

New Tobacco control Policies and its outcome in Taiwan

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100%
SMOKE FREE
ENVIRONMENTS



Ching-Fen Shen MD. MSc. PhD.

Director-General

Health Promotion Administration, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Taiwan

Leadership & Policy Experience

- Director, Pediatric Infectious Diseases, NCKUH, Taiwan
- Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, College of Medicine, NCKU, Taiwan
- Committee Member, Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), Taiwan CDC
- Committee Member, Health Taiwan Promotion Committee, Presidential Office

International Experience

- Research Fellow, Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Faculty of Medicine
Imperial College London, UK
- Research Fellow, Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University,
Thailand

Expertise

Pediatric infectious diseases, vaccine immunology, and public health policy for vulnerable populations



Outline

- 1** **Amendment of the Tobacco Hazards Prevention Act**
- 2** **Taiwan Network of GNTH**
- 3** **Smoking Cessation Service and Outcomes**
- 4** **Future Perspectives**

Implement the WHO FCTC: MPOWER Strategy

Monitor

tobacco use and prevention policies

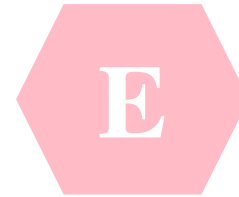


Raise

taxes on tobacco :
Tobacco Tax
Tobacco Health Welfare Surcharge

Protect

people from tobacco smoke



Enforce

bans on tobacco advertising,
promotion and sponsorship

Offer

help to quit tobacco use :
Second-generation Payment Scheme for the
Cessation Services and Quit Line

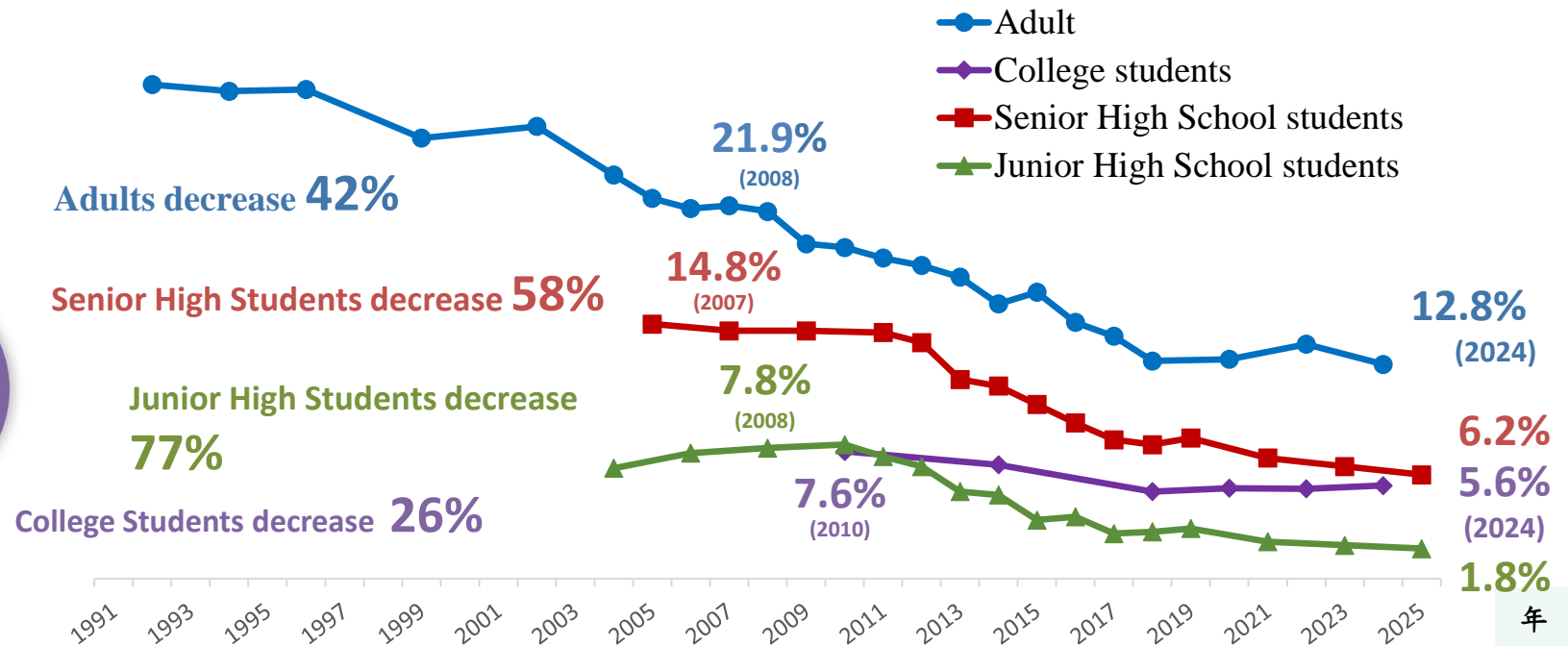
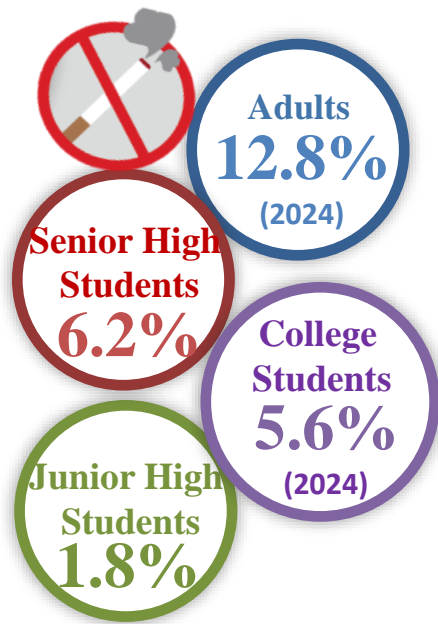


Warn

about the dangers of tobacco
W1 : Warning labels
W2 : Anti-tobacco mass media campaigns

Prevalence of Tobacco Use in Taiwan

- In 2024, the smoking rate for adults above the age of 18 was **12.8%**, an increase from 14.0% in 2022, which was non-statistically significant.
- In 2024, the smoking rate for college students was **5.6%**, slightly higher than 5.4% in 2022.
- In 2025, the smoking rates for junior high school and senior high school students were **1.8%** and **6.2%**, respectively, representing a continued decline from 2.0% and 6.7% in 2023.



Source: 1990-1996(Taiwan Tobacco company) ; 1999(Lee etc) ; 2002(HPKAP) ; 2004-2023(Taiwan ASBS and GYTS)

Definition for adults and college students: Current smoker, During survey, smoke more than 100 cigarettes(5 packs) and smoking in past 30 days.

Definition for junior high school and senior high school students: smoking prevalence defined as having tried smoking over the previous 30 days

Amendment of the Tobacco Hazards Prevention Act

Effective from March 22, 2023

1. **Prohibiting** imitation tobacco products (incl. **e-cigarettes**) e-cigarette use has doubled from 2008 to 2012 among adolescents.
2. Requiring designated tobacco products to undergo health risk assessment review
3. Prohibiting **additives**
4. Raising the smoking age to **20**
5. **Expanding** the scope of **non-smoking places**
6. Increasing the warning label to **50%** of the front/back package
7. **Increasing** penalties

Expand Non-smoking Indoor and Outdoor Public Areas

- All **indoor public** places.
- **Workplaces** with 3 or more persons.
- Some **outdoor public** places.



Smoke-free Campus



Smoke-free Restaurant



Smoke-free Workplace



Smoke-free Hospital



Smoke-free Army



Smoke-free Parks



Smoke-free Village

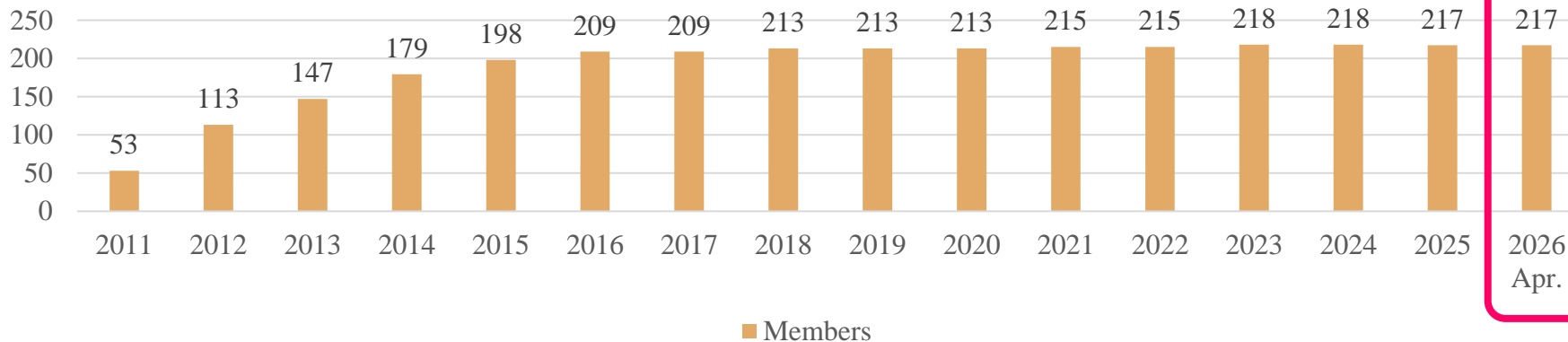


Smoke-free Streets

Taiwan Network of Tobacco-free Hospitals

- The Global Network for Tobacco Free Healthcare Services (GNTH) was founded in 1999, with Taiwan becoming a member in 2011.
- We have continued extending Taiwan Network of Tobacco-free Hospitals through cooperation with Taiwan HPH network and our local government.
- By 2026, a total of **217** hospitals have joined and among them **46** hospitals are Gold Forum members.

Taiwan Network of Tobacco-free Hospitals



Highlights of Tobacco-free Hospitals in Taiwan

Addressing smoking issues at hospital entrances and within premises through innovative measures across Taiwan's healthcare institutions.

Using **digital platforms** to promote **tobacco and betel** nut prevention messages and strengthen **public awareness**.

Using **reminder bells and monitoring systems** at smoking hotspots to reinforce **smoke-free hospital grounds**.











Using **tobacco smoke detectors** to strengthen indoor smoking control and maintain a **smoke-free environment**.

Using **clear no-smoking signs and ground markings** at entrances and key areas to reinforce smoke-free rules and increase **compliance**.

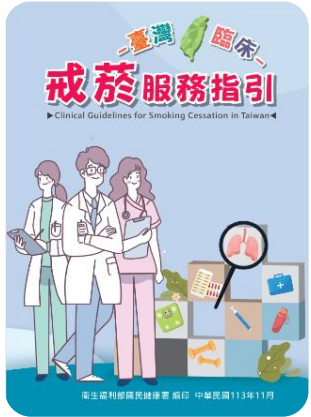


Content of Smoking Cessation Services

- In 2002, Taiwan began to provide fixed subsidies for smoking cessation services.
- In 2026, incorporating emerging tobacco products into smoking cessation services.

Institute	 Hospitals, Clinics			 Community Pharmacy
Type	outpatient 	ER 	inpatient 	 Pharmacist
Provider	Physician 	Dentist 	Counselor 	
Reimbursement items	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medication <input type="checkbox"/> NRT <input type="checkbox"/> Non-NRT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counseling			 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medication <input type="checkbox"/> NRT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counseling

Promoting Smoking Cessation Services in **All** Medical Specialty



For providers: streamlined workflow, more incentives

- From Nov. 2022: e-learning based program with **less training hours required**
(Physician: 7 to 6 hours; Non-Physician: 43 to 10 hours).
- From Jan. 2023:
 - ✓ Increased physician fee and dispensing fee for each cessation course.
 - ✓ **Qualification for subsidy applicant has been expanded.**
 - ✓ Integrated in chronic disease management plan.
- From Oct. 2023: published guideline and brochures.
Improving efficacy and user-friendliness of information system, and developing **electronic application process.**

With Multiple Smoking Cessation Services The Smoking Cessation Rate Doubled!

Workplace Smoking Cessation

It is no longer a single combat!

Smoking Cessation Service

Medical institutions provide medications, professional health education and support to help quit smoking.



Free

Quitline

0800-63-63-63

9:00–21:00,

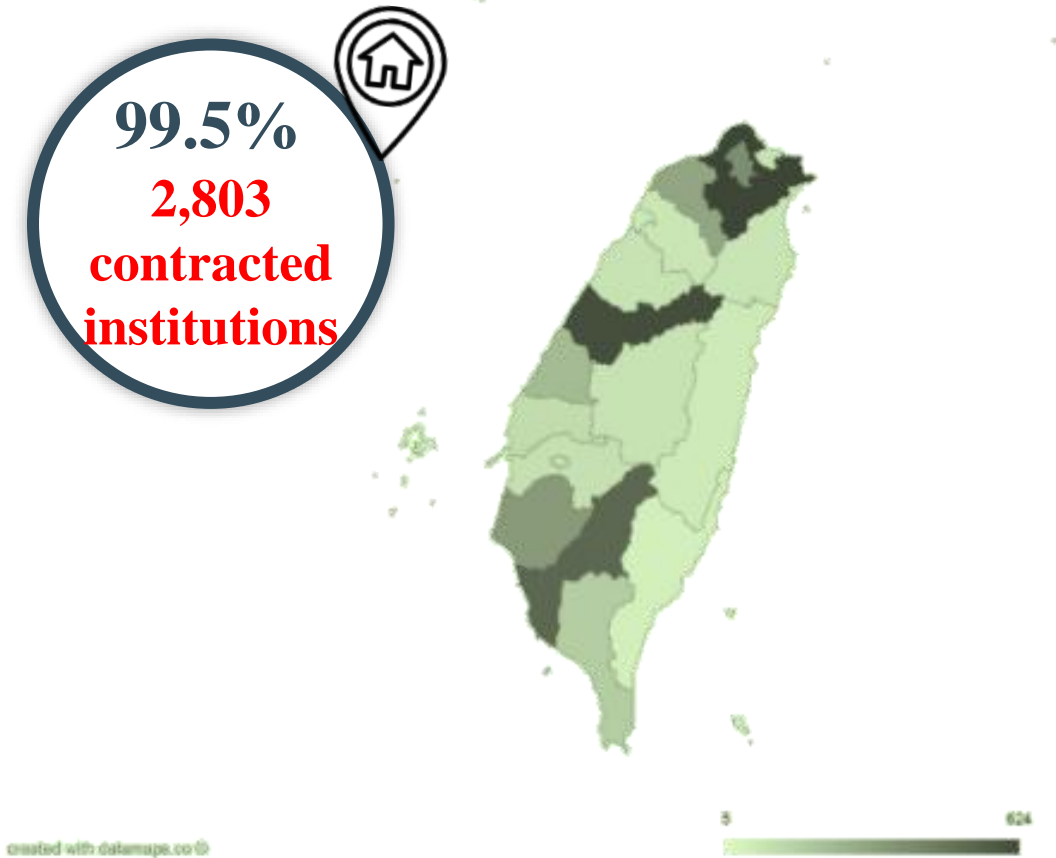
Monday through Saturday

Community Smoking Cessation Class

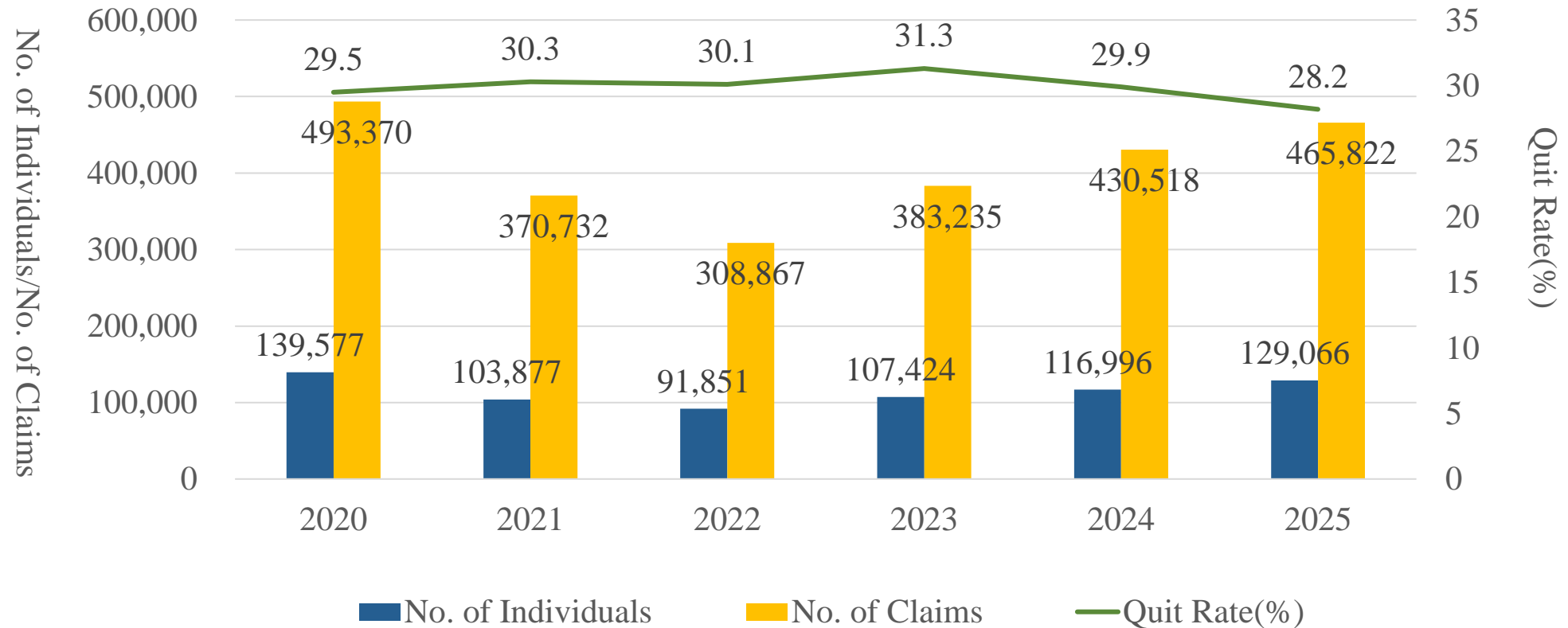
Subsidies are provided to local governments so that they can hold smoking cessation classes in hospitals, communities, workplaces and schools.

Scope of Smoking Cessation Services

- In 2025, there are a total of 2,803 contracted medical institutions and community pharmacies across Taiwan.
- The coverage rate reaches 99.5% of townships and urban districts nationwide, and with outreach services, it has reached 100%.



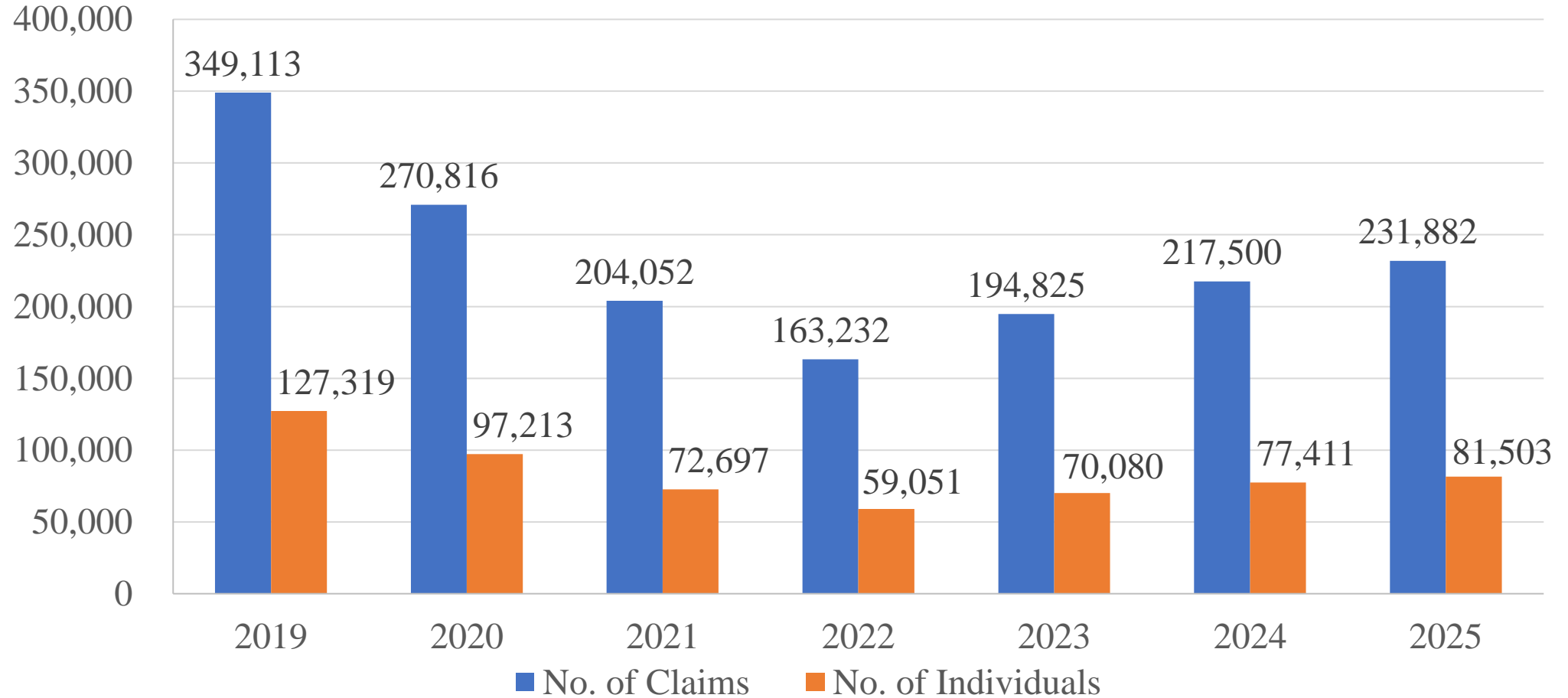
Annual Outcomes of Smoking Cessation Services



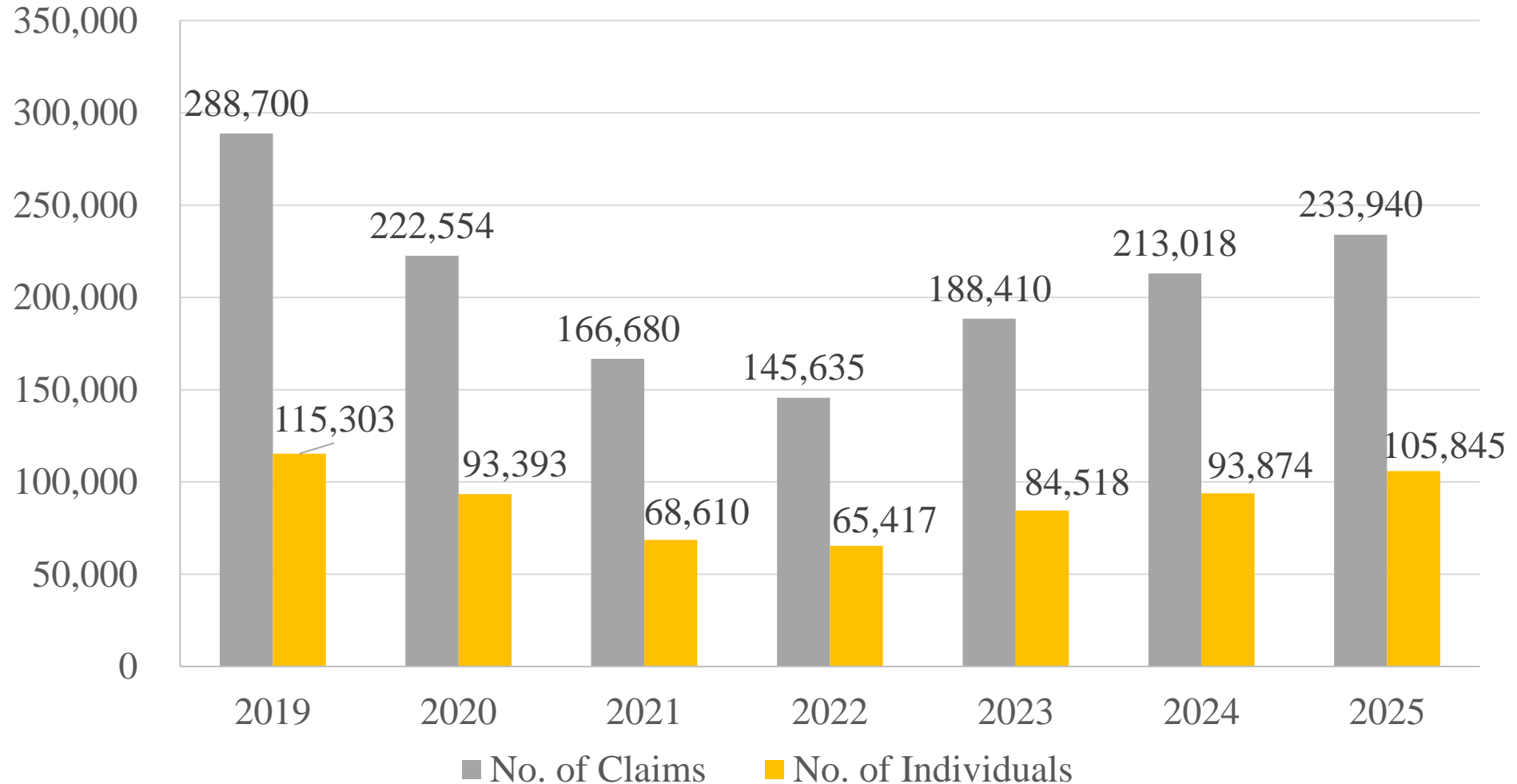
* Data for 2025 is still being compiled.

• Report generated on: March 5, 2026

Annual Outcomes of Smoking Cessation Services (Medical Treatment)

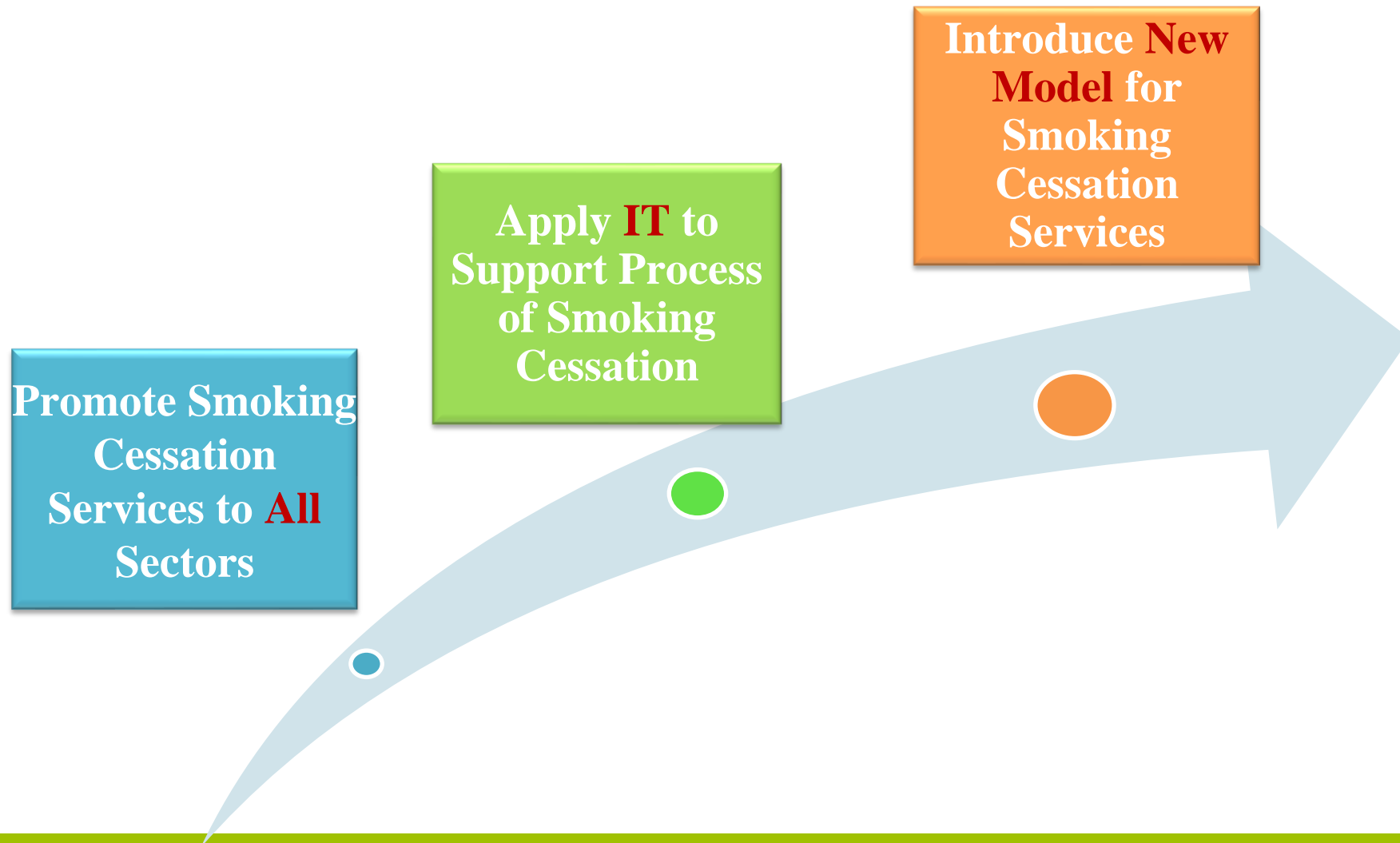


Annual Outcomes of Smoking Cessation Services (Cessation Health Education)



• Report generated on: March 5, 2026

Future Prospect



Thank you

Promotion, Prevention, Protection, Participation, Partnership!



Taiwan
Health
Promotion
Administration

Ministry of Health & Welfare

