Introduction

The Florida Youth Tobacco Survey (FYTS) was administered in the spring of 2012 to 38,989 middle school students and 36,439 high school students in 746 public schools throughout the state. The overall survey response rate for middle schools was 77% and the overall 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.

About Electronic Cigarettes

An electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) is a battery-operated device that looks, feels, and tastes like a tobacco cigarette. They deliver nicotine, flavor, and other chemicals to the user in the form of a vapor.

Ever Tried Electronic Cigarettes

In 2012, 3.9% of middle school and 8.4% of high school students had tried an electronic cigarette at least once (Figure 1). Since 2011, the prevalence of this behavior has increased by 30.0% among middle school students and by 40.0% among high school students.

Current Electronic Cigarette Use

In 2012, 1.8% of middle school students and 3.5% of high school students used an electronic cigarette at least once during the past 30 days (Figure 2). Since 2011, the prevalence of this behavior has increased by 20.0% among middle school students and by 12.9% among high school students.

For more information about the FYTS, please contact the Chronic Disease Epidemiology, Surveillance, and Evaluation 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.