
IV. Enforcement

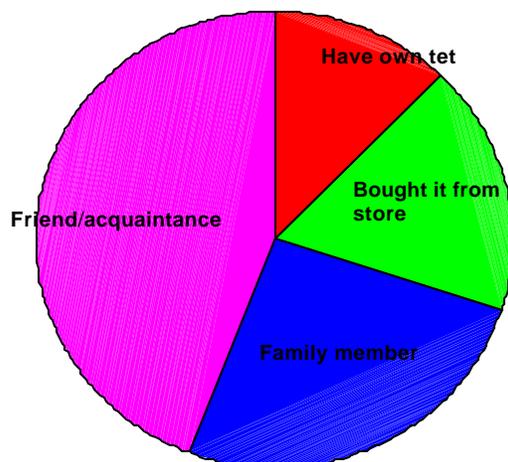
Minor's Access to Tobacco Products

Palau has and enforces laws regarding youth access to tobacco and conducts annual inspection surveys to measure the effectiveness of enforcement efforts. Reducing sales to minors from commercial sources can reduce tobacco use, as well as related health problems.

Access to betelnut:

Most high school students get elaus from non-commercial sources. **69.9%** of high school students who were current users (in the past 30 days) got their elaus from friends or family members.

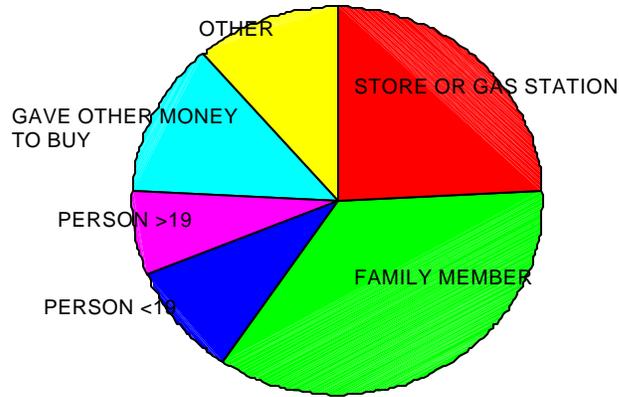
Figure 4: Usual Source of Betelnut



Source of tobacco for smoking or chewing:

Students were asked where they usually got cigarettes or smokeless tobacco for smoking or chewing betelnut in the previous 30 days. Of those who attempted to get either type of tobacco, the most common source was a family member (**35.1%**). Another **24.3%** usually got tobacco from a store or gas station.

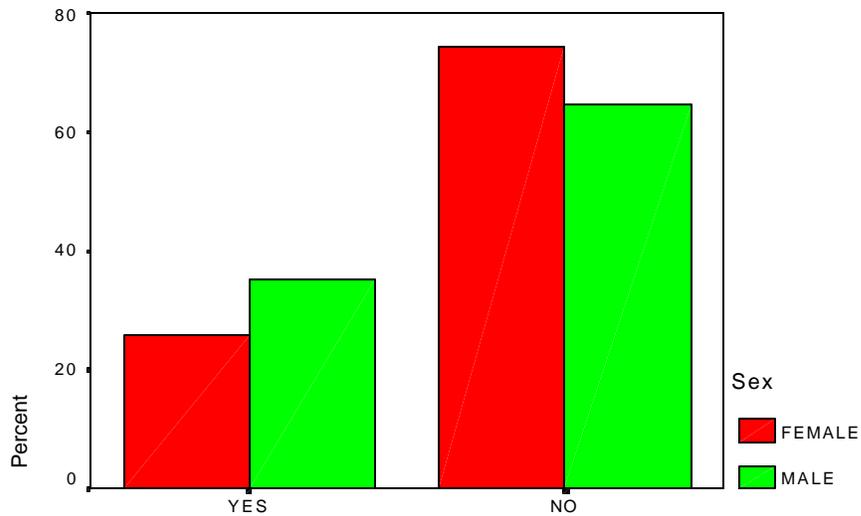
Figure 5: Usual Source of Cigarettes/Tobacco



Vendor compliance:

Only **31.2%** of students who bought or tried to buy cigarettes or smokeless tobacco in a store in the past 30 days were asked to show proof of age. Female students were significantly less likely to be asked for proof of age when they attempted to buy cigarettes or tobacco ($\chi^2=4.309$, $p= 0.038$).

Figure 6: Proportion of Students Asked to Show Proof of Age for Tobacco Purchase in Past 30 Days



Vendor refusals:

35.1% of students who tried to buy cigarettes for smoking or smokeless tobacco in a store in the previous 30 days were refused because of their age. Only **26.7%** of students who attempted to buy elaus with cigarettes or smokeless tobacco in the previous 30 days were refused because of their age.

Tobacco purchases for others:

42.8% of high school students had been asked, in the previous 30 days, to go to the store to purchase tobacco or cigarettes by an adult. For those who were asked to purchase tobacco for an adult, the breakdown of who asked them most often is presented below.

Table 12: Persons >19 Asking Youth to Purchase Tobacco for Them

| Adult who asked most often | Proportion |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Mother +/-or father | 27.2% |
| Grandma +/-or grandfather | 9.9% |
| Aunt +/-or uncle | 19.1% |
| Brother +/-or sister | 5.7% |
| Other person over age 19 | 38.1% |

A large proportion of students were asked to buy tobacco for a parent and over a third (**38.1%**) were asked by an adult outside their immediate family.

