

Data Highlights from the 2023 Minnesota Youth Tobacco Survey

Any commercial tobacco use

- **Current Use:** **13.9%** of high school and **3.7%** of middle school students reported having used a commercial tobacco product in the past 30 days, a statistically significant decline from 20.5% (high school) and 4.1% (middle school) in 2017. An estimated **48,722** students in grades 6 through 12 used a commercial tobacco product in the past 30 days, 16,328 fewer than in 2020.
- **Ever Use:** **32.2%** of high school and **12.0%** of middle school students reported having ever used a commercial tobacco product, a statistically significant decline from 2020 among high school students (37.9% and 12.4%, respectively).

Flavored commercial tobacco use (e-cigarettes, little cigars, smokeless, hookah, and menthol cigarettes)

- Three in four students who have ever tried a commercial tobacco product initiated with a flavored product (**76.3%**).
- Among students who currently use commercial tobacco (past 30-day): **81.2%** of students used a flavored product (menthol or other flavors) in the past 30 days.
- Among students that currently smoke (past 30-day): **38.8%** of high school and middle school students reported having smoked a menthol cigarette in the past 30 days.
- Among students that currently use e-cigarettes (past 30-day): **93.3%** of high school and middle school students reported having used a flavored (menthol or other flavored) e-cigarette in the past 30 days.
- Among students that currently use cigars (past 30-day): **38.4%** of students reported having smoked a flavored (menthol or other flavored) cigar in the past 30 days.
- More than half of students that currently use smokeless commercial tobacco (e.g, chew) (past 30-day) reported having used a flavored product in the past 30 days.

E-cigarette use

- **Current Use:** **13.9%** of high school and **2.2%** of middle school students reported having used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days, a statistically significant decrease from 2020 among high school students (19.3% and 2.9%, respectively).
- **Ever Use:** **27.7%** of high school and **7.7%** of middle school students reported ever using an e-cigarette, a statistically significant decline from 2020 among high school students (35.4% and 7.9%, respectively)

E-cigarettes and recreational marijuana use

- **14.5%** of high school students reported having ever vaped marijuana, a significant decrease from 18.2% among high school students in 2020. **2.2%** of middle school students reported having ever vaped marijuana, not statistically different from 2020 (2.5%).
- Among high school students who currently using e-cigarettes (past 30-day), **69.8%** of high school and **51.4%** of middle school students had ever vaped marijuana, a statistically significantly increase among high school students and a statistically significant decrease for middle students since 2020 (65.1% and 71.7%, respectively).

Signs of dependence

- **79.6%** of students who used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days reported signs of e-cigarette dependence (87.7% of middle school and 78.7% of high school current e-cigarette users).
- **48.1%** of current tobacco users reported having had a strong craving or feeling like they really needed to use a commercial tobacco product in the past 30 days.
- **49.5%** of current e-cigarette users are frequent users (used on 20+ days in past 30), a significant increase from 2020 (33.6%).

Cigarette use

- **Current Use:** **4.5%** of high school students reported having smoked a cigarette in the past 30 days (current smoking), not statistically different from 2020 (3.2%); **1.4%** of middle school students reported current smoking, not statistically different from 2.0% in 2020.

Cigar and cigarillo use

- **Current Use:** **4.0%** of high school students reported having smoked a cigar in the past 30 days (current use), statistically unchanged from 2020 (3.3%); **0.8%** of middle school students reported current cigar use, not statistically different from the percentage in 2020 (1.1%).

Smokeless commercial tobacco use

- **Current Use:** **2.0%** of high school students reported having used smokeless commercial tobacco in the past 30 days, statistically unchanged from 1.3% in 2020. **1.0%** of middle school students reported having used smokeless commercial tobacco in the past 30 days, statistically unchanged from 2020 (0.9%).

Emerging nicotine and commercial tobacco products

- **5.2%** of high school students reported having ever tried nicotine pouches; **3.0%** ever tried nicotine gum, and less than 2 percent had ever tried nicotine-infused toothpicks, tablets/lozenges, or heated tobacco.

Youth access

- Among students that used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days (but could not legally buy commercial tobacco products) most commonly reported they got the e-cigarettes they used from social sources: **32.3%** reported “someone offered them to me,” **18.2%** reported they “asked someone to give me some,” and **21.9%** reported “I bought them from another person.”
- **19.6%** reported they bought e-cigarettes from a store (including online stores).
- **6.6%** reported “my parents bought them for me” and **28.6%** reported “I had someone other than my parents buy them for me.”

Quitting

- **68.5%** of students who currently use commercial tobacco reported having intentions to quit within the next 30 days or later, while **31.5%** reported they were not thinking about quitting.
- **65.4%** of students who were currently using commercial tobacco reported having stopped using all commercial tobacco for one day or longer in the past year because they were trying to quit for good. Only **34.6%** of students who are current commercial tobacco users reported not having tried to quit in the past year.
- **65.6%** of students who currently use commercial tobacco and tried to quit did not use any source of help to quit, not even advice found on the internet.

Secondhand smoke and aerosol

- **42.3%** of middle and high school students reported they had been exposed to secondhand smoke during the past 7 days at one or more locations, a significant decrease from 2020 (46.9%).
- **27.9%** of middle and high school students reported they had been exposed to secondhand smoke in an indoor or outdoor public place; **25.6%** at work; **21.0%** at school; **16.0%** in a vehicle; and **15.0%** at home.
- **30.0%** of middle and high school students reported they had been exposed to secondhand aerosol during the past 7 days at one or more location, statistically unchanged from 2020 (28.3%).
- **15.0%** of middle and high school students reported they had been exposed to secondhand aerosol in an indoor public place; **14.0%** at home or in someone else’s home; and **11.6%** in a vehicle.

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