



Curtin University

# *Vaping: The new smoking*

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## FIRST NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Curtin University acknowledges all First Nations of this place we call Australia and recognises the many nations who have looked after Country for more than 60,000 years.

We are honoured and grateful for the privilege to maintain campuses operating in Boorloo (Perth) and Karlkurla (Kalgoorlie) in Australia. We pay our respects to Elders past and present as Custodians and Owners of these lands. We recognise their deep knowledge and their cultural, spiritual and educational practices, and aspire to learn and teach in partnership with them.



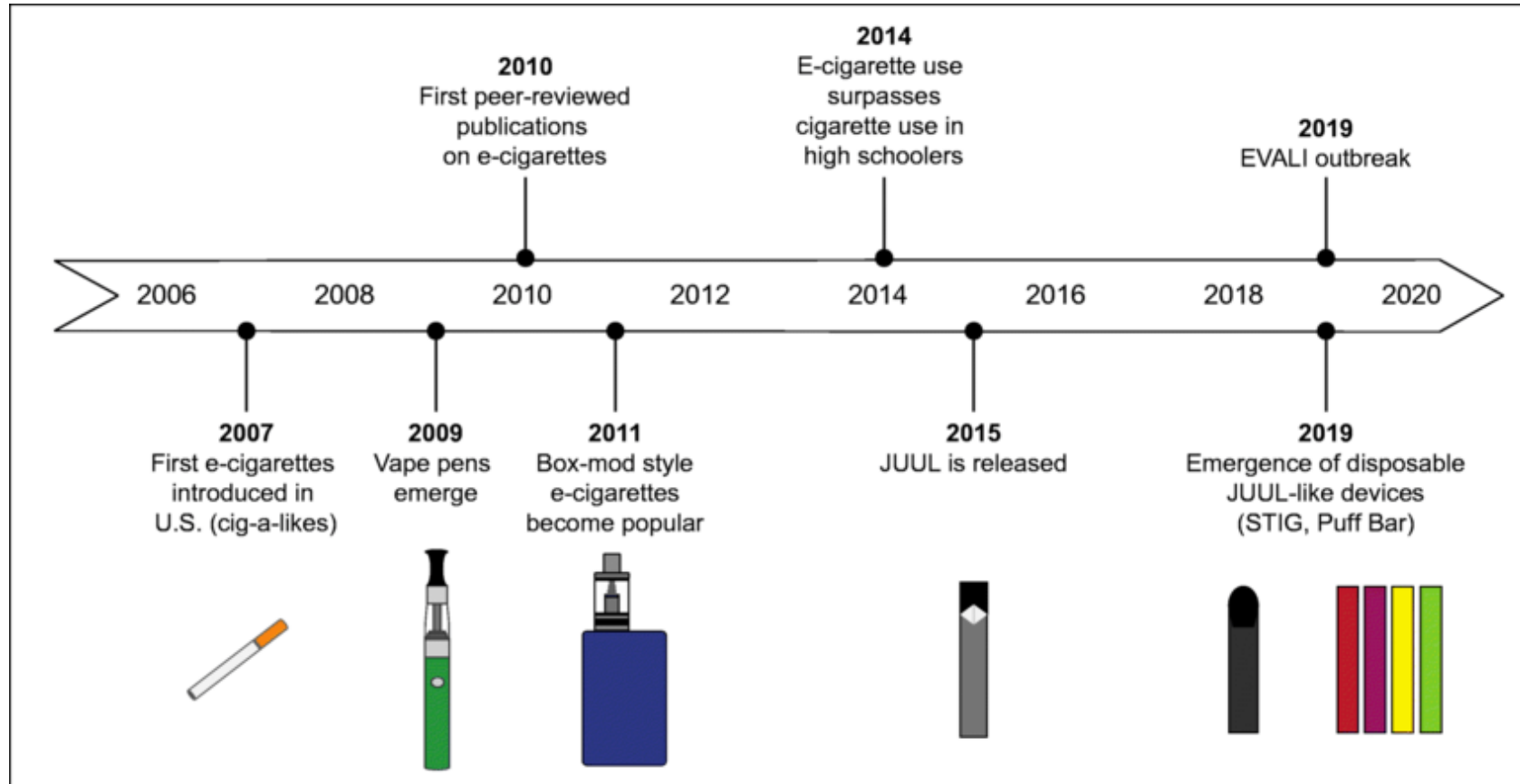
## Daily tobacco smoking 14 years and over (across Australia)

<u>State/Territory</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2022-23</u>
Western Australia	20.0	15.6	11.9	7.7#
New South Wales	18.0	14.2	9.5	7.5#
Victoria	19.2	14.9	10.2	7.6#
Queensland	21.0	16.7	13.5	10.5#
South Australia	20.1	15.0	11.9	9.0#
Tasmania	20.6	15.9	12.8	11.3
ACT	18.4	11.0	8.2	4.8#
Norther Territory	27.9	22.2	14.7	13.1
Australia	19.4	15.1	11.0	8.3#

# Priority populations

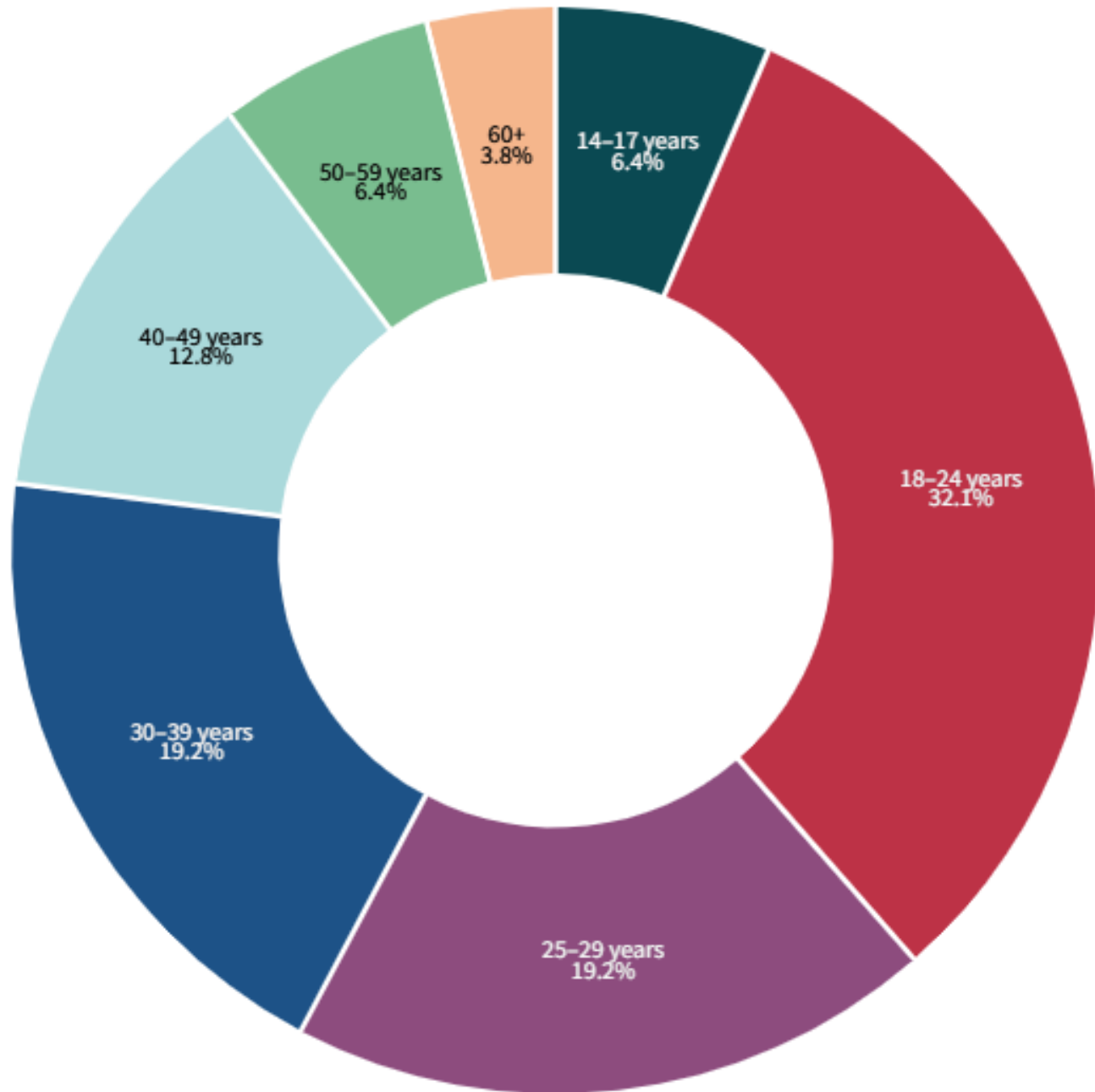
- 19.6% of people who live in remote/very remote areas smoke daily (ABS 2023)
- Men are more likely to smoke daily than women (12.6% compared with 8.7%) (ABS 2023)
- People aged 50–59 (12.1%) are the most likely age group to smoke daily (AIHW 2024b)
- Adults with a diagnosis/treated for mental illness in the past year – twice as likely to be a current smoker (NDSHS 2019)
- 43.4% (2018-2019) of First Nation People aged 18+ smoked (down from 54.5% in 1994) (ABS 2019)
- 15.1% (2017-18) non-Indigenous people aged 18+ smoked (down from 23.5% in 1995) (ABS 2019)
- 8.7% of all mothers who gave birth smoked at some sometime during pregnancy (AIHWA)
- 42% of First Nations mothers smoked at some time during pregnancy (down from 50% in 2011) (NATSIHS) (ABS 2019)

# Evolution of the e-cigarette



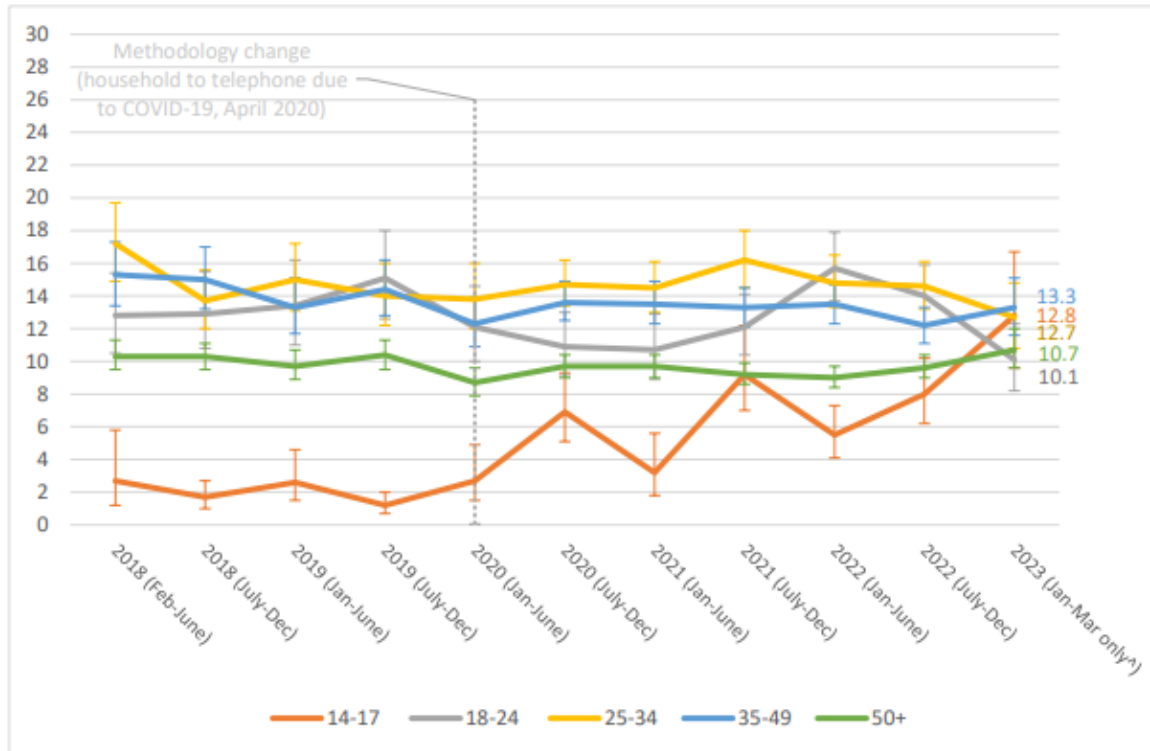
**Timeline representing the evolution of e-cigarette devices and pertinent events related to e-cigarettes**

Source: Hickman, Elise & Jaspers, Ilona. (2020). Current E-Cigarette Research in the Context of Asthma. Current Allergy and Asthma Reports. 20. 10.1007/s11882-020-00952-2.



## *Current e-cigarette users by age, Australia 2022-23*

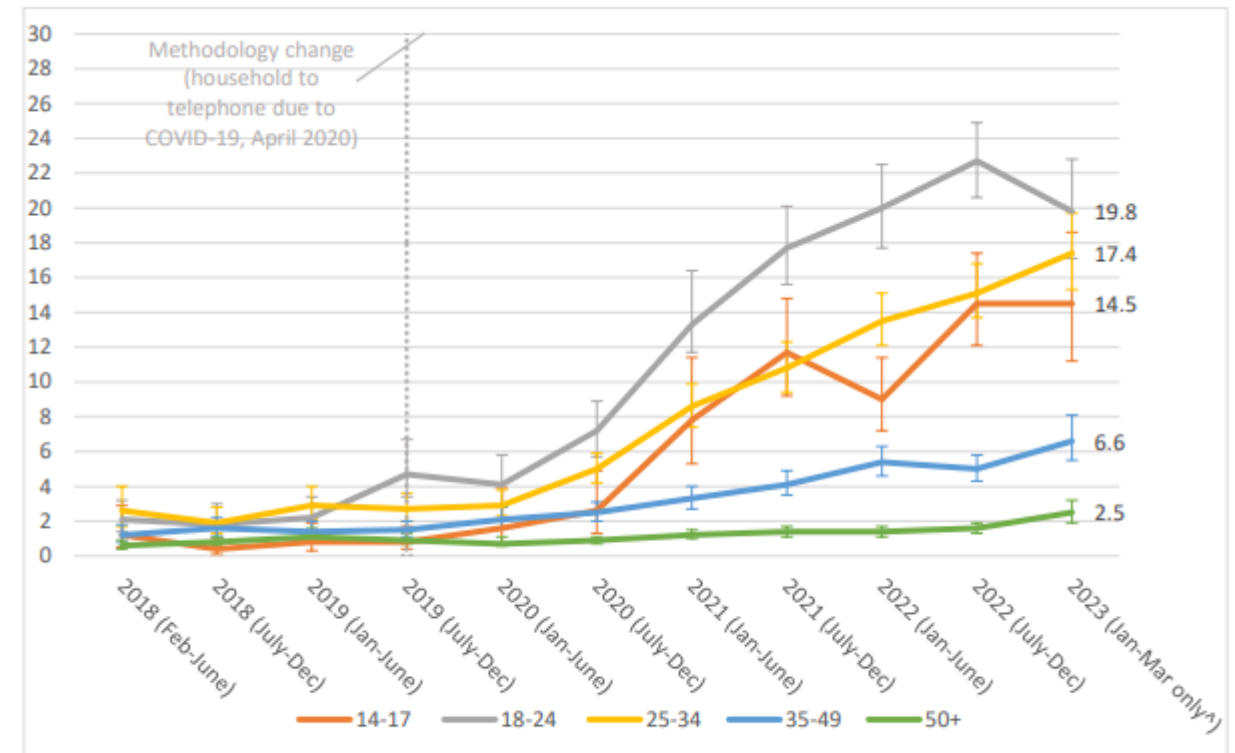
# Current smoking and vaping prevalence



Current smoking: smokes factory-made cigarettes or smoked roll-your-own cigarettes in the past month. Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals. ^Data for 2023 covers three months only.

## Six-monthly prevalence of current smoking by age group, 2018-2023 (weighted %)

Source: Wakefield et al. Current vaping and current smoking in the Australian population aged 14+ years: February 2018-March 2023. Cancer Council Victoria. 2023.

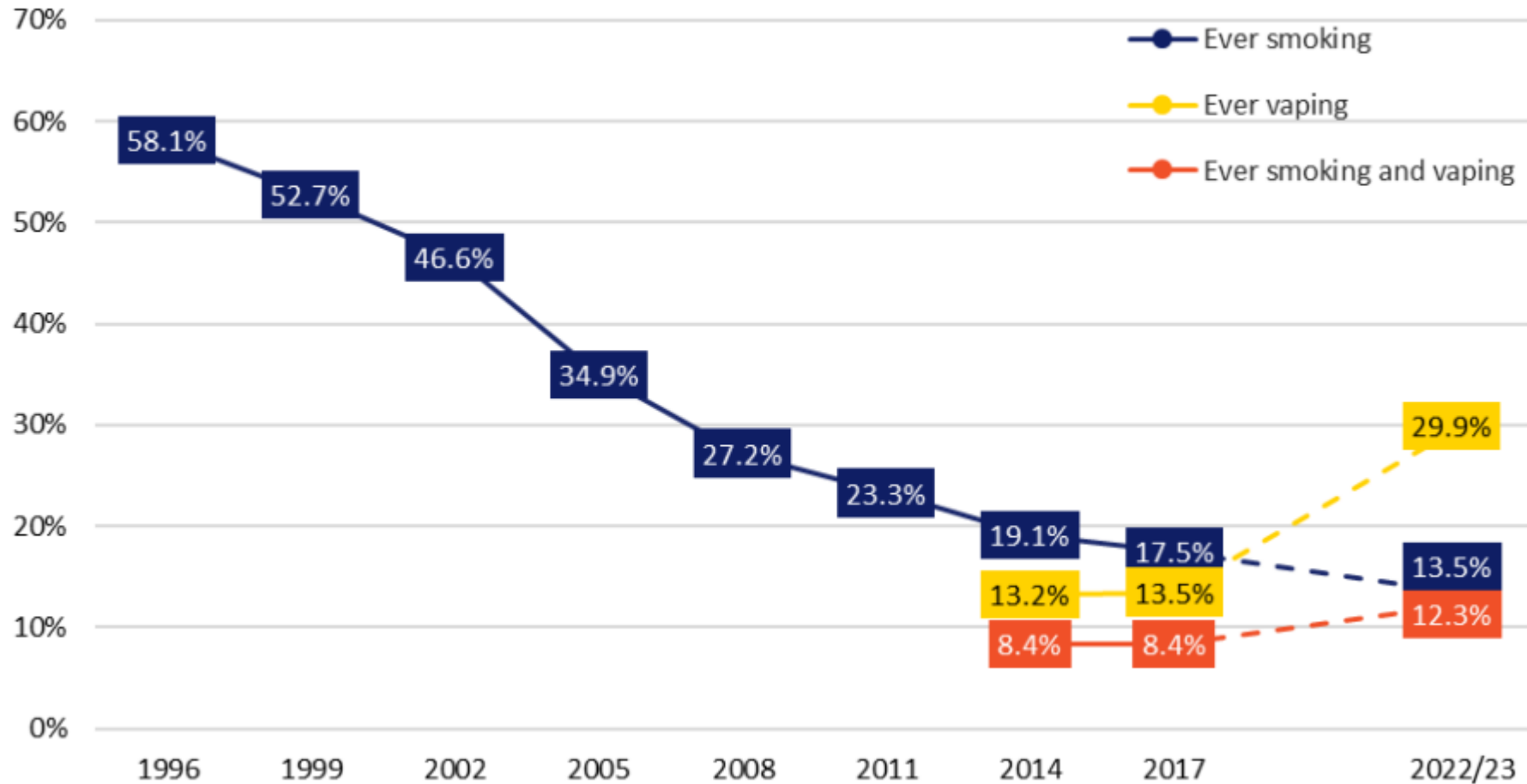


Current vaping: used e-cigarettes in the past month. Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals around survey estimates. ^Data for 2023 covers three months only.

## Six-monthly prevalence of current vaping by age group, 2018-2023 (weighted %)

Source: Wakefield et al. Current vaping and current smoking in the Australian population aged 14+ years: February 2018-March 2023. Cancer Council Victoria. 2023.

# *Lifetime (ever) smoking and lifetime (ever) vaping for Australian secondary school students 1996-2023*





# *Overview of national smoking and vaping datasets*

- Several long-running national surveys of smoking and vaping behaviour in Australia:
  - National Health Survey
  - Australian Secondary Schools Alcohol and Drug (ASSAD) survey
  - Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)
  - Single Source Survey (Ray Morgan)
- Vary in:
  - How often they collect data
  - Sample size
  - Sample type
  - Range of data collected
  - Cost

# *Other smoking and vaping research activity*

- Vape promotion on social media – TikTok, Twitter, Instagram
- E-cigarette retail shop environment & online retailer – number, location and marketing methods
- Tobacco companies, corporate social responsibility and third-party awards
- Tobacco endgame strategies for Australia – policies, regulations
- Developing a massive open online course (MOOC)
  - public health professionals – health promotion messaging for vapes, social media skills for effective health promotion, communication and advocacy

See more details here: <https://www.tobacco-vape-research.org.au/projects/>



***Co-designing strategies to prevent youth e-cigarette access and uptake***

# Research aim

- To understand the factors that may prevent or facilitate vaping among WA young people (13-17 years) from the perspectives of school professionals, parents, and young people;
- To co-design strategies to improve responses to vaping in school settings.





# Methods

## Sample

- School professionals n=15
- Parents of young people n=12
- Young people 13-17 years old n=32
- Total participants n=59
- Residing within the Greater Capital City Statistical Area of Perth, Western Australia

## Data collection

- Semi-structured individual and joint interviews, and focus groups
- Online and face-to-face

## Ethics

- The study was approved by the Curtin University Human Research Committee (HRE2021-0676)

# *Summary of findings*

- Factors that were found to support vaping among young people included:
  - sensation-seeking and risk-taking behaviour; a low-risk perception of vapes; attractive characteristics of vapes; ease of access; perception vaping is a social activity; and lack of knowledge about vaping among parents and school professionals.
- Vaping prevention messages originating from the familial, educational and community spheres are lacking but wanted by adults and young people.
- Limited and varied attention has been directed towards vaping policy in the school setting.
- Teaching and learning opportunities existed for students, parents and school professionals, albeit somewhat ad hoc in their approach.
- Additional training would benefit the whole school community (students, parents and staff) to raise awareness of e-cigarette harms, increase knowledge and build skills in responding to student vaping.
- A mixture of “hard” and “soft” public policy tools involving key stakeholders in a range of settings is needed to prevent e-cigarette access and uptake by young people.
- Clearly articulated policies are needed to guide school strategies and actions towards vaping.

# Co-designing vaping prevention strategies



# *Vaping prevention strategies for schools*

1. Build the capacity of all school staff to engage in vaping education through professional learning
2. Review, reform or develop school policy and/or procedures relating to vaping
3. Develop vaping-specific curriculum resources for students
4. Provide specialised professional learning opportunities for staff who work in student services or pastoral care roles
5. Foster supportive school social environments that normalise non-vaping
6. Encourage families and the community to consistently demonstrate an intolerance of vaping
7. Ensure all school staff are informed of the legal responsibilities relating to vaping
8. Provide all members of the school community with vaping information that mirrors teacher and student learning
9. Manage the physical environment within and around schools



# *Published findings*

- Peer-reviewed publications:
  - McCausland, K., Booth, S., Leaversuch, F., Freeman, B., Wolf, K., Leaver, T., & Jancey, J. (2024). **Socio-ecological factors that influence youth vaping: perspectives from Western Australian school professionals, parents and young people.** International Journal of Qualitative Studies on Health and Well-Being, 19(1). <https://doi.org/10.1080/17482631.2024.2322753>
  - Thomas, L., McCausland, K., Leaversuch, F., Freeman, B., Wolf, K., Leaver, T., & Jancey, J. (2024). **The school community's role in addressing vaping: Findings from qualitative research to inform pedagogy, practice and policy.** Health Promotion Journal of Australia. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/hpja.895>
- Published resource:
  - McCausland, K., Thomas, L., Freeman, B., Wolf, K., Leaver, T., & Jancey, J. (2024). **Vaping Prevention Plan for Schools: Co-designed strategies to improve responses to vaping amongst young people in Western Australian schools.** Tobacco Vape Research Collective, Curtin University. [https://www.tobacco-vape-research.org.au/glow\\_portfolio/co-designing-strategies-to-prevent-youth-e-cigarette-appeal-access-and-uptake/](https://www.tobacco-vape-research.org.au/glow_portfolio/co-designing-strategies-to-prevent-youth-e-cigarette-appeal-access-and-uptake/)

# Acknowledgements

## Chief Investigators

- Professor Jonine Jancey (Curtin University)
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