

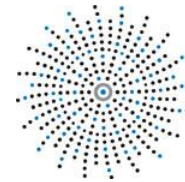


THE ONTARIO  
TOBACCO  
RESEARCH  
UNIT

UNITÉ  
DE RECHERCHE  
SUR LE TABAC  
DE L'ONTARIO



UNIVERSITY OF  
**WATERLOO**



**PROPEL**  
CENTRE FOR  
POPULATION  
HEALTH IMPACT

# Canadian Policy Context: Opportunities and Challenges for Addressing Thirdhand Smoke

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# Outline

- Where does Canada stand on smoke-free laws?
- Lessons from SHS for addressing THS
- Public policy opportunities and priorities
- Regulatory and voluntary strategies

# Smoke-Free Laws in Canada

## Comprehensive Smoke-Free Laws in Public Places

1. Northwest Territories (May 1, 2004)
2. Nunavut Territory (May 1, 2004)
3. New Brunswick (Oct 1, 2004)
4. Manitoba (Oct 1, 2004)
5. Saskatchewan (Jan 1, 2005)
6. Newfoundland and Labrador (July 1, 2005)
7. Ontario (May 31, 2006)
8. Quebec (May 31, 2006)
9. Nova Scotia (Dec 1, 2006)
10. Alberta (Jan 1, 2008)
11. British Columbia (Mar 31, 2008)
12. Yukon Territory (May 15, 2008)
13. Prince Edward Island (Sep 15, 2009)

## Laws Banning Smoking in Cars With Children

1. Nova Scotia (19; Apr. 1, 2008)
2. Yukon Territory (18; May 15, 2008)
3. Ontario (16; Jan. 21, 2009)
4. British Columbia (16; Apr. 7, 2009)
5. New Brunswick (16; Jan. 1, 2010)
6. Prince Edward Island (19; Sep 15, 2009)
7. Manitoba (16; July 15, 2010)
8. Saskatchewan (16; Oct 1, 2010)
9. Newfoundland and Labrador (16; July 1, 2011)

# Countries of the ITC Project–2012



**Canada**



**United States**



**Australia**



**United Kingdom**



**Ireland**



**Thailand**



**Malaysia**



**South Korea**



**China**



**Uruguay**



**Mexico**



**New Zealand**



**France**



**Germany**



**Netherlands**



**Bangladesh**



**Brazil**



**Mauritius**



**Bhutan**



**India**



**Zambia**



**Nigeria**



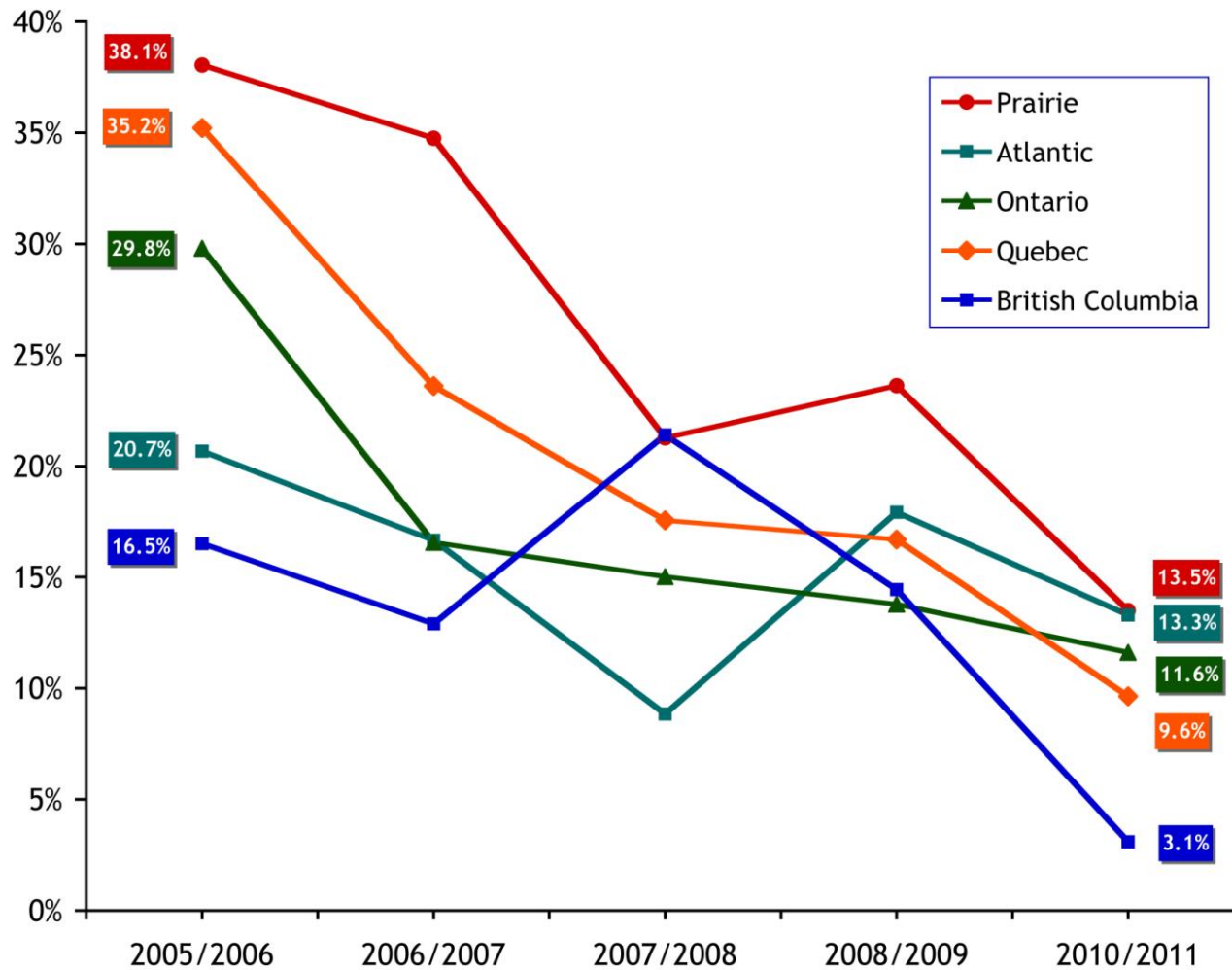
**Kenya**

# The ITC Surveys

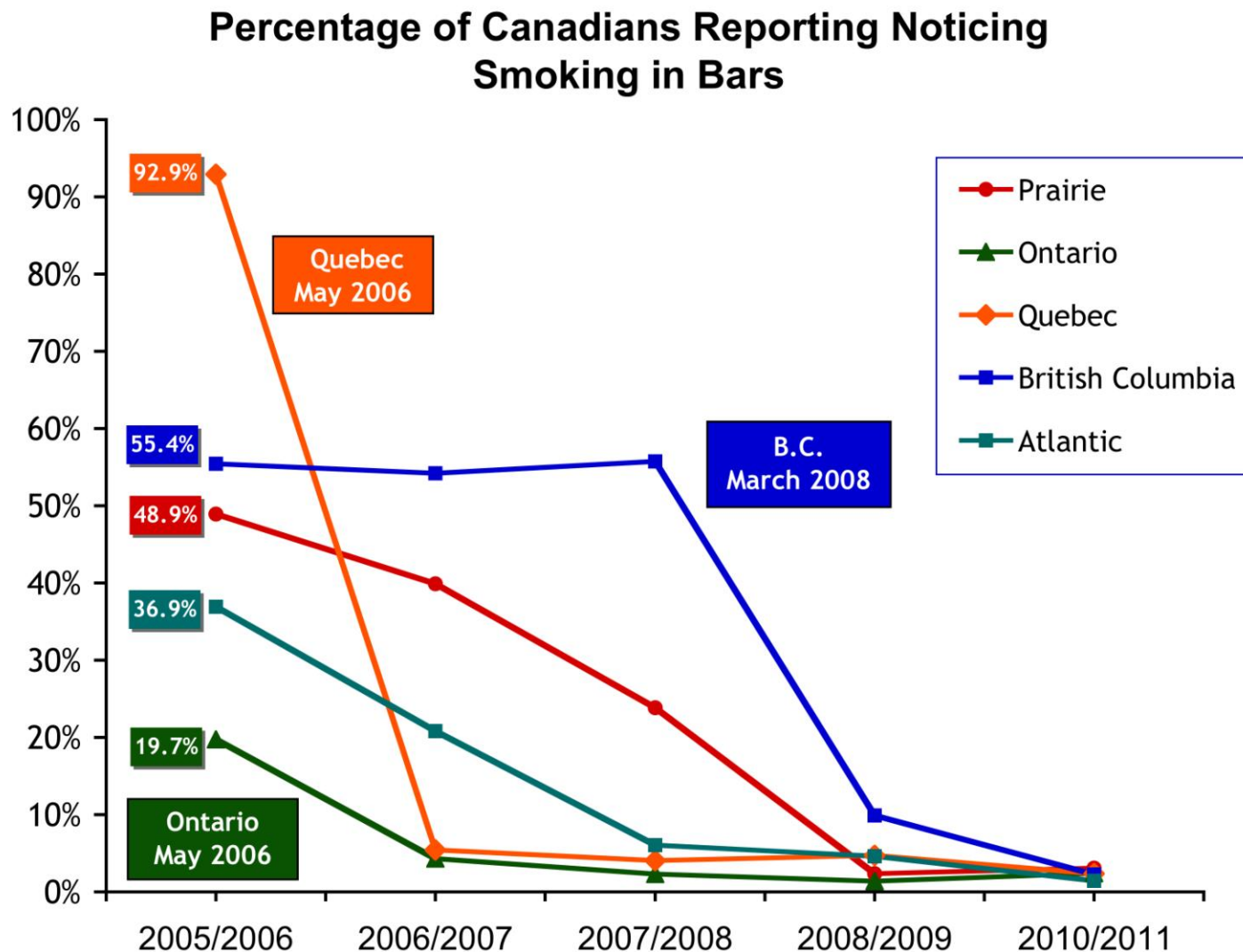
- ◆ Longitudinal cohort surveys of representative samples of smokers, other tobacco users (smoked and smokeless where appropriate), non-smokers
- ◆ Objective: evaluate tobacco control policies of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (health warnings, tax/price, advertising/promotion bans, **smoke-free laws**)
- ◆ ITC Canada Survey: 1,600–2,000 smokers, 45-minute phone survey, with 8 survey waves since October 2002

# Smoking in the Workplace

Percentage of Canadian Smokers Reporting Noticing Other People Smoking at Work



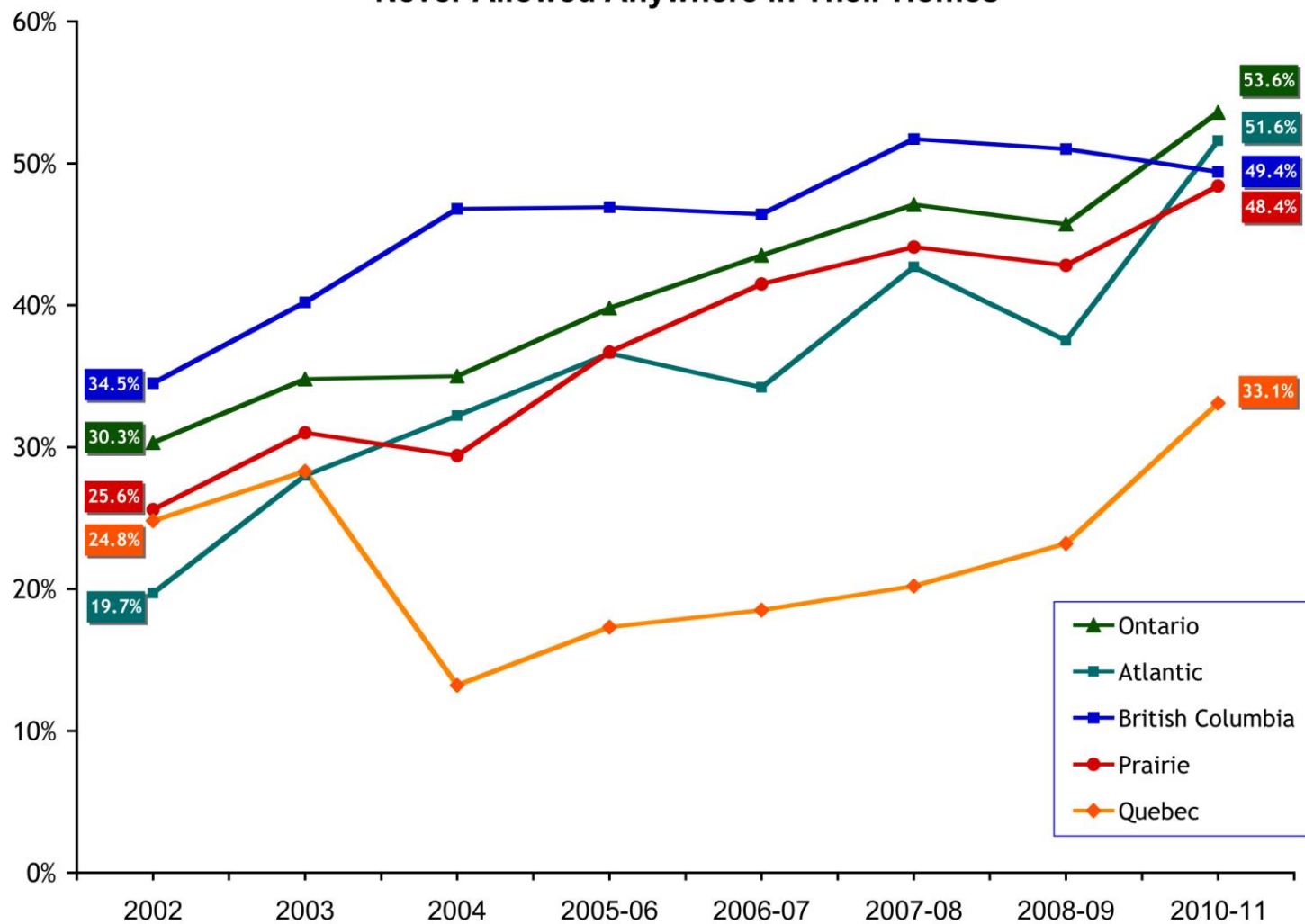
# Smoking in Bars





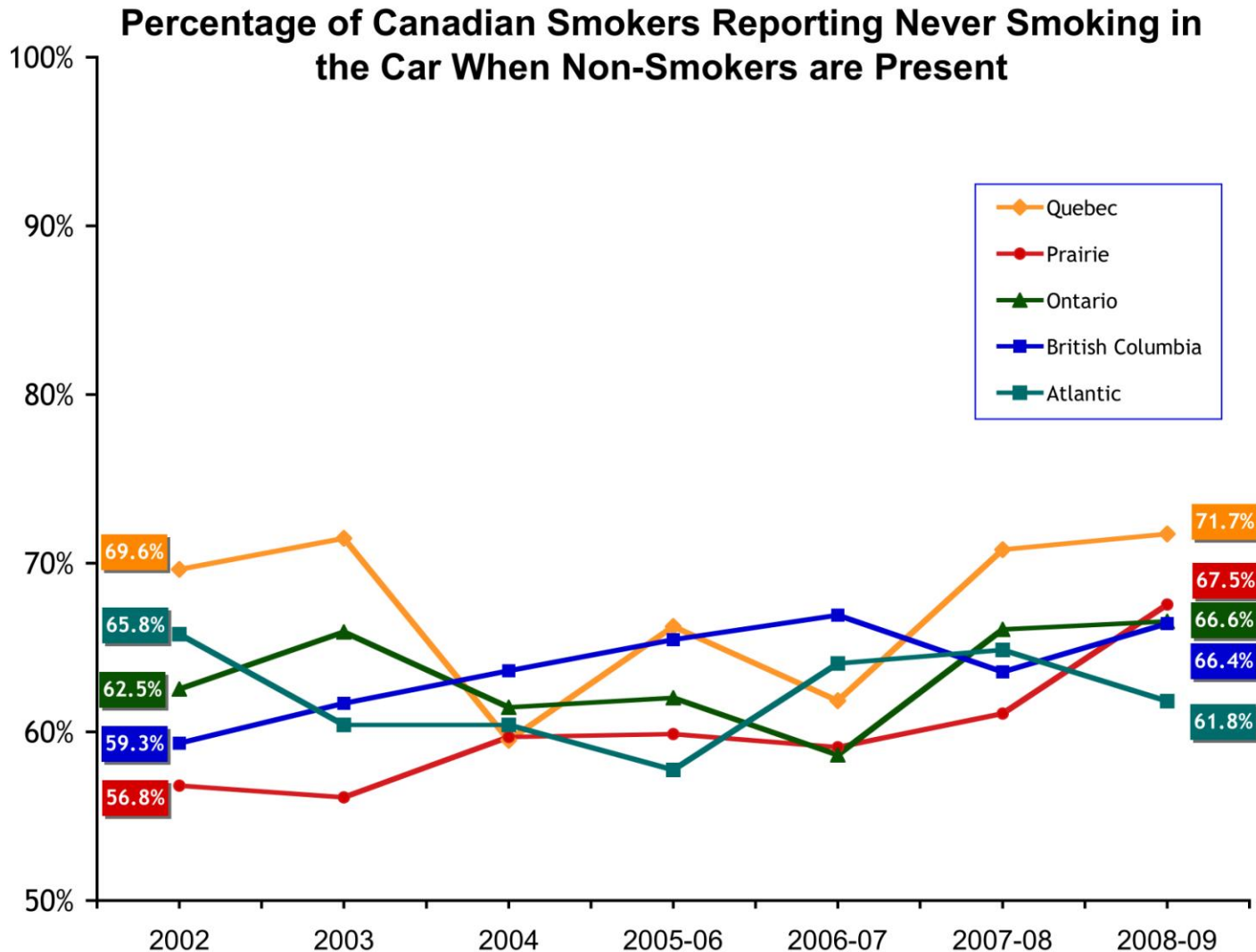
# Smoke-Free Homes

Percentage of Canadian Smokers Reporting that Smoking is Never Allowed Anywhere in Their Homes



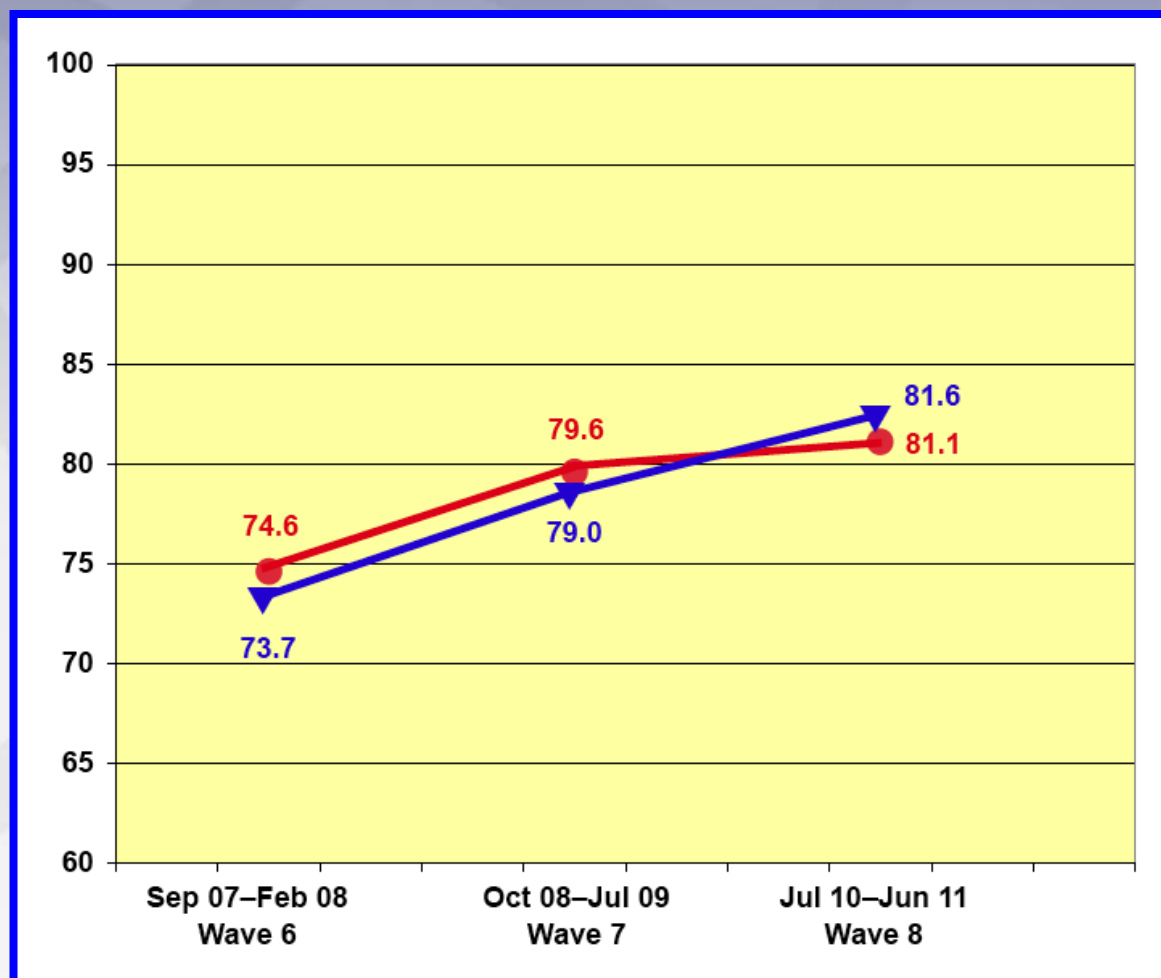


# Smoke-Free Cars With Non-Smokers Present



# Support for bans on smoking in cars with children

- ◆ ITC Surveys in Canada and UK: representative national samples of smokers ( $N \geq 1500$ )
- ◆ Questions on support for bans on smoking in cars with children:
  - W6 (Sep 07–Feb 08)
  - W7 (Oct 08–Jul 09)
  - W8 (Jul 10–Jun 11)
- ◆ Support has gone up in both countries. Now, **more than 80% of SMOKERS support such a ban in Canada and in the UK.**
- ◆ Support continued to increase in Canada after 8 of 10 provinces passed such laws.



# Smoke-free Policies Already Impact THS in *Public Places*:

Smoking Bans greatly reduce THS:

- In indoor public places
- On restaurant and bar patios and indoors on furniture, patrons
- In rental cars
- In major hotels
- In taxis



# Smoke-free Policies Can Impact THS in *Private Spaces*

- Bans in multi-unit dwellings would greatly reduce THS drift to smoke-free units
- Bans in family cars should almost eliminate THS exposure
- Indoor bans would substantially reduce exposure to THS for family and visitors, including health care workers



# Public Policy Opportunities in Canada:

## Expand & Improve Existing Smoke Restrictions

**Tobacco Act**

S.C. 1997, c. 13

Assented to 1997-04-25

“emission” means a substance that is  
produced when a tobacco product is  
used.

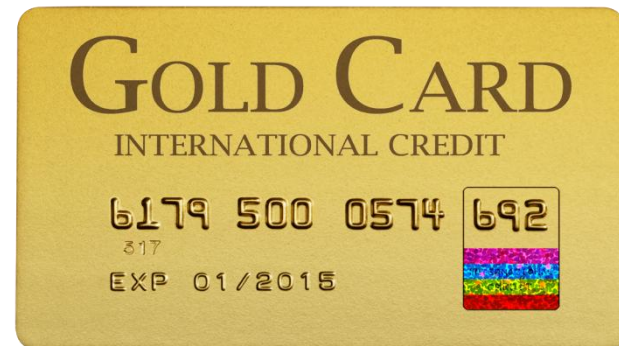
# ***Vehicles***

A photograph taken from the driver's perspective inside a car. The driver's right hand is visible, holding a lit cigarette between the fingers. The hand is resting on the steering wheel. The background shows a multi-lane highway with several cars in the distance under a clear sky. The car's interior, including the dashboard and air vents, is partially visible in the foreground.

**Expand  
current  
restrictions  
on smoking in  
workplace  
vehicles to  
include all  
vehicles, *even  
those with no  
passengers***

# Hotels

- Extend voluntary bans in hotels to require non-smoking in all areas of all hotels including entrances and outside windows.
- Smokers will still bring smoke in on their clothes, but THS will be much reduced





# Service and Health Care Facilities

- Ban smoking at doorways and on grounds to reduce drifting smoke indoors and frequency of smoking by staff & patients





# Daycares and Home care Options

- Require hiring of nonsmoking staff
- Require smoking staff to wear outdoor coveralls and wash hands after smoking
- Extend smoke free area to include 9 m buffer



# Improve Disclosure to Address THS

- Purchasing used vehicles
- Purchasing or rental agreements for homes (cf UFFI, Radon in US)



# Increase Protection from Occupational Exposures to THS

- Employ OHS regulations to protect:
  - Service workers
  - Home health care workers
  - Hotel workers
  - Taxi drivers
  - Truckers
  - Trades people
- Other Legislation may apply



# Address THS in Home Environments through Public Education

- No smoking indoors ever
- No smoking within 9 m of home
- No smoking on balconies
- No smoking in or close to personal vehicles
- No smoking while walking pets
- “Smoking jackets” and hats
- Doormats indoors and out
- Washing hands and other exposed skin after smoking

# Special Groups May Need Legal Protection

- Children with Asthma
- Elderly people
- Pregnant women
- Those with serious illnesses
- Equity issues as with SHS



# Next Steps

- Work with municipalities
- Work with unions and associations
- Determine opportunities within existing regulations
- Work with government to recommend new legislation and regulations
- Increase awareness among health professionals and the public



# Challenges in Communicating Risk

- THS largely invisible and may have no odour
- THS has many components that operate in different ways at different times
- Dermal transfer not well understood by the public
- Lack of understanding of chemical processes and physics
- Problem occurs after cigarette smoking ends
- How much can we extrapolate from SHS research?