In Virginia:
- 150,000 youth who are alive today will die prematurely from smoking.¹
- 7,300 youth become new, regular (daily) smokers each year.¹
- 9.7 million packs of cigarettes are bought or smoked by kids each year.¹

The Virginia Youth Survey was conducted during the fall semester of 2013. The survey was administered to students in randomly selected public schools (grades 6-12) in Virginia. Completed surveys were collected from 6,935 high school and 8,936 middle school students.


Cigarette Smoking in Virginia²
- 13% of middle school students and 35.5% of high school students have tried cigarette smoking (at least one or two puffs).
- 26.9% of high school students perceived that young people who smoke will definitely or probably have more friends.
- 7.9% of high school students started smoking before age 13.
- 12.0% of high school students who were current cigarette users reported having smoked more than 10 cigarettes per day during the past 30 days.
- 2.5% of middle school students and 11.1% of high school students tried smoking during the past 30 days.
- High school students were more likely to try smoking, and smoke in the past month.
- Among middle school students, Non-Hispanic Black students were more likely than Whites or Hispanics to try smoking.

- Since 2001, smoking among Virginia youth has been cut by more than 60% for high school students and has decreased 75% among middle school students (See Figure 1).³
Other Tobacco Use in Virginia

- 17.6% of high school students have smoked cigarettes or cigars or used chewing tobacco, snuff or dip during the past 30 days.
- With the exception of cigarettes, students were most likely to try smokeless tobacco and cigars or small cigars.
- Non-Hispanic Black high school students were more likely to use cigarillos or small cigars compared with Hispanic and White students.
- Male high school students (12.1%) were more likely than female high school students (3.1%) to use smokeless tobacco (chew, sniff, dip) during the past 30 days.
- High school students (9.5%) were more likely than middle school students (2.2%) to try smoking tobacco from a hookah or waterpipe, dissolvable tobacco products, or electronic cigarettes (See Table 1).

Smoking Cessation in Virginia

- 44.8% of high school students tried to quit smoking cigarettes during the past 12 months.
- Female high school students (48.9%) were more likely than males (41.1%) to try quitting smoking during the past 12 months.

Access to Tobacco in Virginia

- More than half (59%) of high school students and 47.5% of middle school students reported seeing promotions for cigarettes and other tobacco products when they visited a convenience store, supermarket, or gas station.
- 4.6% of middle school students reported buying their own cigarettes in a store or gas station during the past 30 days.

Exposure to Environmental Tobacco Smoke in Virginia

- 17.6% of high school students and 17.1% of middle school students live in households where smoking is allowed.
- 24.1% of middle school students and 25.4% of high school students reported that smoke is allowed inside the vehicle they ride in or drive most frequently.
Table 1. Other Tobacco Use*, Middle & High School Students, Virginia, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent (%) of students who use...</th>
<th>Percent (%) Middle School Students</th>
<th>Percent (%) High School Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hookah (waterpipes)</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-cigarettes</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissolvable tobacco product</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snus</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Most recently used; recently used was determined by asking, "Which of the following tobacco products have you tried most recently? (Select only one response.)

For more information about tobacco use and tobacco use control, contact the Virginia Department of Health’s Tobacco Use Control Project (TUCP) at (804)864-7749, or access information on our website [http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/ofhs/prevention/tucp/](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/ofhs/prevention/tucp/)

2 Virginia Department of Health (VDH), Office of Family Health Services (OFHS), and Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth (VFHY), Virginia Youth Survey, 2013. Available at: [http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/OFHS/youthsurvey/results.htm](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/OFHS/youthsurvey/results.htm)

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