Support for Eliminating Smoking in Public Places such as Parks and Beaches Remains Steady

Eliminating 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. A majority of New Yorkers support eliminating smoking in some outdoor public places and this level of support has remained steady since 2006.

- In New York in 2010, over 60% of non-smokers and nearly 30% of smokers favored banning smoking in outdoor public places such as parks or beaches.

- Between 2005 and 2006 in New York, the proportion of smokers favoring the banning of outdoor smoking in parks or on beaches increased significantly from 22% to 27%. There has been no change since 2006.

- In New York in 2010, twice as many non-smokers favor outdoor smoking bans compared with smokers.

Source: New York Adult Tobacco Survey, 2005 – 2010. Contact the Bureau of Chronic Disease Evaluation and Research, 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 tcp@health.state.ny.us.