



# Most Kentucky adults favor a statewide smoke-free law

The **Kentucky Health Issues Poll (KHIP)**, sponsored by Interact for Health and the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky, has tracked Kentuckians' opinions about a statewide, smoke-free law for the past five years. A law that provides for smoke-free indoor air in workplaces (private and government), restaurants and bars is called a comprehensive law. In the United States, 26 states and the District of Columbia have such laws;<sup>1</sup> Kentucky does not.

## Majority of adults support smoke-free law

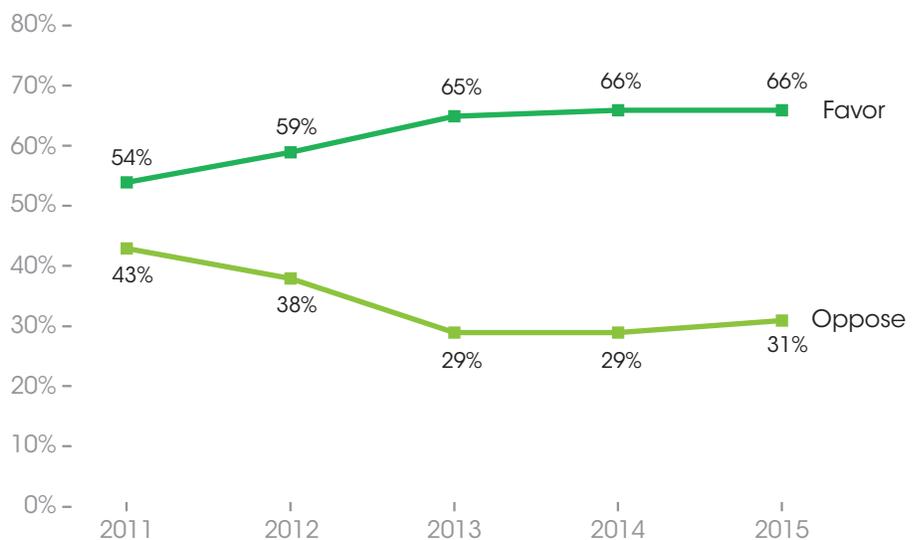
Support was high in 2015 for a comprehensive statewide law in Kentucky that would provide for smoke-free indoor air in most public places. Two-thirds of Kentucky adults (66%) favored this type of law. About 3 in 10 (31%) opposed such a law.

## Support steady since 2013 for smoke-free law

Support for a comprehensive statewide smoke-free law has been steady

<sup>1</sup> Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. State Smoke-free Indoor Air Fact Sheet. Retrieved Dec. 1, 2015, from <https://chronicdata.cdc.gov/Legislation/STATE-System-Smokefree-Indoor-Air-Fact-Sheet/vqg2-kkcg>.

**Would you favor or oppose a state law in Kentucky that would prohibit smoking in most public places, including workplaces, public buildings, offices, restaurants and bars?** (Percentages do not add to 100% because the response "don't know" is not included.)



at nearly 7 in 10 Kentucky adults since 2013. Likewise, about 3 in 10 Kentucky adults have opposed such a law each year since 2013.

## Most Democrats, Republicans and Independents favor law

Majorities of Democrats (69%), Republicans (67%) and Independents (58%) reported support for a statewide smoke-free law. (See graph on next page.)

## Support differs by smoking, health status

Nearly 8 in 10 Kentucky adults who have never smoked (77%) favored a smoke-free law. About 7 in 10 former smokers (69%) also supported a law. More than 4 in 10 current smokers (43%) favored a comprehensive smoke-free law. One in 4 Kentucky adults (26%) reported being a current smoker. (See graph on next page.)

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These findings unless otherwise noted are from the Kentucky Health Issues Poll, funded by the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky and Interact for Health. The Kentucky Health Issues Poll was conducted Sept. 17-Oct. 7, 2015, by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. A random sample of 1,608 adults from throughout Kentucky was interviewed by telephone. This included 986 landline interviews and 622 cell phone interviews with cell phone users. In 95 of 100 cases, the statewide estimates will be accurate to  $\pm 2.4\%$ . There are other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording, or context effects that can introduce error or bias. For more information about the Kentucky Health Issues Poll, please visit [www.healthy-ky.org](http://www.healthy-ky.org) or [www.interactforhealth.org/kentucky-health-issues-poll](http://www.interactforhealth.org/kentucky-health-issues-poll).

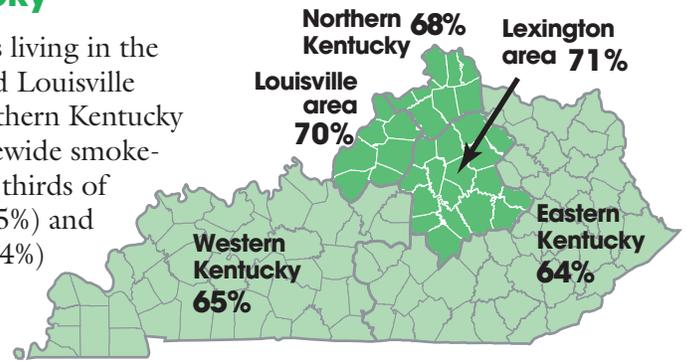
Support for this type of statewide law differed by health status.<sup>2</sup> More than 7 in 10 Kentucky adults who reported excellent or very good health (74%) supported a smoke-free law. About 6 in 10 Kentucky adults who reported good health (62%) or fair or poor health (58%) favored such a law.

<sup>2</sup> KHIP asked: "Would you say that, in general, your health is excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?"

## Support strong across Kentucky

About 7 in 10 adults living in the Lexington (71%) and Louisville (70%) areas and Northern Kentucky (68%) favored a statewide smoke-free law. Nearly two-thirds of adults in Western (65%) and Eastern Kentucky (64%) also supported a statewide smoke-free law.

Percentage of adults who favor a statewide smoke-free law, by region



## Percentage of adults who favor a state law in Kentucky that would prohibit smoking in most public places, including workplaces, public buildings, offices, restaurants and bars

Kentucky adults **66%**

### By political party identification



### By smoking status



### By general health status

