



PROPEL
CENTRE FOR
POPULATION
HEALTH IMPACT

University of Waterloo
200 University Ave. W.
Waterloo, ON
N2L 3G1

tel 519 888 4520
fax 519 746 8171
propel@uwaterloo.ca
uwaterloo.ca/propel

IN BRIEF:

STUDENT TOBACCO USE IN ALBERTA

The Canadian Student Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs Survey (CSTADS) is a biennial school-based survey of Canadian students in grades 6-12. The following details results from the 2014/2015 CSTADS on the use of tobacco products, including flavoured tobacco products, by Grades 6 to 12 students in Alberta.

The CSTADS results have identified differences in how Alberta students use and consume flavoured tobacco products as compared to non-flavoured tobacco products. Details can be found in Tables 1 and 2. Results show that:

- **Students who smoke flavoured (menthol) cigarettes smoke significantly more than students who smoke non-flavoured cigarettes.** Alberta students who smoke, smoke an average of 7.5 cigarettes per day (about 225 cigarettes/month). In comparison, students who smoke menthol cigarettes smoke an average of 9.4 cigarettes per day (about 282 cigarettes/month) and student who only smoke non-flavoured cigarettes smoke an average of 5.9 cigarettes per day (about 177 cigarettes/month).
- **Female Alberta students who smoke are significantly more likely to have smoked menthol cigarettes** in the last 30-days (47.0%) than male students (25.1%).

TABLE 1

PERCENT OF ALBERTA STUDENTS REPORTING USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS, GRADES 6-12 STUDENTS, 2014/2015 CSTADS

	Last 30-day use (%)	Ever Use (%)
Both Males and Females		
Cigarillos or little cigars	2.9	10.2
Cigars	<u>1.8</u>	6.7
E-cigarettes	4.8	15.1
Waterpipe	3.7	9.5
Smokeless tobacco	<u>1.8</u>	5.1
Cigarettes	4.5	15.5
Any tobacco product*	8.5	20.0
Males / Females		
Cigarillos	<u>4.3</u> / <u>1.4</u>	12.7 / 7.7
Cigars	<u>2.7</u> / <u>0.8</u>	9.4 / <u>3.8</u>
E-cigarettes	5.6 / <u>3.9</u>	17.3 / 12.8
Waterpipe	4.2 / <u>3.2</u>	9.9 / 9.1
Smokeless tobacco	<u>2.8</u> / <u>0.9</u>	6.8 / 3.4
Cigarettes	6.3 / 2.6	17.1 / 13.7
Any tobacco products*	10.7 / 6.2	21.8 / 18.1

*Any tobacco product includes cigarettes, cigarillos, cigars, ryo, bidis, smokeless tobacco, waterpipe and blunt wraps. Underlined estimates are estimates with moderate sampling variable.

TABLE 2

PERCENT OF ALBERTA STUDENTS REPORTING USE OF FLAVOURED TOBACCO PRODUCTS, GRADES 6-12 STUDENTS, 2014/2015 CSTADS

	Last 30-day use within entire population (%)	Last 30-day use among current users (%)
Both Males and Females		
Flavoured cigarillos	2.4	71.7
Flavoured cigars	1.9	75.2
Flavoured smokeless tobacco	<u>1.6</u>	75.9
Flavoured waterpipe	3.4	73.6
Menthol cigarettes	1.8	31.2
Any flavoured product	6.6	66.4
Males / Females		
Flavoured cigarillos	<u>3.4 / 1.3</u>	71.2 / 73.2
Flavoured cigars	<u>2.7 / 0.9</u>	74.7 / 77.2
Flavoured smokeless tobacco	<u>2.5 / 0.8</u>	76.3 / 74.4
Flavoured waterpipe	4.1 / <u>2.7</u>	82.2 / <u>61.2</u>
Menthol cigarettes	<u>2.2 / 1.5</u>	<u>25.1</u> / 47.0
Any flavoured product	8.2 / 4.9	67.3 / 64.7

*Any flavoured tobacco product includes menthol cigarettes and flavoured cigarillos, cigars, smokeless tobacco, and waterpipe. Underlined estimates are estimates with moderate sampling variable.

Acknowledgements

These analyses were supported by the Canadian Cancer Society grant #2011-701019, through the Propel Centre for Population Health Impact. Data used for this research were taken from Health Canada's Canadian Student Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs Survey (CSTADS; formerly the Youth Smoking Survey (YSS)), which is conducted for Health Canada by the Propel Centre for Population Health Impact at the University of Waterloo. Health Canada has not reviewed, approved, nor endorsed this research. Any views expressed or conclusions drawn herein do not necessarily represent those of Health Canada. Additional information about the survey can be found at cstads.ca.

Suggested citation

Cumming, T., Rynard, V. (2017). *In Brief: Student Tobacco use in Alberta, 2014/2015 Canadian Student Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs Survey*. Waterloo, Ontario: Propel Centre for Population Health Impact, University of Waterloo.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: propel@uwaterloo.ca

PROPEL FOUNDED BY:

