

2012 Florida Youth Tobacco Survey: Fact Sheet 4



Youth Specialty 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.

Hookah, Specialty Tobacco, Snus, and Electronic Cigarettes

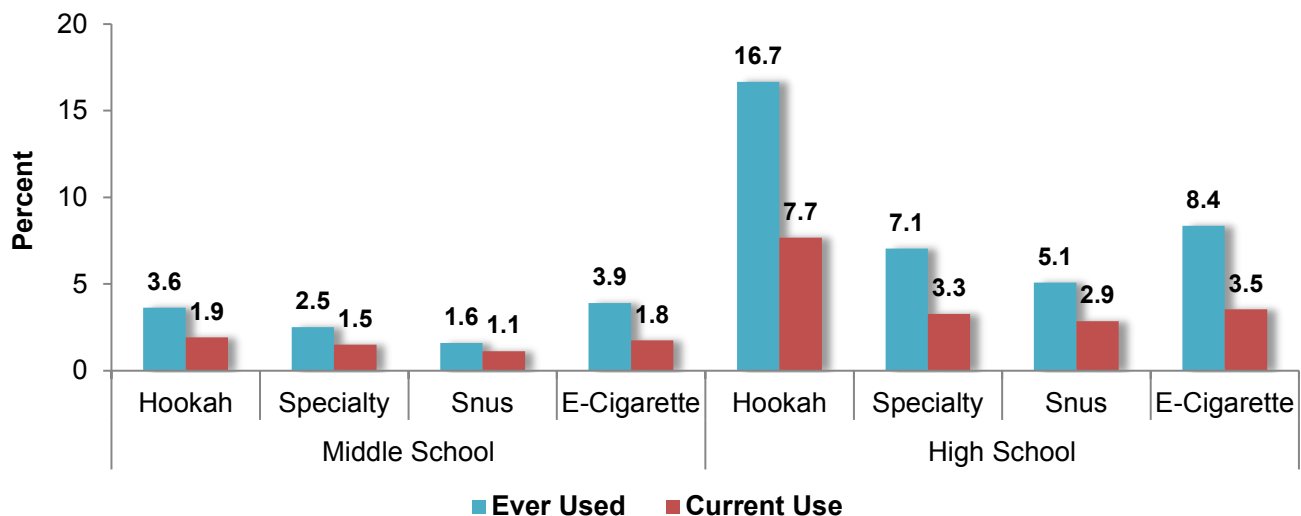
A hookah is a single-stemmed or multi-stemmed water pipe used for smoking tobacco (Figure 1). In 2012, 3.6% of middle school students and 16.7% of high school students had ever tried smoking hookah and 1.9% of middle school students and 7.7% of high school students had smoked hookah on one or more occasions during the past 30 days (current hookah use).

“Specialty tobacco” includes bidis (small brown cigarettes from India consisting of tobacco wrapped in a leaf and tied with a thread), kreteks (cigarettes that contain tobacco and clove extract), and pipe tobacco (plain or flavored). In 2012, 2.5% of middle school students and 7.1% of high school students had ever tried a form of specialty tobacco and 1.5% of middle school students and 3.3% of high school students had smoked a specialty tobacco product on one or more occasions during the past 30 days (current specialty tobacco use).

Snus is a small pouch containing a smoke-free and spit-free form of tobacco. In 2012, 1.6% of middle school students and 5.1% of high school students had ever tried snus and 1.1% of middle school students and 2.9% of high school students had used snus on one or more occasions during the past 30 days (current snus use).

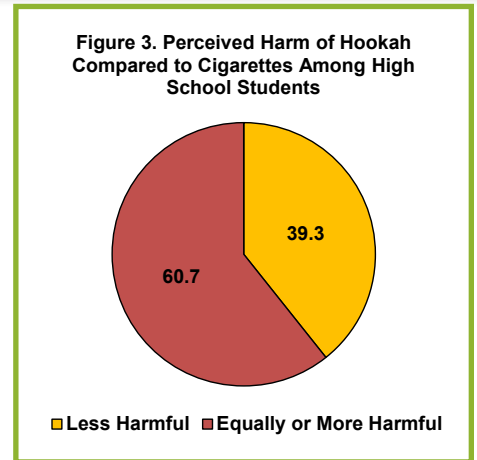
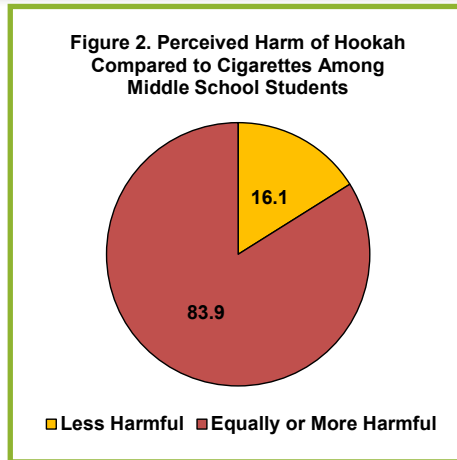
An electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) is a battery-operated device that looks, feels, and tastes like a tobacco cigarette. In 2012, 3.9% of middle school students and 8.4% of high school students had ever tried e-cigarettes and 1.8% of middle school students and 3.5% of high school students had used e-cigarettes on one or more occasions during the past 30 days (current e-cigarette use).

Figure 1. Specialty Tobacco Use



Hookah Harm

In 2012, 16.1% of middle school students (Figure 2) and 39.3% of high school students (Figure 3) said that, compared to cigarette smoking, water pipe/hookah smoking is less harmful. High school students were more likely than middle school students to perceive hookah as less harmful than cigarettes.



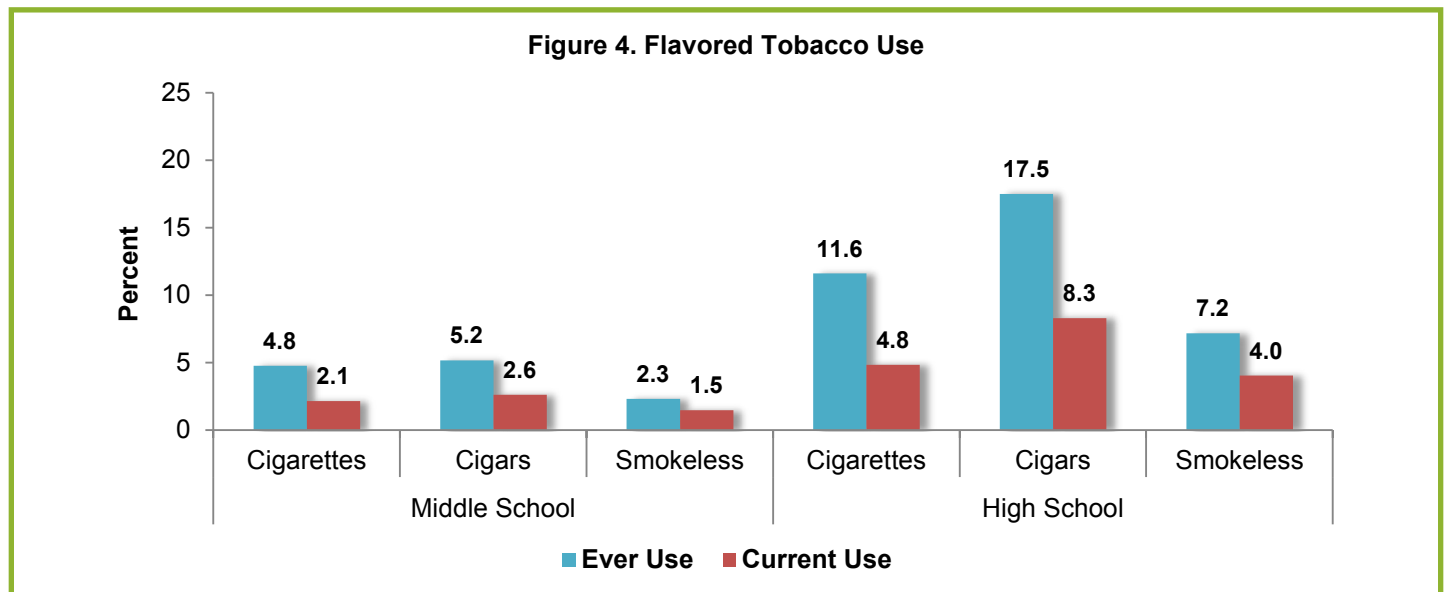
Flavored Tobacco Use

Flavored tobacco is tobacco that has been made to taste like other flavors, such as chocolate, candy, or fruit flavors (Figure 4).

In 2012, 4.8% of middle school students and 11.6% of high school students had tried flavored cigarettes, and 2.1% of middle school students and 4.8% of high school students had smoked flavored cigarettes at least once during the past 30 days (current flavored cigarette use).

In 2012, 5.2% of middle school students and 17.5% of high school students had tried a flavored cigar and 2.6% of middle school students and 8.3% of high school students had smoked a flavored cigar at least once during the past 30 days (current flavored cigar use).

In 2012, 2.3% of middle school students and 7.2% of high school students had tried flavored smokeless tobacco and 1.5% of middle school students and 4.0% of high school students had used it in the past 30 days (current flavored smokeless tobacco use).



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>.