



## Cigar Smoke among Florida Public Middle and High School Students, 2004

### Introduction

The Florida Youth Tobacco Survey (FYTS) is a statewide school-based confidential survey of Florida public middle and high school students. The FYTS tracks indicators of tobacco use and exposure to second-hand smoke among these students, and provides data for monitoring and evaluating tobacco use among youth in the Florida-Tobacco Prevention and Control Program.

The FYTS is based on a two-stage cluster probability sample design. First, a random sample of public middle schools and high schools is selected for participation in the survey. Then, within each selected school, a random sample of classrooms is selected, and all students in that class are invited to participate in the survey. The responses of the survey participants are calculated to reflect the prevalence of tobacco usage in Florida public middle and high school students.

The first FYTS was administered in 1998. Since then, the FYTS has been conducted annually by the Florida Department of Health. The FYTS became a part of the Florida Youth Survey (FYS) in 2000, which now includes the Communities That Care and Youth Risk Behavior surveys. The FYTS has been supported by many agencies, including the Florida Department of Education, school districts throughout the state, and the Office on

Smoking and Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The 2004 FYTS was conducted in March and April. Participants in the 2004 FYTS included a sample of 7,364 students attending 80 middle schools (grades six to eight) and 7,023 students attending 78 high schools (grades 9-12) across the state. Overall, response rates were 80.5 percent for the middle school survey and 77.8 percent for the high school survey based on a 98.8 percent middle school response rate, 100.0 percent high school response rate, 81.5 percent middle school student response rates, and 77.8 percent high school student response rate.

Data presented in this report are statewide estimates of prevalence. These estimates are computed based on the survey results, probability of survey respondents being selected for the survey and demographics of Florida middle school and high school students. Tests of statistical significance were conducted on differences between prevalence estimates. Tests that result in a p-value (probability value) of less than 0.05 are considered statistically significant. Because the FYTS is a random survey and all estimates of prevalence are subject to random sample errors, 95 percent confidence intervals are presented with each prevalence in the detailed tables at the end of this report.

This report focuses on cigar use.

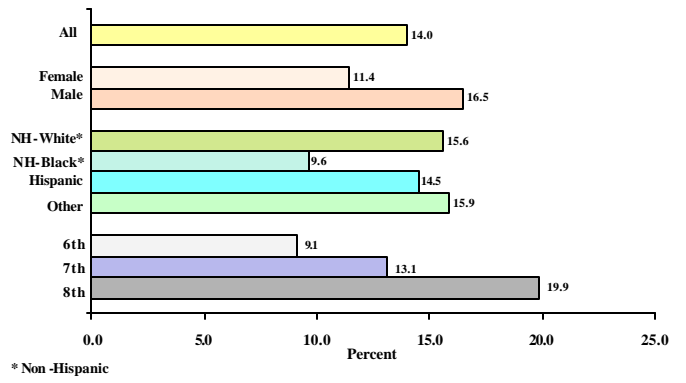
### Executive Summary

Use of cigar products (cigars, cigarillos and little cigars) among Florida middle and high school students decreased considerably during 1998 - 2004. The prevalence of lifetime cigar use decreased by 49.3 percent and 40.5 percent among middle and high school students, respectively. The prevalence of current cigar use decreased by 63.8 percent among middle school students and by 37.7 percent among high school students. The prevalence of frequent cigar use remained at a low level among both middle and high school students in this time period.

According to 2004 survey, male students, non-Hispanic White students, and high school students had a higher prevalence of cigar use (lifetime, current, or frequent use) than their counterparts. Prevention efforts should focus on these students.

# Lifetime Cigar Use

**Figure 1: Percentage of Florida public middle school students who have ever tried smoking cigars in their lives (lifetime cigar users) by sex, race/ethnicity, and grade in 2004**



**Lifetime cigar smokers:** Students who have ever tried smoking cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars, even one or two puffs in their lives.

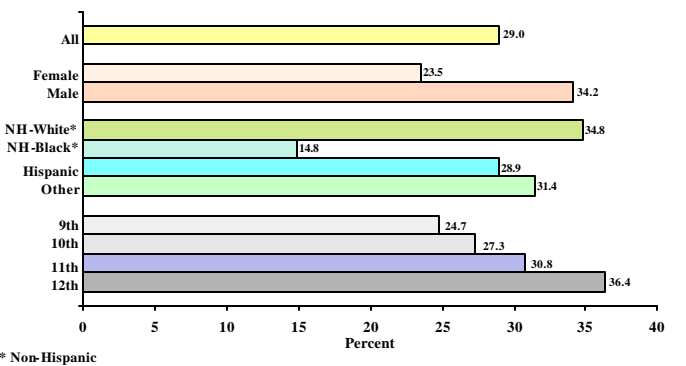
## Middle School

One in seven (14.0 percent) middle school students have ever smoked cigars. The prevalence of lifetime cigar use in middle school students was higher:

- among male students (16.5 percent) than among female students (11.4 percent)
- among non-Hispanic White students (15.6 percent) and Hispanic students (14.5 percent) than among non-Hispanic Black students (9.6 percent)
- among students in higher grade level than among students in lower grade level

(See Figure 1 and Table 1)

**Figure 2: Percentage of Florida public high school students who have ever tried smoking cigars in their lives (lifetime cigar users) by sex, race/ethnicity, and grade in 2004**



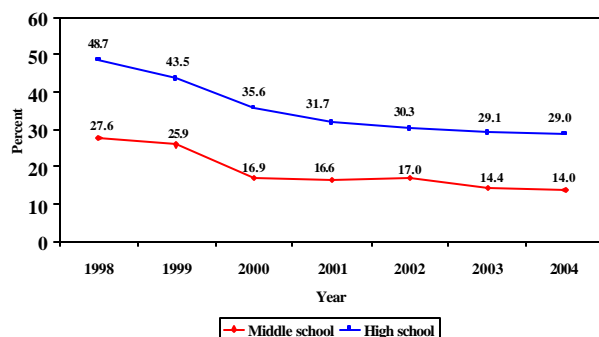
## High School

Over one quarter (29.0 percent) of high school students have ever smoked cigars. The prevalence of lifetime cigar use in high school students was higher:

- among male students (34.2 percent) than among female students (23.5 percent)
- among non-Hispanic White students (34.8 percent) and Hispanic students (28.9 percent) than among non-Hispanic Black students (14.8 percent)
- among non-Hispanic White students (34.8 percent) than Hispanic students (28.9 percent)
- among students in higher grade level than among students in lower grade level

(See Figure 2 and Table 1)

**Figure 3: Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who have ever tried smoking cigars in their lives (lifetime cigar users), 1998-2004**



## Trends 1998-2004

High school students had a higher prevalence of lifetime cigar use than middle school students every year during 1998-2004. The prevalence decreased among both high school students and middle school students during 1998-2004. Among high school students, the prevalence decreased by 40.5 percent. Among middle school students, the prevalence decreased by 49.3 percent. A decrease in prevalence primarily occurred during 1998-2001.

(See Figure 3)

# Current Cigar Use

**Current cigar smokers:** Students who tried smoking cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars on one or more of the past 30 days prior to the survey.

## Middle School

One out of 20 (5.1 percent) middle school students were current cigar smokers. The prevalence of current cigar use in middle school students was higher:

- among male students (6.0 percent) than among female students (4.1 percent)
- among non-Hispanic White students (5.7 percent) than among non-Hispanic Black (3.4 percent) students
- among students in higher grade level than among students in lower grade level

(See Figure 4 and Table 2)

## High School

One out of eight (12.9 percent) high school students were current cigar smokers. The prevalence of current cigar use in high school students was:

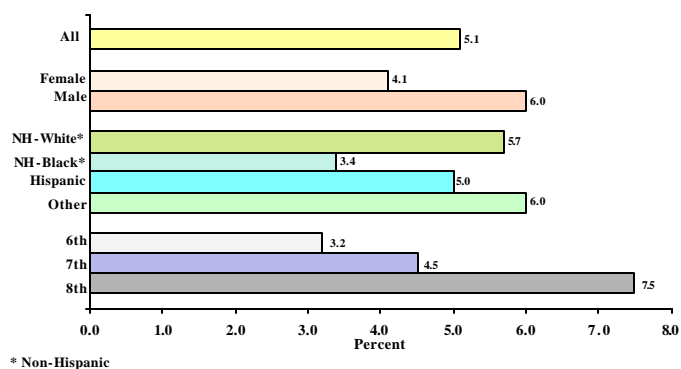
- higher among male students (16.4 percent) than among female students (9.3 percent)
- higher among non-Hispanic White students (15.2 percent) than among non-Hispanic Black (7.0 percent) and Hispanic students (12.2 percent)
- higher among Hispanic students (12.2 percent) than among non-Hispanic Black students (7.0 percent)
- the highest among students in 12th grade level (17.4 percent)

(See Figure 5 and Table 2)

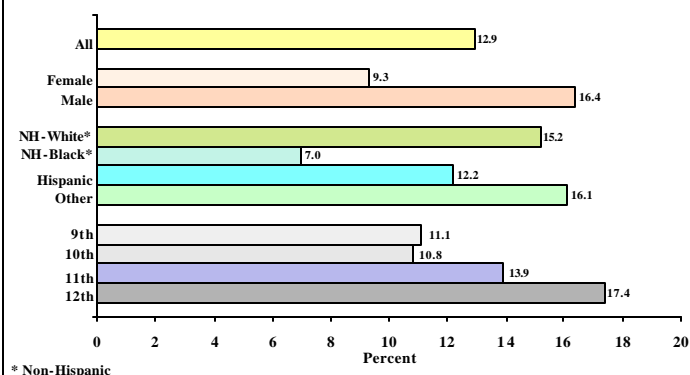
## Trends 1998-2004

High school students had a higher prevalence of current cigar use than middle school students every year in the period 1998-2004. The prevalence decreased significantly among both high school students (-37.7 percent) and middle school students (-63.8 percent) during 1998-2004. The major decrease in prevalence occurred during 1998-2001. The prevalence was almost leveled between 2001 and 2004. (See Figure 6)

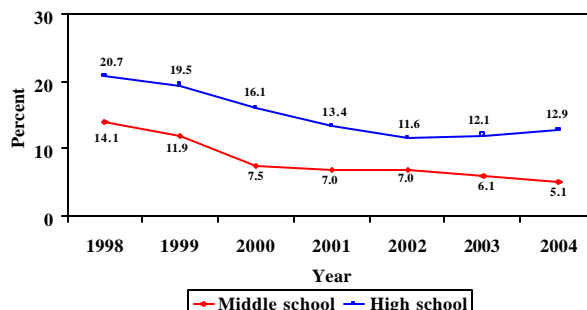
**Figure 4: Percentage of Florida public middle school students who smoked cigars on one or more of the previous 30 days (current cigar users) by sex, race/ethnicity, and grade in 2004**



**Figure 5: Percentage of Florida public high school students who smoked cigars on one or more of the previous 30 days (current cigar users) by sex, race/ethnicity, and grade in 2004**

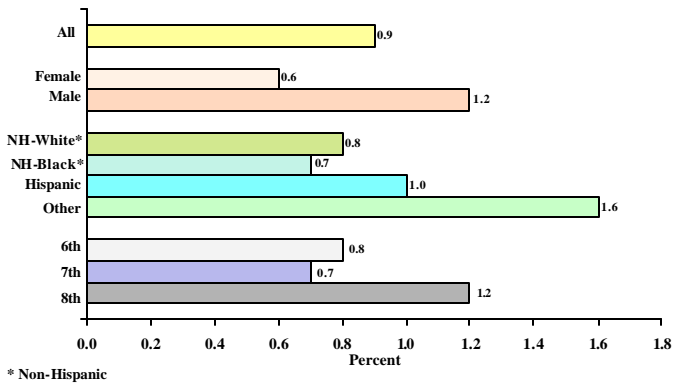


**Figure 6: Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who smoked cigars on one or more of the previous 30 days (current cigar users), 1998-2004**



## Frequent Cigar Use

**Figure 7: Percentage of Florida public middle school students who smoked cigars on 20 or more of the previous 30 days (frequent cigar users) by sex, race/ethnicity, and grade in 2004**



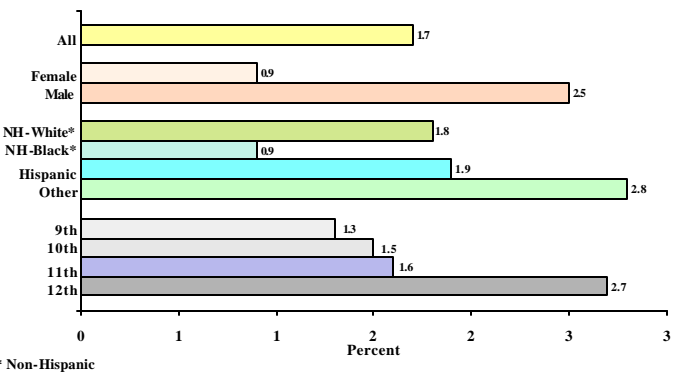
**Frequent cigar smokers:** Students who tried smoking cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars on 20 or more of the past 30 days prior to the survey.

### Middle School

Very few (0.9 percent) middle school students were frequent cigar smokers. The prevalence of frequent cigar use in middle school students was higher among male students (1.2 percent) than among female students (0.6 percent). There was no significant difference in this prevalence among racial/ethnic groups or among grade levels.

(See Figure 7 and Table 3)

**Figure 8: Percentage of Florida public high school students who smoked cigars on 20 or more of the previous 30 days (frequent cigar users) by sex, race/ethnicity, and grade in 2004**



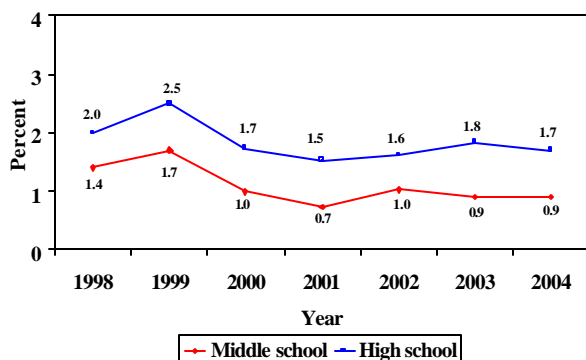
### High School

One out of 59 (1.7 percent) high school students were frequent cigar smokers. The prevalence of frequent cigar use in high school students was higher:

- among male students (2.5 percent) than among female students (0.9 percent)
- among non-Hispanic White students (1.8 percent) and Hispanic students (1.9 percent) than among non-Hispanic Black students (0.9 percent)
- among students in 12th grade level than among students in any other grade levels

(See Figure 8 and Table 3)

**Figure 9: Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who smoked cigars on 20 or more of the previous 30 days (frequent cigar users), 1998-2004**



### Trends 1998-2004

High school students had a higher prevalence of frequent cigar use than middle school students every year during the period 1998-2004. The prevalence was approximately the same among both high school students and middle school students between 1998 and 2004.

(See Figure 9)

## Detailed Tables

**Table 1. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who have ever smoked cigars (lifetime cigar smokers), by gender, race/ethnicity, and grade, FYTS 2004**

		Middle School			High School		
		Lifetime cigar use			Lifetime cigar use		
		%	95% CI*		%	95% CI*	
<b>Gender</b>	Female	11.4	10.2	12.7	23.5	21.6	25.4
	Male	16.5	14.8	18.2	34.2	31.8	36.6
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	non-Hispanic White	15.6	14.2	16.9	34.8	32.6	36.9
	non-Hispanic Black	9.6	7.7	11.6	14.8	12.6	17.1
	Hispanic	14.5	12.1	16.9	28.9	25.3	32.5
	Other	15.9	12.9	18.9	31.4	27.1	35.8
<b>Grade (Middle/High)</b>	6th/9th	9.1	7.6	10.5	24.7	22.6	26.8
	7th/10th	13.1	11.5	14.8	27.3	24.2	30.4
	8th/11th	19.9	17.9	22.0	30.8	27.2	34.4
	--/12th	.	.	.	36.4	32.9	40.0
<b>Total</b>		14.0	12.9	15.2	29.0	27.1	30.8

\* 95 percent (%) confidence interval

**Table 2. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who smoked cigars on one or more of the previous 30 days (current cigar smokers), by gender, race/ethnicity, and grade, FYTS 2004**

		Middle School			High School		
		Current cigar use			Current cigar use		
		%	95% CI*		%	95% CI*	
<b>Gender</b>	Female	4.1	3.5	4.7	9.3	8.1	10.5
	Male	6.0	5.1	6.8	16.4	14.8	18.0
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	non-Hispanic White	5.7	4.8	6.5	15.2	13.5	16.9
	non-Hispanic Black	3.4	2.2	4.7	7.0	5.7	8.3
	Hispanic	5.0	3.9	6.1	12.2	10.5	14.0
	Other	6.0	4.4	7.7	16.1	12.6	19.5
<b>Grade (Middle/High)</b>	6th/9th	3.2	2.4	4.0	11.1	9.8	12.4
	7th/10th	4.5	3.6	5.3	10.8	9.0	12.7
	8th/11th	7.5	6.4	8.7	13.9	11.7	16.2
	--/12th	.	.	.	17.4	14.9	19.8
<b>Total</b>		5.1	4.5	5.6	12.9	11.7	14.1

\* 95 percent (%) confidence interval

**Table 3. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who smoked cigars on 20 or more of the past 30 days (frequent cigar smokers), by gender, race/ethnicity, and grade, FYTS 2004**

		Middle School			High School		
		Frequent cigar use			Frequent cigar use		
		%	95% CI*		%	95% CI*	
<b>Gender</b>	Female	0.6	0.3	0.8	0.9	0.6	1.3
	Male	1.2	0.8	1.6	2.5	1.9	3.1
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	non-Hispanic White	0.8	0.5	1.2	1.8	1.2	2.4
	non-Hispanic Black	0.7	0.2	1.2	0.9	0.4	1.5
	Hispanic	1.0	0.5	1.4	1.9	1.1	2.6
	Other	1.6	0.7	2.4	2.8	1.4	4.3
<b>Grade (Middle/High)</b>	6th/9th	0.8	0.4	1.2	1.3	0.8	1.9
	7th/10th	0.7	0.4	1.0	1.5	0.9	2.1
	8th/11th	1.2	0.8	1.6	1.6	0.9	2.3
	--/12th	.	.	.	2.7	1.8	3.6
<b>Total</b>		0.9	0.7	1.1	1.7	1.4	2.1

\* 95 percent (%) confidence interval

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