

2012 Florida Youth Tobacco Survey: Fact Sheet 8



Tobacco Use on School Property

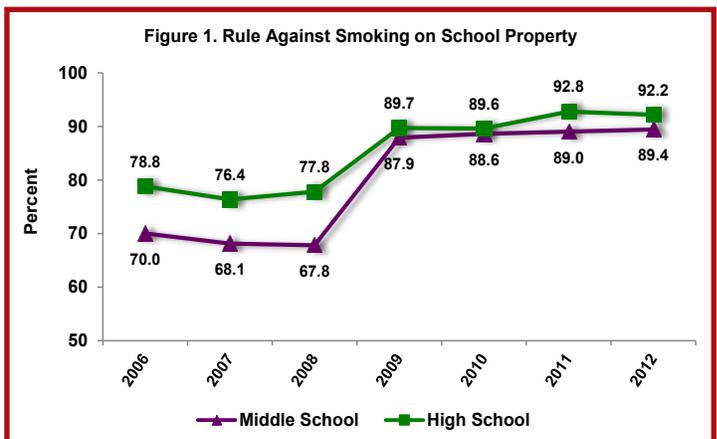


Introduction

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 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.

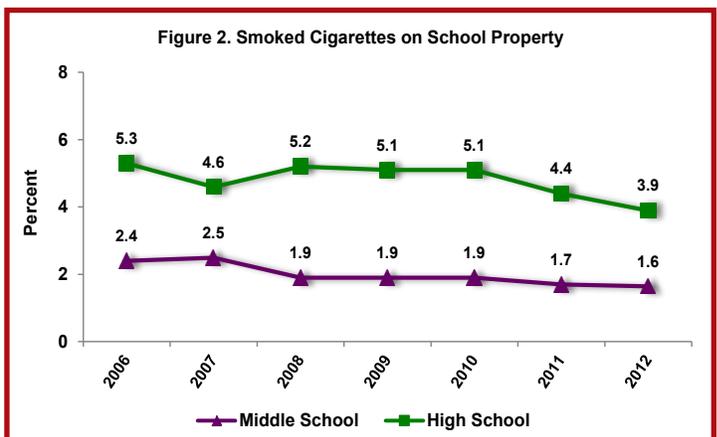
Rule Against Smoking on School Property

In 2012, 89.4% of middle school and 92.2% of high school students reported that there is rule that no one is allowed to smoke cigarettes on school property (Figure 1). In 2012, high school students were more likely than middle school students to report a rule against smoking on school property. Since 2006, the prevalence of this indicator has increased by 27.7% among middle school students and by 17.0% among high school students. Since 2010, the prevalence of this indicator has increased 2.9% among high school students, but there was no significant change among middle school students.



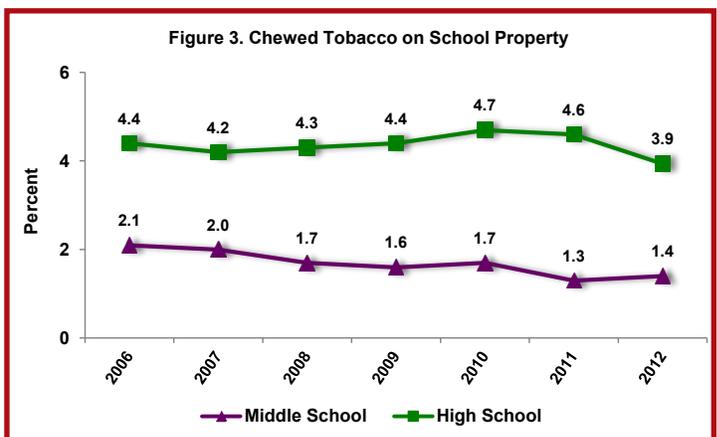
Smoked Cigarettes on School Property

In 2012, 1.6% of middle school and 3.9% of high school students smoked cigarette(s) on school property on one or more of the last 30 days (Figure 2). Since 2006, the prevalence of this behavior has decreased by 33.3% among middle school students and by 26.4% among high school students. Since 2010, the prevalence of this behavior has decreased by 23.5% among high school students, but there was no significant change among middle school students.



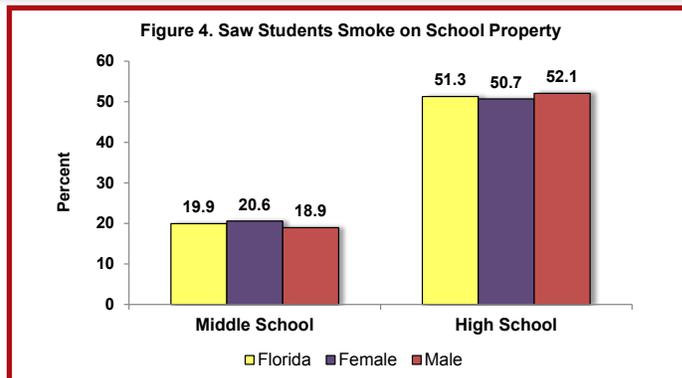
Chewed Tobacco on School Property

In 2012, 1.4% of middle school and 3.9% of high school students used chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip on school property on one or more of the last 30 days (Figure 3). Since 2006, the prevalence of this behavior decreased by 33.3% among middle school students and by 11.4% among high school students. Since 2010, the prevalence of this behavior has decreased by 17.6% among middle school students and by 17.0% among high school students.



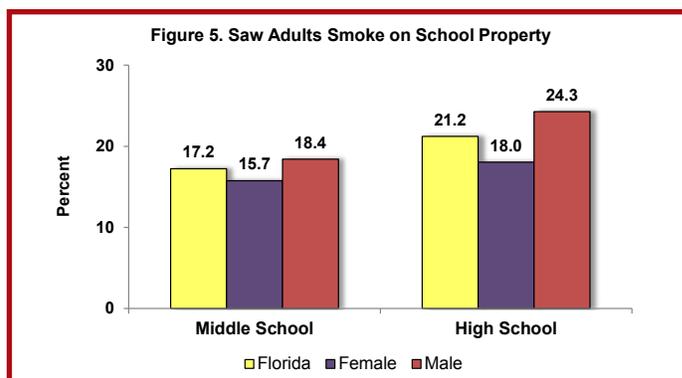
Saw Students Smoke on School Property

In 2012, high school students (51.3%) were more likely than middle school students (19.9%) to see students smoking on school property in the past 12 months (Figure 4). The prevalence of observing this behavior was higher among middle school female students than middle school male students but did not vary significantly by gender among high school students.



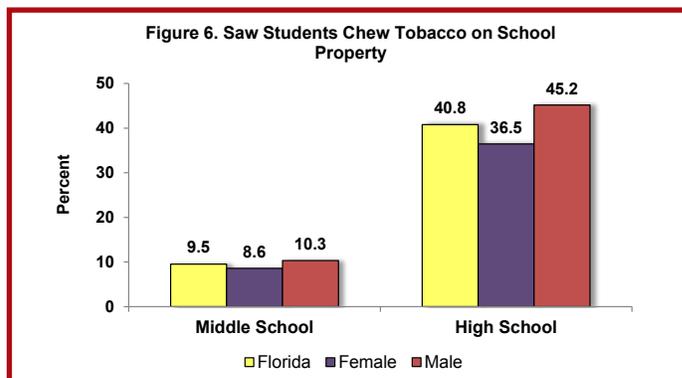
Saw Adults Smoke on School Property

In 2012, high school students (21.2%) were more likely than middle school students (17.2%) to see teachers, staff, or other adults smoking on school property in the past 12 months (Figure 5). The prevalence of observing this behavior was higher among male students than female students at both school levels.



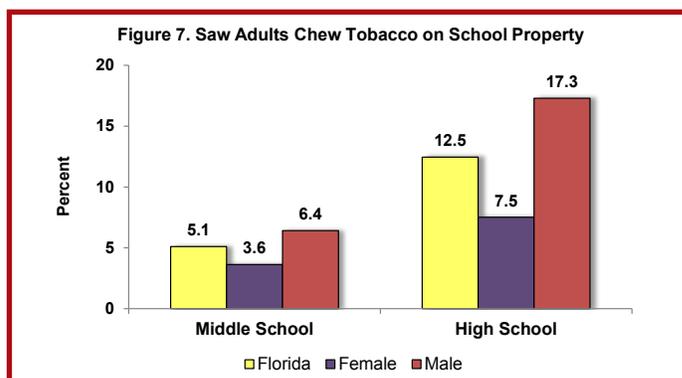
Saw Students Chew Tobacco on School Property

In 2012, high school students (40.8%) were more likely than middle school students (9.5%) to see students use chewing tobacco on school property in the past 12 months (Figure 6). The prevalence of observing this behavior was higher among male students than female students at both school levels.



Saw Adults Chew Tobacco on School Property

In 2012, high school students (12.5%) were more likely than middle school students (5.1%) to see teachers, staff or other adults use chewing tobacco on school property in the past 12 months (Figure 7). The prevalence of observing this behavior was higher among male students than female students at both school levels.



Note that the definition of school property was expanded from “in school building or school yard” to “on school property, including fields, buildings, parking lots, or at any school events” on the 2011 and subsequent FYTS questionnaires.

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>.