how many of us are smoking

- 44.5 million adults (about 25%)
- About 20% of high school seniors (said they had a cigarette in past 30 days)
- Average smoker smokes 19 cigarettes a day (in 1995)

smoking kills...

- 440 thousand Americans a year, according to Center for Disease Control (CDC), or 100 thousand, according to Heartland Institute (out of about 2.5 million deaths)

Costs, according to CDC

- $75 billion per year in medical expenditures
- $92 billion per year resulting from lost productivity

taxes

- federal tax on cigarettes: 39 cents
- State tax: average of 70 cents (median—80 cents)
  - highest tax: $2.46 in Rhode Island
  - lowest tax: 7 cents in South Carolina

state laws

- number of states that restrict smoking
  - in public places: 46 (2005)

From CDC

over the years

1964 - Surgeon General says cigarettes cause cancer
1965 - Congress requires warning labels on cigarettes
1971 - tv ads for cigarettes are banned
1988 - Congress bans smoking on short domestic flights of two hours or less
1992 - federal law requiring states restrict sales of cigarettes to minors
1996 - FDA calls cigarettes "drug delivery devices" and proposes regs
1998 - 46 states and tobacco industry settle lawsuit for $200 billion over 20 years
2000 - Supreme Court rules FDA can't regulate tobacco until Congress says so