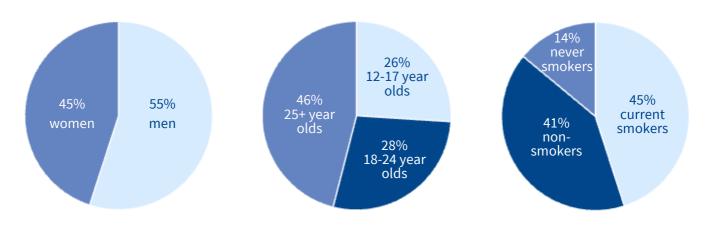




**MELBOURNE CENTRE FOR BEHAVIOUR CHANGE** 

# PREFERENCES FOR E-CIGARETTE PRODUCTS IN AUSTRALIA

We surveyed **636 current users of e-cigarettes**:



We asked them to report on their use of e-cigarettes:





#### without nicotine



We also asked them to report:

- The types of e-cigarette devices they usually used
- From where they sourced their products

This is what we found:

# PREFERENCE FOR NICOTINE

A preference for nicotine over non-nicotine e-cigarettes was observed among all age and smoking groups:

**Adolescents**: 78% cf. 58% **Young adults**: 87% cf. 49%

**Adults (25+ years)**: 81% cf. 69%

Current smokers: 87% cf. 65% Non-smokers: 78% cf. 54% Never smokers: 78% cf. 61%



### PREFERENCE FOR FLAVOURING

The vast majority of current e-cigarette users reported using **flavoured e-cigarettes**, with **fruit flavours** found to be most popular:



# **DEVICE TYPE**

**Disposable e-cigarettes** were the most commonly used among all groups except adults aged 25+ (who preferred refillable devices):



# **PRODUCT SOURCE**







**Tobacco retailers** were the most common source of nicotine e-liquid (28%), followed by **friends** (27%) and then the **Internet** (21%).

# CONCLUSIONS

Most e-cigarette users, including adolescents and never smokers, exhibited a preference for nicotine-containing flavoured e-cigarettes.

Flavoured e-cigarettes and disposable devices appear to be facilitating recreational use of e-cigarettes among adolescents and never smokers.

Over a quarter of e-cigarette users, including one in five adolescents, reported sourcing their nicotine e-liquid from a tobacconist, despite it being illegal to sell these products outside the pharmaceutical scheme.

Measures that restrict the accessibility and availability of flavoured e-liquids and disposable e-cigarettes, and greater enforcement of laws regarding the sale of nicotine-containing e-liquids, are urgently needed.

Source: Jongenelis, M. I. (2023). E-cigarette product preferences of Australian adolescent and adult users: a 2022 study. *BMC Public Health*. doi: 10.1186/s12889-023-15142-8