

E-CIGARETTES: WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW



HOW MANY YOUTHS ARE USING E-CIGARETTES?

- Vaping is a public health concern in Louisiana, especially among young people. According to a 2023 survey, vaping is the most popular tobacco product among middle and high school students in the state.
- From 2015 to 2021, vape use among these students more than doubled.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS FOR YOUTH?

Most e-cigarettes contain nicotine, which is highly addictive.

- Nicotine exposure during adolescence can: o Harm brain development
 - o Impact learning, memory and attention o Increase risk for future addiction

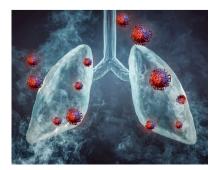
Many e-cigarettes come in child-friendly flavors –

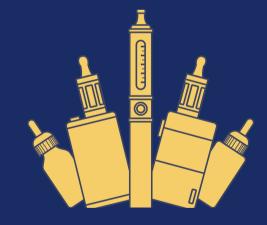
bubblegum, banana ice, and crème – which makes vaping more appealing to youth.

E-cigarette aerosol contains harmful substances, including: o Nicotine

- o Heavy Metals such as nickel, tin and led
- o Flavorings that have been linked to lung disease, and cancer-causing chemicals







WHAT DO E-CIGARETTES LOOK LIKE?

 Some e-cigarettes look like other items commonly used by youth. New shapes like USB flash drives are popular as regular cigarettes, cigars, or pipes look-a-likes.



WHAT CAN YOU DO AS A PARENT OR CAREGIVER?

• Talk to your child or teen about why vaping is harmful for them.

• Suggest ways to alleviate or cope with anxiety and stress and how to resist peer pressure.

WHAT IS THE NEW LAW RELATED TO THE SALE OF VAPE PRODUCTS IN LOUISIANA?

 Act 414, passed during the 2023 regular legislative session, bans businesses from selling nicotine vapes or other alternative vape products.

• Effective March 18, 2024, the prohibition of the sale, offer for sale, or possession by retail dealers or wholesalers of vapor products not listed in the VAPE directory will be enforced.



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