

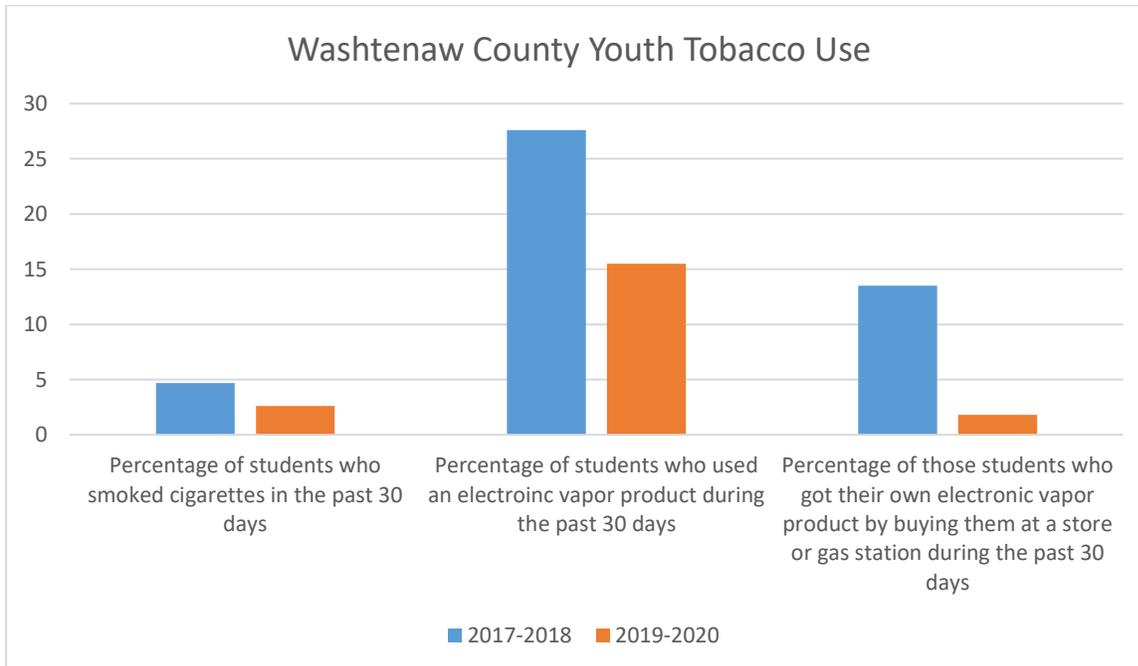


SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION

FY 2019 - 2020 Program Brief

REDUCING YOUTH ACCESS TO TOBACCO WASHTENAW COUNTY

Karen Bergbower & Associates (KBA) works with local schools, coalitions, and the Michigan State Police to educate tobacco retailers about the Michigan Youth Tobacco Act, reduce youth access to tobacco, and conduct tobacco compliance checks.



Michigan Department of Education, Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth, 2017-2018 and 2019-2020

When looking at the above chart, you will see our work with retailers is paying off! There is a significant drop in the percentage of students who bought their electronic vapor products in stores/gas stations. We applaud our retailers for helping to keep tobacco products out of the hands of youth!

Tobacco Compliance Checks SYNAR and Non-SYNAR

“The federal Synar Amendment requires states to have laws in place prohibiting the sale and distribution of tobacco products to person under 18 years-of-age and to enforce those laws effectively. Annual Synar checks, required by the amendment, show that great strides have been made the reduction in retailer violations of the law and youth access to tobacco products in Michigan.”

-- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

230

Tobacco Retailers
received vendor education by phone

92%

of Tobacco Retailers
were found to be in compliance with Youth Tobacco Act

This year looked a little different for us. Due to COVID we were unable to do face-to-face vendor education. In place of that, we called all the tobacco retailers in the area to check in with them and to remind them that you now need to be 21 years old to purchase any tobacco products.

We were also unable to do non-Synar (law enforcement) checks. However, when we conducted our Synar checks, all of retailers refused to sell tobacco to our decoys.

We are hoping that in the upcoming year we can get back to a somewhat “normal” schedule and meet with our retailers face-to-face.