



PAST 30 DAY USE OF CIGARETTES

BY NEW JERSEY MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Statewide

According to the *New Jersey Middle School Risk and Protective Factor Survey*, cigarettes were the substance used second most often by New Jersey adolescents in 2012. The statewide mean for past 30 day use of cigarettes was 3.2%, meaning that around one-in-thirty students reported having smoked at some point in the past 30 days. This percentage reflects a very slight decrease from the rates measured in 2010 and 2007 (4.4% and 3.8%, respectively).

Countywide

In 2012, Passaic and Hudson counties had the highest past 30 day rates of smoking (6.5% and 6.1%, respectively). In contrast, the lowest past 30 day rates were found in Morris and Ocean counties (1.1% and 1.3%, respectively). However, because of low response rates in some counties, caution must be used when interpreting county-level findings. Full results for past 30 day cigarette use by county, sorted from high to low, can be found in Table 1 and a visual representation of county variation is available on the next page.

Table 1

County	%
Passaic	6.5%
Hudson	6.1%
Cumberland	5.2%
Cape May	4.8%
Gloucester	4.7%
Middlesex	4.5%
Sussex	4.3%
Bergen	3.7%
Statewide	3.2%
Burlington	3.0%
Mercer	3.0%
Camden	2.6%
Warren	2.6%
Essex	2.4%
Somerset	2.4%
Atlantic	2.3%
Monmouth	1.7%
Salem	1.7%
Ocean	1.3%
Morris	1.1%
Hunterdon*	n/a
Union*	n/a

The 2012 New Jersey Middle School Risk and Protective Factor Survey was commissioned by the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) to assess the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs (ATOD), track antisocial behaviors, and document risk and protective factors among New Jersey youth. It was administered by the Bloustein Center for Survey Research (BCSR), at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. The survey contained 6,544 respondents statewide, with county samples ranging between 105 and 403 respondents.

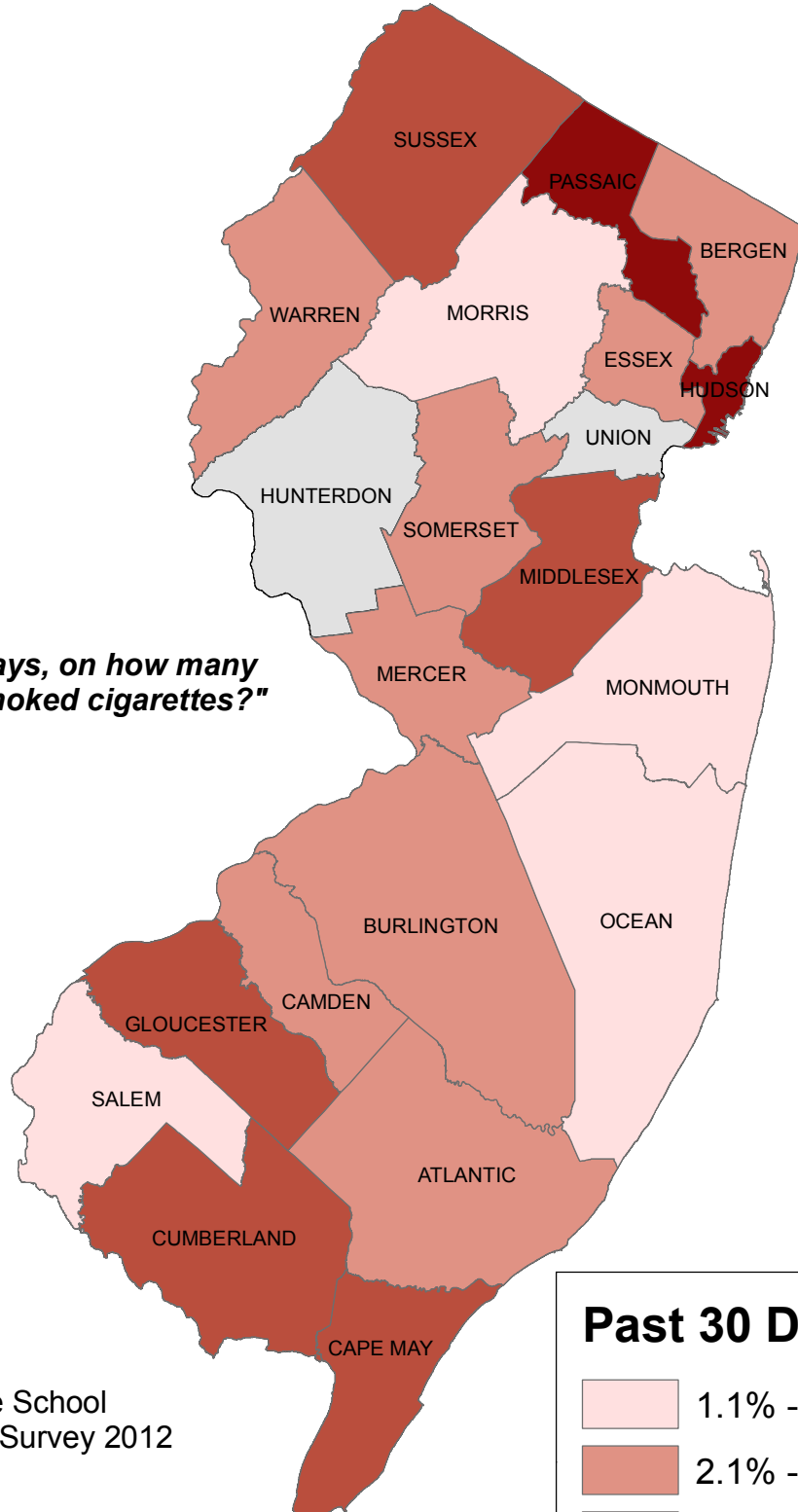
*Please note that Hunterdon and Union Counties are not represented here because their sample sizes were too small to be considered reliable.

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By New Jersey Middle School Students

Min: 1.1%
Max: 6.5%
Mean: 3.2%

"During the past 30 days, on how many occasions have you smoked cigarettes?"



Source: New Jersey Middle School Risk and Protective Factor Survey 2012

**Note: Hunterdon and Union County estimates are not depicted here due to small sample sizes*

