

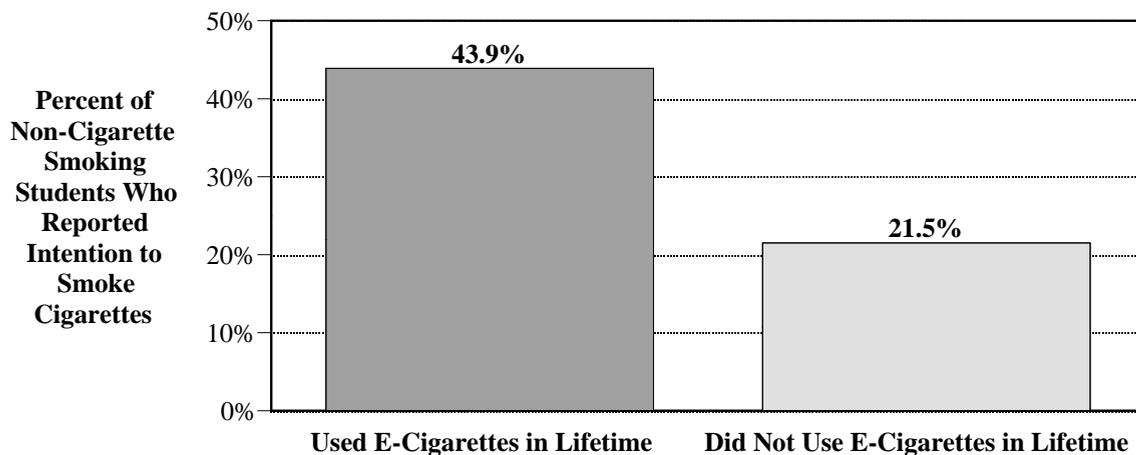
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Study Finds E-Cigarette Use Among Non-Smoking Youth Associated with Intentions to Smoke Conventional Cigarettes

Slightly more than one-fifth (21.9%) of 6th-12th grade students who have never smoked cigarettes say they intend* to use tobacco cigarettes in the future, according to data from the 2011-2013 National Youth Tobacco Survey. Non-smoking youth who had ever used e-cigarettes were nearly twice as likely to have intentions to smoke conventional cigarettes in the future than those who had never tried e-cigarettes (43.9% vs. 21.5%; see figure below). While it is not possible in this study to determine the causal direction of the association between e-cigarette use and intention to smoke, the authors conclude that “[i]rrespective of causality, nonsmoking youth who use e-cigarettes have nearly double the rate of smoking intention, a finding which, from a public health perspective, merits prevention efforts to protect youth” (p. 7).

Percentage of Non-Cigarette Smoking U.S. Middle and High School Students Reporting Intention to Smoke Tobacco Cigarettes, by E-Cigarette User Status, 2011-2013



*The two questions used to define cigarette smoking intention were future intention (use one year from now) and peer influence (would you smoke if a best friend offered you a cigarette).

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Bunnell, R.E., et. al., “Intentions to Smoke Cigarettes Among Never-Smoking U.S. Middle and High School Electronic Cigarette Users, National Youth Tobacco Survey, 2011-2013,” *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* 17(2):228-235, 2015. For more information, contact Rebecca Bunnell at rrb7@cdc.gov.

Join the NDEWS Network to Share Information About Emerging Drug Trends

The NDEWS Network is an open virtual community of substance abuse experts and concerned citizens who engage in regular interactions with colleagues across the country, exchanging information and ideas about new and emerging drugs and drug trends. Visit www.ndews.org for information on how to join the Network.

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