

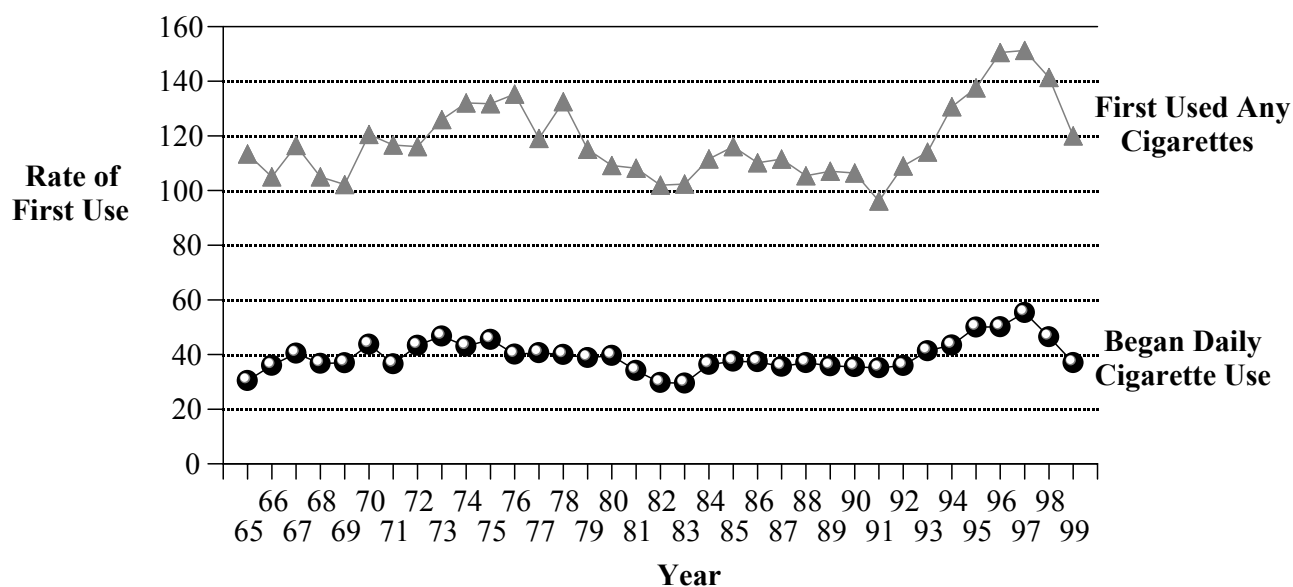
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Fewer Youths Smoking for the First Time or Beginning Daily Smoking

The rate of new cigarette use among youths 12 to 17 has declined since 1997, according to recently released data from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse. In 1999 there were 120 new cigarette users per 1,000 potential new users, a 21% decrease from the peak of 151 new users per 1,000 potential new users in 1997. The rate of beginning daily cigarette smoking declined 33% during this period, from 55 to 37 new users per 1,000 potential new users. Several factors may have influenced these declines, including individual state tobacco control programs (see *CESAR FAX*, Volume 10, Issue 25) and national youth tobacco prevention programs (such as the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids).

**Age-Specific Rates of First Cigarette Use and First Daily Cigarette Use
(Per 1,000 Potential New Users), Household Residents Ages 12 to 17, 1965-1999**



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Office of Applied Studies, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration, *Summary of Findings from the 2000 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse*, 2001. Available online at www.samhsa.gov/oas/oas.html.

Did You Return Your CESAR FAX Survey?

Your opinion is important to us. Please fax your completed survey to CESAR at 301-403-8342 or respond online at www.cesar.umd.edu. Thank you!