From:

"James Middleton"

To:

Cc:

Date:

Sunday, July 30, 2017 01:41PM

Subject: Altria shares plunge after FDA releases road map to curb tobacco-

related deaths.pdf

History:

This message has been forwarded.

When can we expect equivalent or better proactive action from Hong Kong Government?

Add

Minimum pack prices like UK

Political will

Onus on licensees to enforce the anti-smoking laws or lose their operating licences

Tripling TCO patrol and enforcement ability

Allocating excise tax to anti tobacco measures instead of white elephant concrete developments

Annual tobacco tax increase in excess of inflation (never applied here)

Double the current level of tobacco taxation with agreed and mandated annual increases

Ban on patio smoking

The FCTC mandates Government officials 'declare and divest' tobacco shareholdings - when will this happen?

When is Govt intending to prevent its MPFA Trustees from unethical investments

Full adoption of FCTC requirements into Hong Kong legislation

Plain packaging

Make buying age of tobacco 21 years (frontal lobe development decision making)

License tobacco retailers

Prevent legislators with tobacco interests from attending meetings on tobacco legislation

Under FCTC force declaration of tobacco company donations to political parties and tobacco front groups

Attachments:

Altria shares plunge after FDA releases road map to curb tobacco-related deaths.pdf

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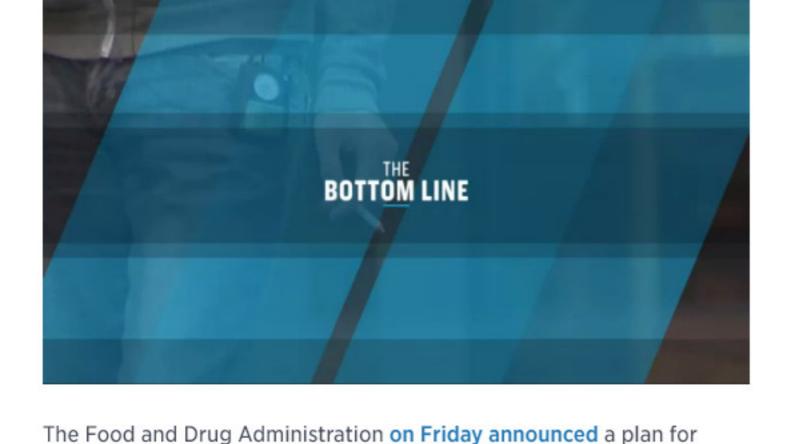
TOBACCO

Altria shares plunge after FDA releases road map to curb tobacco-related deaths

- . The FDA on Friday said it's seeking to lower nicotine in cigarettes to nonaddictive levels.
- Shares of Altria Group, British American Tobacco and Vector Group, among other tobacco-related stocks, were all seen falling on the news.
- The FDA said it plans to begin a dialogue "shortly" surrounding lowering nicotine levels by way of "achievable product standards."

Friday, 28 Jul 2017 | 4:35 PM ET M CNBC

Lauren Thomas | @laurenthomasx3



cigarettes to non-addictive levels. This would be just the first step in a sweeping review of the tobacco industry's regulations by the agency, with the goal of encouraging the

tobacco and nicotine regulation, which seeks to lower nicotine in

development of new products that are less dangerous than cigarettes. The FDA has also said it will consider the role of menthol and other flavors in tobacco products. The statement by the FDA largely came as a surprise and will likely face much resistance from tobacco companies, which are already facing a

declining consumer base for their products.

brands, saw its stock decline more than 4 percent.

through its Philip Morris USA unit, plunged more than 10 percent after the FDA's announcement. British American Tobacco, which owns brands such as Camel, Lucky Strike and Newport, fell nearly 9 percent. Vector Group, which sells Liggett Select, Eve and other cigarette

Shares of Altria Group, maker of Marlboro and Parliament brands

Shares of Philip Morris International, which sells Marlboro and other brands outside the U.S., also dropped nearly 3 percent on the news. Imperial Brands, formerly known as Imperial Tobacco Group, fell 6 percent.

FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb called the amount of death and

disease attributable to tobacco "overwhelming." Cigarettes are "the only legal consumer product that, when used as intended, will kill half of all long-term users," he said in a statement.

"Envisioning a world where cigarettes would no longer create or sustain

addiction, and where adults who still need or want nicotine could get it from alternative and less harmful sources, needs to be the cornerstone of our efforts — and we believe it's vital that we pursue this common ground." The FDA said Friday that it plans to begin a "public dialogue"

surrounding lowering nicotine levels by way of "achievable product

will describe a new enforcement policy "shortly."

comments.

standards." The agency added that it's prepared to issue guidance that

Altria said, in a statement, that it plans to be "fully engaged throughout the process.

[FDA's] approach to regulating tobacco products and a meaningful step forward in developing a comprehensive regulatory policy that acknowledges the continuum of risk," Altria said.

"We think today's announcement is an important evolution in the

"The process outlined by the Commissioner today will allow all

stakeholders the opportunity to participate in a science and evidence based regulatory framework which is transparent, predictable, and sustainable," the company added. In an email, a British American Tobacco spokesperson told CNBC that the company's Reynolds American unit was "encouraged" by Gottlieb's

"Dr. Gottlieb's comments regarding nicotine and menthol do not come as a surprise to us," the spokesperson said. "We are well prepared and look forward to participating in a thorough process to develop a

comprehensive plan for tobacco and nicotine regulation." "We believe future success will require transformative, innovative products and changing the conversation about tobacco harm reduction," the company added.

cigarettes minimally addictive." The FDA said it also will consider an exemption for what it calls

reduced-risk offerings like e-cigarettes.

Gottlieb said the agency is planning to look at regulation to "render

(MO)

ALTRIA

-6.87

[-9.29%]

67.09

premium cigars, and will consider a delay in implementing new rules for



advantage." One concern remains that though the FDA seeks a balanced approach

to avoid "unintended consequences," such as activity in the black

market, this might not pan out as anticipated, Herzog said. It also increases the risk that a federally mandated ban on menthol cigarettes would be implemented, she added. "Surely" this encourages a black market, Joseph Agnese, an analyst at research firm CFRA Research in New York, told CNBC's "Squawk Alley"

said. For now, "these actions are actually supportive of the future demand of e-cigarette products," Agnese said. And regulations would primarily impact younger smokers.

on Friday. But this will also take awhile to go into any sort of effect, he

August 2016 won't be subject to review until 2021 or 2022, depending on the type of product, the FDA said. The Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, an anti-smoking group, said the

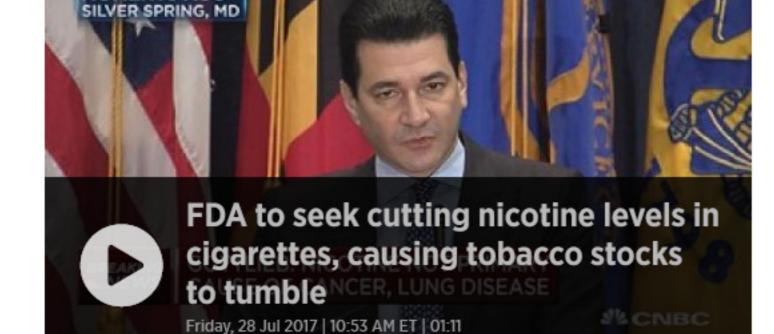
plan has "great potential to save lives." However, they were critical of

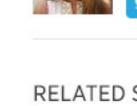
the delayed oversight of these newer tobacco products.

Notably, e-cigarettes and vaping devices that were on the market in

"There is no reason to allow these products to stay on the market while developing and implementing the comprehensive strategy Dr. Gottlieb outlined today," the group's president, Matthew Myers, said in a statement.

WATCH: FDA to seek cutting nicotine levels in cigarettes, causing tobacco stocks to tumble





MO

Lauren Thomas News Associate for CNBC

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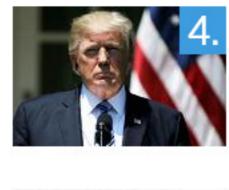


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FTSE 100 tobacco giant plunges as FDA announces plan to cut nicotine to nonaddictive levels











British American Tobacco plunges following the FDA announcement

By Tom Rees

28 JULY 2017 • 5:31PM

Market report

A radical plan by the US drugs regulator to reduce nicotine in cigarettes to non-addictive levels saw shares in FTSE 100 tobacco giants British American Tobacco and Imperial Brands go up in smoke.

The US Food and Drug Administration's proposal to stub out the habit, which it says kills half of users, sparked a global tobacco sell-off as defensive stocks known for their steady earnings came under attack.

Heavily exposed to the US market through its stake in Reynolds, British American Tobacco crashed as much as 14pc before recovering to finish 362p lower at £49.60, a 6.8pc plunge, while less exposed Imperial slid 130.5p to £33.16.

"It's hard to overstate what this could mean for the companies affected. Non-addictive levels of nicotine would likely mean a lot fewer smokers and of those people who do still light up, smoking a lot less," argued ETX Capital market analyst Neil Wilson.

"This will blow a hole in their earnings and forces a fundamental reevaluation of earnings."

Meanwhile, Smirnoff-maker Diageo bucked a stumbling wider market as analysts toasted to the world's largest distiller's turnaround tale and £1.5bn share buyback.

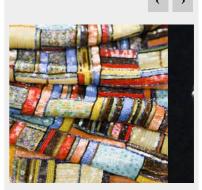
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Adding the company, also behind Johnnie Walker and Guinness, to its "outperform" list, Bernstein cited growing confidence in Diageo's ability to deliver mid-single digit revenue growth from its portfolio of brands and the company's over-deliverance on cost-savings for its ratings upgrade.

However, Liberum warned investors that some of Diageo's "growth initiatives risk repeating the boom and bust extensions of yesteryear".

While the FTSE 100 nursed an earnings season-induced hangover, Diageo finished among the top gainers for a second consecutive day, climbing 33.5p higher to £24.42, its highest ever share price.

Pharma giant **AstraZeneca** took a small step forwards, rising 3.6pc, as the dust settled from its huge 15pc slide on Thursday. The wider FTSE 100 index closed 74.64 points lower at 7368.37, a lpc slump.

On the FTSE 250, **Just Eat** tumbled 34.5p to 636.5p after Barclays raised doubts over the takeaway pioneer's plan to take on UberEats and Deliveroo and build relationships with chain eateries.

Analyst Gerardus Vos downgraded the stock to "equal weight", arguing that cosying up to big restaurant brands could hurt second half profits and jeopardise Just Eat's relationship with the small curry houses and chinese takeaways that made its name.

Finally, the family of owners behind fast fashion retailer **Quiz** cashed in on the company's success to the tune of £92.1m after it listed on AIM with an additional £10.6m placed back in the Glasgow-based brand to bump up growth. Investors were quick to grab a slice of the action on Quiz's debut following rivals ASOS and Boohoo.com's runaway successes on the junior market. Quiz finished 29.4p higher than its admission price at 198.4p.

5:31pm Markets wrap: Tobacco shares dumped as radical FDA plan looms over industry

Tobacco earnings are under threat from the FDA's proposals

Shares in the FTSE 100's two tobacco giants, British American Tobacco and Imperial Brands, have nosedived this afternoon after the FDA in the US proposed reducing nicotine in cigarettes to non-addictive levels.

Heavily-exposed to the US market, BAT plunged as much as 14pc in intraday trading before finishing 6.8pc down as investors pondered the impact of the plan on future earnings. The heavily weighting of the tobacco companies dragged down a FTSE 100 already firmly in the red for the day with pharma giant AstraZeneca rebounding 3.6pc following Thursday's sell-off.

The pound is 0.4pc higher against the dollar this afternoon as US GDP growth figures coming in broadly in line with markets expectations could't help the weakened greenback. It is currently trading at \$1.3120.



Finally, if you nodded off this afternoon and couldn't dump your BAT shares quick enough, Mike Van Dulken, head of research at Accendo Markets, has these comforting words:

"This may be an over-reaction, however.

"Firstly, this is a plan to start a public dialogue focused on protecting children and reducing tobacco related disease and death.

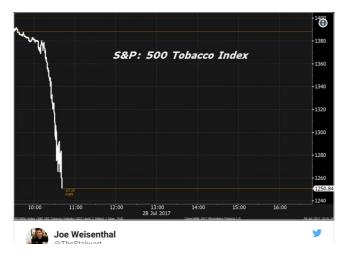
"Secondly, the fine print suggests balancing regulation of existing products with encouraging innovation for future less harmful options.

"Thirdly, there may be exemptions and delayed implementation of existing rules that offers some relief.

"Fourthly, it may require input from other bodies.

"Lastly, never underestimate the lobbying power of the might to bacco industry." $\,$

That's it for this week's markets coverage, we'll be back bright and early on Monday morning!



4:33pm Brent crude caps strong week by breaking through \$52 per barrel barrier
Brent crude has hit its highest level in two months as it remains on
track for its best week this year. It is currently trading at \$52.50 per
barrel after US stocks data showed a sharper drawdown than expected
and OPEC pledged to step-up compliance.

Brent crude is on course for its best week of the year

4:08pm FDA nicotine reduction plan reaction: Hard to overstate what this could



This one's woken up the traders and analysts from their Friday afternoon slumper.

Here's ETX Capital senior market analyst Neil Wilson's take:

It's hard to overstate what this could mean for the companies affected: non-addictive levels of nicotine would likely mean a lot fewer smokers and of those people who do still light up, smoking a lot less. This will blow a hole in their earnings and forces a fundamental re-evaluation of earnings.

To be honest, I'm not sure the 8pc fall that British American Tobacco has faced today quite does justice to the long-term impact this could have on earnings.

4:00pm FDA: Tobacco the only legal consumer product that will kill half of users



"The overwhelming amount of death and disease attributable to tobacco is caused by addiction to cigarettes – the only legal consumer product that, when used as intended, will kill half of all long-term users.

"Unless we change course, 5.6 million young people alive today will die prematurely later in life from tobacco use. Envisioning a world where cigarettes would no longer create or sustain addiction, and where adults who still need or want nicotine could get it from alternative and less harmful sources, needs to be the cornerstone of our efforts – and we believe it's vital that we pursue this common ground."

A quick sitrep on the tobacco stocks on the FTSE 100: British American Tobacco is now 8pc down while Imperial Brands is 6.5pc lower.

3:38pm

British American Tobacco shares tank 9pc as FDA looks to reduce nicotine to non-addictive levels

British American Tobacco shares tank on FDA announcement

The big London-listed to bacco makers are tanking in reaction to the FDA's announcement.

British American Tobacco, with its huge exposure to the North American market, is down over 9pc and Imperial Brands has shed some 6.2pc.

The heavy weighting of BAT in particular will pull down the FTSE 100 even further into the red.

3:22pm British American Tobacco shares nosedive as FDA signals that it will look to bring nicotine down to non-addictive levels

Well this is quite something.

The FDA in the US has said in the last few moments that it is looking into reducing nicotine in cigarettes to non-addictive levels. If achieved it would be a hammer blow to the tobacco industry. British American Tobacco shares plunge as traders react.

"The overwhelming amount of death and disease attributable to tobacco is caused \P / addiction to cigarettes — the only legal consumer product that, when used as intended, will kill half of all long-term users," said FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, M.D. "Unless we change course, 5.6 million young people alive today will die prematurely later in life from tobacco use. Envisioning a world where cigarettes would no longer create or sustain addiction, and where adults who still need or want nicotine could get it from alternative and less harmful sources, needs to be the cornerstone of our efforts — and we believe it's vital that we pursue this common ground."

The FDA plans to begin a public dialogue about lowering nicotine levels in combustible cigarettes to non-addictive levels through achievable product standards. The agency intends to issue an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) to seek input on the potential public health benefits and any possible adverse effects of lowering nicotine in cigarettes. Because almost 90 percent of adult smokers started smoking before the age of 18 and nearly 2,500 youth smoke their first cigarette every day in the U.S., lowering nicotine levels could decrease the likelihood that future generations become addicted to cigarettes and allow more currently addicted smokers to quit.

"Because nicotine lives at the core of both the problem and the solution to the question of addiction, addressing the addictive levels of nicotine in combustible cigarettes must be part of the FDA's strategy for addressing the devastating, addiction crisis that is threatening American families," said Commissioner Gottlieb. "Our approach to nicotine must be accompanied by a firm foundation of rules and standards for newly-regulated products. To be successful all of these steps must be done in concert and not in isolation."

3:07pm Clipper Logistics warns of staff shortage as revenues and profits jump

Clipper Logistics provides delivery services for some of the UK's biggest retailers

Clipper Logistics has warned of a shortage of staff to work in warehouses amid increasing demand for click and collect shopping services.

The company, which works with retailers to deliver goods from warehouses to stores, said after the vote to leave the European Union it had seen a decrease in the number of people available to work.

Tony Mannix, the company's chief executive, said the company has had "a bit of a challenge with people," attributing the fall to fewer overseas workers coming to the UK.

"What we're starting to see is the number of available agency staff is less than it was," Mr Mannix said.

Read Rhiannon Bury's full report here



2:52pm US GDP reaction: Economy has improved in spite of lack of fiscal stimulus



After an afternoon of choppy trade, the dollar is pretty much back where it started against the pound, 0.1pc down, but its drift lower against the euro is steadily continuing.

The dollar has now fallen 0.5pc against the euro today while Gold has risen to a six-week high after the GDP release and is trading at \$1265 per ounce.

Gold rises to a six-week high

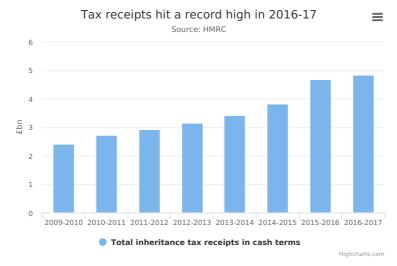
Chief investment officer at Close Brothers Nancy Curtin commented on today's US GDP data:

"The US economy has improved following a slow start to the year, in spite of a lack of fiscal stimulus so far from Trump's presidency. A strong performance in export and industrial sectors has been buoyed by weaker dollar, and we've seen a steady increase in earnings too.

"We're still some way from the President's 3%+ growth target, but the good news is this wasn't priced in by the market, so any additional tax relief or infrastructure spending could support markets into year end.

"Despite improving growth, wage inflation remains somewhat elusive, but the labour market remains reasonably strong, and we anticipate the Fed will proceed as planned with its slow and steady programme of interest rate normalisation."

2:27pm Inheritance tax haul hits record high as house prices climb



Families paid the taxman $\pounds 4.84$ bn in inheritance tax last year, a record high as house prices and the stock market climbed.

Tax payments increased by 4pc on the year as household wealth increased, HM Revenue and Customs said, but the level at which inheritance tax kicks in held steady at £325,000.

The government had only expected to bring in £4.7bn, so the rising number represents an extra windfall for the Treasury.

The pace of the increase, which does not account for inflation, has slowed - in the previous year an unusually high number of winter deaths helped drive up inheritance tax payments by 22pc - but remains on the upward trajectory the levy has followed since 2009-10.

Read Tim Wallace's full report here



Are today's figures enough to prompt the US Federal Reserve to believe that the economy is strong enough to handle monetary policy tightening?

Not according to Ranko Berich, head of market analysis at Monex Europe, and that's why the dollar remains stubbornly weak following today's release.

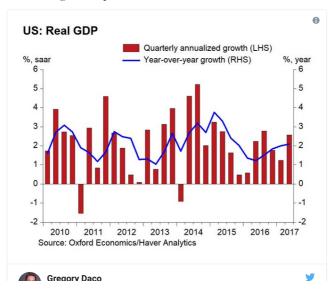
He added:

"The issue with today's figures isn't that they're particularly bad or even discouraging, but that they just don't provide any justification for a hawkish approach from the Fed.

"The US dollar strength we've seen over the last few years has been predicated on expectations of sustained or widening monetary policy divergence. With other G10 economies now performing relatively well, and various central banks edging towards normalisation, the impetus for USD strength is disappearing rapidly.

"It is likely to continue to do so while as the outlook for policy divergence narrow further."

2:00pm US GDP reaction: This should convince the Fed that the real economy remains in good shape



The US' 2.6pc annualised growth in the second quarter driven by a rebound in real consumption growth should convince the Federal Reserve that the real economy remains in good shape even as core inflation remains weak, Capital Economics US economist Andrew Hunter said on this afternoon's figures.

He added:

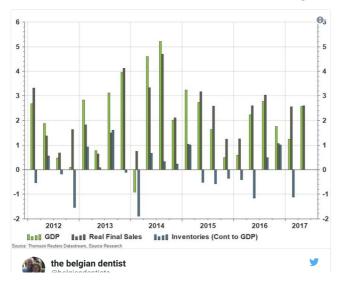
"Looking ahead, the strengthening labour market should continue to support real consumption growth, while the business surveys remain at a high level and suggest that investment will continue to recover.

"Accordingly, we still expect GDP growth of 2.5%-3.0% over the

rest of this year which, along with the declining unemployment rate, should leave the Fed on track to raise interest rates once more before year-end."

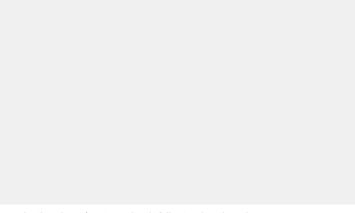


1:47pm Pound and euro retreat on dollar as market settles on GDP figures



The currency markets seem a little confused on this one. While the pound and euro spiked against the dollar immediately following the release, they have both retreated to around where they were prerelease after about five minutes or so.

Although Bloomberg's survey estimated growth of 2.8pc on an annualised basis, there was a bit of a spread in terms of estimates. Some are calling it a beat, some a miss. The currency markets seem to have settled on that it was broadly in line with expectations.



Pound spikes above \$1.31 immediately following the release but soon retreats

1:35pm Pound spikes as US economy grows 2.6pc in the second quarter

The pound has spiked above \$1.31 against the dollar after US GDP growth came in at 2.6pc on an annualised basis, missing

Bloomberg's survey of economists' forecast of 2.8pc.

1:07pm Office provider Workspace raises £200m to fund expansion

Workspace has also launched a unit in China

Office provider Workspace has raised £200m through a private share placing as it looks to take advantage of changing working habits.

The firm, which has 69 office properties across London, raised the cash through eight UK and US institutional investors, adding to £100m that it raised last month.

Graham Clemett, chief financial officer at Workspace, said changes in the way people want to rent offices meant the firm felt it was "a good time to raise additional money".

"People often ask about whether the Brexit vote has changed the way companies rent office space, but it is a more fundamental structural change in the market among both smaller and larger businesses," he said

He said more firms were looking for flexibility when renting office space, rather than wanting to commit to long-term leases.

While the money has not been allocated to a particular building or project, Mr Clemett said he was confident that the company would be able to use it to add to its portfolio in time.

Read Rhiannon Bury's full report here

12:38pm Markets reaction: Fresh dollar weakness unwelcome for European equity markets

Mining stocks have been hit by copper coming off this week's highs

Sentiment this morning has been dented by fresh dollar weakness "delivering more unwelcome pound and euro strength" to European equity markets, according to Accendo Markets head of research Mike Van Dulken. The pound has nudged up 0.2pc against the dollar today, trading at \$1.3090.

Copper coming off this week's highs to hit miners and the banking stocks edging down on Barclays' results have kept the FTSE 100 firmly

in the red. Mr Van Dulken added.

It doesn't look like its going to get any better over in the US this afternoon, according to Spreadex commentator Connor Campbell:

"This negativity looks set to infect the US open. The Dow Jones futures are pointing to a 45 point fall after the bell, taking the index away from yesterday's 21800-tickling levels.

"That admittedly could all change before the session starts, however, since investors are yet to get their first glimpse at the USA's second quarter GDP reading."



Gavin Patterson's BT has been forced to pay £225m to avoid a court battle over the Italian accounting scandal

The pound's mid-morning advance on the dollar has tailed off and sterling is now heading towards flat territory against the greenback ahead of the US GDP figures due at 1.30pm (BST).

The pound received a brief shot in the arm from the European Commission's Economic Sentiment Index, which showed a sharp rise in the UK's July reading.

Strong GDP figures from the eurozone have pushed the pound lower against the euro with France and Spain outstripping the UK's growth in the second quarter, expanding by 0.5pc and 0.9pc, respectively

The FTSE 100 has dipped below 7400 this morning with BT's 3.4pc slide after telling shareholders of a profits hit from the Italian accounting scandal weighing heaviest on the index.

Alcoholic drinks-maker Diageo is the strongest gainer for a second consecutive day with only four companies in positive territory on the blue-chip index. Heavier losses have been sustained on the continent, however, as the strong euro impacts the big European exporters.

Here's the current state of play in Europe:

FTSE 100: -0.72pc

DAX: -0.70pc

CAC 40: -1.32pc

IBEX: -0.85pc

11:46am Barclays sinks to a loss after selling chunk of Africa unit and taking £700m PPI hit

Barclays chief executive Jes Staley said that restructuring of the business to focus on the UK and US is now complete

Barclays made a loss of £1.2bn in the first half of the year as its withdrawal from Africa and the ongoing payment protection insurance scandal knocked the lender's balance sheet.

It has set aside an extra £700m to meet compensation claims for misselling PPI, while it also reduced its stake in Barclays Africa to around 15pc.

The lender is pulling back from Africa as part of a restructuring plan that will see it focus on operations in the UK and US.

In the six months to the end of June, Barclays made an attributable loss of £1.2bn, compared to a profit of £1.1bn in the same period of the last vear.

Not including costs related to the Africa business, the lender made a pre-tax profit of £2.3bn, up 13pc from £2.1bn.

Shares have dipped 0.3pc this morning.

Read our report on Barclays' results here

11:32am British Airways-owner IAG one of many stocks in the red despite 14pc

IAG shares have been on a rough ride recently as airliners warn of tougher outlook

The FTSE 100's deterioration this morning has largely halted but only five stocks have moved higher into positive territory.

One of the many languishing in the red is British Airways-owner IAG, whose shares have shed 1.5pc in today's session despite posting a 14pc increase in profits. The aviation giant said that the IT failure in May which caused travel misery for thousands of passengers cost it £58m.

Shares have taken a hit recently as multiple airlines including easyJet and Ryanair have warned of industry turbulence in the second half of the year.

Hargreaves Lansdown analyst Nicholas Hyett said that the company's focus on long haul flights means it doesn't have to cut prices to keep planes full and its profits should be less squeezed compared to low-cost

carriers.

He added:

"The result is that while rivals are seeing the gains from lower fuel prices frittered away in an aggressive price war, at IAG they're dropping through to the bottom line and profits are taking off.

"However, IAG's own capacity growth looks cautious rather than jubilant, and combined with a rapidly falling debt pile could suggest the group is buckling in for turbulence ahead."

11:06am Rotork shares dive as engineer jettisons long-serving boss

Peter France has left Rotork as margins shrink on oil price pressures

Engineer Rotork's shares dived more than 5pc after the sudden departure of its chief executive following a lacklustre performance from the FTSE 250 business.

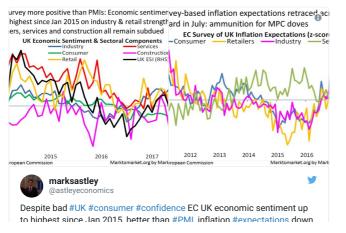
The manufacturer, which makes valve systems for companies in the oil, gas and energy industries, revealed that Peter France was leaving after eight years in charge with immediate effect.

In a statement announcing the move, Rotork said that his departure after a career spanning three decades came after "a period of reflection by the board, together with Peter, on the steps required to foster a return to higher growth and margin levels in what is likely to be a generally lower growth macro environment".

Actions to improve the company's performance include faster investment in new products and customer service while cutting costs.

Read Alan Tovey's full report here

10:53am UK economic sentiment rises sharply in July



UK economic sentiment rose sharply in July, according to the latest

reading from the European Commission's Economic Sentiment Index.

The UK's rise to 113.2 in July from 109.3 in June (100 represents the 1990-2016 average) helped lift the overall EU figure with sentiment in the eurozone region broadly unchanged.

Capital Economics European economist Jack Allen said that the "small rise in the EC's measure of eurozone economic sentiment in July left the index pointing to a fairly sharp pick-up in GDP growth".

Pantheon Macro economist Samuel Tombs, however, said that the UK figures are stronger than the reality:

"Business confidence undeniably picked up in July, although the jump in the ESI overstates how much it improved. The subcomponent for industry—where confidence has soared due to the weak pound—receives a 40% weight in the index despite only accounting for 15% of the economy.

"Our version of the ESI, which re-weights its components according to the composition of the U.K. economy, also rose in July, but it was only modestly above its long-run average and it has tracked sideways over the last year."

10:37am Rightmove profits surge as it attracts record number of customers

Despite concerns over the UK housing market, Rightmove posted record customer numbers $\,$

Online property portal Rightmove shrugged off concerns over the state of the housing market as customer numbers hit record levels and profits surged by nearly 10pc.

Rightmove said it enjoyed a lpc jump in customer numbers, to an alltime high of 20,358, in the six months to the end of June.

It said pre-tax profits rose 9pc in the first half of the year, up from £80.6m to £87.5m, while revenues were up 11pc to £120m.

"Home hunters visited Rightmove a record 3,000 times a minute in the first half of 2017, turning to us first to search and research on the only place you can see almost the entire UK residential property market," said chief executive Peter Brooks-Johnson.

The spike in profits came despite an 8pc drop in housing transactions in the first half, against a tough comparison with 2016, when buyers rushed to move ahead of stamp duty changes.

Read Sam Dean's full report here

10:32am US GDP data the focus for investors on the currency markets today

John McCain was one of the Republican senators to vote down Donald Trump's healthcare bill

Now the eurozone GDP figures have dropped, the main focus in terms of economics data today for investors will be the US' own growth figures for the second quarter, which will be released at 1.30pm (BST). A strong reading could halt the pound's move higher against the dollar inspired by president Donald Trump's healthcare bill faltering in the Senate.

Growth is expected to come in at 2.5pc on an annualised basis and the US economy will have to pick-up somewhat in the second half of the year if it is going to meet Mr Trump's promise of 3pc growth.

IG market analyst Josh Mahony has provided this preview of the US data:

"Traders will be keeping a close eye on the latest US GDP reading in the afternoon, with markets expecting to see a marked improvement on the disappointing first quarter figure of 1.4%.

"Improvements across a number of recent economic data points are likely to see that figure rise somewhat, with a big jump in personal consumption (2.8% from 1.1%) one of the key drivers of these heightened expectations."

10:12am Only a handful of stocks in positive territory this morning; Diageo leads FTSE 100 again

Diageo shares have risen again as analysts praise the drinks maker's latest results

Smirnoff-maker Diageo leads a falling index for a second consecutive day as analysts provide their take on the company's surge in profits and £1.5bn share buyback. Shares are up 1.8pc early on with broker Bernstein upgrading the stock to "outperform" following its strong showing yesterday.

Pharma giant AstraZeneca has recovered 1.1pc following yesterday's huge 15pc plummet after it told shareholders that its flagship drug trial had suffered a setback. Small fry in terms of the £7bn wiped off its value in yesterday's session.

Barclays has nudged up 0.7pc this morning despite the bank setting $\,$

aside £700m more for PPI compensation claims and swinging to a £1.2bn loss in the first half of the year due to exit from Africa.

However, CMC Markets analyst Michael Hewson said the underlying results were actually slightly better than expected:

"Stripping out the one-off items the results showed that revenues in its investment bank were lower to the tune of 10%, and profits were even lower, however the underlying business numbers were still slightly better than analyst forecasts, once all the incidentals had been stripped out."

9:49am Earnings reaction: Gloomy picture for BT unfair

BT shares have plunged 4.4pc this morning

BT shares are 4.4pc down this morning, the worst on the FTSE 100, after the telecom giant told shareholders that pre-tax profit has taken a 40pc hit from the Italian accounting scandal and a £225m settlement to avoid a court battle with two of its biggest investors.

George Salmon, an analyst at Hargreaves Lansdown, commented that its unfair to paint an entirely gloomy picture for the company:

"BT has shaken off demands to fully separate the higher-margin Openreach division, and assuming there aren't any more skeletons in the closet, the cash flows from EE and the growing Consumer division are potentially attractive.

"Nonetheless, with BT fighting battles on several fronts, one could be forgiven for waiting for the dust to settle."

 ${\it ETC}$ Capital market analyst Neil Wilson was also reasonably optimistic on the outlook:

"Despite today's knock to the share price investors have been warming to BT again following the gigantic selloff in January, which wiped a fifth off its market cap.

"Spectrum position in respect to the forthcoming auction is important and with EE the group can now focus on building its position as a genuine quad-play provider.

"Subscribers are rising and they're spending more on average. Consumer revenues were up 7%, while those for EE rose 4%. As a quad-play provider it should be able to gain market share over time."

9:27am European markets put on the back foot by late US tech sell-off

Pub operator Michell & Butlers has fallen 6.4pc early on

The FTSE 100 has been spared much of the pain this morning with the CAC and DAX falling harder as a stronger euro weighs on stocks across the channel.

On the mid-cap FTSE 250 index, pub and restaurant operator Mitchell & Butlers has dived nearly 6.4pc to pare some its 21pc gain from yesterday while value manufacturer Rotork has fallen 4.9pc after announcing that its chief executive Peter France has resigned.

A late tech sell-off in the US has also soured investor sentiment in Europe this morning, according to CMC Markets analyst Michael Hewson.

He said on this morning's play:

"European markets look set to end the week on a softer note after a weak Asia session and some late profit taking in the tech sector heading into the US close, which saw both the S&P 500 and Nasdaq close lower on the day.

"We've seen a veritable earnings bonanza from the tech sector over the past week or so with Netflix, Alphabet and Facebook surprising to the upside, so hopes were high that Amazon would follow suit."

9:12am BT forced to pay £255m to avoid court battle over Italian accounting scandal

Chief executive Gavin Patterson said that the settlement with Deutsche Telekom and Orange was "clearly disappointing"

BT has been forced to pay £255m to avoid a court battle with Deutsche Telekom and Orange over the accounting scandal in Italy that has battered its finances.

The German and French telecoms giants are among BT's biggest shareholders, having accepted shares in part exchange for the mobile operator EE last year.

They watched on in January as revelations of complex fraud prompted a plunge in BT's share price. The fraud blew a £500m hole in BT's cash flow and caused a £571m write-down, triggering the company's worst ever day on the stock market.

The disaster could have been a basis for legal action by Deutsche Telekom and Orange under warranties included in the £12.5bn EE takeover agreement.

BT chief executive Gavin Patterson said the settlement with Deutsche Telekom and Orange was "clearly disappointing" but necessary to avoid legal action. Full-year financial guidance was not affected, Mr Patterson added.

Read Christopher Williams' full report here

9:06am BT drags on the FTSE 100 early on; US markets lose momentum overnight

Jeff Bezos was the world's richest man very briefly

The FTSE 100 has opened in the red with BT dragging on the index and Next paring yesterday's gains early on.

BT has sunk almost 3pc this morning on the blue-chip index as it tallied the cost of the Italian accounting scandal that hit the telecommunication company in January. It posted a 42pc drop in first quarter pre-tax profits with a settlement with investors Deutsche Telekom and Orange also hurting figures.

Overnight, US markets couldn't close at the record highs they peaked at in intraday trading as a tech sell-off pulled the Nasdaq and S&P 500 into negative territory.

Amazon founder Jeff Bezos' time as the richest man in the world looks to be short-lived after his company reported that profits were hit by rising spending. Mr Bezos overtook Bill Gates yesterday as Amazon shares rallied ahead of its results but they have fallen 4pc in after-hours trading following the results.

I wouldn't feel too sorry for him.



8:48am Eurozone recovery continues



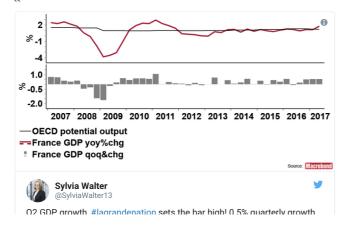
Spain's GDP figures, which were released shortly following France's data, adds to the narrative that the eurozone recovery is in full swing. Spain's economy grew by 0.9pc in the second quarter, its fastest growth in almost two years.

Austrian growth also nudged up to 0.8pc in the second quarter, from 0.7pc in the first.

Here's Capital Economics' European economist Jack Allen take on this morning's figures, which make up around a third of the eurozone's economy:

"Looking ahead, we don't think that quarterly euro-zone GDP growth of 0.7% or 0.8% will be sustained. The surveys for the beginning of Q3 are consistent with growth of about 0.6%.

"But we remain optimistic about the outlook – we think that euro-zone GDP will expand by an above-consensus 2.2% this year and 2.0% in 2018."



8:32am Agenda: Pound falls against the euro as France and Spain post stronger GDP growth than UK

French GDP growth in Emmanuel Macron's first quarter as president has beaten the UK's latest figures

Welcome to our live markets coverage.

Sterling is having mixed fortunes this morning with strong French and Spanish GDP figures and political inertia in Washington pulling the pound in different directions against the euro and the dollar.

Data released this morning from Europe showed that France's economy expanded by 0.5pc in the second quarter of the year, beating the UK's 0.3pc growth reported on Wednesday in Emmanuel Macron's first quarter as president. Spain 's economy meanwhile grew by 0.9pc, a nudge up from 0.8pc in the first quarter.

The pound has fallen 0.3pc against the euro this morning and is trading at €1.1172.

The pound has, however, made a small move higher against the dollar as president Donald Trump's healthcare reforms floundered in the Senate with three Republicans voting against the bill. It is trading at \$1.3080 against the greenback this morning.

The corporate calendar is looking a little less hectic today following Super Thursday but we still have IAG, BT and Barclays reporting from the FTSE 100. British Airways-owner IAG has jumped to the top of the blue-chip scoreboard after reporting a surge in profits despite the major IT failure that caused travel chaos in May.

Interim results: UBM, International Consolidated Airlines Group, Rightmove, BT Group, Morgan Advanced Materials, UK Commercial Property Trust, IMI, Barclays, Aberforth Smaller Companies Trust

AGM: Amur Minerals Corporation, Red Leopard Holdings, Subex, Boxhill Technologies, Bellzone Mining

Trading statement: Lonmin

Economics: GFK consumer confidence (UK), Employment cost index q/q (US), Advance GDP q/q (US), Advance GDP price index q/q (US), Revised UoM inflation expectations (US), Revised UoM consumer sentiment (US), German preliminary CPI m/m (GER), German import prices (GER)



^{29 Jul 2017, 6:00pm}Delivering the goods? why, 2:28pmFrom the Valkie Talkie 2017, 11:11am The highest-p eating in never looked so good

to the Cheesegrater: The UK's five biggest property deals

Instagram infl including one gets £14,000 1

Business latest

Many of the 'risks' being highlighted abou Brexit are perceived risks, not real risks





rival Jacobs in deal set to earn huge windfalls for executives

^{29 Jul 2017, 7:38pm}CH2M to be snapped up by, 7:37pmBT's rural broadband deal 17, 7:30pm</sup>Carillion emba 'to send bills soaring' offensive to rea partners

^{29 Jul 2017, 7:29pm}Bill freeze has chilling effect ^{29pm}No interest rate hike like ly, 7:20pmBP to shed furt on British Gas

as fears for economy keep Sea assets in its Bank of England on hold drive down cos

investors with bumper returns

^{29 Jul 2017, 7:19pm}Rio Tinto set to reward ^{Jul 2017, 7:19pm}Libor's US owners to fight^{2017, 7:18pm}Perella Weinbe UK plan to scrap the interest profits plunge a benchmark of mega-deals

eating in never looked so good

^{29 Jul 2017, 6:00pm} Delivering the goods: Why ^{20pm} The Poldark legacy: How tin ^{4pm} Do the drugs w mining could return to faces make or b **Cornwall** moment

protecting £13bn estate for Queen and country in 'the best job in property'

^{29 Jul 2017, 4:11pm}Meet the woman who is ^{9 Jul 2017, 3:40pm}Questor: Animal geneticist's ^{31pm}The electric jolt risks too great to be a cash Big Oil

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Nicotine and Tobacco

Agency to pursue lowering nicotine in cigarettes to non-addictive levels and create more predictability in tobacco regulation O PIN IT TWEET IN LINKEDIN ✓ EMAJL PRINT

July 28, 2017

Release

Release

For Immediate

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration today announced a new comprehensive plan for tobacco and nicotine regulation that will serve as a multi-year roadmap to better protect kids and significantly reduce tobacco-related disease and death. The approach places nicotine, and the issue of addiction, at the center of the agency's tobacco regulation efforts. The goal is to ensure that the FDA has the proper scientific and regulatory foundation to efficiently and effectively implement the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act. To make certain that the FDA is striking an appropriate balance between regulation and encouraging development of innovative tobacco products that may be less dangerous than cigarettes, the agency is also providing targeted relief on some timelines described in the May 2016 final rule that extended the FDA's authority to additional tobacco products. The agency will also seek input on critical public health issues such as the role of flavors in tobacco products.

Tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable disease and death in the United States, causing more than 480,000 deaths every single year. In addition to the devastating human toll caused mainly by cigarette smoking, tobacco also causes substantial financial costs to society, with direct health care and lost productivity costs totaling nearly \$300 billion a year. A key piece of the FDA's approach is demonstrating a greater awareness that nicotine – while highly addictive – is delivered through products that represent a continuum of risk and is most harmful when delivered through smoke particles in combustible cigarettes.

"The overwhelming amount of death and disease attributable to tobacco is caused by addiction to cigarettes – the only legal consumer product that, when used as intended, will kill half of all long-term users," said FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, M.D. "Unless we change course, 5.6 million young people alive today will die prematurely later in life from tobacco use. Envisioning a world where cigarettes would no longer create or sustain addiction, and where adults who still need or want nicotine could get it from alternative and less harmful sources, needs to be the cornerstone of our efforts – and we believe it's vital that we pursue this common ground."

The FDA plans to begin a public dialogue about lowering nicotine levels in combustible cigarettes to non-addictive levels through achievable product standards. The agency intends to issue an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) to seek input on the potential public health benefits and any possible adverse effects of lowering nicotine in cigarettes. Because almost 90 percent of adult smokers started smoking before the age of 18 and nearly 2,500 youth smoke their first cigarette every day in the U.S., lowering nicotine levels could decrease the likelihood that future generations become addicted to cigarettes and allow more currently addicted smokers to quit.

"Because nicotine lives at the core of both the problem and the solution to the question of addiction, addressing the addictive levels of nicotine in combustible cigarettes must be part of the FDA's strategy for addressing the devastating, addiction crisis that is threatening American families," said Commissioner Gottlieb. "Our approach to nicotine must be accompanied by a firm foundation of rules and standards for newly-regulated products. To be successful all of these steps must be done in concert and not in isolation."

The FDA is committed to encouraging innovations that have the potential to make a

notable public health difference and inform policies and efforts that will best protect kids and help smokers quit cigarettes. To make this effort successful, the agency intends to extend timelines to submit tobacco product review applications for newly regulated tobacco products that were on the market as of Aug. 8, 2016. This action will afford the agency time to explore clear and meaningful measures to make tobacco products less toxic, appealing and addictive. For example, the FDA intends to develop product standards to protect against known public health risks such as electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) battery issues and concerns about children's exposure to liquid nicotine. It also will provide manufacturers additional time to develop higher quality, more complete applications informed by additional guidance from the agency.

shortly. Under expected revised timelines, applications for newly-regulated combustible products, such as cigars, pipe tobacco and hookah tobacco, would be submitted by Aug. 8, 2021, and applications for non-combustible products such as ENDS or e-cigarettes would be submitted by Aug. 8, 2022. Additionally, the FDA expects that manufacturers would continue to market products while the agency reviews product applications.

The agency plans to issue this guidance describing a new enforcement policy

Importantly, the anticipated new enforcement policy will not affect any current requirements for cigarettes and smokeless tobacco, only the newly-regulated tobacco products such as cigars and e-cigarettes. This approach also will not apply to provisions of the final rule for which compliance deadlines already have passed, such as mandatory age and photo-ID checks to prevent illegal sales to minors. It also will not affect future deadlines for other provisions of the rule, including, but not limited to, required warning statements, ingredient listing, health document submissions, harmful and potentially harmful constituent reports, and the removal of modified risk claims, i.e., "light," "low," or "mild," or similar descriptors.

In order to further explore how best to protect public health in the evolving tobacco marketplace, the agency also will seek input from the public on a variety of significant topics, including approaches to regulating kid-appealing flavors in e-cigarettes and cigars. In particular, the FDA intends to issue ANPRMs to: 1) seek public comment on the role that flavors (including menthol) in tobacco products play in attracting youth and may play in helping some smokers switch to potentially less harmful forms of nicotine delivery; and 2) solicit additional comments and scientific data related to the patterns of use and resulting public health impacts from premium cigars, which were included in the FDA's 2016 rule. Additionally, the agency plans to examine actions to increase access and use of FDA-approved medicinal nicotine products, and work with sponsors to consider what steps can be taken under the safety and efficacy standard for products intended to help smokers quit.

"This comprehensive plan and sweeping approach to tobacco and nicotine allows the FDA to apply the powerful tools given by Congress to achieve the most significant public health impact," said Mitch Zeller, J.D., director of the FDA's Center for Tobacco Products. "Public input on these complex issues will help ensure the agency has the proper science-based policies in place to meaningfully reduce the harms caused by tobacco use."

To complement these larger policy considerations, the FDA plans to issue foundational rules to make the product review process more efficient, predictable, and transparent for manufacturers, while upholding the agency's public health mission. Among other things, the FDA intends to issue regulations outlining what information the agency expects to be included in Premarket Tobacco Applications (PMTAs), Modified Risk Tobacco Product (MRTP) applications and reports to demonstrate Substantial Equivalence (SE). The FDA also plans to finalize guidance on how it intends to review PMTAs for ENDS. The agency also will continue efforts to assist industry in complying with federal tobacco regulations through online information, meetings, webinars and guidance documents.

promotes and protects the public health by, among other things, assuring the safety, effectiveness, and security of human and veterinary drugs, vaccines and other biological products for human use, and medical devices. The agency also is responsible for the safety and security of our nation's food supply, cosmetics, dietary supplements, products that give off electronic radiation, and for regulating tobacco products.

The FDA, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,

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Safety

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English

Page Last Updated: 07/28/2017

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CDC A-Z INDEX >

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

CDC > MMWR

Discussion

of tobacco-related morbidity and mortality (9).

Association Between The Real Cost Media Campaign and Smoking Initiation Among Youths — United States, 2014–2016

Weekly / January 20, 2017 / 66(02);47-50

Matthew C. Farrelly, PhD1; Jennifer C. Duke, PhD1; James Nonnemaker, PhD1; Anna J. MacMonegle, MA1; Tesfa N. Alexander, PhD2; Xiaoquan Zhao, PhD^{2,3}; Janine C. Delahanty, PhD²; Pamela Rao, PhD^{2,4}; Jane A. Allen, MA¹ (View author affiliations) View suggested citation

In the United States, approximately 900,000 youths smoke their first cigarette each year (1). Health communication interventions are evidencebased strategies for preventing the initiation of tobacco use, promoting and facilitating cessation, and changing beliefs and attitudes about

tobacco use (2,3). This report describes the association between the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) first national tobacco public education campaign, The Real Cost, and rates of smoking initiation among youths in the United States from 2014 to 2016. A nationally representative cohort study of youths (N = 5,185) was conducted during November 2013-March 2016. Results from a discrete-time survival model indicate that, among youths who reported never having smoked a cigarette in the baseline survey, the odds of reporting smoking initiation at follow-up were lower among youths with frequent exposure to campaign advertisements than among those with little or no exposure (adjusted odds ratio [aOR] = 0.70, 95% confidence interval [CI] = 0.55-0.91). Based on the results of the model, The Real Cost is associated with an estimated 348,398 U.S. youths aged 11–18 years who did not initiate smoking during February 2014–March 2016. Sustained youth-focused tobacco education campaigns, such as The Real Cost, can help speed progress toward preventing tobacco use among youths in the United States. FDA's The Real Cost was based on behavior change theories and designed to prevent the initiation of cigarette smoking among youths who have never smoked and discourage further smoking among youths who have previously experimented with smoking (4) (RTI International and FDA,

unpublished data, 2016). Since February 2014, the campaign has aired tobacco education advertising designed for youths aged 12-17 years on national television, radio, the Internet, and in out-of-home displays, as well as in magazines and movie theaters (4). The central theme of the campaign is "Every cigarette costs you something." In the first 3 years of advertising, campaign themes focused on the cosmetic effects of smoking, loss of control caused by addiction, and the dangerous mix of toxic chemicals in cigarette smoke.* To monitor campaign awareness levels (4) and evaluate the impact of The Real Cost on changes in smoking-related beliefs (RTI International and FDA, unpublished data, 2016) and behaviors, FDA conducted a national representative cohort study of U.S. youths. Youths aged 11-16 years at baseline were randomly selected from within 75 U.S. media markets and, after obtaining parental permission and youth assent, were interviewed in person at baseline during November 2013-March 2014. Data collections for the three follow-up surveys were conducted during July-October 2014, April-July 2015, and December 2015-March 2016 and consisted of online or in-person interviews. This report used data from the baseline survey and the first three follow-up surveys to determine whether campaign exposure was associated with preventing smoking initiation among youths who had never smoked at baseline (never smokers). The analytic sample consisted of 5,185 eligible youths, and the model included 11,145 observations across the surveys. § Self-reported campaign media exposure was assessed with a validated measure (5) at each follow-up survey via video stream embedded within the survey. After viewing each advertisement, respondents reported their frequency of exposure to the advertisement on a scale from 0 (never) to 4

in a score ranging from 0 to 16 at first and second follow-ups and from 0 to 24 at third follow-up. A dichotomous exposure measure was then created, defined as either low campaign exposure (<4) or high campaign exposure (≥4). Smoking initiation was defined as first trial of a cigarette among youths who had never used cigarettes.

¶ A discrete-time survival model (6,7) was estimated using logistic regression and controlling for confounding influences, similar to other longitudinal media studies (8).** Because the delivery of advertisements is not explicitly random, the model included four types of potential confounders: demographic characteristics, individual risk factors for smoking cigarettes, self-reported exposure to other national campaigns (CDC's Tips From Former Smokers and Truth Initiative's truth campaign), and media market and state-level variables. The estimated number of youths prevented from initiating smoking was calculated using the difference between the

(very often). Respondents viewed all advertisements airing during the 3 months preceding each follow-up survey (a total of four advertisements at

first and second follow-ups, and six advertisements at third follow-up). The frequency of exposure to all ads in each survey were summed, resulting

Mendeley (16) Summary

What is already known about this topic? Public education campaigns are evidence-

Google+ (1)

based strategies for positive public health outcomes such as preventing the initiation of tobacco use, promoting and facilitating cessation, and shaping social norms related to tobacco use. What is added by this report?

This study is the first to examine the association between the Food and Drug

Administration's (FDA's) youth-specific national media campaign, The Real Cost, and adolescent smoking in the United States. Approximately 350,000 youths aged 11-18 years were prevented from smoking nationwide during 2014-2016 as a result of FDA's youth-specific public education campaign. What are the implications for public

The findings indicate that youths' selfreported exposure to the campaign was associated with a reduction in smoking

health practice?

initiation from 2014 to 2016. Sustained campaigns such as The Real Cost can speed progress toward a tobacco-free future.

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1.03 (0.86-1.24)

1.35 (0.99-1.84)

1.39[†](1.11-1.73)

and risky behaviors. High campaign exposure was associated with a 30% decrease in the risk for smoking initiation (aOR = 0.70, 95% CI = 0.55-0.91) (Table). The decrease in the risk for smoking initiation is illustrated by the difference between the risk for initiation with actual exposure to The Real Cost and the risk for initiation in a hypothetical scenario where there is no or low self-reported exposure to The Real Cost nationwide (Figure 1). Based on the results of the survival model, an estimated 348,498 youths aged 11-18 years were potentially prevented from initiating smoking nationwide during February 2014-March 2016 (95% CI = 331,825-365,168) (Figure 2). The association between campaign exposure and youth smoking initiation remained unchanged in survival models that accounted for youths' use of e-cigarettes and other tobacco products during the study period. In a similar survival model, exposure to The Real Cost was not associated with a change in the likelihood of marijuana initiation.

predicted risk for initiation by age with actual exposure to The Real Cost campaign and the predicted risk for initiation by age in a hypothetical scenario where self-reported exposure to the

campaign is either absent or low nationwide. The difference in initiation rates was then applied to the national population of nonsmoking youths at each age (2010 Census), and the resulting

cigarettes) and other tobacco products on smoking initiation. An additional model examined the relationship between campaign exposure and using marijuana, a risky behavior unrelated to

estimated numbers of youths potentially prevented from initiating smoking at each age were summed. Sensitivity analyses were conducted to examine the influence of electronic cigarettes (e-

campaign messaging. This additional analysis was conducted to ascertain whether campaign effects were specific to smoking behaviors and not a general association between campaign exposure

The findings from this analysis indicate that exposure to The Real Cost campaign was associated with preventing an estimated 348,398 U.S. youths aged 11-18 years from initiating smoking during 2014-2016. Most tobacco dependence begins during adolescence (3), and youth-focused campaigns to prevent smoking initiation, such as The Real Cost, can have long-term effects on future rates

Findings from this report support previous studies that indicate The Real Cost meets or exceeds guidelines for effective health communication interventions (2). FDA conducted formative research

to develop campaign advertisements for The Real Cost, including qualitative and quantitative testing of campaign messages and draft advertisements (RTI International and FDA, unpublished data,

seeing The Real Cost advertisements after 7 months, with more youths reporting awareness of advertising in subsequent surveys (4). The Real Cost was also found to positively influence tobacco-

2016). Since its launch, campaign advertising has occurred with high frequency across multiple media channels targeting youths. Research indicates that approximately 9 of 10 youths reported

related risk perceptions and beliefs specific to campaign messages after 15 months (RTI International and FDA, unpublished data, 2016). These results demonstrate the effectiveness of a national campaign that focused on the harmful effects of smoking and delivered salient messages that resonated with youths. These findings align with previous research that found targeted mass media campaigns, delivered with sufficient intensity and duration, can decrease smoking initiation and prevalence (2,9). A comprehensive tobacco control approach that emphasizes proven strategies, such as The Real Cost, can result in reductions in smoking among youths today, and such reductions can lead to

The findings in this report are subject to at least four limitations. First, measurements were self-reported and are subject to bias. Specifically, selective attention could bias the results, such that

nonsmoking youths at risk for future smoking might be more likely to both pay attention to campaign messages and experiment with smoking. However, such a positive association would be

expected to lead to smaller observed campaign effects on initiation. In addition, social desirability bias might have led to underreporting of initiation and overreporting of campaign exposure. To address the concerns of using self-reported exposure, future research that examines potential campaign exposure based on measures of market-level media delivery (i.e., target rating points T) is warranted. Second, although the model controls for youths' exposure to other tobacco-related media campaigns, this might not fully account for the independent or synergistic effects of the other campaigns. Third, sample attrition might result in bias. However, attrition analyses indicate the baseline and follow-up samples were similar across demographics, susceptibility to smoking cigarettes, and household tobacco use. Finally, because of sample size limitations, only initiation to smoking was examined, not progression to established or daily smoking. Future analyses could examine the campaign's effect on youth smoking prevalence and further explore the campaign's effect among demographic subgroups.

The Real Cost is the first federally funded U.S. youth-focused tobacco education campaign, and these findings indicate that youths' self-reported exposure to the campaign was associated with a

reduction in smoking initiation during the evaluation's 2014 to 2016 time frame. Sustained tobacco education campaigns such as The Real Cost can encourage U.S. youths to abstain from tobacco

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¹RTI International, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina; ²Center for Tobacco Products, Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, Maryland; ³Department of Communication, George 🔨 Top

Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia; ⁴Akira Technologies, Washington, D.C. * http://www.fda.gov/TobaccoProducts/PublicHealthEducation/PublicEducationCampaigns/TheRealCostCampaign/ 2. ▲ Top

[†]All youths aged 11-16 years in selected households were eligible for the baseline survey. Youths were selected within 75 Nielsen Designated Market Areas using 2010 Census Bureau block

groups as the secondary sampling unit. At baseline, the unweighted household-level response rate was 48%, and follow-up response rates ranged from 87% to 91% (American Association of Public

Opinion Research Response Rate #3 formula). The analytic sample included youths who reported they had never smoked (never smokers) at baseline and completed at least one follow-up survey (91% of respondents were never smokers at

/stateandcommunity/best_practices/index.htm

Psychol 1993;61:952-65. <u>CrossRef</u> ☑ <u>PubMed</u> ☑

Gender (referent = female)

Black, non-Hispanic

Race/Ethnicity (referent = white, non-Hispanic)

Male

Hispanic

school).

fff p<0.05.

100

20-

5.

initiation by youths aged 11–18 years — United States, 2014–2016

Services, CDC; 2012. https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/sgr/2012/index.htm

use and accelerate progress toward future tobacco-free generations.

Alexandria Smith, Kian Kamyab, Melissa Hobbs, Jennifer Keeney.

Acknowledgments

decreased future rates of smoking-attributable mortality, health care costs, and lost workplace productivity (3,9).

baseline and of these, 87% responded to at least one follow-up survey). "Never use" of cigarettes was examined using the measure: "Have you ever tried cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs?" including response options of "Yes," "No," and "Don't Know." Youths who had never used cigarettes were coded as respondents who said "No."

Thielsen's system of target rating points are the standard unit of measurement for media delivery and measure the reach and frequency of an advertisement among a target population. References

is dropped from subsequent time periods, thus allowing calculation of the probability that a youth will initiate smoking at each age, given that the youth had not previously begun smoking.

** This analytic approach begins with all youths who never smoked and then estimates the risk for smoking initiation as they age. Once the event of interest (initiation of smoking) occurs, the youth

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TABLE. Results of a discrete-time survival model of the relationship between self-reported exposure to The Real Cost media campaign and smoking

OR (95% CI) Explanatory variable* $0.70^{\dagger}(0.55-0.91)$ High exposure to The Real Cost (referent = no or low exposure)

Other, non-Hispanic 0.77 (0.54-1.09) Youth income§ 1.03 (0.99-1.07) Lives with tobacco user¶ 2.44** (2.04-2.92) Sensation seeking scale^{††} 1.40** (1.25-1.56) 0.85 (0.77 - 0.94) School environment^{§§} School performance ¶¶ 0.78** (0.70-0.87) Educational plans*** 0.92 111 (0.84-1.00) Parental communication §§§ 0.84** (0.76-0.94) Television use ¶¶¶ 1.03[†](1.01-1.06) Abbreviations: CI = confidence interval: OR = odds ratio. *Additional control variables include average market-level family income, average market-level high school completion rates, market population, 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System state smoking prevalence, measures of self-reported exposure to the Tips From Former Smokers and the Truth Initiative's truth campaigns, an indicator for whether the youth's baseline interview was conducted after the launch of The Real Cost, age indicators, and time trend indicators. †p<0.01. § The amount of weekly discretionary income. Lives with a person who uses tobacco, including cigarettes, cigars, hookah, smokeless, and other tobacco products. ** p<0.001. The brief sensation seeking scale (BSSS-4) is a mean of four items: 1) "I would like to explore strange places"; 2) "I like to do frightening things"; 3) "I like new and exciting experiences, even if I have to break the rules"; and 4) "I prefer friends who are exciting and unpredictable." Responses ranged from 1 (disagree strongly) to 5 (agree strongly). School environment was measured as the mean of three items: 1) "I feel close to people at my school"; 2) "I am happy to be at my school"; and 3) "I feel like I am a part of my school." Responses ranged from 1 (disagree strongly) to 5 (agree strongly).

§§§ A youth's relationship with parents was a mean of two items: 1) "Thinking about the adult or adults you live with would you say you are satisfied with the way you communicate with each other" (responses from 1 [very unsatisfied] to 5 [very satisfied]), and 2) "How close do you feel to the adult or adults you live with?" (Responses ranged from 1 [not close at all] to 5 [very close]). 1111 Continuous variable of daily hours spent watching television across all media devices.

Actual exposure to The Real Cost campaign

Hypothetical scenario: low or no exposure to

The Real Cost campaign

to The Real Cost campaign, by age — United States, 2014–2016

Risk for initiation (%)

If School performance was assessed with the item "How well would you say you have done in school?" with response options from 1 (much worse than average) to 5 (much better than average).

*** School aspirations were assessed with the item "How far do you think you will go in school?" with response options from 1 (I don't plan to go to school anymore) to 8 (graduate, medical, or law

FIGURE 1. Estimated smoking initiation risk among youths aged 11–18 years with actual exposure versus hypothetical scenario with low or no exposure Return Top

15 16 17 18 11 12 13 14 Age (yrs) FIGURE 2. Predicted number of youths* aged 11-18 years potentially prevented from initiating smoking as a result of The Real Cost campaign, by age -United States, 2014-2016 80,000 70,000 No. youths averted from initiating smoking 60,000 50,000 40,000 30,000 20,000 10,000 12 13 15 16 17 14 Age (yrs) * With 95% confidence intervals represented by error bars.

Suggested citation for this article: Farrelly MC, Duke JC, Nonnemaker J, et al. Association Between The Real Cost Media Campaign and Smoking Initiation Among Youths — United States, 2014-2016. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2017;66:47-50. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6602a2 ☑.

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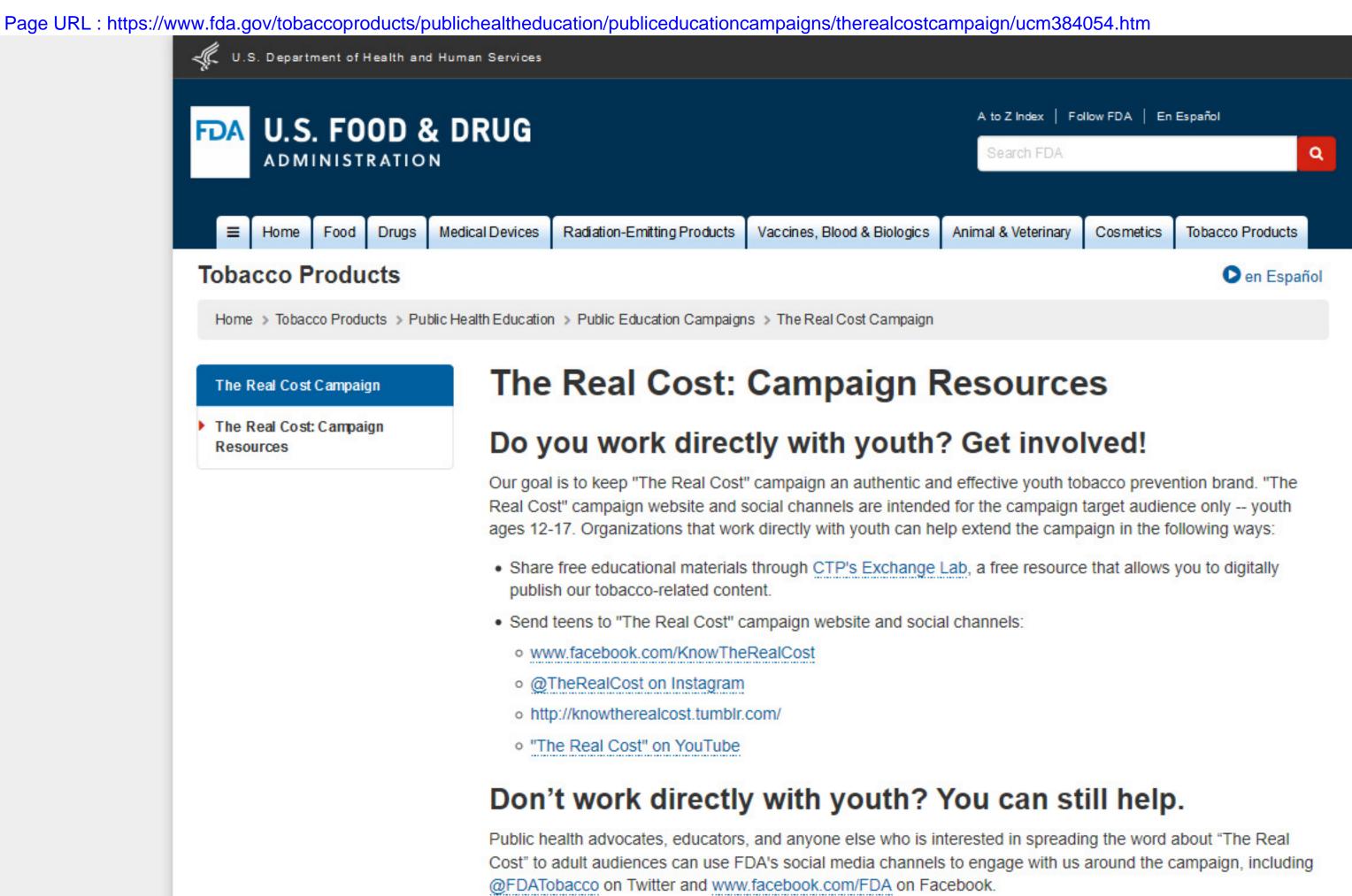
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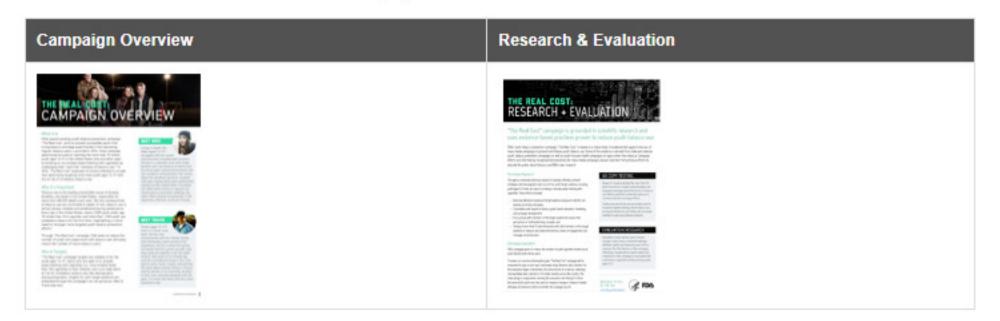
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You can also download and share our campaign fact sheets for adults:



A Sampling of Real Cost Ads





View more "The Real Cost" ads on our YouTube Channel.

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Note: If you need help accessing information in different file formats, see Instructions for Downloading Viewers and Players. Language Assistance Available: Español | 繁體中文 | Tiếng Việt | 한국어 | Tagalog | Русский | العربية | Kreyòl Ayisyen | Français | Polski | Português | Italiano | Deutsch | 日本語 | قال سي English





What It Is

FDA's award-winning youth tobacco prevention campaign, "The Real Cost," aims to prevent susceptible youth from trying tobacco and keep experimenters from becoming regular tobacco users. Launched in 2014, initial campaign advertising focused on reaching the more than 10 million youth ages 12–17 in the United States who are either open to smoking or are already experimenting with cigarettes by challenging their "cost-free" mentality of tobacco use.^{1,2} In 2016, "The Real Cost" expanded its brand umbrella to include new advertising targeting rural male youth ages 12–17 who are at risk of smokeless tobacco use.

Why It's Important

Tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of disease, disability, and death in the United States, responsible for more than 480,000 deaths each year.³ But the consequences of tobacco use are not limited to adults. In fact, tobacco use is almost always initiated and established during adolescence. Every day in the United States, nearly 2,500 youth under age 18 smoke their first cigarette, and more than 1,300 youth use smokeless tobacco for the first time—highlighting a critical need for stronger, more targeted youth tobacco prevention efforts.⁴

Through "The Real Cost" campaign, FDA seeks to reduce the number of youth who experiment with tobacco and ultimately reduce the number of future tobacco users.

Who It Targets

"The Real Cost" campaign targets two subsets of at-risk youth ages 12–17—teens who are open to or already experimenting with cigarettes (i.e., have smoked fewer than 100 cigarettes in their lifetime), and rural male teens at risk for smokeless tobacco use. Key demographic and psychographic insights for each target audience are embodied through the campaign's at-risk personas, Nikki & Travis (see box).

MEET NIKKI

Living a chaotic life,
Nikki (aged 12–17)
struggles with her social
and economic situation both at home
(living in a suburban area with single
parents who use tobacco at home) and
at school (poor school environment and
low academic achievement). Her stress
about her personal situation, coupled
with poor coping skills and a pessimistic
outlook on life, makes Nikki a troubled
kid. Nikki finds it hard to regulate her
mood and is a sensation-seeking risk
taker. Nikki smokes occasionally (<100
cigarettes, lifetime), as do her friends.

MEET TRAVIS

Travis (aged 12–17) lives in a small rural town. He has very strong bonds with his friends, family, and community, and is proud of his hometown. He has a close-knit group of friends that he's grown up with, and they hang out together a lot. His older brother and some of his friends dip, and he's considered trying it. He's into sports, girls, music, trucks, and gaming. He cares about school, fitting in, money, and his family. In his free time, he likes to fish, hunt, and play baseball with the guys. It's times like these that he's often exposed to dip.

What It Does

"The Real Cost" campaign was developed using evidencebased best practices and multiple phases of research to identify promising messages. The campaign is specifically designed to affect at-risk youth who experiment with tobacco but do not consider themselves users, do not believe they will become addicted, and are not particularly interested in the topic of tobacco. Campaign messages are intended to make the target audience acutely aware of the risks of tobacco use by highlighting consequences youth are concerned about, such as loss of control due to addiction, dangerous chemicals in tobacco products, and health effects like tooth loss and skin damage.

"The Real Cost" message areas include:

- Loss of Control: Reframes addiction as a loss of control to disrupt the beliefs of independence-seeking youth who currently think they will not get addicted or feel they can quit at any time.
- Dangerous Chemicals: Depicts the dangerous chemicals in tobacco and tobacco smoke to motivate youth to find out more about what's in them and reconsider the harms of tobacco use.
- Health Consequences: Dramatizes the negative health consequences of tobacco use in a meaningful way to demonstrate that all tobacco use comes with a "cost" that is more than just financial.

How It Is Being Implemented

The campaign uses a multi-channel advertising approach that surrounds teens with "The Real Cost" messages. Through national and local media buys, the campaign advertising airs on traditional broadcast media channels such as TV and radio, as well as through a mix of other multimedia channels including web, cinema, print publications, and billboards. Daily engagement with youth via multiple social media platforms also helps broaden the campaign's reach and creates spaces for teens to engage in peer-to-peer conversations about tobacco use in ways that are authentic to who they are.

A critical factor in reducing youth tobacco use is to produce and maintain effective levels of campaign awareness within the target population. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicates new tobacco prevention campaigns that reach 75 percent of the target audience within one year can expect to influence attitudes and create behavior change within two years if the time in-market is adequately sustained.

To achieve behavior change and improve public health, "The Real Cost" campaign has exceeded the benchmark of reach, frequency and time in-market recommended by CDC.



The campaign brand, "The Real Cost," focuses on making youth hyper-aware of the cost that comes with every cigarette or dip to challenge their "cost-free" mentality. "The Real Cost" is designed to be candid, empowering, and respectful. It speaks directly to teens in a straightforward and authentic manner.









How It Is Evaluated

FDA hired an independent research firm, RTI, to conduct large, multi-year outcome evaluation studies to measure the campaign's success in changing tobacco-related attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors among youth. The first outcome evaluation study found that 89% of youth were aware of at least one campaign ad 7 months from launch, and "The Real Cost" positively influenced tobacco-related risk perceptions and beliefs specific to campaign messages after 15 months.^{5,6} Most notably, final results from the first study indicate that exposure to "The Real Cost" from 2014-2016 was associated with a 30% decrease in the risk for smoking initiation, preventing an estimated 350,000 U.S. youth ages 11-18 from **smoking.** A separate outcome evaluation study specific to smokeless tobacco use is underway.

How You Can Get Involved

We recommend adults and stakeholder audiences use CTP's Exchange Lab, a free resource library of tobacco-related digital content that can be easily syndicated on existing websites or other applications. Orders can also be placed for free printing and shipping of select materials.

FDA's goal is to keep "The Real Cost" campaign an authentic and effective youth tobacco prevention brand. Thus, "The Real Cost" campaign website and social channels are intended for teens. Stakeholders should use FDA's social media channels to engage with us around the campaign. Organizations that work directly with youth can help extend the campaign by encouraging teens to share campaign messages with their peers. Stakeholders who do not work directly with youth can share our resources with youth-focused organizations. For more information, please contact TheRealCost@fda.hhs.gov.

Last Updated March 2017 RC-11-R1

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@FDATobacco #TobaccoFreeYouth

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- 5 Duke J, Alexander T, Zhao X, et al. Youth's awareness of and reactions to The Real Cost national tobacco public education campaign. PLoS ONE. 2015;10(12):e0144827.
- 6 Farrelly MC, Duke JC, Nonnemaker J, et al. Association Between The Real Cost Media Campaign and Smoking Initiation Among Youths United States, 2014–2016. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) 2017;66:47-50. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6602a2.

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"The Real Cost" campaign is grounded in scientific research and uses evidence-based practices proven to reduce youth tobacco use.

FDA's youth tobacco prevention campaign, "The Real Cost," is based on a robust body of evidence that supports the use of mass media campaigns to prevent and reduce youth tobacco use. Some of this evidence is derived from state and national youth tobacco prevention campaigns as well as youth-focused health campaigns on topics other than tobacco. Campaign efforts are informed by recognized best practices for mass media campaigns, lessons learned from previous efforts to educate the public about tobacco, and FDA's own research.

Formative Research

FDA conducted extensive research to develop effective outreach strategies and messaging to reach "The Real Cost" target audiences. These efforts included:

- Comprehensive literature reviews and target audience analyses to identify and refine our target audiences;
- Consultation with experts in tobacco public health education, marketing, and campaign development;
- Focus groups with members of each target audience to identify promising messages, and assess their perceptions of draft advertising concepts; and
- Testing of near-final TV advertisements with members of each target audience to measure perceived effectiveness, levels of engagement, and message comprehension, and to check for any unintended consequences.

Campaign Evaluation

FDA's goal is to reduce the number of youth ages 12–17 who use cigarettes and smokeless tobacco.

FDA hired an independent research firm, RTI, to conduct large, multi-year outcome evaluation studies to measure the campaign's success in changing tobacco-related attitudes, beliefs and behaviors among youth. The first outcome evaluation study found that 89% of youth were aware of at least one campaign ad 7 months from launch, and "The Real Cost" positively influenced tobacco-related risk perceptions and beliefs specific to campaign messages after 15 months. Most notably, final results from the first study indicate that exposure to "The Real Cost" from 2014–2016 was associated with a 30% decrease in the risk for smoking initiation, preventing an estimated 350,000 U.S. youth ages 11–18 from smoking. A separate outcome evaluation study specific to smokeless tobacco use is underway.

AD COPY TESTING

Research results indicated the nearfinal TV advertisements provided understandable and engaging messages about the harms of tobacco use without potential unintended adverse or counterproductive message effects.

Testing indicated all the ads would likely lead to increased negative feelings about tobacco use, decreased intention to initiate, and increased intention to quit using tobacco products.

EVALUATION RESEARCH

Evaluation results will be used to assess changes in tobacco-related knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, intentions, and behaviors over time. The studies will focus on behavior change associated with cigarette use and behavioral intentions around the use of smokeless tobacco among youth ages 12–17.

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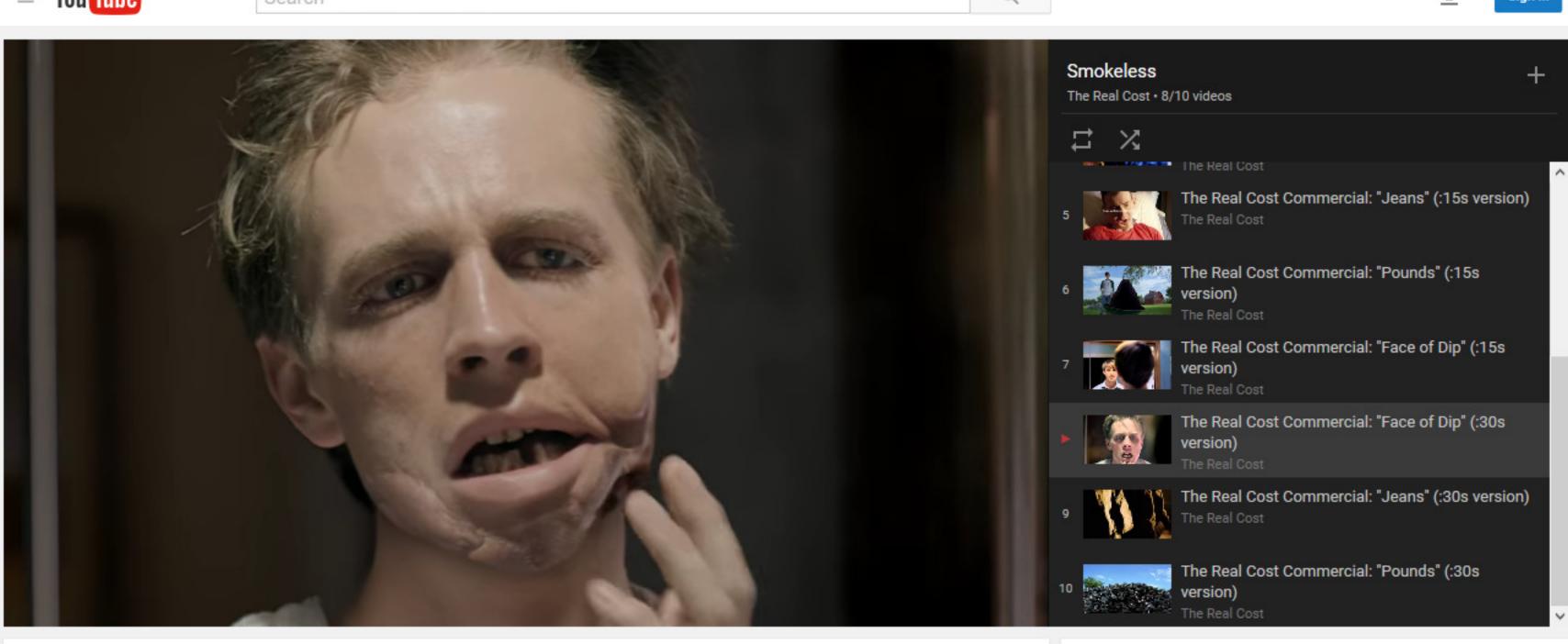
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² Farrelly MC, Duke JC, Nonnemaker J, et al. Association Between The Real Cost Media Campaign and Smoking Initiation Among Youths — United States, 2014–2016. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) 2017;66:47–50. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6602a2.







American adults try dip for the first time IJR - Independent Journal Review

502,395 views

The Real Cost Commercial: "Jeans" (:30s version) The Real Cost 2,806,935 views

The Real Cost Commercial: "Pounds" (:30s version) The Real Cost 594,671 views

Anti- chewing tobacco commercial Kolten Schulte 5,074 views

0:50



Collection magnusei

Oral Cancer Survivor tells of Consequences of Smokeless Tobacco. McCarl Dental Group

5:31 The Real Cost Commercial: "Your Skin"

USFoodandDrugAdmin 279,240 views 0:33

93,193 views

Don't Judge Challenge Compilation -

#dontjudgechallenge | BEST BEST VINES 168,817,594 views 11:47

The Real Cost Commercial:

"Hacked" (:30) The Real Cost 1,782,395 views

0:31 Best Funny Awareness Anti

Smoking commercial Watch Fun 689,341 views 4:56

0:31

"Movie Date" (:30s version) The Real Cost 50,004 views

The Real Cost Commercial:

The Real Cost Commercial: "Science Class" The Real Cost

0:31

3,196,529 views

Side effects of dipping Outlaw 995,520 views

Top 10 Commercials of 2016 Gabby The Clown

1,472,326 views

11:25

4:11

25:19

Outlaw Got Mouth Cancer American Snuff

Classic us smokeless tobacco

1,305 views

commercials The Georgia Dipper 11,922 views

1:56

Confirmed! DIP DOES NOT CAUSE CANCER! mudjug1

152,460 views 10:10

> Health Tips for Dippers hrfalcons22

33,530 views

12:59

People Try Dip & Chewing Tobacco for the First Time Complex News 690,585 views

2:12

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767,952 views

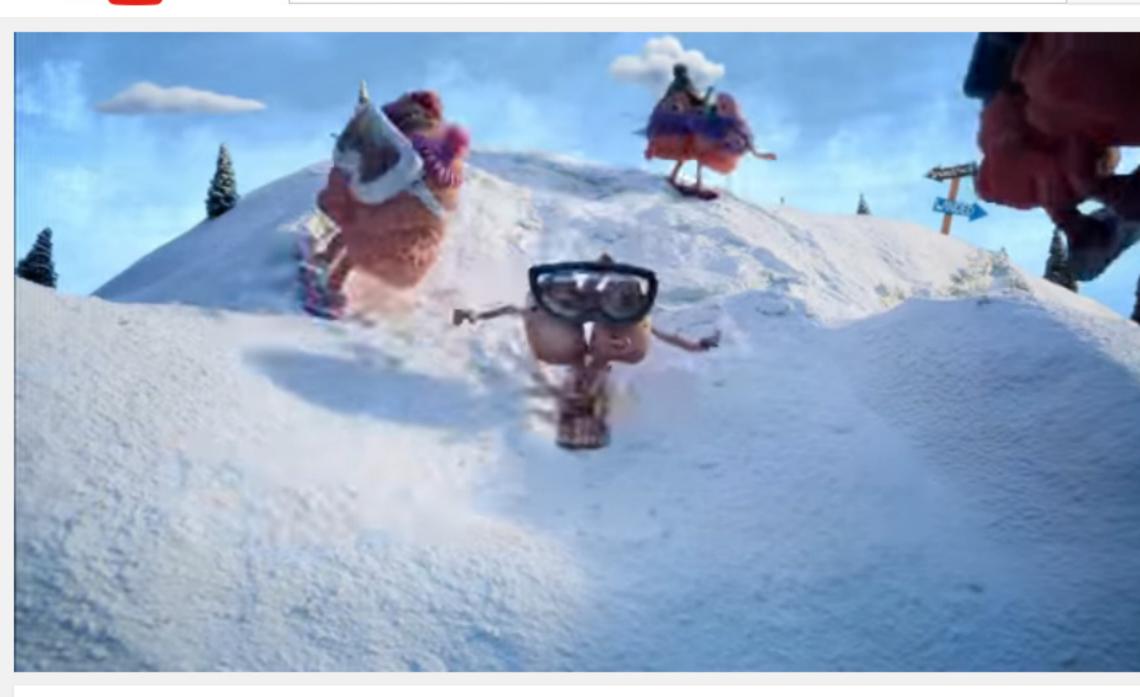
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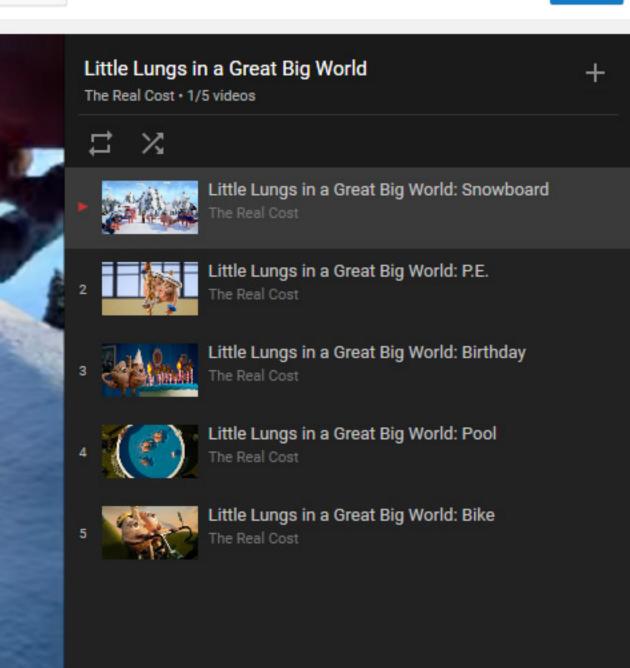
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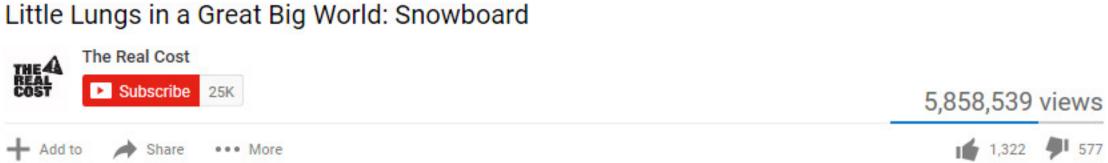
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Watch Little Lungs try to get some big air on the slopes.

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Little Lungs in a Great Big World: Birthday The Real Cost 19,524,355 views

0:42

Try not to Laugh Challenge! -Disney Craziness Compilation #4 Leo Koutakis

7,570,404 views

World's LARGEST SUPER SOAKER!! (not clickbait) Mark Rober 2,914,590 views

9:08

#Mind Warehouse 6,620,858 views

5 KIDS YOU WON'T BELIEVE

4:55 Little Lungs in a Great Big World:

ACTUALLY EXIST

P.E.

The Real Cost 730,576 views

Doraemon Fruits & Vegetables

0:27 Learn Colors with Play Doh

Pineapple Eggplant pomegranate Happy Funny Kids Toys Pretend Play 4,613,044 views 11:22

> Pearson Brothers Winery films 15 ft white shark in 3 ft of water Dale Pearson 4,565,947 views

8:23

Smoking vs Vaping AsapSCIENCE

7,885,632 views

4:20

HD Mickey Mouse Babies Crying because of Grub in Belly! Finger Family Song Nursery Rhymes Fun Kids Toon

23,357,792 views 10:06

> See What is Inside - Pop the Pig, Poop, Banana Fizzy Toy Show 2,138,115 views

Cutting Open Squishy Toys to

16:48 ELSA needs to PEE! Spiderbaby

Joker TOILET Prank Spiderman Superhero Clay Animation SuperHero Freak Family 26,021,036 views

10:08 Little Lungs: Behind The Scenes

> The Real Cost 23,738 views

1:09

The Loud House | Slice of Life | Nick

Nickelodeon 5,360,289 views

2:16

Slither.io In Real Life Shutter Authority 25,448,433 views

1:57

Learn Colors with Mickey Mouse Clubhouse Paw Patrol Pop Up Toys | Fizzy Fun Toys Fizzy Fun Toys

1,362,192 views 10:36

> ANIME CRACK 2017 HD #3 Rustorwolf 407,029 views

10:26

WORLDS BIGGEST BACKYARD WATERSLIDE!! Stephen Sharer

11:50

SHOW MORE

3,701,325 views

You Tube

■ Language: English ▼

Content location: Hong Kong *

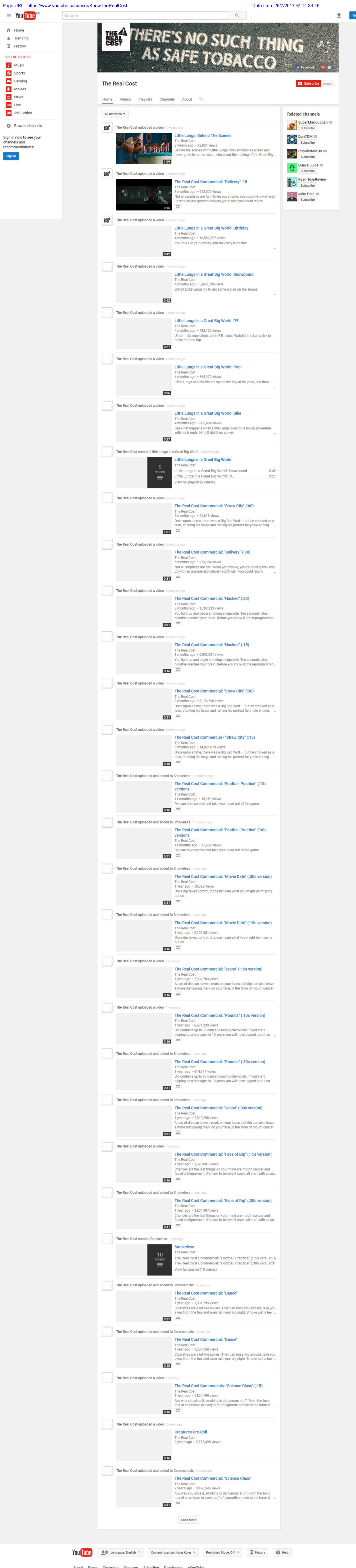
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Smoking The Observer

Big tobacco 'manipulating cigarette prices' to thwart taxes on smoking

Premium brands subsidise the cheaper products to keep the habit affordable, study finds



Roll-your-own tobacco has remained relatively cheap over the years. Photograph: Alaa Badarneh/EPA



Sunday 30 July 2017 00.05 BST

Big tobacco companies have been manipulating the prices of cigarettes for more

than a decade to undermine government attempts to deter people from smoking, research suggests. A study published in the journal Nicotine & Tobacco Research has found that the

Scientists at King's College London and the University of Bath analysed data from more than 6,000 smokers to look at the price they paid for tobacco between 2002 and 2014.

increasing availability of cheap tobacco has hampered public health efforts to

discourage smoking, the leading cause of preventable death.

They found that, by switching brands, smokers could buy tobacco in shops at the same prices they paid in 2002. The range between the cheapest and most expensive brands almost doubled over the 12 years. In 2002 it was 12p per cigarette but by 2014 this had increased to 23p. In 2014, the most expensive pack of 20 factory-made cigarettes cost about £10, whereas the cheapest pack cost only £5.33. "Our research suggests that tobacco companies are able to meet tax requirements and keep cheap products available by markedly increasing prices on premium brands," says the study's co-author, Rosemary Hiscock from the University of Bath's Tobacco Control Research Group.

premium products to in effect subsidise cheaper alternatives. The researchers argue that the widening gap between the cheapest and most

The practice is known as "over-shifting", whereby cigarette companies use their

expensive products is evidence that the industry deliberately introduced a wide variety of brands to meet smokers' declining budgets. The study also looks at the rising use of roll-your-



headlines, the analysis, the debate - sent direct to you Read more



doubled between 2002 and 2014 and it is particularly popular among younger people. The study found that the price increase in roll-yourown was lower than that for factory-made cigarettes. By 2014, the cheapest roll-your-own tobacco cost £1.63 for 10 grams, enough to make 20 cigarettes. There were large increases in the tax on tobacco over the 12 years but the price of cigarettes rose

own tobacco. The number smoking it almost

only by an average of 10p per cigarette. The researchers suggest their work provides evidence that marked tax increases have not resulted in price rises large enough to persuade smokers of the cheaper

products to quit. "Increasing tobacco prices is known to be one of the best deterrents to reduce smoking, but an increase in availability of cheaper products in conventional

stores in response to this appears to be thwarting public health campaigns," said the study's lead author, Timea Partos of the addictions department at King's ondon.correct "Policy-makers need to focus on regulating tobacco prices so that the tobacco industry is not able to undermine tax increases by offering such a wide range of

cigarette prices." The authors suggest that the price of all types of tobacco should be equally high so that smokers are discouraged from simply switching products to reduce costs.

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LAKERERE UNIVERSITY

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of promoting cigarette brands online 10 Oct 2010 23



27 Mar 2005

cot death to passive smoking

Most popular in US



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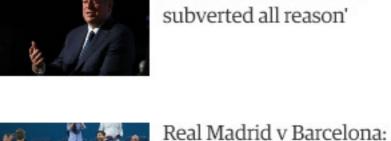


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Maine Raises Smoking Age to 21 After Lawmakers Override Veto

By MATTHEW HAAG AUG. 2, 2017



A woman smoking an electronic cigarette in San Rafael, Calif., in 2015. Last year, California raised the smoking age to 21. Like Maine, the regulation applies to e-cigarettes. Justin Sullivan/Getty Images

Maine will become the fourth state to raise the smoking age to 21 and will adopt stricter regulations on the sale of electronic cigarettes after lawmakers on Wednesday voted overwhelmingly to override the governor's

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The New York Times

Gov. raul K. Lerage, a Kepublican, had called the bill all attempt to social engineer our lives," saying that if 18-year-olds can join the military and fight in wars, they should be allowed to decide on their own whether to use tobacco.

Senator Paul Davis, a Republican who wrote the bill, said the governor's remarks showed that he had missed the point of the legislation.

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"People who join the military don't have 15-year-old kids following them around and being impressed by their actions," Mr. Davis told reporters after the Senate's vote on Wednesday. "It's about the availability of cigarettes in schools."

Starting in July, anyone under 21 will not be allowed to buy tobacco products in the state, which will join California, Hawaii and New Jersey as the only states to raise the age limit to 21, from 18. Maine's new regulations will also apply to devices like e-cigarettes, which are popular among teenagers; hookah pipes; and smoking accessories.

In the last two decades, tobacco use among teenagers in Maine has dropped drastically, mirroring a similar decline across the country. But the state still ranks near the top for high schoolers who smoke cigarettes: In 2015, 11.2 percent of Maine high school students smoked, just above the national average of 10.8 percent, according to the most recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death in the United States, accounting for about 20 percent of all deaths.

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State committees let tobacco industry meddle

By Phil Konigsberg

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New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie signed a law last Friday that will raise the statewide minimum age to purchase tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes, from 19 to 21, effective Jan. 1, 2018.

New York also had a golden opportunity to pass our own statewide Tobacco 21 law last month, after bills passed both the Assembly and Senate Health Committees. But "T21" was then held up by the Assembly Rules and Senate Finance Committees, respectively.

Several venues within the state of New York, including New York City, have passed local T21 bills, but the pressure by the tobacco industry once again showed up in Albany to prevent the statewide bill from reaching the full Assembly and Senate in the final week of the legislative session.

A Phillip Morris document, dated Jan. 21, 1986, explains why the tobacco industry is desperate to prevent the increasing trend of states raising the minimum purchase age to 21. The document proclaims: "Raising the legal minimum age for [a] cigarette purchaser to 21 could gut our key young adult market (17-20), where we sell about 25 billion cigarettes and enjoy a 70 percent market share."

A published 2001 report indicates that 90 percent of persons buying cigarettes for minors are in the 17-to-20-year-old age group. If the minimum age is raised to 21, then, there will be a paradigm shift of how teens, especially 16-to-19-year olds, get their cigarettes. Clearly, those who are age 21 are in different social circles and are either in their junior year of college or have been employed for three years and generally don't associate with 16-to-19-year olds. They are also wise enough by then not to buy cigarettes for younger people.

With the added impetus of our neighboring state soon implementing a T21 law, it is time that Albany finally gets this done during the next legislative session.

Phil Konigsberg

Queens Tobacco Control Coalition

Bay Terrace

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