A BRIEF HISTORY OF
E-CIGARETTES

The increase in e-cigarette use by youth concerns public health officials, medical professionals, educators, and caring adults. This timeline reviews the swift and unsettling rise of the e-cigarette.

1930
An e-cigarette is first referenced in a patent granted to **Joseph Robinson**. The product is **never commercialized** or even manufactured.

1967
The first manufactured e-cigarette is created by **Herbert A. Gilbert**. It is *thought* to be a safe method of smoking without burning tobacco.

1970-1980
The first commercialized e-cigarette relies not on electricity, but on evaporation of **nicotine**. The device launch fails, but not without inventors first coining the term **"vape."**

2003
The first commercially successful e-cigarette is created in Beijing, China, by pharmacist, inventor and smoker **Hon Lik**. He names the device Ruyan, meaning **"like smoke."**

APRIL 2006
E-cigarettes are introduced in **Europe**.

AUGUST 2006
E-cigarettes are introduced in the **United States.**

2008
The **World Health Organization** states e-cigarettes are not legitimate smoking cessation aids and demands marketers stop making this claim.

JANUARY 2009
Resistance to e-cigarettes begins. **Australia** bans the possession and sale of e-cigarettes containing nicotine. **Jordan**'s Ministry of Health bans the import of e-cigarettes, citing **World Health Organization** guidelines.

MAY 2009
The **Electronic Cigarette Association** (ECA) is formed. The now-defunct ECA is made up of e-cigarette producers, distributors and retailers. The ECA speaks on behalf of the industry and is headquartered in **Washington, D.C.**

MAY 2009
A petition is filed calling for **FDA regulation** of e-cigarettes.

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A BRIEF HISTORY OF E-CIGARETTES PART II

The introduction of JUUL, a new generation addicted to nicotine, and vaping illness.

June 2010
The **American Medical Association** passes a policy urging the FDA to **regulate** e-cigarettes as drug delivery devices.

JANUARY 2013
A petition to the **White House** is created to **prevent** the FDA from **regulating** or **banning** the sale and use of e-cigarettes and e-liquids.

NOVEMBER 2013
The Campaign for **Tobacco-Free Kids** issues a press release demanding FDA **regulation** of e-cigarettes.

2015
Pax Labs introduces the **JUUL** e-cigarette.

2016
JUUL sales increase by **700%.**

2017
Pax Labs splits into two separate companies, leaving JUUL Labs to focus on **nicotine e-cigarettes.**

OCTOBER 2018
JUUL accounts for over **70%** of the U.S. e-cigarette market.

APRIL 2018
The U.S. FDA launches an investigation of **underage sales** of **JUUL** products.

SEPTEMBER 2018
The U.S. FDA Commissioner calls teen vaping an **epidemic.** JUUL and other e-cigarette companies have 60 days to submit plans to combat **youth use.**

NOVEMBER 2018
JUUL shares plans to pull "all" flavors from retail stores **except tobacco**, **mint** and **menthol.**

DECEMBER 17, 2018
Monitoring the Future (MTF) releases its 2018 survey results. On vaping, results show "the **biggest one-year increase ever seen for any substance** in the **history** of the MTF survey."

DECEMBER 20 2018
Altria, a **Big Tobacco company,** invests **$12.8 billion** in **JUUL**, becoming a **35%** shareholder of the vape maker now valued at **$38 billion.**

AUGUST 2019
The **CDC** works with health departments in **5 states** to investigate more than **90** potential cases of **severe vaping-related lung illness.**

AUGUST 3, 2019
The first reported **vaping death** is reported in **Illinois**. The victim reportedly used e-cigarettes to consume **nicotine.**

SEPTEMBER 6, 2019
Major news outlets report **vitamin E acetate** in **counterfeit THC vaping** products as possible cause of vaping illness.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2019
White House says it will **ban** the sale of most **flavored e-cigarettes.**

OCTOBER 3, 2019
Vaping illness now impacts at least **1,080** people in the US, with **18** reported deaths. Of **578** cases reporting what substance is used, **78%** are related to THC-containing products.

OCTOBER 29, 2019
Vaping illness now stands at **1,888** cases and **37 deaths** in the Unites States.

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