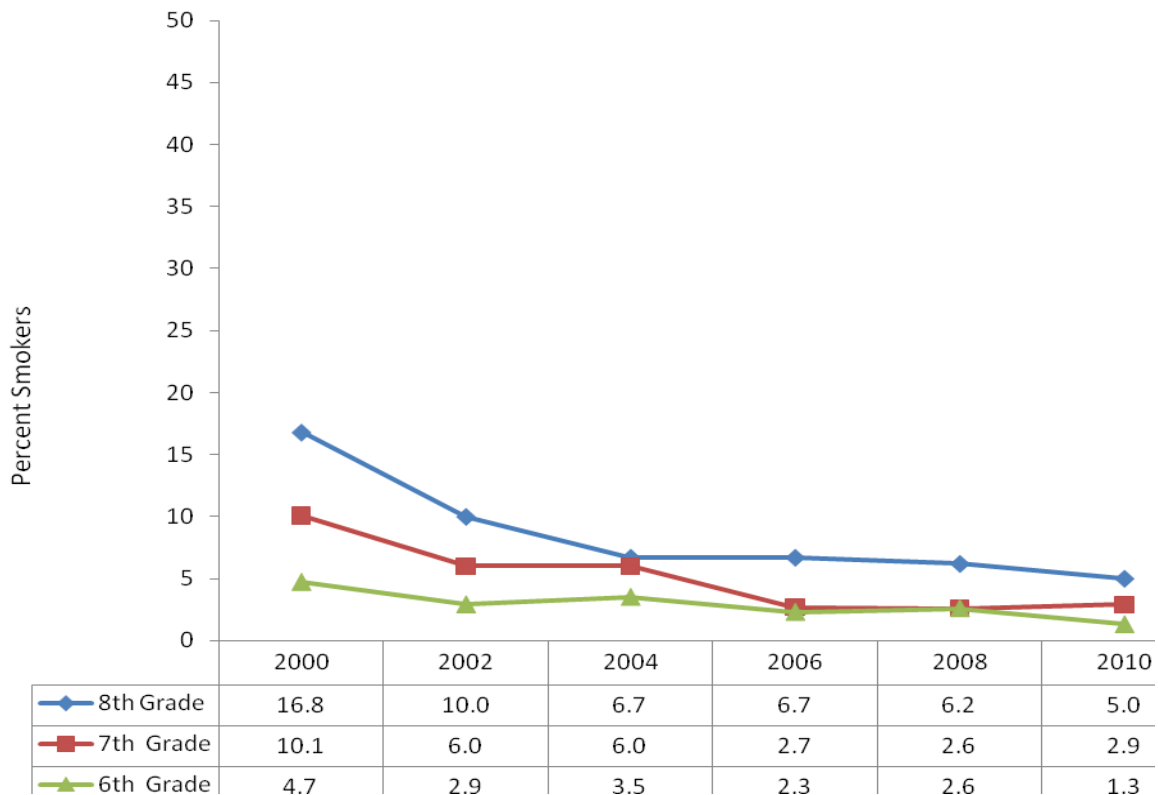


New York Middle School Students in Every Grade Show Significant Declines in Cigarette Smoking

Smoking rates of middle school students are monitored using the New York Youth Tobacco Survey (NY YTS). This school-based survey is conducted in public and private schools in New York every other year, in even-numbered years. The standard definition of current smoking among youth is “having smoked on one or more of the past 30 days.”

- Current smoking rates among 6th, 7th, and 8th grade middle school students in New York exhibited a strong downward trend between 2000 and 2010. All declines are statistically significant.
- Percentage declines in current cigarette smoking between 2000 and 2010 were 72%, 71%, and 70% for grades 6 through 8, respectively.
- Significant reductions in youth smoking support New York’s approach of graphic and emotionally evocative media, high excise taxes, and a well-funded tobacco control program.

Percentage of Current Smoking among Middle School Students by Grade Level, New York State Youth Tobacco Survey 2000-2010



Source: New York State Youth Tobacco Survey, 2000-2010. Contact the Bureau of Chronic Disease Epidemiology and Surveillance, New York State Department of Health at (518) 473-0673 or type ‘StatShot’ in the subject line of an e-mail and send it to tcp@health.state.ny.us