

Toward a Smoke-Free Toronto: New Frontiers to Improve Protection



Dr. David McKeown
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- The Burden of Illness from Tobacco in Toronto, 2012
- Toronto Public Health Tobacco Control Plan Update 2012
- Toward a Smoke-Free Toronto: New Frontiers to Improve Protection

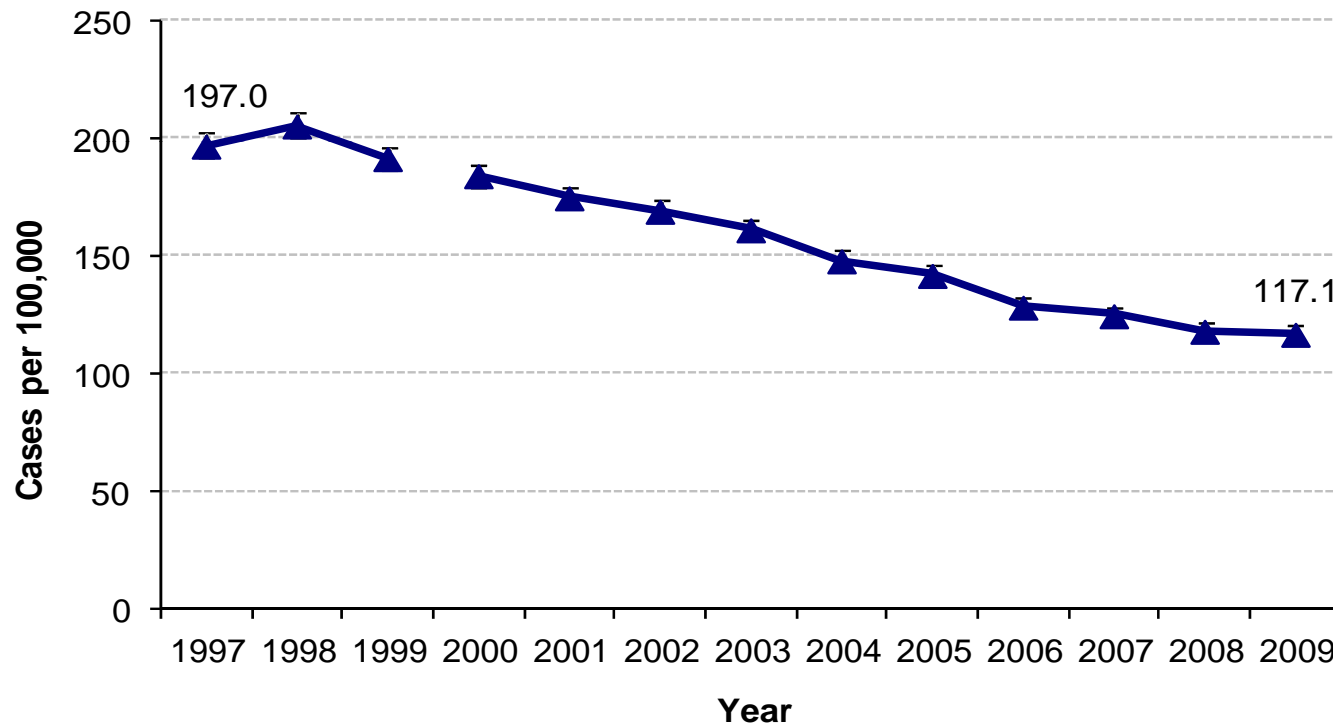


The Burden of Illness from Tobacco

- Tobacco use is number one cause of death and disease in the province
- Direct smoking and second-hand smoke (SHS) exposure are major causes for lung cancer and cardiovascular and respiratory diseases

Cardiovascular Disease in Toronto

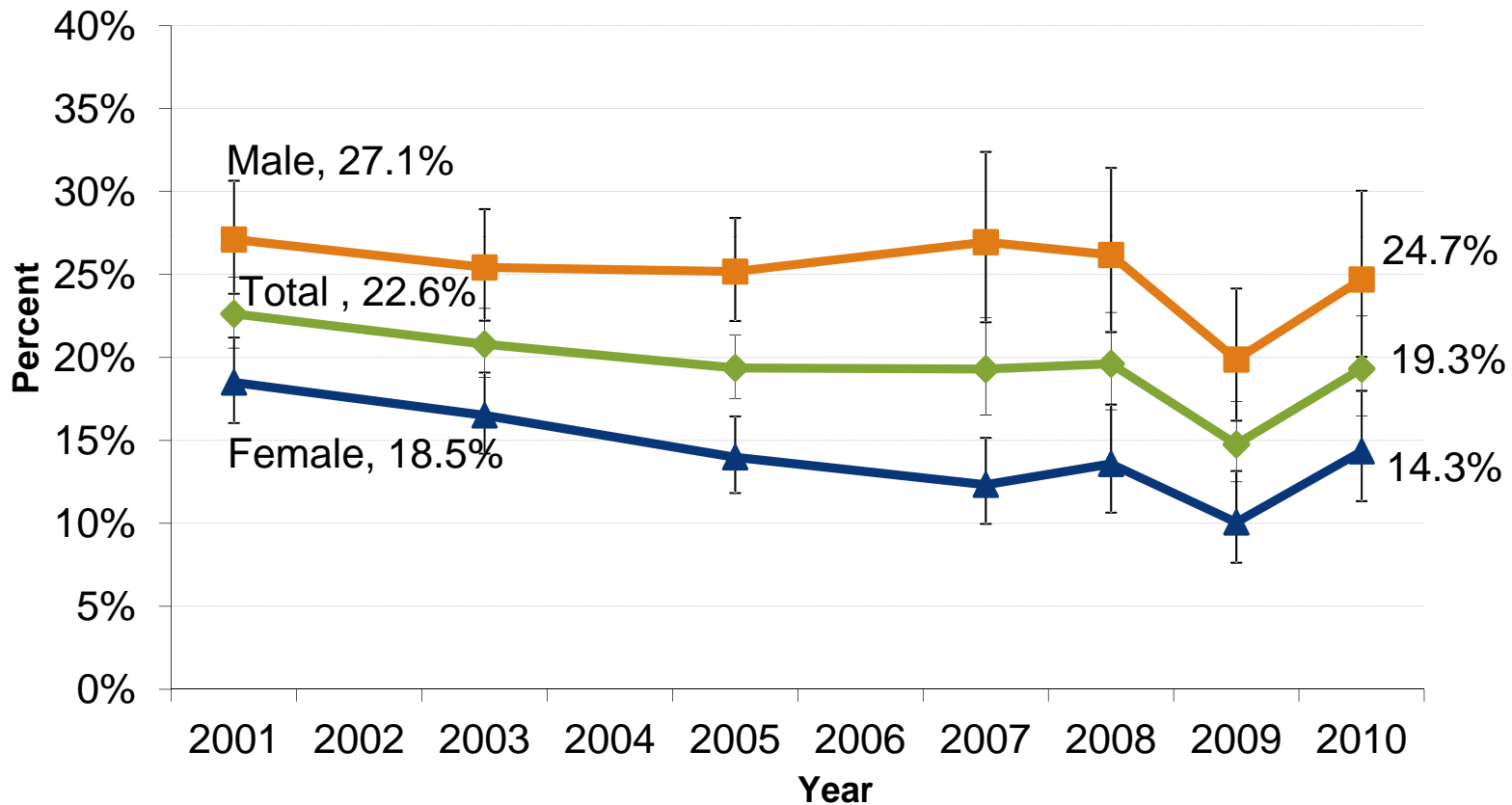
Age-Standardized Cardiovascular Disease Mortality Rate, Toronto, 1997 to 2009



Notes: (1) Error bars (I) denote 95% confidence intervals. (2) Data standardized to the 1991 Canadian population. (3) Gap between 1999 and 2000 indicates the switch from using ICD-9 coding system to ICD-10. Comparing data before and after this gap must be done with caution.
Data Source: Vital Statistics 1997 - 2009, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, IntelliHEALTH ONTARIO, Date Extracted: August 2012.

Tobacco Use in Toronto

Current Smokers, Adults 20 and Older by Sex, Toronto, 2001 to 2010

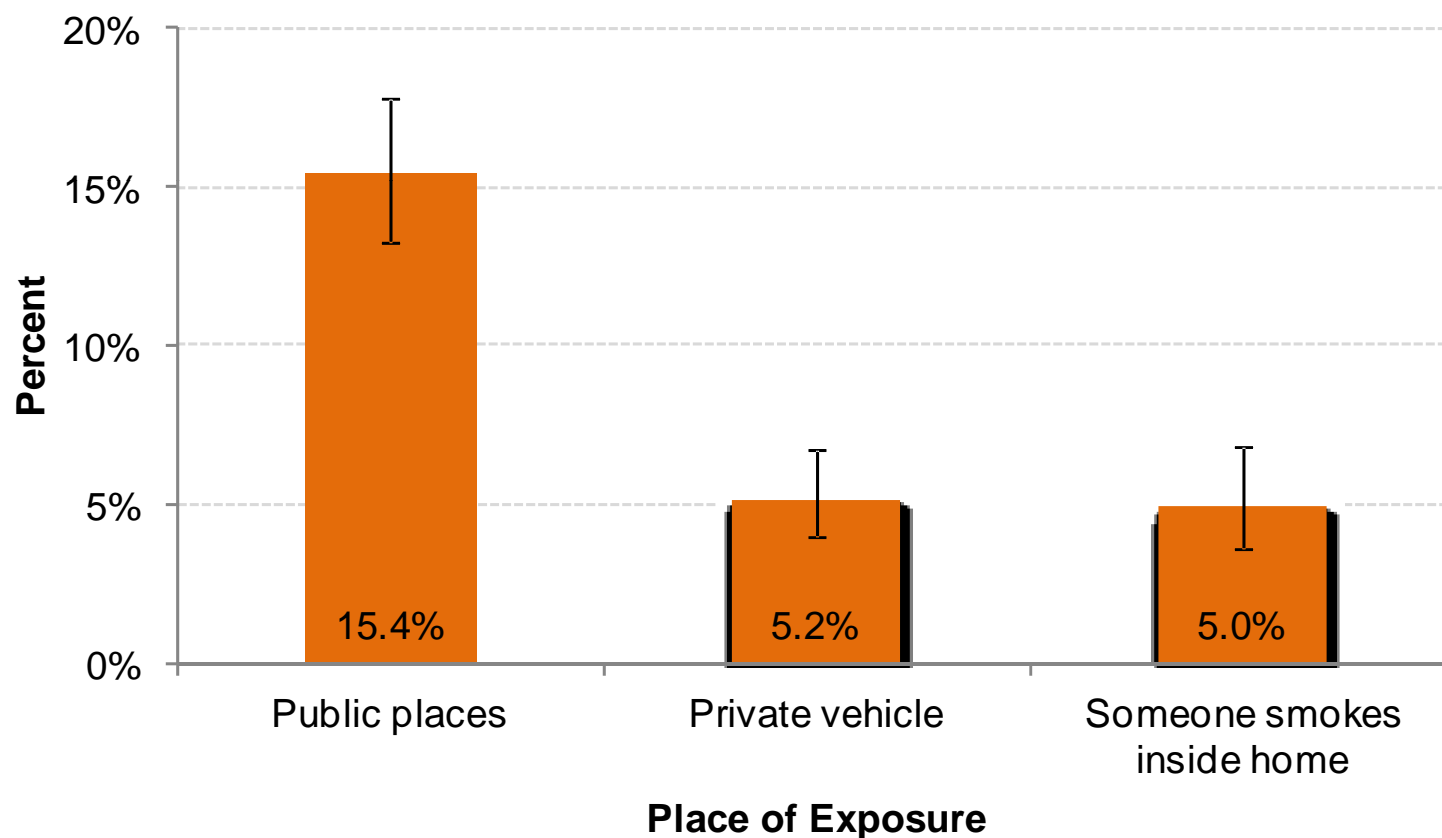


Note: Error bars (I) denote 95% confidence intervals.

Data Source: Canadian Community Health Survey, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010. Statistics Canada, Share File, Knowledge Management and Reporting Branch, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

Secondhand Smoke Exposure

Percent of Current Non-Smokers Exposed to Second-hand Smoke Everyday or Almost Everyday, Aged 18 and Older, Toronto, 2009/10 Combined



Note: Error bars (I) denote 95% confidence intervals.

Data Source: Canadian Community Health Survey, 2009/10. Statistics Canada, Share File, Knowledge Management and Reporting Branch, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.



Toronto Public Health Tobacco Control Plan 2012

Three Pillar Approach to Tobacco Control

- Preventing young people from starting to smoke (*prevention*)
- Supporting smokers to quit (*cessation*)
- Enforcing smoke-free regulations (*protection*)

Priorities for 2012

- Youth engagement in tobacco control
- Development of a local cessation system
- Greater action on youth access to tobacco



Tobacco Policy History

1999 - City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 709 - Smoking

- Prohibited smoking in workplaces, restaurants and bars, bingo halls, casinos and racetracks

2006 - Smoke-Free Ontario Act (SFOA)

- Prohibits smoking in enclosed workplaces and public places, as well as select outdoor locations
- Sets 'minimum standards' for smoke-free spaces; allows for stricter local bylaws

2009 - Municipal Code Chapter 608 – Parks (Amended)

- Prohibits smoking near playgrounds, wading pools, splash pads and in farms and zoos operated by the Parks, Forestry & Recreation division



Gaps in Secondhand Smoke Protection - Outdoor Spaces

- Research shows that levels of outdoor tobacco smoke can be high when people are near multiple active smokers
- Outdoor tobacco smoke can blow or drift through doorways, windows or air intakes, causing indoor second-hand smoke exposure



Social Exposure and Supportive Environments

- SFOA restrictions have had the unintended consequence of normalizing tobacco use in outdoor public places
- Two groups are particularly vulnerable to social exposure to Second-hand Smoke:
 - Children and youth
 - Former smokers and those who are trying to quit



Expanding Second Hand Smoke Protection in the City of Toronto

- Based on a review of scientific evidence and actions in other jurisdictions, opportunities have been identified to enhance second-hand smoke protection in outdoor spaces, including:
 - Entrances and exits of public buildings
 - Bar and restaurant patios
 - Sports fields
 - Hospital grounds



Public Support for Expanding Smoke-Free Areas

- According to the 2011 Toronto Health Survey, residents strongly support by-laws mandating smoke-free:
 - Doorways (public places and public and private workplaces) **(86%)**
 - Outdoor public sports fields and spectator areas **(83%)**
 - Outdoor public patios where food and drinks are sold **(74%)**



Recommendations

- Consult with key stakeholders and the public on measures to reduce second-hand smoke exposure in various outdoor spaces
- Report back to Board of Health in 2013 on public and stakeholder consultation findings and proposed by-law amendments