



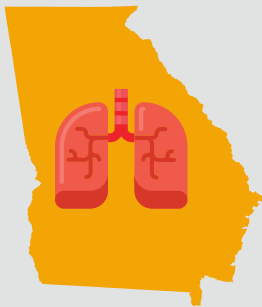
Twenty Twenty-one
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TOBACCO & VAPING *factsheet* FOR LEGISLATORS

E-Cigarette

/,ēsigə'ret,,ē'sigə,ret/ • *noun*

a cigarette-shaped device containing a nicotine-based liquid that is vaporized and inhaled, used to simulate the experience of smoking tobacco.



Use of e-cigarettes in Georgia increased with grade level.

9th grade	(20.0%)
10th grade	(25.2%)
11th grade	(29.8%)
12th grade	(32.2%)

E-cigarettes come in many shapes and sizes. They can be called “e-cigs,” “e-hookahs,” “mods,” “pod mods” (like Juul) “vape pens,” “vapes,” “disposable vapes” (Like Puff Bar), “tank systems,” and “electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS).”

Among High School students in Georgia, 26.6% reported that they believed e-cigarettes are less addictive than cigarettes.

Most e-cigarettes contain nicotine, which has known health effects.

- Nicotine is highly addictive, as addictive as heroin and cocaine.
- Adolescents are particularly susceptible to nicotine addiction: the majority (90%) of tobacco product use starts before the age of 18.
- Nicotine is a health danger for pregnant women and their developing babies.
- Nicotine exposure can harm youth brain development, which continues into the early to mid-20s, negatively affecting attention, and learning. Other long-term and long-lasting effects of exposing developing brains to nicotine include permanent lowering of impulse control and increased risk of mood disorders like anxiety and depression, as well as the risk for other substance use, including opioids.
- Nicotine is toxic, with thousands of calls to poison control centers each year about children and adults swallowing, breathing, or absorbing e-cigarette liquid through their skin or eyes.

SOURCES

• U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2020. • U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Office of the U.S. Surgeon General, 2021 • Extinguishing the Tobacco Epidemic in Georgia. • Georgia Department of Public Health, Health Protection, Epidemiology, Chronic Disease, Health behaviors and Injury Epidemiology Section, 2018. • Truth Initiative. Tobacco in Georgia, 2020 • American Lung Association. State of Tobacco Control, 2020 • Georgia Department of Public Health. Georgia Tobacco Use Surveillance, 2019 • Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids. FY 2020 State Rankings



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Common combustible or “smokeless” tobacco products include cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, hookah, chewing tobacco, snuff, snus, nicotine pouches, dissolvable nicotine pouches.



Georgia does not have a comprehensive, smoke-free law to protect people from secondhand smoke in all indoor areas of workplaces, restaurants, and bars.



139 out of 181 public school districts in the state have adopted tobacco-free policies.



In FY20 Georgia allocated \$750,000 for tobacco prevention and cessation, ranking 49th in the US. (CDC best practices recommendation is an annual spending target of \$106 million)



Since 2014 University System of Georgia campuses have been 100% tobacco-free.



Tobacco use in Georgia costs 11,700 lives per year and smoking costs \$3.2 billion a year in direct and indirect costs.



Georgia’s Quit Line invests \$1.03 per smoker, compared to the national average of \$2.14 per line.



Georgia is ranked 50th in the U.S. for its cigarette tax of \$0.37 per pack compared to the national average of \$1.82.



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SOURCES

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