In 2016, 43,111 Mississippi public high school students had tried at least one cigarette. The prevalence of having ever tried a cigarette has decreased by 58% since 1998, leading to 58,422 fewer high school students who have tried smoking. In the past year, the prevalence of having ever tried smoking has not changed significantly.

High school Caucasians are more likely to have ever tried cigarette smoking than African-Americans.