

COLORADO

How Does Your State Measure Up?

The 15th edition of *How Do You Measure Up?*, along with this one-page summary, illustrates how your state stands on issues that play a critical role in reducing cancer incidence and death. The goal of every state should be to achieve “green” in each policy area delineated in the report. By implementing the solutions set forth in the report, state legislators have a unique opportunity to save lives, save money and fight back against cancer. How does your state measure up?

To read this report online, please go to: www.acscan.org/measure

Number of Areas that Met Green Benchmarks: 2 of 9



Performance Area

- G** Green represents a state has adopted evidence-based policies and best practices
- Y** Yellow indicates moderate movement toward the benchmark
- R** Red shows where states are falling short

Prevention

State Laws Prohibiting Minors from Using Tanning Devices

- R** There are currently no state laws regarding tanning by minors that meet ACS CAN’s recommended legislative policy guidelines

2017 State Cigarette Excise Tax Rates, \$0.84 per pack

- R** Equal to or below \$0.85 per pack (50% of national average)

Fiscal Year 2017 State Funding for Tobacco Control, \$23.2 million annually – 43.8% of CDC recommended spending

- Y** 25-49.9% of the CDC recommended funding level

Smoke-Free Legislation at the State, County and City Level

- Y** 100 percent smoke-free in one or two of non-hospitality workplaces, restaurants and bars

Access to Care

State Appropriations for Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program - Fiscal Year 2016-2017

- G** State appropriations for the program are 100% or more than the CDC award

State Decisions on Increasing Access to Health Care Through Medicaid Up to 138% FPL

- G** State has broadened Medicaid eligibility, covering individuals under 138% FPL

Medicaid Coverage of Tobacco Cessation Treatments (Traditional Medicaid)

- Y** At least 1 type of counseling (individual, group, or telephone) and at least 1 FDA-approved tobacco cessation medication covered for all enrollees

Quality of Life

Establishing a Palliative Statewide Expert Advisory Council

- R** Action yet to be taken to introduce ACS CAN model legislation in state legislature

2017 Pain Policy in the States

- Y** Must either repeal restrictive or ambiguous policy requirements or adopt additional positive policy

HOW DO YOU MEASURE UP?

A Progress Report on
State Legislative Activity
to Reduce Cancer
Incidence and Mortality

Number of Areas that
Met Green Benchmarks:

2 of 9

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ACS CAN

ACS CAN, the nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society, supports evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem. ACS CAN works to encourage elected officials and candidates to make cancer a top national priority. ACS CAN gives ordinary people extraordinary power to fight cancer with the training and tools they need to make their voices heard. For more information, visit www.acscan.org.

BLUEPRINT FOR LEGISLATORS

For the fifteenth year, ACS CAN has published a blueprint for state legislators on how to save more lives from cancer. Framed entirely on evidence-based policy approaches, *How Do You Measure Up?* provides an outline of what states can do to reduce the cancer burden and provides a snapshot of how states are progressing on critical public health measures.

Every day, legislators at the state and local levels are making decisions that affect cancer patients and their families. Policy decisions, such as access to health insurance coverage for lifesaving cancer screenings and treatment, access to cancer drugs, investments in research, tobacco control and prevention policies, and funding for prevention and screening programs are all issues that could be decided by state and local lawmakers. Changes in laws for the better can affect millions of people, exponentially expanding and enhancing the efforts of ACS CAN to eliminate cancer as a major health problem.

CALL TO ACTION

The data in this year's edition of *How Do You Measure Up?* show that there is still much public policy work to be done to achieve our mission of eliminating suffering and death from cancer. It is estimated that nearly 1.7 million people in the United States will be diagnosed with cancer in 2017 and more than 600,000 people will die from the disease this year alone. ACS CAN is dedicated to ensuring that lawmakers enact state health policies that help prevent cancer and save lives.

In many cases, it costs the state little or nothing to do the right thing. In most cases, these solutions will save the state millions and perhaps billions of dollars in health care costs and increased worker productivity. If you want to learn more about ACS CAN's programs or inquire about a topic not covered in this report, please contact the ACS CAN State and Local Campaigns team at measure@cancer.org. You can also visit us online at www.acscan.org.