

# 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. High response rates allow results of the 2007 YRBS to be generalized to all Michigan students in grades 9-12.

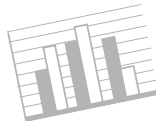


### Of Vital Concern: The National Perspective

Cigarette smoking is the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and accounts for approximately 440,000 deaths each year. Cigarette smoking increases risk of heart disease; cancers of the lung, larynx, mouth, esophagus, pancreas and cervix; stroke; and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. In addition, 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 6.4 million United States people who were under the age of 18 in 2000 could die prematurely from smoking-related illnesses.

Approximately 75% of oral cavity and pharyngeal cancers are attributed to the use of smoked and smokeless tobacco. Use of smokeless tobacco also causes gum disease and an increased risk of heart disease and stroke. Approximately 64% of school districts in the United States prohibit tobacco use in buildings, on all school property, in school vehicles, and during school events on or off campus. In 2005, 7% of high school students reported smoking cigarettes in the last month on school property. The percentage of high school students who ever smoked cigarettes was steady from 1991-1999 and then decreased significantly from 70% in 1999 to 54% in 2005.

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

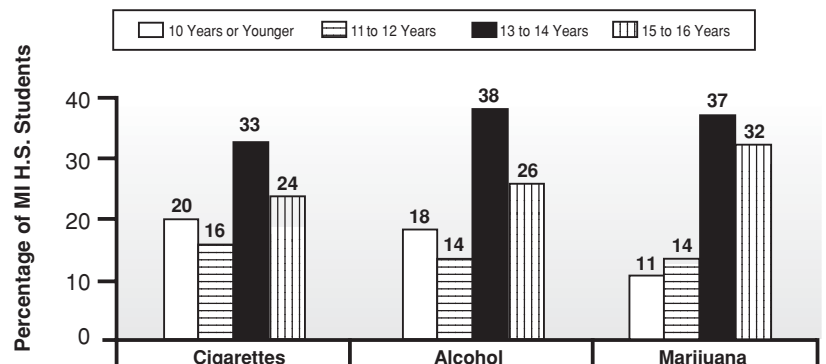


### 2007 Survey Results

- ◆ Half of all high school students have **ever tried** smoking<sup>1</sup> cigarettes, regardless of gender or race/ethnicity. Nearly half of current smokers began smoking between age 11 and 14 (Figure 1).
- ◆ Of the students who were current smokers, more than half have **tried to quit** in the past year. This was consistent regardless of gender, grade, or academics.

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

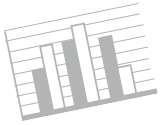


\* Among those who ever smoked, drank alcohol, or tried marijuana

<sup>1</sup> Ever tried smoking means tried cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs.

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### 2007 Survey Results (continued)

- ◆ Hispanic students were more likely to have **ever smoked** and **smoked early**<sup>2</sup> than white and black students (Figure 2).
- ◆ Black students were significantly less likely than Hispanic and white students to have **smoked recently**<sup>3</sup> and **frequently**;<sup>4</sup> **smoked daily**<sup>5</sup> and used **smokeless tobacco**<sup>6</sup> in their life; and **used any tobacco recently**.<sup>7</sup>
- ◆ American Indian students were significantly more likely than black and white students to have **ever tried smoking**. They were also more likely than black students to report most smoking behaviors including **recent smoking, on and off school property; early smoking; and smoking daily** and using **smokeless tobacco in their lifetime**.
- ◆ Gender differences were clear for **smokeless tobacco use, cigar use**,<sup>8</sup> and any **recent tobacco use**, with males using significantly more than females (Figure 3).

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<sup>2</sup> Early smoking is prior to age 13.

<sup>3</sup> *Recent smoking* means smoked cigarettes on one or more of the past 30 days.

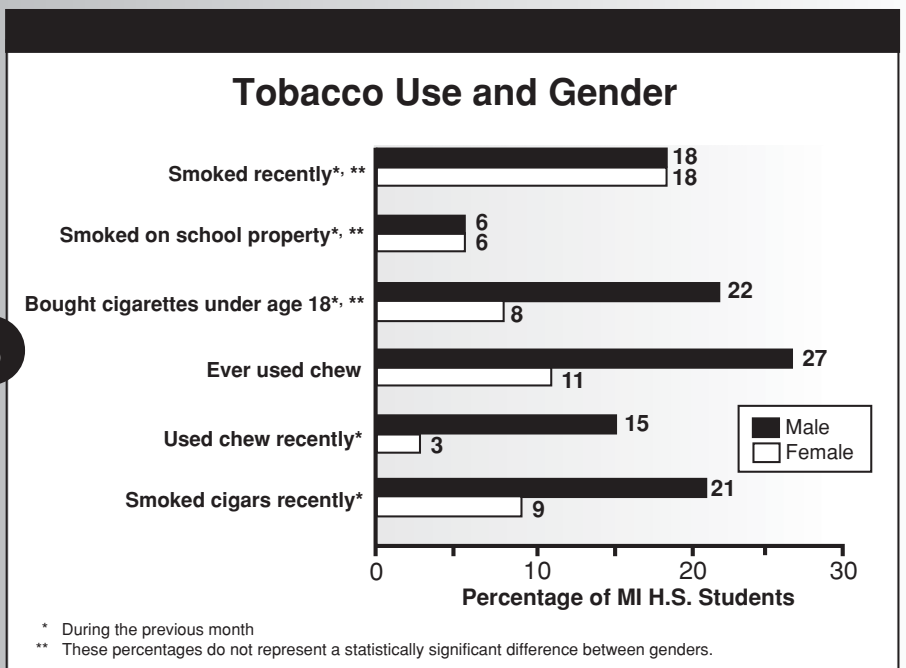
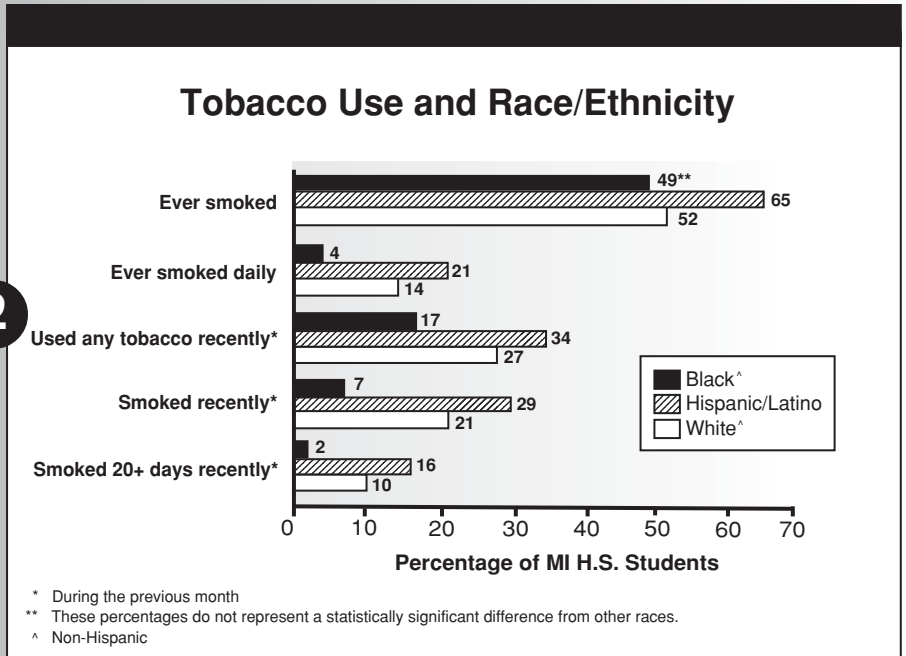
<sup>4</sup> *Frequent smoking* means smoked cigarettes on 20 or more of the past 30 days.

<sup>5</sup> *Daily smoking* means smoked at least one cigarette per day for 30 days.

<sup>6</sup> *Smokeless tobacco* includes chewing tobacco, snuff, and dip.

<sup>7</sup> *Any form of tobacco* includes cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, little cigars, chewing tobacco, snuff, and dip.

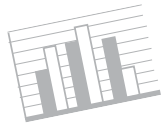
<sup>8</sup> *Cigar use* includes cigars, cigarillos, and little cigars.



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### 2007 Survey Results (continued)



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- Older students were more likely than younger students to have ever **tried smoking, smoked recently, and used cigars**. They were also at least twice as likely to have **smoked frequently and on school property, used smokeless tobacco, and used any form of tobacco** (Figure 4).
- One in seven underage smokers<sup>9</sup> were able to **buy cigarettes at a store or gas station**; older students were more likely than younger students to report this.
- Students with low grades were more likely than those with high grades<sup>10</sup> to report most types of smoking as well as recent **smokeless tobacco, cigar, and any tobacco use** (Figure 5).

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### Trends

Since 1999, significantly fewer high school students have ever **tried cigarettes** and ever **smoked daily; smoked before age 13; smoked on school property**; reported **recent, frequent, and regular smoking**;<sup>11</sup> and reported **recent cigar and tobacco use** (Figure 6).

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<sup>9</sup> Underage smokers refer to students who currently smoke and are under 18 years of age.  
<sup>10</sup> Self report grades earned in school are used to assess academic achievement with high grades representing students with mostly As and Bs, average grades with Cs, and low grades with mostly Ds and Fs.  
<sup>11</sup> Regular smoking means smoked two or more cigarettes per day on the days smoked during the past 30 days.

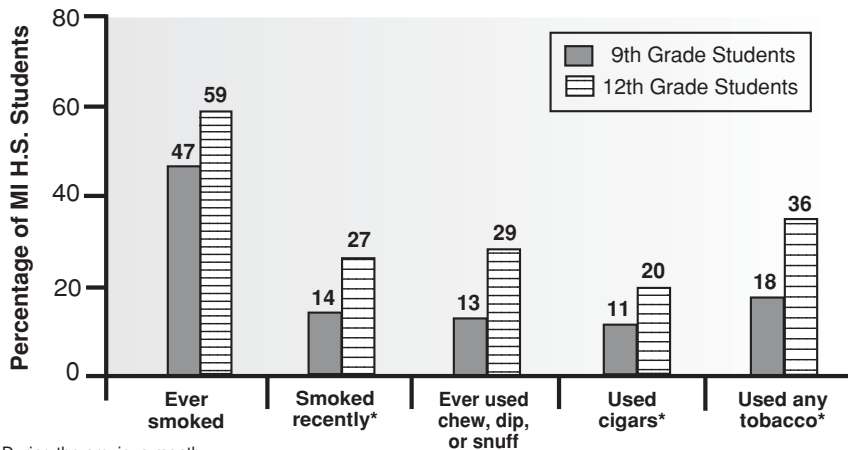
**Contact Information**  
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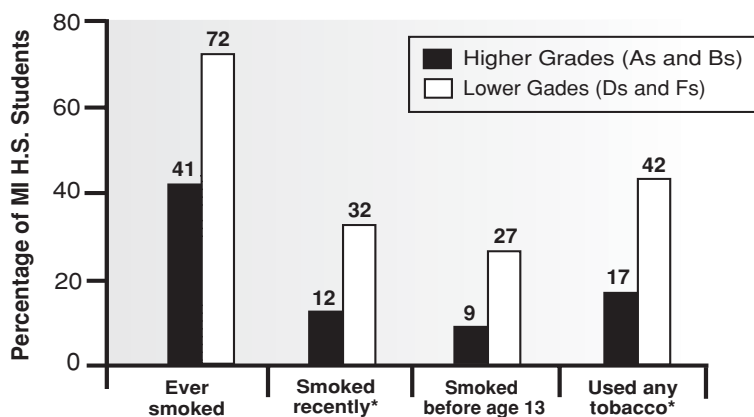
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### Tobacco Use and Grade



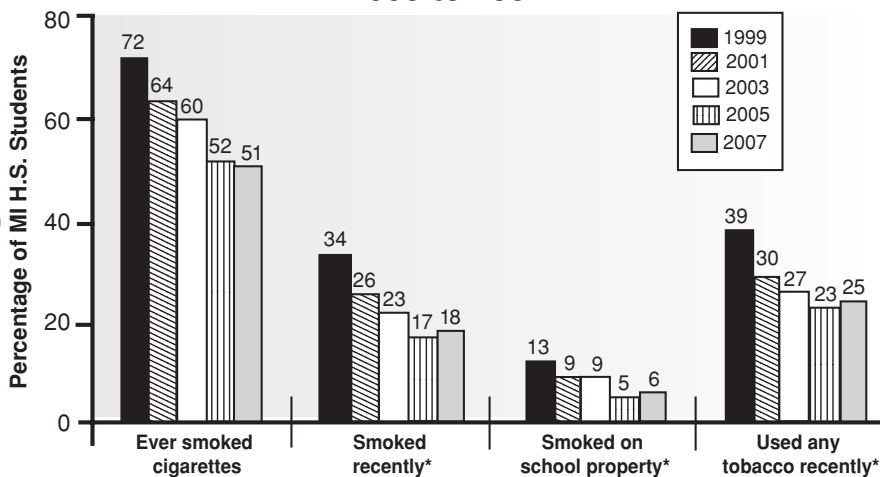
\* During the previous month

### Tobacco Use by Academics



\* During the previous month

### Trends in Tobacco Use 1999 to 2007



\* During the previous month

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SURVEY QUESTION	MI	GENDER		GRADE				RACE/ETHNICITY			
	2007	M	F	9	10	11	12	American Indian	Black^	Hispanic/Latino	White^
% of students who <b>ever tried cigarette smoking</b> , even one or two puffs	51	51	52	47	52	50	59	74	49	65	52
% of students who <b>smoked</b> a whole cigarette for the first time <b>before age 13</b>	14	13	15	13	17	12	13	26	9	28	14
% of students who <b>smoked cigarettes</b> on one or more of the <b>past 30 days</b>	18	18	18	14	16	17	27	32	7	29	21
% of students who <b>smoked cigarettes on 20 or more</b> of the <b>past 30 days</b>	8	9	8	5	8	9	12	13	2	16	10
% of students who <b>smoked 2 or more cigarettes per day</b> on the days they smoked during the <b>past 30 days</b>	9	8	9	5	9	12	8	—	—	—	7
% 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	15	22	8	2	14	21	—	—	—	—	15
% of students who <b>smoked cigarettes on school property</b> on one or more of the past 30 days	6	6	6	3	6	8	9	16	3	11	7
% of students who <b>ever smoked cigarettes daily</b> , that is, at least one cigarette every day for 30 days	13	13	12	9	13	15	16	30	4	21	14
% of students who were current smokers and have <b>tried to quit smoking</b> during the past 12 months	58	55	61	60	60	59	53	—	—	—	60
% of students who have <b>ever tried chewing tobacco</b> , snuff, or dip	19	27	11	13	19	20	29	32	8	17	22
% of students who <b>used chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip</b> on one or more of the <b>past 30 days</b>	9	15	3	6	9	9	14	14	7	12	10
% of students who <b>smoked cigars</b> , cigarillos, or little cigars on one or more of the <b>past 30 days</b>	15	21	9	11	15	14	20	19	16	22	15
% of students who <b>used any tobacco</b> during the <b>past 30 days</b>	25	29	20	18	24	25	36	35	17	34	27
% of students who have ever been told by a doctor or nurse that they <b>have asthma</b>	24	25	22	25	23	25	21	48	28	26	23
% of students who had been told by a doctor or nurse that they had asthma and <b>still have asthma</b>	11	12	12	11	12	15	7	16	14	14	11
Among students who currently have asthma, % who <b>went to an emergency room/urgent care center because of their asthma</b> one or more times during the past 12 months	23	18	27	—	24	20	—	—	—	—	18

^Non-Hispanic