



POLICY & ADVOCACY
FOR RHODE ISLAND'S CHILDREN

Preventing Youth Tobacco Use in Rhode Island



#NoYouthTobaccoRI
October 2, 2017



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FOR RHODE ISLAND'S CHILDREN

A special thank you to

 **CVS**Health

for their support of this *Issue Brief*



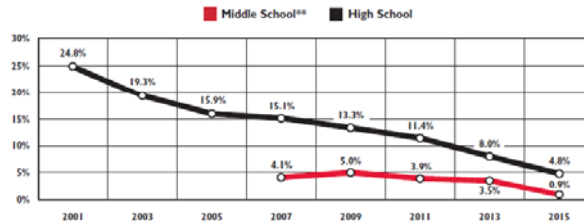
And to all those who provided input!



Stamping Out Cigarettes

- In 2015, Rhode Island had the lowest self-reported rate of current cigarette use for both **middle school (0.9%)** and **high school (4.8%)** students in the U.S.

Youth Cigarette Use*, Middle School and High School Students, Rhode Island, 2001-2015



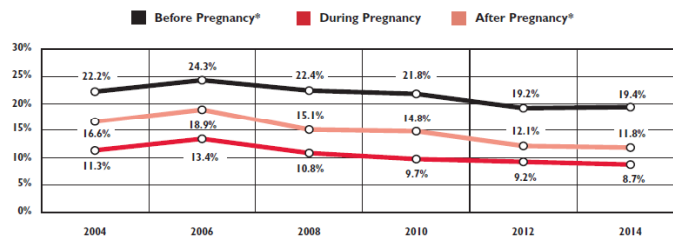
source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2001-2015.

Notes: *Use is defined as currently smoking a cigarette at least one day during the 30 days before the survey. **Middle school cigarette use data is not available prior to 2007.

Smoking and Birth Outcomes

- In Rhode Island, there have been declines in smoking rates *before, during, and after* pregnancy.

Trends in Maternal Smoking Rates, Rhode Island, 2004-2014

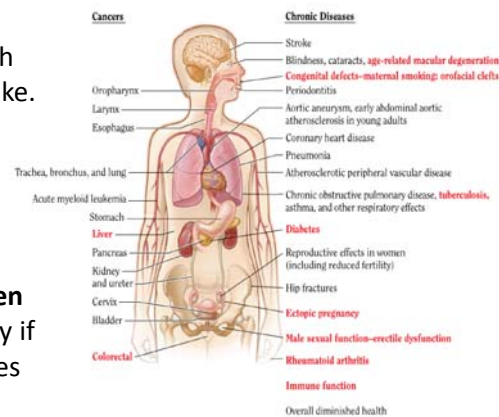


Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, *Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System, 2004-2014*.

Note: *Before pregnancy is defined as the three months prior to being pregnant. After pregnancy is defined as the 2-6 months after their baby's delivery.

Adolescent Health Effects of Smoking

- Children and youth experience adverse health effects from both direct use and secondhand smoke.
- Nationally, **99%** of all tobacco initiation begins **before age 26**.
- An estimated **5.6 million children** are projected to die prematurely if current adolescent smoking rates persist.



The health consequences of smoking-50 years of progress: A report of the Surgeon General. (2014). Rockville, MD: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



Who Uses Tobacco

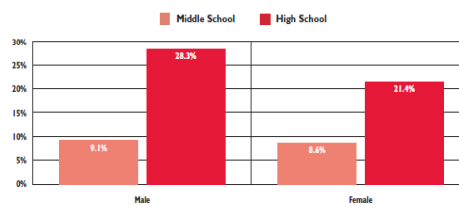
Overall

- In 2015, **8.8%** of Rhode Island **middle school** and **25.1%** of **high school** students reported using *cigarettes, e-cigarettes, cigars, and smokeless*.

Gender

- A higher percentage of male students reported current tobacco use compared to their female peers.

Tobacco Use* by Gender and Grade Level, Rhode Island, 2015



Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, *Youth Risk Behavior Survey*, 2015.

Note: *Tobacco use is defined as current use of cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, cigars, or e-cigarettes on at least one day during the 30 days before the survey.

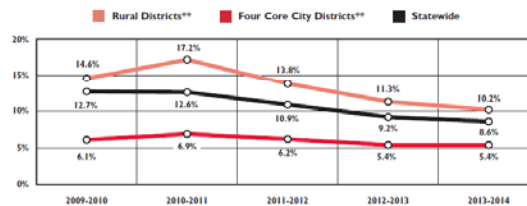


Who Uses Tobacco

Location

- In Rhode Island in 2014, **rural** high school students (**10.2%**) reported higher rates of current cigarette use than their peers residing in the **four core cities (5.4%)**.

Cigarette Use* By District, Rhode Island High School Students, 2009-2014



Source: Rhode Island Department of Education, *SurveyWorks!*, 2009-2014.

Notes: *Use is defined as currently smoking a cigarette at least one day during the 30 days before the survey. **The Rhode Island Department of Health classifies Burrillville, Coventry, Charlestown, Exeter, Foster, Gloucester, Hopkinton, Jamestown, Little Compton, New Shoreham, Portsmouth, Richmond, Scituate, Tiverton, West Greenwich, and Westerly as rural communities. Four core cities are Central Falls, Pawtucket, Providence, and Woonsocket.

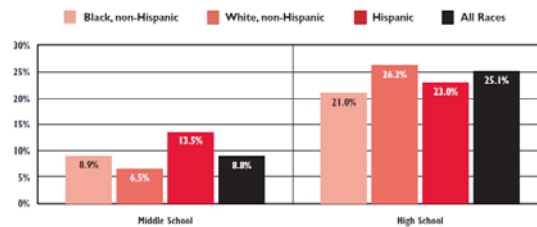


Who Uses Tobacco

Race and Ethnicity

- Students of all racial and ethnic backgrounds use tobacco products.

Tobacco Use* by Race/Ethnicity and Grade Level, Rhode Island, 2015



Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, *Youth Risk Behavior Survey*, 2015.

Note: *Tobacco use is defined as current use of cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, cigars, or e-cigarettes on at least one day during the 30 days before the survey. Asian and Native American youth data is not available due to insufficient sample.



Who Uses Tobacco

Native American Youth

- **47.0%** of U.S. Native American youth reported current tobacco use.
- Data for Rhode Island Native American youth is currently unavailable.

Youth who are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, or Transgender

- **43.5%** of Rhode Island LGB youth reported current tobacco use.
- Data regarding transgender youth will soon become available.

Youth with Disabilities

- **35.9%** of Rhode Island youth who self-identified as having a disability (physical, emotional, and/or learning) reported current tobacco use.

Tobacco and Nicotine Products

- Today people can *smoke, chew, or sniff tobacco*. The tobacco industry is consistently creating and marketing new products to attract new users.

Tobacco Product Use* by Grade Level, Rhode Island, 2015

Type	Cigarette	Smokeless Tobacco	Cigars, Cigarillos, or Little Cigars	Hookah	E-Cigarette
2015 Rhode Island Middle School Current Usage Rates	0.9%**	1.0%	1.1%**	N/A	7.6%
2015 Rhode Island High School Current Usage Rates	4.8%**	5.3%	8.4%**	11.8%	19.3%

Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, *Health Risk Behavior Survey*, 2015.

Note: *Use is defined as current consumption of a given tobacco product at least one day during the 30 days before the survey. **Significant declines in current cigarette use (down from 4.1% in 2007 for middle school students and down from 35.4% in 1997 for high school students) and cigar use (down from 5.4% in 2007 for middle school students and down from 14.0% in 2001 for high school students) have been seen. Trend data for other products is either not significant or not available.

E-Cigarettes

- In 2014, The Rhode Island General Assembly passed a law prohibiting the sale of e-cigarettes to minors.
- In 2015, **7.6% of middle school** and **19.3% of high school** students reported e-cigarette use.

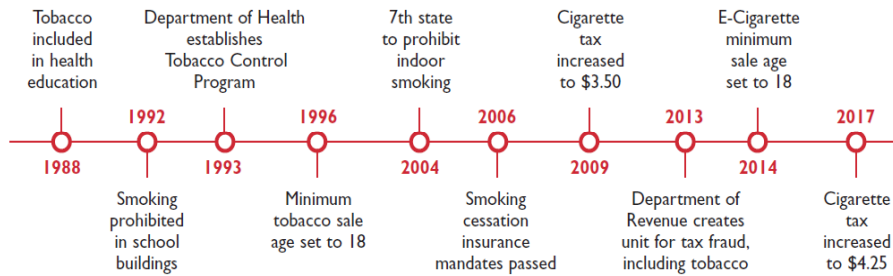


The health consequences of smoking-50 years of progress: A report of the Surgeon General. (2014).
Rockville, MD: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



State Tobacco Control Milestones

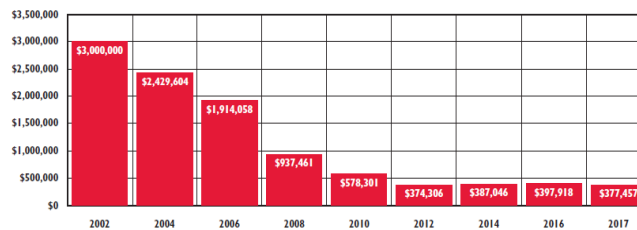
State implemented policies and programs play a key role in preventing youth from obtaining and using tobacco products.



Tobacco Control Funding

- The cigarette excise tax poses a potential funding stream for state tobacco control efforts.
- In SFY 2017, only **0.27%** of Rhode Island cigarette tax revenue (\$138 million) went toward tobacco control.

Tobacco Control Funding, Rhode Island General Revenue, State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2002-2017



Source: Rhode Island Department of Health Correspondence, 2017. Note: In addition to these funds, the Rhode Island Department of Health Tobacco Control Program receives on average between \$1 million and \$1.3 million federal grants per year.



Recommendations

- ❖ **Implement Youth Prevention Activities**
- ❖ **Use Tobacco Pricing as a Prevention Strategy**
- ❖ **End E-Cigarette Loopholes**
- ❖ **Prevent Secondhand Smoke**
- ❖ **Promote Quitting**
- ❖ **Increase Tobacco Control Funding**
- ❖ **Tobacco to 21**
- ❖ **Continue Data Collection and Reporting**
- ❖ **Enact Retail Restrictions**



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