

# Amendment to Smoke-Free Policy



**Claude A. Jacob, DrPH, MPH**

Health Director

Community Health Committee Meeting

San Antonio City Council

**August 22, 2024**

# Background



1964  
Surgeon  
General's  
Smoking and  
Health Report

2010  
SA Smoke-Free  
Policy Adopted

2014  
E-cigarettes  
entered market

2018  
SA Tobacco 21  
Policy Adopted

City of San Antonio's Smoking Ordinance (Chapter 36) requires updating to effectively address vaping trends and Electronic Smoking Devices (ESD) usage, also known as e-cigarettes or vapes

- *Current policy does not prohibit e-cigarette smoking or vaping indoors*

## Chapter 36 – Smoking (Ch. 36, §§ 36-1—36-18 )

(Ord. No. 2010-08-19-0697, § 1, 8-19-10; Ord. No. [2018-01-11-0001](#), § 1, 1-11-18)

[https://library.municode.com/tx/san\\_antonio/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICO\\_CH36SM](https://library.municode.com/tx/san_antonio/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICO_CH36SM)



# E-Cigarette Public Health Consequences

- **Involuntary Exposure**

- Use of e-cigarettes in public areas poses a serious health risk.
- Increased concentration of toxicants from secondhand aerosols poses an increased risk to the health of all bystanders.

- **Renormalization of Negative Health Behaviors**

- Permitting indoor vaping might renormalize tobacco smoking in smoke-free environments (*WHO, 2017*)
- Misconceptions regarding ESD as a tobacco cessation method can lead to false perceptions of vaping as “safe.”





# Current Epidemic: E-cigarettes and Youth Vaping



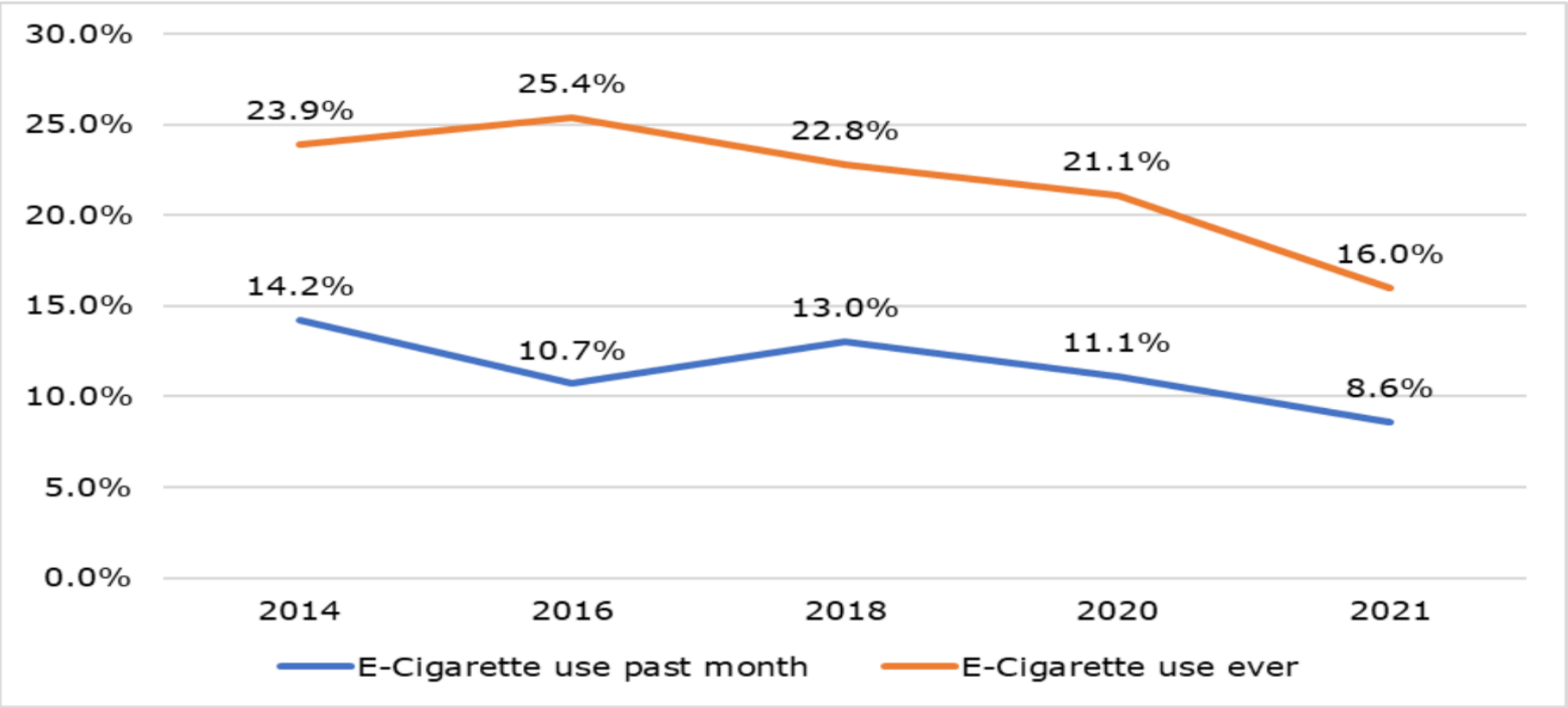
- E-cigarettes are the **most popular** tobacco product used by youth for the 10<sup>th</sup> year in a row (*National Youth Tobacco Survey, 2023*)
- **1 in 4** students reported **daily e-cigarette usage** (*National Youth Tobacco Survey, 2023*)
- **21.0%** of high school and **10.2%** of middle school students reported **ever** using e-cigarettes in Texas
- **81% of youth** who tried e-cigarettes started with a flavored e-cigarette (*CDC, 2022*)
- Tobacco companies market smokeless tobacco, little cigars and electronic cigarettes in youth-friendly flavors like **cotton candy, gummy bear, cherry and watermelon** (*CDC, 2022*)



# Youth (*Grades 6-12*) E-Cigarette Use Trends Over Time, Texas (2014-2021)



**Graph 1: Trends in Youth E-Cigarette Use, Texas, 2014-2021**

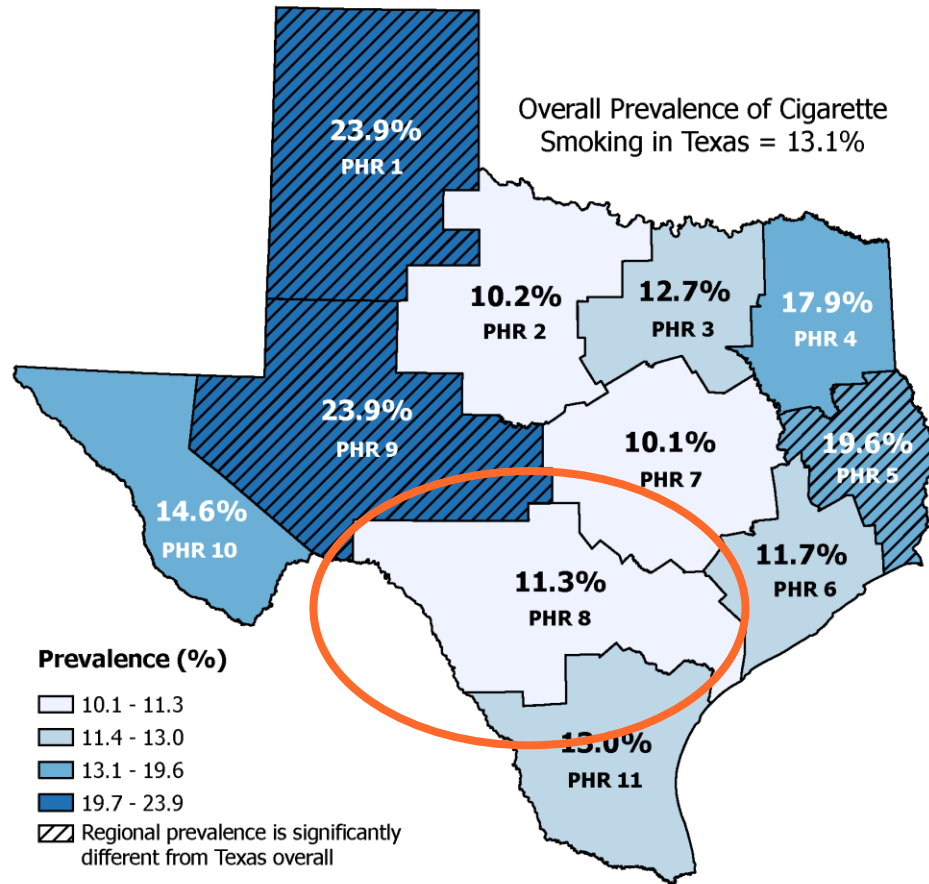


Data Source: Texas A&M University, 2014-2021 Texas Youth Tobacco Survey.

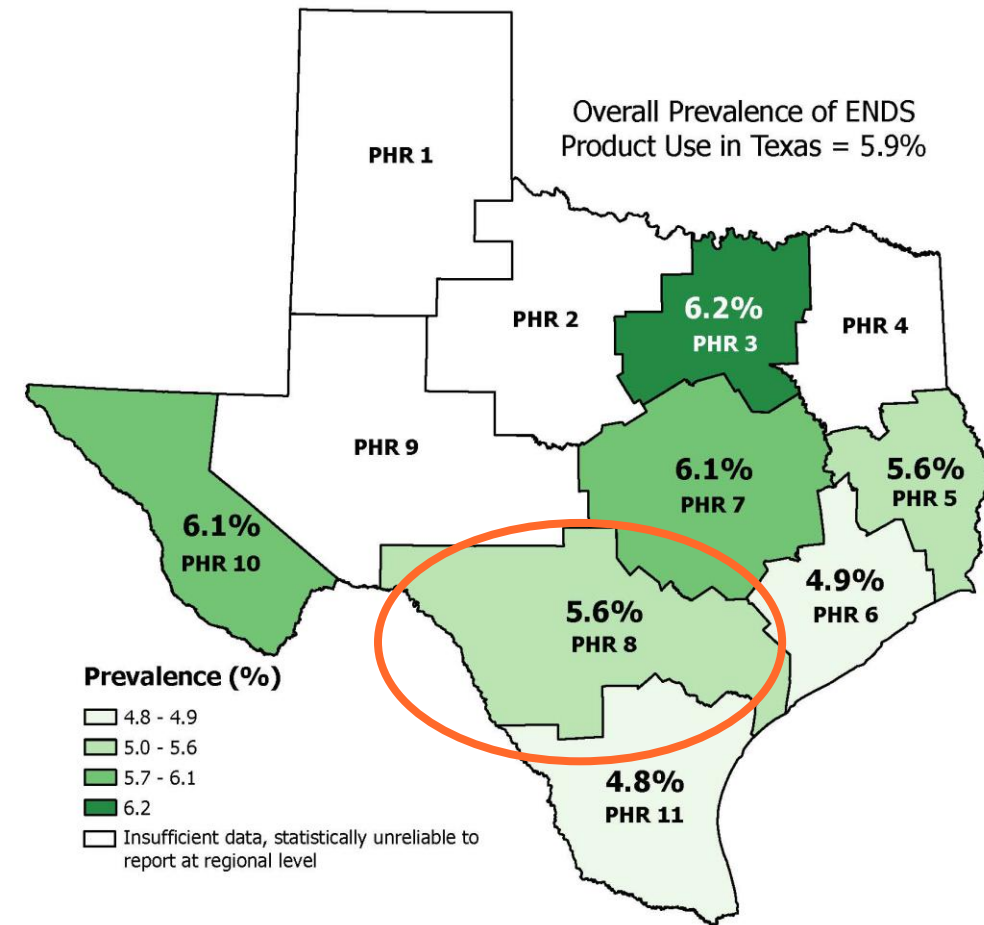
# Adult Use of Cigarettes versus E-cigarettes by Public Health Region (PHR), 2021



## Cigarette Usage



## E-cigarette Usage

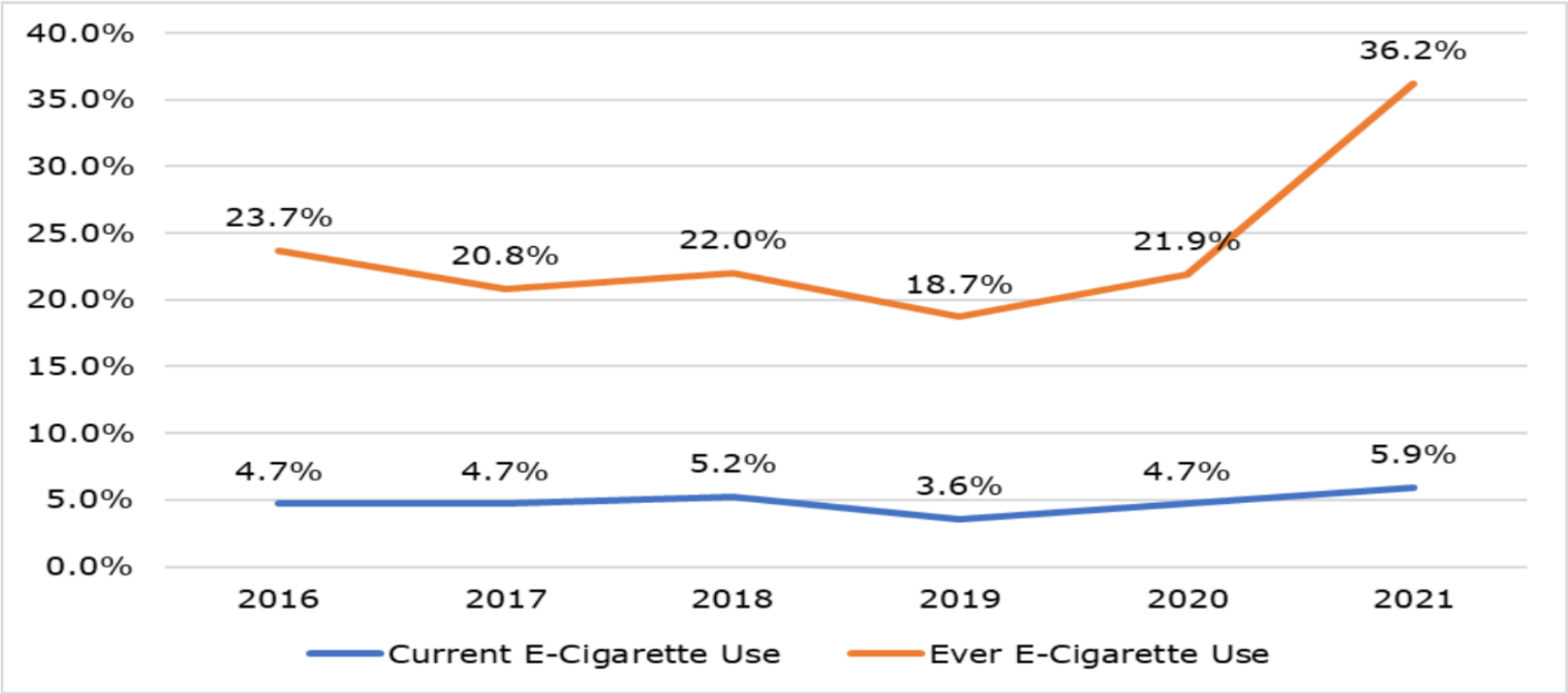


Data source: 2021 Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

# Adult (18+ Years of Age) E-Cigarette Use Trends Over Time, Texas (2016-2021)



**Graph 3: Trends in Adult E-Cigarette Use, Texas, 2016-2021**



Data Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, 2016-2021 Texas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System.



# Including E-Cigarettes in a Smoke-Free Policy

## A Public Health Strategy





# Smoke- Free Policy Goals



To protect the public from both second-hand smoke and aerosol from an e-cigarette/ESD

## Modernize

- Modernize proven tobacco prevention and control strategies to include newer products entering the market

## Comprehensive

- To enable impact, comprehensive policies are crucial for establishing a multi-level vaping intervention

## Uniform

- To sustain impact, it is vital to establish a uniform standard for preventing the use of both combustible and electronic tobacco products

*Reference: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*

# Texas Cities with Smoke-Free Policies including E-Cigarette language



- **Major Cities:**
  - El Paso (adopted in 2014)
  - Austin (adopted in 2017)
  - Houston (adopted in 2022)
  - Dallas (adopted in 2024)
- ***Approximately 91 cities throughout the State of Texas have smoke-free policies with E-cigarette language***



# Next Steps

- Add Electronic Smoking Device (ESD) definition from the American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation which includes the use of any oral smoking device
- Recommended signage should include the no vaping symbol
- Ordinance changes would go into effect January 2025, with time to educate
- Enforcement aligns with the current ordinance



# Next Steps: Timeline (2024 – 2025)



Dates	Activity
August (8/2024)	City Council Community Health Committee
September/ October	Possible City Council A Session
<i>If voted on and passed in October, then implementation timeline:</i>	
Fall (10/2024 – 12/2024)	Launch Education and Marketing Strategy
January 2025	Effective Date of Ordinance <i>Smoking or Vaping of ESD devices is not allowed inside buildings within the City of San Antonio</i>

# Local Support to Update Ordinance



San Antonio area





# Questions?



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