

Youth Tobacco Product Monitoring Project

Frequently Asked Questions

We can't determine if the product contains tobacco or marijuana or other substances. Should we still share it with you?

We will take photos of whatever you have. Our team will identify the products after they're shared.

Do you only want us to share info about vapes?

We're interested in ALL types of nicotine and tobacco products – pouches, cigars, cigarillos, e-cigarettes – whatever you see out there.

How often should we upload our photos?

As frequently as is convenient for your team. We have a question in the survey that lets you clarify when

How do we safely dispose of the products we receive?

The US Environmental Protection Agency has a great resource schools and individuals can use at <https://www.epa.gov/hw/how-safely-dispose-e-cigarettes-information-individuals>

We don't confiscate products from students, they voluntarily turn them in. Do you still want to see those products?

Absolutely! We used the term confiscate because it resonated with teachers, but we want to see and hear about any of the tobacco products you're seeing in schools.

The survey has options for students in grades 6-12. What about younger grades?

If you're collecting products from students in younger grades, we'd love to see them! There's an open-response question where you can add more detail about the age groups at the school.

What's the best way to share what we have?

We're thankful for whatever you have available to share! That said, clear photos of a group of products are probably best in reducing your time and allowing us to identify the products. Some examples are below. Example 2 is better as it allows us to identify the brands and flavors.

Example 1:



This photo contains a variety of products, but we can't see most of the brands to inform surveillance efforts.

Example 2:



In this photo, we can see the brand names and flavors for most products.

How do we measure the products?

For volume, we're interested in the amount of space occupied by the product. If you have a known entity such as a gallon jug, you can estimate volume by determining how much of the jug is filled with the products. For weight, we recommend (1) weighing an empty box or bag, (2) weighing the box/bag filled with the products, and (3) subtracting the empty weight from the filled weight.