Current Cigarette Smoking

Since 1999, the high school cigarette smoking rate in Utah has declined by 68%. In 2017, 3.8% of Utah students in grades 9 to 12 reported that they had smoked a cigarette within the past 30 days. Comprehensive tobacco prevention and cessation programs and Utah cigarette excise tax increases in 2002 and 2010 are linked to declines in youth smoking. Continuing declines in youth smoking are expected to lead to less nicotine addiction among adults.

Smoking Experimentation

Since 1999, the percentage of Utah high school students who experimented with cigarette smoking has declined by 57%. In 2017, about one-sixth of Utah high school students reported that they had ever tried cigarette smoking (16.7%). In the U.S., the percentage of high school students who reported that they had ever tried cigarette smoking was 32.3% (2015), nearly twice as high as the Utah rate.

Cigarette Smoking by Sex

Since 2005, female high school students have reported lower rates of current cigarette smoking than male students. The differences in smoking rates between male and female students are not statistically significant. In 2017, 4.3% of male students and 3.0% of female students reported current smoking. Both rates were lower than any rates reported in previous years.

References


*Note: Data for 2015 are missing since the survey response rate was too low to allow for weighted estimates.