In 2012, 11.9% of high school students in New York were 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 2012, the prevalence of established smoking among New York high school students was 4.0%. 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 69% from a high of 13.2% in 2000 to 4.0% in 2012, a statistically significant downward trend (p < .0001). There was no significant reduction from 2010 to 2012.

- 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).

Prevalence of established smoking among high school age youth in New York State, 2000-2012

Source: New York State Youth Tobacco Survey, 2000-2012. Contact the Bureau of Chronic Disease Evaluation and Research, 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.