

# Economic losses due to smoking

Smoking causes health problems for smokers themselves and those around them, and it also causes economic losses for society and companies.

The social losses caused by tobacco-related illnesses and fires amount to over 2 trillion yen, and it also has a significant impact on companies' economic activities due to workplace accidents and absenteeism.

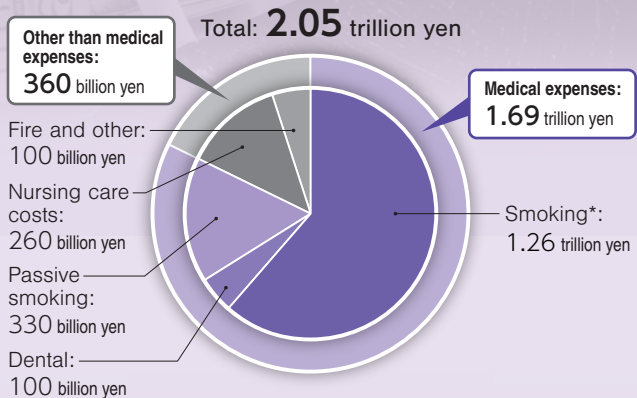
**The cost of treating illnesses caused by smoking is 1.69 trillion yen!**

It is known that smoking increases the risk of various diseases, including not only lung cancer and COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), but also other cancers, myocardial infarction, stroke, and periodontal disease. Therefore, people who smoke may have to bear a greater burden of medical expenses in the future. According to the results of a 2018 study by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, the total loss to society due to smoking was 2.05 trillion yen, of which 1.69 trillion yen was medical expenses for illnesses caused by smoking.

**Smoking impairs work efficiency!**

The risk of work-related accidents is about 1.6 times higher for smokers than for non-smokers. This is thought to be due to a decrease in concentration caused by nicotine withdrawal and sleep disorders. This is a particularly big risk for people involved in driving work. In terms of the relationship between long-term sick leave and smoking, research has shown that smokers are 32% more at risk of taking 30 days or more off work due to illnesses such as cancer, cardiovascular disease and trauma than non-smokers. In addition, smokers are more likely to contract infectious diseases such as influenza and COVID-19, and are also more likely to develop serious symptoms, so they are also at a higher risk of sudden absences from work.

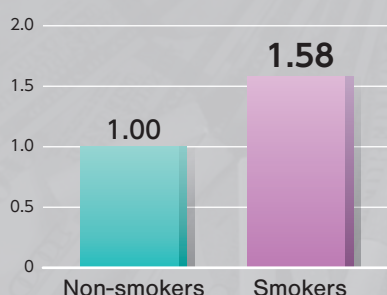
■ Economic losses due to smoking



\*The amount of medical expenses incurred in the treatment of cancer, stroke, myocardial infarction, and dementia, for which a causal relationship between smoking and the disease was judged to be "sufficient" or "suggested," based on an analysis of national statistical data.

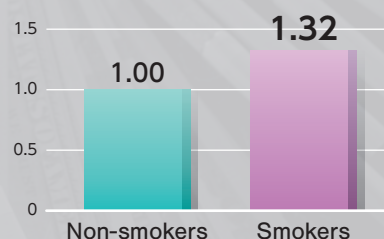
Reference: Research on the promotion of tobacco control measures such as the prevention of passive smoking, *Research on the behavioral and medical economic evaluation of tobacco control* (Health and Labour Sciences Research Grant, Research Area on Measures for Diseases and Disabilities, Comprehensive Research on Measures for Cardiovascular Diseases, Diabetes, and Other Lifestyle-Related Diseases, 2018)

■ Smoking and the risk of work-related accidents



※Nakata, A et al. : Soc Sci Med 63(9) : 2452, 2006

■ Risk of sick leave (30 days or more)



※Ai Hori, et al., "Smoking and Long-Term Sick Leave in a Japanese Working Population: Findings of the Japan Epidemiology Collaboration on Occupational Health Study" *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*, Vol.23(1), 135-142, 2021