
X. Enforcement

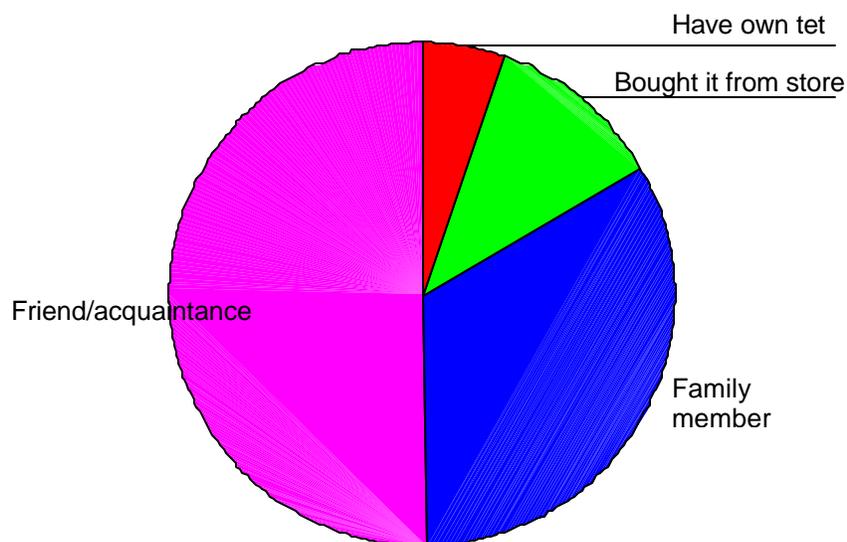
Minor's Access to Tobacco Products

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:

Almost all middle school students who chew betelnut get elaus from non-commercial sources. **83.3%** of middle school students who were current users (in the past 30 days) got their elaus from friends or family members.

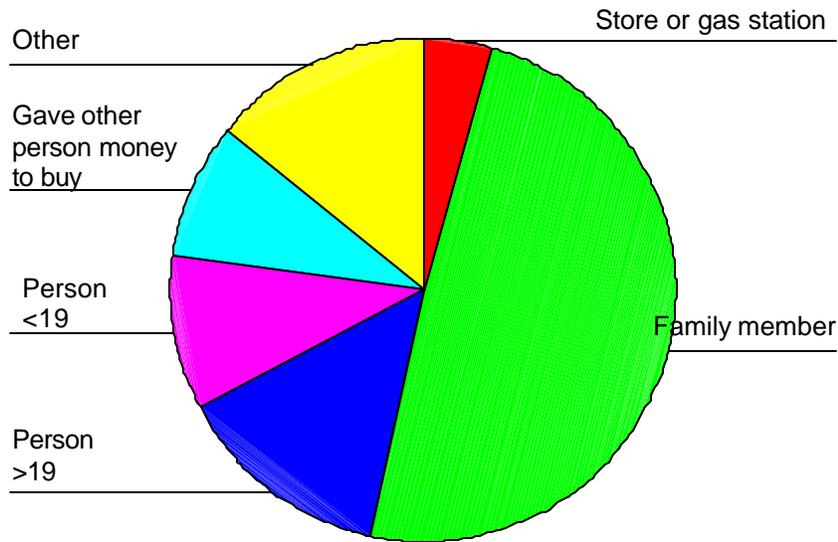
Figure 13: Usual Source of Betelnut



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 (**48.8%**). Another **23.9%** usually got tobacco from someone else they knew, either an adult or under 19 years of age. Only **4.5%** of middle school students said they usually got cigarettes or tobacco from a store or gas station.

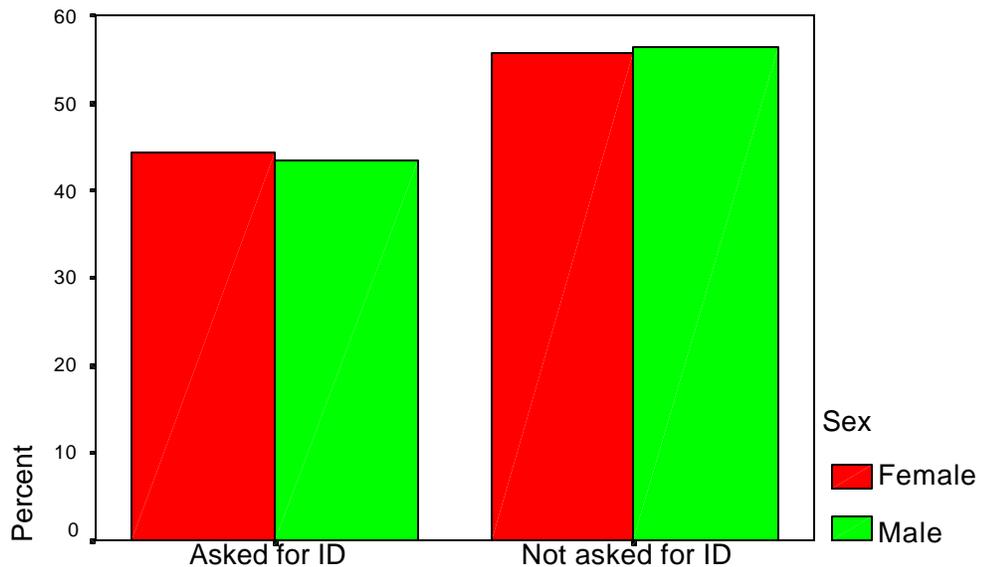
Figure 14: Usual Source of Cigarettes/Tobacco



Vendor compliance:

Fewer than half (**44.1%**) of middle school students who tried to buy cigarettes or smokeless tobacco in a store in the past 30 days were asked to show proof of age. There was no difference in the proportion of boys and girls asked to show ID for tobacco purchases.

Figure 15: Proportion of Students Asked to Show Proof of Age for Tobacco Purchase in Past 30 Days



Vendor refusals:

Only **26.6%** 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. **31.0%** of students who attempted to buy elaus with cigarettes or smokeless tobacco in the previous 30 days were refused because of their age. These refusal rates are as low as those for high school students, suggesting that vendors may assume that young people are not buying tobacco products for their own use, and fail to refuse a tobacco sale even when the purchaser is clearly underage.

Tobacco purchases for others:

43.4% of middle 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 29: Persons >19 Asking Youth to Purchase Tobacco for Them

Adult who asked most often	Proportion
Mother +/-or father	38.6%
Grandma +/-or grandfather	14.0%
Aunt +/-or uncle	18.3%
Brother +/-or sister	6.3%
Other person over age 19	22.8%

The largest proportion (**38.6%**) of students who were asked to buy tobacco products for an adult were asked to buy tobacco for a parent and **22.8%** were asked by an adult outside their immediate family.

