

What Ohioans Think about *Keeping the State Smoke-Free*



While 1 in 5 adults in the U.S. (18%) are current smokers,¹ the *Ohio Health Issues Poll* found that 1 in 4 Ohio adults (25%) are current smokers. Despite higher smoking rates, Ohio voters adopted a constitutional amendment in 2006 prohibiting smoking in workplaces, restaurants, bars, and other indoor public places. Private residences, family-owned businesses without non-family employees, certain areas of nursing homes, outdoor patios, and some retail tobacco stores are exempt.

Since the adoption of the constitutional amendment, some Ohioans are asking whether that amendment should be changed to allow smoking in some other indoor places. The 2010 *Ohio Health Issues Poll* asked Ohio adults what they think about changing the current indoor smoking bans.

Strong Support for Smoke-Free Workplaces and Restaurants, Even among Smokers

Almost 8 in 10 Ohio adults, and 6 in 10 Ohio smokers, support

¹ National data are from the CDC's 2009 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/BRFSS/>

Ohioans who support that workplaces, restaurants, and bars remain smoke-free

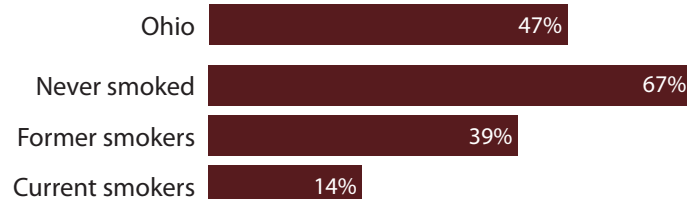
Workplaces



Restaurants



Bars



the continued ban on smoking in workplaces and restaurants. The majority of Ohioans in all demographic subgroups think workplaces and restaurants should remain smoke-free.

Ohioans Split on Support for Smoke-Free Bars

Ohio adults are split on allowing smoking in bars, with just

under half (47%) supporting continuation of the ban. The highest level of support for continuing the ban on smoking in bars comes from Ohio adults who have never smoked, with 67% supporting continuing the ban. Only 14% of smokers and 39% of former smokers think bars should continue to be smoke-free.