

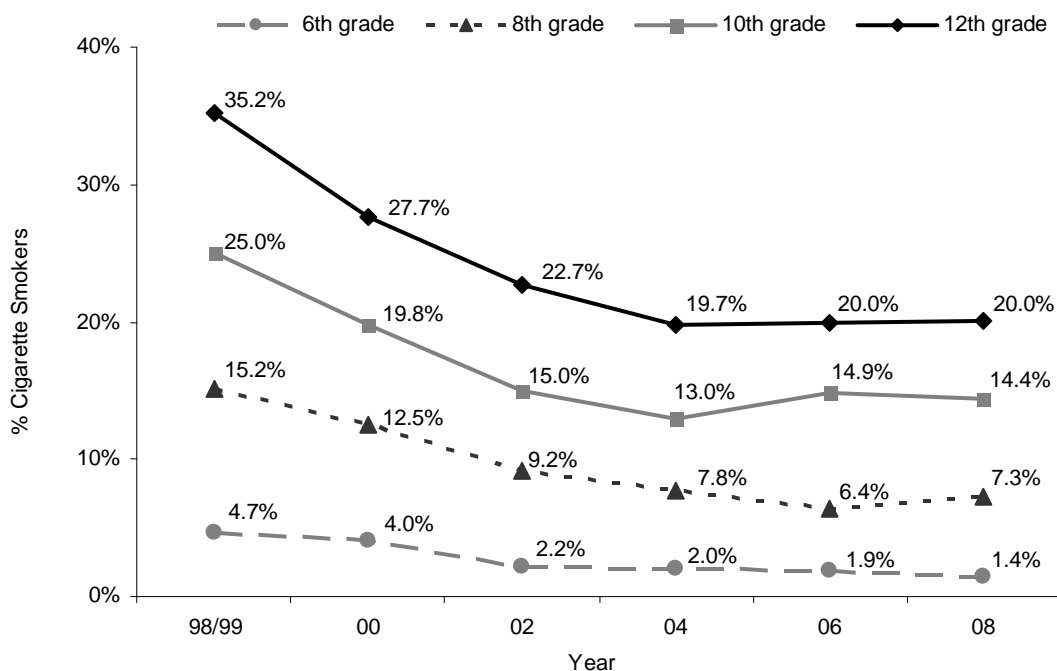
March 2009

2008 Healthy Youth Survey

Youth Cigarette Smoking

- According to the 2008 Health Youth Survey, the dramatic reductions in teen smoking have leveled off in recent years.
- About 14 percent of 10th-graders report they've smoked a cigarette at least once in the past 30 days, similar to the smoking rate in 2006.
- The rate of smoking among youth overall has dropped by about half since the launch of the Tobacco Prevention and Control Program in 2000. Specifically:
 - 6th-graders smoking is 1.4% (down 70 percent since 1998)
 - 8th-graders smoking is 7.3% (down 52 percent since 1998)
 - 10th-graders smoking is 14.4% (down 42 percent since 1999)
 - 12th-graders smoking is 20.0% (down 43 percent since 1999)
- Statewide there are about 65,000 fewer youth smoking (adjusted to Census 2000 population). This translates to nearly 13,000 kids who will be spared an early death.

Current Youth Cigarette Smoking by Grade



Other Tobacco Product Use

- Among youth who use tobacco, most use multiple types, such as flavored cigarettes, cigars or chew, along with cigarettes.
- About one in four 10th-graders used some type of tobacco in the past 30 days. Specifically:
 - About 16% smoked cigars, which is as high as cigarette smoking.
 - About 10% smoked tobacco from a hookah, which was measured for the first time in 2008.

Tobacco Prevention and Control Program Prevention Efforts

- The Tobacco Prevention and Control Program partners with local health departments, schools, tribes and community-based organizations to ensure youth receive tobacco prevention information at school, at work, at home, and where they socialize.
- Efforts to prevent youth from taking up the tobacco habit include support for youth groups, educational programs in schools, concert sponsorships, and a cutting-edge multi-media ad campaign and Web site (www.NoStankYou.com). The department also works with retailers to make it more difficult for youth to buy tobacco products.

2008 Healthy Youth Survey

- The 2008 Healthy Youth Survey was taken anonymously by more than 210,000 students, in 247 districts and 1094 schools statewide. It tracks health behaviors and attitudes, such as tobacco among sixth, eighth, 10th and 12th graders.
- The survey occurs every two years and is a collaborative effort of the Department of Health, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Department of Social and Health Services, Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development, Governor's Family Policy Council, and the Liquor Control Board.