"Smoking Not Permitted"

The percentage of Americans saying smoking in all public places should be made "totally illegal" has not changed appreciably over the past six years, generally falling in the 39% to 40% range.

But, there has been an increase in public support for smoking bans in specific locales. Since 1987, Gallup has recorded fairly steady increases in the percentages of Americans favoring smoking bans in restaurants, hotels, and workplaces. In 2003, Gallup began asking about bars in the same context, and has since found increased support for a ban there as well.

Current attitudes are highly similar to what Gallup found in the previous measure from 2005. However, there is now more support for bans than there was two years prior to that. Since 2003, the percentage of Americans favoring smoking bans in each location has grown by six to nine percentage points.

Percentage Favoring Complete Ban on
Smoking in Each Location