

In California, the average price of a pack of cigarettes is \$4.40. What's the real financial cost to young people?



If you smoke a pack a day, you spend **\$30.80 a week.**

If you quit, this money could be spent on:

One pair of Reef sandals

A DVD box set

Drinks and cover charge at a nightclub

If you smoke a pack a day, you spend **\$132.00 a month.**

If you quit, this money could be spent on:

A new BlackBerry

A haircut, color, and style at your salon

Two full tanks of gas

If you smoke a pack a day, you spend **\$1606.00 a year.**

If you quit, this money could be spent on:

A new MacBook

An All Terrain Vehicle

A five-day trip to Cancun for four people

Financial Costs of Smoking

Young Adult Fact Sheet #20

Hidden Costs

In addition to the money spent on tobacco products, there are other very real financial costs for tobacco users. Let's look at some of these hidden costs:

- **Cosmetic:** Okay, so that's pretty obvious for most smokers. If you're going to smoke, you will smell like smoke. But have you really added in all the costs? Extra trips to the dry cleaners and laundromat, teeth whitening, and multiple packages of mints or gum will certainly add up over time.
- **Job security:** Some business are hesitant to hire smokers, while others (Union Pacific, for example) refuse to hire smokers at all. There have even been examples of companies whom have changed their policy on hiring smokers, and then fired the smokers they currently employed.
- **Housing:** The homes and apartments of smokers often require additional carpet cleaning and painting. Even if a smoker chooses to smoke outside, on a balcony, or in the yard, the smell of smoke can still permeate the living areas.
- **Insurance:** Nonsmokers get the benefit of less expensive health care and life insurance than smokers. Due to the frequency of house fires being caused by lit cigarettes, nonsmokers also receive a small discount on homeowners insurance.