

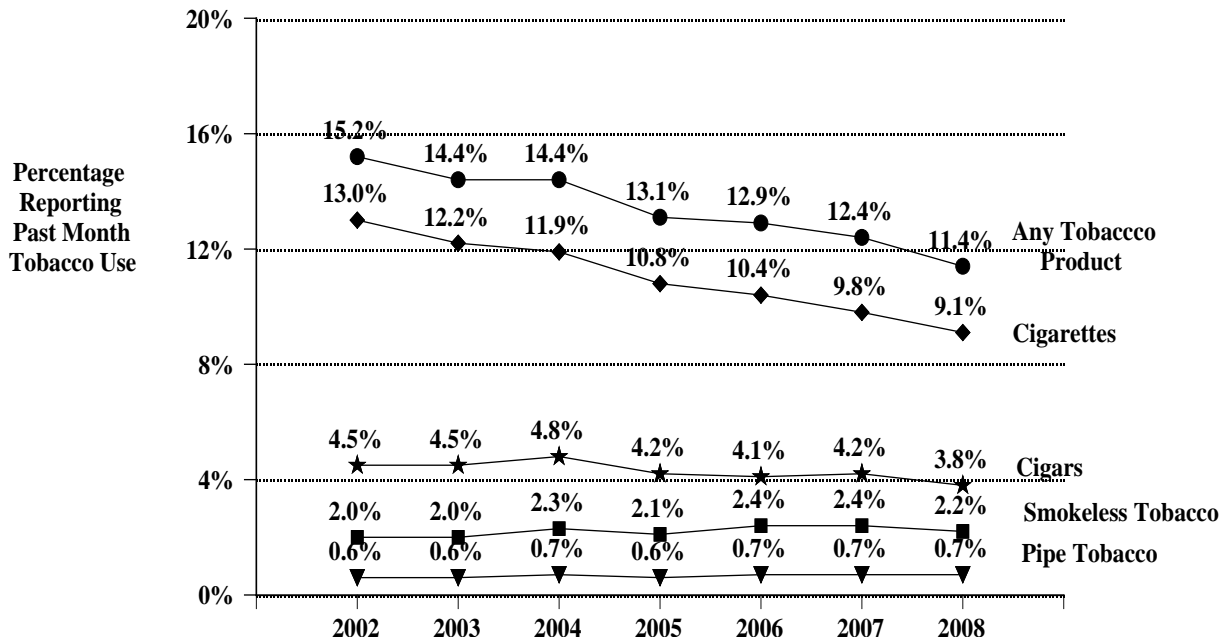
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Tobacco Use Among U.S. Youth Continues to Decline

Tobacco use among youth continues to decline, according to data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH). In 2008, an estimated 11.4% of U.S. youth ages 12 to 17 reported using a tobacco product in the past month, compared to 15.2% in 2002. This decline was driven largely by the decrease in past month cigarette use (from 13.0% in 2002 to 9.1% in 2008) and by the smaller decrease in past month use of cigars (from 4.5% to 3.8%). The use of smokeless tobacco products and pipe tobacco have remained relatively stable since 2002 (see figure below). These findings suggest that “prevention and cessation efforts need to continue to be directed toward use of other tobacco products, such as cigars, smokeless tobacco, and pipe tobacco” (p. 4). This is particularly true as the use of hookahs, or waterpipes, to smoke tobacco have become prevalent in recent years (see *CESAR FAX*, Volume 17, Issues 21, 22, and 23).

Percentage of U.S. Youth Ages 12 to 17 Reporting Past Month Use of Tobacco Products, 2002 to 2008



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Agency (SAMHSA), “Trends in Tobacco Use Among Adolescents: 2002 to 2008,” *The NSDUH Report*, October 15, 2009. Available online at <http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/2k9/152/152Trends.cfm>.

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