

TABLE 4

Trends in Availability and Attitudes about Smoking One or More Packs of Cigarettes per Day, for Eighth, Tenth, and Twelfth Graders

	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	'98-'99 change	
Perceived Risk^a																											
8th Grade																		51.6	50.8	52.7	50.8	49.8	50.4	52.6	54.3	54.8	+0.5
10th Grade																		60.3	59.3	60.7	59.0	57.0	57.9	59.9	61.9	62.7	+0.8
12th Grade	51.3	56.4	58.4	59.0	63.0	63.7	63.3	60.5	61.2	63.8	66.5	66.0	68.6	68.0	67.2	68.2	69.4	69.2	69.5	67.6	65.6	68.2	68.7	70.8	70.8	0.0	
Disapproval^b																											
8th Grade																		82.8	82.3	80.6	78.4	78.6	77.3	80.3	80.0	81.4	+1.4
10th Grade																		79.4	77.8	76.5	73.9	73.2	71.6	73.8	75.3	76.1	+0.8
12th Grade	67.5	65.9	66.4	67.0	70.3	70.8	69.9	69.4	70.8	73.0	72.3	75.4	74.3	73.1	72.4	72.8	71.4	73.5	70.6	69.8	68.2	67.2	67.1	68.8	69.5	+0.7	
Availability^{c,d}																											
8th Grade																		77.8	75.5	76.1	76.4	76.9	76.0	73.6	71.5	-2.1	
10th Grade																		89.1	89.4	90.3	90.7	91.3	89.6	88.1	88.3	+0.2	
12th Grade																											
Approx. Ns:																											
8th Grade																		17500	18600	18300	17300	17500	17800	18600	18100	16700	
10th Grade																		14800	14800	15300	15800	17000	15600	15500	15000	13600	
12th Grade	2800	2900	3100	3800	3300	3200	3600	3600	3300	3300	3300	3000	3300	3300	2800	2600	2500	2700	2800	2600	2600	2400	2600	2500	2300		

NOTE: Level of significance of difference between the two years indicated: s = .05, ss = .01, sss = .001.

SOURCE: The Monitoring the Future Study, The University of Michigan.

^aThe question text was: How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day? Answer alternatives were: (1) No risk, (2) Slight risk, (3) Moderate risk, (4) Great risk, and (5) Can't say, drug unfamiliar. The percentage saying "great risk" is shown. For 8th and 10th graders: Beginning in 1999, perceived risk data based on two of four forms; N is two-thirds of N indicated.

^bThe question text was: Do you disapprove of people smoking one or more packs of cigarettes per day? For 12th graders, the question asked about people who are "18 or older." Answer alternatives were: (1) Don't disapprove, (2) Disapprove, and (3) Strongly disapprove. For 8th and 10th graders, there was another category—"Can't say, drug unfamiliar"—which was included in the calculation of these percentages. The percentage saying they "disapprove" or "strongly disapprove" is shown. For 8th and 10th graders: Beginning in 1999, disapproval data based on two of four forms; N is two-thirds of N indicated.

^cThe question text was: How difficult do you think it would be for you to get cigarettes, if you wanted some? Answer alternatives were: (1) Probably impossible, (2) Very difficult, (3) Fairly difficult, (4) Fairly easy, (5) Very easy, and (8) Can't say, drug unfamiliar (included in the calculation of these percentages). The percentage saying cigarettes are "fairly easy" or "very easy" to get is shown. In 1992 only, availability data based on one of two forms; N is one-half of N indicated. The question was not asked of the 12th graders.

^dData in 1992 based on one of two forms; N is one-half of N indicated.