

Youth Cigarette Use



Results from the 2006 Florida Youth Tobacco Survey

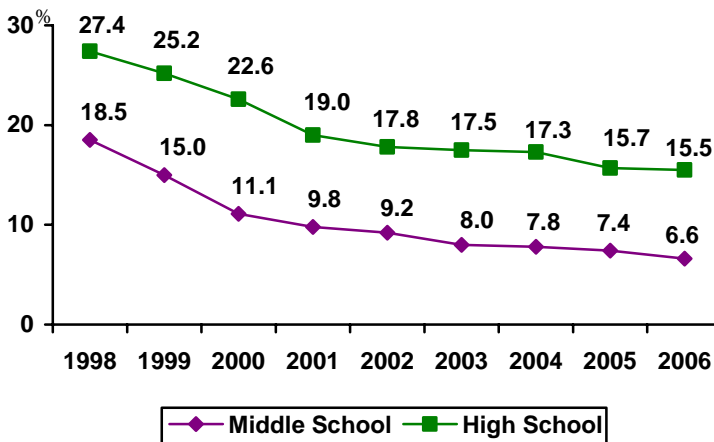
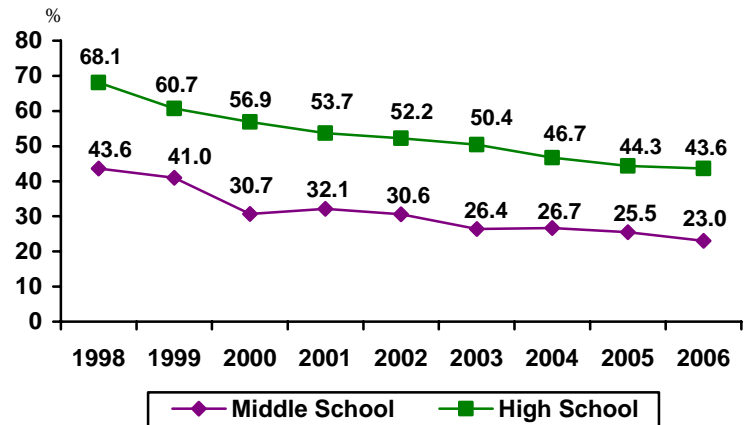
Fact Sheet 1

Introduction:

In the spring of 2006 the Florida Youth Tobacco Survey (FYTS) was administered to 33,112 middle school students and 29,325 high school students in 783 public schools throughout the state. The survey response rate for middle schools was 73% and the survey response rate for high schools was 68%. The FYTS has been conducted annually since 1998. The data presented in this fact sheet are weighted to represent the entire population of public middle and high school students in Florida.

Ever Tried Cigarettes

In 2006, 23% of middle school and 43.6% of high school students had tried smoking at least once. Since 1998, the prevalence of youth who have ever tried smoking has decreased by 47.2% among middle school students and by 36% among high school students.

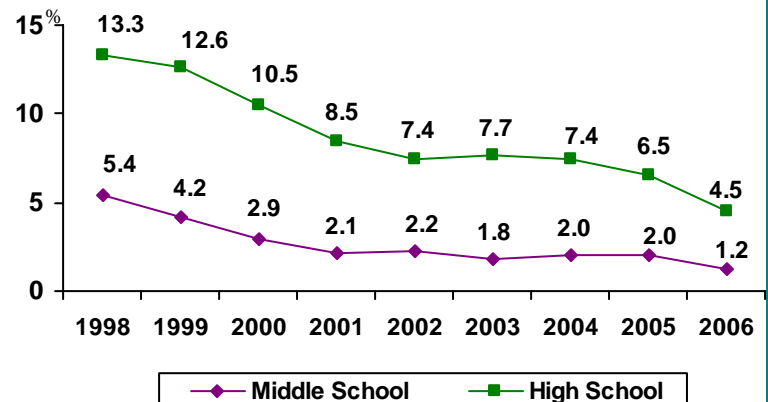


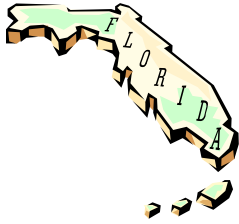
Current Cigarette Use

In 2006, 6.6% of middle school students and 15.5% of high school students smoked at least once during the past 30 days. Since 1998, the prevalence of students who currently smoke has decreased by 64.3% among middle school students and by 43.4% among high school students.

Frequent Cigarette Smokers

In 2006, 1.2% of middle school students and 4.5% of high school students smoked on 20 or more of the past 30 days. Since 1998, the prevalence of frequent cigarette smokers has decreased by 77.8% among middle school students and by 66.2% among high school students.

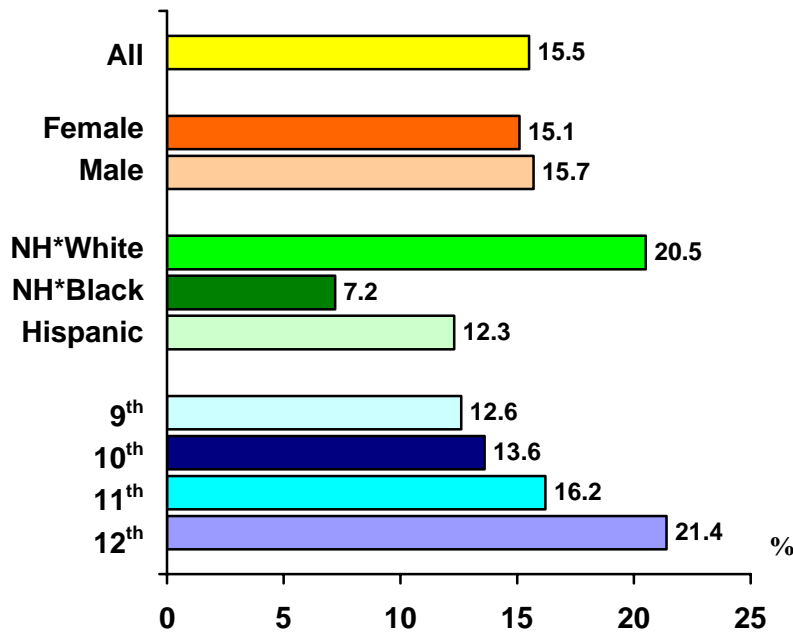
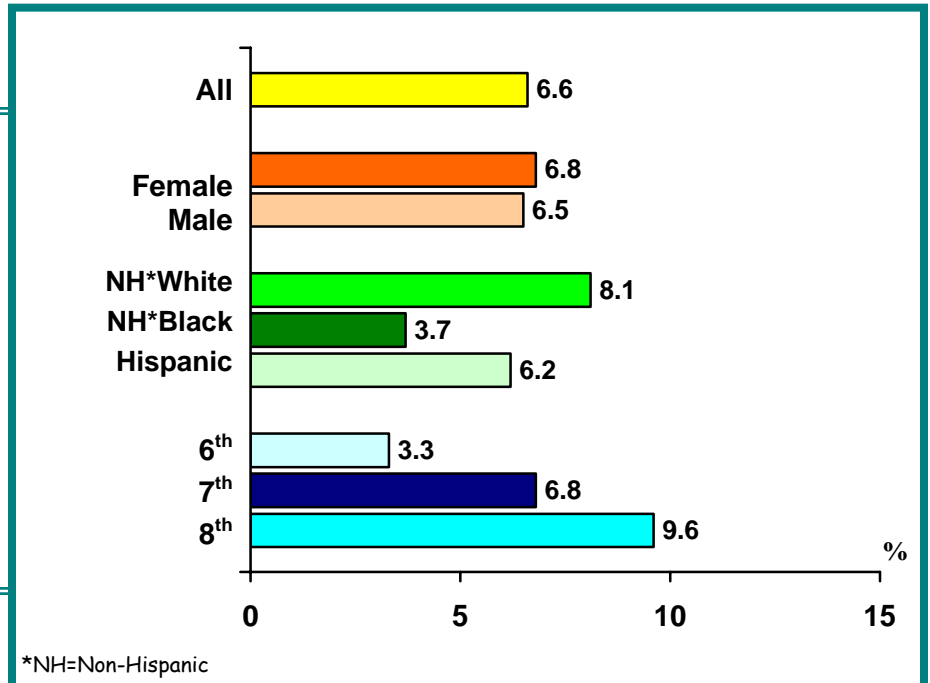




Current Cigarette Use (Past 30 Days) Florida 2006

Middle School

Overall, 6.6% of middle school students smoked at least once during the past 30 days. Non-Hispanic White students were more likely than both Hispanic and non-Hispanic Black students and Hispanic students were more likely than non-Hispanic Black students to be current smokers. The prevalence of this behavior increases with increasing grade level.



High School

Overall, 15.5% of high school students smoked at least once during the past 30 days. Non-Hispanic White students were more likely than both Hispanic and non-Hispanic Black students and Hispanic students were more likely than non-Hispanic Black students to be current smokers. The prevalence of this behavior tends to increase with increasing grade level.

For more information about the FYTS, please contact: Ms. Jamie Weitz, M.S., Florida Youth Survey Coordinator, at (850) 245-4444, extension 2424, or by e-mail at Jamie_Weitz@doh.state.fl.us. You can also check out our website at: http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/epi/Chronic_Disease/FYTS/Intro.htm.

