A summary of 59 selected public health indicators

Smokers (Youth)
Health Behavior

**Indicator**: Smokers (Youth)

**Definition**: Percent of youth in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12 who smoked one or more cigarettes in the last 30 days.

**Why this is important**: Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death. The majority of adult smokers began smoking before the age of 18.

**Where we are**: In 2014 in Spokane County, 8.0% of adolescents were current smokers. From 2008 to 2014, the proportion of adolescents who smoked decreased significantly. The proportion of youth smokers in Spokane County was significantly higher than that of Washington state in 2014, but lower than that of the United States in 2013.

**Health Disparities**:

Among youth in Spokane County in 2014:

- Smoking increased as age increased.
- Smoking decreased as maternal education increased.

There was no difference in smoking by race or between males and females.
Additional Information: Other forms of tobacco can also have negative health effects. Among youth, using chewing tobacco and smoking cigars increases as age increases.

Alternative tobacco use in the last 30 days, Spokane County, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>8th grade</th>
<th>10th grade</th>
<th>12th grade</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E-cigarette</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>25.8%</td>
<td>29.2%</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cigars</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: HYS, 2014 (grade 6,8,10,12)

Geography:
- Spokane County: 8.0% (7.5-8.5)
- Washington state: 6.4% (6.2-6.6)
- United States: 15.7%

Trend: 08-14 Decrease

Age:
- Youth:
  - 6th grade: 0.7% (0.5-1.2)
  - 8th grade: 4.7% (4.0-5.5)
  - 10th grade: 11.4% (10.3-12.6)
  - 12th grade: 15.0% (13.7-16.3)

Sex:
- Male: 8.0% (7.3-8.7)
- Female: 7.9% (7.2-8.6)

Race:
- White: 8.2% (7.6-8.8)
- Black: 9.5% (6.8-13.1)
- NAAN: 7.8% (5.7-10.6)
- API: 6.2% (4.5-8.6)
- Hispanic: 8.1% (6.1-10.8)
- 2 or more: 8.9% (7.2-11.0)

Education*:
- < High school: 18.6% (15.8-21.9)
- High school: 13.1% (11.6-14.9)
- Some college: 9.9% (8.7-11.3)
College graduate 7.3% (6.5-8.3)

* Education reflects the mother's highest education level