

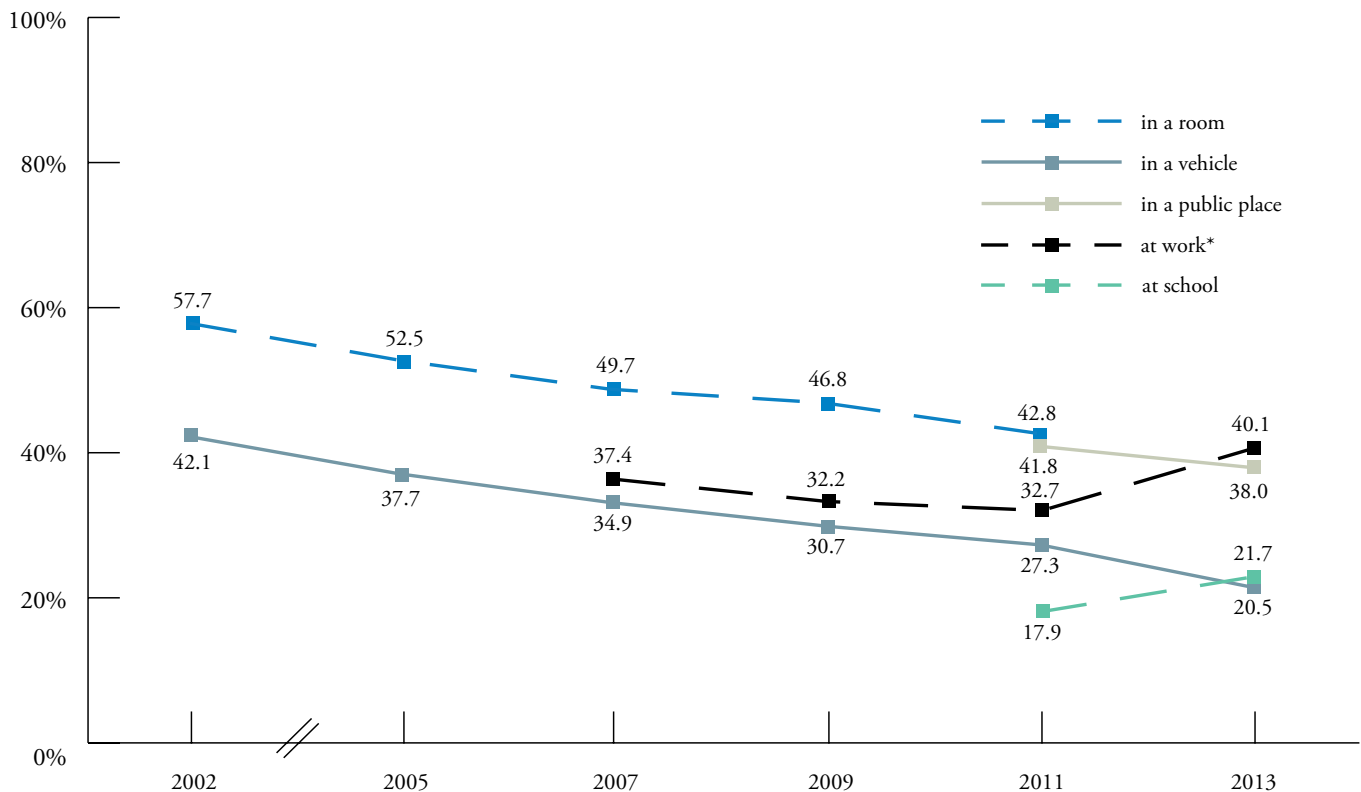


## Trends in Youth Secondhand Smoke Exposure — Connecticut Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Program — September 2014

Secondhand smoke (SHS) is the poisonous mixture of smoke that comes from a burning tobacco product, such as a cigarette, cigar, or pipe, and smoke exhaled by the smoker. It contains over 7,000 chemicals, and at least 250 have been shown to damage your health. Children and babies are especially vulnerable to its toxic effects. There is no safe level of SHS. It is dangerous to anyone who breathes it in.<sup>1</sup>

### Estimates from the 2002 - 2013 Connecticut Youth Tobacco Surveys

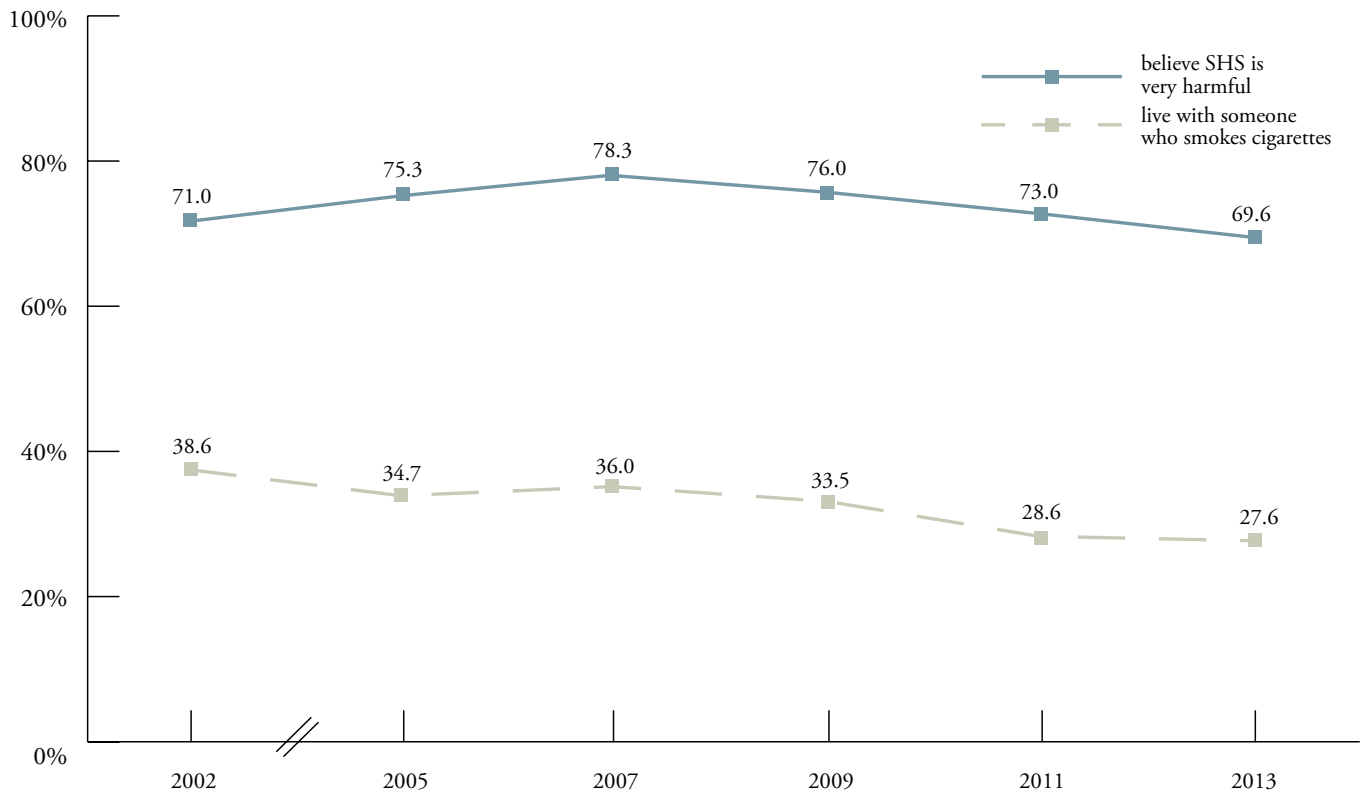
Percentage of Connecticut Youth Exposed to SHS in a Room, Vehicle, or Public Place, or at Work\* or School During the Past 7 days by year



Data Source: Connecticut Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS); 2002-2013.  
\*among students who had a job and worked during the past seven days

- ◆ The percentage of middle and high school students who had been exposed to SHS in a room during the past seven days decreased significantly from 57.7% in 2002 to 42.8% in 2013.
- ◆ During 2002-2013, a significant decrease (42.1%-20.5%) occurred in the percentage of school students who were recently exposed to SHS in a vehicle.

Percentage of Connecticut Middle and High School Students Who Believe SHS Is Very Harmful and Students Who Live with Someone Who Smokes Cigarettes by year



Data Source: Connecticut Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS); 2002-2013.

- ◆ The percentage of middle and high school students who believe SHS is very harmful to one's health decreased significantly from 75.3% in 2005 to 69.6% in 2013.
- ◆ During 2002-2013, a significant decrease (38.6%-27.6%) occurred in the percentage of students who lived with someone who smokes cigarettes.

## For Further Information

### Connecticut Department of Public Health Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Program

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 Or Visit: [www.ct.gov/dph/tobacco](http://www.ct.gov/dph/tobacco)

## References

<sup>1</sup>Tobacco Control Research Branch of the National Cancer Institute; <http://smokefree.gov>.