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## Nicotine and Marijuana Vaping among Florida Students

Use of electronic nicotine delivery systems, also known as “vaping,” are popular among Florida youth, according to the Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey, but as can be seen in the chart on the right, vaping nicotine has decreased since 2019. Nicotine vaping had the second highest prevalence in 2023, after alcohol. In 2023, 16.6% of students reported vaping nicotine at least once in their lifetime. Lifetime nicotine vaping ranges from 9.3% among 6<sup>th</sup> graders to 23.6% among 12<sup>th</sup>

graders. The prevalence of lifetime nicotine vaping for middle school students was 12.8% and 19.6% for high school students. Lifetime nicotine vaping was more frequently reported among girls (20.1%) compared to boys (12.9%), and among white and Hispanic (18.2%) students, compared to African American (10.8%) students.

Also in the chart, lifetime marijuana vaping has decreased from 15.3% in 2019 to 11.8% in 2023. Lifetime prevalence of marijuana vaping in 2023 range from 3.4% among 6<sup>th</sup> graders to 22.7% among 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Overall lifetime rates were 6.3% for middle school students and 16.0% for high school students. Lifetime marijuana vaping was more frequently reported among girls (14.0%) compared to boys (9.5%) and among white (13.2%) students compared to Hispanic (11.1%) and African American (8.9%) students.

The use of electronic nicotine delivery systems and the vaping of nicotine and marijuana can be dangerous and addictive for youth. The adolescent brain continues to develop until age 25, and use can harm parts of the brain that control learning, mood, and impulse. Moreover, the chemicals in these devices can be harmful to the lungs and there are mental health risks associated with nicotine addiction as well. Nicotine vaping also increases the risk for future addiction to other drugs.

Source: Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey, <https://www.myflfamilies.com/services/samh/florida-youth-substance-abuse-survey>; CDC, [https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic\\_information/e-cigarettes/Quick-Facts-on-the-Risks-of-E-cigarettes-for-Kids-Teens-and-Young-Adults.html](https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/Quick-Facts-on-the-Risks-of-E-cigarettes-for-Kids-Teens-and-Young-Adults.html)

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