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.

About Bidis, Kreteks, and Pipe Tobacco
Bidis (Picture 1) are small brown cigarettes from India consisting of tobacco wrapped in a leaf tied together with a thread. Bidis have higher levels of nicotine, carbon monoxide, and tar than traditional cigarettes. Kreteks (Picture 2) are cigarettes containing tobacco and clove extract. In 2009, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration banned kreteks, along with flavored cigarettes, from being sold in the United States. Pipe tobacco (Picture 3) comes either plain or flavored and is smoked through a pipe. On previous FYTS fact sheets, bidis, kreteks, and pipe tobacco have been reported as “specialty tobacco” products.

Ever Tried Bidis, Kreteks, or Pipe Tobacco
In 2014, 2.3% of middle school students and 5.5% of high school students reported smoking a bidi, kretek, or pipe tobacco at least once (Figure 1). Since 2008, this behavior has decreased by 20.7% among middle school students and by 34.5% among high school students.

Current Bidi, Kretek, or Pipe Tobacco Use
In 2014, 1.3% of middle school students and 2.9% of high school students reported smoking a bidi, kretek, or pipe tobacco at least once during the past 30 days (Figure 2). Since 2009, this behavior has decreased by 27.8% among middle school students and by 19.4% among high school students.
Overall, 1.3% of middle school students reported smoking a bidi, kretek, or pipe tobacco at least once during the past 30 days (Figure 3). In 2014, there was not a significant difference between males and females. Hispanics were significantly more likely to smoke a bidi, kretek or pipe tobacco than non-Hispanic whites. There was not a significant difference between grade levels.

Overall, 2.9% of high school students reported smoking a bidi, kretek, or pipe tobacco at least once during the past 30 days (Figure 4). In 2014, males were significantly more likely to smoke a bidi, kretek, or pipe tobacco than females. Hispanics were significantly more likely to smoke a bidi, kretek, or pipe tobacco than non-Hispanic whites and non-Hispanic blacks, and non-Hispanic whites were more likely to smoke a bidi, kretek, or pipe tobacco than non-Hispanic blacks. Twelfth graders were significantly more likely to smoke a bidi, kretek, or pipe tobacco than ninth and tenth graders.

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.