

Cannabis & Commercial Tobacco Update

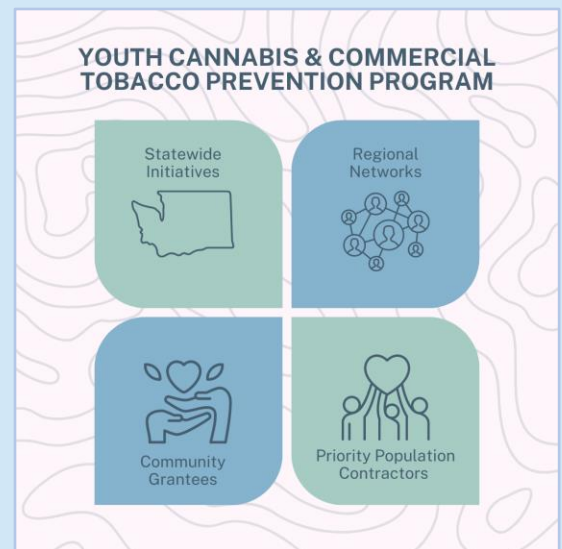
Youth Cannabis & Commercial Tobacco Prevention Program (YCCTPP) works to:

- Prevent and reduce cannabis and commercial tobacco use by youth ages 12-20
- Support adults and peers who influence youth
- Leverage resources for promoting & supporting commercial tobacco dependence treatment for all ages
- Reduce cannabis and commercial tobacco-related inequities within Washington state

Program Overview

Programmatic efforts are possible thanks to partnerships with external contractors, grantees, and other non-monetary partners. The program is comprised of 4 areas, outlined in the right graphic. These areas make up the more than 30 organizations working on projects that contribute to our mission statement. YCCTPP is funded by multiple state and federal sources that total to approximately \$18,445,000 for Fiscal Year 2025.

YCCTPP is comprised of 11 core staff and 5 auxiliary staff (individuals that support the work from a different part of the agency) that oversee contracts, grants, and other programmatic efforts.



78.3% of the total approximate budget for Fiscal Year 2025 is disseminated to contractors and grantees to implement programmatic efforts.

FY2024 Program Highlights

- Over 75 opportunities and/or events for Washington youth that celebrate sobriety
- 13 trainings for partners focusing on current and emerging topics in prevention and cessation
- 10 youth-led councils who oversee planning for events, trainings, and peer support opportunities
- 2,663 Quitline participant enrollments & 676 2Morrow Cessation App activations in FY2024
- 25+ provider trainings for commercial tobacco cessation (in person and virtually by DOH and/or contracted partners)
- 5+ youth, regional, and statewide summits hosted by contractors and grantees
- 5 schools that partnered with contractors to develop and/or implement alternative discipline policies
- 10,000+ Youth Wellness Journals distributed



Figure 1 YCCTPP Funded Partner Map

Program Highlights (cont'd)

- Expansion of Health Education Media Campaigns for Youth Cannabis and Commercial Tobacco Prevention ([Choose You & You Can](#))
- Expand the Quitline to include tailored [youth and young adult cessation texting line](#) and tailored American Indian/Alaskan Native program
- Collaborate with the Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB) on the development, implementation, and analysis of the cannabis consumer education survey
- Participate in the [State Prevention Enhancement \(SPE\) Policy Consortium](#) and collaborate with other state agencies to address substance use and mental health in the state
- Improve data accessibility and transparency, updating the [Washington Tracking Network \(WTN\)](#) for cannabis and commercial tobacco-related data points

Current Challenges:

Challenges are reported to the program by partners, YCCTP program staff, and national partners:

- Capacity for Community Participation
- Emerging Product Research
- Limited Youth Cessation Resources

Data Update:

Healthy Youth Survey (HYS):

- Individuals who use cannabis and/or commercial tobacco are more likely to report using other substances
- More than 50% of 10th graders who use cannabis and/or vapor products report using a flavored product
- Noted increase of smokeless tobacco use due to a question modification to add synthetic nicotine products (i.e. nicotine pouches, lozenges, and toothpicks)

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS):

- WA Cigarette Use Prevalence: 10.1%
- WA E-Cigarette Use Prevalence: 3.0%
- WA Smokeless Tobacco Use Prevalence: 3.0%
- Continue to see disproportionately higher rates of use among individuals when broken out by race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, socioeconomic status, and military history.

National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH):

- WA Cannabis Use Prevalence (18 & older): 30.7%

Program Focuses for 2024-2027:

- Inform Washingtonians about the effects of cannabis and commercial tobacco on overall wellness through education.
- Foster collaboration and innovation statewide in youth cannabis and commercial tobacco use prevention.
- Ensure sustainability of cannabis and commercial tobacco prevention programming.
- Improve social determinants of health to reduce disparities and improve quality of life in Washington.
- Utilize upstream prevention approaches by drawing from existing science-based frameworks to create policy, systems, and environmental change.
- Leverage partnerships and resources to move towards universal barrier-free access to commercial tobacco dependence treatment.