

## 2017 South Carolina Youth Tobacco Survey Middle School Fact Sheet

The South Carolina Youth Tobacco Survey (SCYTS) is a comprehensive survey designed to evaluate prevalence of tobacco use, age of initiation and access to tobacco products. It also includes data on knowledge and attitudes, attitudes toward cessation and readiness to quit, mass media influences, and secondhand smoke and vapor exposure. As a surveillance tool, SCYTS monitors key behaviors and attitudes toward tobacco. As an evaluation tool, the survey is intended to document the Division of Tobacco Prevention and Control's progress over time, to recognize groups at risk and to identify areas to strengthen the Division's activities and strategies.

The SCYTS was conducted in 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, and 2017<sup>1</sup>. A two-stage cluster sample design was used to select a representative sample of public middle (containing any of grades 6-8) and high school students (containing any of grades 9-12) in South Carolina. In the first-stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to school enrollment size. In all, 50 middle schools and 50 high schools were chosen. The second sampling stage consisted of systematic equal probability sampling of approximately two classes from each participating school. All students in the selected classes were eligible to participate in the survey. In 2017, the middle school participation rate was 66% and the middle school student response rate was 93.48% yielding an overall response rate (school rate x student rate) of 61.70% for the middle school sample. A total of 1,391 middle school students completed the 2017 SCYTS.

<p><b>Prevalence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>31.8% of students had ever used any tobacco product (Male 34%, Female 30%)</li> <li>10.1% of students currently use any tobacco product (Male 11%, Female 9%)</li> <li>15.7% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (White 13%, Black 17%, Hispanic 16%)</li> <li>3.2% of students currently smoke cigarettes (White 3%, Black 3%, Hispanic 3%)</li> <li>14.2% of students had ever used e-cigarettes (White 15%, Black 10%, Hispanic 14%)</li> <li>5.7% of students currently use e-cigarettes (White 5%, Black 6%, Hispanic 6%)</li> <li>2.5% currently use Smokeless Tobacco [spit, chew or dip] (Male 4%, Female 1%)</li> <li>16.6% of students had ever used other new and emerging tobacco product<sup>2</sup></li> <li>11.2% of students used a new and emerging tobacco product<sup>2</sup> in the past 30 days</li> </ul> <p><b>Access</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>78.4% of students who tried to buy were not refused to sell cigarettes despite their age in the past month</li> <li>75.8 % of students saw ads for tobacco products at convenience stores, gas stations or super markets</li> </ul> <p><b>Cessation</b></p> <p><i>Note: No reliable estimates are available due to the small number of respondents who were current smokers.</i></p> <p><b>Secondhand Smoke (SHS)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>19.1% of never smokers were exposed to SHS in their home in the past month</li> <li>24.4% of never smokers were exposed to SHS in a vehicle in the past month</li> <li>17.7% of students were exposed to SHS in school in the past month</li> </ul> <p><b>Prevention</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>23.0% of never smokers were susceptible to start smoking</li> <li>23.2% of never e-cigarette users were susceptible to start vaping</li> <li>39.8% of ever smokers reported smoking a whole cigarette before age 11 years</li> <li>12.9% of students were receptive to tobacco advertising<sup>3</sup></li> <li>74.0% saw/heard anti-smoking ads on TV, radio or internet in the past month</li> </ul> <p><b>School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10.1% of students smoked or saw someone smoking a tobacco product on school property in the past month</li> <li>9.1% of students used or saw someone using some other type of tobacco product on school property in the past month</li> </ul>	<p><b>Middle School Highlights</b></p> <p>About 3 out of 10 students have ever used tobacco and 1 out of 10 currently use some form of tobacco. Current e-cigarette use (6%) nearly doubles conventional cigarette smoking (3%).</p> <p>More than 78% of student who attempted to buy were not refused to sell cigarettes because of their age.</p> <p>More than 75% of students saw commercials for tobacco products at convenience stores, gas stations or super markets.</p> <p>Nearly 1 out of 5 students have been exposed to SHS in their home while about 1 out of 6 students were exposed to SHS in school in the last 30 days.</p> <p>Almost 1 out of 8 students was receptive to tobacco advertising and nearly 1 out 4 students was susceptible to start using electronic cigarettes. In addition, nearly 40% smoked a whole cigarette before age 11.</p> <p>Nearly 10% of students smoked or saw someone smoking on school property and 9% of students used or saw someone using other type of tobacco product on school property in the last 30 days.</p>
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<sup>1</sup> All SCYTS results are accessible at: <http://www.scdhec.gov/Health/TobaccoCessation/Under18TobaccoUse/SCYouthTobaccoUsageSurveys/>

<sup>2</sup> New and emerging tobacco products include: roll-your-own cigarettes; flavored cigars, cigarillos and little cigars; smoking from hookah/waterpipe; snus; dissolvable products; bidis or some other new tobacco product.

<sup>3</sup> Would ever wear or use something that has a tobacco company name or picture on it.