

Wisconsin Department of Health Services
2010 Wisconsin Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS)
Middle School Fact Sheet



The Wisconsin YTS is a comprehensive measure of youth awareness, attitudes, and behaviors related to tobacco use. The purpose of this survey is to monitor trends of these attitudes and behaviors to assist in improving youth programs and initiatives. The 2010 Wisconsin YTS was funded by the Department of Health Services, Tobacco Prevention and Control Program.

The Wisconsin YTS is a school-based survey of students in grades 6-8, conducted every spring semester of the academic year since the 1999-2000 school year. Fifty schools were randomly selected in 2010 to participate in this survey. Classrooms in the selected schools were also randomly selected. All students in the selected classes were eligible to participate. The overall middle school response rate for the 2010 YTS was 90.0%. A total of 1,896 of the 2,051 sampled students completed the survey.

<p><u>Prevalence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23.6% of students have used a tobacco product in their lifetime (6th grade=16.0%, 7th grade=24.4%, 8th grade=30.0%) • 15.7% have smoked cigarettes in their lifetime (6th grade=7.5%, 7th grade=16.8%, 8th grade=22.2%) • 7.1% currently use a tobacco product (Male=7.7%, Female=6.4%) • 3.9% currently smoke cigarettes (6th grade=1.1%, 7th grade=3.4%, 8th grade=7.0%) (Male=4.2%, Female=3.6%) • 2.6% Currently smoke cigars (Male=3.3%, Female=2.0%) <p><u>Smokeless Tobacco</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.8% currently use smokeless tobacco or chew (Male=2.7%, Female=0.8%) • 6.7% have used smokeless tobacco (Male=8.5%, Female=4.9%) • 49.3% current smokeless users live with someone who also uses smokeless tobacco (Male=48.0%, Female=53.7%) <p><u>Second-Hand Smoke Exposure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38.1% live in homes where others smoke • 47.4% were in the same room or rode in a car with someone who was smoking • 92.9% think that smoke from other people's cigarettes is harmful to them <p><u>Cessation – Current Smokers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 49.4% want to stop smoking • 61.9% attempted to quit smoking at least once during the past 12 months • 8.9% participated in a program to help quit using tobacco <p><u>Media</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 53.6% have seen or heard anti-smoking commercials during the past 30 days • 80.8% who use the internet, watch TV, or go to the movies have seen ads for tobacco products <p><u>School</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 68.1% were taught in class about the dangers of tobacco use • 1.4% smoked on school property in the past month <p><u>Community</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16.6% participated in a community event to discourage people from using tobacco during the past 12 months <p><u>Access and Availability – Current Smoker < 18 years old</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11.9% get cigarettes by taking from a store or family member • 21.9% gave money to someone else to buy cigarettes during the past 30 days 	<p><u>Middle School Highlights</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current smoking rate has decreased 9% from 2008 to 2010. • The current smoking rate was 12% in 2000 compared to 3.9% in 2010. • 3.9% of public middle school youth are current cigarette smokers. • 7.1% currently use any tobacco product. • In 2010, 1.8% of middle school students use smokeless tobacco. • Nearly half of current smokers want to stop smoking. • 53.6% of students saw or heard anti-smoking media messages in the past month. • Some 68% of students were taught about the dangers of tobacco in class. • 18.8% of non-smokers are susceptible to becoming smokers.
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