

Tobacco Use

Scale/Subscale Name: Tobacco Use

Source: National Youth Risk Behavior Survey – 2009 High School Version

Developers: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Year: First version in 1991 with revised versions available biannually through 2009.

Target Audience(s): Grades 9 -12

Language other than English available: No

Type: Behavior

Data collected: Quantitative

Data collection format: Self-report – Pre/post

Reading Level: 7.1

Existence of test/technical manuals, user guides, supplemental materials:

Instrument, User's Guide, research articles, and additional supporting material available on the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/yrbss>.

Level of training necessary for administration/scoring/interpretation: None

Widespread Use/Professional Endorsements: Used by the CDC to measure national student health since 1991. The instrument has had small revisions for improvement every two years since 1991.

Cost of Use: No costs associated with the use of this instrument.

Description:

- This scale includes 11 items that ask about tobacco use *ever*, as well as, tobacco use *in the past 30 days*.

Psychometrics:

Information on reliability and validity are provided below. If information on a particular psychometric was not found, it is indicated as “no information provided.” It should be noted that this is not necessarily an indication of a lack of reliability or validity within a particular scale/instrument, but rather a lack of rigorous testing, for various reasons, by the developers or other researchers.

Reliability: *A correlation of at least .80 is suggested for at least one type of reliability as evidence; however, standards range from .5 to .9 depending on the intended use and context for the instrument.*

Internal Consistency: No information provided

Inter-rater reliability: No information provided

Test-Retest: The most recent reliability estimates come from a study done on the 1999 version of the instrument. A sample of 4619 male and female high school students from white, black, Hispanic, and other racial/ethnic groups completed the instrument on two occasions approximately two weeks apart. A kappa statistic, which provides a measure of agreement that corrects for what would be expected by chance, was computed for each item. The mean kappa for the tobacco use subscale was 68.6%. Prevalence rates for each behavior at Time 1 and Time 2 also were calculated. These rates were considered significantly different if their 95% confidence intervals did not overlap. None of the thirteen tobacco use items in the 1991 version had significantly different Time-1 and Time-2 prevalence estimates.

Note: It is possible that an inconsistent response between Time 1 and Time 2 could reflect an actual behavior change. For example, an individual could report at Time 1 that he had not smoked in the past 30 days, then report at Time 2 that he had smoked the past 30 days. Such responses would be inconsistent yet accurate if the individual did indeed smoke during the 2-week test-retest interval and not before. The values of kappa computed for this study, therefore, must be considered to be conservative estimates.

Validity: *The extent to which a measure captures what it is intended to measure.*

Content/Face Validity: An expert panel developed the items in the original (1991) version - the panel included scientific experts from federal agencies, nonfederal scientists, survey research specialists from CDC's National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), and staff from CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Division of Adolescent and School Health. The instrument has had small revisions for improvement every two years since 1991 and the rationale for all items is empirically based. In 1997, CDC undertook an in-depth, systematic review of the instrument to ensure that it would provide an effective assessment of risk behavior among young persons.

Criterion Validity: No information provided

Construct Validity: No information provided

CONSTRUCT: Substance Abuse - Tobacco

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Developers: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Items:

The next 11 questions ask about tobacco use.

1. Have you ever tried cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

2. How old were you when you smoked a whole cigarette for the first time?
 - A. I have never smoked a whole cigarette
 - B. 8 years old or younger
 - C. 9 or 10 years old
 - D. 11 or 12 years old
 - E. 13 or 14 years old
 - F. 15 or 16 years old
 - G. 17 years old or older

3. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you smoke cigarettes?
 - A. 0 days
 - B. 1 or 2 days
 - C. 3 to 5 days
 - D. 6 to 9 days
 - E. 10 to 19 days
 - F. 20 to 29 days
 - G. All 30 days

4. During the past 30 days, on the days you smoked, how many cigarettes did you smoke **per day**?
 - A. I did not smoke cigarettes during the past 30 days
 - B. Less than 1 cigarette per day
 - C. 1 cigarette per day
 - D. 2 to 5 cigarettes per day
 - E. 6 to 10 cigarettes per day
 - F. 11 to 20 cigarettes per day
 - G. More than 20 cigarettes per day

5. During the past 30 days, how did you **usually** get your own cigarettes? (Select only **one** response.)
- A. I did not smoke cigarettes during the past 30 days
 - B. I bought them in a store such as a convenience store, supermarket, discount store, or gas station
 - C. I bought them from a vending machine
 - D. I gave someone else money to buy them for me
 - E. I borrowed (or bummed) them from someone else
 - F. A person 18 years old or older gave them to me
 - G. I took them from a store or family member
 - H. I got them some other way
6. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you smoke cigarettes **on school property**?
- A. 0 days
 - B. 1 or 2 days
 - C. 3 to 5 days
 - D. 6 to 9 days
 - E. 10 to 19 days
 - F. 20 to 29 days
 - G. All 30 days
7. Have you ever smoked cigarettes daily, that is, at least one cigarette every day for 30 days?
- A. Yes
 - B. No
8. During the past 12 months, did you ever try **to quit** smoking cigarettes?
- A. I did not smoke during the past 12 months
 - B. Yes
 - C. No
9. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use **chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip**, such as Redman, Levi Garrett, Beechnut, Skoal, Skoal Bandits, or Copenhagen?
- A. 0 days
 - B. 1 or 2 days
 - C. 3 to 5 days
 - D. 6 to 9 days
 - E. 10 to 19 days
 - F. 20 to 29 days
 - G. All 30 days

10. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use **chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip on school property?**

- A. 0 days
- B. 1 or 2 days
- C. 3 to 5 days
- D. 6 to 9 days
- E. 10 to 19 days
- F. 20 to 29 days
- G. All 30 days

11. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you smoke **cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars?**

- A. 0 days
- B. 1 or 2 days
- C. 3 to 5 days
- D. 6 to 9 days
- E. 10 to 19 days
- F. 20 to 29 days
- G. All 30 days

Scoring:

- This measure generates descriptive data only.
- Results should be reported as response frequencies for individual items.