

behind the

# smoke

# VAPING is NO JOKE

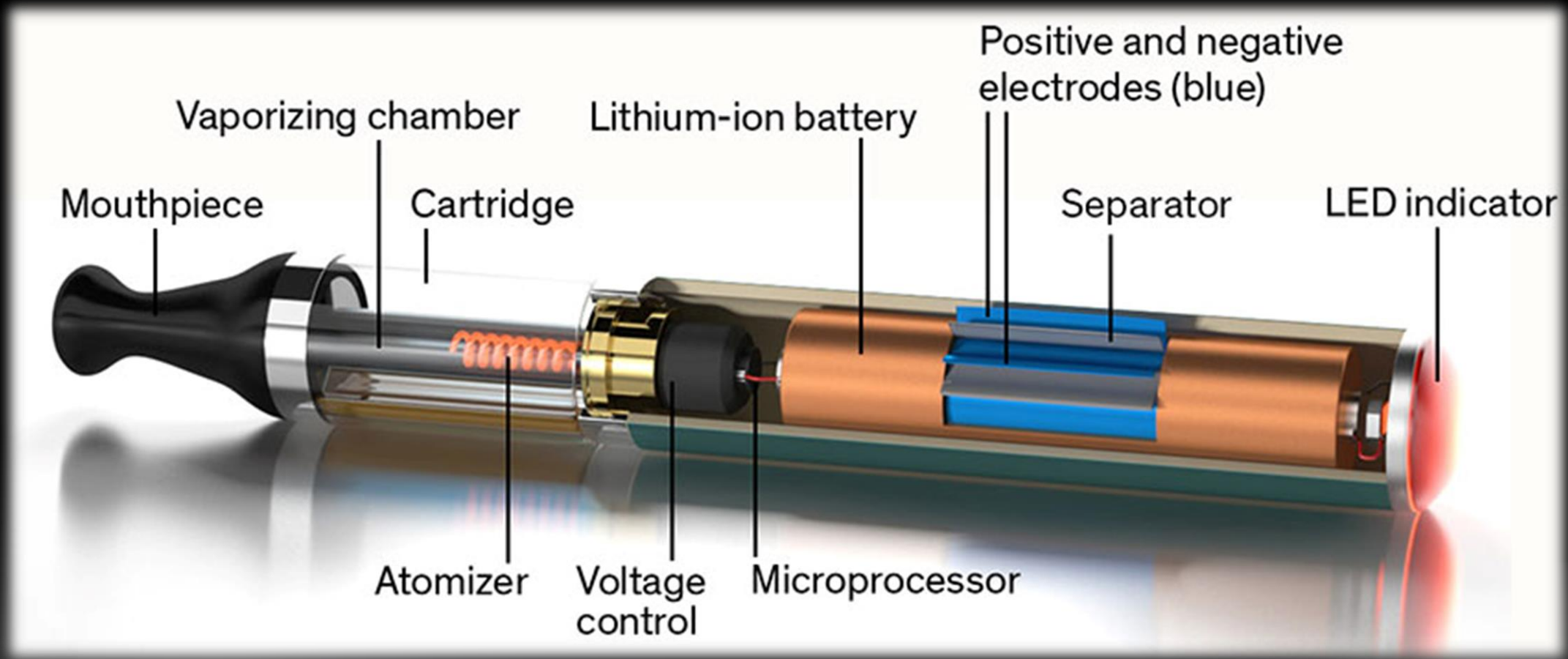


Office of Public Engagement

Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General

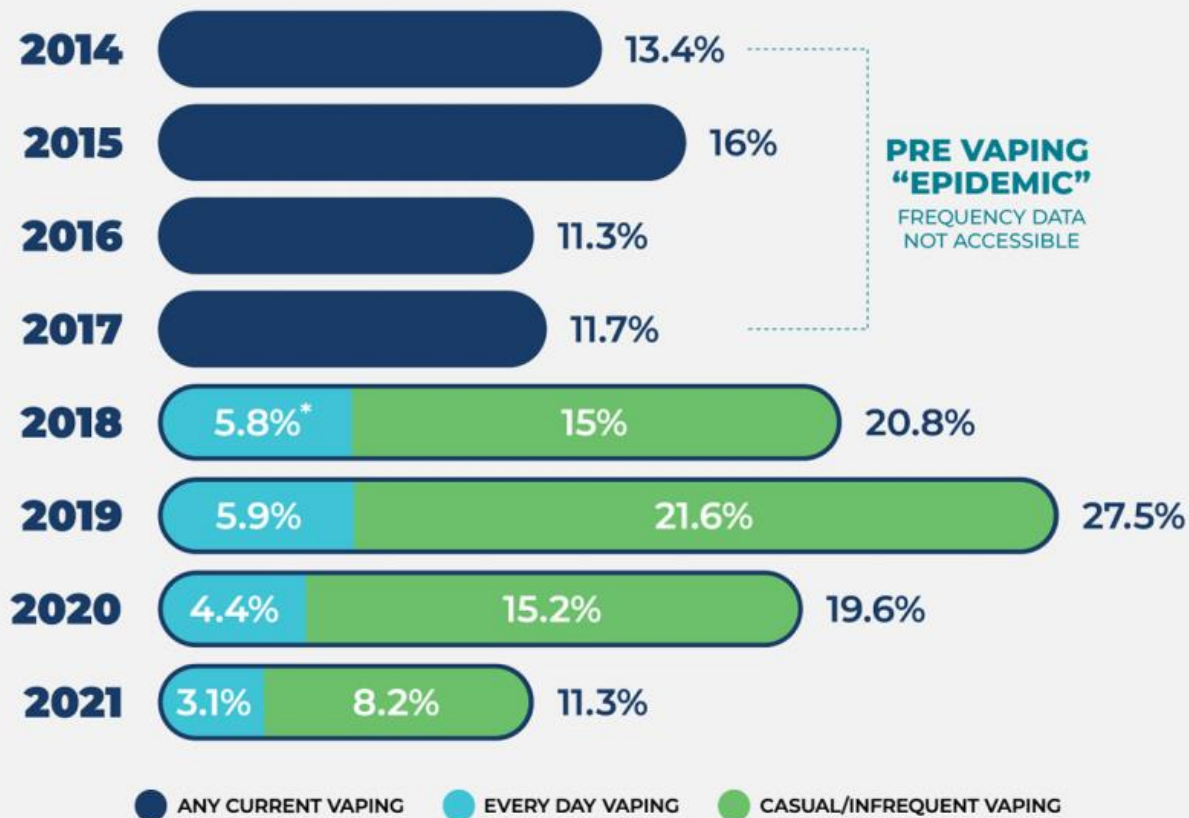
[www.attorneygeneral.gov/vaping](http://www.attorneygeneral.gov/vaping)

# What is Vaping?



# Vaping Trends

## UNITED STATES HIGH SCHOOL VAPING DATA 2014-2021



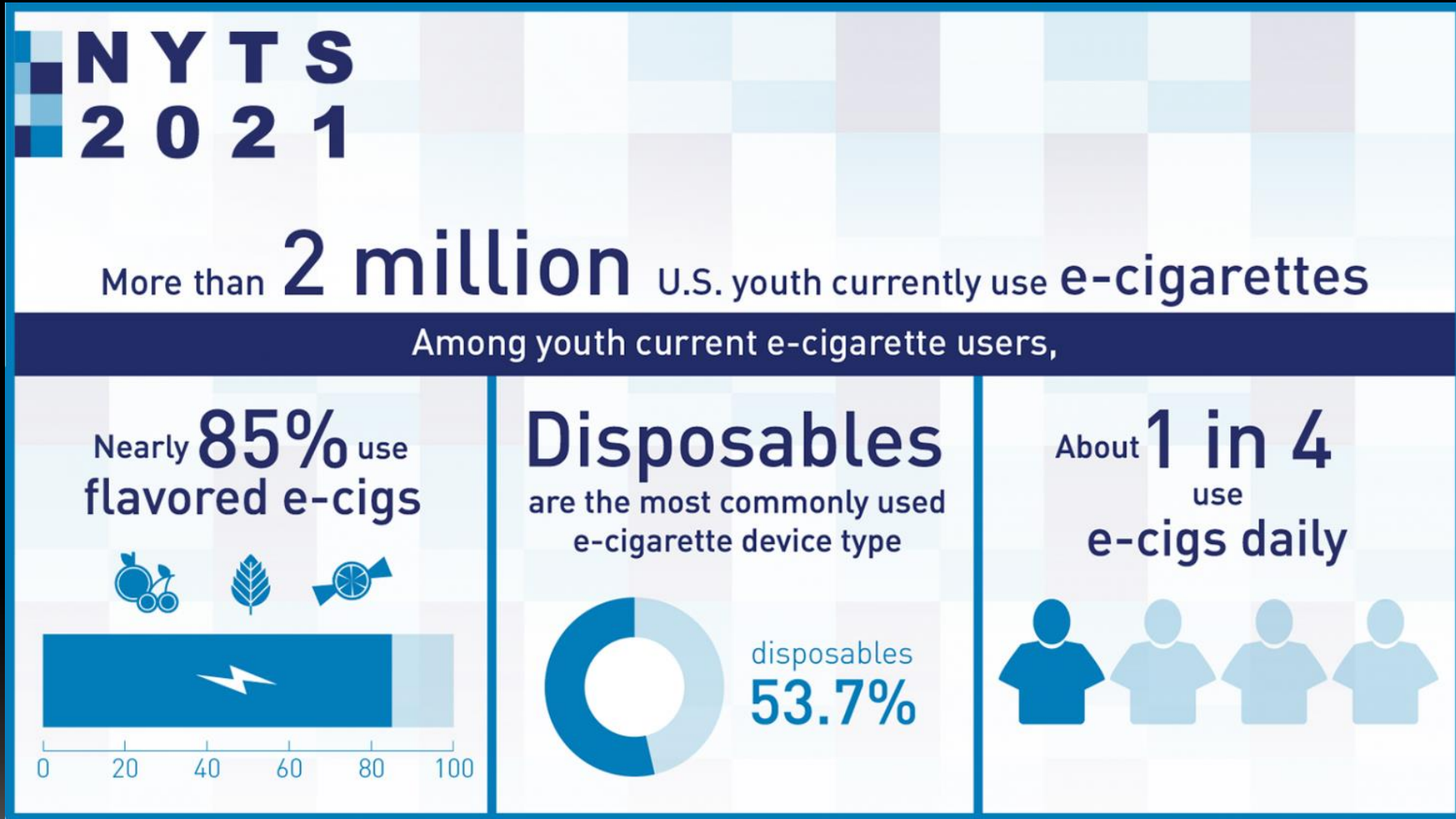
\*FREQUENT USE (DAILY USE DATA NOT AVAILABLE FOR 2018)

DATA FROM CDC'S NATIONAL YOUTH TOBACCO SURVEYS | GRAPH BY DANIELLE JONES OF CASAA

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# By the numbers



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# How Common is Vaping?

(PA compared to US)

Last 30 days use:	PA 2017	PA 2019	PA 2021	US 2021
6 <sup>th</sup> grade	2.3%	3.8%	2.8%	n/a
8 <sup>th</sup> grade	10.9%	12.5%	9.2%	8.9%
10 <sup>th</sup> grade	21.9%	26.5%	16.2%	15.6%
12 <sup>th</sup> grade	29.3%	33.1%	23.7%	24.0%

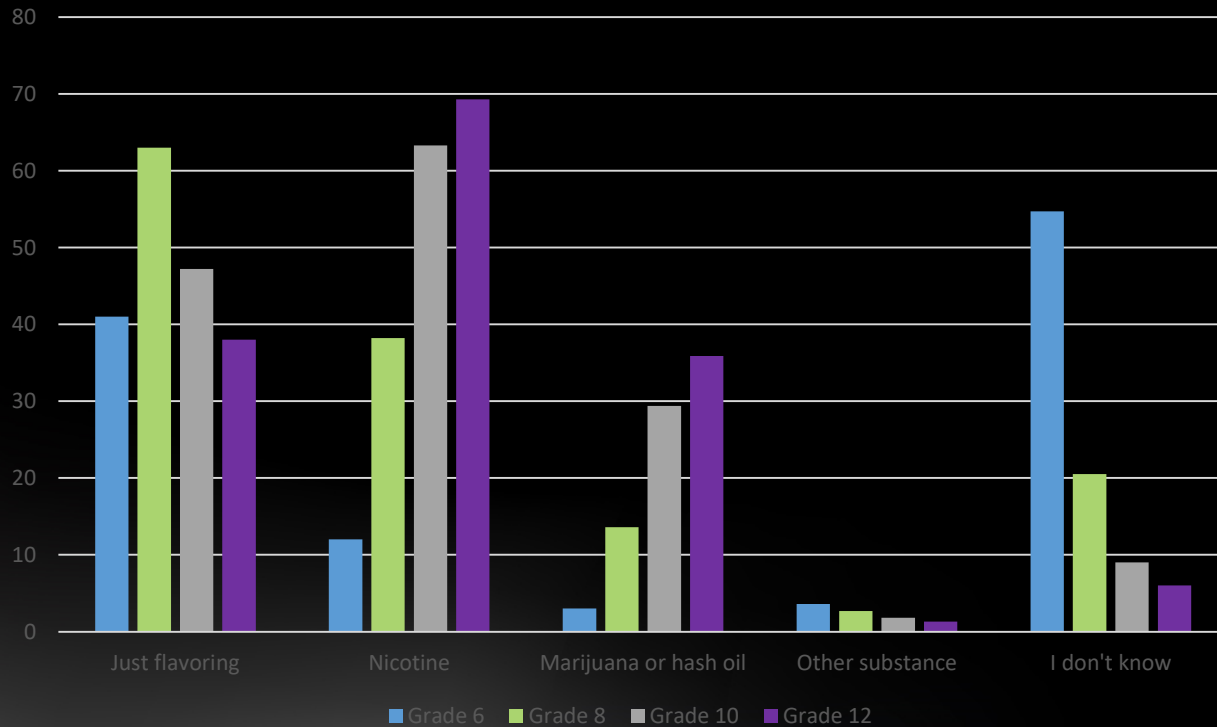
Data from Pennsylvania Youth Survey, accessed 8/12/22 at: [https://www.pccd.pa.gov/Juvenile-Justice/Documents/2021%20PAYS/County%20Reports%202021%20PAYS/State%20Reports\\_State%20of%20Pennsylvania%20Profile%20Report.pdf](https://www.pccd.pa.gov/Juvenile-Justice/Documents/2021%20PAYS/County%20Reports%202021%20PAYS/State%20Reports_State%20of%20Pennsylvania%20Profile%20Report.pdf)

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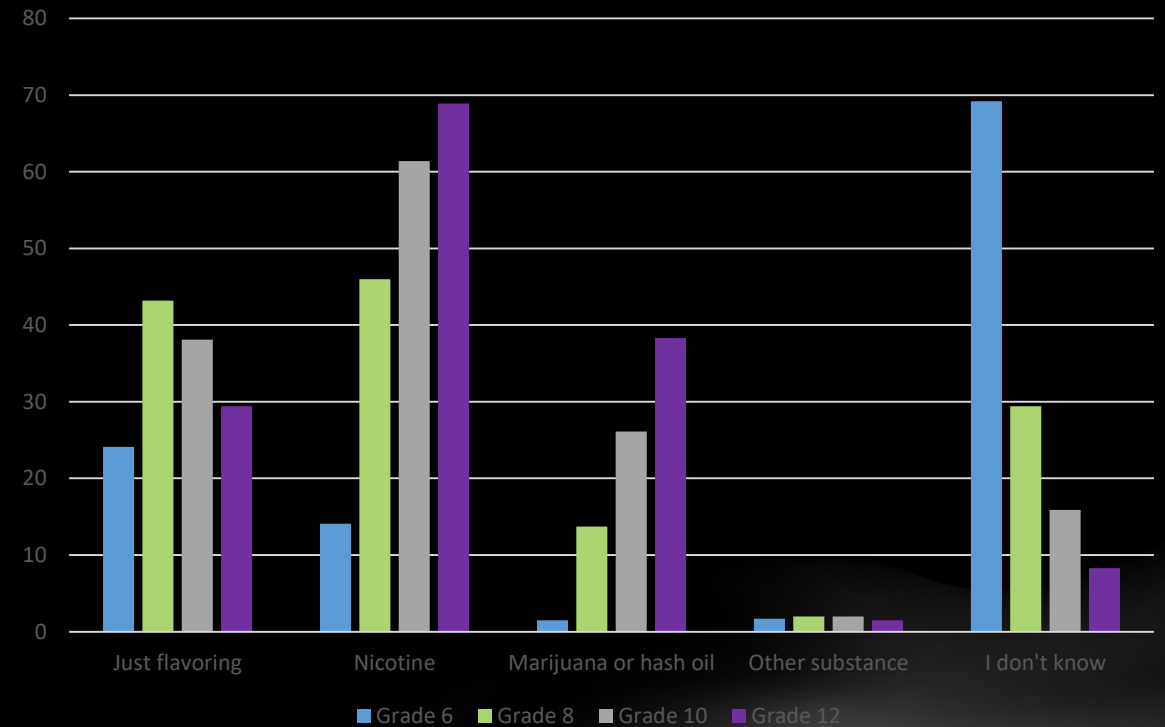
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# What are PA Students Vaping

2019 Vaping Contents



2021 Vaping Contents



Vaping –  
it's not  
just water  
vapor!

Nicotine

Volatile  
organic  
compounds

Cancer causing  
chemicals

Ultrafine particles

Heavy metals  
such as nickel,  
tin, and lead

Flavoring such as Diacetyl, a  
chemical linked to lung disease



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# Vaping. Don't Get Taken In.

Ads claim e-cigarettes emit only harmless water vapor. NOT true!

## PROPYLENE GLYCOL

Commonly used in theatrical fog. It is considered safe when ingested, but little is known about long-term health effects when inhaled.

## LEAD

Used in car batteries. It is highly toxic and has been banned from paint products. Lead poisoning stunts growth, causes nausea and vomiting and damages the brain.

## ACETALDEHYDE

Carcinogen found in cigarette smoke. It irritates the skin, eyes, mucous membranes, throat, and respiratory tract.

## FORMALDEHYDE

Embalmers use it to preserve dead bodies. It causes cancer and can damage your lungs, skin and digestive system.

## TOLUENE

Commonly used ingredient in paint thinner. It is highly toxic. Exposure to even low levels can cause headache, nausea and wheezing.

## CADMIUM

Commonly used in batteries. It causes damage to the liver, kidneys and brain and stays in the body for years.

## ACETONE

Commonly used in nail polish remover. It can irritate the eyes and may depress the central nervous system.

## ACROLEIN

Used as an herbicide to control weeds and algae. It is a toxic irritant for skin, eyes and nasal passages.

## NICKEL

Commonly used in stainless steel, magnets and batteries. It causes cancer and can damage your lungs and immune system.

## LIQUID NICOTINE

The most dangerous part of an e-cigarette might be the liquid nicotine.

It is highly addictive and toxic. Even small amounts of liquid nicotine absorbed through the skin or swallowed can cause vomiting and seizures, and could be fatal for a child.

The refill containers aren't childproof. AND "e-juice" comes in candy flavors and bright colors that kids are going to love.



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Graphic supplied by [www.etr.org](http://www.etr.org)



# #Vaping

- Tobacco companies **use social media** to market to kids and to turn **YOU** into unpaid and unknowing spokespeople for their products.
- Creating and sharing memes or posts that include tags, hashtags, or wording related to tobacco products can lead your friends directly to ads or other content promoting those products.
- This activity may also cause social media platforms **to push tobacco-related content to you**, potentially influencing you into trying tobacco products.



# Vape Ads Target Teens

High Teen Exposure to E-Cig Advertising

**7** in **10** **exposed to ads**



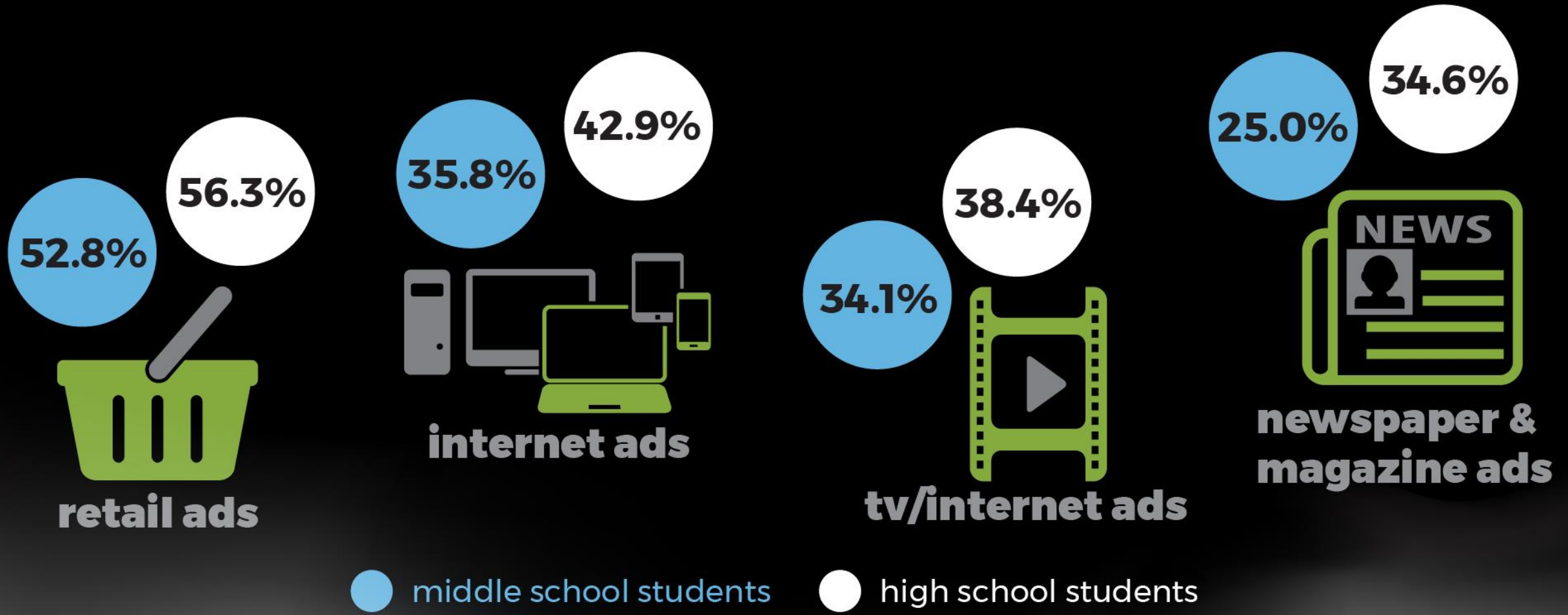
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Graphic data supplied by National Institute of Drug Abuse

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# Ads Targeting Teens



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# Is Vaping Addictive?

- Nicotine is addictive and most vapes contain nicotine, even those labeled **“nicotine free.”**
- The National Institutes of Health says that nicotine is **“as addictive as heroin and cocaine.”**
- Teens and young adults who vape are almost **4X more likely** to begin smoking traditional cigarettes than non-vaping peers (JAMA Pediatrics).
- **The act of vaping itself is addictive** – physical, social and emotional drivers cause users to crave the act of vaping.

# Is Vaping a Police Matter?

It is **illegal** for anyone **UNDER 21** to:

- Purchase or attempt to purchase electronic cigarettes
- Falsely reports age of at least 21 for the purpose of purchasing electronic cigarettes

It is **illegal** for a **PUPIL** to possess or use electronic cigarettes in a school building, school bus or on school property.

*(Federal and Pennsylvania Law set legal age to purchase tobacco products at 21.)*





# Take Away Messages



- **THERE IS NO SAFE WAY TO VAPE**
- Vapes contain compounds that **damage the lungs** and can lead to respiratory failure
- Damage to the lungs can be **IRREVERSIBLE** and **SILENT**
- Vapes contain compounds that can **cause cancer**, especially when heated
- Chemicals from vapes cross into the bloodstream and have effects on **blood vessels, heart, brain, and other organs**



# Take Away Messages

- Vaping can increase your chance of getting **serious lung infections**
- Vaping **marijuana** is **extremely dangerous**
- Based on scientific data thus far, vaping is likely as **bad as or worse than cigarettes**, with the damaging effects manifesting years-decades after exposure
- **Vaping by anyone under age 21 is illegal.**

**If you are  
addicted to  
nicotine, you  
can 100%  
overcome it –  
ask for help!**

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