





Tobacco is the agent most responsible for avoidable illness and death in America today. Putnam County has the highest percentage of current smokers in the assessment region (23.6%). Percentages for males are higher than for females in Putnam and Duval Counties. In all other counties, the difference between genders is very small. Thirteen percent of survey respondents smoke cigarettes “every day” or “some days.” Nine percent of respondents smoke every day.

Student cigarette use is higher among high school students than middle school students in all counties. The middle school percentage is highest in Putnam County (12%) and the highest percentage of high school smokers are in Clay County (19.4%). High school cigarette use has increased since 2008 in Clay and Duval Counties, but has decreased in all other counties in the assessment region and the state of Florida. High school students use smokeless tobacco less than cigarettes, however, the percentages in Clay and Nassau Counties are nearly double that of the state level.

Source: *Community Health Needs Assessment, 2012*

#### Adults who Smoke (2007-2013)

Location	Percent	Status
County : Clay		
2007	21.8%	
2013	18.9%	
County : Duval		
2007	21.6%	
2013	18.1%	
County : Nassau		
2007	23.8%	
2013	17.9%	
County : St. Johns		
2007	17.8%	
2013	14.7%	

Source: [www.nefloridacounts.org](http://www.nefloridacounts.org)

## FY13-14 -15 Community Benefit

### Smoking Cessation

The Healthy People 2020 national health target is reduce the rate of smoking to 12% of the adult population. Among adolescents in grades 9 through 12, the objective is to reduce those who smoked cigarettes in the past 30 days to 16%.

#### Programs:

Smoking cessation classes  
Community outreach and prevention awareness events  
Strategic Investments

#### Strategies:

1. Partner with the Northeast Florida Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) to provide community smoking cessation classes. Quit Smoking Now is a six week program that provides support, guidance and resources to help participants become tobacco free.

#### Program Results:

##### FY13

- No activities this reporting period

##### FY14

- 11 people participated in four Quit Smoking Now smoking cessation 6 week courses
- 30 Fletcher High School students received tobacco prevention education

##### FY15

- 9 people participated in a Quit Smoking Now 6 week course
- 438 Sandalwood High School students received tobacco prevention education

#### Strategic Investments:

##### FY13

- Sulzbacher Clinic Beaches screened for tobacco use among its patients and offered education and treatment for smoking cessation

##### FY14

- Sulzbacher Clinic Beaches screened 2,932 people for tobacco use. 861 persons received treatment for smoking cessation

##### FY15

- Sulzbacher Clinic Beaches screened 2,209 patients for tobacco use. All received education and 410 patients received treatment for smoking cessation. 1,536 patients received counseling to help them quit smoking.

#### Partners:

American Heart Association  
Sulzbacher Clinic Beaches  
Northeast Florida Area Health Education Centers (AHEC)  
Fletcher High School