2016 Tobacco Data Pages

Division of Health Surveillance
March 2019
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Established in 2001, the Vermont Tobacco Control Program (VTCP) is a comprehensive statewide program administered by the Vermont Department of Health (VDH) with funding from the Master Settlement Agreement and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The VTCP implements policy, systems, and environmental level state and community interventions, mass-reach health communication interventions, and cessation interventions while conducting ongoing surveillance of tobacco use in Vermont and evaluation of program efforts to make progress in achieving VTCP goals:

- Promote quitting among adults and youth
- Eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke
- Prevent initiation of tobacco use among youth and young adults
- Identify and eliminate tobacco-related disparities among population groups

The Tobacco Data Pages are designed as a quick reference for the most current and pertinent data on tobacco use among adults and youth in Vermont. This document combines several Vermont health surveillance data sources, including:

- 2016 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)
- 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)
- 2016 Adult Tobacco Survey (ATS)

Information about data sources and notes can be found at the end of this document.
Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS): Telephone survey that tracks health risk behaviors of Vermont non-institutionalized adults. The results are used to plan, support, and evaluate health promotion and disease prevention programs. Since 1990, Vermont, along with the 49 other states and three territories, has participated in the BRFSS with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). An adult (18 or older) in the household is asked a uniform set of questions. The results are weighted to represent the adult population of the state.

Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS): Every two years since 1993, the Department of Health's Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs, and the Department of Education's Coordinated School Health Programs have sponsored the YRBS. The YRBS measures the prevalence of behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death, disease, and injury among youth. The YRBS is part of a larger effort to help communities increase the “resiliency” of young people by reducing high risk behaviors and promoting healthy behaviors.

Vermont Adult Tobacco Survey (VTATS): The VTATS is a population-based telephone survey used to help evaluate the effectiveness of the Vermont Tobacco Control Program’s (VTCP) efforts to reduce smoking and increase awareness and knowledge of smoking-related issues among Vermont adults. This evaluation tool is not part of a national survey and data should not be directly compared to that from other states. The results are weighted to represent the adult population of the state.
Confidence Intervals used for statistical comparisons: A confidence interval represents the range in which a parameter estimate could fall, which is calculated based on the observed data. For this analysis, we used a 95% confidence interval, meaning that we are 95% confident that the true value of the parameter being examined falls within the specified confidence interval. Statistical significance is assessed by comparing the confidence intervals of different groups. If the confidence intervals from two groups, such as that for the state and a specific county, do not overlap we consider the estimates to be significantly different from one another.

Age Adjustment: Measures from BRFSS are adjusted for age only if they are Healthy Vermonters 2020 goals. Age adjustment groupings come from those determined by Healthy People 2020.

Federal poverty level (FPL) is a federal measure calculated from both annual household income and family size. FPL is used to determine eligibility for government assistance programs. People living below 250% FPL, for example, are still considered low income, often lacking sufficient income to meet basic needs.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definitions</th>
<th>Adult</th>
<th>High school/college</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current smoker</td>
<td>Smoked at least 100 cigarettes in life and now smokes every or some days</td>
<td>Smoked at least one cigarette during the past 30 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former Smoker</td>
<td>Smoked at least 100 cigarettes in life but does not currently smoke</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quit Attempt</td>
<td>Made at least one quit attempt in the last 12 months</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other tobacco product/tobacco substitute user (OTP)</td>
<td>Uses OTP/tobacco substitute everyday or some days</td>
<td>Used OTP/tobacco substitute during the past 30 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home smoking ban</td>
<td>Don’t allow any smoking anywhere in their home (considered to allow smoking if smoking was permitted in some places or at some times in their home or if there were no rules about smoking in their home).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondhand smoke exposure</td>
<td>Someone other than yourself smoked tobacco in your home or you were in a car with someone smoking tobacco or you breathed the smoke from someone who was smoking tobacco in an indoor or outdoor public space during the past seven days</td>
<td>In the same room or car as someone who was smoking during the past seven days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability Types</td>
<td>Mobility: serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs. Cognitive: serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions. Visual: blindness or serious difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses. Hearing: deafness or serious difficulty hearing. Self-Care: difficulty dressing or bathing. Independent Living: difficulty doing errands alone.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Executive Summary

Tobacco Use Among Adults & Youth

Among adults, smoking prevalence has remained statistically unchanged since 2011 (20% to 18%). However, among youth, smoking has decreased significantly in the past decade (15% to 9%). 2016 smoking prevalence in Vermont is similar to the national average for adults and youth. Disparities in smoking prevalence based on age, income, education, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation/gender identity, and disability have been consistent over time. Adults that are not able to live independently or take care of themselves, and those with a cognitive or hearing disability have an especially high smoking rate. Among youth, males, youth of color, and LGBT youth have significantly higher smoking rates than high school females, white non-Hispanic, and heterosexual youth.

The use of other tobacco products (OTP) continues to be of increasing concern, particularly among cigarette smokers and youth. While the use of OTPs has remained stable among adults since 2012, the use of multiple tobacco products is common. Of the 24% of Vermont adults that used any tobacco product, including cigarettes, 22% reported currently using at least two products. The most common tobacco product used among youth in 2017 was an electronic vapor product (EVP): 12% of all youth and 67% of youth smokers reported using an EVP in the past 30 days. From 2015 to 2017, there was a significant decrease in other tobacco product use (cigar products, EVPs, and smokeless tobacco) among youth overall. However, there was a significant increase in cigar and EVP use among youth who also smoked cigarettes.
Tobacco Use Initiation

Overall, 8% of high school students reported trying a cigarette, even one or two puffs, before age 13. Early initiation of tobacco in Vermont was statistically similar to the national average of 10% in 2017. Disparities in initiation are similar to youth smoking overall: significantly more male, youth of color, and LGBT students tried a cigarette before age 13 compared to females, white non-Hispanic, and heterosexual youth.

Cessation

Twenty-seven percent of Vermont adults are former smokers; two-thirds quit more than ten years ago and a quarter quit within the past five years. Half of current adult smokers made a quit attempt in 2016. This is statistically similar to past years, but was statistically lower than the 59% seen among all U.S. adult smokers. There are also significantly fewer adult and youth tobacco users in Vermont who attempted to quit in the past year compared to the U.S. (33% versus 41%). There were few demographic differences in quit attempts. A variety of cessation methods were reported among current and former adult smokers in their most recent quit attempt; the highest percentage were those who tried to quit on their own (69% and 75%, respectively), talked with a health care professional (43% and 29%), used Nicotine Replacement Therapy (37% and 31%) or used an e-cigarette (21% and 21%). The proportion of current smokers who used an e-cigarette as a cessation method has remained statistically stable since 2012 (19% to 21%).
Executive Summary

Secondhand Smoke

Secondhand smoke (SHS) exposure has not significantly changed from 2008 to 2016, regardless of smoking status. Disparities in SHS exposure mirror those seen in smoking prevalence. This is especially true for people of color and those living at less than 250% FPL, who are 1.5 times more likely to report SHS exposure compared to white non-Hispanic adults and those living at or above 250% federal poverty level (FPL). The vast majority of Vermont adults (87%) report that they do not allow smoking anywhere inside their home. Non-smokers were more likely to support public smoking bans when compared to smokers, with the largest difference in support for banning smoking in outdoor public places. The most supported smoke-free policy among smokers and non-smokers is banning smoking in public entryways.

Tobacco Control Program Priorities

To further reduce tobacco use and burden in the state, the VTCP tailors strategies to reach priority populations that experience the greatest disparities in tobacco use. One priority population is adults who are Medicaid-insured. Through collaborative efforts with the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA), which administers Medicaid in Vermont, the state has seen an increase in cessation treatment and support provided by health care professionals serving Medicaid-insured patients from 2015 to 2016. The VTCP similarly works towards reducing the disparate burden felt by those with mental health and substance-use disorders. Among adults with one of these conditions, smoking prevalence is two to three times higher and, among youth, three to sixteen times higher than those without a mental health or substance abuse condition.
Tobacco Use Among Adults & Youth
In 2016, 18% of adults were current smokers. This represents 83,000 adults compared to 95,000 adults in 2011. Smoking prevalence has been statistically unchanged since 2011.

In 2017, 9% of high school students were current smokers. This represents 2,500 youth smokers compared to 4,500 in 2011. Cigarette smoking among students has decreased significantly in the past decade.


*Adult data on this page are age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 population. Estimated counts rounded to the nearest thousand and not age-adjusted.

Comparisons between adult (BRFSS) data collected in 2011 and later and that from earlier years should be made with caution due to changes in survey methodology.
Among adults, prevalence of smoking in Vermont has been statistically similar to the U.S. rate since 2011. Vermont is ranked 24th lowest in adult smoking prevalence among all states (Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, 2018).

Source: VT & US BRFSS 2011-2016, VT.

*Adult data on this page are age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 population
In 2011, the smoking prevalence among youth in Vermont was significantly lower than the U.S. Since 2013, youth smoking prevalence in Vermont and the U.S. has been statistically similar.

Across VT counties, the smoking prevalence ranged from 13 to 26% among adults. The smoking rate in Chittenden county was lower than the statewide average of 18%, while Orleans and Rutland were higher.

The smoking rate in the Burlington Health District and Hospital Service Area was significantly lower than the statewide average, while Newport Health District and Hospital Service Area was higher.
Across VT counties, the smoking prevalence ranged from 6% to 17% among high school students. The smoking rates in Chittenden were lower than the state average of 9%, while Essex and Orleans were higher.

The smoking rates in the Burlington Health District and Hospital Service Area were significantly lower than the statewide average, while Newport and Springfield Health Districts and Hospital Service Areas were higher.

Source: YRBS 2017
In 2016, smoking prevalence was significantly higher for adults with lower education and adults living at less than 250% of the federal poverty level (FPL).**

Adults 65 and older were significantly less likely to smoke compared to those in younger age groups. Adults 25-34 were significantly more likely to smoke compared to those age 55 and older.

Adults who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) were significantly more likely to smoke compared to those who identify as heterosexual/cisgender.

There were no significant differences in cigarette smoking over time (since 2011) for any of these demographic characteristics.

**Definition of federal poverty level (FPL) can be found at the beginning of this document in Data Notes.

Source: VT BRFSS 2016

*All data on this page are age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 population, except that broken down by age
Smoking by Demographic Characteristics: Adult & Youth

- In Vermont, adult men were significantly more likely to report smoking than women. People of Color were significantly more likely to smoke compared to white non-Hispanic adults.
- Male high school students were significantly more likely to smoke compared to female students. Among high school students, the prevalence of cigarette use was statistically higher among People of Color compared to white non-Hispanic youth.

Adult and Youth Cigarette Smoking by Gender and Race/Ethnicity

Source: VT BRFSS 2016 & YRBS 2017

*Adult data on this page are age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 population.
There was a significant decrease in cigarette smoking in the last two years and from 2011 to 2017 for all youth, regardless of gender or race/ethnicity. Although still significantly different, the disparity between youth of color and white non-Hispanic adolescents lessened between 2015 and 2017.

Prevalence of Cigarette Smoking Among High School Students, 2011-2017

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Source: YRBS 2011-2017
In 2016, adults with disabilities were significantly more likely to smoke compared to those without a disability. Adults that are not able to live independently or take care of themselves, and those with a cognitive or hearing disability have an especially high smoking prevalence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bottom Dis.</th>
<th>Cognitive</th>
<th>Independent Living</th>
<th>Hearing</th>
<th>Visual</th>
<th>Mobility</th>
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<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cigarette Smoking Prevalence by Disability Type**

Source: VT BRFSS 2016

*Adult data on this page are age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 population.

**Definitions of each disability type can be found at the beginning of this document.
In 2016, there were 22,000 adults in Vermont who used e-cigarettes (4%), 28,000 who used cigar products (6%), and 12,000 who used smokeless tobacco (2%).

Adult smokers were significantly more likely to use other tobacco products (OTP) compared to non-smokers. This is especially evident for cigar product and e-cigarette use.

Of the 24% of Vermont adults that use any tobacco product, including cigarettes, 22% report currently using at least two products (data not shown).

Other Tobacco Product Use among Adults by Smoking Status, 2016*

- Overall
- Smoker
- Non-smoker

Source: VT ATS 2016

*Adult OTP use defined as current use everyday or some days. Estimated counts are rounded to the nearest thousand and not age-adjusted.
Use of other tobacco products among adults, including electronic cigarettes, cigars, and smokeless tobacco has remained stable since 2012. This is true regardless of smoking status (data not shown).

Other Tobacco Product Use among Adults
2012-2016

- Smokeless
- E-Cigarettes
- Cigar Products

Source: VT ATS 2012-2016
In 2017, there were 3,000 high school youth in Vermont who used electronic vapor products (EVP) (12%), 2,500 who used cigar products (9%), and 1,400 who used smokeless tobacco (5%). High school youth smokers were significantly more likely to use other tobacco products (OTP) compared to non-smokers. VT youth reported a significantly higher rate of cigar product use compared to the U.S. (9% versus 8%). Prevalence of youth EVP and smokeless use was similar in VT and the U.S. (U.S. data not shown).

High School Youth

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Smoker</th>
<th>Non-Smoker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EVP</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cigar Products</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smokeless</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: VT YRBS 2017

NOTE: Estimated counts are rounded to the nearest hundred. Youth OTP use defined as use in the past 30 days.

*See data notes at end of document for more information about the definition of EVP use among youth.
Trend in Tobacco Product Use among Youth

- There were significant decreases in the use of cigarettes, cigar products and smokeless tobacco* among high school youth from 2011 to 2017, and from 2015 to 2017.
- There was a significant decrease in e-cigarette use** among high school youth from 2015 to 2017. However, there was a significant increase in the percent of students who have ever tried e-cigarettes (30% in 2015 to 34% in 2017; data not shown).

Tobacco Product Use among High School Youth, past 30 day
2011 - 2017

Cigarettes 15%  
Cigar Products 13%  
Smokeless 8%  
E-Cigarettes 15%  
  2011  2013  2015  2017

Source: YRBS, 2011 – 2017

*Caution should be used when comparing smokeless tobacco use in 2017 and previous years because the number of products and brand names listed in the question were revised to reflect emerging forms of smokeless tobacco.

**E-cigarette use was a new question in 2015. See data notes at end of document for definition of e-cigarette use among youth.
Trend in Other Tobacco Product Use among Youth Smokers and Non-Smokers

- EVP and cigar product use among youth smokers significantly increased from 2015 to 2017.
- Smokeless tobacco product use among youth smokers remained statistically similar from 2015 to 2017.
- Among non-smokers, use of all three tobacco products significantly decreased from 2015 to 2017.

Source: YRBS, 2015 – 2017
There was a significant decrease in any tobacco product use (cigarettes, cigar products, and smokeless tobacco) among high school youth from 2011 to 2017.

When e-cigarettes were included in any tobacco product use, there was a significant decrease from 2015 to 2017.*

A quarter of students (24%) used any tobacco product in the past year (data not shown).

In 2017, the rate of any tobacco product use in Vermont (19%) was statistically similar to the national rate (20%) (data not shown).

Any Tobacco Product Use Among High School Youth, past 30 day

- Any tobacco (cigars, smokeless & cigarettes)
- Any tobacco plus e-cigarettes*

Source: YRBS, 2011 – 2017

*Caution should be used when comparing smokeless tobacco use in 2017 and previous years because the number of products and brand names listed in the question were revised to reflect emerging forms of smokeless tobacco. E-cigarette use was a new question in 2015. See data notes at end of document for definition of e-cigarette use among youth.
Across VT counties, health districts, and hospital service areas, the prevalence of e-cigarette use varied from 9% to a high of 23%.

Overall, Chittenden and Caledonia counties, and Burlington, St. Johnsbury, and Middlebury Health Districts and Hospital Service Areas had significantly lower rates than the state average (12%), while the southern and northeastern regions of Vermont had a significantly higher rate.

Source: YRBS, 2017
Among students who currently used electronic vapor products, a little over a third (37%) used them once or twice during the past month and 15% used them every day.

Among students who currently used cigarettes, less than a third (29%) used them once or twice during the past month and a quarter (25%) used them every day.

Source: VT YRBS, 2017
Source of Cigarettes & EVPs among Users Under Age 18

Cigarette Source (2015), Current Users Under Age 18‡

- Got them from person 18+: 39%
- Some other way: 14%
- Gave someone money to buy: 29%
- Bought them online: 2%
- Bought them in a store: 9%
- Took them from store or person: 8%

Electronic Vapor Source (2017), Current Users Under Age 18 ‡

- Got them from person 18+: 49%
- Some other way: 18%
- Gave someone money to buy: 14%
- Bought them online: 10%
- Bought them in a store: 8%
- Took them from store or person: 2%

Source: VT YRBS, 2015 & 2017

‡ The current legal age to purchase tobacco products, including EVP is 18. Therefore, this figure only contains students who are not legally able to purchase and use EVP.
Tobacco Use Initiation
Overall, 8% of high school students reported trying a cigarette, even one or two puffs, before age 13. Vermont prevalence was statistically similar to the national average of 10% in 2017.

Significantly more high school males, students of color, and LGBT students tried a cigarette before age 13 compared to females, white non-Hispanic, and heterosexual students.

NOTE: In 2017, questions about lifetime cigarette use were modified from ever smoked a whole cigarette to ever tried cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs. Lifetime cigarette use now captures students who may have experimented with cigarette smoking without ever smoking an entire cigarette. Data on lifetime cigarette use cannot be compared with previous results.

Source: YRBS 2017
### Exposure to Tobacco Promotions

- Adult smokers were significantly more likely to notice tobacco at sales prices, special promotions, and coupons for tobacco as compared to non-smokers.
- Over half of high school students (55%) reported seeing an ad for cigarettes or other tobacco products every time or most of the time they go to a convenience store, supermarket, or gas station (data not shown).

#### Adult Exposure to Tobacco Promotions

- **Tobacco at sale prices**: 52% for smokers, 31% for non-smokers.
- **Special promotions (e.g. Buy-One-Get-One-Free)**: 39% for smokers, 15% for non-smokers.
- **Coupons for tobacco**: 33% for smokers, 9% for non-smokers.

Source: VT ATS 2016
In comparison to adult smokers, adult non-smokers were significantly more likely to believe that tobacco advertising encourages young people to smoke and targets certain groups such as young adults, low income groups and specific ethnic groups. Non-smokers were also more likely to agree that cigarette ads should be banned from the outside of stores.

The largest difference in agreement was whether tobacco advertisements target certain groups: only half of smokers* agreed compared to three-quarters of non-smokers.

Source: VT ATS 2016

*Smokers includes adults who currently smoke or smoked in the past year.
Among adults, non-smokers were significantly more likely to be in favor of requiring warning labels on cigarette packs, banning tobacco sales near schools, banning tobacco sales from pharmacies, banning tobacco product displays, and limiting the number of stores that sell tobacco.

Smokers most supported banning tobacco sales near schools.

Adult Attitudes on Sale Restriction Policies

- Ban sale near schools: 42% of smokers vs. 62% of non-smokers
- Pharmacy ban: 30% of smokers vs. 51% of non-smokers
- Limit number of tobacco stores: 25% of smokers vs. 46% of non-smokers

Source: VT ATS 2016
Cessation
Among Vermont adults, 55% have never smoked and 27% formerly smoked cigarettes. Of those that successfully quit, two-thirds did so more than ten years ago. A quarter quit within the last five years.

Source: VT BRFSS 2016

*Adult smoking status is age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 population.
Among adults smokers, 49% said they made a quit attempt in the past 12 months. While the proportion of smokers making a quit attempt decreased from 2015 to 2016, the change is not statistically significant. This also remains similar to the 2011 rate.

The proportion of adult smokers who made a quit attempt in VT is statistically lower than the 59% seen among all U.S. adult smokers.

Among students who used any tobacco product during the past year, a third (33%) tried to quit using all products. The proportion of students with a quit attempt was statistically lower in Vermont than the U.S. (41%; data not shown).

Prevalence of Quit Attempts among Adult Smokers*


*Adult data on this page are age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 population.

— Comparisons between adult (BRFSS) data collected in 2011 and later and that from earlier years should be made with caution due to changes in survey methodology.

**Historical youth data (YRBS) is not available due to question changes.
Quit Attempts by Demographic Characteristics: Adults

- There were no statistically significant differences in quit attempts by education, FPL, age, or sexual orientation.

- When exploring the trend from 2011 to 2016, there were no significant differences in quit attempts among current smokers by education, FPL, or age group (data not shown).

Quit Attempts among Current Adult Smokers by Demographic Characteristics:

- High school or less: 48%
- Some college: 50%
- College or more: 54%
- <250% FPL: 50%
- ≥250% FPL: 47%
- 18-24: 49%
- 25-34: 53%
- 35-44: 54%
- 45-54: 48%
- 55-64: 52%
- 65+: 38%
- LGBT: 41%
- Heterosexual/Cisgender: 50%

Source: VT BRFSS 2016

*All data on this page are age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 population, except that broken down by age
In 2016, there were no significant differences in quit attempts by gender or race/ethnicity.

From 2011 to 2016, there was no significant difference in quit attempts for males or females.

While not a statistically significant difference, quit attempts among People of Color increased from 2014 to 2016 and decreased among white, non-Hispanic adults.

Source: VT BRFSS 2011-2016

*Adult data on this page are age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 population.
Male students were significantly less likely than female students to attempt to quit using all tobacco products during the past year.

LGBT students were significantly more likely than heterosexual/cisgender students to attempt to quit using all tobacco products during the past year.

There were no statistically significant differences in quit attempts by grade or race/ethnicity.

Source: VT YRBS 2017
During their most recent quit attempt, 69% of current adult smokers tried to quit without help. In comparison, a slightly higher percentage (75%) of those that quit smoking within the last five years reported that they quit on their own.

The most common cessation methods among both current and former smokers are quitting on your own, talking with a health care provider, and using NRT or e-cigarettes.

The proportion of current smokers who reported use of an e-cigarette as a cessation method has remained statistically stable since 2012 (from 19% to 21%).

Note: Total is greater than 100% because respondents could choose multiple cessation methods.

*Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT), includes use of nicotine patch, gum, or lozenges.

Source: VT ATS 2016
Adult secondhand smoke exposure has not significantly changed from 2008 to 2016, regardless of smoking status.

Secondhand Smoke Exposure Among Adults, Stratified by Smoking Status

Source: VT ATS 2008 - 2016

*Data on this page are age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 population.
Since 2009, youth secondhand smoke exposure has significantly declined overall, as well among both smoking and non-smoking high school students.

Youth smokers consistently report significantly higher rates of secondhand smoke exposure than non-smokers. While there was a significant decline in secondhand smoke exposure overall between 2015 to 2017, this was only among youth non-smokers.

**Source:** YRBS 2009 - 2017
Vermonters with a college education or more were significantly less likely to report exposure to smoke compared to those with less education. Conversely, those with less than a high school education were significantly more likely to report exposure than those with more education.

Those who were at or above 250% FPL were significantly less likely to report smoke exposure than those who were below 250% FPL.

Younger adults (age 18-44) were significantly more likely to report secondhand smoke exposure compared to adults 45 and older.

Source: VT ATS 2016

*Data on this page are age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 population, with the exception of age.
Among adults, People of Color were significantly more likely to report secondhand smoke exposure compared to white, non-Hispanic adults. There were no significant differences in secondhand smoke exposure based on gender.

Among youth, People of Color were significantly more likely to report secondhand smoke exposure compared to white, non-Hispanic Vermonters. There were no significant differences based on gender.

Source: VT ATS 2016 & VT YRBS 2017

*Adult data on this page are age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 population.
Among adults, secondhand smoke exposure was most likely in a public place, regardless of smoking status. Smokers** were significantly more likely to report secondhand smoke exposure in the past week, regardless of location.

High school students were most likely exposed to secondhand smoke in a room, although almost three-quarters of youth smokers were also exposed to secondhand smoke in a vehicle.

Source: VT ATS 2016, VT YRBS 2017

*Adult data on this page are age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 population.

**Smokers includes adults that current smoke and those that smoked in the past year.
The vast majority of Vermont adults (87%) report that they do not allow smoking anywhere inside their home.

Non-smokers (91%) and adults with children in their home (94%) were significantly more likely to report a home smoking ban than smokers (69%) and those without children in their home (84%) (data not shown).

Source: VT ATS 2016

*Smokers includes adults that current smoke and those that smoked in the past year.
A large proportion of non-smokers were in favor of banning smoking in public entryways (74%) or outdoor public places (69%).

More than half of smokers (58%) were in favor of banning smoking in public entryways.

When compared to current smokers, non-smokers were significantly more likely to support each smoke-free policy. The largest difference in support was the ban in outdoor public places.

Vermont Adults in Favor of Public Smoking Bans

- **Public entryways**: 74% non-smokers vs. 58% smokers
- **Outdoor ban**: 69% non-smokers vs. 41% smokers
- **Multi-unit housing**: 61% non-smokers vs. 38% smokers

Source: VT ATS 2016
Tobacco Control Program Priorities
CPT codes for reimbursement of cessation counseling for Medicaid-insured patients were turned on in January 2014. CPT codes included 99406 (cessation counseling 3 – 10 minutes) and 99407 (cessation counseling greater than 10 minutes).

There has been a steady increase in provider utilization of these CPT codes over the past few years, with a 45% increase in the last year (2015 to 2016) and a 123% increase since 2014. The vast majority of cessation counseling is brief (3-10 minutes).

1,722 unique Medicaid members received cessation counseling in 2016.

**Number of Paid Claims for Cessation Counseling for Medicaid-Insured Patients**

- CPT Code: 99406
- CPT Code: 99407

Source: Department of Vermont Health Access, 2017.

*Code utilization is estimated by claims dates of service.
There has been an increase in NRT prescription claims for Medicaid members since 2011, with the largest increase between 2014 and 2015.

The NRT categories that consistently have the highest claims are the Nicotine Patch, Gum, Lozenge, and Chantix. Almost half of NRT claims are for the Nicotine Patch. From 2012 to 2016, there has been an increase in the percentage of claims for nicotine gum and a decrease for Chantix.

The number of registrants to the Vermont Department of Health Quitline has been decreasing since 2014. While there was an increase in the proportion of Medicaid registrants from 2013 through 2015, the proportion remained stable from 2015 to 2016. This is most likely because of similar declines in the number of Medicaid and non-Medicaid registrations in the last year.

**VDH Quitline Registrants by Insurance Type (2013-2016)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Medicaid*</th>
<th>Non-Medicaid</th>
<th>Total Quitline Registrants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>1,194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>1,233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>1,474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>1,332</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: National Jewish Health, Vermont Quitline and Quit Online Intake Data, 2013-2016

*The number of Medicaid insured excludes registrants that are insured by both Medicaid and Medicare*
In 2016, 32% of Medicaid registrants heard about Vermont Quitline services from a medical provider. This rate was not statistically different from previous years.

Mental Health & Substance Use: Adults

- Adults who use marijuana were 3 times more likely to smoke cigarettes compared to those who did not use marijuana (41% versus 14%).
- Adults with depression and those who binge drink were about 2 times as likely to smoke cigarettes as those who did not have these conditions.

Adult Smoking Prevalence by Mental Health and Substance Use

Source: VT BRFSS 2016

NOTE: Adult data on this page are age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 population.

*Depression defined as diagnosis of depressive disorder, including depression, major depression, dysthymia, or minor depression.
High school youth who use marijuana were 16 times more likely to smoke cigarettes than those who do not use marijuana (32% versus 2%).

High school youth who binge drink were 8 times more likely to smoke cigarettes compared to those who do not binge drink.

High school youth with depression were 3 times more likely to smoke cigarettes compared to those without depression.

Youth Smoking Prevalence by Mental Health and Substance Use

32% | Yes
---|---
2% | No

31% | Yes
---|---
4% | No

18% | Yes
---|---
6% | No

Source: VT YRBS 2017

*Depression defined as a youth who felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that stopped them from doing usual activities in the past 12 months.
For Additional Information

Vermont Tobacco Control Program:  

Vermont Tobacco Surveillance:  
http://www.healthvermont.gov/prevent/tobacco/surveillance.aspx

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