

## Federal Update: New County Level Smoking Data Available April 2, 2014

On March 24, 2014, the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation at the University of Washington in the journal *Population Health Metrics* released a new look at smoking rates among adults at the county level from 1996-2012. You can find the report [here](#).

The report makes available tables of [total averages for smoking prevalence rates](#), and [daily averages for smoking prevalence rates](#) for all counties, and California's results can be found starting on line 545. For California, this data shows that:



- San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Los Angeles Counties are in the top ten counties in the country for the lowest smoking prevalence among women in 2012.
- No counties in California were in the top ten for counties with the lowest smoking prevalence among men in 2012.
- San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, San Francisco, and San Mateo Counties are all in the top ten counties for declines in total cigarette smoking prevalence in females.
- San Francisco, Orange and San Mateo Counties are all in the top ten counties for declines in total cigarette smoking prevalence in males.

This study underscores the need for every state and county to fully put in place proven strategies that reduce tobacco use, including higher tobacco taxes, comprehensive smokefree air laws and funding programs to prevent kids from smoking and help smokers quit at CDC-recommended levels.

*Center for Tobacco Policy & Organizing, April 2, 2014*

*If you have questions about this analysis, please contact Lindsey Freitas at ([Lindsey.Freitas@lung.org](mailto:Lindsey.Freitas@lung.org)) or Kimberly Amazeen ([Kimberly.Amazeen@lung.org](mailto:Kimberly.Amazeen@lung.org)) at (916) 554-5864 (LUNG).*