

2012 Florida Youth Tobacco Survey: Fact Sheet 3



Youth Smokeless Tobacco Use

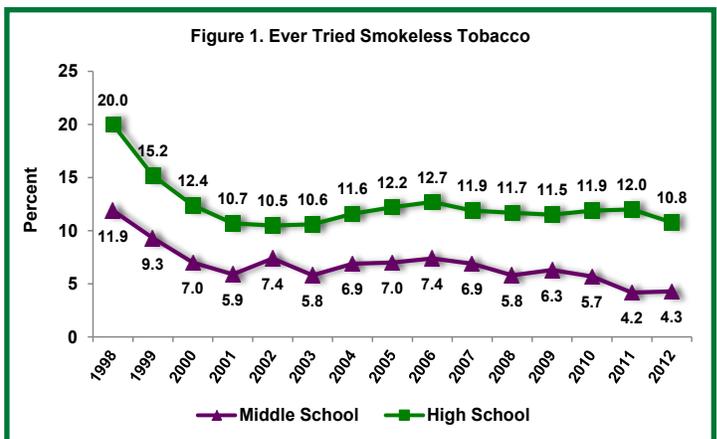


Introduction

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.

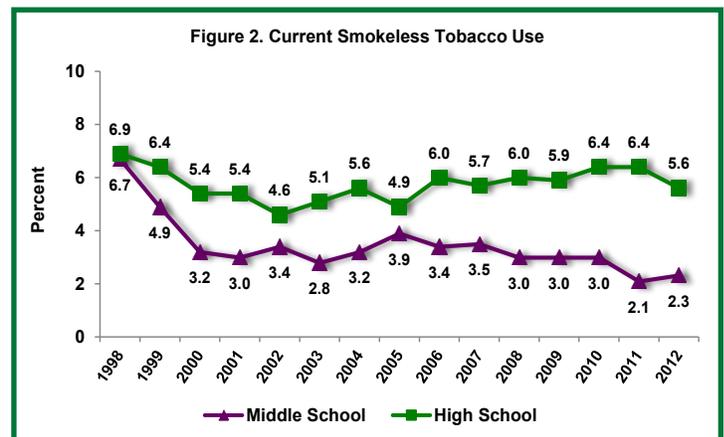
Ever Tried Smokeless Tobacco

In 2012, 4.3% of middle school and 10.8% of high school students had tried smokeless tobacco at least once (Figure 1). Since 1998, the prevalence of this behavior has decreased by 63.9% among middle school students and by 46.0% among high school students. Since 2010, the prevalence of this behavior has decreased by 24.6% among middle school students and by 9.2% among high school students.



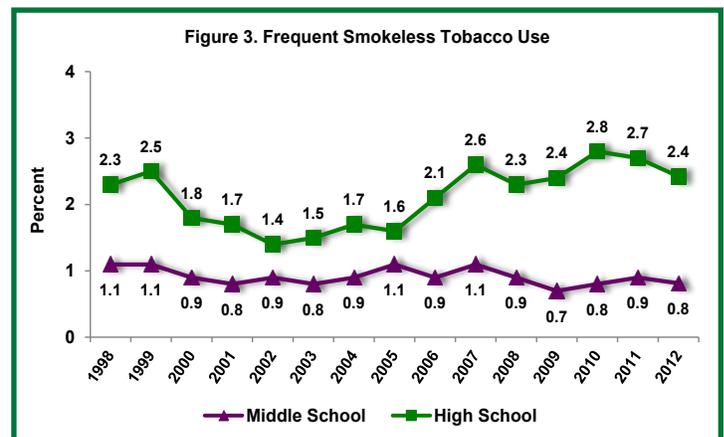
Current Smokeless Tobacco Use

In 2012, 2.3% of middle school students and 5.6% of high school students used smokeless tobacco at least once during the past 30 days (Figure 2). Since 1998, the prevalence of this behavior has decreased by 65.7% among middle school students and by 18.8% among high school students. From 1998 to 2002, the prevalence of this behavior decreased among high school students, but from 2002 to 2010, this prevalence has increased by 39.1%. Since 2010, the prevalence of this behavior has decreased by 23.3% among middle school students and by 12.5% among high school students.



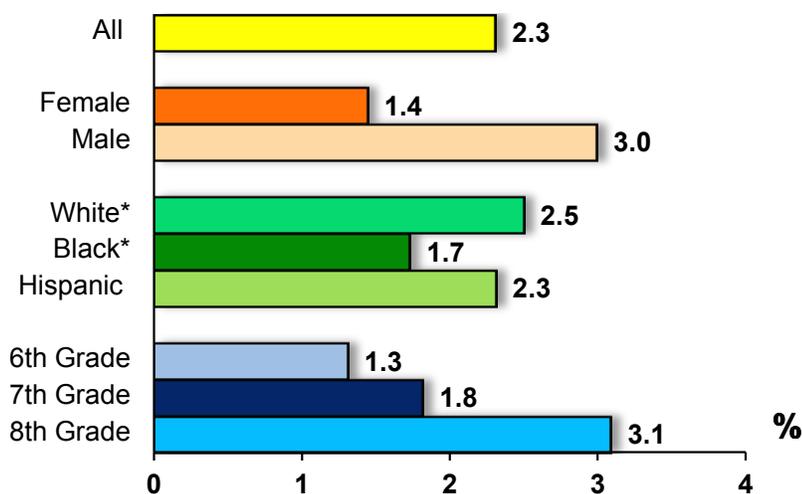
Frequent Smokeless Tobacco Use

In 2012, 0.8% of middle school students and 2.4% of high school students used smokeless tobacco on 20 or more of the past 30 days (Figure 3). Since 1998, the prevalence of this behavior has decreased by 27.3% among middle school students. The prevalence of frequent smokeless tobacco use among high school students has fluctuated over the last fifteen years. From 1998 to 2012, there is not a statistically significant change in this behavior.



Current Smokeless Tobacco Use (Past 30 Days)

Figure 4. Middle School Current Smokeless Tobacco Use

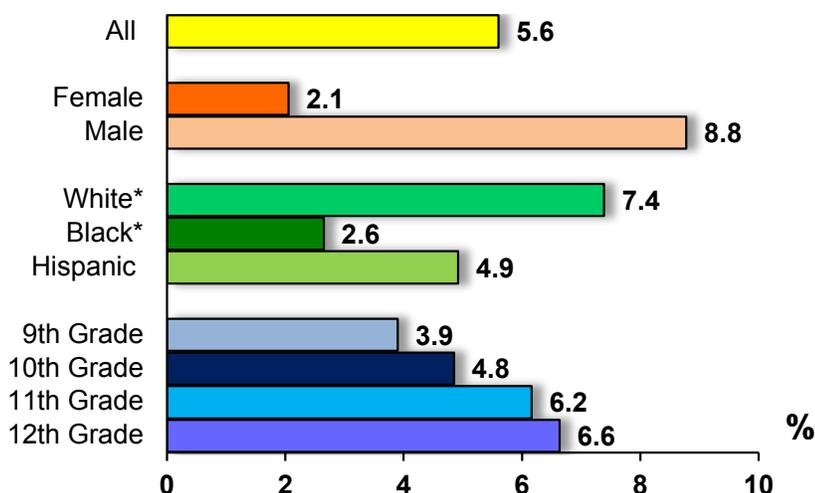


* Non-Hispanic

Middle School

Overall, 2.3% of middle school students used smokeless tobacco at least once during the past 30 days (Figure 4). In 2012, the prevalence of current smokeless tobacco use was higher among male students than female students. The prevalence of this behavior was higher among non-Hispanic white students than among non-Hispanic black students. The prevalence of this behavior increased from sixth to eighth grade and from seventh to eighth grade.

Figure 5. High School Current Smokeless Tobacco Use



* Non-Hispanic

High School

Overall, 5.6% of high school students used smokeless tobacco at least once during the past 30 days (Figure 5). In 2012, the prevalence of current smokeless tobacco use was higher among male students than female students. The prevalence of this behavior was higher among non-Hispanic white students than among Hispanic students and higher among Hispanic students than among non-Hispanic black students. The prevalence of this behavior increased from ninth to eleventh grade and from tenth to twelfth grade.

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>.