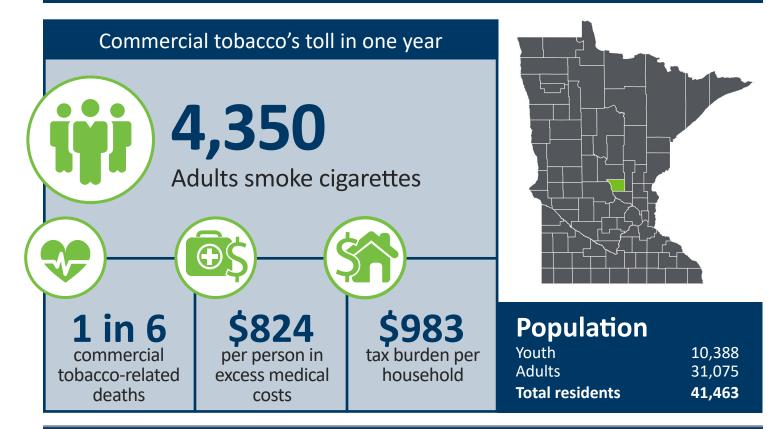
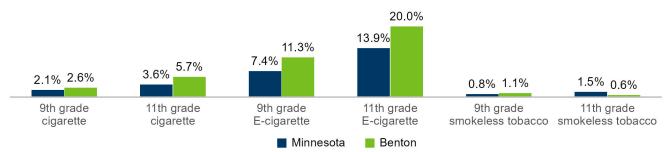
# **Benton County**

### **Commercial Tobacco Profile**

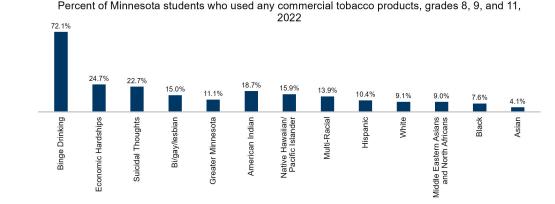


#### Youth commercial tobacco use

Benton County's 9th and 11th grade students compared with Minnesota students, 2022



### Statewide disparities in youth commercial tobacco use



Significant disparities remain among populations historically targeted by the Tobacco Industry.

## Local action for effective commercial tobacco prevention



The Minnesota Department of Health supports community driven solutions to prevent youth from starting and to help people quit. Minnesota communities are working to:

- Raise the minimum tobacco sales age to 21 and remove purchase, use and possession penalties.
- Restrict the sale of menthol and flavored products.
- Increase product prices.
- Provide free support to quit.
- Promote smoke- and commercial-tobacco-free environments.
- Engage youth as essential partners.

#### Among retailers assessed How the tobacco industry targets in Benton County communities sold flavored Using fruit, candy, menthol, and other 5 in 6 commercial flavors, as well as eye-catching packaging, to tobacco attract new users. Marketing products on social media and sold menthol through influencers and event sponsorships 7 in 9 cigarettes MENTHO Designing products with extreme concentrations of nicotine, which is highly addictive and can harm brain development sold e-cigarettes and mental health as teens grow. 4 in 9 in more than 10 Selling products near places youth frequent, flavors like convenience stores, schools, community centers, libraries, and parks. sold single Promoting products in ways that are easily 5 in 6 **A** cigarillos visible to children, like on store countertops and within three feet of the floor and near candy displays. sold commercial Keeping prices low by offering coupons, buy-5 in 9 **2**FOR**1** tobacco at one-get-one deals, and other discounts. discount prices

Sources: Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Cost of Smoking Report, MDH Vital Statistics, CDC PLACES: Local Data for Better Health, County Data, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Minnesota Student Survey, and U.S. Census Population Estimates **Want to know more about the burden of tobacco in Minnesota? Visit www.health.mn.gov/tobacco.** 

