

Youth Tobacco Use

Key Findings

The 2008 health assessment identified that 16% of Auglaize County youth (ages 12-18) were smokers increasing to 29% of those who were 17-18 years old. Overall, 10% of Auglaize County youth indicated they had used chewing tobacco in the past month. Of those youth who currently smoke, 40% had tried to quit. The 2003 NW Ohio Strategic Alliance for Tobacco Control survey results were included for additional youth tobacco use and opinion information. The two data sets cannot be directly compared as the Alliance survey included youth in grades 4-12.

Youth Tobacco Use Behaviors

- ◆ The 2007 YRBS reports that 51% of youth in Ohio had tried cigarette smoking and the 2008 health assessment indicated that 30% of Auglaize County youth had done the same.
- ◆ Over one-fifth (22%) of those who have smoked a whole cigarette did so under 10 years old and two-fifths (40%) had done so under the age of 12.
- ◆ In 2008, 16% of Auglaize County youth were current smokers, having smoked at some time in the past 30 days (2007 YRBS reported 22% for Ohio and 20% for the U.S.). Over one-quarter (29%) of 17-18 year olds were current smokers compared to 2% of 12-13 year olds and 16% of 14-16 year olds.
- ◆ Of those who smoked, 30% smoked less than 1 cigarette per day and 11% smoked 11 or more cigarettes per day.
- ◆ About one-third (30%) of current smokers, smoked cigarettes daily.
- ◆ Over four-fifths (84%) of the Auglaize County youth identified as current smokers were also current drinkers, defined as having had a drink of alcohol in the past 30 days.
- ◆ Over one-quarter (28%) of youth bought cigarettes from a store or gas station, 27% borrowed cigarettes from someone else, 19% asked someone else to buy them cigarettes, 5% said an adult gave them the cigarettes, and 4% took them from a store or family member.
- ◆ In the past 30 days, 10% of Auglaize County youth used chewing tobacco or snuff (2007 YRBS reported 10% for Ohio and 8% of the U.S.) increasing to 18% of males and 18% of those 17-18 years old. 31% of current youth smokers had used chewing tobacco or snuff in the past 30 days.
- ◆ 13% of youth smoked cigars, cigarillos or little cigars in the past 30 days, increasing to 27% of those 17-18 years old and 19% of males.
- ◆ Two-fifths (40%) of Auglaize County youth smokers had tried to quit smoking in the past year (2007 YRBS reported 49% for Ohio and 50% of the U.S.).

2003 NW Ohio Strategic Alliance for Tobacco Control Youth Opinions Survey

- ◆ From February through May, 2003, over 5,000 NW Ohio youth in grades 4-12 were surveyed at school concerning their opinions about tobacco use.
- ◆ 339 Auglaize County youth were surveyed from several schools.
- ◆ The results of these surveys provided baseline tobacco use information for the Alliance.
- ◆ The funding for these surveys was part of the community grant awarded to the Alliance from the Ohio Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Foundation to implement a comprehensive tobacco control plan for NW Ohio.

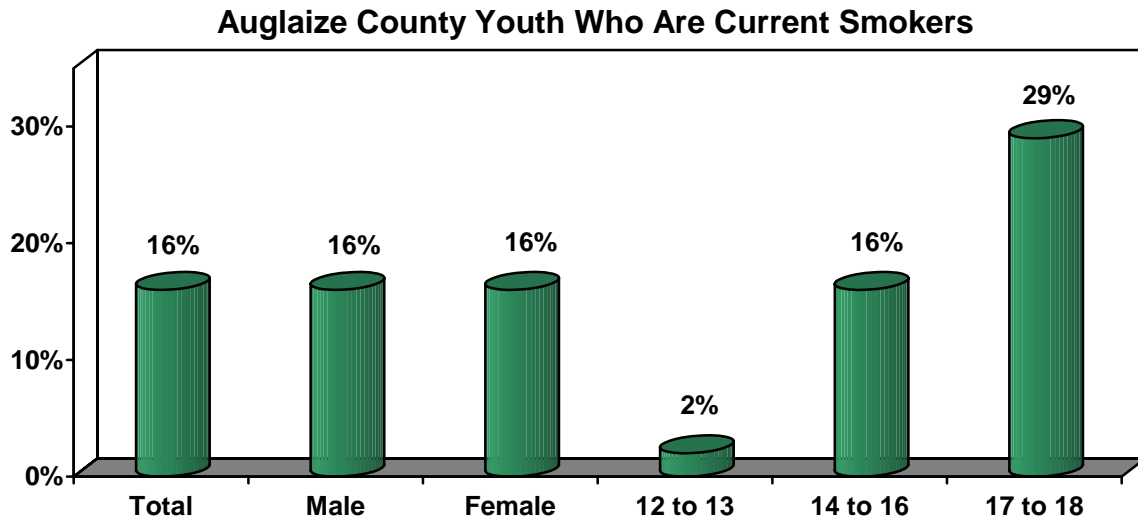
NW Ohio Strategic Alliance for Tobacco Control Data Collection 2003

The tobacco opinions of Auglaize County youth in grades 4-12 indicate:

- ◆ 19% of the students said they would smoke a cigarette if a friend offered it to them today.
- ◆ 46% of Auglaize County youth indicated they live in a household with someone who smokes.
- ◆ 83% of students believed that smoking should be banned on school property.
- ◆ 95% of the youth surveyed believed tobacco use is addictive.
- ◆ 96% believed secondhand smoke is harmful.

Youth Tobacco Use

The following graph shows the percentage of Auglaize County youth who smoke cigarettes. Examples of how to interpret the information include: 16% of all Auglaize County youth were current smokers, 16% of males smoked, and 16% of females were current smokers. The table shows differences in specific risk behaviors between current smokers and non-current smokers (nonsmokers).



Current smokers are those who have smoked at any time during the past 30 days.

Behaviors of Auglaize Youth *Current Smokers vs. Non-Current Smokers*

Youth Behaviors	Current Smoker	Non-Current Smoker
Have been in a physical fight in the past 12 months	54%	20%
Have seriously considered attempting suicide in the past 12 months	29%	11%
Have had at least one drink of alcohol in the past 30 days	84%	29%
Have used marijuana in the past 30 days	39%	1%
Have had sexual intercourse	74%	15%
Involved in extracurricular activities	54%	90%

Current smokers are those youth surveyed who have self-reported smoking at any time during the past 30 days.

Auglaize County Youth Tobacco Survey 2003

In early 2003, 339 Auglaize County students from grades 4-12 were asked a series of questions about tobacco and their tobacco use. The following report summarizes their responses. When appropriate, results are compared with the Northwest Ohio region, which contains 16 counties and includes Auglaize County.

Tobacco Use in Past 30 Days*

Auglaize County: 19%.

- ❖ 4th-5th graders: 0%
- ❖ 6th-8th graders: 5%
- ❖ 9th-12th graders: 39%
- ❖ Males: 14%
- ❖ Females: 24%

*Includes students who used cigarettes, specialty cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, and/or cigars.

Societal Issues

- ◆ Approximately 46% of Auglaize County students live with someone who smokes cigarettes.
- ◆ 14% said that young people who smoke have more friends, increasing to 21% among 9th-12th graders. One-quarter (26%) said that one or more of their closest friends smoke cigarettes and 14% have friends who use smokeless tobacco.
- ◆ Two-thirds (66%) were taught about the dangers of tobacco use at school but only 10% participated in a community smoking cessation activity.
- ◆ In the past 30 days, over half (56%) had seen commercials at least daily about the dangers of smoking.
- ◆ About 72% said that they see actors using tobacco most or some of the time when they go to the movies or watch television.

Opinions About Tobacco

- ◆ 17% of Auglaize County students think they will probably or definitely smoke a cigarette during the next three months and 19% would accept a cigarette from a friend if offered one. These percentages increase to almost 40% of 9th-12th graders.
- ◆ Most of the respondents said that their friends (67%), family (92%) and peers (58%) would disapprove if they smoked today. Current smokers are less likely to say their friends (11%), family (68%) and peers (10%) would disapprove if they smoked today. About 12% of all students said friends would approve and 4% said family and peers would approve.
- ◆ Most of the students said that schools should offer smoking cessation programs (86%) and should not allow smoking on school property (83%). 9th-12th graders were least in favor of school interventions.
- ◆ Most (95%) Auglaize County students believed that tobacco was addictive; however, nearly half (47%) believed that adults exaggerate the health risks of smoking.
- ◆ 14% said it is okay to smoke for a year or two as long as you quit after that.

Secondhand Smoke

- ◆ In the past week, two-thirds (62%) of Auglaize County youth have been in a room with someone who was smoking cigarettes and 50% have ridden in a car with a smoker.
- ◆ Nearly all (96%) believe that secondhand smoke is harmful.

The following Auglaize County groups are more likely to be tobacco users:

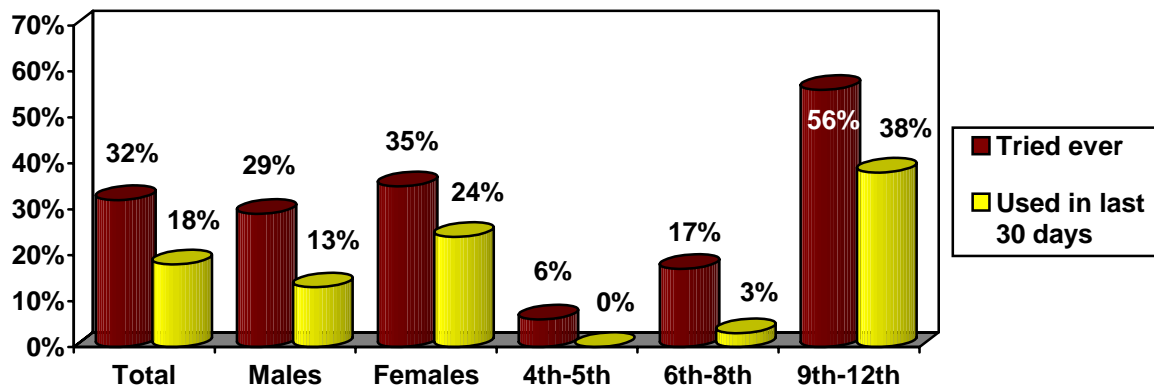
- ❖ 9th-12th graders.
- ❖ Those who live with someone who smokes.
- ❖ Those who do not often attend religious services.
- ❖ Those who average C-F grades in school.
- ❖ Those who have a poor self-image.

Auglaize County Youth Tobacco Survey 2003

Cigarette Use

- ◆ One out of four (27%) Auglaize County students was offered a cigarette in the past 30 days, increasing to 49% among 9th-12th graders.
- ◆ 32% have tried cigarettes in the past and 18% have smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days. These percentages increase to 56% who have tried and 38% who have smoked cigarettes in the last 30 days among 9th-12th graders.
- ◆ Nearly all (95%) Auglaize County tobacco users smoke cigarettes. The remainder use only smokeless tobacco, specialty cigarettes, or cigars.
- ◆ A current smoker is defined as a student who has smoked cigarettes, flavored cigarettes, cigars and/or cigarillos in the last 30 days.

Auglaize County Cigarette Use



Cigarette Use Behaviors

- ◆ Three out of five (61%) Auglaize County current smokers started smoking before age 13.
- ◆ Of all Auglaize County students, 8% have tried only a few puffs and 13% have smoked over 100 cigarettes in their entire life.
- ◆ Approximately 15% of all students have been daily smokers, increasing to 32% among 9th-12th graders.
- ◆ 14% of all students smoke at least two cigarettes per day on average. This figure increases to 32% among 9th-12th graders.
- ◆ 4% of all students smoked cigarettes on school property in the past 30 days.
- ◆ Over one-third of current smokers (7% of all students) usually bought their cigarettes at a store or gas station. All of those who bought their cigarettes were 9th-12th graders. One in ten (9% of all youth) tried to buy cigarettes but were not asked to show proof of age.
- ◆ Almost two-thirds (65%) of current smokers (12% of all Auglaize County students) smoke Marlboros. Almost one in five current smokers (4% of all students) smoked menthol cigarettes.
- ◆ One out of twenty students (4%) has smoked flavored cigarettes, bidis, clove cigarettes, or Liquid Dreams in the past 30 days.

Auglaize County Addiction Statistics:

- ❖ Over half (55%) of current smokers feel like they need a cigarette at least once every three hours.
- ❖ Three out of five (58%) smoke within 30 minutes of waking up in the morning (11% of all youth).
- ❖ Approximately 11% of all students find it difficult to avoid smoking in restricted places.
- ❖ About 11% still smoke cigarettes if they are so ill that they are in bed most of the day.

Auglaize County Youth Tobacco Survey 2003

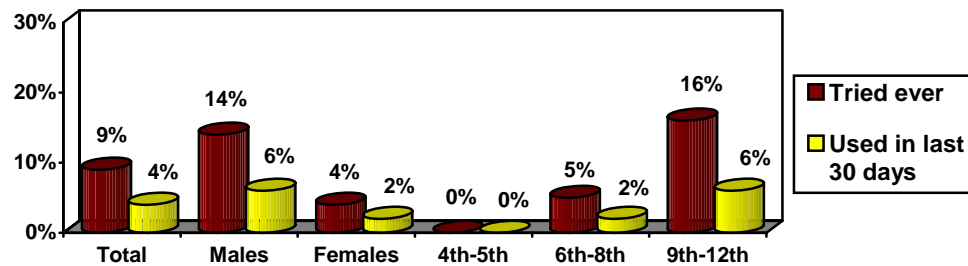
Smoking Cessation

- ◆ Three out of five (60%) current smokers (11% of all Auglaize County students) would like to quit smoking, but only 2% have participated in a smoking cessation program and less than 1% have asked for their physician's help to quit smoking.
- ◆ Over half (51%) of current smokers (9% of all youth) think they would definitely or probably not be able to quit smoking if they wanted to.
- ◆ In the past 12 months, three out of five (59%) current smokers (12% of all students) have tried to quit smoking and 43% (8% of all students) have tried three or more times. About half (46%) of current smokers who tried to quit did not last more than one week without smoking.

Smokeless Tobacco

- ◆ One out of ten (9%) Auglaize County students has tried smokeless tobacco, increasing to 16% among 9th-12th graders. About 4% are currently using smokeless tobacco.
- ◆ 2% have used smokeless tobacco on school property in the last 30 days.
- ◆ Almost two-thirds (64%) of the students who have used smokeless tobacco in the last 30 days (2% of all students) usually bought their smokeless tobacco at a store or gas station.

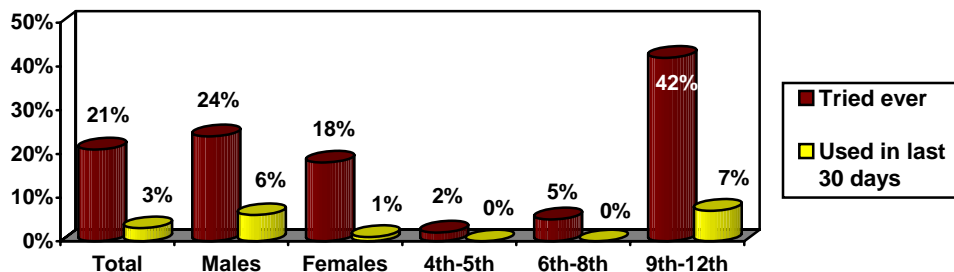
Auglaize County Smokeless Tobacco Use



Cigars

- ◆ One out of five (21%) Auglaize County students has tried cigars or cigarillos, increasing to 42% among 9th-12th graders. Three out of four current tobacco smokers have tried cigars or cigarillos. About 3% of all students have used cigars or cigarillos in the last 30 days.
- ◆ Two-thirds (67%) of current tobacco smokers (17% of all students) had their first cigar at age 13 or older.
- ◆ One out of ten current tobacco smokers (2% of all students) usually bought their cigars at a store or gas station.

Auglaize County Cigar Use



Auglaize County Youth Tobacco Survey 2003

The following table shows county and region statistics. Differences of about seven to eight percentage points indicate that the county may have behaviors different than the total region.

Issue	Auglaize County	NW Ohio
High school student (grades 9 – 12) used tobacco in past 30 days	39%	32%
Middle school student (grades 6 – 8) used tobacco in past 30 days	5%	10%
Student is living in a household with a smoker	46%	46%
Student definitely or probably will smoke a cigarette in the next 3 months	17%	13%
Student definitely or probably will be smoking cigarettes 5 years from now	16%	11%
Student would smoke a cigarette if a friend offered it today	19%	14%
Student thinks schools should offer smoking cessation programs	86%	83%
Student thinks smoking should be banned on school property	83%	85%
Student has discussed the dangers of smoking with parents often or very often in past 12 mos.	21%	17%
Student believes tobacco is addictive	95%	94%
Student was taught about the dangers of tobacco use at school during past year	66%	49%
Student participated in a smoking cessation program	2%	2%
Student was in a room with someone smoking in the past week	62%	58%
Student believes secondhand smoke is harmful	96%	96%
Student has tried cigarette smoking	32%	34%
Student has smoked cigarettes in past 30 days	18%	15%
Student smokes an average of 11 or more cigarettes per day	3%	2%
Student has tried to quit smoking in past 12 months	12%	9%
Student has tried smokeless tobacco	9%	10%
Student has used smokeless tobacco in past 30 days	4%	4%
Student has tried cigars	21%	21%
Student has used cigars in past 30 days	3%	9%
Student has participated in community activity to discourage tobacco use	10%	12%

*Data have been weighted based on grade and gender.