

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND



This infographic is one in a series focused on tobacco and nicotine use and cessation activities among Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) beneficiaries. Tobacco product

use is started primarily during adolescence, and youth who use multiple tobacco products are at higher risk for developing nicotine dependence that will continue into adulthood.<sup>1</sup> In 2017, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced the Youth Tobacco Prevention Plan which aims to stop youth use of and access to tobacco products, especially e-cigarettes.<sup>2</sup>

Throughout this infographic, the term “adolescents” refers to individuals ages 12 to 17. The term “tobacco products” includes all the following: cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and smokeless tobacco. The term “nicotine vaping products” includes e-cigarettes and other electronic vaping products. All exhibits assess the use of tobacco products separately from the use of nicotine vaping products, although some individuals may use both types of products. Note that the use of other types of nicotine products, such as Zyn nicotine pouches, is not covered in this infographic, since these types of products are not included in the national survey used for analysis.

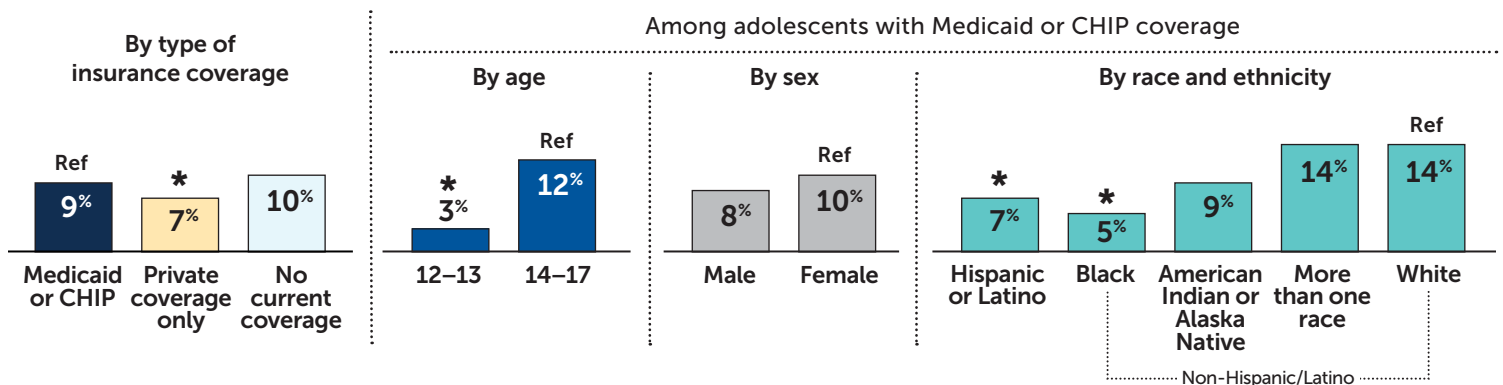
TOBACCO AND NICOTINE VAPING PRODUCT USE AMONG ADOLESCENTS



Key Findings

- Significantly higher percentages of adolescents with Medicaid or CHIP coverage reported that they had ever used tobacco products or nicotine vaping products, when compared to adolescents with private coverage. There were no significant differences between adolescents with Medicaid and CHIP and adolescents with no current coverage in their use of tobacco or nicotine vaping products.
- Among adolescents with Medicaid or CHIP coverage, female adolescents reported ever using nicotine vaping products at significantly higher rates than male adolescents. However, there was no significant difference between males and females in their use of tobacco products.

Percentage of Adolescents Who Reported Ever Using Tobacco Products, 2024<sup>3</sup>



Methods Note for Survey Data

Statistical significance testing of survey-based analyses was conducted using a two-sided t-test (p<0.05). Significance for each measure is affected by survey design, sample size, and other factors. For each exhibit, a reference group was identified (indicated by “Ref” in the exhibit). The rate for each additional subgroup shown in the exhibit was compared to the rate for the reference group.  
\* indicates that the subgroup rate was significantly different from the rate for the reference group. If the subgroup rate was not significantly different from the rate for the reference group, no symbol is included.

In 2024, among adolescents with Medicaid or CHIP coverage:<sup>3</sup>

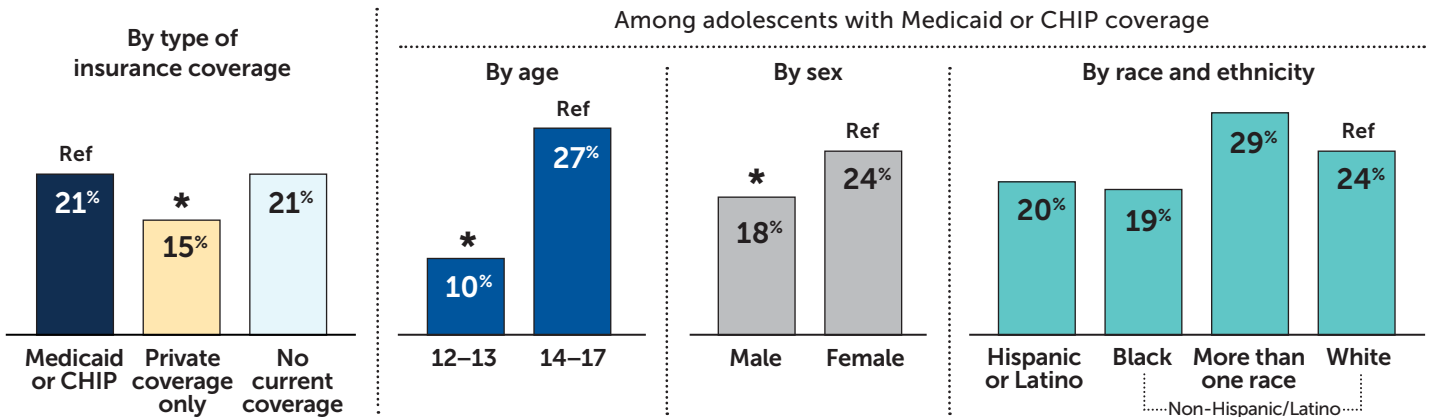


**2%** reported using tobacco products in the past 30 days



**7%** reported using nicotine vaping products in the past 30 days

Percentage of Adolescents Who Reported Ever Using Nicotine Vaping Products, 2024<sup>3</sup>



SELF-REPORTED TOBACCO USE SCREENING AND CESSATION INTERVENTIONS AMONG ADOLESCENTS

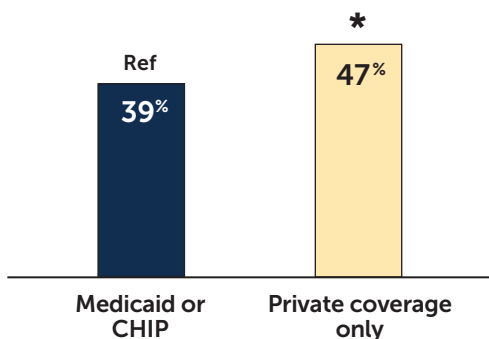
If medically indicated, tobacco cessation counseling and pharmacotherapy for eligible adolescents must be covered under Medicaid’s Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit. All separate CHIP programs must cover tobacco cessation services that align with recommendations from the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) that are applicable to children and pregnant women.<sup>4</sup> The AAP recommends that tobacco use treatment be available to all individuals who use tobacco products, including adolescents and, specifically, youth from communities that have historically experienced high levels of discrimination and stigma.<sup>5</sup> The USPSTF does not recommend specific tobacco cessation interventions for adolescents, since the current evidence is insufficient to assess the balance of benefits and harms.<sup>6</sup>



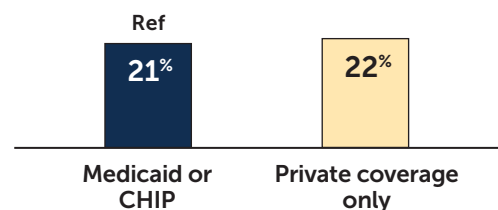
Key Findings

- Adolescents with Medicaid or CHIP coverage reported that a health care provider asked them about their tobacco use in the past 12 months at significantly lower rates than adolescents with private coverage.
- Among adolescents who used tobacco products, there was no significant difference between adolescents with Medicaid and CHIP and adolescents with private coverage in the percentage who were advised to quit using tobacco by a health care provider.

Percentage of Adolescents Who Reported That a Health Care Provider Asked Them about Their Tobacco Use in the Past 12 Months, 2024<sup>3</sup>



Percentage of Adolescents Who Used Tobacco Products Who Reported That a Health Care Provider Advised Them to Quit in the Past 12 Months, 2024<sup>3</sup>



1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). October 2024. Youth and Tobacco Use. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/php/data-statistics/youth-data-tobacco/index.html>.
2. U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). August 2024. Youth and Tobacco. Available at: <https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/public-health-education/youth-and-tobacco>.
3. Based on Mathematica analysis of National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), 2024 public use file. NSDUH is a nationally representative survey of the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the U.S. age 12 and older (50 states and DC). The imputation-revised Medicaid and CHIP variable used for analyses includes all individuals who reported coverage through Medicaid or CHIP at the time of the survey, either alone or in combination with other coverage. Data on race and Hispanic/Latino origin are presented in the greatest detail possible considering the quality of the data, the amount of missing data, and the number of observations. The Medicaid and CHIP total includes race and origin groups not shown separately because the data do not meet criteria for statistical reliability, data quality, or confidentiality. Additional data related to tobacco and nicotine use among adolescents that are not Medicaid-specific are available from the CDC's National Youth Tobacco Survey: <https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/about-data/surveys/national-youth-tobacco-survey.html>.
  - Exhibit notes for page 2, *Percentage of adolescents who reported that a health care provider asked them about their tobacco use*: The denominator for this measure includes individuals ages 12 to 17 who reported at least one health care visit in the past 12 months.
  - Exhibit notes for page 2, *Percentage of adolescents who used tobacco products who reported that a health care provider advised them to quit*: The denominator for this measure includes individuals ages 12 to 17 who reported using tobacco products and having at least one health care visit in the past 12 months.
4. CMCS Informational Bulletin. March 2024. Strategies to Improve Delivery of Tobacco Cessation Services. <https://www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/cib03072024.pdf>.
5. Janssen, Brian P., et al. Protecting children and adolescents from tobacco and nicotine. *Pediatrics*. May 2023; 1;151(5): e2023061804.
6. U.S. Preventive Service Task Force (USPSTF). April 2020. *Final Recommendation Statement: Tobacco Use in Children and Adolescents: Primary Care Interventions*. Available at: <https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation/tobacco-and-nicotine-use-prevention-in-children-and-adolescents-primary-care-interventions>.

If you would like more information about the Medicaid and CHIP programs and their beneficiaries, please see the following additional resources:

- Other infographics in this series on tobacco and nicotine use and cessation activities:
  - The **Tobacco & Nicotine Use and Cessation Overview Infographic**, available at: <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/benefits/downloads/2026-tobacco-overview-infographic.pdf>.
  - The **Adult Tobacco & Nicotine Use and Cessation Infographic**, available at: <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/benefits/downloads/2026-adult-tobacco-infographic.pdf>.
  - The **Tobacco & Nicotine Use Among Pregnant Women and Adults with Behavioral Health Conditions**, available at: <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/benefits/downloads/2026-select-populations-tobacco-infographic.pdf>.
- The **2026 Medicaid and CHIP Beneficiary Profile and Infographic** provide an overview of the characteristics, health status, access, utilization, expenditures, and experience of the beneficiaries served by Medicaid and CHIP. They are available at: <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/medicaid-chip-data-products>.
- CMS developed the interactive **Medicaid and CHIP Core Set Data Dashboard** to improve accessibility of data about the quality of care provided to Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries. It is available at: <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/core-set-data-dashboard/welcome>.
- The **Improving Tobacco Cessation** section of the Medicaid.gov website provides information regarding CMS's quality improvement and technical assistance initiatives related to tobacco cessation: <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/quality-improvement-initiatives/tobacco-cessation>.
- A March 2024 **CMCS Informational Bulletin** highlights strategies that states have used to improve the delivery of tobacco cessation services to Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries. It is available at: <https://www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/cib03072024.pdf>.