Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease, disability, and death in the United States.

As of 2017, about 34 million US adults smoke cigarettes, and every day, more than 3,200 young people aged 18 or younger smoke their first cigarette. Over 16 million Americans live with at least one disease caused by smoking. Smoking-related illness costs society over $300 billion each year, including $170 billion in direct medical costs. Costs could be reduced if we prevent young people from starting to smoke and help people who smoke to quit.

34 MILLION
US adults who smoke cigarettes

3.6 MILLION
US middle and high school students who use tobacco products

58 MILLION
nonsmoking Americans exposed to secondhand smoke

$170 BILLION
spent each year to treat smoking-related diseases

CDC’s Response

CDC’s Office on Smoking and Health (OSH) is the lead federal agency for comprehensive tobacco prevention and control. OSH saves lives and saves money by preventing and reducing tobacco use—the leading cause of preventable disease, disability, and death in the United States.

Since 2012, the Tips From Former Smokers® campaign has motivated at least 500,000 cigarette smokers to quit for good.