

# Indiana Youth Smoking

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Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death and disease in the United States. Smoking alone is responsible for more than 420,000 premature deaths in the United States annually, close to 10,300 of these deaths happen to Hoosiers. More than 20,000 Indiana youth become new daily smokers each year. Data shown here are from the 2004 Indiana Youth Tobacco Survey.

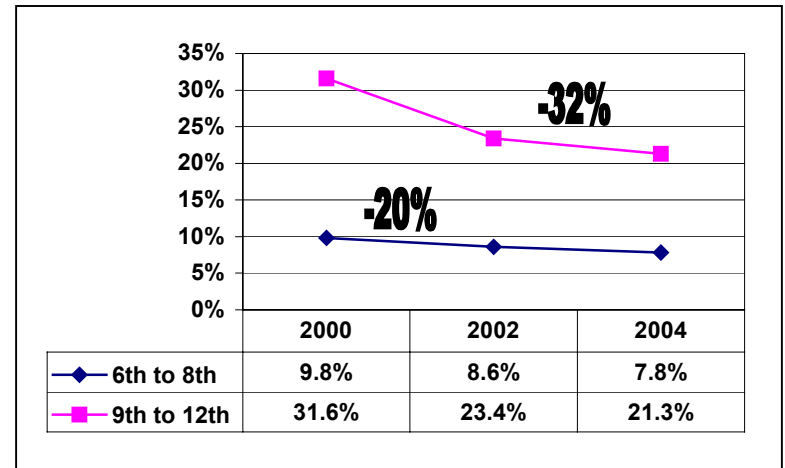
## Indiana Youth Smoking decreases between 2000 and 2004

- **High School Smoking** – 21%. A 32% decline from 31.6% in 2000 to 21.34% in 2004.
- **Middle School Smoking** – 8%. A 20% decline from 9.8% in 2000 to 7.8% in 2004.
- The 32% decline in high school smoking means 36,000 fewer high school smokers.
- Approximately 186,000 Hoosier youth who will not become addicted adult smokers.
- Smoking rates for middle school girls (10%) is higher than that for boys (6%). Smoking rates for high school girls (19%) are slightly lower than for boys (23%).

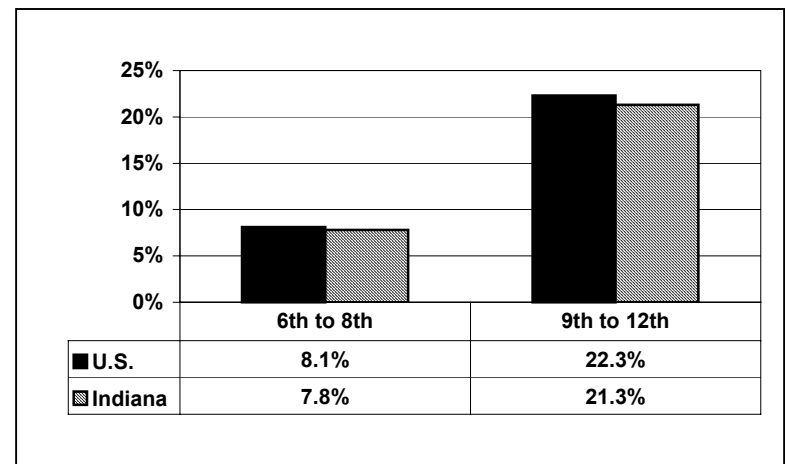
## Youth Smoking, how Indiana compares to the U.S.

- Smoking rates for Hoosier middle school and high school youth are similar to the U.S. rates.

## Indiana Youth Smoking Rates, 2000-2004



## Youth Smoking Rates, Indiana vs. U.S., 2004

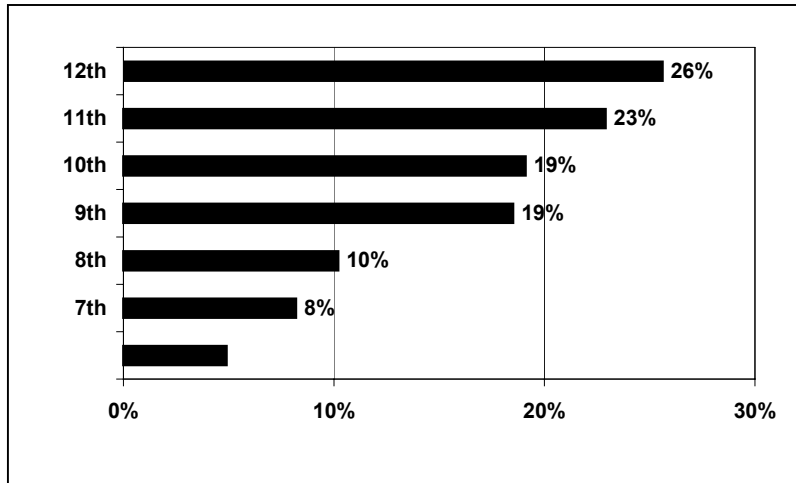


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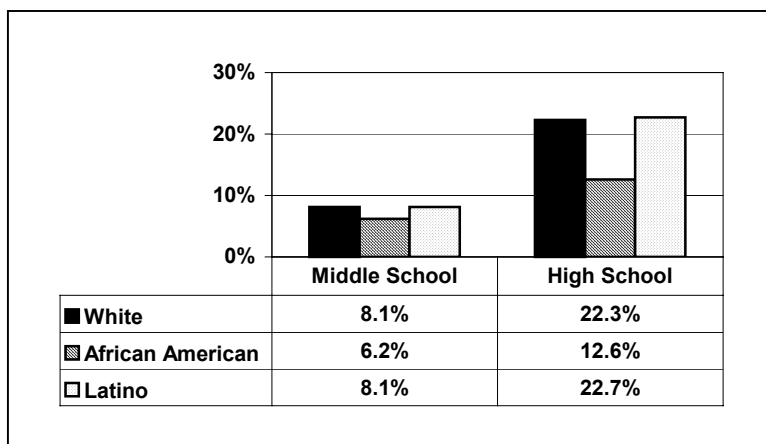
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## Indiana Youth Smoking by Grade, 2004



## Indiana Youth Smoking by Race, 2004



## Indiana Youth Smoking by Grade

- Smoking rates increase as a youth ages.
- Approximately 5% of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are current smokers increasing to 10% by the time students are in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Once youth reach the 9<sup>th</sup> grade smoking rates jump to 19% then increasing to 26% when they are in 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

## Indiana Youth Smoking by Race

- Approximately 6% of African American middle school students report current cigarette use. Fewer African American high school youth smoke compared to the State's overall rate.
- Approximately 8% of Latino middle school and 23% of Latino high school youth currently smoke cigarettes.
- Smoking rates among race/ethnic groups at the middle school level are similar for Whites (8.1%), African Americans (6.2%) and Latinos (8.1%). However, the rate for African American (12.6%) high school students is lower than rates for White (22.3%) and Latino (22.7%) students.

Indiana's tobacco control program includes strategies to reduce youth initiation and access to tobacco. These strategies of increasing the price of tobacco, mass media, and increased enforcement of youth access laws are showing great progress in reducing youth smoking in Indiana.