



To: Mike Braaten, Deputy City Manager; Littleton City Council
From: John M. Douglas, Jr., Executive Director, Tri-County Health Department
Subject: Economic Impact – Smoke-Free Laws- References
Date: August 27, 2015

Tri-County Health Department welcomes the opportunity to serve the City of Littleton and members of the Littleton City Council by responding to your request for information about the economic effects of smoke-free policies on restaurants and bars. Smoke-free indoor air policies have been in effect for a number of years in many cities, towns and states. Many research studies have found a positive or neutral economic impact from such laws. Additional studies have shown health benefits, such as reductions in hospital admissions for childhood asthma, associated with smoke-free laws. Research references are provided below.

· **Smoke-free Law Associated with Higher-Than-Expected Taxable Retail Sales for Bars and Taverns in Washington State** Boles M, Dilley J, Maher JE, Boysun MJ, Reid T. *Preventing Chronic Disease*, 2010;7(4):A79. http://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2010/jul/09_0187.htm. Accessed August 21, 2015.

Results: We [authors] found no immediate change in bar revenues in the first quarter of 2006, but taxable retail sales grew significantly through the fourth quarter of 2007. In the 2 years after the smoke-free law was implemented, sales revenues were \$105.5 million higher than expected for bars and taverns in Washington State.

Authors' Conclusion: The higher-than-expected revenue from taxable sales in bars and taverns after the implementation of smoke-free laws in Washington State provided extra funds to the state general fund. Potential increases in revenue in other jurisdictions that implement smoke-free indoor air policies could provide funds to benefit residents of those jurisdictions.

· Huang, P., and M.E. McCusker, "**Impact of a Smoking Ban on Restaurant and Bar Revenues—El Paso, Texas, 2002.**" *CDC Morbidity & Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)* 53 (2004) Accessed August 21, 2015 at: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5307a2.htm> .

Editor's Summary: No decline in total restaurant or bar revenues occurred in El Paso, Texas, after the city's smoking ban was implemented on January 2, 2002. These findings are consistent with the results of studies in other municipalities that determined smoke-free indoor air ordinances had no effect on restaurant revenues (2,5-8). Despite claims that these laws especially might reduce alcoholic beverage revenues (2), the mixed-beverage revenue analyses indicate that sales of alcoholic beverages were not affected by the El Paso smoking ban.

· [Economic Effects of Clean Indoor Air Policies on Bar and Restaurant Employment in Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota](#) *Journal of Public Health Management & Practice*: July/August 2010 - Volume 16 - Issue 4 - p 285–293 Accessed August 21, 2015 at:
http://journals.lww.com/jphmp/Abstract/2010/07000/Economic_Effects_of_Clean_Indoor_Air_Policies_on.3.aspx .

Results: Clean Indoor Air polices were associated with an increase of three percent to four percent in employment for restaurants in Minneapolis and St. Paul, after accounting for the rest of the hospitality industry. The Clean Indoor Air policies were inconsistent in their association with bar employment. A comprehensive Clean Indoor Air policy in Minneapolis was associated with an increase of five percent to six percent in bar employment, and St Paul had a one percent nonsignificant decrease in bar employment. The Clean Indoor Air policies continue to yield the best protection against workplace exposure to environmental tobacco smoke for bars and restaurant employees and were not associated with large employment changes for the short or longer term in two urban Midwestern cities in the United States.

· [Smoke-free Law Associated with Reduction in Hospital Admission for Childhood Asthma](#) *Pediatrics: Official Journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics*, January 21, 2013, Millett, C. et. al. Accessed August 27, 2015 at:
<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2013/01/15/peds.2012-2592.abstract>

This study assessed whether the implementation of English smoke-free legislation on July 2007 was associated with a reduction in hospital admissions in childhood asthma.

Results: Before the implementation of the legislation, the admission rate for childhood asthma was increasing by 2.2% per year ... After implementation of the legislation, there was a significant immediate change in the admission rate of -8.9%. This change was equivalent to 6802 fewer hospital admissions in the first 3 years after implementation. There were similar reductions in asthma admission rates among children from different age, gender, and socioeconomic status groups and among those residing in urban and rural locations.

Conclusions: These findings confirm those from a small number of previous studies suggesting that the well-documented population health benefits of comprehensive smoke-free legislation appear to extend to reducing hospital admissions for childhood asthma.