Introduction

The Florida Youth Tobacco Survey (FYTS) was administered in the spring of 2014 to 36,979 middle school students and 32,921 high school students in 765 public schools throughout the state. The overall survey response rate for middle schools was 81%, and the overall survey response rate for high schools was 78%. 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 Cigars

In 2014, 6.4% of middle school students and 20.3% of high school students reported smoking a cigar at least once (Figure 1). Since 1998, this behavior has decreased by 76.8% among middle school students and by 58.3% among high school students. Since 2010, this behavior has decreased by 42.9% among middle school students and by 30.2% among high school students.

Current Cigar Use

In 2014, 2.9% of middle school students and 9.1% of high school students reported smoking a cigar at least once during the past 30 days (Figure 2). Since 1998, this behavior has decreased by 79.4% among middle school students and by 56.0% among high school students. Since 2010, this behavior has decreased by 43.1% among middle school students and by 37.2% among high school students.

Frequent Cigar Use

In 2014, 0.7% of middle school students and 1.8% of high school students reported smoking cigars on 20 or more of the past 30 days (Figure 3). Since 1998, this behavior has decreased by 50.0% among middle school students and by 10.0% among high school students. From 1998 to 2014, there has not been a significant change in this behavior.
Current Cigar Use (Past 30 Days)

Middle School

Overall, 2.9% of middle school students reported smoking a cigar at least once during the past 30 days (Figure 4). In 2014, males were significantly more likely to smoke cigars than females. Non-Hispanic blacks and Hispanics were significantly more likely to smoke cigars than non-Hispanic whites. Eighth graders were significantly more likely to smoke cigars than sixth and seventh graders.

High School

Overall, 9.1% of high school students reported smoking a cigar at least once during the past 30 days (Figure 5). In 2014, males were significantly more likely to smoke cigars than females. Non-Hispanic whites were significantly more likely to smoke cigars than non-Hispanic blacks and Hispanics. This behavior increased significantly with grade level.

The prevalence estimates and 95% confidence intervals (95% CI) were calculated using SAS 9.3. The difference in prevalence between two different populations or between two different years is statistically significant if the 95% confidence intervals of the two prevalence estimates do not overlap. For more information about the FYTS, please contact the Chronic Disease Epidemiology, Surveillance, and Evaluation Section at (850) 245-4401. You can also visit our website at www.floridahealth.gov/statistics-and-data/survey-data/fl-youth-tobacco-survey/index.html.