

Oklahoma Youth Tobacco Survey

Preliminary Report

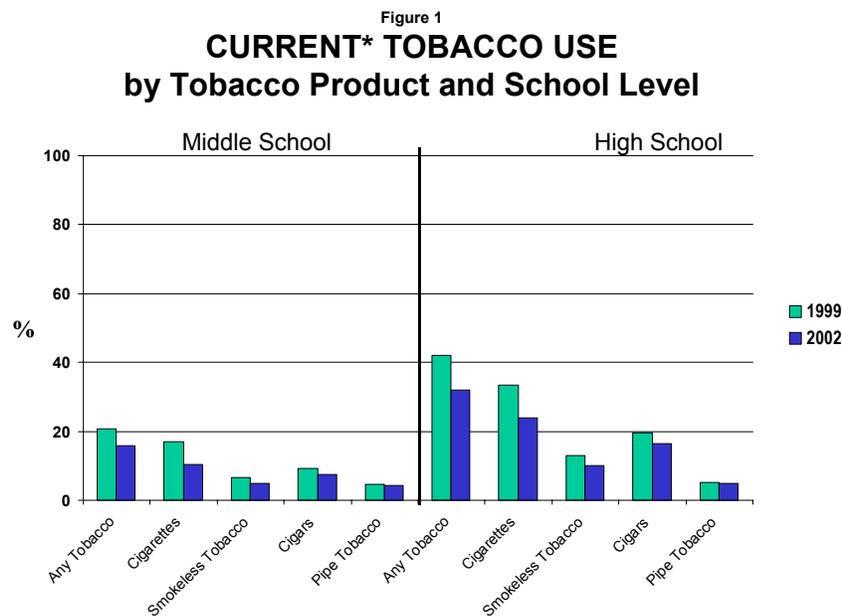
Purpose

The Oklahoma Youth Tobacco Survey (OYTS) was conducted in the spring of 1999 and 2002 by the Oklahoma State Department of Health, in cooperation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Oklahoma State Department of Education, and numerous partners from local health agencies and local school districts. This comprehensive survey of tobacco use, knowledge and attitudes among Oklahoma youth provides important data for tracking changes and to guide youth tobacco use prevention programs.

Methodology

The OYTS uses a two-stage sampling procedure to select schools and students to be surveyed. Schools are selected with a probability proportional to enrollment. The second stage involves random selection of second period classes within the selected schools. All students in a selected class were eligible for participation. The data have been weighted to adjust for non-response at the school and student level.

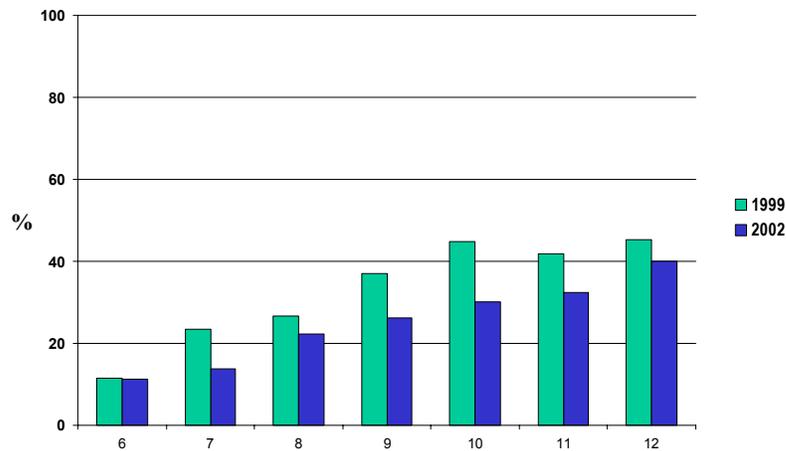
Results



*1+ days of the last 30 days

- Current tobacco use dropped almost five percentage points among students in grades 6-8 and ten percentage points among students in grades 9-12. Current use is defined as using tobacco on one or more days of the 30 days preceding the survey.
- There was a drop of almost seven percentage points among middle school students [grades 6-8] and about ten percentage points among high school students [grades 9-12] who had smoked cigarettes on at least one of the past 30 days. However, ten percent of middle school students and almost a quarter of high school students had smoked cigarettes during this time period.
- Five percent of students in grades 6-8 and 10 percent of students in grades 9-12 had used smokeless tobacco on at least one day during the past 30 days as compared to 1999 when almost seven percent of middle school students and 13 percent of high school students were current smokeless tobacco users.

Figure 2
CURRENT* TOBACCO USE
 by School Grade



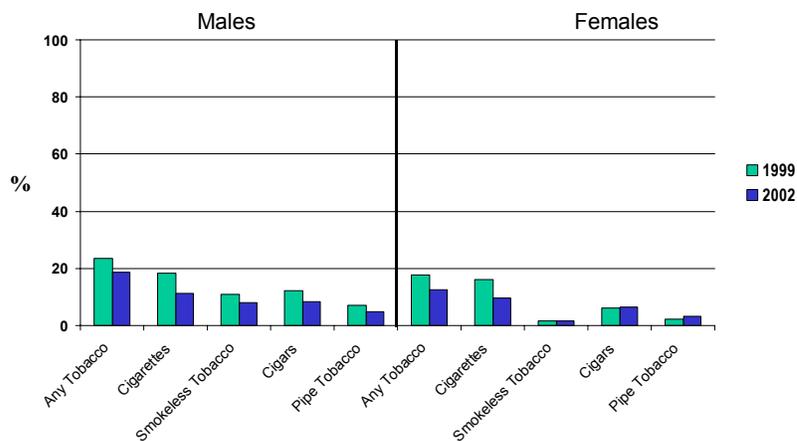
*1+ days of the last 30 days

2002 Oklahoma Youth Tobacco Survey

- Almost eight percent of students in grades 6-8 and slightly more than 16 percent of students in grades 9-12 are current cigar smokers. This was a decline from nine percent of middle school students and almost 20 percent of high school students who were current cigar smokers in 1999.

- The prevalence of current tobacco use (any product) increases with each increasing school grade. Almost four times as many 12 graders as 6th graders are current tobacco users.
- The biggest decrease in current smoking was among 10th graders where the 2002 rate was 14.7 percentage points lower than the 1999 rate.
- Males in grades 6-8 are more likely to report current use of every type of tobacco product.
- A greater proportion of females in grades 6-8 reported using pipe tobacco in 2002 than in 1999.
- Over 15 percent of middle school males currently use smokeless tobacco.

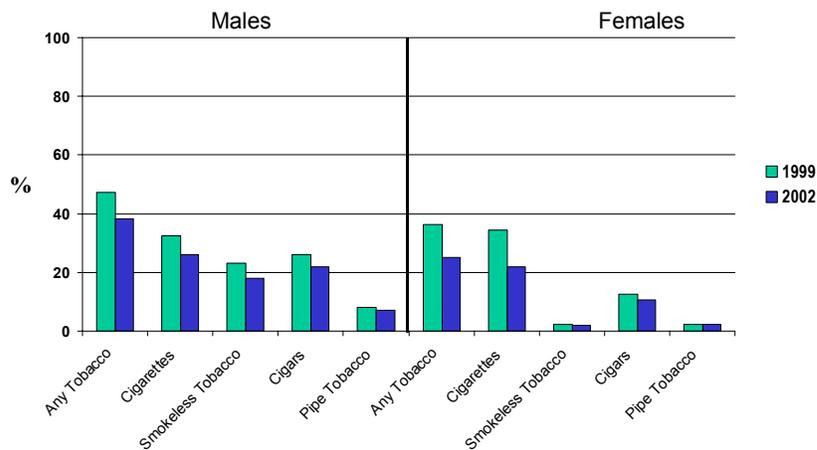
Figure 3
**CURRENT* TOBACCO USE IN MIDDLE SCHOOLS
 by Tobacco Product and Gender**



*1+ days of the last 30 days

- For every type of tobacco product males in middle school are more likely than females in middle school to report current use.
- Almost 18 percent of high school males currently use smokeless tobacco.
- There was little or no change in the proportion of females in grades 9-12 who reported currently using smokeless tobacco or pipe tobacco.

Figure 4
**CURRENT* TOBACCO USE IN HIGH SCHOOLS
 by Tobacco Product and Gender**



*1+ days of the last 30 days