

KEY FINDINGS

2023 Mississippi Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS)

The purpose of the YTS is to provide states with the data needed to design, implement, and evaluate comprehensive tobacco control programs that work to prevent young people from beginning tobacco use and help those who have already started using tobacco to quit.

Key Findings include:

- **Over one-third (37.7%)** of high school students have ever tried a tobacco product.
- **One-fifth (21.7%)** of middle school students have ever tried a tobacco product.
- **Almost two-thirds (62.9%)** of middle school students who have ever tried an e-cigarette, first used an e-cigarette **between the ages of 10 and 12**.
- **Almost two-thirds (64.1%)** of high school students who have ever tried an e-cigarette, first used an e-cigarette **between the ages of 13 and 15**.
- **One-fifth (20.1%)** of middle school students have a close friend that uses e-cigarettes.
- **Almost one-third (32.4%)** of high school students have a close friend that uses e-cigarettes.
- A **quarter** of high school (26.1%) and middle school (25.2%) students who have never tried an e-cigarette **are susceptible** to using an e-cigarette **in the future**.
- **Over one-third** of high school students (38.0%) and middle school (37.6%) students who used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days used an e-cigarette because they **came in flavors they liked**.
- In the past 7 days, **one-fifth** of high school students were **exposed to aerosol from an e-cigarette** inside a car they were riding in (20.3%) or in an indoor public place (19.1%) such as a school, store, restaurant, or sports arena.
- **One-fifth (20.6%)** of high school students who used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days used an e-cigarette because they **thought it might be less harmful** than cigarettes.
- **One-fifth** of high school students who used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days got their e-cigarettes from a **gas station** or **convenience store** (21.4%) or from a **friend** or **family member** (19.1%).
- **Over one-quarter (26.1%)** of middle school students who used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days got their e-cigarettes from a **friend** or **family member**.
- **Over two-thirds** of middle school (77.6%) students who used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days preferred an e-cigarette with a **fruit flavor**.
- **Over half (59.1%)** of high school students who used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days preferred an e-cigarette with a **fruit flavor**.
- **Over half** of high school (54.4%) and middle school (56.2%) students who used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days have **never** tried a cigarette.

Methods

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Office on Smoking and Health (OSH) provides technical assistance to the states to administer this survey. Mississippi has administered the Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS) in 1998, 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, and 2023.

The YTS collects data from students in grades 6 through 12. A multi-stage sample design was applied with public middle and high schools selected proportional to enrollment size. Classrooms were chosen randomly within selected schools, and all students in selected classes were eligible for participation. Data were collected by means of an anonymous and confidential self-administered questionnaire. The questionnaires were group-administered in classrooms during a normal class period by teachers following standardized procedures.

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