

CDC Vitalsigns™

Tobacco Use By Youth Is Rising E-cigarettes are the main reason



Want to learn more?
www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/youth-tobacco-use

1.5M

There were 1.5 million **more** current youth e-cigarette users in 2018 than 2017.

4.9M

4.9 million youth were current tobacco product users in 2018.

38.3%

Use of any tobacco product grew by 38.3% among high school students (2017-2018).

Overview:

Tobacco product use among US youth is increasing. More than 1 in 4 high school students and about 1 in 14 middle school students in 2018 had used a tobacco product in the past 30 days. This was a considerable increase from 2017, which was driven by an increase in e-cigarette use. E-cigarette use increased from 11.7% to 20.8% among high school students and from 3.3% to 4.9% among middle school students from 2017 to 2018. No change was found in the use of other tobacco products, including cigarettes, during this time.

Among youth:

- E-cigarettes are still the most commonly used tobacco product, ahead of cigarettes, cigars, smokeless tobacco, hookah, and pipes.
- E-cigarettes are the most commonly used product in combination with other tobacco products.
- E-cigarette use is highest for boys, whites, and high school students.



PROBLEM:

Nearly all tobacco product use begins in adolescence.

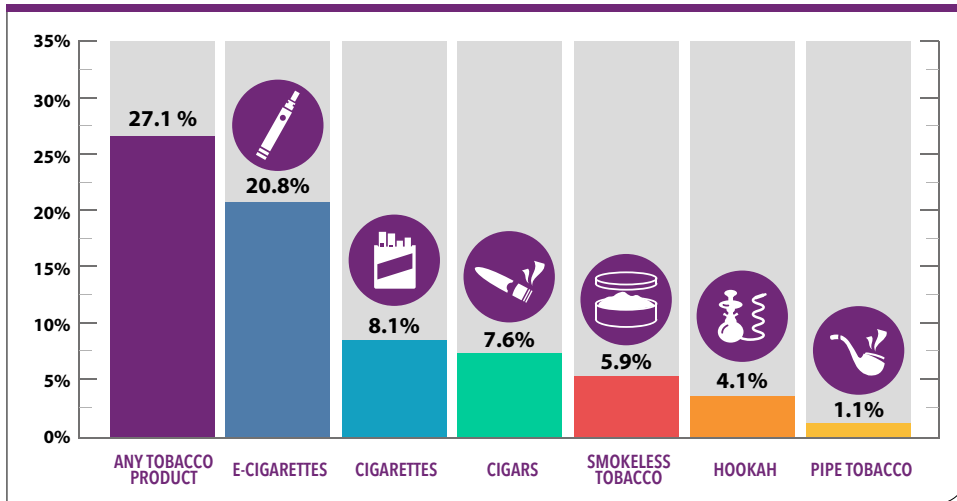
Any tobacco product use among youth is unsafe, including e-cigarettes.

- Cigarette smoke contains over 7,000 chemicals, including about 70 that cause cancer.
- Nearly all tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, contain nicotine.
- Youth nicotine use can lead to addiction and can harm the developing brain, impacting learning, memory, and attention.

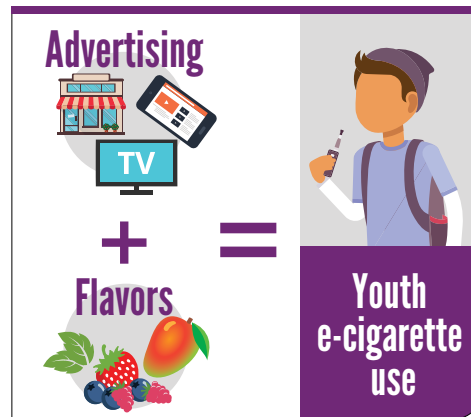
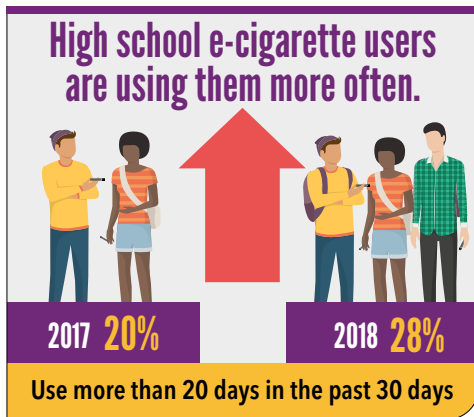


Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

Tobacco product use among high school students—2018



SOURCE: Tobacco Product Use Among Middle and High School Students — United States, 2011-2018. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), February 2019.



JUUL is now the most commonly sold e-cigarette in the US.

- JUUL is an e-cigarette shaped like a USB flash drive and is easy to conceal.
- JUUL uses liquid nicotine refills called “pods,” which contain at least as much nicotine as a pack of cigarettes and are available in flavors that appeal to youth.
- JUUL devices are being used by youth in schools, including inside bathrooms and classrooms.

THE WAY FORWARD

PARENTS AND EDUCATORS CAN:

- Set a positive example by not using tobacco products themselves.
- Learn about different types and risks of tobacco products, including e-cigarettes.

HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS CAN:

- Ask specifically about e-cigarettes when screening for tobacco product use.
- Warn youth about the risks of all tobacco product use, including e-cigarettes.

SCHOOLS CAN:

- Adopt and enforce tobacco-free campus policies that include e-cigarettes.
- Reject tobacco industry-sponsored prevention programs, which are proven not to work.

STATES AND COMMUNITIES CAN:

- Prohibit smoking and e-cigarette use inside workplaces and public places.
- Increase the minimum age of sale of tobacco products to 21 years.
- Prohibit the sale of flavored tobacco products.

For more information

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