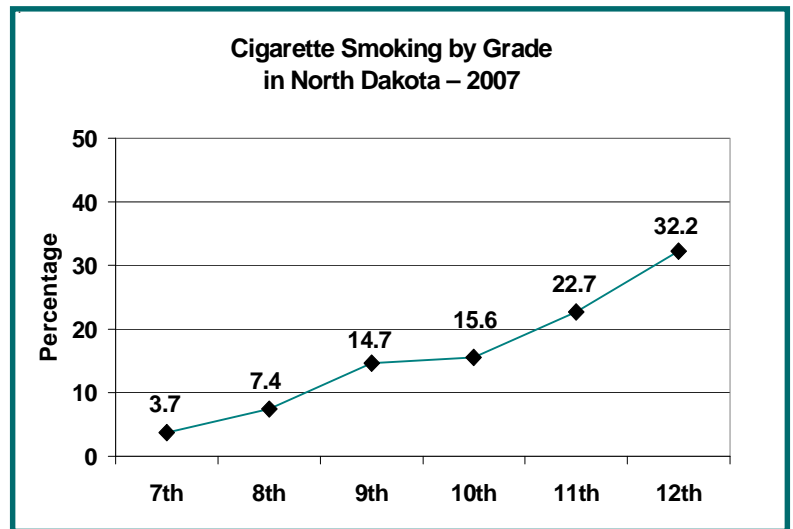
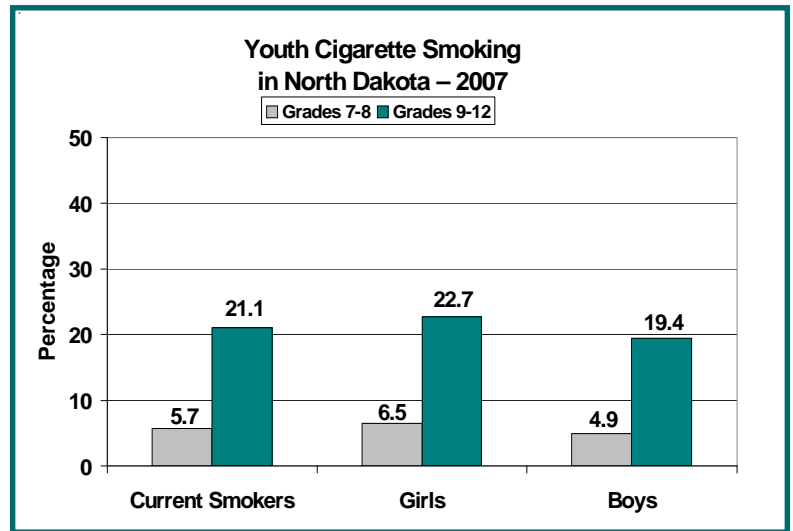


TOBACCO *Facts*

Youth Cigarette Smoking in 2007

- In 2007, 21.1 percent of North Dakota students in grades nine through 12 were current cigarette smokers and 5.7 percent of students in grades seven and eight were current smokers.
- The rate of current cigarette smoking more than tripled between the time students were in grades seven and eight and the time they were in grades nine through 12.
- Girls smoked at a slightly higher rate than boys in both middle school and high school.
- Cigarette use increased with grade level, starting at 3.7 percent in the seventh grade and growing to 32.2 percent in the 12th grade.
- Nearly 50 percent of students in grades nine through 12 tried smoking a cigarette at least once.
- Nearly 57 percent of the current smokers in grades nine through 12 tried to quit smoking during the previous 12 months.



Source: The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) monitors priority health-risk behaviors among youth and young adults. During the spring of 2007, the North Dakota Department of Health and the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction conducted the seventh biennial YRBS, surveying 9,750 North Dakota students in grades nine through 12 and 6,745 students in grades seven and eight. Weighted results were obtained and are considered representative of all students in those grades.



For more information, contact:
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