

Fact Sheet #1—Tobacco Use

Facts:

- 47 million (24%) of American adults are daily smokers.
- Approximately 80% of adult smokers started smoking before age 18.
- 28% of 18-24 year olds are smokers.
- Each day nearly 6,000 adolescents (under 18) smoke their first cigarette.
 - Of these, 3,000 will become daily smokers
- More than 6.4 million children living today will die prematurely because of the decision to smoke cigarettes during adolescence.
- Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable illness and death in US.
- Smoking is a known cause of: cancer, heart disease, stroke, and COPD/Emphysema.
- 430,700 Americans die each year from diseases related to smoking.
- 1 in 5 US deaths is a result of smoking.
- Smokers cost the economy at least \$100 billion dollars annually in health care costs and lost productivity.