

# TOBACCO

## Fact Sheet



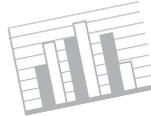
**The Michigan Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)** is part of a nationwide surveying effort led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to monitor students' health risks and behaviors in six categories identified as most likely to result in adverse outcomes. These categories include unintentional 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 2003 Michigan YRBS to be generalized to all Michigan students in grades 9-12.



### Of Vital Concern: The National Perspective

Tobacco use is considered the chief preventable cause of death in the United States with approximately one fifth 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, 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 United States people who were under the age of 18 in 1995 could die prematurely from smoking-related illnesses. In 2001, despite laws prohibiting the sale of tobacco to minors in all states, 19% of underage high school students who were current smokers reported that they usually bought cigarettes in a store or gas station. Of those, 67% were not asked to show proof of age when buying cigarettes. Approximately 46% 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 2001, 10% 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 from 1999-2001.

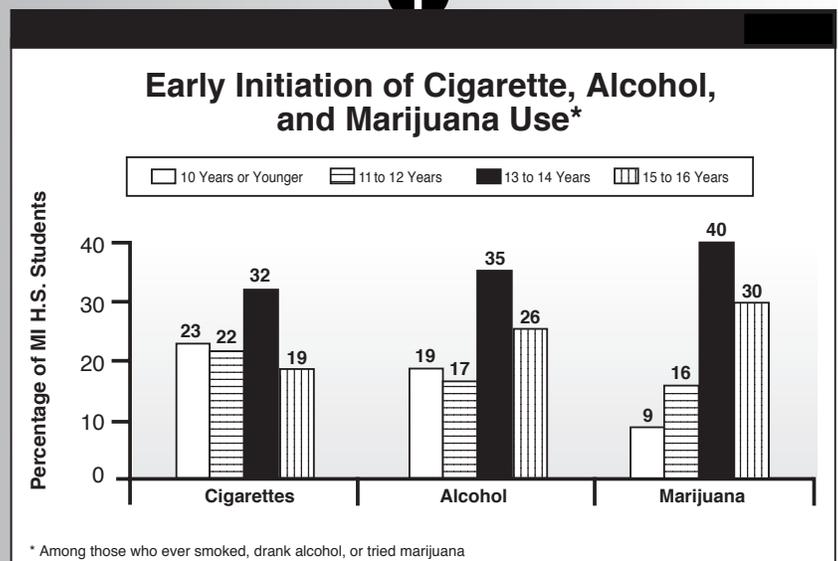
For complete references, please log onto [www.emc.cmich.edu/yrbs](http://www.emc.cmich.edu/yrbs).



### 2003 Survey Results

- ◆ At least three fifths of all students have **ever tried smoking**<sup>1</sup> cigarettes, regardless of gender or race/ethnicity. Three quarters 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, age, or race/ethnicity.

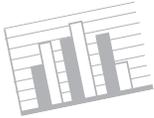
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<sup>1</sup> Ever tried smoking means tried cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs.

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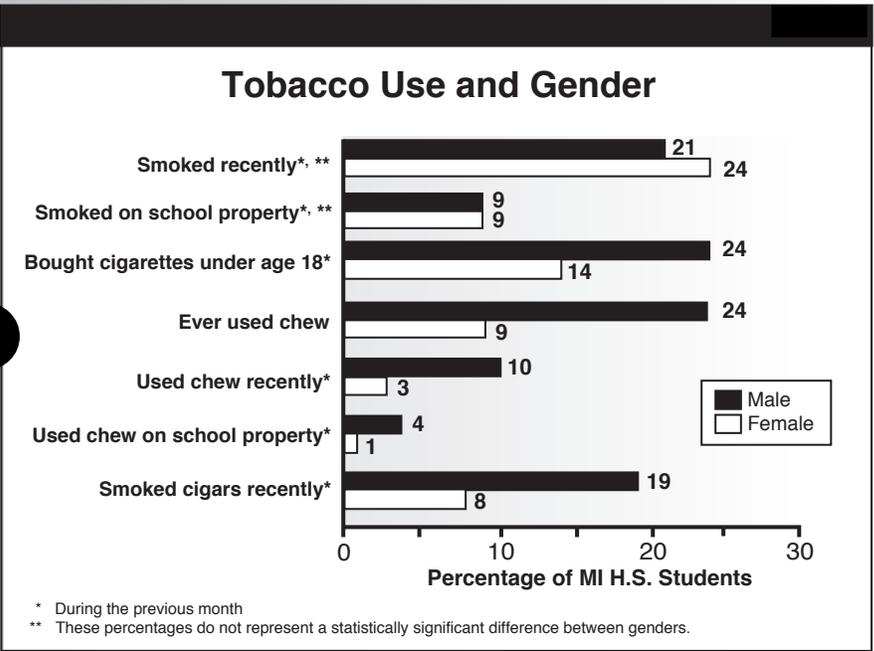
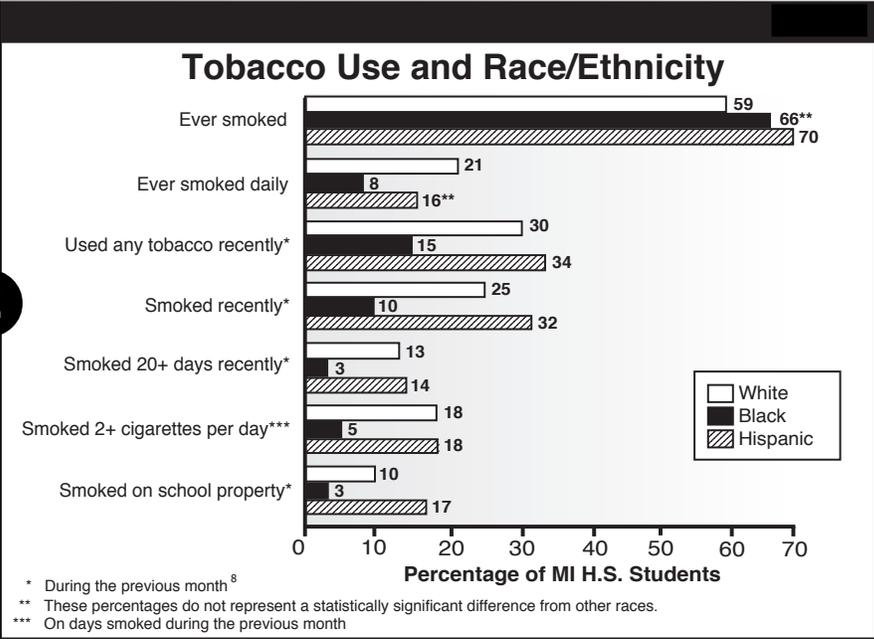


### 2003 Survey Results (continued)

- ◆ Black students were only half as likely as white and Hispanic students to have **recently<sup>2</sup> used any tobacco<sup>3</sup>, smoked recently, smoked frequently<sup>4</sup>, smoked regularly<sup>5</sup>, and smoked on school property**. Black students were also half as likely as white students to have **ever used smokeless tobacco<sup>6</sup> to have used it recently**, or to have **used smokeless tobacco on school property** (Figure 2).
- ◆ Hispanic students were more likely than white students to have **ever tried smoking**, and more likely than black students to **try cigarettes before age 13** and to have smoked **cigars<sup>7</sup> recently**.
- ◆ 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 four times more likely to use **smokeless tobacco on school property** than females, whereas **cigarette use on school property** was identical for both genders (Figure 3).

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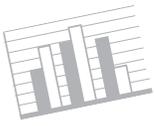
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<sup>2</sup> *Recently* means during the past 30 days.  
<sup>3</sup> *Any form of tobacco* includes cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, little cigars, chewing tobacco, snuff, and dip.  
<sup>4</sup> *Frequent smoking* means smoked cigarettes on 20 or more of the past 30 days.  
<sup>5</sup> *Regular smoking* means smoked 2 or more cigarettes per day on the days they smoked.  
<sup>6</sup> *Smokeless tobacco* means chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip.  
<sup>7</sup> *Cigars* include cigars, cigarillos, and little cigars.  
<sup>8</sup> *Previous month* means the 30 days preceding the survey.

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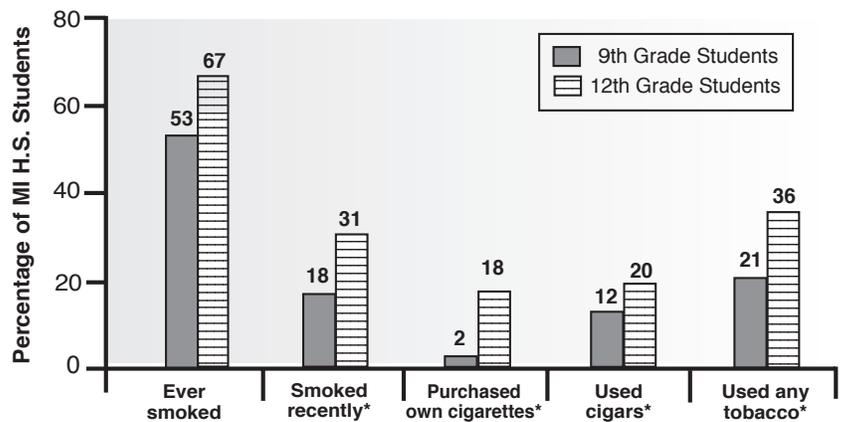


### 2003 Survey Results (continued)

- ◆ Older students were more likely than younger students to have **ever tried smoking**, and nearly twice as likely to have **recently bought their own cigarettes, smoked, used cigars, and used any form of tobacco** (Figure 4).
- ◆ One fifth of underage smokers<sup>9</sup> were able to **buy cigarettes at a store or gas station**; males were more likely to report this than females.

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### Tobacco Use and Grade



\* During the previous month

### Trends

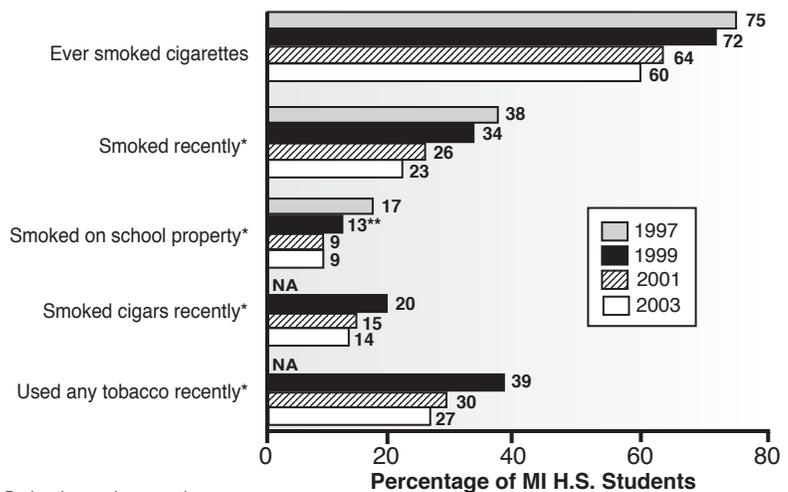


Compared to 1997 and/or 1999, significantly fewer high school students have **ever tried cigarettes; ever smoked daily;<sup>10</sup> ever tried smokeless tobacco; smoked on school property**; reported **recent, frequent, and regular smoking**; and reported **recent cigar and tobacco use** (Figure 5).

<sup>9</sup> Underage smokers refer to students who currently smoke and are under 18 years of age.  
<sup>10</sup> Daily smoking means smoked at least one cigarette per day for 30 days.

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### Trends in Tobacco Use: 1997 to 1999 to 2001 to 2003



\* During the previous month  
 \*\* This percentage does not represent a statistically significant difference from other years.  
 NA Not Available

#### Contact Information

Michigan Department of Education, Grants Coordination and School Support,  
 Coordinated School Health and Safety Programs  
 P.O. Box 30008, Lansing, Michigan 48909  
 Phone: 517-241-4284  
 Web: www.michigan.gov/mde

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SURVEY QUESTION 	MI	US	GENDER		GRADE				RACE/ETHNICITY		
	03	03	M	F	9	10	11	12	White	Black	Hispanic
% of students who <b>ever tried cigarette smoking</b> , even one or two puffs	60	58	61	60	53	58	65	67	59	66	70
% of students who <b>smoked</b> a whole cigarette for the first time <b>before age 13</b>	21	18	22	20	23	20	21	20	22	16	26
% of students who <b>smoked cigarettes</b> on one or more of the <b>past 30 days</b>	23	22	21	24	18	20	23	31	25	10	32
% of students who <b>smoked cigarettes on 20 or more</b> of the <b>past 30 days</b>	11	10	12	11	7	8	12	19	13	3	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>	16	N/A	16	16	12	13	17	24	18	5	18
% 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>	4	3	5	3	2	2	5	8	5	1	5
% of students who usually <b>got their own cigarettes by buying them</b> in a store or gas station during the past 30 days	7	N/A	8	5	2	3	6	18	7	4	6
% 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	18	19	24	14	13	13	23	—	17	—	—
% of students who <b>smoked cigarettes on school property</b> on one or more of the past 30 days	9	8	9	9	7	6	11	15	10	3	17
% of students who <b>ever smoked cigarettes daily</b> , that is, at least one cigarette every day for 30 days	18	16	18	19	13	17	20	26	21	8	16
% of students who were current smokers and have <b>tried to quit smoking</b> during the past 12 months	58	N/A	55	62	60	60	55	60	58	—	—
% of students who have <b>ever tried chewing tobacco</b> , snuff, or dip	17	N/A	24	9	13	14	20	21	18	9	10
% of students who <b>used chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip</b> on one or more of the <b>past 30 days</b>	7	7	10	3	5	5	7	8	7	3	9
% of students who <b>used chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip on school property</b> on one or more of the past 30 days	3	6	4	1	2	2	3	4	3	1	7
% of students who <b>smoked cigars</b> , cigarillos, or little cigars on one or more of the <b>past 30 days</b>	14	15	19	8	12	10	14	20	14	11	21
% of students who <b>used any tobacco</b> during the <b>past 30 days</b>	27	28	29	26	21	25	29	36	30	15	34

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