiar, R.; Rentz, A.M.; Khan, Z.M., "Impact of smoking status on workplace absenteeism and productivity," *Tobacco Control* 10(3): 233-238, September 2001.

<sup>3</sup>[n.a.]. "Cost of smoking to Business" *American Cancer Society*. [n.d.] Accessed on May 18, 2004. Download at [http://www.cancer.org/docroot/NWS/content/NWS\\_21x\\_The\\_Cost\\_of\\_Smoking\\_to\\_Business.asp](http://www.cancer.org/docroot/NWS/content/NWS_21x_The_Cost_of_Smoking_to_Business.asp).

<sup>4</sup>Stewart, WF et al. "Lost productivity work cost from health conditions in the United States: Results from the American Productivity Audits," *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine* 45(12): 1234-46. December 2003.

<sup>5</sup>Musich, S.; Napier, D.; Edington, D.W.; "The Association of Health Risks With Workers' Compensation Cost." *JOEM*. 43(6): 534-541, June 2001.

<sup>6</sup>Fellows, J.L.; Troclair, A.; Rivera, C.C.; National Center for Chronic Disease and Prevention and Health Promotion, "Annual Smoking Attributable Mortality, Years of Potential Life Lost, and Economic Costs—United States, 1995-1999." *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. JAMA*, (287)18: 2335-2356, 8 May 2002.