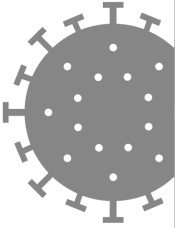


MEDICAL VULNERABILITY OF YOUNG ADULTS TO SEVERE COVID-19 DISEASE

Adolescent and Young Adult Health
National Resource Center

Adams S, Park J, Schaub J, Brindis C.D., Irwin C.E.
Journal of Adolescent Health.
doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2020.06.025

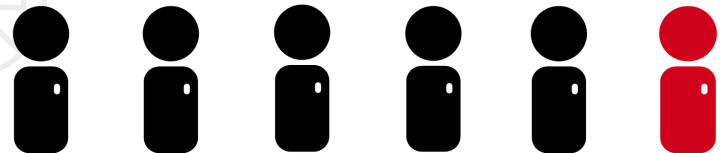


1 in 3 Young Adults is Medically Vulnerable to Severe COVID-19 Illness



32% of **all** young adults are medically vulnerable to severe COVID-19 illness.

Remove Smokers / e-Cig Users, and only 1 in 6 Young Adults is Vulnerable



Vulnerability dropped to 16% among non-smokers, a **50% reduction**, highlighting the large influence smoking & e-cig use have on vulnerability.

Study Details



Severe Illness indicates hospitalization or intensive care with an increased risk of death.



Medical Vulnerability is the presence of health indicators and behaviors that may increase the likelihood of severe illness.



Vulnerability Factors include diabetes, heart disease, immunodeficiencies, smoking, asthma, liver disease, and obesity.



E-cigarette use was included due to its effects on respiratory and immune function.

Taking Action on Smoking & e-Cigs:

Smoking is a **key** factor conferring medical vulnerability among young adults.

What's needed are strong **preventive services** and smoking cessation interventions for adolescents and young adults, as well as risk reduction efforts at all ages.

For information and resources on quitting smoking, visit the website SmokeFree.gov.