



# Trends in the Prevalence of Tobacco Use

## National YRBS: 1991–2011

The national Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) monitors priority health risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth and adults in the United States. The national YRBS is conducted every two years during the spring semester and provides data representative of 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students in public and private schools throughout the United States.

1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	Changes from 1991–2011 <sup>1</sup>	Change from 2009–2011 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Ever tried cigarette smoking</b> (even one or two puffs)												
70.1 (67.8–72.3) <sup>3</sup>	69.5 (68.1–70.8)	71.3 (69.5–73.0)	70.2 (68.2–72.1)	70.4 (67.3–73.3)	63.9 (61.6–66.0)	58.4 (55.1–61.6)	54.3 (51.2–57.3)	50.3 (47.2–53.5)	46.3 (43.7–48.9)	44.7 (42.3–47.2)	No change, 1991–1999 Decreased, 1999–2011	No change
<b>Smoked cigarettes on a least 1 day</b> (during the 30 days before the survey)												
27.5 (24.8–30.3)	30.5 (28.6–32.4)	34.8 (32.5–37.2)	36.4 (34.1–38.7)	34.8 (32.3–37.4)	28.5 (26.4–30.6)	21.9 (19.8–24.2)	23.0 (20.7–25.5)	20.0 (17.6–22.6)	19.5 (17.9–21.2)	18.1 (16.7–19.5)	Increased, 1991–1997 Decreased, 1997–2011	No change
<b>Smoked cigarettes on 20 or more days</b> (during the 30 days before the survey)												
12.7 (10.6–15.3)	13.8 (12.1–15.5)	16.1 (13.6–19.1)	16.7 (14.8–18.7)	16.8 (14.3–19.6)	13.8 (12.3–15.5)	9.7 (8.3–11.3)	9.4 (7.9–11.0)	8.1 (6.7–9.8)	7.3 (6.4–8.3)	6.4 (5.8–7.1)	Increased, 1991–1999 Decreased, 1999–2011	No change
<b>Smoked cigarettes on school property on at least 1 day</b> (during the 30 days before the survey)												
NA <sup>4</sup>	13.2 (11.5–15.2)	16.0 (13.8–18.4)	14.6 (13.1–16.2)	14.0 (12.1–16.1)	9.9 (8.7–11.2)	8.0 (6.6–9.6)	6.8 (6.0–7.7)	5.7 (4.7–6.8)	5.1 (4.5–5.8)	4.9 (4.4–5.4)	No change, 1993–1995 Decreased, 1995–2011	No change
<b>Tried to quit smoking</b> (among students who currently smoked cigarettes, during the 12 months before the survey)												
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	57.4 (55.4–59.4)	53.8 (50.8–56.8)	54.6 (52.0–57.1)	49.7 (47.2–52.2)	50.8 (47.4–54.1)	49.9 (46.9–53.0)	Decreased, 2001–2011	No change
<b>Used chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip on at least 1 day</b> (during the 30 days before the survey)												
NA	NA	11.4 (9.8–13.2)	9.3 (7.3–11.8)	7.8 (5.8–10.4)	8.2 (6.8–9.9)	6.7 (5.3–8.5)	8.0 (6.6–9.6)	7.9 (6.3–9.8)	8.9 (7.3–10.8)	7.7 (6.6–9.0)	Decreased, 1995–2003 No change, 2003–2011	No change

1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	Changes from 1991–2011 <sup>1</sup>	Change from 2009–2011 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Smoked cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars on at least 1 day</b> (during the 30 days before the survey)												
NA	NA	NA	22.0 (19.9–24.2)	17.7 (16.1–19.5)	15.2 (14.0–16.5)	14.8 (13.2–16.7)	14.0 (12.6–15.6)	13.6 (12.1–15.2)	14.0 (12.8–15.4)	13.1 (12.2–14.1)	Decreased, 1997–2005 No change, 2005–2011	No change
<b>Smoked cigarettes; smoked cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars; or used chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip on at least 1 day</b> (during the 30 days before the survey)												
NA	NA	NA	43.4 (41.0–45.8)	40.2 (37.4–43.0)	33.9 (31.8–36.1)	27.5 (25.1–30.0)	28.4 (25.7–31.3)	25.7 (22.8–28.7)	26.0 (23.8–28.3)	23.4 (21.8–25.1)	Decreased, 1997–2007 No change, 2007–2011	No change

<sup>1</sup> Based on trend analyses using a logistic regression model controlling for sex, race/ethnicity, and grade.

<sup>2</sup> Based on t-test analyses,  $p < 0.05$ .

<sup>3</sup> 95% confidence interval.

<sup>4</sup> Not available.

Where can I get more information? Visit [www.cdc.gov/yrbss](http://www.cdc.gov/yrbss) or call 800–CDC–INFO (800–232–4636).



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