Findings from the 2004 and 2006 Youth Tobacco Survey

Survey results for tobacco use among Mississippi public high school and middle school students in 2004 and 2006 show a decrease in most of the measures. The following had statistically significant decreases:

- The percentage of current cigarette use among public middle school students had decreased by 30% from 12.0% in 2004 to 8.4% in 2006.
- The percentage of current cigar use among public middle school students had decreased by 42% from 10.6% in 2004 to 6.1% in 2006.
- The percentage of frequent cigar use among public high school students had decreased by 43% from 2.8% in 2004 to 1.6% in 2006.

1. Use of Cigarettes

Figure 1  Mississippi Public School Students Who Ever Smoked Cigarettes

- The percentage of public high school students who had ever smoked cigarettes increased from 59.4% in 2004 to 61.2% in 2006.
- The percentage of public middle school students who had ever smoked cigarettes decreased from 38.9% in 2004 to 33.3% in 2006.
- The percentage of current cigarette smokers in public high schools decreased from 22.1% in 2004 to 18.7% in 2006.
- The percentage of current cigarette smokers in public middle schools decreased from 12.0% in 2004 to 8.4% in 2006. This reduction was statistically significant.

- The percentage of frequent cigarette smokers in public high schools decreased from 9.4% in 2004 to 7.6% in 2006.
- The percentage of frequent cigarette smokers in public middle schools decreased from 3.0% in 2004 to 1.9% in 2006.
2. Use of Smokeless Tobacco

- The percentage of public high school students who ever used smokeless tobacco decreased from 22.6% in 2004 to 19.1% in 2006.
- The percentage of public middle school students who ever used smokeless tobacco increased from 14.7% in 2004 to 15.5% in 2006.

- The percentage of public high school students who currently use smokeless tobacco decreased from 11.8% in 2004 to 9.7% in 2006.
- The percentage of public middle school students who currently use smokeless tobacco decreased from 8.2% in 2004 to 7.7% in 2006.
• The percentage of public high school students who frequently use smokeless tobacco decreased from 4.2% in 2004 to 2.8% in 2006.
• The percentage of public middle school students who frequently use smokeless tobacco increased from 1.3% in 2004 to 2.2% in 2006.

3. Use of Cigars

• The percentage of public high school students who ever smoked cigars decreased from 39.2% in 2004 to 37.7% in 2006.
• The percentage of public middle school students who ever smoked cigars decreased from 22.2% in 2004 to 18.6% in 2006.
• The percentage of current cigar smokers in public high schools decreased from 18.0% in 2004 to 13.6% in 2006.
• The percentage of current cigar smokers in public middle schools decreased from 10.6% in 2004 to 6.1% in 2006. This reduction was statistically significant.

• The percentage of frequent cigar smokers among public high school students decreased from 2.8% in 2004 to 1.6% in 2006. This reduction was statistically significant.
• The percentage of frequent cigar smokers among middle school students decreased from 1.0% in 2004 to 0.9% in 2006.

Note:

1The difference between two percentages is considered statistically significant if their 95% confidence intervals do not overlap.
Current use is defined as use of the tobacco product on one or more of the past 30 days preceding the survey.

Frequent use is defined as the use of a tobacco product on 20 or more the past 30 days preceding the survey.