Connecticut Department of Public Health Fact Sheet Tobacco Control Program | September 2021

2019 Secondhand Smoke and Aerosol Exposure Among High School Students







About 1 in 3 or of Connecticut **High School Students** SECONDHAND SMOKE OR AEROSOL



Exposure by

35.0% among WHITE 27.8% among HISPANIC 17.1% among BLACK





Exposure Use by

36.6% of **FEMALE** 24.4% of MALE



Exposure Use by POOR MENTAL HEALTH

> 37.4% among YES **16.7%** among **NO**



Exposure by **SEXUAL ORIENTATION**

48.8% among GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL 27.8% among HETEROSEXUAL

KEY FACTS

- Results from the 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey estimate, that on 1 or more of the past 7 days, approximately 47,800 or 30.5% of Connecticut high school students breathed the smoke or aerosol from someone who was smoking or vaping a tobacco product (i.e., secondhand smoke or aerosol exposure)
- The prevalence of secondhand smoke or aerosol exposure was significantly higher among female high school students (36.6%) than among their male counterparts (24.4%)
- Exposure was significantly higher among students who identify as gay, lesbian or bisexual (48.8%) than it was among heterosexual (27.8%) students
- White (35.0%) students were significantly more likely than Black (17.1%) and Hispanic (27.8%) students to have been exposed to secondhand smoke or aerosol; and the rate among Hispanic students was significantly higher than that of Black students
- High school students who reported poor mental health during the past 30 days, including stress, depression and problems with emotions, were more than twice as likely (37.4%) as their peers without mental health difficulties (16.7%) to have been exposed to secondhand smoke or aerosol during the past 7 days
- Exposure varied by grade from 26.0% in 10th to 34.6% in 9th; the difference between these two grades is statistically significant

For More Information Contact:

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Data Source: 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Last updated: August 5, 2021



