

Youth Smokeless Tobacco Use



Results from the 2006 Florida Youth Tobacco Survey

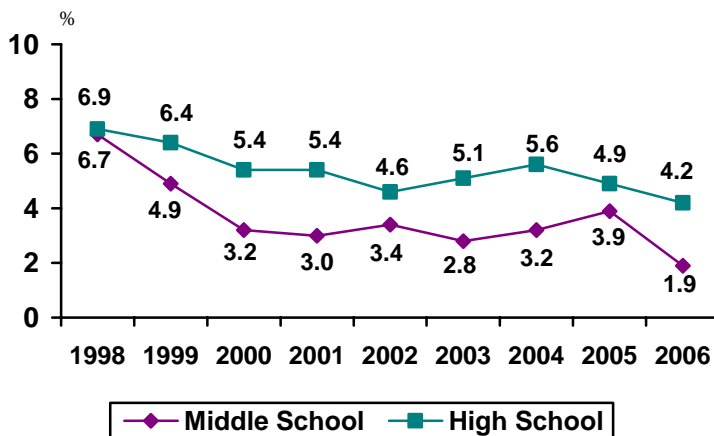
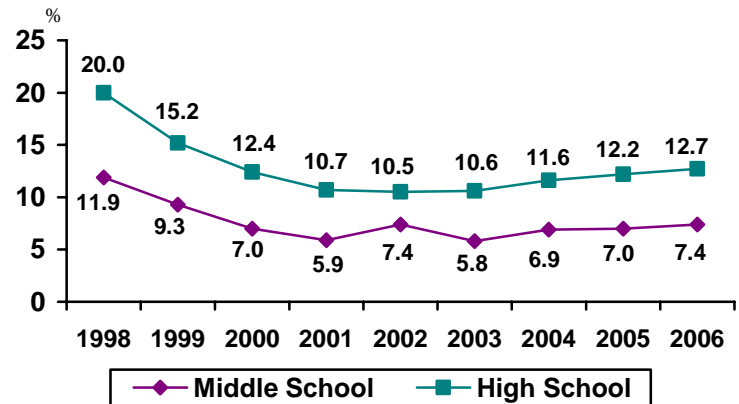
Fact Sheet 3

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 Smokeless Tobacco

In 2006, 7.4% of middle school and 12.7% of high school students had tried smokeless tobacco at least once in their lifetime. Since 1998, this prevalence has decreased by 36.5% among middle school students and by 37.8% among high school students. However since 2003, the prevalence of having ever tried smokeless tobacco seems to be moving in an upward trend for both middle and high school students.

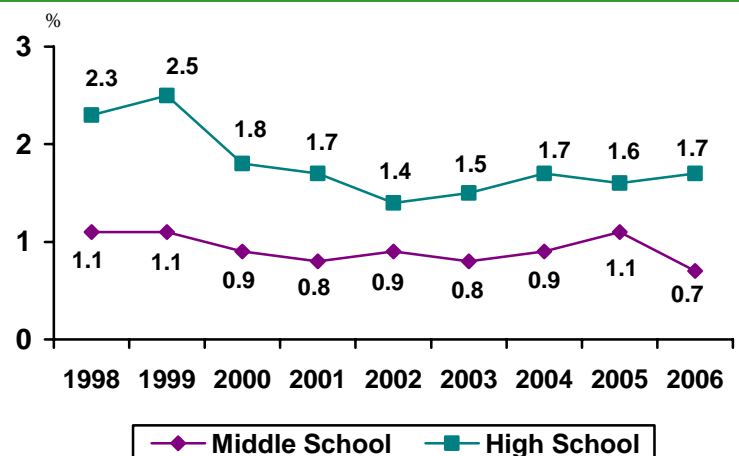


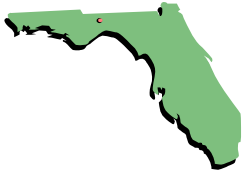
Current Smokeless Tobacco Use

In 2006, 1.9% of middle school students and 4.2% of high school students used smokeless tobacco at least once during the past 30 days. Since 1998, the prevalence of current smokeless tobacco use has decreased by 71.6% among middle school students and by 39.1% among high school students.

Frequent Smokeless Tobacco Use

In 2006, 0.7% of middle school students and 1.7% of high school students used smokeless tobacco on 20 or more of the past 30 days. Since 1998, the prevalence of frequent smokeless tobacco decreased by 36.4% among middle school students and decreased by 26.1% among high school students.

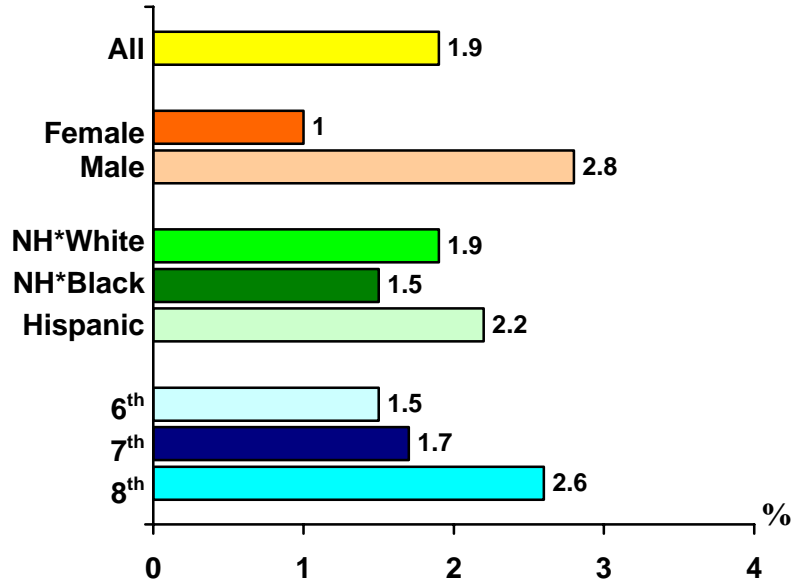




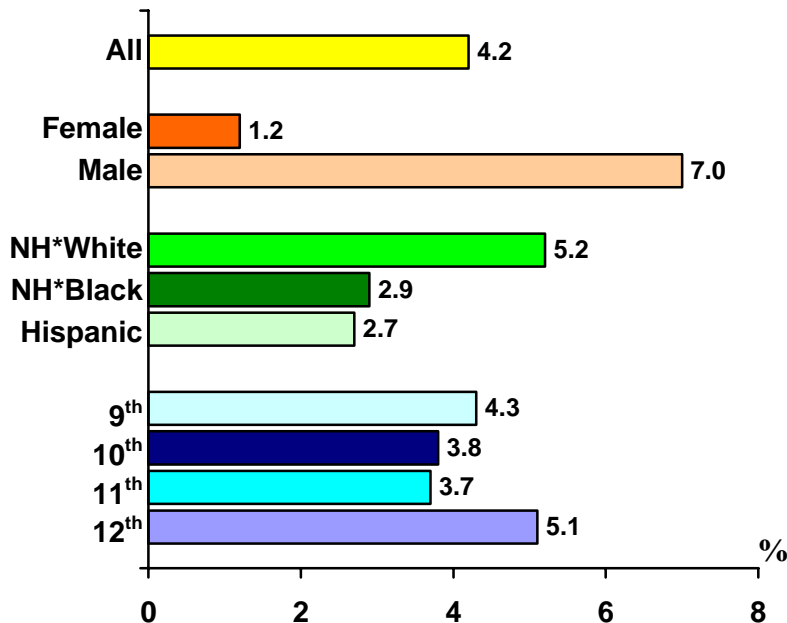
Current Smokeless Tobacco Use (Past 30 Days) Florida 2006

Middle School

Overall, 1.9% of middle school students used smokeless tobacco at least once during the past 30 days. Male students were more likely than female students to be current smokeless tobacco users. There were no significant differences in the prevalence of this behavior among the race/ethnicity groups. The prevalence of current smokeless tobacco was higher among eighth graders than among sixth and seventh grade students.



*NH=Non-Hispanic



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High School

Overall, 4.2% of high school students used smokeless tobacco at least once during the past 30 days. Male students were much more likely than female students to be current smokeless tobacco users. Non-Hispanic White students were more likely to be current smokeless tobacco users than non-Hispanic Black and Hispanic students. The prevalence of this behavior was higher among students in twelfth grade than students in tenth and eleventh grades.

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.

