

Cigarette & Tobacco Use Among Students in Grades 7 to 12 in the NBPSDHU Region

Methodology, Data Source and Limitations

The data presented in this report is from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey (OSDUHS) conducted by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) and administered by the Institute for Social Research, York University. Its contents and interpretation are solely the responsibility of the author and do not necessarily represent the official view of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

The data presented in this report was collected during the 2014/2015 school year, and when noted, for a combined sample of the 2010/2011 & 2014/2015 school years. It provides an update of substance use in Ontario youth, updating data that were previously reported in [Substance Use Among Youth in the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit Region](#) (North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, 2012). The survey was administered to students from grades seven through twelve enrolled in public and Catholic school systems (French and English). The North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (NBPSDHU) region sample includes 580 students from 19 regional schools within three school boards.

Excluded from this report are youth enrolled in private schools or home-schooled, those institutionalized for correctional or health reasons, and those schooled on native reserves, military bases, or in the remote northern region of Ontario.

Data in this report has been presented for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (NBPSDHU) region, other northern regions in Ontario (excluding the NBPSDHU region) and Ontario.

The term “significant” is used within this report to describe differences between health regions or groups that are statistically meaningful. Without statistical significance you cannot say with certainty that the differences are real, or simply due to chance. Sampling variability associated with each estimate is described using 95% confidence intervals (95% CI), which indicate the precision of the estimate. Confidence intervals were used to determine significant differences between estimates.

Estimates with a coefficient of variation (ratio of standard error to its estimate) equal to or higher than 33.3, or based on less than 50 responses were suppressed due to high sampling variability. Estimates were calculated using complex survey analysis in Stata 13.1 (StataCorp LP, College Station, TX).

Definitions and Comparison Groups

Aboriginal

Only students who identified themselves as Aboriginal on the survey are included in this group. It is possible that some students did not self-identify, and are thus excluded from this group.

Perceived Socio-Economic Status (SES)

Students were asked to identify where they thought their family would be on the SES ladder, on a scale from 1 to 10, with 1 being “worst off”, and 10 being “best off”. Students who selected a rating of 1-6 were considered to be of low SES, while students who selected 7-10 were considered to be of high SES.

Connectedness

Students were asked their agreement to three statements to determine how connected they felt to their school community: “I feel safe in my school”. “I feel close to people at this school” and “I feel like I am part of this school”. Students who responded that they somewhat or strongly agreed to all three statements were considered “connected”, otherwise they were considered “disconnected”

Previous Year Use of Tobacco Cigarettes

The proportion of students in the NBPSDHU region who reported using tobacco cigarettes (excluding a few puffs) in the previous 12 months during the 2014/15 school year (12.6%; 95% CI: 6.9-22.1) is similar to the proportion of students in other northern regions (11.7%; 95% CI: 8.5-15.9) and Ontario (8.6%; 95% CI: 7.5-9.9) that reported smoking in the previous year.

For the combined 2010/11 & 2014/15 sample, a significantly higher percentage of NBPSDHU (6.1%; 95% CI: 4.0-9.2) and other northern regional students (6.7%; 95% CI: 4.7-9.6) reported daily use of tobacco cigarettes compared to the 2014/15 sample of Ontario students (3.1%; 95% CI: 2.5-3.8).

All analyses for previous year tobacco cigarette use among select demographic groups within the NBPSDHU region and other northern regions are for the 2010/11 & 2014/15 regions combined. Males and females smoked in comparable proportions over the previous 12 months in other northern regions and Ontario (Table 1).

In the previous year, Ontario and other northern regional students in grades 11 to 12 smoked more than their counterparts in grades 9 to 10 reported tobacco use (Table 2). Compared to Ontario grade 11 to 12 students, the percentage of NBPSDHU region grade 11 to 12 students who smoked in the last year was significantly higher.

The percentage of self-identified Aboriginal students who smoked in the previous year did not differ from non-Aboriginal students in NBPSDHU region (Table 3). A significantly higher percentage of Aboriginal students in other northern regions and Ontario smoked cigarettes compared to non-Aboriginals in other northern regions and Ontario.

The percentage of students who spoke only French at home and who smoked cigarettes in the previous year could not be compared between the NBPSDHU region and other regions due to high sampling variability associated with the estimates in other northern regions and Ontario (Table 4). The percentage of previous year smokers did not differ significantly between French, English, and English & French speakers within the NBPSDHU region.

The percentage of students who smoked in the previous year did not differ by perceived socio-economic status (SES) in NBPSDHU region or Ontario, however, in other northern regions, a significantly higher percentage of students with a low perceived SES than students with a high perceived SES (Table 5). Furthermore, a significantly higher percentage of students with low perceived SES in other northern regions smoked compared to Ontario students with low perceived SES.

In all three regions, significantly more students who did not feel connected to their school community smoked cigarettes in the previous year, as compared to students who reported they did feel connected to their school community (Table 6). A significantly higher percentage of students who reported feeling disconnected from their school community in the NBPSDHU and other northern regions smoked cigarettes during the previous year compared to Ontario students who felt disconnected from school.

Table 1. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Reported Smoking Tobacco Cigarettes in the Past 12 Months, by Gender and Region, 2010/11 & 2014/15 Combined (NBPSDHU Region & Other Northern Regions) and 2014/15 (Ontario)

Gender	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Males	14.1 (10.1-19.2)	13.2 (10.8-16.1)	9.1 (7.4-11.1)
Females	12.7 (9.5-16.8)	14.3 (11.0-18.5)	8.2 (6.8-9.8)

Table 2. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Reported Smoking Tobacco Cigarettes in the Past 12 Months, by Grade Level and Region, 2010/11 & 2014/15 Combined (NBPSDHU Region & Other Northern Regions) and 2014/15 (Ontario)

Grade Level	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Grade 7 - 8	F	4.3 ^E (2.6-7.1)	F
Grade 9 - 10	13.7 ^E (8.2-22.0)	11.8 [‡] (8.6-16.1)	7.3 (6.0-8.9)
Grade 11 – 12	19.3* (15.6-23.6)	22.3* [‡] (17.5-28.0)	14.1 [‡] (9.7-12.7)

* Estimate is significantly different from provincial estimate

‡ Estimate is significantly different from students in grades 7 & 8 in the same region

E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

F Estimate suppressed; too unreliable to be released

Table 3. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Reported Smoking Tobacco Cigarettes in the Past 12 Months, by Aboriginal Identity & Region, 2010/11 & 2014/15 Combined (NBPSDHU Region & Other Northern Regions) and 2014/15 (Ontario)

Aboriginal identity	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Aboriginal	13.3 ^E (9.4-18.5)	29.9 [‡] (21.6-39.7)	18.4 ^{E ‡} (11.8-27.4)
Non-Aboriginal	13.4 (9.8-18.2)	12.2 (9.7-15.2)	8.4 (7.2-9.7)

[‡] Estimate is significantly different from non-Aboriginal students in the same region

^E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

Table 4. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Reported Smoking Tobacco Cigarettes in the Past 12 Months, by Language(s) Spoken at Home & Region, 2010/11 & 2014/15 Combined (NBPSDHU Region & Other Northern Regions) and 2014/15 (Ontario)

Language(s) spoken at home	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
French	37.2 ^E (25.2-51.0)	14.4 ^E (8.3-23.9)	F
English	23.3 (19.8-27.2)	17.1 (13.8-21.1)	19.2 (17.5-21.1)
French & English	24.1 (18.0-31.6)	F	23.4 (16.8-31.5)

^E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

^F Estimate suppressed; too unreliable to be released

Table 5. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Reported Smoking Tobacco Cigarettes in the Past 12 Months, by Perceived Socioeconomic Status and Region, 2010/11 & 2014/15 Combined (NBPSDHU Region & Other Northern Regions) and 2014/15 (Ontario)

Perceived Socioeconomic Status (SES)	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Low SES	18.8 ^E (12.5-27.3)	20.8* [‡] (17.2-24.9)	11.0 (8.7-13.7)
High SES	11.1 (8.2-14.8)	11.3* (8.8-14.4)	7.5 (6.5-8.7)

* Estimate is significantly different from provincial estimate

[‡] Estimate is significantly different from students with high perceived socioeconomic status, in the same region

^E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

Table 6. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Reported Smoking Tobacco Cigarettes in the Past 12 Months, by Level of Connectedness to Their School and Region, 2010/11 & 2014/15 Combined (NBPSDHU Region & Other Northern Regions) and 2014/15 (Ontario)

Level of School Connectedness	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Connected	11.0 (7.8-15.2)	11.9* (9.5-14.8)	7.5 (6.3-8.9)
Disconnected	22.5*‡ (17.1-29.0)	22.5*‡ (16.7-29.6)	13.3‡ (11.2-15.7)

* Estimate is significantly different from provincial estimate

‡ Estimate is significantly different from students who felt connected to their school, in the same region

Lifetime Tobacco Cigarette Use

In 2014/15, about one in three students (28.7%; 95% CI: 22.4-35.9) in the NBPSDHU region reported smoking tobacco cigarettes in their lives, similar to the percentage for students in other northern regions (24.4%; 95% CI: 19.3-30.4) but significantly higher compared to Ontario students (19.1%; 95% CI: 17.3-21.0).

All analyses for lifetime tobacco cigarette use among select demographic groups are within the NBPSDHU region and other northern regions are for the 2010/11 & 2014/15 samples combined. A similar percentage of NBPSDHU regional students reported lifetime tobacco cigarette use compared to students in other northern regions, and significantly more than Ontario students reported lifetime tobacco use.

Males and females reported similar lifetime tobacco cigarette use within all regions; however, both males and females in the NBPSDHU region reported lifetime cigarette tobacco use significantly more than their Ontario counterparts (Table 7).

Grade 9 to 10 and grade 11 to 12 students in the NBPSDHU region, other northern regions and Ontario reported lifetime tobacco cigarette use significantly more than students in grades 7 to 8 (Table 8). A significantly higher percentage of grade 9 to 10 and 11 to 12 students in the NBPSDHU region and other northern regions reported lifetime cigarette tobacco use compared to Ontario students at the same grade levels.

A significantly higher percentage of Aboriginal students in other northern regions and Ontario reported lifetime tobacco cigarette use, as compared to non-Aboriginal students (Table 9). Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students in the NBPSDHU region reported similar lifetime use of tobacco cigarettes.

A comparison of the percentage of lifetime tobacco cigarette use among students who usually spoke only French at home could not be made between all regions (Table 10). The percentage of only English speaking students who used tobacco cigarettes in their lifetime was higher in the NBPSDHU and other northern regions compared to Ontario students.

In the NBPSDHU region and Ontario, lifetime tobacco cigarette use was significantly higher among those with low perceived socioeconomic status (Table 11). NBPSDHU regional students had significantly higher percentages of lifetime use compared with Ontario students for those in both low and high perceived socioeconomic status.

Significantly more students in the NBPSDHU region and Ontario who felt disconnected to their school community reported using tobacco cigarettes in their lifetime, compared to students who felt connected (Table 12). Students in the NBPSDHU and other northern regions who felt disconnected from school reported lifetime tobacco cigarette use more than Ontario students who felt disconnected.

Table 7. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Smoked Tobacco Cigarettes in Their Lifetime, by Gender and Region, 2010/11 & 2014/15 Combined (NBPSDHU Region & Other Northern Regions) and 2014/15 (Ontario)

Gender	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Males	30.3* (24.8-36.4)	26.9 (23.0-31.1)	20.5 (18.2-23.1)
Females	28.9* (22.5-36.2)	29.8* (24.2-36.0)	17.6 (15.1-20.3)

* Estimate is significantly different from provincial estimate

Table 8. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Smoked Tobacco Cigarettes in Their Lifetime, by Grade Level and Region, 2010/11 & 2014/15 Combined (NBPSDHU Region & Other Northern Regions) and 2014/15 (Ontario)

Grade Level	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Grade 7 - 8	8.6 ^E (4.8-14.9)	10.7 ^E (7.2-15.8)	4.7 ^E (2.7-8.1)
Grade 9 - 10	26.9*‡ (19.9-35.3)	24.0*‡ (18.2-31.0)	15.3‡ (13.0-17.8)
Grade 11 – 12	43.2*‡ (36.1-50.7)	44.7*‡ (36.7-53.0)	31.6‡ (28.7-34.8)

* Estimate is significantly different from provincial estimate

‡ Estimate is significantly different from students in grades 7 & 8 in the same region

^E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

Table 9. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Smoked Tobacco Cigarettes in Their Lifetime, by Aboriginal Identity & Region, 2010/11 & 2014/15 Combined (NBPSDHU Region & Other Northern Regions) and 2014/15 (Ontario)

Aboriginal identity	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Aboriginal	39.8 (27.5-53.4)	52.4 (44.7-60.1)	38.7 (27.3-51.4)
Non-Aboriginal	28.3* (24.6-32.4)	25.7*‡ (21.8-30.1)	18.6‡ (16.8-20.4)

* Estimate is significantly different from provincial estimate

‡ Estimate is significantly different from Aboriginal students in the same region

Table 10. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Smoked Tobacco Cigarettes in Their Lifetime, by Language(s) Spoken at Home & Region, 2010/11 & 2014/15 Combined (NBPSDHU Region & Other Northern Regions) and 2014/15 (Ontario)

Language(s) spoken at home	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
French	31.6 ^E (18.7-48.0)	F	F
English	28.2* (23.8-33.1)	27.3* (23.3-31.8)	21.7 (20.3-23.2)
French & English	37.4 ^E (24.3-52.7)	49.2*‡ ^E (33.1-65.4)	23.6 (16.7-32.3)

* Estimate is significantly different from provincial estimate

‡ Estimate is significantly different from students who spoke only English at home, in the same region

^E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

F Estimate suppressed; too unreliable to be released

Table 11. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Smoked Tobacco Cigarettes in Their Lifetime, by Perceived Socioeconomic Status and Region, 2010/11 & 2014/15 Combined (NBPSDHU Region & Other Northern Regions) and 2014/15 (Ontario)

Perceived Socioeconomic Status (SES)	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Low SES	38.7*‡ (33.3-44.4)	38.4* (31.8-45.4)	22.7‡ (19.8-25.9)
High SES	24.9* (21.0-29.3)	U	17.4 (15.6-19.4)

* Estimate is significantly different from provincial estimate

‡ Estimate is significantly different from students with high perceived socioeconomic status, in the same region

U - Estimate for combined sample unavailable as estimate changed significantly between 2010/11 & 2014/15 school years

Table 12. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Smoked Tobacco Cigarettes in Their Lifetime, by Level of Connectedness to Their School and Region, 2010/11 & 2014/15 Combined (NBPSDHU Region & Other Northern Regions) and 2014/15 (Ontario)

Level of School Connectedness	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Connected	27.6* (24.2-31.2)	U	17.2 (15.4-19.1)
Disconnected	37.7*‡ (31.9-43.8)	44.4* ^E (36.3-52.8)	27.3‡ (24.0-30.8)

* Estimate is significantly different from provincial estimate

‡ Estimate is significantly different from students who felt connected to their school, in the same region

^E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

U - Estimate for combined sample unavailable as estimate changed significantly between 2010/11 & 2014/15 school years

First Use of Tobacco Cigarettes in Past Year

In 2014/15, 4.8% (95% CI: 3.3-6.8) students in the NBPSDHU region smoked one whole tobacco cigarette for the very first time in the past year, similar to the percentages for students in other northern regions (8.0%; 95% CI: 4.8-13.0) and Ontario (6.3%; 95% CI: 5.4-7.4).

Grade First Used Tobacco Cigarettes

All analyses for the NBPSDHU region and other northern regions are for the 2010/11 & 2014/15 regions combined. Percentages for grade level of first used tobacco cigarettes were similar across all regions, with two exceptions: a higher percentage of students in other northern regions first smoked cigarettes in grade 6 or earlier, and a lower percentage of students in other northern regions never had smoked cigarettes compared to students in Ontario (Table 13).

Table 13. Percentage (95% CI) of Students by Reported Grade Level of First Tobacco Use, by Region, 2010/11 & 2014/15 Combined (NBPSDHU Region & Other Northern Regions) and 2014/15 (Ontario)

Grade Level	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
No tobacco use	80.2 (76.0-83.8)	76.1* (70.7-80.7)	82.8 (81.2-84.4)
Grade <4-6	4.6 ^E (2.6-7.8)	5.7* ^E (3.8-8.3)	2.4 ^E (1.7-3.4)
Grade 7-8	5.1 ^E (3.4-7.8)	6.7 ^E (4.3-10.1)	4.0 (3.3-4.8)
Grade 9-10	6.2 ^E (4.3-8.8)	9.0 (6.8-11.7)	7.9 (6.9-9.1)
Grade 11-12	F	2.6 ^E (1.4-4.9)	2.8 (2.3-3.4)

* Estimate is significantly different from provincial estimate

^E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

F Estimate suppressed; too unreliable to be released

Non-Cigarette Tobacco Use in Previous Year

Analyses on chewing tobacco were performed on a combined 2010/11 & 2014/15 sample for both the NBPSDHU region and other northern regions. Approximately one in 10 students reported using each type of non-cigarette forms tobacco in the previous year, with significantly more Ontario students reporting e-cigarette use compared to using chewing tobacco or waterpipes (Table 14). The percentage of NBPSDHU regional students who reported non-cigarette tobacco use was similar to students in other northern regions and Ontario.

The percentage of students who reported using chewing tobacco in 2014/15 in other northern regions and Ontario is similar to the percentage who reported using chewing tobacco in 2010/11 (North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, 2012).

Table 14. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Reporting Non-Cigarette Tobacco Use in the Past 12 Months, by Type of Non-Cigarette Tobacco & Region, 2010/11 & 2014/15 Combined (NBPSDHU Region & Other Northern Regions) and 2014/15 (Ontario)

Type of Non-Cigarette Tobacco	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Chewing Tobacco	7.1 ^E (4.5-11.0)	6.6 (5.1-8.5)	6.3 (4.9-8.1)
Waterpipe/Hookah	8.6 ^E (4.3-16.3)	F	8.3 (7.1-9.6)
E-cigarette	12.1 ^E (6.8-20.7)	12.2 ^E (8.0-18.3)	11.7 (10.2-13.4)

E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

F Estimate suppressed; too unreliable to be released

Source of Cigarettes

The most commonly reported source of cigarettes was family or friends in the NBPSDHU region (9.7%, 5.1-17.7%), other northern regions (10.5%, 6.8-15.6%), and Ontario (8.7%, 7.5-10.1%). Other sources that were reported less frequently include a corner store, the internet, someone else, a native reserve, or another source not listed.

Contraband Cigarettes

One in ten (10.5%; 95% CI: 5.7-18.5) NBPSDHU regional students reported that they smoked a contraband cigarette in the past twelve months, which is comparable to students in other northern regions (15.4%; 95% CI: 9.4-24.1) and Ontario (6.9%; 95% CI: 5.8-8.4). Significantly more Ontario students reported smoking contraband cigarettes in 2014/15 compared to 2010/11. The reported use of contraband cigarettes in 2014/15 was similar to 2010/11 in NBPSDHU and other northern regions (North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, 2012).

Quit attempts

Of all students in the NBPSDHU region in 2010/11 & 2014/15 years combined, 6.3% (96% CI: 4.0-9.8) reported attempting to quit smoking in the previous 12 months, comparable to the estimate for other northern regions (8.2%; 95% CI: 6.3-10.5) and Ontario (4.1%; 95% CI: 3.1-5.3).

Access/Availability

More than half (55.3%; 95% CI: 45.7-64.5) of NBPSDHU regional students reported that cigarettes were “fairly easy” or “very easy” to obtain, which is similar to students in other northern regions (55.9%; 95% CI: 48.7-62.9) and Ontario (53.3%; 95% CI: 50.8-55.9). Significantly more secondary students reported that cigarettes were easy to obtain compared to elementary students in all regions (Table 15). A significantly higher percentage of NBPSDHU secondary students reported cigarettes were easy to obtain compared to Ontario secondary students. The perceived availability of cigarettes has not significantly changed from 2010/11 (North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, 2012).

Table 15. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Perceived Cigarettes as Easy to Obtain, by Grade Level and Region, 2014/15

Grade Level	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Grades 7 - 8	26.7 ^E (18.0-37.6)	24.4 ^E (14.0-23.9)	21.4 (17.9-25.4)
Grades 9 - 12	69.1*‡ (67.2-71.0)	69.2‡ (60.4-76.8)	63.9‡ (61.3-66.3)

* Estimate is significantly different from provincial estimate

‡ Estimate is significantly different from students in grades 7 to 8 in the same region

E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

Stigma

Of NBPSDHU regional students, 14.1% (95% CI: 9.1-21.3) reported that they would definitely be embarrassed if a family member was addicted to cigarettes, which is similar to students in other northern regions (10.4%; 95% CI: 7.0-15.3) and Ontario (10.6%; 95% CI: 9.1-12.2).

Exposure to Second Hand Smoke

The percentage of NBPSDHU regional students that reported exposure to second-hand smoke in the past week (39.9%; 95% CI: 33.2-46.9) was similar to students in other northern regions (45.0%; 95% CI: 38.3-51.8) and Ontario (45.7%; 95% CI: 43.0-48.4).

A significantly higher percentage of Ontario females reported exposure to second-hand smoke compared to males; this trend was also seen in NBPSDHU and other northern regions, although was not significant (Table 16).

A higher percentage of secondary students in all regions reported exposure to second-hand smoke than elementary students (Table 17).

In other northern regions and Ontario, a significantly higher percentage of students with perceived low SES reported second-hand smoke exposure compared to students with perceived high SES (Table 18).

Students who felt disconnected from their school community in other northern regions and Ontario reported exposure to second-hand smoke more than students who felt connected to their school community (Table 19). Furthermore, greater percentage of students in other northern regions who felt disconnected reported second-hand smoke exposure compared to Ontario students who felt connected to their school community.

Table 16. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Reported Exposure to Second-Hand Smoke in the Past Week, by Gender and Region, 2014/15

Gender	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Males	29.5 (21.1-39.6)	40.9 (33.5-48.7)	42.2 (38.5-46.0)
Females	52.8 (38.2-66.9)	49.1 (38.7-59.6)	49.4 ‡ (46.3-52.6)

‡ Estimate is significantly different from male students in the same region

Table 17. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Reported Exposure to Second-Hand Smoke in the Past Week, by Grade Level and Region, 2014/15

Grade Level	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Grade 7 - 8	26.4 (18.6-36.0)	28.9 (19.6-40.6)	31.8 (26.9-37.2)
Grade 9 - 12	46.5 ‡ (41.1-51.9)	51.8 ‡ (42.7-60.9)	50.4 ‡ (47.3-53.4)

‡ Estimate is significantly different from students in grades 7 & 8 in the same region

Table 18. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Reported Exposure to Second-Hand Smoke in the Past Week, by Perceived Socioeconomic Status and Region, 2014/15

Perceived Socioeconomic Status (SES)	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Low SES	55.2 (37.6-71.6)	59.2 (49.7-68.0)	52.8 (48.6-57.1)
High SES	29.5 ^E (19.5-41.9)	39.9 ‡ (32.8-47.5)	42.5 ‡ (39.5-45.6)

‡ Estimate is significantly different from students with high perceived socioeconomic status, in the same region

E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

Table 19. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Reported Exposure to Second-Hand Smoke in the Past Week, by Level of Connectedness to Their School and Region, 2014/15

Level of School Connectedness	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Connected	35.8 (29.9-42.1)	39.2 (33.1-45.7)	43.9 (41.3-46.6)
Disconnected	F	76.6*‡ (60.0-87.7)	53.2 ‡ (47.5-58.9)

* Estimate is significantly different from provincial estimate

‡ Estimate is significantly different from students who felt connected to their school, in the same region

F Estimate suppressed; too unreliable to be released

Perceived Harm

A comparable percentage of students in the NBPSDHU region perceive great risk for smoking one or two cigarettes a day, compared to students in other northern regions and Ontario (see Table 20). Likewise, statistically similar percentages of students in all regions perceived great risk of harm from using a waterpipe regularly.

In 2010/11, a similar percentage of students in all regions reported great risk of harm associated with smoking one or two cigarettes a day (NBPSDHU: 31.1%; 95% CI: 23.4-39.9; North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, 2012).

Table 20. Percentage (95% CI) of Students Who Perceived Great Risk of Harm Associated with Using Tobacco, by Smoking Behaviour and Region, 2014/15

Smoking Behaviour	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Smoke one or two cigarettes a day	31.8 (25.7-38.7)	23.6 (17.9-30.3)	31.6 (29.6-33.7)
Use electronic cigarettes regularly	F	7.7 ^E (4.4-13.1)	9.8 (8.4-11.3)
Use waterpipe regularly	21.1 (14.9-29.1)	16.6 ^E (11.2-24.0)	14.6 (13.1-16.5)

E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

F Estimate suppressed; too unreliable to be released

Aware of Youth Groups

Approximately one in five (19.6%; 95% CI: 14.1-26.5) NBPSDHU regional students reported they were aware of and/or participated in a youth group working to raise awareness about tobacco issues in their community, which is significantly fewer than students in other northern regions (36.7%; 95% CI: 28.6-46.6) and Ontario (29.8%; 95% CI: 27.5-32.2).

Movie Ratings

One third (33.4%; 95% CI: 27.1-40.3) of NBPSDHU regional students reported that movies showing smoking should be rated 18A, which is comparable to students in other northern regions (28.0%; 95% CI: 22.4-34.4) and Ontario (27.4%; 95% CI: 25.2-29.6).

Sale of Cigarettes

More than half of students in NBPSDHU, other northern regions, and Ontario reported that the sale of tobacco cigarettes in Ontario should be more restricted or discontinued (Table 9).

Table 21. Percentage (95% CI) of Students by How Tobacco Cigarettes Should be Sold in Ontario, by Region, 2014/15

Method of Cigarette Sale	NBPSDHU Region	Other Northern Regions	Ontario
Sold in a number of places as they are now	12.4 ^E (7.7-19.5)	15.3 (12.1-19.2)	17.4 (15.5-19.5)
Sold only in government-owned stores	27.2 ^E (17.8-39.2)	26.6 (19.9-34.7)	28.1 (25.8-30.5)
Not sold	42.0 (30.4-54.5)	36.8 (29.9-44.2)	35.2 (32.8-37.7)
Don't know	18.4 ^E (12.5-26.1)	21.3 (16.0-27.8)	19.3 (17.4-21.3)

E Interpret with caution; the estimate is associated with high sampling variability

References

North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit. Substance Use among Youth in the NBPSDHU Region. North Bay: NBPSDHU, August 2012.