

## Communication from Public

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**Date Submitted:** 09/22/2025 10:09 PM

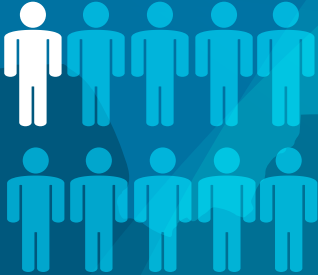
**Council File No:** 25-0916

**Comments for Public Posting:** A call for support AND strengthening of Council File 25-0916 (Interim Control Ordinance / Tobacco, Nicotine, and Related Products / Prohibition of Establishment or Expansion / Operations Near Sensitive Uses). I am a school nurse with Los Angeles Unified SD and I believe in the government's role in protecting the health and wellness of students in the City of Los Angeles and other cities served by the school district including the South Bay and Harbor areas, and I am urging the City Council to support the motion forwarded by the Honorable Tim McOsker that enhances governmental oversight on businesses that sell tobacco and nicotine products through "smoke shops", especially near schools. However, it has to be noted that despite data in 2019 from CDC showing that tobacco use has generally declined in recent years, agencies such as our own Los Angeles County Department of Public Health still report the popularity of e-cigarettes and vaping among our youth, which similarly cause health problems as regular tobacco and nicotine products. As I urge the City Council to unanimously support this motion, I also ask Councilman McOsker to amend the motion to explicitly include "e-cigarettes" and "vaping" as part of its verbiage to ensure that these types of products are covered in a potential city ordinance. By simply adding these words into the motion, we can further decrease the prevalence of smoking among students in all forms and protect the well-being of our children.

# Los Angeles County

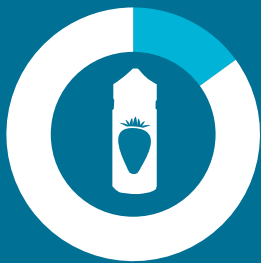
## Tobacco Use among High School Students

### At a glance



**1 in 10**

high school students  
are current **e-cigarette**  
**users**



**83%**

current tobacco users  
reported using a **flavored**  
**tobacco product**

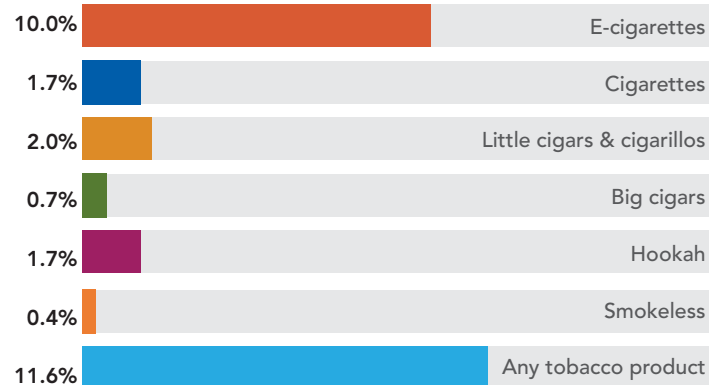


**61%**

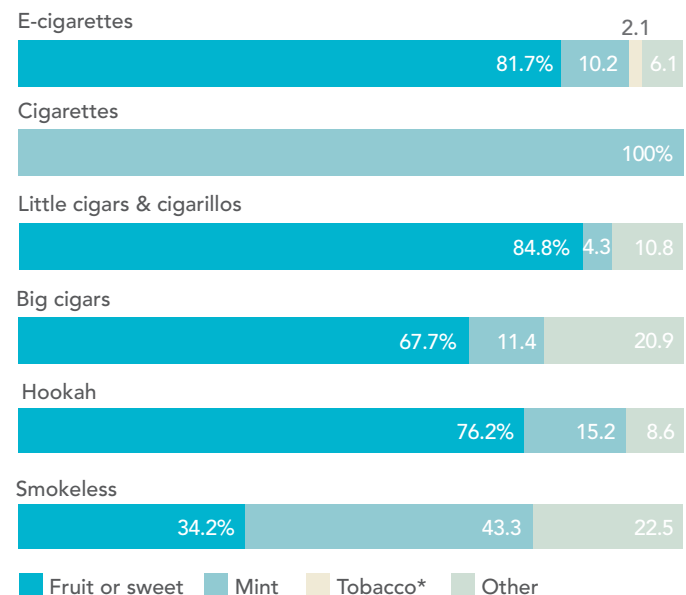
current e-cig users  
bought e-cigarettes from  
**vape shops**

- The cigarette smoking prevalence for high school students in Los Angeles County has reached a historical low (1.7%).
- E-cigarettes were the most commonly used tobacco product among high school students in Los Angeles County.
- The majority of current tobacco users reported using a flavored tobacco product.
- Flavored tobacco product use was high across all genders, races/ethnicities, and grades.
- Fruit or sweet was the most popular reported flavor for most tobacco products.

### Prevalence of Current Use of Tobacco Products by High School Students

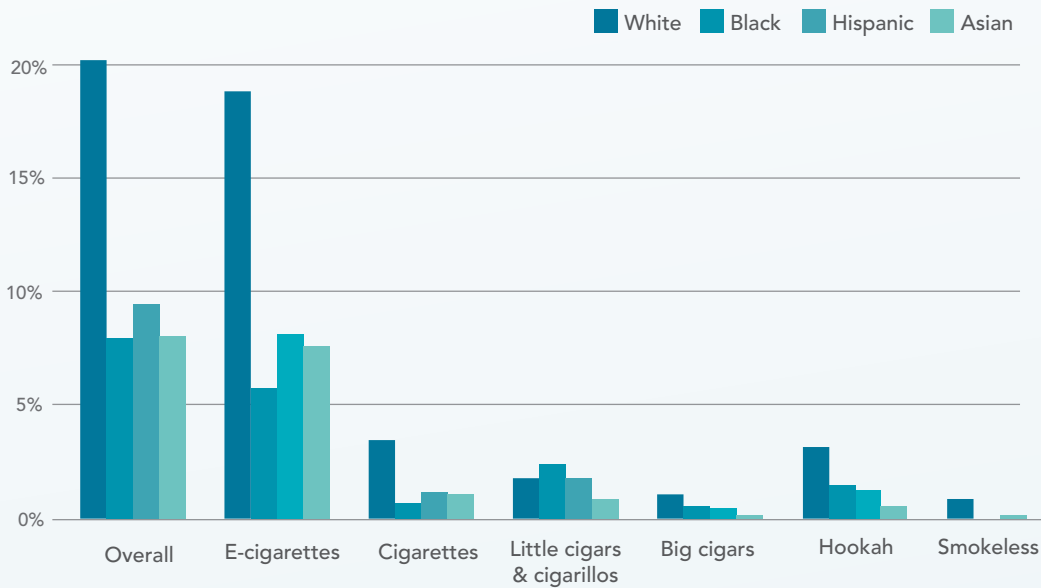


### Proportion using Flavored Tobacco Products by Flavor Type

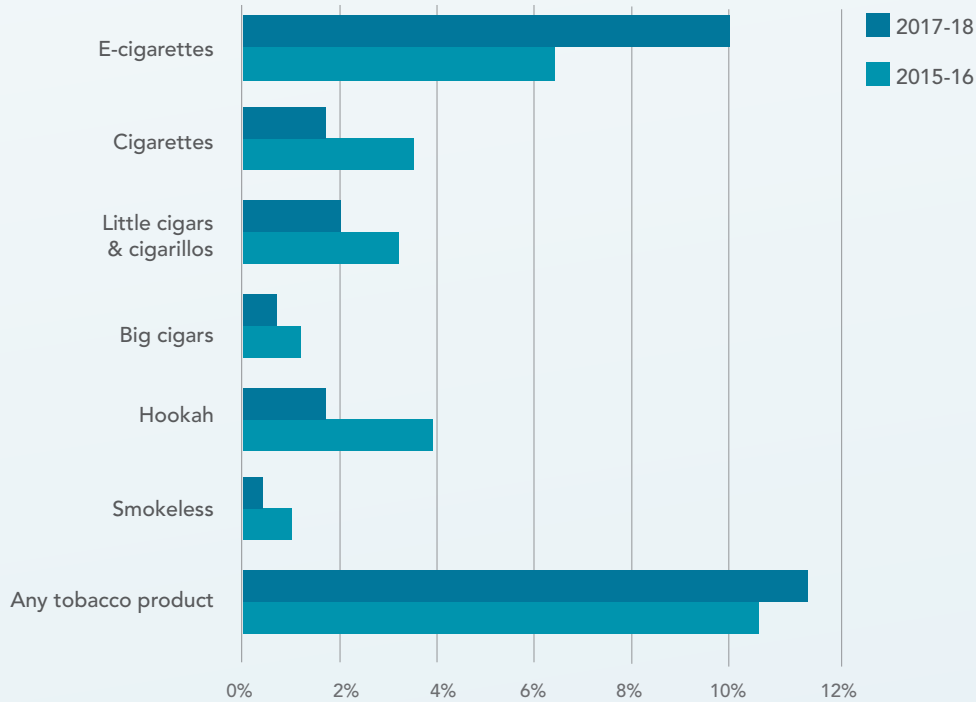


\*Tobacco was only included as a flavor option for e-cigarettes.

## Prevalence of Current Tobacco Product Use by Ethnicity



## Prevalence of Current Tobacco Product Use by Survey Cycle



Source: Zhu S-H, Zhuang YL, Lee J, Cole A, Braden K, Wolfson T, Gamst A (2019). *Tobacco use among high school students in Los Angeles County: Findings from the 2017-18 California Student Tobacco Study*. San Diego, California: Center for Research and Intervention in Tobacco Control (CRITC), University of California, San Diego.

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