

Nearly 2 million U.S. adult nonsmokers vape

sciceneews.org/article/nearly-2-million-us-adult-nonsmokers-vape

October 10, 2018

A study highlights concerns that e-cigs, marketed as a way to stop smoking, may be addictive

Aimee Cunningham

1:20pm, October 9, 2018



E-CIGARETTES ONLY Of the estimated 1.9 million American adults who vape but have never consistently smoked regular cigarettes, the majority were aged 18 to 24 years.

REDPIXEL.PL/Shutterstock

Nearly 2 million U.S. adults who have never consistently smoked traditional cigarettes use e-cigarettes, according to results from a national survey. Of these sole e-cig users, about 60 percent are young adults, aged 18 to 24, researchers report online October 9 in *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

E-cigarette companies have marketed the devices — which heat and vaporize liquids that typically contain nicotine — as a way to help adults quit smoking. But some public health officials worry that e-cigarettes could become a means to nicotine addiction, rather than an end.

This concern is especially true for adolescents and young adults, whose developing brains are vulnerable to nicotine exposure, which can cause addiction and other harms (*SN Online*: 8/19/15). E-cigarettes also can pose a variety of other health risks (*SN*: 3/5/16, p.

