

Prevalence of Cigarette Smoking, Use of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems, and Dual Use by Youth, Young Adults, and Adults in NYS, 2014

Electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes), or electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS), are battery-powered devices that heat a solution of liquid nicotine and other chemicals creating an emission which is inhaled by the user. ENDS are not regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and little is known about the contents of ENDS liquid. Likewise, their usefulness as a cessation device is unproven. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director Tom Frieden, M.D., M.P.H., “Nicotine exposure at a young age may cause lasting harm to brain development, promote addiction, and lead to sustained tobacco use.”¹ This is the first report on ENDS use in NYS.

- The prevalence of ENDS use among high school students (10.5%) and young adults (12.7%) is about twice as high as the prevalence of ENDS use among adults (5.7%).²
- There is no evidence that youth are substituting ENDS for cigarettes. In fact, more than half of high school students and young adults who smoke cigarettes also use ENDS, making dual use of cigarettes and ENDS the norm.
- Among the 7.3% of high school students who are current smokers, 56.5% also use ENDS.³ Among the 14.2% of young adult smokers (age 18-24 years), 54.9% use ENDS. Among the 17.3% of adult smokers (age 25 and older), ENDS use is significantly lower, at 24.0%.

Cigarette, Electronic Nicotine Delivery System Use, and Dual Use in NYS, 2014

Figure 1: Prevalence of Cigarette Smoking and ENDS Use by Age Group

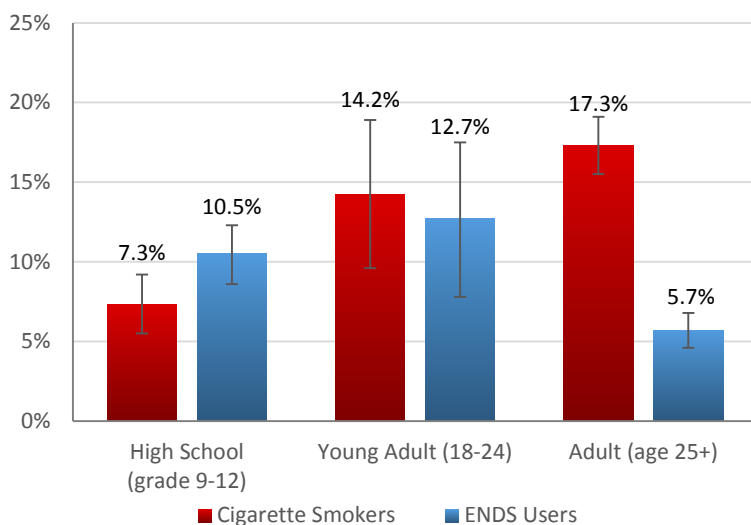
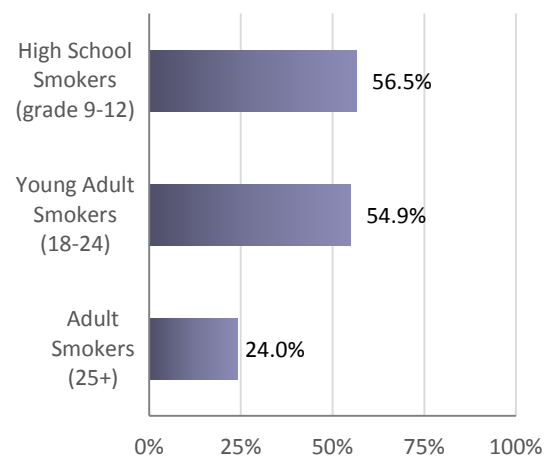


Figure 2: Percent of Cigarette Smokers who Also Use ENDS by Age Group



1. CDC. E-cigarette use triples among middle and high school students in just one year. [Press Release]. April 16, 2015. <http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2015/p0416-e-cigarette-use.html>. 2. ENDS use among high school youth is measured in the Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS) by an affirmative (non-zero) answer to the following question, “During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use electronic cigarettes or e-cigarettes such as blu, 21st Century Smoke, or NJOY?” ENDS use among adults is measured in the Adult Tobacco Survey (ATS) by an affirmative answer to the following question, “Do you now use Electronic Cigarettes or E-cigarettes, such as Blu or NJOY every day, some days, rarely, or not at all?” 3. Youth cigarette smoking is measured using the YTS, and is defined as an individual under the age of 18 smoking a cigarette on at least one of the past 30 days. An adult cigarette smoker, measured using the ATS for this report (it is also measured using the BRFSS), is an individual over the age of 18 who has smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and currently smokes on at least some days.