

# Arkansas 2010 Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS)

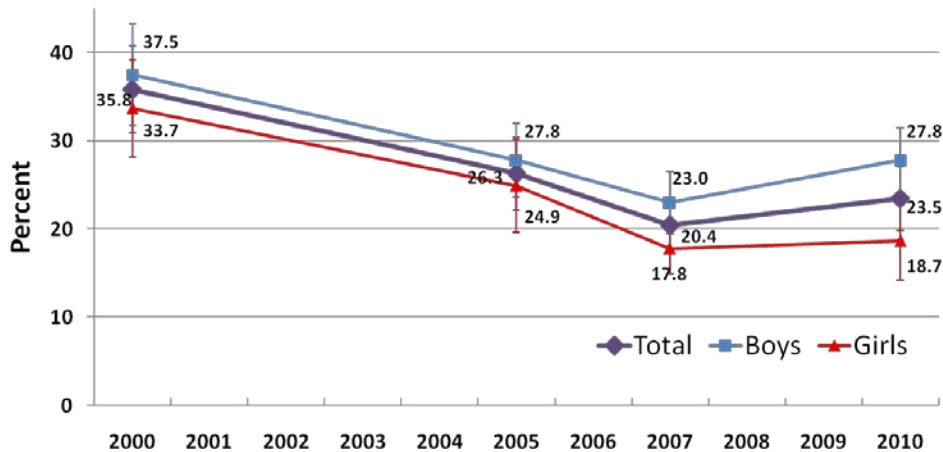
## Brief Summary – High School Students



The YTS is an anonymous, self-administered school-based survey conducted in collaboration with the Arkansas Department of Education and the participating school districts. The YTS collects data on the prevalence of the use of cigarettes and other tobacco products, as well as information on secondhand smoke (SHS), knowledge and attitudes about tobacco, cessation, media messages, school tobacco prevention education, and access to tobacco products.

The 2010 YTS was administered to a representative sample of all regular public middle and high school students in Arkansas. The survey was completed by 2,446 middle school students (grades 6-8) and 2,302 high school students (grades 9-12). Key findings in the areas of current cigarette smoking, early initiation of cigarette smoking, methods of obtaining cigarettes, and smokeless tobacco use are presented in the following figures and text.

**Figure 1. Current Cigarette Use among High School Students by Gender**  
AR YTS 2000, 2005, 2007, & 2010



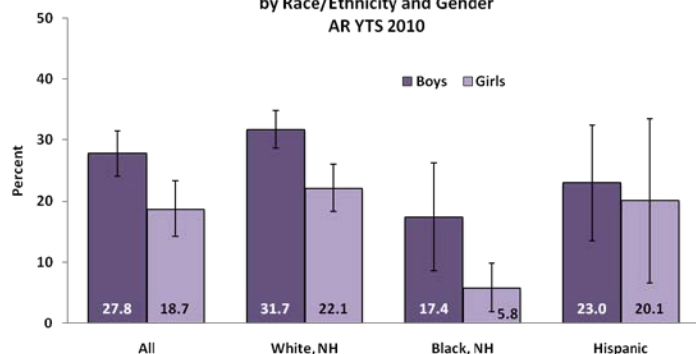
In 2010, 23.5% of high school students reported current cigarette smoking (Figure 1). This is a statistically significant decrease from 35.8% in 2000, despite a modest increase from 2007 to 2010.

In 2010, 27.8% of boys and 18.7% of girls reported current cigarette smoking.

Students in grades 9-12 who report having smoked cigarettes on one or more days during the previous 30 days.

Figure 2 shows that there is a significantly higher prevalence of current cigarette smoking among boys than girls. There is also a significantly higher prevalence among white non-Hispanics than black non-Hispanics for both boys and girls.

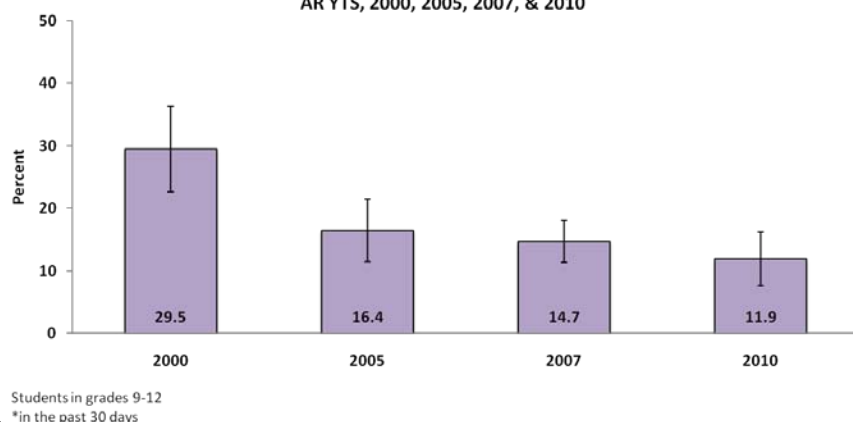
**Figure 2. Current Cigarette Use among High School Students by Race/Ethnicity and Gender**  
AR YTS 2010



Students in grades 9-12 who report having smoked cigarettes on one or more days during the previous 30 days.

- ❖ In 2010, 8.4% of **all students** reported smoking a whole cigarette before age 11, a statistically significant decrease from 14.1% in 2000. In 2005, 10.3% and in 2007, 9.0% reported smoking a whole cigarette before age 11.
- ❖ In 2010, 20.1% of **students who ever smoked a whole cigarette** reported doing so before age 11. This is not a statistically significant decrease from 23.8% in 2000, and 22.1% in both 2005 and 2007.
- ❖ In 2010, 19.4% of **current cigarette smokers** reported first smoking a whole cigarette before age 11. This is not a statistically significant decrease from 25.2% in 2000, 23.3% in 2005, and 22.4% in 2007.

Figure 3. Percentage of Current Smokers among High School Students Under Age 18 Who Reported that the Usual Method of Obtaining Cigarettes\* was by Buying them in a Store  
AR YTS, 2000, 2005, 2007, & 2010



In 2010, 11.9% of high school students under the age of 18 reported that the usual method of obtaining cigarettes was by buying them in a store. This is a statistically significant decrease from 29.5% in 2000 (Figure 3).

Figure 4. Current Smokeless Tobacco Use among High School Students by Race/Ethnicity and Gender  
AR YTS 2010

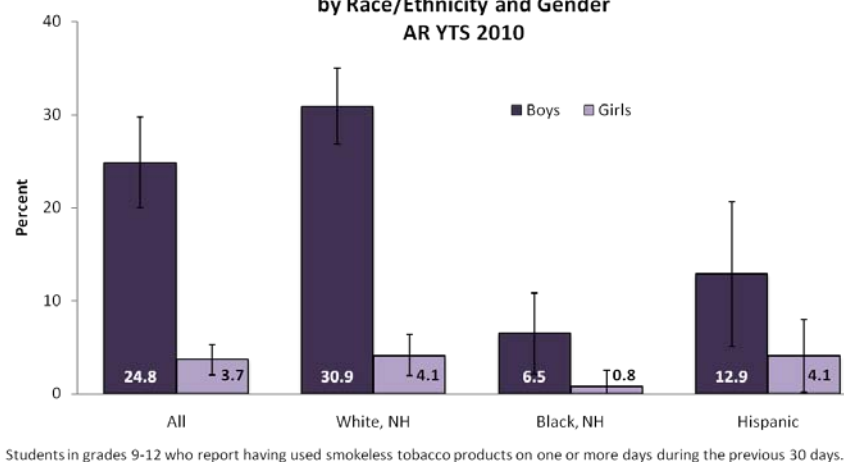


Figure 4 shows that the prevalence of current smokeless tobacco use (i.e., chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip) is higher among high school boys than high school girls of all race/ethnicities.

- ❖ In 2010, 6.8% of **all students** reported first using smokeless tobacco before age 11. This is not a statistically significant difference from 8.9% in 2000, 6.4% in 2005, and 6.1% in 2007.
- ❖ In 2010, 25.0% of **students who ever used smokeless tobacco** reported doing so before age 11. This is not a statistically significant decrease from 34.0% in 2000, 26.5% in 2005, and 26.9% in 2007.
- ❖ In 2010, 30.5% of **current smokeless tobacco users** reported first using it before age 11. This is not a statistically significant difference from 36.1% in 2000, 25.6% in 2005, and 22.2% in 2007.

*The findings in this brief summary highlight the results from high school students only. It is important to note that these behaviors start in middle school. According to the 2010 Arkansas YTS 6.9% of public middle school students are current cigarette smokers and 5.1% are current users of smokeless tobacco products.*

# Arkansas 2010 Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS)

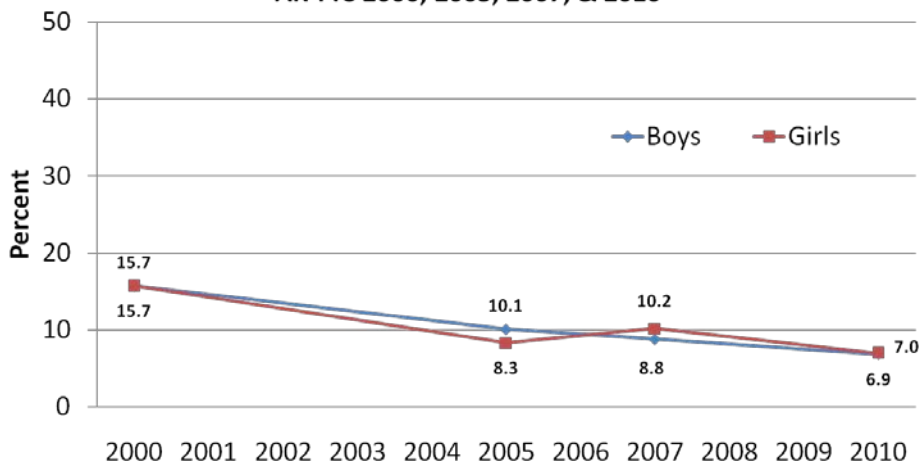
## Brief Summary – Middle School Students



The YTS is an anonymous, self-administered school-based survey conducted in collaboration with the Arkansas Department of Education and the participating school districts. The YTS collects data on the prevalence of the use of cigarettes and other tobacco products, as well as information on secondhand smoke (SHS), knowledge and attitudes about tobacco, cessation, media messages, school tobacco prevention education, and access to tobacco products.

The 2010 YTS was administered to a representative sample of all regular public middle and high school students in Arkansas. The survey was completed by 2,446 middle school students (grades 6-8) and 2,302 high school students (grades 9-12). Key findings in the areas of current cigarette smoking, early initiation of cigarette smoking, methods of obtaining cigarettes, and smokeless tobacco use are presented in the following figures and text.

**Figure 1. Current Cigarette Use among Middle School Students by Gender  
AR YTS 2000, 2005, 2007, & 2010**



In 2010, 6.9% of middle school students reported current cigarette smoking (Figure 1). This is a significant decrease from 15.7% in 2000.

In 2010, 6.9% of boys and 7.0% of girls reported current cigarette smoking.

Students in grades 6-8 who report having smoked cigarettes on one or more days during the previous 30 days.

**Figure 2. Current Cigarette Use among Middle School Students  
by Race/Ethnicity and Gender  
AR YTS 2010**

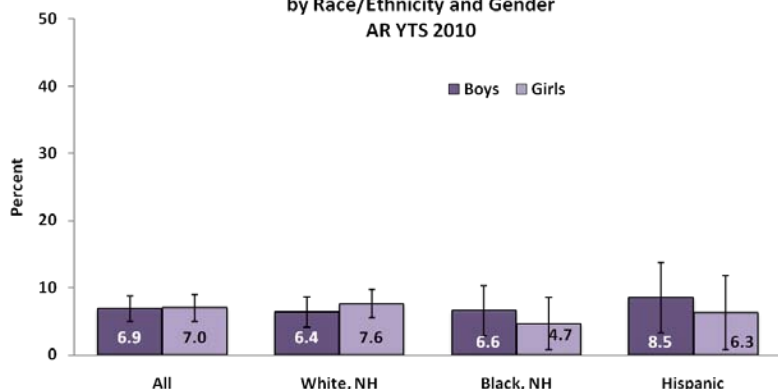
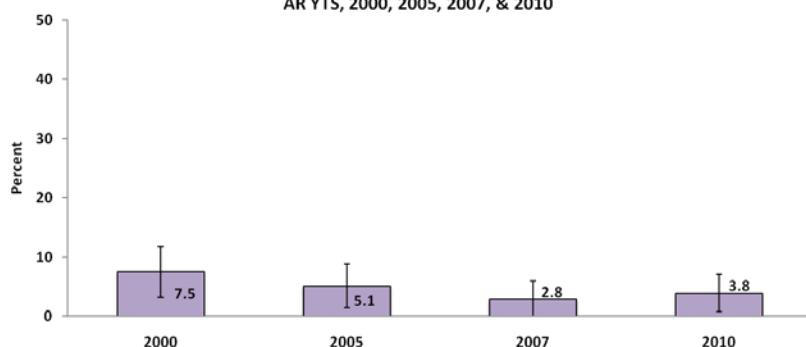


Figure 2 shows no significant difference in the prevalence of current cigarette smoking between middle school boys and girls or between white non-Hispanics and black non-Hispanics or Hispanics.

Students in grades 6-8 who report having smoked cigarettes on one or more days during the previous 30 days.

- ❖ In 2010, 6.5% of **all students** reported smoking a whole cigarette before age 11, a statistically significant decrease from 14.8% in 2000. In 2005, 8.3% and in 2007, 8.7% reported smoking a whole cigarette before age 11.
- ❖ In 2010, 40.5% of **students who ever smoked a whole cigarette** reported doing so before age 11. This is not a statistically significant difference from 45.8% in 2000, 40.6% in 2005, and 43.9% in 2007.
- ❖ In 2010, 39.6% of **current cigarette smokers** reported first smoking a whole cigarette before age 11. This is not a statistically significant decrease from 49.9% in 2000, 38.7% in 2005, and 44.3% in 2007.

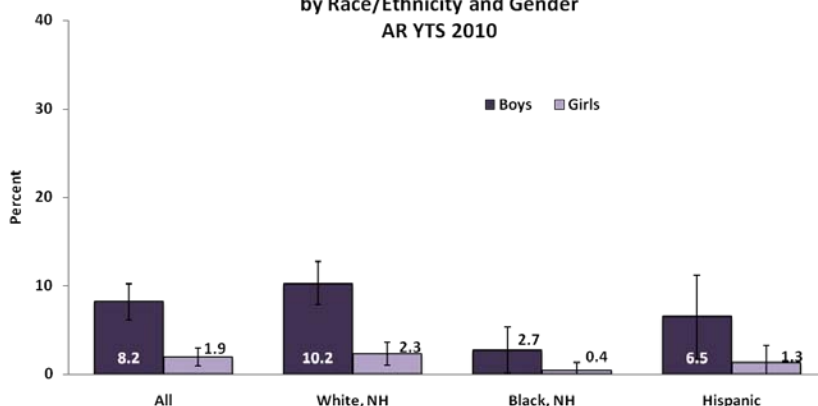
Figure 3. Percentage of Current Smokers among Middle School Students Under Age 18 Who Reported that the Usual Method of Obtaining Cigarettes\* was by Buying them in a Store  
AR YTS, 2000, 2005, 2007, & 2010



Students in grades 6-8  
\*in the past 30 days

In 2010, 3.8% of middle school students under the age of 18 reported that the usual method of obtaining cigarettes was by buying them in a store. This is not a statistically significant decrease from 7.5% in 2000 (Figure 3).

Figure 4. Current Smokeless Tobacco Use among Middle School Students by Race/Ethnicity and Gender  
AR YTS 2010



Students in grades 6-8 who report having used smokeless tobacco products on one or more days during the previous 30 days.

Figure 4 shows that the prevalence of current smokeless tobacco use (i.e., chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip) is higher among middle school boys than middle school girls for white non-Hispanic students.

- ❖ In 2010, 5.2% of **all students** reported first using smokeless tobacco before age 11. This is not a statistically significant difference from 8.9% in 2000, 7.0% in 2005, and 6.9% in 2007.
- ❖ In 2010, 41.8% of **students who ever used smokeless tobacco** reported doing so before age 11. This is not a statistically significant decrease from 52.7% in 2000, 46.9% in 2005, and 46.9% in 2007.
- ❖ In 2010, 41.3% of **current smokeless tobacco users** reported first using it before age 11. This is not a statistically significant difference from 45.4% in 2000, 44.1% in 2005, and 39.8% in 2007.

*The findings in this brief summary highlight the results from middle school students. According to the 2010 Arkansas YTS 23.5% of public high school students are current cigarette smokers and 14.6% are current users of smokeless tobacco products.*