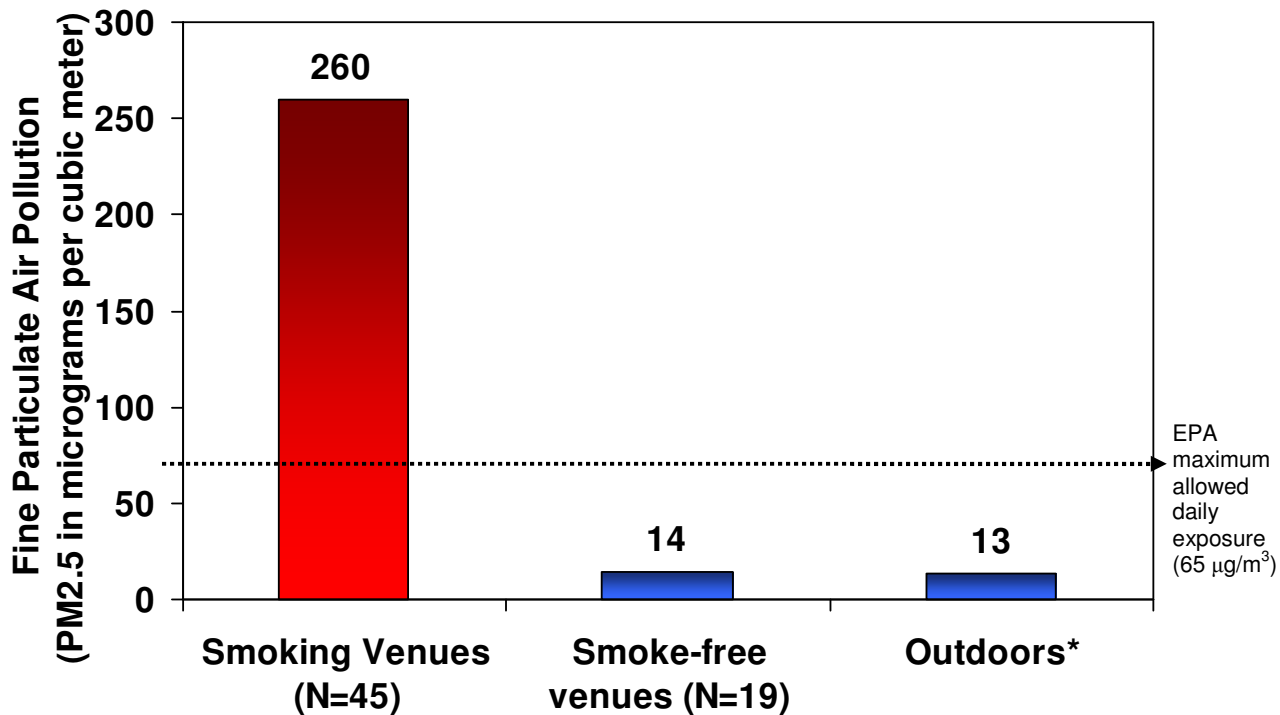


Air Pollution in Smoking vs. Smoke-free Venues in Charleston County, SC.



*2006 Average for Charleston, SC

Executive Summary *

Introduction and Background Information:

- Secondhand smoke (SHS) contains at least 250 toxic or carcinogenic chemicals
- In the U.S., among those who have never smoked, an estimated 3,000 lung cancer deaths and 35,000 deaths from coronary heart disease directly attributable to SHS occur annually
- Hospitality employees exposed to SHS are 1.5 to 2 times more likely to die of lung cancer than workers not exposed to SHS in the workplace
- SHS in the workplace is an entirely preventable threat to employee health

Study Design:

- Project design and methodology followed nationally recognized Air Quality Testing protocol of Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, New York
- Utilized the TSI SidePak AM510 Personal Aerosol Monitor to measure the levels of particulate matter 2.5 microns in size (PM_{2.5}). Particles of this size are released in significant amounts from burning cigarettes and are easily inhaled into the lungs with serious health effects.
- Air quality measurements taken continuously for a minimum of 30 minutes in each of 64 venues, 45 smoking and 19 non-smoking
- Data analysis completed independently by Roswell Park Cancer Institute

Study Results:

- Average level of particulate air pollution in smoking venues in Charleston County is 260
- EPA maximum limit for daily exposure to particulate pollution is 65

Conclusion:

- Hospitality employees in smoking venues in Charleston County are exposed to 4 times higher levels of particulate air pollution solely from occupational exposure than the maximum EPA allowance.
- Local comprehensive smoke-free workplace legislation will ensure that all employees are protected from these preventable occupational health risks

*Charleston County, South Carolina Air Monitoring Study, April 2006