A COMPARISON STUDY OF TEENAGE SMOKING RATES IN CALIFORNIA AND SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Michael Morrison¹, Chelsea Obrochta², Brady Stanton³, Caroline A. Thompson²,⁴
1. College of Health and Human Services, San Diego State University. 2. Graduate School of Public Health, San Diego State University. 3. Department of Sociology, San Diego State University. 4. Department of Family Medicine and Public Health, UC San Diego

BACKGROUND
- In 2015, 30% of all cancer deaths in the United States were related to tobacco.
- Cancer is the leading cause of death among Hispanics and the second leading cause of death among non-Hispanic Whites.
- In addition to cancer, youth smoking has been linked to retarded lung growth, incapacitated cardiovascular functions, and other impairments to the still-growing body.
- California as a whole has made substantial strides in reducing teen smoking.
- In 2015, 30% of all cancer deaths in the United States were related to tobacco.

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF SAN DIEGO AND CALIFORNIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>California</th>
<th>San Diego County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NH White</td>
<td>37.7%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>38.9%</td>
<td>33.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

METHODS

Data Source: California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), 2011-2014; 500 cities data (spatial analysis)

Study Population: Residents of California and San Diego who fall within the age range of 13-19 (teens); Adults who live in San Diego County

Outcome: Teens who have smoked in the past 30 days are classified as current smokers. Teens who have never smoked, or have not smoked in the past 30 days are non-smokers. Respondents were also asked “Have you ever smoked electronic cigarettes, also known as e-cigarettes or vaporizer cigarettes?”

Stratification variables: (1) Race/Ethnicity (2) Gender (3) Geographical location

Statistical Analysis: All analyses were conducted separately for Female and Male, California and San Diego, and Hispanic and non-Hispanic White using Microsoft Excel and Joinpoint Regression Program. Bar graphs, line graphs and ArcGIS software (version 10.5.1) were used to examine if, and where, statistically significant trends occurred within the study population.

RESULTS

CURRENT SMOKING STATUS AMONG MALE TEENS IN CA (2011-2014)

CURRENT SMOKING STATUS AMONG FEMALE TEENS IN CA (2011-2014)

CONCLUSIONS

- The data show that male white teens in San Diego have had a recent significant increase in current smoking status from 2012-2014. This increase is a higher percentage of current smokers than majority of the San Diego regions where adult smoking status was measured.
- A higher percentage of Male and Female Latino teens in San Diego have smoked an e-cigarette than Male and Female Latino teens in California.

REFERENCES


SPECIFIC AIM

To describe and compare teen smoking rates among White and Latinos in California and San Diego County.