

**Opinions on Smoking Issues in the
Counties of Albany, Rensselaer,
And Schenectady Counties**

A Survey Conducted June 1 – June 7, 2006

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Current Smoking Frequency

Compared to prior years, there is no apparent trend in the frequency of smoking cigarettes across the three counties. Almost all of those who use tobacco products do so in the form of cigarettes. Only a few smoke cigars or pipes or chew tobacco (see pages 16-17). As noted in earlier reports, approximately 50 % report they have smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime, but many of these do not smoke currently, resulting in 34 - 40 % that are past smokers in the three counties.

Prevalence of Smoking and Tobacco Use

In 2006 to assess the presence of smoking or the use of other tobacco products, respondents were first asked if they had smoked 100 cigarettes in their lifetime, then (if yes) how much they smoke now, and then all were asked if they used tobacco products in any other form. Those who smoke and / or use tobacco products in other forms were added together. In prior years they were asked if they used any form of tobacco products.

	County								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
Any form now	17.3	14.0	22.2	20.9	17.0	23.5	20.3	17.0	16.3
Cigarettes									
Smoke now	16.0	13.6	14.1	20.0	17.0	18.6	18.5	17.0	14.5
Did, but not now	36.3	29.0	37.5	35.1	37.0	34.3	27.9	34.9	40.1
Never smoked	45.1	56.8	48.4	41.3	46.0	47.0	50.9	48.2	45.4
Average # now	15.4	17.6	11.4	16.1	15.8	14.4	14.4	14.8	15.9

Younger people are less likely to have smoked 100 cigarettes in their lifetime, but they are still more likely to be current smokers. 60 % of those under 30 have never smoked cigarettes. That percentage declines with age, reaching 37 % among those 60 and over. While fewer young people have tried smoking, current smoking still remains higher among those younger. 20 % of those under 30 currently smoke and 22 % of those between 30 and 44 now smoke. This rate then declines with age. Among those 45-59 years old 17 % smoke and 8 % of those 60 and over smoke. While education may be convincing younger people not to try cigarettes, those who have tried are currently continuing to smoke at a relatively high rate. 40 % of those under 30 have tried cigarettes and 50 % of that group is now still smoking.

The presence of a child in the household has no effect on whether someone smokes. Among the 64 % who report that no child is present, 17 % smoke. Among the 36 % with a child present, 17 % smoke.

Smoking declines as income increases. Those with household incomes under \$50,000 are more likely to smoke (24 %), while those making more than \$75,000 are less likely to smoke (12 %). Men are more likely to smoke than women. 20 % of men report they currently smoke cigarettes, while 14 % of women

report that they do. The 7 % who lack some insurance coverage are much more likely to smoke (25 %) than those who have insurance (17 %).

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke

While only 16 – 22 % of respondents say they currently use tobacco products, 28 – 34 % of respondents say they spend some time in a home where someone is smoking. 17 – 26 % say they spend some time in a car when someone is smoking. Most respondents do not spend any time in such situations, but there is still a substantial percentage in that situation

Q 4. During the past week, approximately how many total hours did you spend in a home where someone has been smoking?

	County								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
Zero hours	73.6	78.0	72.0	66.3	72.8	66.2	71.0	73.6	73.2
1-5 hours	8.5	10.3	9.8	16.3	11.9	16.6	14.7	11.8	14.1
6-10 hours	1.2	1.1	6.7	5.1	1.2	0.8	2.6	2.2	1.1
11-21	3.1	4.2	1.8	3.8	2.0	3.8	3.0	2.7	1.8
More than 21	13.2	5.3	6.7	7.7	11.9	11.8	8.0	9.7	9.2
Not sure	0.5	1.1	3.0	0.8	0.4	0.9	0.8	0	.7

Q 5. During the past week, approximately how many total hours did you spend in a vehicle where someone has been smoking?

	County								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
Zero hours	86.0	87.8	80.2	71.5	75.9	74.0	79.2	80.4	83.2
1-5 hours	6.2	9.2	15.1	21.7	15.4	16.7	15.2	12.7	11.3
6-10 hours	4.4	0.8	0.2	2.5	4.0	4.9	3.8	2.4	4.5
11-21	1.3	0.8	1.7	2.5	2.0	1.8	1.5	2.5	.3
More than 21	2.1	1.2	1.6	1.2	2.4	2.6	0.3	2.0	.8
Not sure	0	0.4	1.2	0.6	0.4	0	0	0	0

Those who smoke are much more likely to be in situations where they are exposed to smoking. Of those currently smoke, 72 % spent some time in a house where smoking occurs, and 70 % have spent some time in a car where smoking occurs. Some non-smokers apparently reside in situations where someone else in the household smokes. Of those who do not currently smoke, 20 % spend some time in a house where smoking occurs, and 10 % have spent some time in a car where smoking occurs. Those under 30 are more likely to be in a household where smoking occurs (35 %) or in a car where

someone has been smoking (30 %). Being in the presence of smoking in a house or in a car declines with age. Men are 10 % more likely to be in a house or a car where smoking occurs.

Worries about Health Effects

43 – 51 % say that exposure to secondhand smoke bothers them a great deal. Another 21 - 24 % say it bothers them somewhat. Overall, then, 65 - 75 % say that exposure bothers them. 23-33 % say that exposure does not bother them “much at all.”

Men are less likely to worry about exposure. 42 % of men worry a great deal about exposure, while 57 % of women worry a great deal about exposure. Only 31 % of those under 30 worry a great deal about exposure, while for those above 30 about 52 % worry a great deal. Concern does not increase with income, but does rise modestly as education increases.

As might be expected, the primary source of variation in worries about exposure is the smoking history of an individual. Among those who now smoke, 4 % worry a great deal and 76 % don't worry much at all. Among those who did smoke, but do not now, 51 % worry a great deal, and 23 % don't worry much at all. Of those who have never smoked, 66 % worry a great deal, and 13 % don't worry much at all.

Concerns about Smoking

Q 1. Does exposure to secondhand smoke bother you a great deal, somewhat, or not much at all?

	County								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
Great deal	45.2	53.2	51.1	36.1	54.0	42.5	43.7	47.9	50.4
Somewhat	25.8	25.9	24.0	33.6	25.4	23.9	24.6	27.8	21.1
Not much	27.2	19.4	23.0	29.1	20.6	33.0	30.3	21.8	27.5
Not sure	1.8	1.5	1.9	1.3	0	0.6	1.5	2.6	1.1

Personal Policies about Smoking

Over 70 % of respondents report that they prohibit smoking in their home or their car. About 13 % allow smoking in some places at home or sometimes in their car. Between 14 -17 % allow smoking anywhere or have no rules about smoking. Those under 30 are less likely to prohibit smoking in the home (66 %) or the car (67 %). Women are more likely to prohibit smoking at home (77 %) than are men (69 %), and the same difference occurs for car rules. Those with a child present are more likely to prohibit smoking at home (81 %) and in a car (75 %). Rules against smoking increase modestly as income increases.

The presence of smoking restrictions varies with whether the person was or is a smoker. Smokers are much less inclined to have rules about smoking at home or in cars, but even they operate with some prohibitions. 87 % of those who have never smoked do not allow smoking at home, and 86 % report it is never allowed in a car. 26 % of current smokers and 77 % of past smokers prohibit smoking at home. 22 % of current smokers prohibit smoking in a car and 78 % of past smokers do so.

Q 2. Which statement best describes the rules about smoking in your home? (options read: “Not allowed anywhere inside the home, smoking is allowed in some places or at some times, smoking is allowed anywhere inside the home, there are no rules about smoking inside the home, Don’t know/Not sure”)

Rules	County								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
Not allowed	69.5	71.9	74.0	65.5	70.0	68.6	68.0	76.1	74.7
Some places	12.5	11.4	12.7	19.0	9.1	14.2	13.6	10.2	11.4
Anywhere	6.4	3.0	5.9	3.7	8.3	4.3	6.0	3.5	5.2
No rules	11.3	12.9	7.0	10.8	12.3	12.9	11.8	10.1	8.7
Not sure	0.3	0.8	0.5	1.0	0.4	0	0.7	0	0

Q 3. Which statement best describes the rules about smoking in your family vehicle or vehicles?

Rules	County								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
Not allowed	74.3	74.1	71.9	63.5	72.3	67.2	66.4	79.5	75.9
In some cars	11.9	11.4	14.9	21.7	11.1	15.2	16.8	8.3	10.0
All cars	10.3	8.4	10.5	11.2	12.7	11.0	13.2	10.4	6.4
No family car	2.6	3.8	1.5	1.8	3.6	2.8	3.1	1.8	4.5
Not sure	0.9	2.3	1.2	1.8	0.4	3.8	0.5	0	3.2

Support for the Law

The law limiting smoking has now been in effect for three years. When asked about favoring or opposing the new law, a strong majority in each county favors the law. Overall support is about 10 percentage points higher than a year ago.

Women (79 % favor – 12 % oppose) remain more supportive of the law than men (63 % favor – 26 % oppose). Those with higher incomes are more supportive of the law. 69 % of those with household incomes under \$50,000 support the law, while 79 % of those making more than \$75,000 support the law. Those with graduate degrees are much more supportive of the law (85 %) than all others (68 %).

The primary opposition comes from tobacco users. Among those currently smoking, 31 % favor the law and 47 % oppose it. In 2004 it was 18 % support – 72 % oppose. Among those who once smoked but no longer do, 71 % favor the law and 21 % oppose it. Among those who have never smoked, 86 % support it and 6 % oppose it. Opposition to this law will continue to come primarily from smokers, but even their opposition is declining.

As found in prior surveys, respondents have consistent views about smoking. Those who support the new law are more likely to worry a great deal about the dangers of smoking. They are more likely to limit smoking in their home and car and to limit their exposure to smoking. Those who oppose the law are far less worried about the dangers of smoking. They are less likely to limit smoking at home or in their car and are more likely to be in situations where smoking occurs. For example, among the 71 % that support the law, 64 % worry a great deal about the dangers of smoking, 86 % prohibit smoking in their house, and 85 % prohibit it in their car. In contrast, among the 18 % who oppose the new law, only 12 % worry a great deal about the dangers of smoking, only 39 % prohibit smoking at home, and 38 % prohibit smoking in their car.

New Law Support

Q 6. Do you personally favor or oppose or have no opinion about the New York State law, which does not allow smoking in all public places and places of work, including bars and restaurants?

	County								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
Favor	62.4	72.2	77.4	61.0	70.8	63.2	60.9	71.8	73.3
Oppose	30.5	16.4	12.7	28.1	19.8	25.5	29.4	20.8	17.6
No opinion	4.9	8.0	6.0	7.7	8.3	9.5	6.3	6.7	7.5
Not sure	2.2	3.4	3.9	3.2	1.2	1.9	3.4	0.7	1.7

Compliance with the Law

Respondents were asked if they have seen anyone smoking in a restaurant or bar. Overall about 4 % of all respondents report seeing smoking in a restaurant. 9 % of all respondents report seeing

smoking in a bar. If those who have not gone to a bar in the last 30 days are excluded, 13 % of the remainder report seeing smoking. Men and current smokers are somewhat more likely to recall seeing someone smoking.

Q 8. During the last time you went to a restaurant in New York State in the past 30 days, did you see someone smoking indoors at the restaurant?

	County					
	Albany		Rensselaer		Schenectady	
	05	06	05	06	05	06
Yes	6.5	1.7	9.5	2.5	4.5	6.1
No	91.3	95.5	88.8	96.7	92.1	92.0
Didn't go last 30 days	1.9	2.6	1.7	0.8	2.9	2.0
Don't know	0.4	0.2	0	0	0.4	0
Refused	0	0	0	0	0	0

Q 9. During the last time you went to a bar in New York State in the past 30 days, did you see someone smoking indoors at the bar?

	County					
	Albany		Rensselaer		Schenectady	
	05	06	05	06	05	06
Yes	5.7	7.0	17.2	11.1	9.8	9.5
No	54.8	65.0	57.1	60.1	58.8	60.9
Didn't go last 30 days	36.9	24.5	23.2	28.4	30.4	29.6
Don't know	2.3	3.2	2.5	0.5	0.7	0
Refused	0.4	0.4	0	0	0.3	0

Expanding Coverage of the Legislation

When asked about limiting smoking in other situations – parks, beaches, and around the entryways to buildings – support is not high, but it continues to be higher than when the questions were first asked in 2004. A majority continues to endorse expanding coverage of the law to include entryways. For expansion involving parks and beaches a majority or plurality still opposes this expansion.

Q 7. Do you favor or oppose an expansion of the current clean indoor air law to include any of the following environments?

Public parks and outdoor recreation areas?

	County								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
Favor	29.8	39.1	40.5	29.2	39.9	37.9	31.6	34.3	38.3
Oppose	63.9	51.3	54.5	63.4	51.8	54.3	60.3	53.2	50.5
No Opinion	6.3	9.5	5.1	7.4	8.3	7.8	8.1	12.5	11.2

Public beaches?

	County								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
Favor	30.8	41.8	41.9	33.6	43.1	41.2	34.7	37.2	41.2
Oppose	63.5	49.1	52.2	60.7	49.4	50.1	60.8	52.2	45.4
No Opinion	5.7	9.1	5.9	5.7	7.5	8.7	4.6	10.7	13.4

Areas around building entry ways?

	County								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
Favor	49.9	58.9	54.9	45.6	59.3	57.0	49.8	53.9	55.5
Oppose	44.5	31.2	34.7	48.7	34.8	36.0	43.9	40.8	33.1
No Opinion	5.9	9.9	10.4	5.8	5.9	7.0	6.3	5.3	11.4

The primary source of variation in opinions about these issues is again whether someone worries about the dangers of exposure to smoking and smoking history. Among the 47 % who worry a great deal about the dangers of exposure, 55 % support expansion to parks, 57 % support including beaches, and 74 % support including entryways. Among those who are only somewhat worried, 35 % support expansion to parks, 38 % to beaches, and 57 % to entryways. Among those who have never smoked, 52 % support expansion to parks, 55 % to beaches, and 70 % to entryways. Among current smokers, 16 % support expansion to parks, 17 % to beaches, and 30 % to entryways.

Awareness of Tobacco Advertising

Respondents have fairly high recall of tobacco advertising around shops, but very little recall of advertising at sporting or cultural events.

Among those under 30, 46 % recall seeing ads in shop windows 2-3 times a day or every day. 30 % of women report seeing ads that frequently in shop windows, while 47 % of men report that frequency. 60 % of smokers recall seeing ads in shop windows everyday or more, while 33 % of non-smokers recall seeing ads that frequently.

Now I'd like to ask you about tobacco advertising. In the past 30 days, how often have you noticed cigarettes or tobacco products being advertised or promoted in any of the following ways:

Q 10. ...in shop windows or inside shops where tobacco is sold?

	County					
	Albany		Rensselaer		Schenectady	
	05	06	05	06	05	06
2-3 times per day	3.4	11.8	8.3	11.4	7.1	11.0
Everyday	15.6	24.7	19.4	30.4	24.9	30.4
Once per week	17.5	24.3	16.6	31.4	17.8	20.9
Less than once per week	9.9	8.1	9.5	3.1	8.7	5.8
Never	29.7	14.5	22.9	10.3	23.7	15.0
Not sure/Not applicable	24.0	16.7	23.3	13.5	17.8	16.9

Q 11. ...at sports events?

	County					
	Albany		Rensselaer		Schenectady	
	05	06	05	06	05	06
2-3 times per day	0.4	1.4	0	1.7	0.8	1.1
Everyday	1.9	4.6	1.2	3.2	2.8	.6
Once per week	3.0	9.0	5.6	3.4	3.2	8.8
Less than once per week	6.1	8.4	6.4	6.0	7.5	4.1
Never	38.4	31.3	34.9	50.8	40.9	31.5
Not sure/Not applicable	50.2	45.4	52.0	34.8	44.8	53.8

Q 12. ...at cultural events?

	County					
	Albany		Rensselaer		Schenectady	
	05	06	05	06	05	06
2-3 times per day	0.8	2.6	0	0	0.4	.6
Everyday	0	0	0	2.0	1.2	
Once per week	2.3	1.6	0.4	3.4	3.2	.8
Less than once per week	2.7	11.0	4.0	5.4	7.1	6.0
Never	51.7	59.0	50.0	59.4	50.2	53.8
Not sure/Not applicable	42.6	25.9	45.6	29.8	37.9	38.8

Smoking in Movies

There is considerable agreement that actors smoking in movies encourages teens to smoke and that movies should not show actors smoking. 24 % strongly agree that seeing actors smoke encourages smoking and 43 % agree. 21 % disagree and 4 % strongly disagree. 32 % strongly agree and 38 % agree that some movies should not show smoking. 20 % disagree and 4 % strongly disagree.

Those who are over 60 are somewhat more inclined to see actors as influencing people (70 % strongly agree or agree) than those under 30 (60 % combined). 40 % of smokers strongly agree or agree, while 75 % of non-smokers strongly agree or agree. Agreement that movies should not show smoking rises with age. Among those under 30, 62 % agree (agree or agree strongly), while 73 % of those 60 and over agree. 61 % of men agree while 78 % of women agree. 74 % of non-smokers agree (strongly agree or agree) and even 53 % of smokers strongly agree or agree. 81 % of those who support the law limiting smoking agree that movies should not show smoking.

Could you please tell me if you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements?

Q. 13. Movies rated G, PG, and PG-13 should not show actors smoking.

	County					
	Albany		Rensselaer		Schenectady	
	05	06	05	06	05	06
Strongly agree	31.9	29.9	28.4	27.3	22.2	37.0
Agree	37.6	37.6	36.8	41.5	41.4	34.3
Disagree	17.9	23.1	17.6	19.6	18.2	19.6
Strongly disagree	4.2	2.7	4.0	5.2	5.8	4.0
Don't know/Not sure	8.4	6.7	13.2	6.4	12.5	5.1

Q 14. Seeing actors smoking in the movies encourages smoking among teens.

	County					
	Albany		Rensselaer		Schenectady	
	05	06	05	06	05	06
Strongly agree	18.3	23.3	25.2	17.8	16.1	30.5
Agree	52.5	47.0	40.0	39.1	48.0	44.6
Disagree	16.7	21.7	26.8	26.4	24.0	15.2
Strongly disagree	6.8	2.7	3.6	4.8	6.1	4.8
Don't know/Not sure	5.7	5.4	4.4	12.0	5.9	5.0

Tobacco Sponsorship of Events

A plurality of respondents continues to see tobacco sponsorship as having a negative impact in the community. Somewhat more than a third thinks sponsorship has no impact. Smokers are less worried about such sponsorship. 49 % of non-smokers see a negative impact, while 17 % of smokers see a negative impact. Of those who worry a great deal about exposure to smoke, 55 % see a negative impact, while 23 % of those who don't worry much at all see a negative impact.

While smokers and non-smokers divide on most issues, when it comes to accepting sponsorship money a majority of smokers and non-smokers differ very little about this issue. Those who oppose the law limiting smoking are much more accepting of tobacco sponsorship than those who oppose the law.

Q 15. In general, do you believe that tobacco industry sponsorship of activities or events has a positive or negative impact in the community, or do you believe it has no impact at all?

	County					
	Albany		Rensselaer		Schenectady	
	05	06	05	06	05	06
Positive impact	11.4	7.0	13.2	11.2	12.2	12.2
Negative impact	41.1	45.3	34.0	41.6	41.5	40.6
No impact	38.0	36.8	40.4	37.2	36.7	36.3
Don't know	9.5	10.9	12.4	10.0	9.7	10.6
Refused	0	0	0	0	0	.3

You may or may not know that the tobacco industry provides sponsorship for many different local events and organizations. I'd like to read you the names of some events or organizations and ask if you think they should accept or should not accept tobacco sponsorship for their events and activities. (This question was changed from the original script because respondents had trouble understanding the question. See page 24 for a discussion of problems with the original language for questions 16-20.)

Q 16. Sporting events?

	County					
	Albany		Rensselaer		Schenectady	
	05	06	05	06	05	06
Definitely should accept	13.0	9.0	6.4	13.2	8.7	7.4
Should accept	29.1	41.4	30.9	30.7	23.4	22.5
Should reject	32.6	29.9	49.8	23.7	42.6	35.8
Definitely should reject	13.8	12.6	9.2	27.5	15.3	25.6
No opinion	11.5	7.2	3.6	4.9	10.0	8.7

Q 17. Community festivals?

	County					
	Albany		Rensselaer		Schenectady	
	05	06	05	06	05	06
Definitely should accept	9.2	11.9	6.0	6.1	5.2	5.1
Should accept	31.4	34.5	20.5	23.8	17.2	21.6
Should reject	34.5	29.9	59.0	32.2	53.5	36.8
Definitely should reject	13.0	16.2	10.0	32.6	13.7	26.9
No opinion	11.9	7.6	4.4	5.4	10.4	9.6

Q 18. Parades?

	County					
	Albany		Rensselaer		Schenectady	
	05	06	05	06	05	06
Definitely should accept	10.0	11.1	5.2	4.7	5.2	5.0
Should accept	31.4	38.7	23.3	25.3	18.5	22.6
Should reject	31.8	25.6	55.4	32.7	49.6	34.0
Definitely should reject	13.4	15.9	9.2	31.1	16.1	27.0
No opinion	13.4	8.7	6.8	6.3	10.0	9.6

Q 19. Arts and cultural events?

	County					
	Albany		Rensselaer		Schenectady	
	05	06	05	06	05	06
Definitely should accept	11.1	11.0	5.2	8.0	5.2	6.1
Should accept	32.1	35.1	26.1	26.0	21.3	20.0
Should reject	33.3	28.9	55.4	30.7	48.9	36.5
Definitely should reject	11.5	14.4	8.8	28.0	14.3	26.5
No opinion	11.9	10.5	4.4	7.3	10.3	10.9

Q 20. Charities/Non-profit organizations?

	County					
	Albany		Rensselaer		Schenectady	
	05	06	05	06	05	06
Definitely should accept	13.0	10.0	9.6	7.8	4.6	5.1
Should accept	30.7	33.7	30.1	28.2	18.8	21.0
Should reject	31.8	31.2	48.2	23.4	47.9	37.7
Definitely reject	14.2	16.3	8.4	32.2	17.8	24.2
No opinion	10.3	8.4	3.6	8.4	11.0	12.0

Considering Quitting and Awareness of Quitline

Those who currently smoke were asked if they have considered quitting. Large majorities have tried to quit and smaller percentages have considered quitting. Only small percentages are not interested in trying to quit. Substantial majorities of respondents have heard of Quitline. As with past surveys, those who smoke are more likely to have heard of Quitline than those who do not smoke. 66 % of non-smokers have heard of it, while 86 % of smokers have heard of it. Television remains the dominant source of awareness about Quitline.

Q 25. Have you considered quitting smoking or tried to in the past?

	Counties								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
Considered	11.1	17.3	11.5	37.3	24.3	22.9	15.6	28.9	10.1
Tried	73.2	68.9	69.8	48.7	52.8	60.9	74.5	51.8	83.3
Neither	15.7	13.9	18.7	14.0	22.9	16.2	9.9	19.3	6.6

Q 30. Have you ever heard of the New York State Smokers' Quitline?

(options: Yes, No, Don't Know/Not sure)

	Counties								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
Yes	59.2	70.7	73.1	64.4	77.0	71.6	52.2	60.5	65.8
No	39.1	27.4	25.2	33.6	23.0	27.8	44.6	38.4	31.0
Not sure	1.8	2.0	1.7	1.9	0	0.7	3.2	1.1	8.2

Q 31. (If yes) Where did you hear about the New York State Smokers' Quitline? (Options read: Television, Radio, Newspapers/magazines, or internet. "Other" not listed.)

	Counties								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
Television	59.8	70.7	68.7	57.9	75.5	71.5	58.2	68.7	65.8
Radio	12.9	27.4	18.5	17.0	9.0	9.4	21.9	18.4	16.2
Newspapers	8.3	2.0	8.8	5.5	12.2	5.9	2.3	11.6	6.2
Internet	2.0	0	0.5	0.5	3.3	0.7	0.9	1.4	.5

Employment and Income

Q 34. What is your current employment status? (options read: Employed for wages, Self-employed, Out of work for more than 1 year, Out of work for less than 1 year, A homemaker, A student, Retired, Unable to work, Don't know/Not sure).

	Counties								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
Employed	55.7	64.7	54.7	65.7	64.1	59.7	63.5	60.6	53.8
Self-employed	7.3	1.9	7.9	5.9	6.1	6.4	2.4	4.1	5.2
Unemployed 1 yr +	0.5	0.9	1.8	0	2.9	0.7	1.2	0.3	1.9
Unemployed < 1 yr	1.5	0.2	3.9	1.3	1.1	4.3	1.3	2.1	1.0
Homemaker	3.0	1.6	4.4	3.6	3.2	4.0	5.3	3.8	5.9
Student	3.0	4.9	5.4	2.7	1.2	1.6	4.2	2.0	3.6
Retired	27.2	23.2	21.7	18.8	21.0	21.8	20.2	23.8	28.0
Unable to work	1.5	2.5	0.2	1.9	0	1.7	1.3	1.9	.7
Not sure	0.3	0	0	0	0.4	0	.6	1.3	0

Q 40. Bearing in mind that this is completely confidential, please tell me which category best describes your yearly household income. Is it... (read categories)

	County					
	Albany		Rensselaer		Schenectady	
	05	06	05	06	05	06
Under \$25,000	15.7	11.8	11.7	10.2	14.4	18.1
\$25,000 to \$49,000	20.5	14.6	27.9	20.4	23.2	24.7
\$50,000 to \$74,000	23.8	20.6	26.4	26.1	23.5	19.4
\$75,000 to \$99,000	13.3	15.6	9.5	16.4	12.4	9.9
\$100,000 to \$149,000	9.7	13.5	9.5	9.4	10.5	14.0
over \$150,000	2.6	8.2	2.6	3.7	2.1	2.2
Don't know	0.6	0.4	2.1	2.8	1.0	2.2
Refused	13.9	15.3	10.3	11.0	13.0	9.6

Insurance

92 % of all respondents report that they have some form of health insurance. Those under 30 are somewhat less likely to have insurance (85 %). Those 60 and over have the highest coverage rate at 97 %. 11 % of smokers have no insurance, compared to 8 % of non-smokers. Insurance coverage increases with income, from 85 % among those making less than \$50,000 a year, to 97 % for those making \$50-74,000 to 99 % among those making \$75,000 or more.

67 % of respondents have private health insurance. The next largest source is Medicare, while a few have more than one form of insurance. Insurance coverage is very different for those with lower incomes from those with higher incomes. 43 % of those making less than \$50,000 have private insurance, while 87 % of those making more than \$75,000 have private insurance. Among those making less than \$50,000, 24 % rely on Medicare and 6 % rely on Medicaid. Among those making more than \$75,000, 87 % have private, 2 % Medicare and 1 % Medicaid.

Q 38. Are you currently covered by any kind of health insurance, that is, any policy or program that provides or pays for medical care?

	Counties								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
Yes	97.5	94.9	92.8	93.4	93.2	93.0	92.7	94.7	87.3
No	1.8	5.1	6.8	6.1	6.9	5.4	6.4	5.3	11.8
Not sure	0.7	0	0.4	0.5	0	1.7	0.9	0	.9

Q 39. What type of health care coverage do you use to pay for most of your medical care? (Options read: Private insurance coverage, Medicare, Medicaid or Medical Assistance, Military / CHAMPUS / TriCare / VA, Indian Health Service, None, Other, Don't know/Not sure)

	Counties								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
Private	78.1	72.5	78.1	77.2	73.6	75.4	71.5	77.7	65.9
Medicare	11.2	14.1	10.2	4.2	6.6	14.2	14.1	9.2	14.1
Medicaid	1.1	2.0	2.4	2.1	4.4	2.4	1.5	3.6	4.9
Military, etc.	1.3	.8	1.3	0.9	2.0	1.8	1.4	0	.7
Indian Service	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
None	1.6	4.9	3.3	5.5	5.9	2.1	6.1	5.4	7.4
Other - multiple	2.9	5.0	1.0	8.3	6.4	0	3.7	2.6	4.0
Not sure	1.7	0.7	2.0	1.8	0.6	0	1.6	1.2	3.2

Children and Race

Between 31 – 36 % of respondents report that at least one child under 17 is in their home. The population in these counties is overwhelmingly white.

Q 35. How many children live in your household who are younger than 5 years old? How many 5 through 11 years old? How many 12 through 17 years old? The results here are first reported in terms of whether there is one or more child in each category. Then the table presents the percentage of households with at least one child present.

	County								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
% with 1 or more children within each age category									
Younger than 5	14.3	12.0	12.7	17.0	15.0	13.8	12.4	15.0	14.4
5 through 11	18.0	12.0	16.9	20.9	15.0	16.9		18.0	16.2
12 through 17	14.9	16.0	12.5	19.5	16.0	22.9	20.1	18.0	17.9
% with a child	33.7	33.1	30.6	36.6	38.2	34.9	38.1	34.1	35.6

Q 36. Which one of the following best describes your race? (Options read: White, Black or African American, Hispanic, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, American Indian, Alaska Native, Other, No additional choices, Don't know/Not sure)

	County								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
White	89.0	86.3	90.4	92.7	96.9	93.3	88.8	85.8	93.1
Black	2.0	7.0	2.5	5.9	0.4	5.1	1.8	4.6	1.6
Hispanic	2.1	3.2	0.9	0.6	1.9	0	1.0	2.6	.3
Asian	1.8	0	4.2	0	0	0.9	0.9	0.8	1.1
Native Hawaiian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	0	.5
Indian	0	0	0.2	0	0.8	0.5	0.9	0.7	1.2
Other – mixed	1.3	1.9	0.2	0	0	0.3	3.8	5.0	1.5
Don't know	0	1.7	1.6	0	0	0	0	0.6	.7

Smokers' Profile: Frequency of Smoking

The tables on this page and the next provide a profile of smokers only, or those who report they indicate they have smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and now use tobacco products.

Q 22. Do you now smoke cigarettes everyday, some days, or not at all? *(Of those who have smoked at least 100 cigarettes during their lifetime)*

	County					
	Albany		Rensselaer		Schenectady	
	05	06	05	06	05	06
Everyday	20.6	17.0	20.6	27.9	18.0	21.3
Some days	2.4	8.4	2.6	3.6	2.8	1.9
Not at all	77.1	74.6	76.8	68.6	79.3	76.4

Q 23. How old were you when you first started smoking cigarettes regularly?

	County								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
0-16	60	52.7	43.2	58.8	66.1	50.8	74.5	64.4	65.4
17 plus	40	47.3	56.8	47.2	33.9	49.2	25.5	35.6	34.6

Q 24. On average, about how many cigarettes a day do you now smoke?

	County								
	Albany			Rensselaer			Schenectady		
	04	05	06	04	05	06	04	05	06
	15.4	17.6	16.4	16.1	15.8	14.6	14.4	14.8	15.9

Use of Other Tobacco Products

The percentages reported below are only for those who report that they currently use other tobacco products. The numbers within each county using these products are *very* small, so the percentages can vary considerably from county to county.

26. (ask of all) Do you currently use other tobacco products such as cigars, pipes, chewing tobacco?

	County		
	Albany	Rensselaer	Schenectady
Yes	8.4	7.2	2.2
No	91.6	92.8	97.8

Q 27. Do you now use chewing tobacco, snuff or dip every day, some days, or not at all?

	County		
	Albany	Rensselaer	Schenectady
Every day	0	0	29.8
Some days	0	12.5	0
Not at all	100.0	87.5	70.2

Q 28. Do you now smoke cigars, cigarillos or little cigars every day, some days, or not at all?

	County		
	Albany	Rensselaer	Schenectady
Every day	3.7	5.9	0
Some days	73.3	82.4	60.0
Not at all	23.0	11.8	40.0

Q 29. Do you now smoke pipe tobacco every day, some days, or not at all?

	County		
	Albany	Rensselaer	Schenectady
Every day	16.1	0	0
Some days	0	12.5	19.3
Not at all	83.9	87.5	80.8

Survey Procedures and Samples Derived

The calling was conducted June 1 – 7, 2006. Calls were made during the hours of 5:30 – 9:00 on weeknights, and from 3 – 8 on Saturday and Sunday. A random sample of telephone numbers was obtained from Survey Sampling Inc. A separate random sample was selected by SSI from each county. That is, the initial sample of telephone numbers is a random sample within each county, and not a random sample of all counties considered as a whole.

The goal was to sample individuals and not households. If the calling process were to ask and accept the first person answering the telephone, the sample would over-represent women, since they are more likely to answer the telephone. To randomize the selection process within households, the last birthday method was used. Birthdays are randomly distributed among households, so the callers would ask to speak with the “adult [over 18] in the household now with the last [most recent] birthday.” If that person was not there at the time of the call, the name was recorded and called the next night and the night after that until three tries were completed. The same three time callback procedure was used for those numbers where no one answered, the line was busy, or an answering machine was present. Calling continued until a sample of at least 250 completed surveys was achieved for each county. In some counties, this required four callbacks.

Despite using this method, it was still relatively difficult to obtain a completed sample that exactly reflected the population within each county. It was possible to obtain the 2000 census age and sex distribution for each county from the U.S. Census web, American Factfinder. Comparing the obtained samples with the population distributions, men and younger respondents were under-represented. This is a problem if men and women differ in their views or if younger people differ. Women tend to be more worried about the dangers of smoking and they are somewhat more supportive of restricting smoking. Given these differences between men and women, the sample was weighted to reduce women as a percentage of the sample and increase men as a percentage of the sample. Practically, this means multiplying male cases by a number greater than one to increase their presence, while multiplying women cases by a number less than 1 to reduce their presence. Younger people are more likely to smoke, so the sample was also weighted by age. Weighting is a common approach when it is difficult to reach certain groups in the population. The county population distribution and the sample distributions, after weighting, are below.

Comparison of Samples with Population

Sex	Albany		Rensselaer		Schenectady	
	pop	sample	pop	sample	pop	sample
Female	53.3	53.8	51.6	51.7	53.1	53.9
Male	46.7	46.2	48.4	48.3	46.9	46.1
<i>Age</i>						
18 – 29	23.0	19.6	22.0	18.2	18.0	17.2
30 – 44	29.0	31.1	30.0	32.1	30.0	30.1
45 – 59	25.0	25.1	25.0	26.2	25.0	25.2
60 plus	23.0	24.3	23.0	23.4	27.0	27.6

The reporting of results is done in two very different ways in this report. When county results are reported, the results are the weighted results within each county. That is, only the completed sample

within each county is used. When relationships among opinions are discussed, the entire completed sample of 780 respondents is treated as one sample, weighted to reflect the distribution of age and sex groups across the three counties. The relationships of interest were examined within each county to determine if the relationships differ across counties. For example, smokers are less likely to support the new state law limiting smoking. The percentage of smokers supporting or opposing this law was examined in each county to assess whether the percentages differ across counties. There was only minimal variation in this relationship across counties. Reporting the separate relationships for each county would be very cumbersome, and the samples would also be much smaller, creating less confidence in the relationships reported for each county. With a sample of 780 there is less possibility of random variation affecting relationships, so there can be more confidence in the results. So, when relationships are discussed in the report, they are based on 780 respondents within three counties.

Survey Script

Hello, my name is ___ and I'm calling from Cotter Opinion Research. We aren't selling anything, but we are doing a survey about the issue of smoking. To randomly select a person, could I speak with the adult at home now who most recently had a birthday? ***(If that person is not there, ask for only his / her first name and record on call sheet for a callback. Then say "Thanks, I will try that person later" and end the interview)***

(If that person is on the line): Would you be willing to participate in a survey about exposure to tobacco smoke and tobacco-related issues? Participation is, of course, voluntary. You can choose to not answer some questions and you can quit whenever you wish. All information is confidential. It will take 6-7 minutes.

(When that person is on the line): Hello, my name is _____ and I'm calling from Cotter Opinion Research. We're not selling anything. Would you be willing to participate in a survey about exposure to tobacco smoke and tobacco-related issues? Participation is, of course, voluntary. You can choose to not answer some questions and you can quit whenever you wish. All information is confidential. It will take 6-7 minutes. (If people ask who is conducting the survey, indicate it is for the Capital District Tobacco-Free Coalition).

I'd first like to ask you some questions about the smoking policy at your home, your work and in your vehicles.

1. Does exposure to secondhand smoke bother you a great deal, somewhat, or not much at all?

- 1____ Great deal
- 2____ Somewhat
- 3____ Not much at all
- 4____ No response/ Not sure

2. Which statement best describes the rules about smoking in your home? **(read alternatives)**

- 1____ Smoking is not allowed anywhere inside the home
- 2____ Smoking is allowed in some places or at some times
- 3____ Smoking is allowed anywhere inside the home
- 4____ There are no rules about smoking inside the home
- 5____ Don't know/Not sure

3. Which statement best describes the rules about smoking in your family vehicle or vehicles? **(read alternatives)**

- 1____ Smoking is never allowed in any vehicle
- 2____ Smoking is allowed some times or in some vehicles
- 3____ Smoking is allowed in all vehicles
- 4____ Do not have a family vehicle
- 5____ Don't know/Not sure

4. During the past week, approximately how many total hours did you spend in a home where someone has been smoking?

- 1 ___ Zero hours
- 2 ___ 1-5 hours
- 3 ___ 6-10 hours (Example: 1 hour each day for a full week)
- 4 ___ 11-21 (Example: 3 hours a day for a full week)
- 5 ___ More than 21 hours a week
- 6 ___ Don't know/Not sure

5. During the past week, approximately how many total hours did you spend in a vehicle where someone has been smoking?

- 1 ___ Zero hours
- 2 ___ 1-5 hours
- 3 ___ 6-10 hours (Example: 1 hour each day for a full week)
- 4 ___ 11-21 (Example: 3 hours a day for a full week)
- 5 ___ More than 21 hours a week
- 6 ___ Don't know/Not sure

6. Do you personally favor or oppose or have no opinion about the New York State law, which does not allow smoking in all public places and places of work, including bars and restaurants?

- 1 ___ Favor
- 2 ___ Oppose
- 3 ___ No opinion
- 4 ___ Don't know/Not sure

7. Do you favor or oppose an expansion of the current clean indoor air law to include any of the following environments?

- a. Public parks and outdoor recreation areas 1 ___ favor 2 ___ oppose 3 ___ Don't know/ not sure
- b. Public beaches? 1 ___ favor 2 ___ oppose 3 ___ Don't know/ not sure
- c. Areas around building entry ways 1 ___ favor 2 ___ oppose 3 ___ Don't know/ not sure

8. During the last time you went to a restaurant in New York State in the past 30 days, did you see someone smoking indoors at the restaurant?

- 1 ___ Yes
- 2 ___ No
- 3 ___ Didn't go to a restaurant in past 30 days (**DO NOT READ**)
- 4 ___ Don't know (**DO NOT READ**)
- 5 ___ Refused (**DO NOT READ**)

9. During the last time you went to a bar in New York State in the past 30 days, did you see someone smoking indoors at the bar?

- 1___ Yes
- 2___ No
- 3___ Didn't go to a bar in past 30 days(**DO NOT READ**)
- 4___ Don't know (**DO NOT READ**)
- 5___ Refused (**DO NOT READ**)

(Read) Now I'd like to ask you about tobacco advertising. In the past 30 days, how often have you noticed cigarettes or tobacco products being advertised or promoted in any of the following ways:

10. ... in convenience store or gas station windows or inside other shops where tobacco is sold?

- 1_____ 2-3 times per day
- 2_____ Every day
- 3_____ Once per week
- 4_____ Less than once per week
- 5_____ Never
- 6_____ Don't know/Not sure/Not applicable

11. ...at sports events?

- 1_____ 2-3 times per day
- 2_____ Every day
- 3_____ Once per week
- 4_____ Less than once per week
- 5_____ Never
- 6_____ Don't know/Not sure/Not applicable

12. ...at cultural events or community events, such as fairs or festivals?

- 1_____ 2-3 times per day
- 2_____ Every day
- 3_____ Once per week
- 4_____ Less than once per week
- 5_____ Never
- 6_____ Don't know/Not sure/Not applicable

(Read) Please tell me if you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements.

13. Movies rated G, PG, and PG-13 should not show actors smoking.

- 1 _____ Strongly agree
- 2 _____ Agree
- 3 _____ Disagree
- 4 _____ Strongly disagree
- 5 _____ Don't know/Not sure

14. Seeing actors smoking in the movies encourages smoking among teens.

- 1 _____ Strongly agree
 2 _____ Agree
 3 _____ Disagree
 4 _____ Strongly disagree
 5 _____ Don't know/Not sure

15. In general, do you believe that tobacco industry sponsorship of activities or events has a positive or negative impact in the community, or do you believe it has no impact at all?

- 1 _____ Positive impact
 2 _____ Negative impact
 3 _____ No impact
 4 _____ Don't know (DO NOT READ)
 5 _____ Refused (DO NOT READ)

Questions 16-20 were changed almost immediately after the calling process was started. The original language, shown below, was very confusing to callers and respondents. Respondents were confused by the phrase "should not voluntarily refuse to accept" so the question was changed to the more straightforward "should accept or should not accept sponsorship," which respondents found easy to understand and respond to.

(original) You may or may not know that the tobacco industry provides sponsorship for many different local events and organizations. I'd like to read you the names of some events or organizations and ask if you think they should or should not voluntarily refuse to accept tobacco sponsorship for their events and activities.

(changed) You may or may not know that the tobacco industry provides sponsorship for many different local events and organizations. I'd like to read you the names of some events or organizations and ask if you think they should accept or should not accept tobacco sponsorship for their events and activities.

16. Sporting events? *(If answer should / should not: "would that be definitely should / should not, or just should / should not?")*

- 1___ def should 2__ should 3___ should not 4___ def should not 5___ no opinion

17. Community festivals? *(If answer should / should not: "would that be definitely should / should not, or just should / should not?")*

- 1___ def should 2__ should 3___ should not 4___ def should not 5___ no opinion

18. Parades? (*If answer should / should not: "would that be definitely should / should not, or just should / should not?"*)

1___ def should 2___ should 3___ should not 4___ def should not 5___ no opinion

19. Arts and cultural events (*If answer should / should not: "would that be definitely should / should not, or just should / should not?"*)

1___ def should 2___ should 3___ should not 4___ def should not 5___ no opinion

20. Charities/Non-profit organizations (*If answer should / should not: "would that be definitely should / should not, or just should / should not?"*)

1___ def should 2___ should 3___ should not 4___ def should not 5___ no opinion

Now we have just a few questions about tobacco use.

21. Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life?

- 1___ Yes
- 2___ No **SKIP TO #26**
- 3___ Don't know/Not sure

22. Do you now smoke cigarettes everyday, some days, or not at all?

- 1___ Everyday
- 2___ Some days
- 3___ Not at all

23. How old were you when you first started smoking cigarettes regularly?

___ ___ years

24. (if respond 1 or 2 to Q22) On average, about how many cigarettes a day do you now smoke?

_____ number of cigarettes (1 pack = 20 cigarettes)

25. (if respond 1 or 2 to Q22) Have you considered quitting smoking or tried to in the past?

- 1___ considered
- 2___ tried
- 3___ neither

26. (ask of all) Do you currently use other tobacco products such as cigars, pipes, chewing tobacco?

- 1 _____ yes
2 _____ no **SKIP TO # 30**

27. Do you now use chewing tobacco, snuff or dip every day, some days, or not at all?

- 1 _____ Every day
2 _____ Some days
3 _____ Not at all
4 _____ Don't know/Not sure

28. Do you now smoke cigars, cigarillos or little cigars every day, some days, or not at all?

- 1 _____ Every day
2 _____ Some days
3 _____ Not at all
4 _____ Don't know/Not sure

29. Do you now smoke pipe tobacco every day, some days, or not at all?

- 1 _____ Every day
2 _____ Some days
3 _____ Not at all
4 _____ Don't know/Not sure

30. (Ask of all) Have you ever heard of the New York State Smokers' Quitline?

- 1 _____ Yes
2 _____ No
3 _____ Don't know/Not sure

31. (If yes) Where did you hear about the New York State Smokers' Quitline?

- 1 _____ Television
2 _____ Radio
5 _____ Newspapers/magazines
6 _____ Internet

We are almost finished! Your information will remain anonymous but we need some general information.

32. What is your age? _____

33. Record sex: 1 _____ Male 2 _____ Female

34. What is your current employment status?

- 1____ Employed for wages
- 2____ Self-employed
- 3____ Out of work for more than 1 year
- 4____ Out of work for less than 1 year
- 5____ A homemaker
- 6____ A student
- 7____ Retired
- 8____ Unable to work
- 9____ Don't know/Not sure

35. How many children live in your household who are younger than 5 years old? How many 5 through 11 years old? How many 12 through 17 years old? (Record number for each).

- 1____ Younger than 5 years old
- 2____ 5 through 11 years old
- 3____ 12 through 17 years old

36. Which one of the following best describes your race? (**Read alternatives**)

- 1____ White
- 2____ Black or African American
- 3____ Hispanic
- 4____ Asian
- 5____ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- 6____ American Indian, Alaska Native
- 7____ Other [**Please specify**] _____
- 8____ No additional choices
- 9____ Don't know/Not sure

37. What is the highest grade or year of school you completed?

- 1____ Grades 1 through 8 (Elementary)
- 2____ Grades 9 through 11 (Some High School)
- 3____ Grade 12 or GED (High School Graduate)
- 4____ College 1 to 3 years (Some College or Technical School)
- 5____ Bachelor's Degree (College Graduate)
- 6____ Postgraduate Degree (Master's, M.D., Ph.D., J.D.)

38. Are you currently covered by any kind of health insurance, that is, any policy or program that provides or pays for medical care?

- 1____ Yes
- 2____ No
- 3____ Don't know/Not sure

39. What type of health care coverage do you use to pay for most of your medical care?

- 1 _____ Private insurance coverage
2 _____ Medicare
3 _____ Medicaid or Medical Assistance
4 _____ Military, CHAMPUS, TriCare, or the VA
5 _____ Indian Health Service
6 _____ None
7 _____ Other [**Please specify**] _____
8 _____ Don't know/Not sure

40. Bearing in mind that this is completely confidential, please tell me which category best describes your yearly household income. Is it... (*read categories*)

- 1 _____ Under \$25,000
2 _____ \$25,000 to \$49,000
3 _____ \$50,000 to \$74,000
4 _____ \$75,000 to \$99,000
5 _____ \$100,000 to \$149,000
6 _____ over \$150,000 to \$200,000
7 _____ Don't know (**DO NOT READ**)
8 _____ Refused (**DO NOT READ**)

Thank you for taking the time to help us study this important issue. Could I have just your first name for our records? If you want more information on the survey contact the Capital District Tobacco-Free Coalition at (518) 453-0172 / ext 322.