

**A Survey of Public Opinion
on Secondhand Smoke Related Issues
in Bourbon County, Kentucky**

**Findings Presented by
Bourbon County Health Department
with a grant from the Kentucky Department for Public Health**

Survey conducted by:

University of Kentucky Survey Research Center

**304 Breckinridge Hall
Lexington, KY 40506-0056
859-257-4684
langley@uky.edu**

	2015
Sample Size	403
Margin of Error	± 4.8
Confidence Level	95%
Response Rate	48.8%
Dates Conducted	November 18 – December 15, 2015

Methods

This survey was conducted using a random-digit dialing procedure to select landline numbers, ensuring that every residential telephone line in Bourbon County had an equal probability of being called. Cell phone numbers were selected at random from rate centers that cover Bourbon County and then screened to ensure county residence. Up to 15 attempts were made to each landline number in the sample and up to 8 attempts for each number in the cell sample. In addition, up to ten scheduled call-backs were made to those we reached at an inconvenient time, and one refusal conversion was attempted.

Demographic Characteristics of the Sample

Participants in this survey had an average age of 55, ranging from 18 to 94 years old. Half were male and half were female. Over half (52.7%) reported a high school education or less. Nearly all participants were White (93.6%); the others were African American (4.6%), Asian-Pacific Islander (.2%), some other race (1.3%), or more than one race (.1%). Four in ten earned under \$40,000 in total household income before taxes per year; 30.7% earned \$40,000-\$70,000 and 29.4% earned \$70,000 or more. Over half (53.5%) worked full-time or part-time outside the home.

Secondhand Smoke Exposure

Of participants who worked, about 23.5% reported that smoking is allowed at work or there is no official policy. Of those who worked outside the home, about 22.8 % reported exposure to other people's smoke at work over the last 7 days.

Smoking

Over half (51.7%) of participants reported smoking "at least 100 cigarettes in their entire life" and 22.4% were current smokers ("last 30 days"). Of those who smoked in the past 12 months, about 28.0% had tried to quit during that time.

Tobacco Growing

Twenty-six participants (6.4%) owned land where tobacco is grown or grew tobacco on someone else's land; 378 (93.6%) did neither.

2015 Bourbon County SECONDHAND SMOKE SURVEY QUESTIONS

In your opinion, should Bourbon County adopt a local law so that all public buildings, including restaurants, bars and other businesses have a smoke-free environment?

Yes	62.3%
No	37.7%

In general, do you feel that exposure to secondhand smoke is a serious, moderate, or minor health hazard or not a health hazard?

- Nearly **80%** of participants recognized secondhand smoke as a *serious* or *moderate* health hazard.

Which of these two statements do you agree with more?

1. People who work in bars and restaurants should be protected from exposure to secondhand smoke, even if this means smoking is not allowed at all in bars and restaurants.

68.7% strongly or somewhat agreed with this statement

2. People who go to bars and restaurants should have the right to smoke there, even though this means people who work there will be exposed to secondhand smoke.

31.3% strongly or somewhat agreed with this statement.

In summary, more than 6 of 10 adults surveyed in Bourbon County support a comprehensive, local smoke-free ordinance that covers all workplaces and buildings open to the public.

*For more information on secondhand smoke activities in Bourbon County contact
859-987-1915 Extension 4114*