

Youth Cigarette Use



Results from the 2011 Florida Youth Tobacco Survey

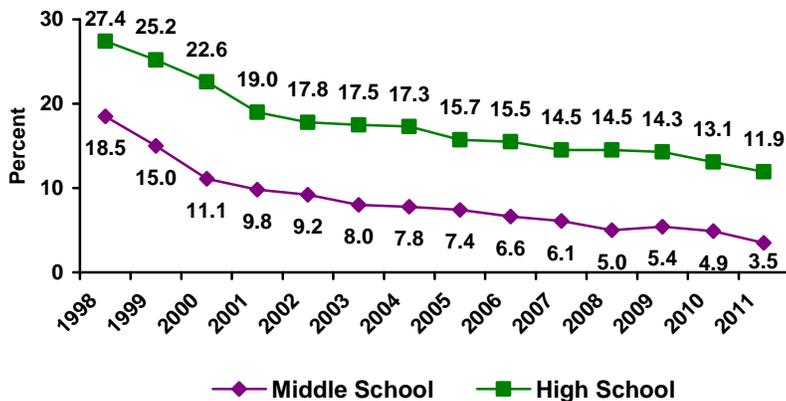
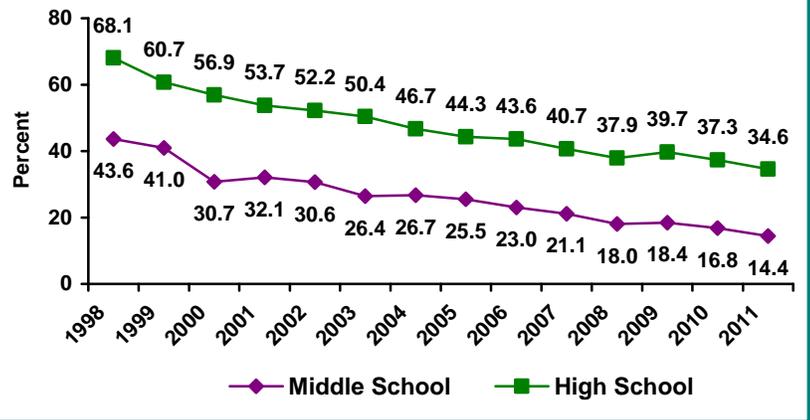
Fact Sheet 1

Introduction

The Florida Youth Tobacco Survey (FYTS) was administered in the spring of 2011 to 6,045 middle school students and 6,163 high school students in 172 public schools throughout the state. The survey response rate for middle schools was 83%, and the survey response rate for high schools was 73%. 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 2011, 14.4% of middle school and 34.6% of high school students had tried smoking a cigarette at least once. Since 1998, the prevalence of this behavior has decreased by 67.0% among middle school students and by 49.2% among high school students.

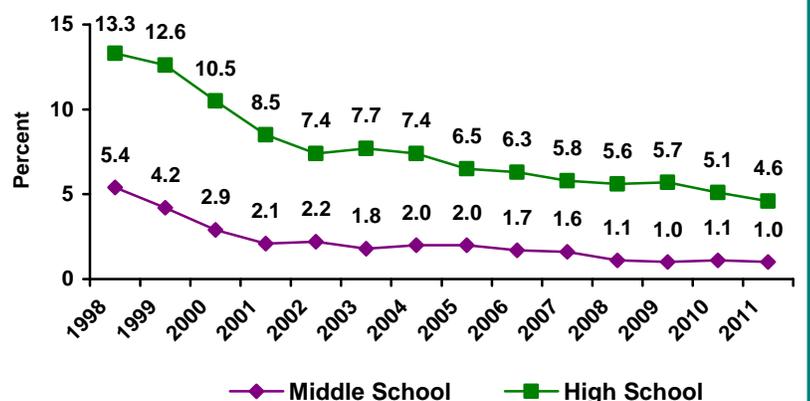


Current Cigarette Use

In 2011, 3.5% of middle school students and 11.9% of high school students smoked a cigarette at least once during the past 30 days. Since 1998, the prevalence of this behavior has decreased by 81.1% among middle school students and by 56.6% among high school students.

Frequent Cigarette Smokers

In 2011, 1.0% of middle school students and 4.6% of high school students smoked cigarettes on 20 or more of the past 30 days. Since 1998, the prevalence of this behavior has decreased by 81.5% among middle school students and by 65.4% among high school students.

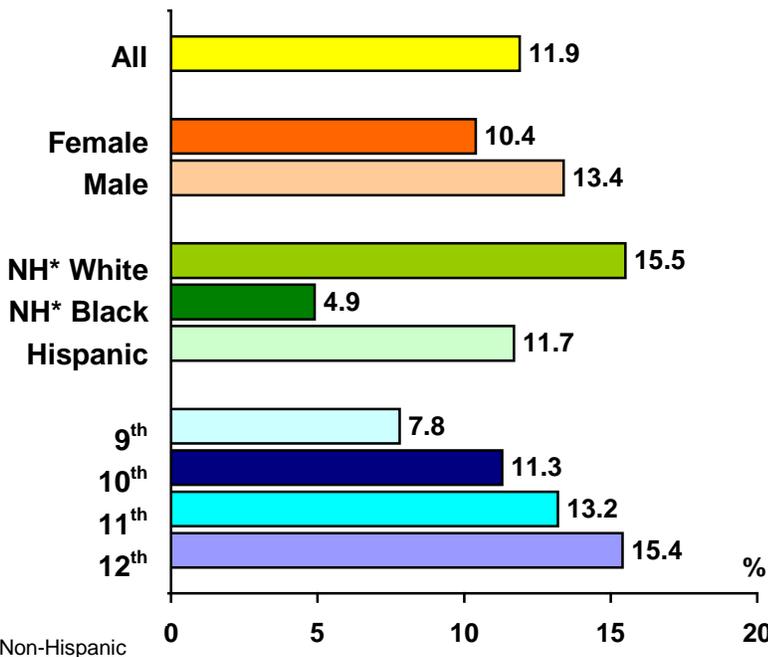
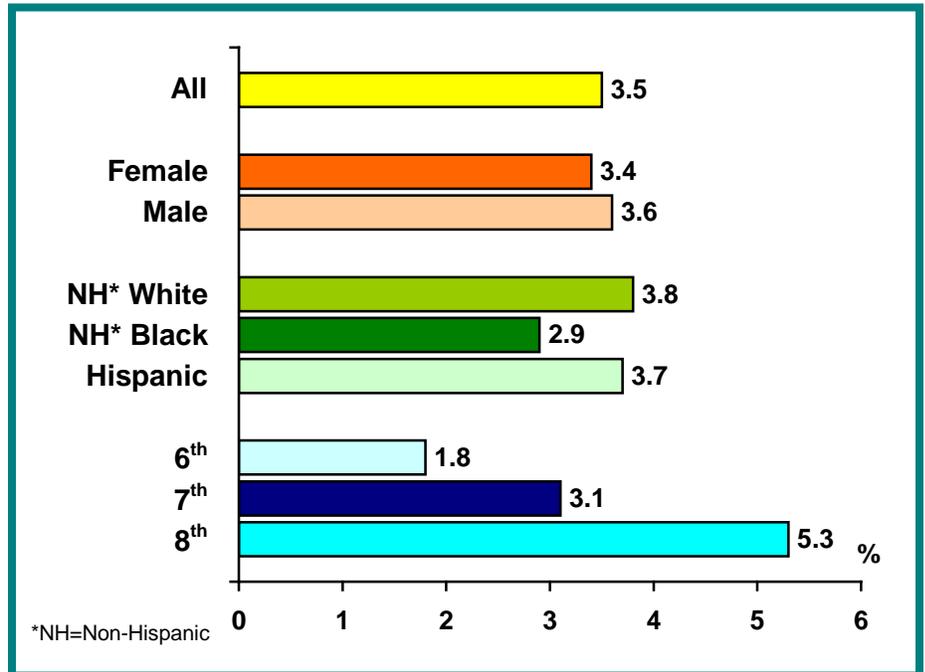




Current Cigarette Use (Past 30 Days) Florida 2011

Middle School

Overall, 3.5% of middle school students smoked a cigarette at least once during the past 30 days. The prevalence of current cigarette use did not vary significantly by gender or race/ethnicity. The prevalence of this behavior increased with each increasing grade level, and there are statistically significant increases in this behavior from grade six to eight and from grade seven to eight.



High School

Overall, 11.9% of high school students smoked a cigarette at least once during the past 30 days. The prevalence of current cigarette use did not vary significantly by gender. Non-Hispanic white students had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than both Hispanic and non-Hispanic black students, and Hispanic students had a significantly higher prevalence than non-Hispanic black students. The prevalence of this behavior increased with each increasing grade level, and there is a statistically significant increase in this behavior from grade nine to grade twelve.

For more information about the FYTS, please contact the Chronic Disease Epidemiology and Surveillance Section, at (850) 245-4401, or by e-mail at ChronicDisease@doh.state.fl.us. You can also visit our website at <http://www.FloridaChronicDisease.org>.

