

Preventing Youth Tobacco and Nicotine Addiction

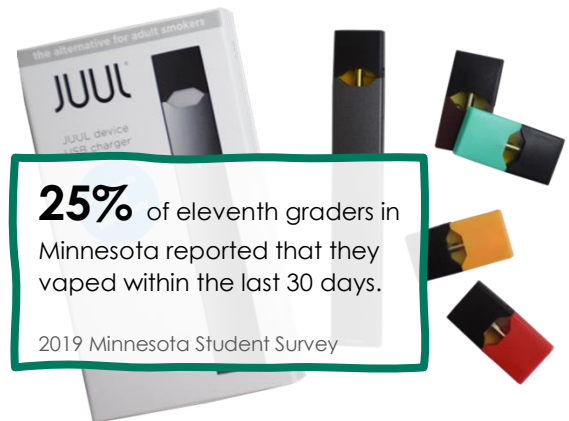
Tobacco 21 & Flavored Tobacco



Tobacco 21

Tobacco 21 (HF 331/SF 463) will prevent youth tobacco use and save lives by reducing the number of kids who start smoking.

- **95%** of adult smokers start smoking before the age of 21.¹
 - Many kids turn to older friends and classmates as a source of tobacco products.
- **Over 60** Minnesota counties and cities have passed local tobacco 21 policies.
- In December 2019, Tobacco 21 was passed at the federal level. The new law took effect immediately. **State action is still necessary** to protect Minnesota's young people. Passing Tobacco 21 in Minnesota will align state law with federal law to **ensure strong enforcement** and **remove PUP penalties** (purchase, use, or possession) on young people.



25% of eleventh graders in Minnesota reported that they vaped within the last 30 days.

2019 Minnesota Student Survey

Photo: Association for Nonsmokers-Minnesota (<http://www.ansrmn.org>)

LPHA supports passing a Tobacco 21 bill at the state level to ensure strong implementation, compliance and enforcement, and remove ineffective penalties on youth.

Flavored Tobacco

Prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco (HF 3032) will help combat increasing youth tobacco use. Youth tobacco use increased for the first time in 17 years in Minnesota. The popularity of flavored e-cigarettes is booming.

- The tobacco industry targets kids with attractive flavors such as menthol, candy, and fruit-flavored products.²
- Flavors are used to mask the harshness of tobacco and other chemicals but are **just as addictive and harmful as unflavored products**.³
- **34%** of Minnesota teen smokers reporting smoking menthols.⁴



80% of kids who use tobacco use fruit, candy or menthol flavors.⁵

Photo: Association for Nonsmokers-Minnesota (<http://www.ansrmn.org>)

LPHA supports passing a flavored tobacco bill at the state level. Several Minnesota communities have already taken action to restrict youth access to flavored tobacco products.

About the Local Public Health Association of Minnesota



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

The Local Public Health Association of Minnesota (LPHA) is a voluntary, non-profit organization that works to achieve a strong local public health system through leadership and collective advocacy on behalf of Minnesota's county, city and tribal local public health departments. The Association represents more than 230 public health directors, supervisors and community health services administrators throughout the state.

LPHA is an affiliate of the Association of Minnesota Counties.

For more information, please contact: Kari Oldfield, Director | koldfield@mncounties.org or (651) 789-4354

¹ National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. Public Health Implications of Raising the Minimum Age of Legal Access to Tobacco Products. National Academy Press. 2015.

² Marketing Innovations Inc. (Brown and Williamson Tobacco). Youth cigarettes - new concepts. <http://legacy.library.ucsf.edu/tid/wwq54a99/pdf>

³ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Health Consequences of Smoking: 50 Years of Progress. A Report of the Surgeon General. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health. 2014.

⁴ Minnesota Department of Health. Teens and Tobacco in Minnesota: Highlights From the 2017 Youth Tobacco Survey. 2018

⁵ Ambrose BK et al. Flavored tobacco product use among U.S. youth aged 12-17 years, 2013-2014. JAMA. 2015