

Adoption of 100% Smoke-Free Hospital Campus (SFHC) Policies in the U.S.



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Introduction

In 1992, The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) required all U.S. hospitals to adopt policies prohibiting smoking within their facilities.

With U.S. hospitals having eliminated indoor smoking, an increasing number have begun adopting smoke-free hospital campus (SFHC) policies.

Currently, no uniform source exists nationally for the retrieval of information documenting the existence of 100% SFHC policies in the U.S.

Aim

To assess the number and percentage of acute care hospitals in the U.S. that have adopted smoke-free hospital campus (SFHC) policies.

Method

- Researchers conducted an assessment from January 2008-May 2008 including:
- Review of all state hospital association websites for information about the adoption of SFHC policies
 - Contact with hospital association staff in each state to discuss tracking and verification mechanisms for SFHCs
 - Contact with at least one tobacco control organization in each state to determine whether SFHC policy tracking occurred
 - Systematic Internet searches, documentation review, hospital web site review

Results

SFHCs by State

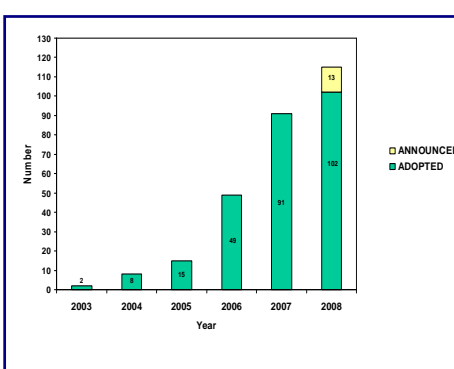
Percent of Acute-Care 100% Smoke Free Hospital Campuses by State (2008)

STATE	TOTAL	SFHC	%
80% or greater			
Arkansas	85	85	100.0%
Wisconsin	124	124	100.0%
Indiana	127	120	94.5%
Ohio	170	149	87.6%
Michigan	146	124	84.9%
North Carolina	122	102	83.6%
Iowa	116	94	81.0%
50-79%			
Kansas	131	94	71.8%
Mainland	50	34	68.0%
Delaware	6	4	66.7%
Vermont	14	9	64.3%
New York	203	117	57.6%
Hawaii	25	14	56.0%
Alaska	22	12	54.5%
Less than 50%			
Virginia	87	37	42.5%
Massachusetts	79	30	38.0%
Oklahoma	131	49	37.4%
Pennsylvania	182	67	36.8%
Oregon	58	19	32.8%
Maine	37	11	29.7%
Nebraska	87	25	28.7%
Mississippi	94	27	28.7%
Rhode Island	11	3	27.3%
Colorado	71	19	26.8%
West Virginia	57	14	24.6%
Arizona	67	16	23.9%
Kentucky	105	25	23.8%
Montana	64	12	22.2%
Idaho	38	8	20.5%
Tennessee	135	27	20.0%
Georgia	172	32	18.6%
District of Columbia	11	2	18.2%
Wyoming	24	4	16.7%
Missouri	119	19	16.0%
South Carolina	63	9	14.3%
New Hampshire	28	4	14.3%
California	357	50	14.0%
New Jersey	80	11	13.8%
Minnesota	133	17	12.8%
Illinois	191	24	12.6%
Florida	229	28	12.2%
Alabama	109	11	10.1%
Less than 10%			
Louisiana	128	11	8.6%
Nevada	49	3	6.1%
South Dakota	52	3	5.8%
Connecticut	36	2	5.6%
New Mexico	37	2	5.4%
Utah	415	22	5.3%
Washington	86	4	4.7%
North Dakota	40	1	2.5%
Utah	43	1	2.3%
Total	5037	1731	34.4%

Source: Steiner, et al. Adoption of 100% Smoke-Free Hospital Campus Policies in the U.S. Submitted, 2009.

An Example from One State

Number of North Carolina Acute Care Hospitals with SFHC Policies (2003 – 2008)



Location of SFHCs in North Carolina (2008)

NC Tobacco-Free Hospital Campuses



Source: NC Healthy Hospital Initiative, 2008.

Conclusion & Recommendations

- The spread of 100% SFHC policies across the U.S. is rapidly occurring.
- Most states do not have a uniform system for tracking SFHC policies.
- Data is likely an underestimate of actual # of SFHC campuses.
- North Carolina's success serves as a model for other states developing SFHC or tobacco-free hospital campus (TFHC) initiatives.
- Readily accessible cessation resources are critical to program success.
- All U.S. hospitals should voluntarily adopt TFHC policies to positively impact employee and patient smoking behaviour.
- Adoption of national standard by JCAHO for TFHC policies.
- Adoption of statewide laws (e.g. Arkansas)



For more information

NC Healthy Hospital Initiative
<http://www.healthyhospital.org/>

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