

# TOBACCO

## Fact Sheet



**The Michigan Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)** is part of a nationwide surveying effort led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to monitor students' health risks and behaviors in six categories identified as most likely to result in adverse outcomes. These categories include: unintentional injury and violence, tobacco use, alcohol and other drug use, sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancy or disease, dietary behaviors, and physical inactivity.

Forty-three Michigan schools and 3,630 students participated in the 2001 YRBS. High response rates allow results of the 2001 YRBS to be generalized to all Michigan high school students.

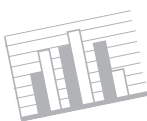


### Of Vital Concern

Tobacco use is considered the chief preventable cause of death in the United States with over 20% of all deaths attributable to tobacco use.

Cigarette smoking is responsible for heart disease; cancers of the lung, larynx, mouth, esophagus, and bladder; stroke; and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. In addition, there is evidence that cigarette smokers are more likely to drink alcohol and use marijuana and cocaine as compared to non-smokers. If current patterns of smoking behavior persist, an estimated five million U.S. persons who were aged zero to 17 years in 1995 could die prematurely from smoking-related illnesses. In 1996, the Food and Drug Administration issued regulations to implement the 1993 law known as the Synar Amendment, which restricts the sale and distribution of cigarettes and smokeless tobacco to children and teenagers under age 18. Over 80% of school districts prohibit tobacco use in the school building and on the grounds at all times.

For complete references, please log onto [www.emc.cmich.edu/yrbs/references.htm](http://www.emc.cmich.edu/yrbs/references.htm).

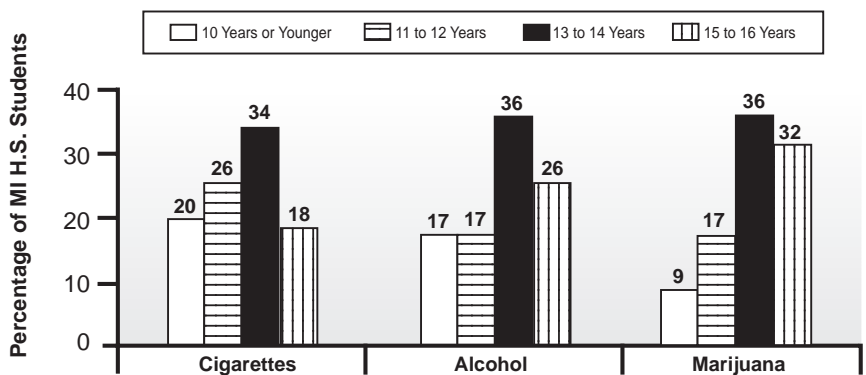


### 2001 Survey Results

- ◆ Two thirds of all students have tried smoking cigarettes, regardless of gender, grade, or race/ethnicity. Nearly two thirds of current smokers began smoking between ages 11 and 14 (Figure 1).

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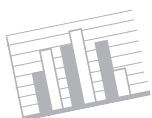
### Early Initiation of Cigarette, Alcohol, and Marijuana Use\*



\* Among those who ever used

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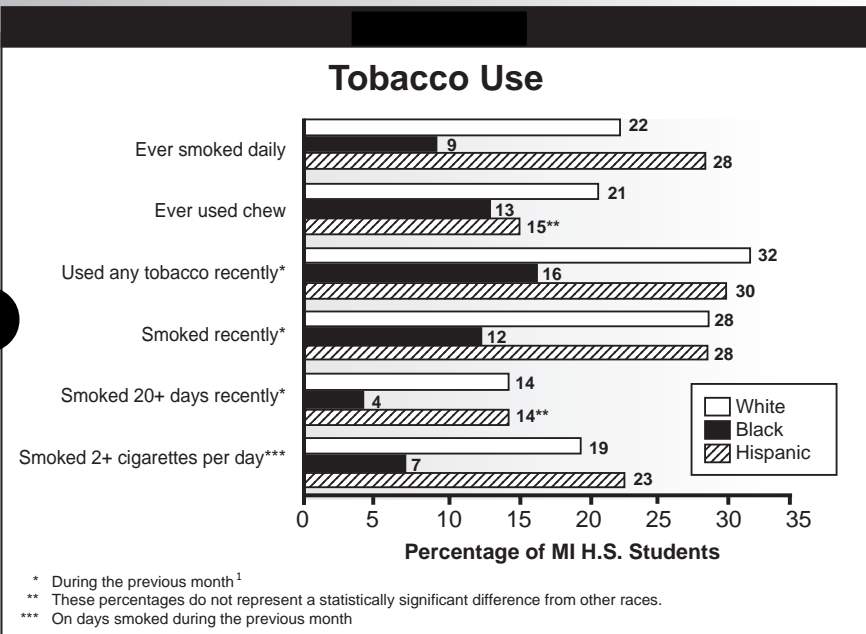
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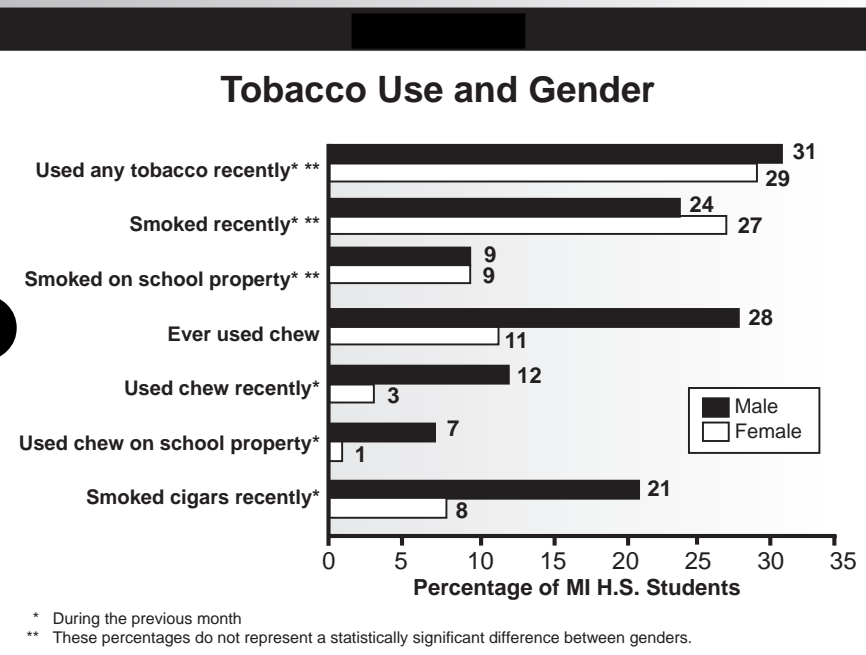
### 2001 Survey Results (continued)

- ◆ Of the students who were current smokers, two thirds had tried to quit in the past year. This was consistent regardless of gender, age, or race/ethnicity.
- ◆ Older students were more likely than younger students were to have ever tried smoking and to be recent, daily, and frequent smokers.
- ◆ Black students were less likely to have used any tobacco recently; to have ever used smokeless tobacco; or to smoke regularly, heavily, or daily than were students of any other race/ethnicity (Figure 2).
- ◆ Gender differences were clear for smokeless tobacco use and cigar use, with males using these tobacco products significantly more than females. In addition, males were seven times more likely to use chewing tobacco on school property than females, whereas cigarette use on school property was identical for both sexes (Figure 3).

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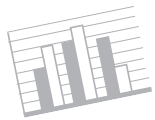
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<sup>1</sup> Previous month means the 30 days preceding the survey.

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### 2001 Survey Results (continued)

◆ Three quarters of underage smokers were able to buy cigarettes without being asked to show proof of age (Figure 4).



### Trends

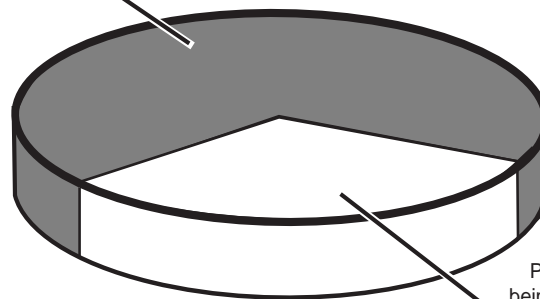
Compared to 1997 and/or 1999, significantly fewer high school students are trying cigarettes, smoking on school property, and reporting recent smoking and cigar use (Figure 5).

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### Cigarette Purchases by Underage Students\*

Purchased without being asked to show proof of age

71%



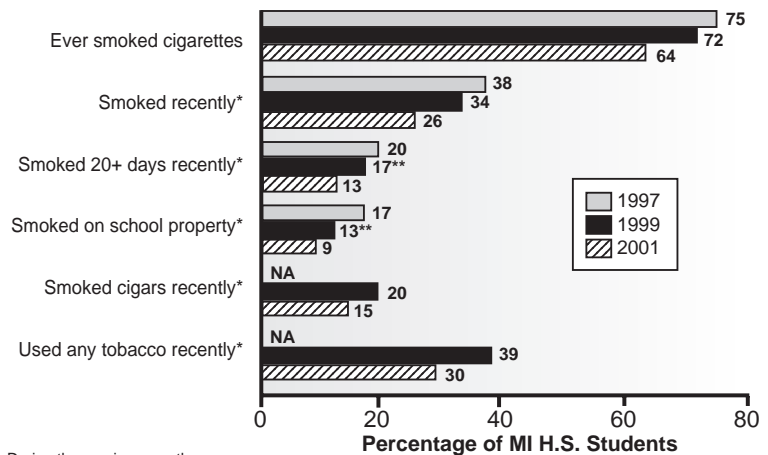
Purchased after being asked to show proof of age

29%

\* During the previous month by MI high school students under age 18 who were current smokers

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### Trends in Tobacco Use: 1997 to 1999 to 2001



\* During the previous month

\*\* These percentages do not represent a statistically significant difference from other years.

NA Not Available

Source: 1997, 1999 and 2001 Michigan Youth Risk Behavior Survey

#### Contact Information

Michigan Department of Education, Office of School Excellence, Learning Support Unit,  
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Web: www.michigan.gov/mde

#### State of Compliance With Federal Law

The Michigan Department of Education complies with all Federal laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination, and with all requirements and regulations of the U. S. Department of Education.

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SURVEY QUESTION 	MI	GENDER		GRADE				RACE/ETHNICITY		
	01	M	F	9	10	11	12	White	Black	Hispanic
% of students who <b>ever tried cigarette smoking</b> , even one or two puffs	64	63	64	55	63	66	73	63	64	73
% of students who <b>smoked</b> a whole cigarette for the first time <b>before age 13</b>	23	23	23	27	24	21	19	23	20	36
% of students who <b>smoked cigarettes</b> on one or more of the <b>past 30 days</b>	26	24	27	20	23	26	35	28	12	28
% of students who <b>smoked cigarettes</b> on <b>20 or more</b> of the <b>past 30 days</b>	13	12	13	9	10	14	20	14	4	14
% of students who <b>smoked 2 or more cigarettes per day</b> on the days they smoked during the <b>past 30 days</b>	18	17	19	14	15	19	25	19	7	23
% of students who <b>smoked more than 10 cigarettes per day</b> on the days that they smoked during the <b>past 30 days</b>	3	4	2	2	2	4	5	4	0	2
% of students who usually <b>got their own cigarettes by buying them</b> in a store or gas station during the past 30 days	9	11	8	4	4	10	22	10	5	9
% of students <b>less than 18 years of age</b> who were current smokers, and <b>purchased cigarettes</b> at a store or gas station during the past 30 days	25	31	20	20	16	35	—	24	—	—
% of students who were <b>not asked to show proof of age when they bought cigarettes</b> in a store during the past 30 days	9	9	9	6	8	12	11	9	9	17
Of students <b>less than 18 years of age</b> who were current cigarette smokers, and reported having <b>purchased cigarettes without being asked to show proof of age</b> during the past 30 days	71	—	—	—	—	—	—	71	—	—
% of students who <b>smoked cigarettes on school property</b> on one or more of the past 30 days	9	9	9	8	8	9	11	10	4	9
% of students who <b>ever smoked cigarettes daily</b> , that is, at least one cigarette every day for 30 days	20	19	21	16	17	24	26	22	9	28
% of students who were current smokers and have <b>tried to quit smoking</b> during the past 12 months	64	59	68	67	63	66	62	65	—	—
% of students who have <b>ever tried chewing tobacco</b> , snuff, or dip	20	28	11	16	17	20	28	21	13	15
% of students who <b>used chewing tobacco or snuff</b> on one or more of the <b>past 30 days</b>	8	12	3	8	5	8	9	8	6	11
% of students who <b>used chewing tobacco or snuff on school property</b> on one or more of the past 30 days	4	7	1	4	2	4	5	4	4	4
% of students who <b>smoked cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars</b> on one or more of the <b>past 30 days</b>	15	21	8	13	14	14	20	15	15	17
% of students who <b>used any tobacco</b> during the <b>past 30 days</b>	30	31	29	24	26	32	41	32	16	30

For additional information on the YRBS results, please log on to [www.emc.cmich.edu/yrbs/default.htm](http://www.emc.cmich.edu/yrbs/default.htm)