More Than Half of New York Adults Support Banning Smoking in Parks and on Beaches

Decreasing the social acceptability of tobacco use is an important goal of the New York State Tobacco Control Program. Banning smoking in outdoor public places, especially where families gather, may be an important step towards changing social norms and reducing the social modeling of smoking to children and youth.

- In New York in 2008, over 60% of non-smokers and nearly 30% of smokers favored banning smoking in outdoor public places such as parks or beaches.
- Since 2005 in New York, the proportion of smokers favoring the banning of outdoor smoking in parks or on beaches has increased significantly from 22% to 28%.
- In New York, twice as many non-smokers favor outdoor smoking bans compared with smokers.

Source: New York State Adult Tobacco Survey, 2005-2008. Analysis conducted by RTI, International. Contact the Bureau of Chronic Disease Epidemiology and Surveillance, New York State Department of Health at (518) 473-0673 or type ‘StatShot’ in the subject line of an e-mail and send it to tcpi@health.state.ny.us.