
Greater Grand Forks Secondhand Smoke Study

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Social Science Research Institute

University of North Dakota

701.777.3593

Cordell_Fontaine@und.nodak.edu

*Knowledge to Bring People
and Resources Together*



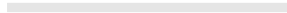


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Greater Grand Forks Secondhand Smoke Study

Purpose

The purpose of this study is to assess perceptions relating to secondhand smoke and where smoking should be allowed or prohibited in the Greater Grand Forks area and to measure the level of support for legislation to ban or to restrict smoking in public buildings and grounds. The main areas of study include:

- Views on secondhand smoke
- Extent of smoking restrictions in public buildings and grounds
- Reaction to laws restricting smoking

The study was commissioned by the Grand Forks Tobacco Free Coalition and was based on a 2004 Secondhand Smoke Study of North Dakota, prepared by Winkelman Consulting. A copy of the survey document and frequencies for each response are included in Appendix A.

Methodology

The results of this study are based on telephone interviews of 403 randomly selected adults age 18 or older in Grand Forks, North Dakota and East Grand Forks Minnesota, conducted in February 11 through 16, 2005. This sample yields an error margin of +/- 5.0%. This means that one can be 95 percent confident that the mean response for any question in the random sample of adults will not vary more than 5% in either direction from the actual mean for the response if all adults age 18 or older in Grand Forks and East Grand Forks were surveyed.

Of the 403 interviews completed, 352 adults reside in Grand Forks and 48 in East Grand Forks, which is proportionate to the 2003 adult age 18 or older population estimates of 38,213 in Grand Forks, North Dakota and 5,382 in East Grand Forks, Minnesota. The response rate, based on the 634 telephone numbers randomly selected for the study, was 75%.

Executive Summary

Key Findings

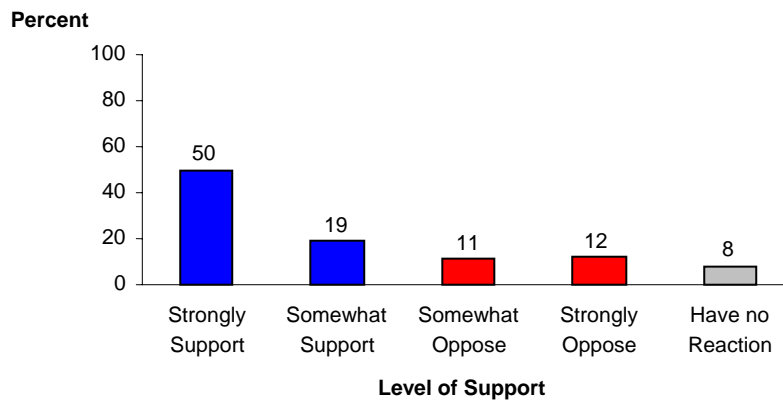
Views on Smoking

- Nearly 9 out of 10 respondents (89%) agree that even though smoking is a legal activity, non-smokers have a right to breathe clean air in indoor public places, while eleven percent of respondents feel that as long as smoking is a legal activity, people should be allowed to enjoy a cigarette in indoor public places without being sent outside.
- Sixty-eight percent of respondents feel that there should be laws that prohibit smoking in public places, such as restaurants while thirty-two percent of respondents feel that business owners have the right to decide whether people smoke or not in their places of business.

Extent of Support for Legislation to Restrict Smoking

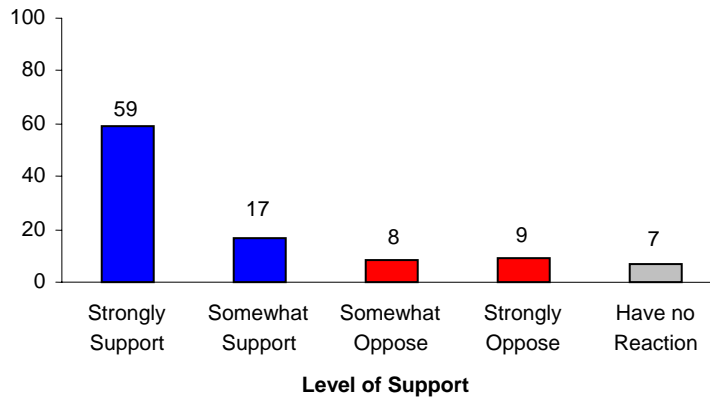
- Half of the respondents would “strongly support” legislation to eliminate all tobacco smoke from most indoor places and another 19% would “somewhat support” such legislation. Eleven percent would “somewhat oppose” such legislation, and twelve percent would “strongly oppose” it (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Extent of Support for Legislation to Eliminate All Tobacco Smoke from Most Indoor Places



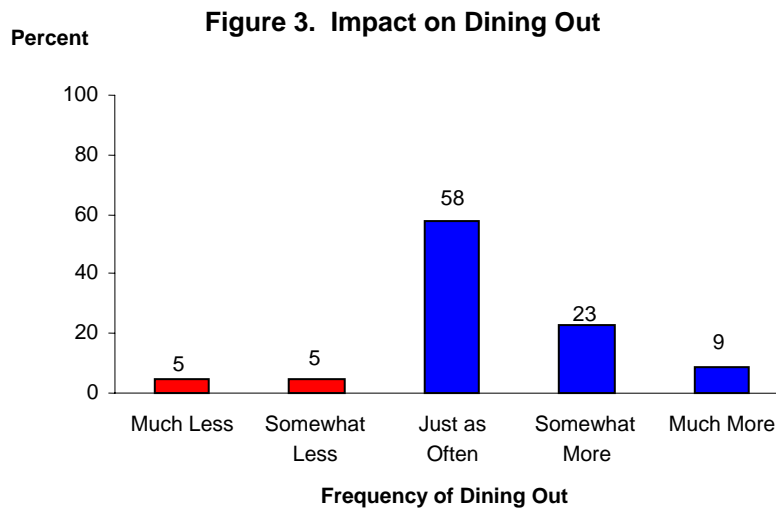
- Fifty-nine percent of respondents would “strongly support” legislation to eliminate all tobacco smoke from restaurants and 17% would “somewhat support” this type of law. Eight percent would “somewhat oppose” and nine percent would “strongly oppose” legislation to prohibit smoking in restaurants (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Extent of Support for Legislation to Eliminate All Tobacco Smoke from Restaurants



Impact on Dining Out

- If all restaurants became smoke-free, 58% of respondents would eat out “just as often”, and 32% would eat out “somewhat” or “much more often”. Ten percent would eat out “somewhat less” or “much less often” (Figure 3).



Extent of Smoking Restriction in Public Buildings and Grounds

Restaurants

- Fifty-two percent of respondents feel that smoking should not be allowed in restaurants and 19% feel that smoking should be prohibited in restaurants and on their grounds. Twenty-six percent favor permitting smoking in designated areas and four percent favor no restrictions at all.

Bars and Cocktail Lounges

- Twenty-eight percent of respondents favor prohibiting smoking in bars and lounges and 10% would prohibit smoking in bars and lounges and on their grounds. Thirty-seven percent feel that smoking should be allowed in some areas and 25% favor no smoking restrictions at all.

Bowling Alleys, Bingo Halls and Casinos

- Forty-two percent of those interviewed feel that smoking should be prohibited in bowling alleys, bingo halls and casinos, and another 13% feel that smoking should be prohibited on the grounds as well. Thirty-five percent feel that smoking should be permitted in some areas, and 10% feel that there should be no restrictions on smoking in these types of businesses.

Private Businesses and Other Non-government Work Places

- Fifty-eight percent of those interviewed would favor prohibiting smoking in these buildings and 28% would also prohibit smoking on grounds. Nineteen percent would favor restricting smoking to certain areas of the building, while five percent feel there should be no smoking restrictions.

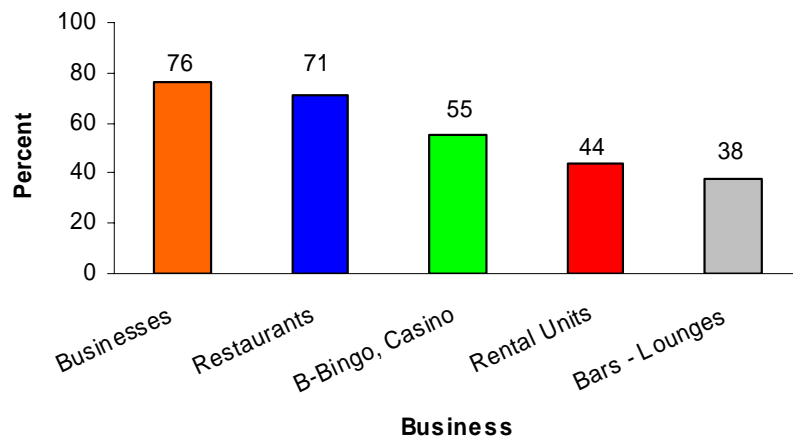
Apartment Buildings or Other Multi-unit Rental Properties

- Thirty-one percent of respondents favor prohibiting smoking in apartment buildings or other multi-unit rental properties and an additional 13% would also prohibit smoking on the grounds. Forty-two percent would favor restricting smoking to certain areas and 13% favor allowing smoking in all areas.

Overall Support by Type of Business

- The highest levels of support for prohibiting smoking were in private businesses and other non-government work places (76%), followed by restaurants (71%) and bowling alleys, bingo halls and casinos (55%). Lower levels of support were for prohibiting smoking in apartment buildings or other multi-unit rental properties (44%) and in bars and cocktail lounges (38%).

Figure 4. Support for Prohibiting Smoking by Business



Demographic Characteristics

- Twenty-six percent of respondents were between the ages of 18 and 24, 18% were age 25 to 34 and 17% were ages 35 to 54. Eleven percent were ages 55 to 64 and 12% were 65 or older.
- Twenty-two percent of respondents were high school graduates, 12% were tech or trade school graduates, 19% reported some college study, 27% were college graduates and 13% had completed a graduate degree.
- Forty-nine percent of respondents were male; 51% were female.
- Almost half of the respondents (194 persons) have smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetimes. Sixty-one percent of these 194 respondents currently do not smoke. A total of 76 respondents (19%) currently smoke, 327 (81%) do not.

Differences in Perceptions and Support Levels by Age, Education, Gender and Current Smoking Status

Age

- Statistically significant relationships were found by age group in support of prohibiting smoking in bars and cocktail lounges, in private businesses and in multi-tenant properties. Respondents age 65 and older were more supportive of prohibiting smoking in those types of businesses than were respondents within other age groups, and those age 65 and older were more likely to favor prohibiting smoking in restaurants and in bowling alleys, bingo halls and casinos. Older respondents were also more likely to feel that smoking should not be allowed in public places.

Education

- No statistically significant differences were found within levels of education; however, college graduates were slightly more likely to feel that smoking should not be allowed in public places and that legislation should be enacted to prohibit smoking in public places.

Gender

- Statistically significant relationships were found by gender in prohibiting smoking in the various types of businesses, in the effect of smoking restrictions on dining out, in support for laws restricting smoking and in support of most indoor public places becoming smoke free.
 - Women were more supportive of not allowing smoking in bars and cocktail lounges, in bowling alleys, bingo halls and casinos and in private businesses. Although not statistically significant, women were also more likely to favor prohibiting smoking in restaurants and in multi-unit residences.
 - Women were more likely than men to feel they would dine out more often if restaurants were smoke free.

- Women are more likely than men to favor laws to prohibit smoking in public places and more strongly support most indoor public places becoming smoke-free, including restaurants.

Smoking Status

- Statistically significant differences between smokers and non-smokers were found for all questions in the survey. Smokers were far more likely than non-smokers to oppose efforts to restrict smoking in public places and were less supportive of legislation to prohibit smoking in public places. Respondents who smoke also reported that if restaurants were smoke-free, they would be much less or somewhat less likely to dine out than did non-smokers.

Appendix A

Survey Instrument and Frequencies

SURVEY INSTRUMENT

Introduction:

First, I'm going to read a list of different types of places that are open to the public. After I read each, please tell me whether you feel smoking should be allowed in all areas in the building, allowed in some areas in the building, not allowed at all in the building, or not allowed at all either in the building or on the surrounding grounds.

1. Restaurants

	Frequency	Percent
All areas	14	3.5
Some areas	102	25.6
Not allowed at all	206	51.6
Not allowed in/out	77	19.3
Total	399	100.0
Missing	4	

2. Bars and cocktail lounges

	Frequency	Percent
All areas	99	25.4
Some areas	145	37.3
Not allowed at all	107	27.5
Not allowed in/out	38	9.8
Total	389	100.0
Missing	14	

3. Bowling alleys, bingo halls and casinos

	Frequency	Percent
All areas	39	9.9
Some areas	139	35.3
Not allowed at all	165	41.9
Not allowed in/out	51	12.9
Total	394	100.0
Missing	9	

4. Private businesses and other non-government work places

	Frequency	Percent
All areas	19	5.0
Some areas	73	19.3
Not allowed at all	219	57.9
Not allowed in/out	67	17.7
Total	378	100.0
Missing	25	

5. Apartment buildings or other multi-unit rental properties

	Frequency	Percent
All areas	52	13.3
Some areas	164	42.1
Not allowed at all	122	31.3
Not allowed in/out	52	13.3
Total	390	100.0
Missing	13	

6. Next, we would like to get your opinion regarding some statements about smoking. Please tell me which statement is the closest to your own view on smoking.

	Frequency	Percent
As long as smoking is a legal activity, people should be allowed to enjoy a cigarette in indoor public places without being sent outside	43	11.0
Even though smoking is a legal activity, non-smokers have a right to breath clean air in indoor public places, free from the smell and health effects of secondhand smoke	349	89.0
Total	392	100.0
Missing	11	

7. Now please tell me which of the next two statements is the closest to your own view on smoking.

	Frequency	Percent
Business owners have a right to decide whether people smoke or not in their places of business, so we should not have laws that prohibit smoking in public places like restaurants	125	31.9
Non-smokers have a right to breathe clean air in restaurants and other public places, so we should have laws that prohibit smoking in public places, such as restaurants	267	68.1
Total	392	100.0
Missing	11	

8. If all the restaurants in your community became smoke-free, how would that affect how often you go out to eat? Would you say you would go out to eat . . .

	Frequency	Percent
Much less often	20	5.0
Somewhat less often	18	4.5
Just as often	232	58.1
Somewhat more often	92	23.1
Much more often	37	9.3
Total	399	100.0
Missing	4	

9. Some cities and towns are considering laws that would make most indoor places smoke-free, including workplaces, public buildings, restaurants and bars. What would be your reaction if a law was proposed in your community to eliminate all tobacco smoke from most indoor places. Would you say you would . . .

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly support	201	49.9
Somewhat support	78	19.4
Somewhat oppose	45	11.2
Strongly oppose	47	11.7
Have no reaction	32	7.9
Total	403	100.0

10. Some cities and towns are also considering laws that would make restaurants smoke-free. What would your reaction be if a law was proposed in your community to eliminate all tobacco smoke from restaurants? Would you say you would . . .

	Frequency	Percent
Strongly support	236	58.6
Somewhat support	70	17.4
Somewhat oppose	34	8.4
Strongly oppose	37	9.2
Have no reaction	26	6.5
Total	403	100.0

11. Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your lifetime?

	Frequency	Percent
Yes	194	48.1
No	209	51.9
Total	403	100.0

12. Do you currently smoke cigarettes?

	Frequency	Percent
Every day	60	30.9
Some days	16	8.2
Not at all	118	60.8
Total	209	100.0

13. How many cigarettes do you smoke on an average day?

Num	Frequency	Percent
1	21	27.6
2	3	3.9
3	1	1.3
4	2	2.6
5	6	7.9
6	4	5.3
7	1	1.3
8	1	1.3
10	8	10.5
11	1	1.3
12	3	3.9
15	7	9.2
20	12	15.8
25	1	1.3
30	2	2.6
40	2	2.6
50	1	1.3
Total	76	100.0

14. Age

	Frequency	Percent
18 to 24	104	26.2
25 to 34	71	17.9
35 to 44	67	16.9
45 to 54	65	16.4
55 to 64	42	10.6
65 or older	48	12.1
Total	397	100.0
No response	6	

15. Last grade or level of schooling completed

	Frequency	Percent
Less than high school	24	6.0
High school graduate	91	22.6
Tech/trade school graduate	47	11.7
Some college	78	19.4
College graduate	109	27.1
Graduate degree	53	13.2
Total	402	100.0
No response	1	

16. Gender

	Frequency	Percent
Male	197	48.9
Female	206	51.1
Total	403	100.0