Youth Cigarette Smoking
Results from the 2013 Mississippi Youth Tobacco Survey

The Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS) was developed to enhance the capacity of states to design, implement, and evaluate their own tobacco prevention and control programs. The YTS comprises a state-approved core questionnaire designed to gather data about the use of tobacco products and related risk behaviors among Mississippi public school students. The 2013 Mississippi YTS was completed by 1,994 middle school students in 45 schools and by 1,573 high school students in 40 schools. The overall response rate was 79% in middle school and 66% in high school. The results represent the entire population of public middle and high school students in Mississippi.

Current Cigarette Use
In Mississippi, 4.1% of middle school students and 13.3% of high school students reported current cigarette use (Figure 1).

Current Cigarette Use by Gender
- In middle school, there was no significant gender difference in the percentage of current cigarette smokers (Figure 2).
- In high school, there was no significant gender difference in the percentage of current cigarette smokers (Figure 2).

Current Cigarette Use by Race
- In middle school, there was no significant racial difference in the percentage of current cigarette smokers (Figure 3).
- In high school, the percentage of current cigarette smokers was significantly higher among whites (20.0%) compared to blacks (7.2%) (Figure 3).
Current Cigarette Use by Grade Level

- In middle school, there were no significant differences in the percentage of current cigarette smokers among grade levels (Figure 4).
- In high school, the percentage of current cigarette smokers was significantly higher among 12th graders (21.3%) compared to 9th graders (6.9%) (Figure 4).

Current cigarette Use by Gender and Racial Groups

- In middle school, there were no significant differences by gender and racial groups in the percentage of current cigarette smokers (Figure 5).
- In high school, the percentage of current cigarette smokers was significantly lower among black females (5.3%) compared to white females (18.0%) and white males (22.4%) (Figure 5).

Current Cigarette Smoking Trend

The prevalence of current cigarette use in middle and high school significantly decreased in the period 2000–2013 (Figure 6).

Notes

- The difference between two estimates is considered statistically significant (also stated as “significant” in this fact sheet) if their 95% confidence intervals do not overlap.
- Logistic regression analysis is used to test for change over time. The regression models controlled for changes in distributions by sex, race/ethnicity, and grade in the population and assessed linear and quadratic time effect by including time variables using eleven years of data (2000, 2002–2004, 2006, and 2008–2013). We did not receive data in 2001, 2005, and 2007. However, the linear and quadratic terms were hypothetically assigned to those years so the overall trend analysis took into account any unequal elapsed time. The trend was considered statistically significant if the p-value for the linear time coefficient was less than 0.05.

For More Information, Contact:
Mississippi State Department of Health
Office of Health Data and Research: (601) 576-8165 or Office of Tobacco Control: (601) 991-6050