

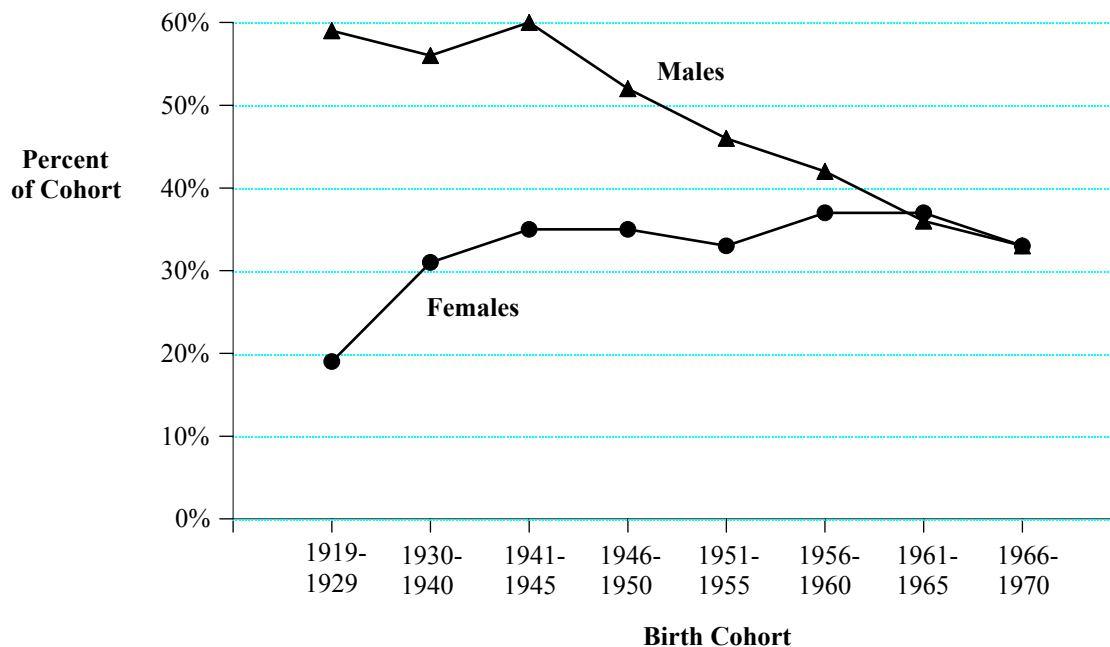
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland at College Park

Household Survey Reveals Convergence of Male and Female Smoking

An analysis of data collected by the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA) during 1991 to 1993 has found distinct shifts in the gender composition of cigarette smoking in the United States. In the cohort born 1919-1929, 59% of males used cigarettes daily before the age of 21 compared to only 19% of females. In each succeeding birth cohort, the gap between male and female smoking has narrowed. For example, in the cohort born 1966-1970, 33% of both males and females were daily cigarette smokers before the age of 21. For more information, contact Joe Gfroerer at 301-443-7980.

Percentage of U.S. Household Residents Reporting Daily Cigarette Use Before Age 21, by Birth Cohort and Sex
(N=87,915)



NOTE: Estimates are based on retrospective reports of age at first drug use by NHSDA survey respondents interviewed during 1991-1993.

SOURCE: Robert Johnson et al., *Trends in the Incidence of Drug Use in the United States, 1919-1992*, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, March 1996.

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