Delaware high school students are more likely to report cigarette and e-cigarette use when family members smoke cigarettes in the home

Teens that have parents or siblings that smoke cigarettes are more likely to smoke themselves. Although teen cigarette use is decreasing, the use of e-cigarettes among this age group is on the rise. Eleventh grade data from the Delaware School Survey found that thirty-five percent of 11th graders in Delaware reported that a family member smoked cigarettes. This included (step) mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, or other household members. The majority of 11th graders reported that they have never used cigarettes or e-cigarettes (78%). However, high school students that reported that one or more of their family members smoked cigarettes, were more likely to report using cigarettes and/or e-cigarettes within the past year and the past month. These findings demonstrate the importance of programs and interventions that prevent smoking and e-cigarette use for parents and older siblings as it impacts use among younger individuals living in the same household, such as high school students.

Percentage of 11th graders that do and do not have family members that smoke cigarettes that report cigarette or e-cigarette use

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