

What Youth Are Saying About

VAPING

PAYS 2025 Data

What is PAYS?

The Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) is a student survey administered in odd-numbered years (e.g. 2021, 2023, 2025) to youth in 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th grades in participating schools throughout the state. The questions asked in the survey cover many types of attitudes, knowledge, behaviors, and experiences.

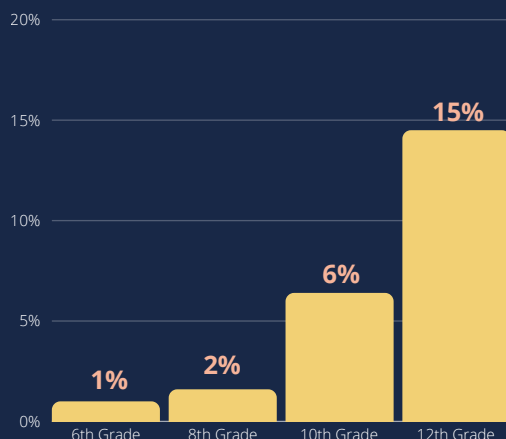
2025 DASD PAYS Participation

6th	924
8th	842
10th	798
12th	544

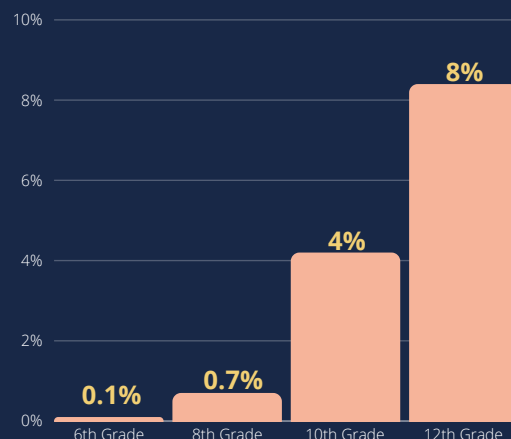
Total student participation:

3,108

DASD Youth Reported They:



have ever vaped or used an e-cigarette in their life.



have vaped or used an e-cigarette in the last 30 days.

What is Vaping?

E-cigarettes (also called vape pens, vapes, mods, e-cigs) are battery-operated devices that heat a liquid until it becomes an aerosol (mist), which is inhaled. The aerosol is not just water vapor. It usually contains nicotine, other harmful chemicals, and flavorings. Even e-cigarettes that claim to have no nicotine have been found to contain nicotine. Some might contain marijuana, herbs, or oils.

Some e-cigarettes are disposable and designed for one-time use. When the liquid is used up or the battery dies, the user throws the device away. Others can be refilled with liquid, recharged, and used over and over. Some people buy pre-filled cartridges for the e-cigarette. Others buy a bottle of liquid and refill the e-cigarette as needed.



Source: kidshealth.org

Kids that are vaping are using addictive substances in their vape devices that they may become dependent on after only a few times using them.

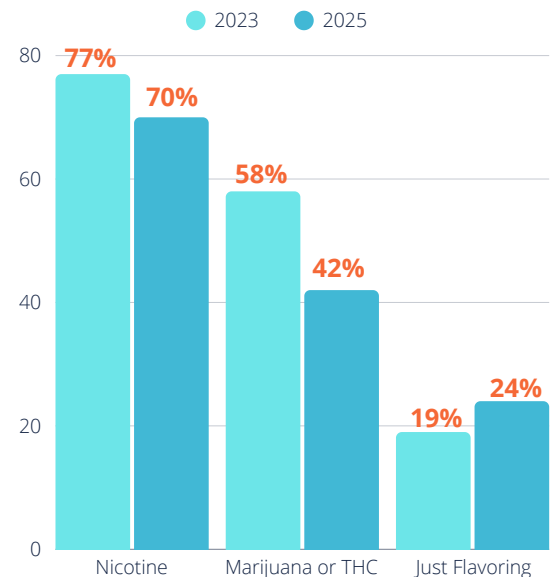


Among all students in grades 6-12 that have vaped in the past year:

52% reported "A friend or sibling gave it to me for free" and **36%** said "I bought it from a store or online".

In PA, you must be 21 years old to purchase a vaping device or any tobacco product. Students may be getting them from stores that are selling to minors and/or from their friends and peers.

Among all DASD students in grades 6-12 that have vaped in the past year their vapes contained the following substances:



The health risks of vaping include:

- **Addiction:** E-cigarettes contain nicotine, a drug that's highly addictive. You don't have to vape every day to get addicted.
- **Anxiety and depression:** Nicotine makes anxiety and depression worse. It also affects memory, concentration, self-control, and attention, especially in developing brains.
- **Becoming a smoker:** Young people who vape are more likely to start smoking regular (tobacco) cigarettes and may be more likely to develop other addictions in the future.
- **Impotence:** There is some evidence that vaping can cause sexual dysfunction in men.
- **Sleep problems**
- **Exposure to cancer-causing chemicals**
- **Chronic bronchitis**
- **Lung damage** that can be life-threatening

Other health effects are possible that we don't yet know about.

Vaping has not been around that long, so its health risks aren't all known.



Source: kidshealth.org

Learn more about youth vaping on our website (www.dtownctc.org - scan QR) & follow us on social media:



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CTC is funded in part by the Chester County Department of Drug & Alcohol Services.