

Smoke-Free Policies Do Not Hurt the Hospitality Industry
Fact sheet

- Evidence from peer-reviewed studies that examine objective measures such as taxable sales revenue and employment levels shows that smoke-free policies and regulations do not have an adverse economic impact on the hospitality industry.¹
- A comprehensive review reported that peer-reviewed studies examining objective indicators such as taxable sales revenue and employment levels have consistently found that smoking restrictions do not have a negative economic impact on restaurants and bars.²
- An in-depth analysis of tax revenue data in California from 1990 to 2002 found that the 1995 state smoke-free restaurant law was associated with an increase in restaurant revenues. The analysis also found that the 1998 state smoke-free bar law was associated with an increase in bar revenues.³
- An evaluation of the New York state tobacco control program found that the state smoke-free law had no impact on sales in full-service restaurants and bars.⁴
- Restaurant and bar revenues in New York City increased by 8.7 percent from April 2003 through January 2004 following implementation of the city's smoke-free law. Employment in the city's restaurants and bars increased by approximately 2,800 seasonally adjusted jobs from March 2003 to December 2003. The number of restaurants and bars in the city remained essentially unchanged between the third quarter of 2002 and the third quarter of 2003.⁵
- No declines in total restaurant, bar, or mixed beverage revenues were observed in El Paso, Texas during the first year after that city adopted a smoking ban in all workplaces and public places, including restaurants and bars.⁶
- One of the earliest economic impact studies found that local smoke-free restaurant laws had no statistically significant effect on restaurant sales. The study also found that local smoke-free bar laws had no statistically significant effect on bar, or on sales of all eating and drinking place revenues reported by establishments that sell all types of liquor. The study concluded that smoke-free ordinances do not have a negative impact on restaurant or bar sales.⁷
- A study found that Florida's 2003 smoke-free law did not have significant negative effects on sales and employment in the state's leisure and hospitality industry.⁸

References

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