

Youth Smokeless Tobacco Use



Results from the 2007 Florida Youth Tobacco Survey

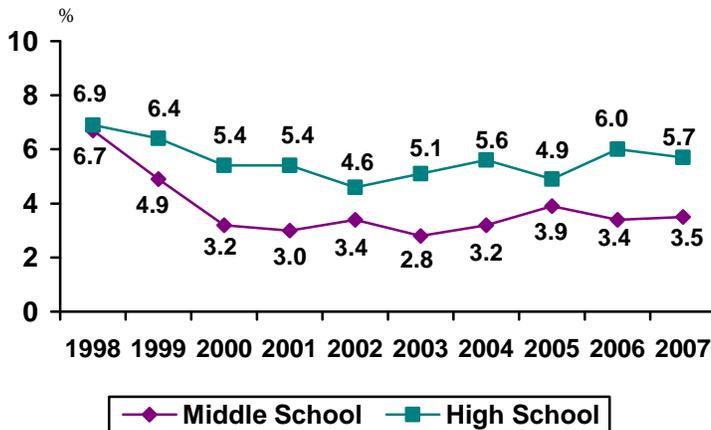
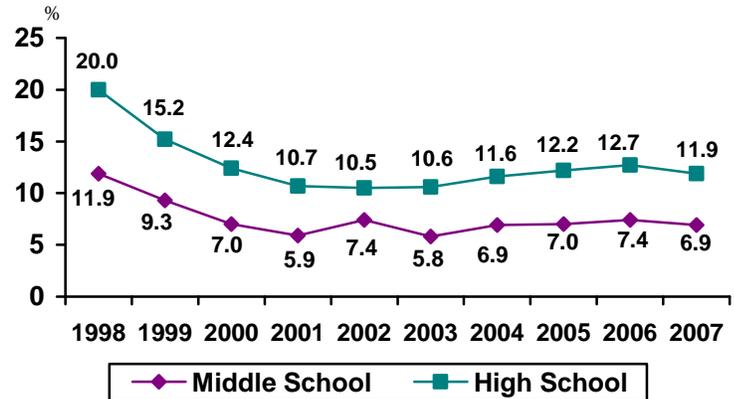
Fact Sheet 3

Introduction

The Florida Youth Tobacco Survey (FYTS) was administered in the spring of 2007 to 5,037 middle school students and 4,028 high school students in 188 public schools throughout the state. The survey response rate for middle schools was 74%, and the survey response rate for high schools was 57%. 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 2007, 6.9% of middle school and 11.9% of high school students had tried smokeless tobacco at least once in their lifetime. Since 1998, this prevalence has decreased by 42.0% among middle school students and by 40.5% among high school students.

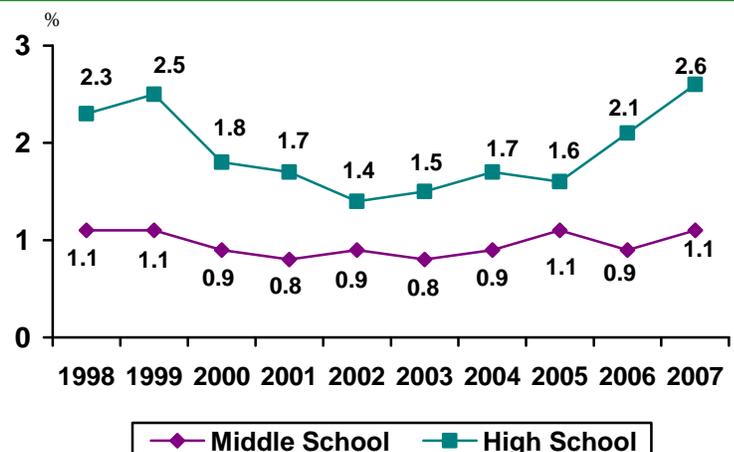


Current Smokeless Tobacco Use

In 2007, 3.5% of middle school students and 5.7% 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 47.8% among middle school students and by 17.4% among high school students.

Frequent Smokeless Tobacco Use

In 2007, 1.1% of middle school students and 2.6% of high school students used smokeless tobacco on 20 or more of the past 30 days. Since 1998, the prevalence of frequent smokeless tobacco has not changed among middle school students and has increased slightly among high school students.

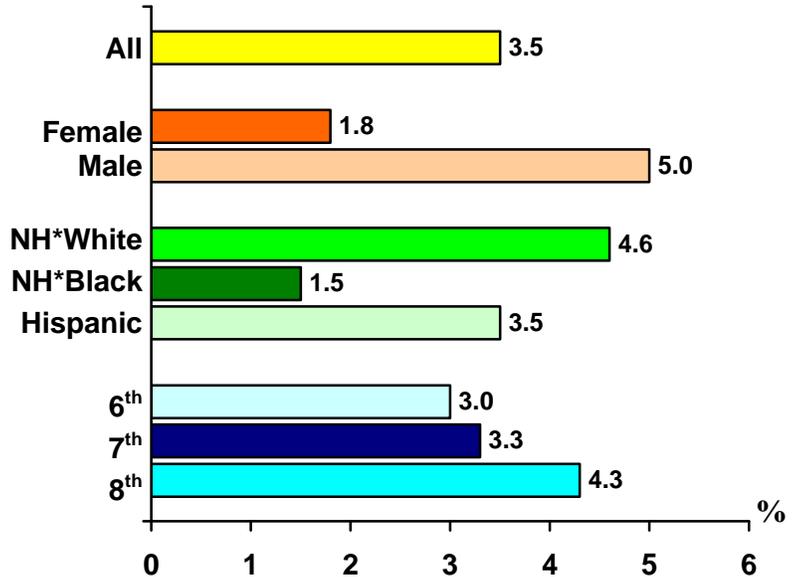




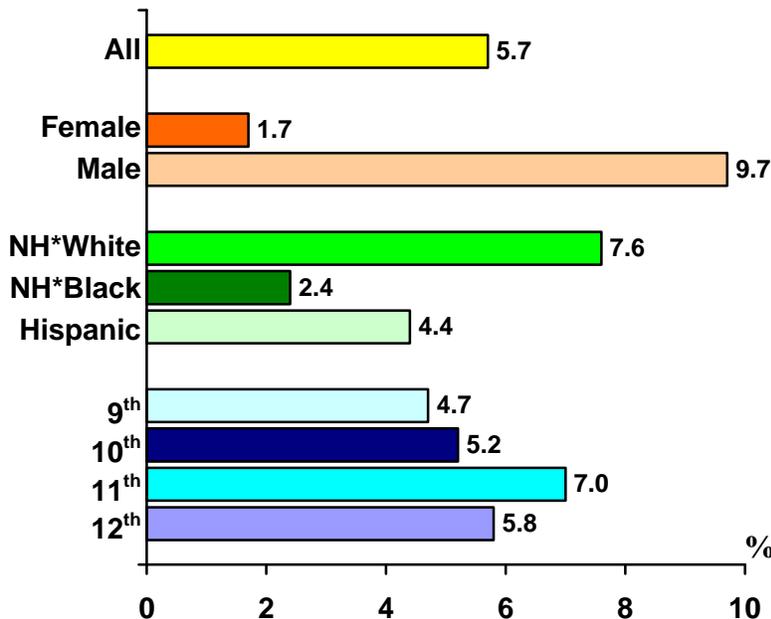
Current Smokeless Tobacco Use (Past 30 Days) Florida 2007

Middle School

Overall, 3.5% 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. Both non-Hispanic White and Hispanic students were more likely to be current smokeless tobacco users than non-Hispanic Black students. There were no statistically significant differences among the different grade levels.



*NH=Non-Hispanic



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High School

Overall, 5.7% 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 highest among students in eleventh grade, although these differences were not statistically significant.

For more information about the FYTS, please contact: Ms. Jamie Weitz, M.S., Florida Youth Survey Coordinator, at (850) 245-4444, Ext. 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.

