

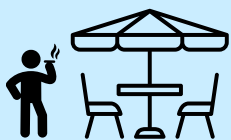
San Diegans Agree, Outdoor Dining Areas Should Be Smokefree

A survey of 275 San Diego adults, conducted between April and June of 2024, found that 73% of respondents would not eat a meal in an outdoor dining area where people were smoking, and that 78% of respondents would support a law banning smoking in outdoor dining in the City of San Diego.

Background



Smoking leaves behind toxic chemical residue that contains **over 25 chemicals** listed under California's Prop 65 that are known to be hazardous to human health, such as nicotine and other carcinogens.



Patrons of outdoor restaurant patios can **pick up and absorb tobacco smoke residue on their hands** by touching tables and surfaces, **even after active smoking has stopped.**



The City of San Diego is the **largest city in the County that allows smoking in outdoor dining patios.**

Methods



In 2024, The Policy Research Center for Tobacco and the Environment conducted an **online survey of 275 San Diego residents** asking them a series of questions about their outdoor dining preferences.

Results

"Would you eat a meal in an outdoor dining area if people in that area were smoking?"

73% of people **say no**

80% of people who **don't** use tobacco **say no**

46% of people who **do** use tobacco **say no**

"Would you support a law that banned smoking in all outdoor dining areas in the City of San Diego?"

78% of people **say yes**

85% of people who **don't** use tobacco **say yes**

53% of people who **do** use tobacco **say yes**

Conclusion

Most San Diegans **agree** they would not eat a meal in an outdoor dining patio if people in that area were smoking and most would support a law to implement smokefree outdoor dining in the City of San Diego.

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