Percentage of Established High School Smokers Declines in New York

An estimated 12.6% of high school students in New York are current cigarette smokers having smoked on at least one of the past 30 days. Established high school student smokers have smoked on at least 20 of the past 30 days and have smoked more than 100 cigarettes in their lifetimes. Established youth smokers are at high risk of becoming chronic adult smokers and suffering from smoking-related disease and death.

- In 2010, the prevalence of established smoking among New York high school students was 4.1%. That’s about 37,000 out of the approximately 900,000 high school students in New York.

- Established smoking among high school students in New York is down 68% from a high of 13.2% in 2000 to 4.1% in 2010, a statistically significant downward trend (p < .0001). These declines are likely due to strong tobacco control measures in New York.

- Compared with high school youth who smoke fewer than 20 days per month, established smokers are more likely to start smoking younger (p < .0001) and to report cravings (p < .0001).

- The rate of established high school student smoking in New York (4.1%) is similar to the national rate (5.6%).

Prevalence of Established Smoking among High School Age Youth, New York and U.S.

Source: New York State Youth Tobacco Survey, 2000-2010, National Youth Tobacco Survey, 2009. Contact the Bureau of Chronic Disease Epidemiology and Surveillance, New York State Department of Health at (518) 473-0673 or type ‘StatShot’ in the subject line of an e-mail and send it to tcp@health.state.ny.us.