



## Monitoring Program Outcomes in 2003

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### 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 the progress of Florida's youth-focused Tobacco 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 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).

This report summarizes data from the FYTS administered March-April 2003 and is organized around the broad Florida Tobacco Prevention and Control Program goals of prevention of tobacco use, reduction of tobacco use, and elimination of exposure to second-hand smoke. The report describes lifetime and current use of cigarettes, intention to use cigarettes, experimentation, quit attempts, cessa-

tion-related behaviors, and second-hand smoke exposure among students in middle and senior public schools from 1998 to 2003.

Participants in the 2003 FYTS included a sample of 4,645 students attending 75 middle schools (grades six to eight) and 4,504 students attending 77 high schools (grades 9-12) across the state. Overall response rates were 75.5 percent for the middle school survey and 74.4 percent for the high school survey, based on school response rates of 93.8 percent for middle school and 97.5 percent for high school, and student response rates of 80.6 percent for middle school and 76.3 percent for high school.

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.

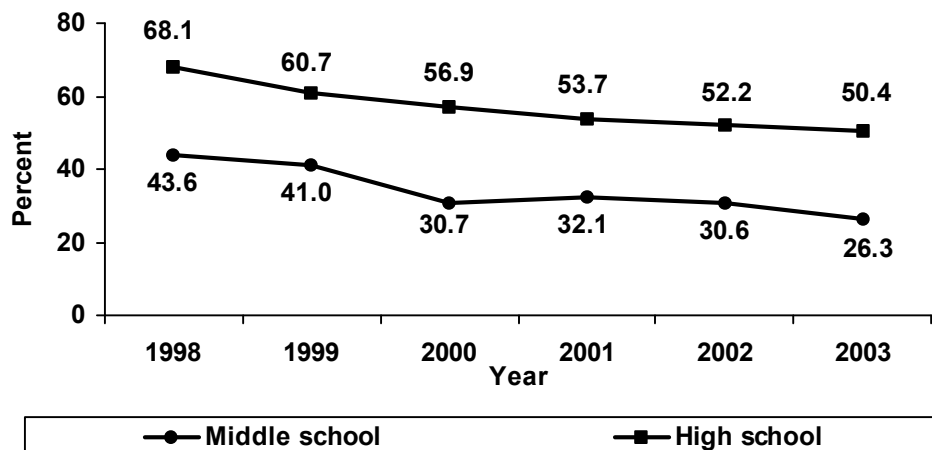
## Prevention

One indicator of progress toward preventing tobacco use among middle and high school students is the percentage of students who have ever tried a cigarette. As tobacco use in general and cigarette use in particular becomes less normative among students, curiosity about and opportunities to try tobacco should decline. In addition to “ever having tried tobacco products,” other indicators include intentions to use and experimentation with cigarettes.

### *Ever Tried a Cigarette*

In 2003, more than one quarter (26.3 percent) of middle school students and half (50.4 percent) of high school students reported ever trying a cigarette. The overall percentage of middle and high school students who have ever tried smoking cigarettes was significantly higher among males than females ( $p=0.006$ ). Differences in percentage of having tried cigarettes by race/ethnicity and grade in 2003 were similar to those observed in earlier years. Fewer non-Hispanic Black students “ever tried smoking cigarettes” than students of other races or ethnic groups, particularly among high school students, with 36.9 percent of non-Hispanic Black students “ever having tried a cigarette” compared to 49.5 percent of Hispanics and 55.8 percent of non-Hispanic White students “ever having tried a cigarette.” Non-Hispanic White students were most likely to have tried cigarettes. Percentage of ever having tried cigarettes increased with increasing grade level from sixth through twelfth grades. See Table 1 in Detailed Tables.

**FIGURE 1. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who have ever tried smoking a cigarette, by year, FYTS 1998-2003**

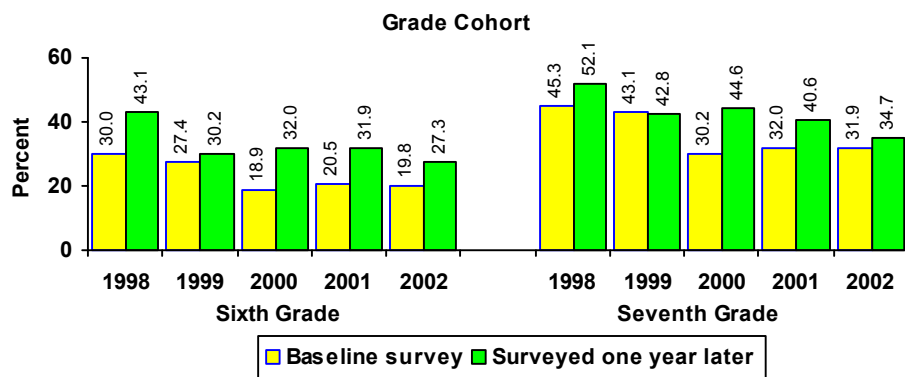


Since 1998, when 43.6 percent of middle school students and 68.1 percent of high school students had ever tried a cigarette, the proportion of students “ever having tried cigarettes” has declined dramatically. The percentage of middle school students “ever having tried cigarettes” decreased further in 2003, from 30.6 percent in 2002 to 26.3 percent in 2003 ( $P<0.05$ ). The percentage of high school students who ever tried cigarettes also declined from 52.2 percent in 2002 to 50.4 percent in 2003, but it was not statistically significant ( $p>0.05$ ). See Figure 1.

The FYTS exemplifies that students at higher grade levels are more likely than those at lower grades to have tried smoking cigarettes. An important strategy in preventing cigarette use is to prevent or reduce the experimentation with and use of cigarettes as students age and move up in grade. For this reason, the changes in the percentage of having ever tried cigarettes among sixth and seventh grade students were examined in two consecutive survey years.

Figure 2 illustrates the change in percentage of ever having tried cigarettes for "cohorts" of sixth grade and seventh grade students during 1998 through 2002. The percentage of ever having tried cigarettes among sixth grade students in 1998 was 30.0 percent. One year later, the percentage among these students in seventh grade in 1999 was 43.1 percent. In other words, for the sixth grade "cohort" in 1998, there was a 44 percent increase in the percentage of ever having tried cigarettes between 1998 and 1999. The increases in the percentages of students ever having tried cigarettes in two consecutive years of each cohort vary. A small increase was seen among seventh graders in 2002 when they moved up a grade level to eighth grade in 2003 (from 31.9 percent to 34.7 percent). From 2002 to 2003, the increase in having ever tried cigarettes was 37.9 percent for sixth grade students (from 19.8 percent in 2002 to 27.3 percent in 2003) and 8.8 percent for seventh grade students (from 31.9 percent in 2002 to 34.7 percent in 2003). Both increases, however, are much smaller than those observed between 2001 and 2002, which were 55.6 percent for sixth grade students and 26.9 percent for seventh grade students. See Figure 2.

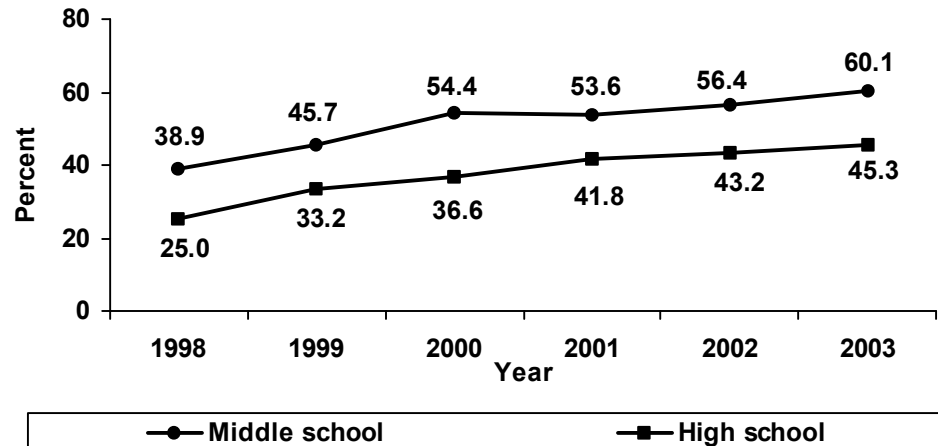
**FIGURE 2. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who have ever tried smoking a cigarette, by grade "cohort," 6th-7th grades, FYTS 1998-2002**



**Committed Never-Smokers**

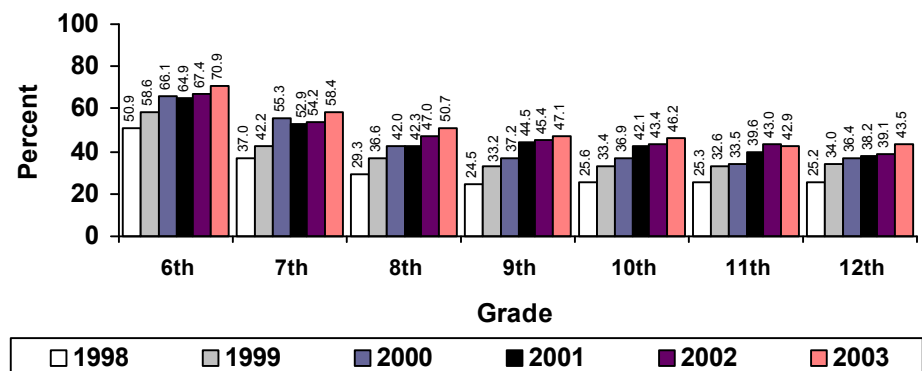
Commitment to never smoking is a measure of attitudes about tobacco, reflecting a student's intention not to smoke in the future. Committed never-smokers are students who have never tried a cigarette (even one or two puffs), and will "definitely not" try a cigarette soon, in the future, or if a best friend were to offer one. In 2003, more than half (52.2 percent) of middle and high school students combined were committed never-smokers. The percentage of students who were committed never-smokers was higher among middle school students

**FIGURE 3. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who were committed never-smokers, by year, FYTS 1998-2003**



(60.1 percent) than among high school students (45.3 percent). There was no difference in the percentage of committed never-smokers between male students and female students. However, in both middle and high schools, more non-Hispanic Black students were committed to never smoking than were non-Hispanic White and Hispanic students. In general, the percentage of students who were committed never-smokers decreased with increasing grade level. See detailed Table 2.

**FIGURE 4. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who were committed never-smokers by grade and year, FYTS 1998-2003**



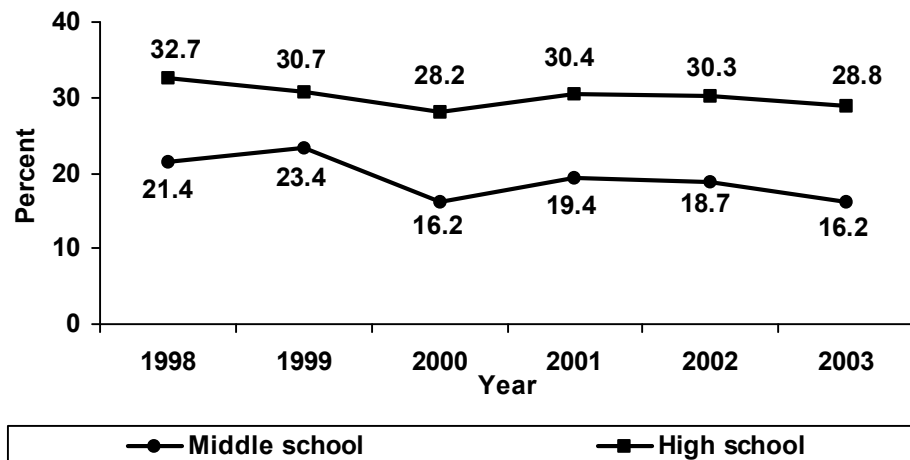
Usually the commitment to never smoking decreases as students advance in grade level. However, the overall trend for those committed to never smoking, across all grade levels, increased from 1998 to 2003. Between 1998 and 2003,

significant increases were observed in the percentage of middle and high school students who were committed never-smokers, from 38.9 percent to 60.1 percent among middle school students and from 25.0 percent to 45.3 percent among high school students. In 2003, the percentage of middle school students who were committed never-smokers increased significantly to 60.1 percent from 56.4 percent ( $p < 0.05$ ) in 2002. The change in percentage of high school students who were committed never-smokers also increased slightly from 43.2 percent in 2002 to 45.3 percent in 2003, but it was not statistically significant. See Figure 3.

During the six years of implementation of the tobacco use prevention program, more and more students have committed to never smoking. For example, 37.0 percent of students were committed never-smokers in seventh grade in 1998. In 2003, 43.5 percent of students in twelfth grade were committed never-smokers. Assuming that seventh grade students in 1998 are the same students in the twelfth grade in 2003, there is a 17.6 percent increase in committed never-smokers over a six-year period. See Figure 4.

**Experimenters** Experimenters are students who have tried smoking cigarettes, but have never smoked cigarettes daily and are not current smokers (that is, have not smoked on one or more of the past 30 days). In 2003, less than one-fourth (23.0 percent) of middle and high school students reported experimenting with cigarettes. Male students had a higher prevalence of experimenters than female students, especially among middle school students ( $P < 0.05$ ). More high school students (28.8 percent) than middle school students (16.2 percent) experimented with cigarettes. A lower percentage of experimenters was observed among lower grade students, with the lowest percentage in sixth grade (10.2 percent). See detailed Table 3.

**FIGURE 5. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students experimenting with cigarettes, by year, FYTS 1998-2003**



The prevalence of experimental smoking among middle and high school students has decreased since 1998. Both have experienced a statistically significant decline in experimental use of cigarettes during the six-year period. Experimentation among middle school students has fluctuated over time, actually increasing in 1999 before a decrease in 2000, with another increase in 2001 before a steady decrease from 2001 to 2003. There was a significant decrease (13.4 percent) in the percentage of experimenters among middle school students from 2002 to 2003. High school students experienced a steady decline in experimenters until 2001. There was a slight decrease (5.0 percent) in the percentage of experimenters among high school students from 2002 to 2003. See Figure 5.

As students age, many of them may try cigarettes. The percentage of experimenters among seventh grade students in 2003 was 29.2 percent higher than among sixth grade students in 2002 (increased to 16.8 percent in 2003 from 13.0 percent in 2002). Likewise, the same percentage among eighth grade students in 2003 was 11.9 percent higher than among seventh graders in 2002 (increased to 21.7 percent in 2003 from 19.4 percent in 2002). The increases from 2002 to 2003 were smaller than the increases from 2001 to 2002. For example, the percentage of experimenters among eighth grade students in 2002 was 26.3 percent higher than among seventh grade students in 2001.

## Reduction and Cessation

Reductions in youth tobacco use are achieved by a combination of preventing those who have experimented with tobacco from progressing to regular use and promoting cessation among current users. Several indicators are used to monitor progress toward achieving reductions in tobacco use: the percentage of students who currently use tobacco; the percentage of students who currently smoke cigarettes daily; the number of cigarettes smoked per month; the percentage of students who currently use cigars; the percentage of students who currently use smokeless tobacco; the percentage of students who are former smokers; the percentage of smokers who want to stop smoking; and the percentage of students who have tried to quit smoking. These indicators are described below.

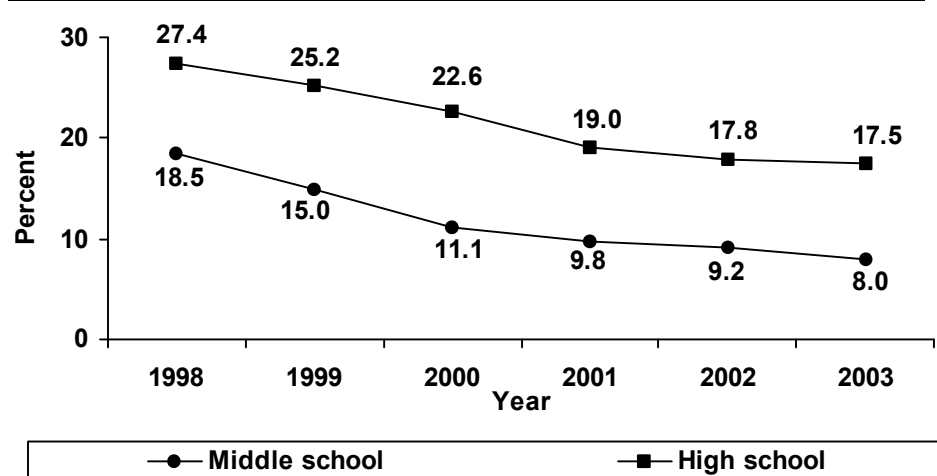
**Current Cigarette Use** Cigarettes continue to be the most common form of tobacco used by middle and high school students in Florida. During 2003, among those who used some form of tobacco in the previous 30 days, 77.1 percent smoked cigarettes. Nearly one in 12 (8.0 percent) middle school students and one in six (17.5 percent) high school students smoked cigarettes on one or more of the 30 days preceding the survey. Among middle and high school students, the percentage of students who were current smokers did not differ between males and females, was the highest among non-Hispanic White students, and was the lowest among non-Hispanic Black students. The percentage increased as grade levels increased from sixth through twelfth grades. See Table 4 in Detailed Tables.

Over the six-year period since baseline data were collected in 1998, the percentage of current cigarette use has declined 56.8 percent among middle school students and 36.1 percent among high school students. The percentage of students who were current smokers continuously decreased from 2002 to 2003. For middle school students the percentage decreased by 13.0 percent from 9.2 percent in 2002 to 8.0 percent in 2003, but it was not statistically significant. A decrease in current cigarette smokers among high school students leveled off between 2002 and 2003 (from 17.8 percent in 2002 to 17.5 percent in 2003). See Figure 6.

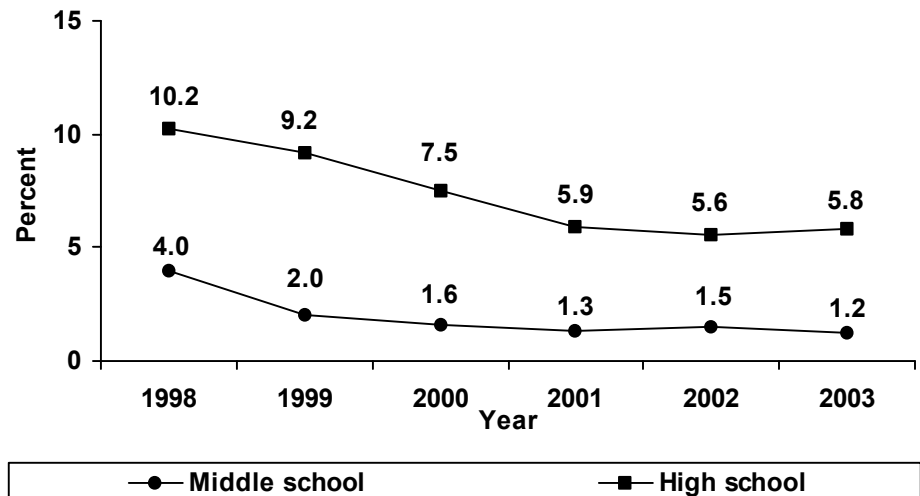
**Current Daily Cigarette Use** In 2003, 3.7 percent of middle and high school students smoked cigarettes on all of the previous 30 days (that is, were current daily smokers). The percentage of students who were current daily smokers was higher among high school students (5.8 percent) than among middle school students (1.2 percent). There was no difference in the percentage of daily cigarette use between male and female students. Non-Hispanic Black students had the lowest percentage of daily cigarette smoking among all race/ethnic groups. The percentage of students who were daily cigarette smokers was higher among students in higher grade levels.

The percentage of students who were daily cigarette smokers declined among middle school students from 4.0 percent in 1998 to 1.3 percent in 2001 and among high school students from 10.2 percent in 1998 to 5.9 percent in 2001. Since 2001, the percentage of students who were daily cigarette smokers has not changed so much for both middle and high school students. See Figure 7 and Table 7 in Detailed Tables.

**FIGURE 6. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who smoked cigarettes on one or more of the previous 30 days, by year, FYTS 1998-2003**



**FIGURE 7. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who smoked on all of the previous 30 days, by year, FYTS 1998-2003**



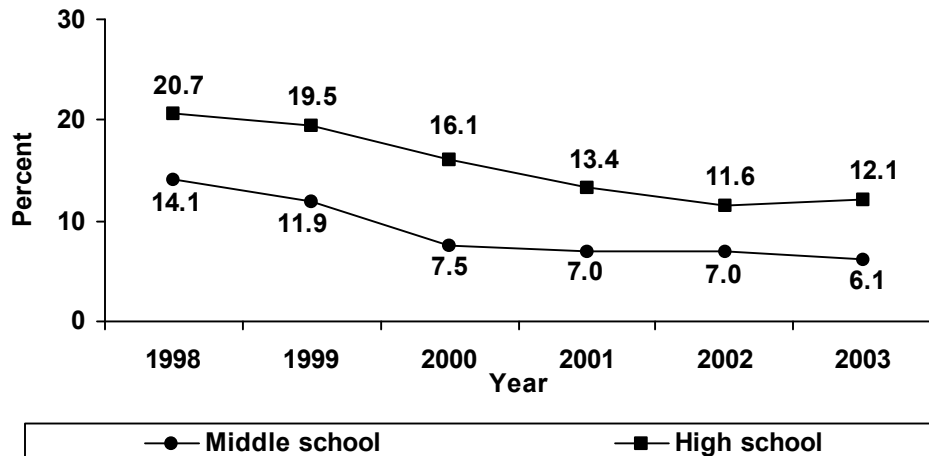
**Number of Cigarettes Smoked**

The average number of cigarettes smoked per month among students who are current smokers was 111.4 in 2003, an increase of 15.6 cigarettes from 95.8 cigarettes in 2002. Among current smokers, males and high school students smoked more cigarettes on average than females and middle school students, respectively. The average number of cigarettes smoked decreased from 1998 to 2001, indicating that students who smoke may be smoking less. However, the average number of cigarettes smoked per month in 2002 (108 cigarettes) increased to 128 cigarettes per month in 2003 for high school students and remained essentially the same for middle school students (69 cigarettes/month in 2002 and 70 cigarettes/month in 2003). See Table 8 in Detailed Tables.

**Current Cigar Use** In 2003, 9.4 percent of middle and high school students smoked at least one cigar on one or more of the previous 30 days (that is, were current cigar smokers). The percentage of students who were current cigar smokers was higher among high school (12.1 percent) than among middle school students (6.1 percent). Male students had a higher prevalence of current cigar smokers than female students. Non-Hispanic Black students had the lowest percentage of current cigar smokers among all race/ethnic groups. The percentage of students who were current cigar smokers was higher among students of higher grade levels. See Table 5 in Detailed Tables.

In the first four-year period, the percentage of students who were current cigar smokers declined by 50.4 percent among middle school students (from 14.1 percent in 1998 to 7.0 percent in 2001) and by 35.3 percent among high school students (from 20.7 percent in 1998 to 13.4 percent in 2001). Since 2001, the percentage has not changed as significantly as in earlier years. See Figure 8.

**FIGURE 8. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who smoked at least one cigar on one or more of the previous 30 days, by year, FYTS 1998-2003**

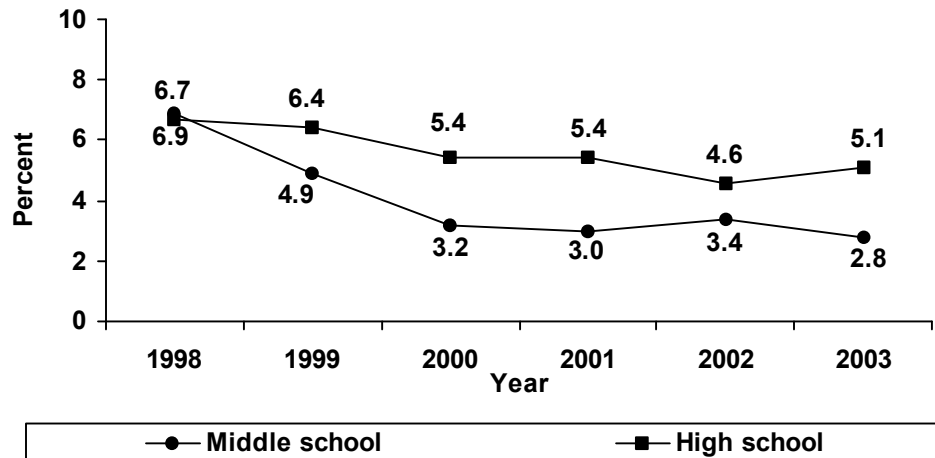


**Current Smokeless Tobacco Use** In 2003, 4.0 percent of middle and high school students used smokeless tobacco on one or more of the previous 30 days (that is, were current smokeless tobacco users). The percentage of students who were current smokeless tobacco users was higher among high school (5.1 percent) than among middle school students (2.8 percent). Male students had a higher prevalence of using smokeless tobacco in the previous 30 days than female students. Non-Hispanic Black students had lower percentages of current smokeless tobacco use than non-Hispanic White students. In general, the percentage of students who were current smokeless tobacco users was higher among students of higher grade levels. See Table 6 in Detailed Tables.

Over the six-year period, the percentage of students who were current smokeless tobacco users has consistently declined among both middle and high

school students, except for an increase among middle school students in 2002 and an increase among high school students in 2003. Both increases were insignificant. See Figure 9.

**FIGURE 9. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who used smokeless tobacco on one or more of the previous 30 days, by year, FYTS 1998-2003**



**Former Smokers**

Youth smokers are most likely to be situational or occasional smokers. In fact, in 2003, 54 percent (53 percent in 2002 and 55 percent in 2001) of current smokers had smoked fewer than 100 cigarettes in their entire lives. Among adults, former smokers are usually defined as those who have smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetimes, but who currently do not smoke at all. When this definition is applied to youth, 13.5 percent of middle and high school students were former smokers in 2003, compared to 11.6 percent in 2002 and 14.2 percent in 2001. The prevalence of former smokers in 2003 was not significantly different from 2001 and 2002. The number of cigarettes smoked in a lifetime was not measured in 1998 and 2000.

**Cessation Attempts**

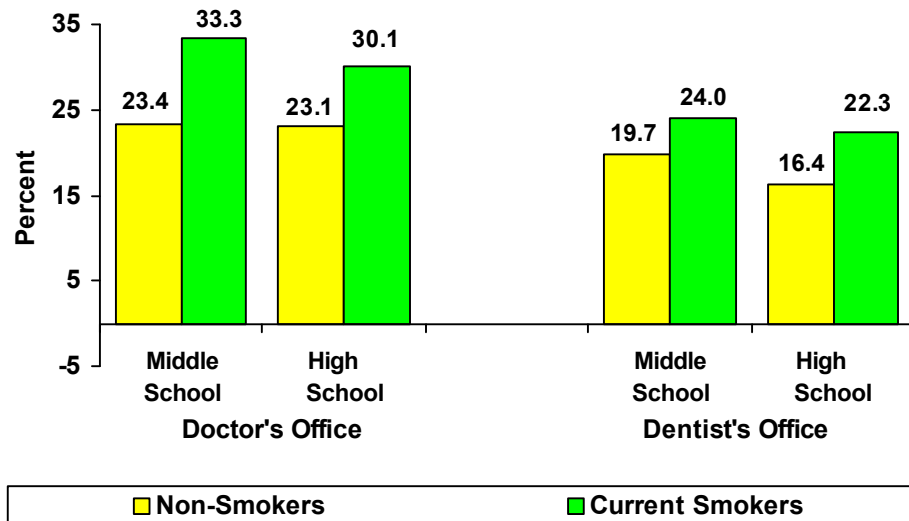
In 2003, students were asked if they wanted to quit smoking completely, if they had ever tried to quit smoking, and how many times they have attempted to quit. Among students who smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetimes and who smoked cigarettes on one or more of the previous 30 days, 52.1 percent would like to stop smoking completely and 59.4 percent tried to quit sometime in the previous 12 months. Among those who have tried to quit smoking, 63.6 percent tried one or two times.

Of all students surveyed in 2003, 85 percent believe they can quit smoking if they want to quit. Even among current smokers, 76.0 percent of those who have tried to quit three or more times believe they can quit (compared to 84.4 percent of those who have never tried to quit). Over two-thirds (67.3 percent) of those who smoked cigarettes every day for the previous 30 days believe they can quit smoking if they want to quit.

Counseling and advice from a healthcare professional to quit smoking has been shown to be helpful in motivating adult smokers to attempt quitting. Each year since 2000, middle and high school students have been asked if someone in a doctor's or dentist's office spoke to them about the dangers of smoking.

In 2003 among non-smokers, 23.4 percent of middle school students and 23.1 percent of high school students who visited a doctor's office in the past year reported that someone in that office talked to them about the dangers of smoking. Middle school students who smoke were substantially more likely to report that someone in a doctor's office talked with them about smoking (33.3 percent) than were their non-smoking counterparts (23.4 percent) ( $p < 0.01$ ). Likewise, high school smokers (30.1 percent) were more likely than their non-smoking counterparts (23.1 percent) to report such discussion ( $p < 0.01$ ). Among high school students who visited a dentist's office in the past year, smokers (22.3 percent) were more likely than non-smokers (16.4 percent) to report that someone in their dentist's office spoke to them about the dangers of smoking ( $p < 0.01$ ). Middle school smokers (24.0 percent) were not more likely than their non-smoking counterparts (19.7 percent) to report that someone in their dentist's office also spoke to them about the dangers of smoking. See Figure 10.

**FIGURE 10. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who visited a doctor's or dentist's office in the previous 12 months and reported that a professional in the office talked to them about the dangers of tobacco, by smoking status, FYTS 2003**

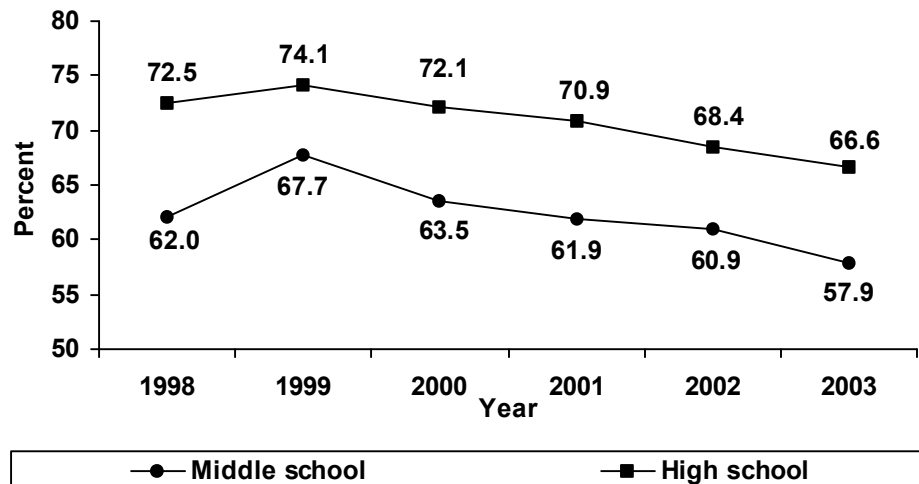


## Second-Hand Smoke Exposure

Reducing youth exposure to second-hand smoke is a Florida Tobacco Control Program goal. In 2003, 57.9 percent of middle school students and 66.6 percent of high school students were exposed to second-hand smoke in a car or a room during the seven days prior to the FYTS survey administration. Female students are more likely than male students, and non-Hispanic White students are more likely than non-Hispanic Black and Hispanic students to be exposed to second-hand smoke. The percentage of students who were exposed to second-hand smoke continues to increase among students with increasing grade level. See Table 9 in Detailed Tables.

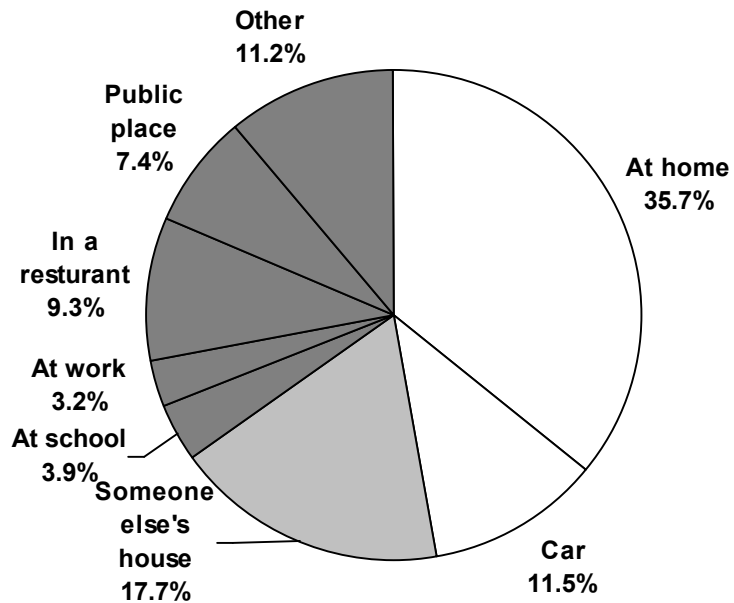
After an increase from 1998 to 1999, the percentage of students who were exposed to second-hand smoke has decreased consistently both for middle and high school students. The percentage of second-hand smoke exposure among high school students has not decreased significantly since 2002; however, among middle school students, exposure to second-hand smoke has decreased by 5 percent ( $p < 0.05$ ). See Figure 11.

**FIGURE 11. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who were exposed to second-hand smoke in a room or a car during the previous seven days, by year, FYTS 1998-2003**

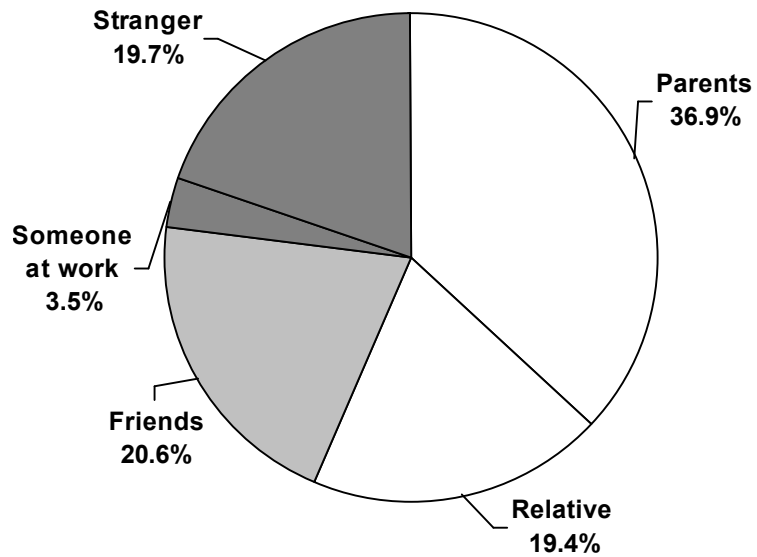


Additional information was gathered in 2003 about where students usually were located when they were exposed to second-hand smoke and who was usually doing the smoking. Figure 12 shows that among those students who were in a room or car in the previous seven days where someone had been smoking, 35.7 percent were in their homes, 11.5 percent were exposed while in a car (parents' or someone else's), 17.7 percent were exposed in someone else's home, 9.3 percent were in a restaurant, 7.4 percent were in a public place such as a mall, and 11.2 percent were in some other place. Figure 13 shows who usually was smoking when the student was in a room or car where someone had been smoking during the previous seven days. Over one-third (36.9 percent) of students were exposed to second-hand smoke by their parents, while another 19.4 percent of students were exposed to smoke by a relative. About

**FIGURE 12. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who were exposed to second-hand smoke in the previous seven days, by location, FYTS 2003**



**FIGURE 13. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who were exposed to second-hand smoke in the previous seven days, by person smoking, FYTS 2003**



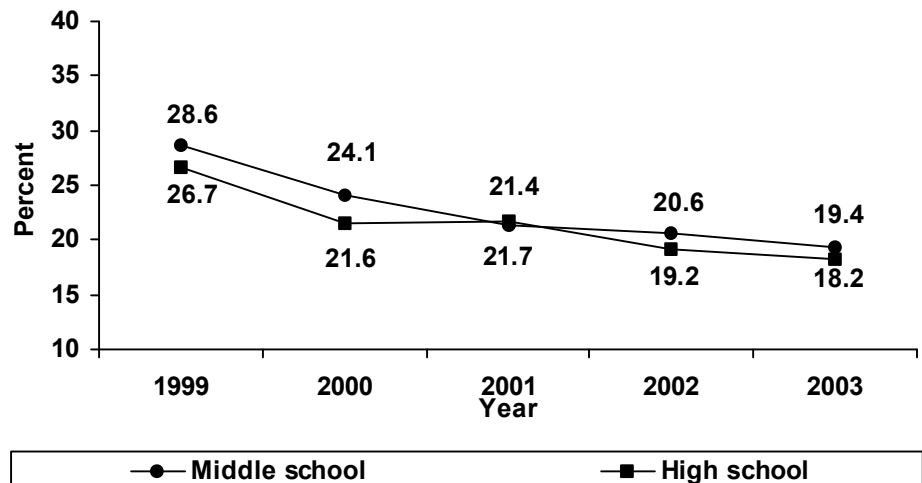
one in five (20.6 percent) students were exposed to second-hand smoke by friends, and 23.2 percent were exposed to second-hand smoke by someone at work or by a stranger.

The graph in Figure 13 is shaded according to the level of intervention necessary to reduce or eliminate second-hand smoke exposure. The white areas (parents and relatives) require educational and family interventions to persuade parents and relatives to refrain from smoking around children and to make their homes and cars smoke-free. The light gray area largely represents friends who smoked. Interventions to reduce second-hand smoke exposure by friends who smoke include youth tobacco prevention and control programs. The dark gray areas (strangers and fellow workers) require policy level interventions that eliminate smoking from public places and work sites.

**Smoking in the Home and Among Friends**

In 2003, the percentage of middle and high school students who reported that smoking was allowed in their homes did not vary by gender or by grade, but was higher among non-Hispanic White students than non-Hispanic Black students and Hispanic students. The differences between non-Hispanic Black students and Hispanic students were not significant ( $p > 0.05$ ). See Table 10 in Detailed Tables.

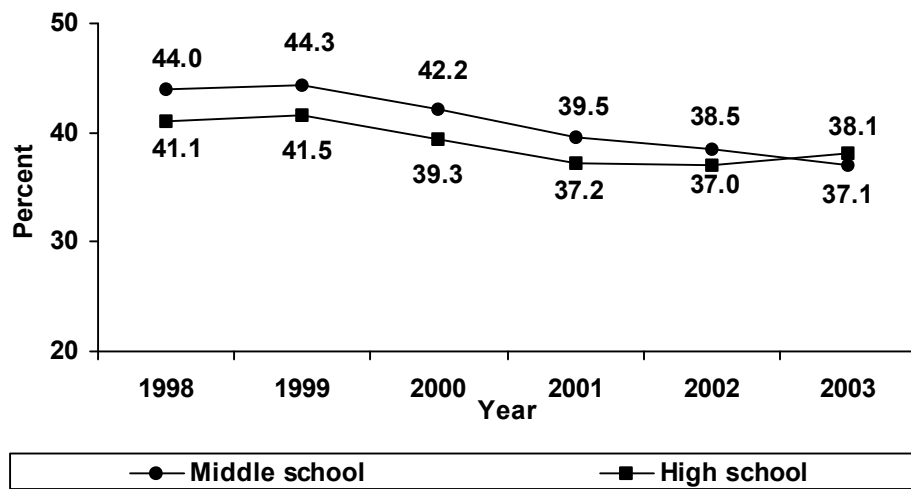
**FIGURE 14. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who reported that smoking was allowed inside their home, by year, FYTS 1999-2003**



More and more households have been prohibiting smoking. About 81.3 percent of middle and high school students, combined, lived in households where smoking was prohibited. This percentage is significantly higher than the data collected in 2002 (80.2 percent;  $p < 0.05$ ). Over the six-year period since 1998, the percentage of households that allow smoking has decreased dramatically both for middle and high school students. See Figure 14.

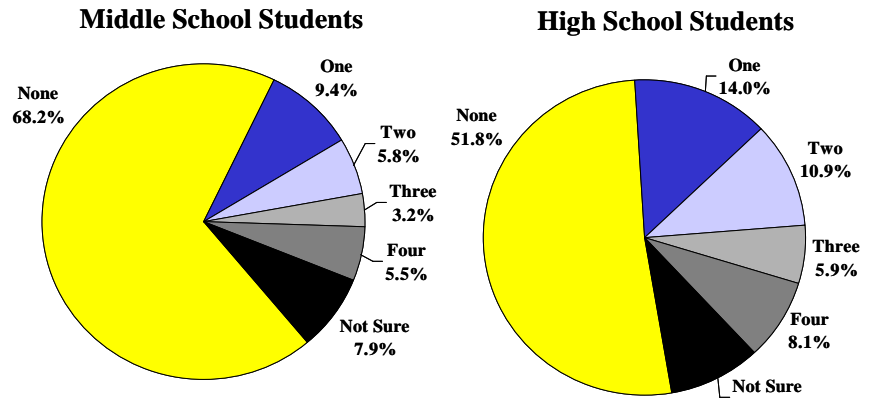
Living in a household where someone smokes is a risk factor for second-hand smoke exposure regardless of rules about smoking in the home. In 2003, 37.6 percent of middle and high school students lived in households where someone else smoked, down from 42.5 percent in 1998 ( $p < 0.01$ ). The prevalence of students who lived in households where someone else smoked did not change much when compared to the 2002 rate (37.7 percent). Female students were more likely than male students to report that someone else smoked cigarettes in their homes. Likewise, non-Hispanic White students were more likely than Hispanic students, and Hispanic students were more likely than non-Hispanic Black students to report such issue. See Figure 15 and Table 11 in Detailed Tables.

**FIGURE 15. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who reported that someone else smoked cigarettes in their home, by year, FYTS 1998-2003**



Over time, more and more students are aware of their friends' smoking status. Nearly one out of five students (Figure 13) exposed to second-hand smoke in the previous seven days indicated that the person usually smoking was a friend. Figure 16 shows the percentage of students with the number (up to four) of best friends who smoke cigarettes; the general distribution has remained unchanged since 1998. Most (68.2 percent) middle school students and just over half (51.8 percent) of high school students don't have best friends who smoke cigarettes. About 8.7 percent of middle school students and 14.0 percent of high school students have three or four best friends who smoke. This has remained generally unchanged compared to the 2002 data. Among middle and high school students, less than 10.0 percent are not sure how many of their four best friends smoke cigarettes.

**FIGURE 16. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students reporting that up to four of their best friends smoke cigarettes, FYTS 2002**



## Summary

Compared to 2002, almost all main indicators in 2003 were either improved or at least maintained at the level in 2002:

Indicators	School Level	Year	
		2002	2003
Lifetime smokers (Ever tried cigarettes) (%)	Middle	30.6	26.3
	High	52.2	50.4
Never-smokers (%)	Middle	56.4	60.1
	High	43.2	45.3
Current smokers (%)	Middle	9.2	8.0
	High	17.8	17.5
Current daily smokers (%)	Middle	1.5	1.2
	High	5.6	5.8
Second-hand smokers (%)	Middle	60.9	57.9
	High	68.4	66.6
Smoking is allowed in home (%)	Middle	20.6	19.4
	High	19.2	18.2

### Trends in youth tobacco use in Florida from 1998 to 2003:

- The percentage of middle school students who have ever tried a cigarette decreased 39.7 percent from 43.6 percent to 26.3 percent.
- The percentage of high school students who have ever tried a cigarette decreased 26.0 percent from 68.1 percent to 50.4 percent.
- The percentage of middle school students who were committed never-smokers increased 54.5 percent from 38.9 percent to 60.1 percent.
- The percentage of high school students who were committed never-smokers increased 81.2 percent from 25.0 percent to 45.3 percent.
- The percentage of middle school students who were current smokers decreased 56.8 percent from 18.5 percent to 8.0 percent.
- The percentage of high school students who were current smokers decreased 36.1 percent from 27.4 percent to 17.5 percent.
- The percentage of middle school students who smoke cigarettes daily decreased 70.0 percent from 4.0 percent to 1.2 percent.
- The percentage of high school students who smoke cigarettes daily decreased 43.1 percent from 10.2 percent to 5.8 percent.
- The percentage of middle school students who were exposed to second-hand smoke on one or more of the previous seven days decreased 6.6 percent from 62.0 percent to 57.9 percent.

- The percentage of high school students who were exposed to second-hand smoke on one or more of the previous seven days decreased 8.1 percent from 72.5 percent to 66.6 percent.

## Conclusion

Since the inception of the Florida Pilot Program on Tobacco Control in 1998 (now called the Florida Tobacco Prevention and Control Program), Florida has seen a dramatic decrease in youth smoking and overall tobacco use. Between 1998 and 2003, the percentage of middle school students who smoked in the previous month was cut by 56.8 percent and high school smoking rates declined by 36.1 percent. Smoking rates declined by 40.0 percent among middle school students in the first two years of the program (1998-2000), they declined by less than half this rate (18.4 percent) in the latest two years (2001-2003).

Although we found that prevalence of tobacco use among youth decreased significantly, still more than half of Florida's youth are exposed to second-hand smoke every week. Exposure to second-hand smoke is associated with the incidence and aggravation of asthma and increases in upper respiratory track infections. In addition, parental smoking is a strong predictor of youth smoking. To protect youth from second-hand smoke and the influence of smoking, more effort needs to be dedicated to educating parents and adults about the harmful effects of second-hand smoke. Adult tobacco users need motivation and support to quit smoking or quit using other tobacco products, and to avoid smoking or using these products around their children and other underage youth. It is encouraging to note that smoking is prohibited in more and more households.

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# Detailed Tables

**Table 1. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who ever tried smoking a cigarette, even one or two puffs (ever-smoker), by gender, race/ethnicity, and grade, FYTS 2003**

		Middle School Ever-smoker			High School Ever-smoker		
		%	95% CI*		%	95% CI*	
<b>Gender</b>	Female	24.7	22.9	26.5	48.7	46.6	50.8
	Male	28.1	26.2	30.0	51.8	49.6	54.0
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	non-Hispanic White	28.0	26.0	30.0	55.8	53.6	57.9
	non-Hispanic Black	19.2	16.7	21.6	36.9	33.4	40.3
	Hispanic	28.5	25.6	31.4	49.5	46.4	52.5
	Other	31.4	26.8	35.9	51.1	45.6	56.6
<b>Grade (Middle/High)</b>	6th/9th	17.3	15.3	19.2	44.1	41.3	46.8
	7th/10th	27.3	25.1	29.5	49.8	46.9	52.8
	8th/11th	34.7	32.1	37.2	55.4	52.3	58.5
	--/12th	.	.	.	56.3	52.8	59.8
<b>Total</b>		26.3	25.0	27.7	50.4	48.8	51.9

\* 95% confidence interval

**Table 2. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who never tried cigarettes, will definitely not try a cigarette soon, and will definitely not smoke a cigarette if it is offered by a friend (committed never-smoker), by gender, race/ethnicity, and grade, FYTS 2003**

		Middle School Committed never-smoker			High School Committed never-smoker		
		%	95% CI*		%	95% CI*	
<b>Gender</b>	Female	60.4	58.3	62.5	45.4	43.1	47.6
	Male	59.9	57.7	62.1	45.5	43.2	47.9
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	non-Hispanic White	57.4	55.1	59.6	39.1	36.9	41.3
	non-Hispanic Black	70.7	67.7	73.6	63.3	59.6	67.1
	Hispanic	54.8	51.5	58.1	45.2	41.9	48.5
	Other	60.2	55.2	65.1	45.9	40.0	51.7
<b>Grade (Middle/High)</b>	6th/9th	70.9	68.5	73.3	47.1	44.2	50.0
	7th/10th	58.4	55.8	60.9	46.2	43.1	49.3
	8th/11th	50.7	47.8	53.5	42.9	39.6	46.2
	--/12th	.	.	.	43.5	39.7	47.3
<b>Total</b>		60.1	58.6	61.6	45.3	43.7	46.9

\* 95% confidence interval

**Table 3. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who tried smoking cigarettes, but never smoked for 30 consecutive days (experimenter), by gender, race/ethnicity, and grade, FYTS 2003**

		Middle School Experimenter			High School Experimenter		
		%	95% CI*		%	95% CI*	
<b>Gender</b>	Female	14.6	13.2	16.1	28.0	26.1	29.9
	Male	17.9	16.2	19.6	29.7	27.6	31.7
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	non-Hispanic White	16.3	14.7	18.0	28.4	26.4	30.3
	non-Hispanic Black	14.0	11.8	16.1	26.9	23.7	30.1
	Hispanic	17.1	14.7	19.6	31.3	28.4	34.1
	Other	18.9	15.1	22.7	27.5	22.6	32.5
<b>Grade (Middle/High)</b>	6th/9th	10.2	8.6	11.8	25.1	22.7	27.5
	7th/10th	16.8	14.9	18.6	28.4	25.7	31.1
	8th/11th	21.7	19.5	24.0	32.1	29.1	35.0
	--/12th	.	.	.	32.0	28.7	35.3
<b>Total</b>		16.2	15.1	17.3	28.8	27.4	30.2

\* 95% confidence interval

**Table 4. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who smoked cigarettes on one or more of the previous 30 days (current cigarette smoker), by gender, race/ethnicity, and grade, FYTS 2003**

		Middle School Current cigarette smoker			High School Current cigarette smoker		
		%	95% CI*		%	95% CI*	
<b>Gender</b>	Female	8.4	7.3	9.6	17.1	15.5	18.7
	Male	7.5	6.4	8.7	17.5	15.8	19.2
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	non-Hispanic White	9.9	8.5	11.2	23.0	21.1	24.8
	non-Hispanic Black	2.6	1.6	3.6	6.6	4.8	8.4
	Hispanic	9.2	7.3	11.1	14.2	12.1	16.4
	Other	9.9	7.0	12.7	18.7	14.3	23.0
<b>Grade (Middle/High)</b>	6th/9th	4.9	3.8	6.0	14.9	12.9	16.9
	7th/10th	8.1	6.8	9.5	17.4	15.2	19.7
	8th/11th	11.2	9.5	12.8	18.9	16.3	21.4
	--/12th	.	.	.	20.2	17.4	23.1
<b>Total</b>		8.0	7.2	8.8	17.5	16.3	18.6

\* 95% confidence interval

**Table 5. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who smoked cigars on one or more of the previous 30 days (current cigar smoker), by gender, race/ethnicity, and grade, FYTS 2003**

		Middle School Current cigar smoker			High School Current cigar smoker		
		%	95% CI*		%	95% CI*	
<b>Gender</b>	Female	4.6	3.8	5.5	8.1	7.0	9.3
	Male	7.6	6.5	8.8	16.2	14.6	17.8
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	non-Hispanic White	6.2	5.2	7.3	14.2	12.7	15.7
	non-Hispanic Black	4.8	3.5	6.1	8.6	6.6	10.7
	Hispanic	6.3	4.7	7.8	10.7	8.8	12.6
	Other	8.1	5.5	10.6	12.1	8.7	15.6
<b>Grade (Middle/High)</b>	6th/9th	3.7	2.7	4.7	9.9	8.3	11.6
	7th/10th	6.6	5.4	7.8	11.9	10.0	13.8
	8th/11th	7.9	6.5	9.3	12.7	10.6	14.8
	--/12th	.	.	.	15.7	13.0	18.3
<b>Total</b>		6.1	5.4	6.8	12.1	11.1	13.1

\* 95% confidence interval

**Table 6. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who used smokeless tobacco on one or more of the previous 30 days (current smokeless tobacco user), by gender, race/ethnicity, and grade, FYTS 2003**

		Middle School Current smokeless tobacco user			High School Current smokeless tobacco user		
		%	95% CI*		%	95% CI*	
<b>Gender</b>	Female	1.7	1.2	2.2	1.6	1.1	2.2
	Male	3.9	3.1	4.8	8.6	7.3	9.8
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	non-Hispanic White	3.2	2.4	4.0	6.0	5.0	7.0
	non-Hispanic Black	1.7	1.0	2.5	3.5	2.1	4.9
	Hispanic	2.4	1.4	3.3	3.8	2.6	5.0
	Other	4.4	2.4	6.3	7.2	4.4	9.9
<b>Grade (Middle/High)</b>	6th/9th	2.3	1.5	3.1	4.1	3.0	5.1
	7th/10th	2.9	2.0	3.7	5.5	4.1	6.8
	8th/11th	3.1	2.2	4.1	6.1	4.5	7.6
	--/12th	.	.	.	5.2	3.6	6.8
<b>Total</b>		2.8	2.3	3.3	5.1	4.4	5.8

\* 95% confidence interval

**Table 7. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who smoked cigarettes on all 30 of the previous 30 days (current daily smoker), by gender, race/ethnicity, and grade, FYTS 2003**

		Middle School			High School		
		Current daily smoker			Current daily smoker		
		%	95% CI*		%	95% CI*	
<b>Gender</b>	Female	1.2	0.7	1.6	5.0	4.1	5.9
	Male	1.3	0.8	1.8	6.4	5.3	7.5
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	non-Hispanic White	1.5	1.0	2.0	8.2	7.0	9.4
	non-Hispanic Black	0.5	0.0	0.9	2.1	1.0	3.1
	Hispanic	1.0	0.4	1.7	3.3	2.2	4.5
	Other	2.2	0.8	3.5	7.2	4.3	10.1
<b>Grade (Middle/High)</b>	6th/9th	0.8	0.4	1.3	4.6	3.5	5.8
	7th/10th	1.0	0.5	1.5	5.5	4.1	6.8
	8th/11th	1.9	1.1	2.6	6.6	5.0	8.2
	--/12th	.	.	.	7.4	5.6	9.3
<b>Total</b>		1.2	0.9	1.5	5.8	5.1	6.5

\* 95% confidence interval

**Table 8. Mean number of cigarettes smoked in the previous 30 days by Florida public middle and high school students who smoked cigarettes on one or more of those days (current smoker), by gender, race/ethnicity, and grade, FYTS 2003**

		Middle School			High School		
		Mean # of cigarettes smoked			Mean # of cigarettes smoked		
		Mean	95% CI*		Mean	95% CI*	
<b>Gender</b>	Female	53.3	38.1	68.5	95.6	81.4	109.8
	Male	89.9	63.0	116.8	154.5	133.0	175.9
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	non-Hispanic White	70.0	51.6	88.4	130.0	114.6	145.5
	non-Hispanic Black	72.5	10.4	134.5	139.1	72.9	205.2
	Hispanic	60.0	28.9	91.0	93.1	67.1	119.2
	Other	88.1	38.0	138.3	184.1	125.0	243.1
<b>Grade (Middle/High)</b>	6th/9th	76.0	33.4	118.7	111.9	87.9	136.0
	7th/10th	63.8	40.2	87.4	128.4	102.0	154.8
	8th/11th	71.1	51.6	90.6	146.6	118.4	174.8
	--/12th	.	.	.	129.6	101.9	157.4
<b>Total</b>		69.6	55.0	84.2	127.5	114.4	140.6

\* 95% confidence interval

**Table 9. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who were exposed to second-hand smoke in a room or a car during the previous 7 days, by gender, race/ethnicity, and grade, FYTS 2003**

		Middle School Exposed to SHS			High School Exposed to SHS		
		%	95% CI*		%	95% CI*	
<b>Gender</b>	Female	62.6	60.5	64.6	70.2	68.2	72.2
	Male	52.8	50.7	55.0	62.9	60.7	65.0
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	non-Hispanic White	65.4	63.3	67.5	75.9	74.0	77.8
	non-Hispanic Black	42.6	39.4	45.7	51.2	47.6	54.8
	Hispanic	57.4	54.2	60.6	59.6	56.6	62.7
	Other	59.9	55.1	64.8	66.9	61.7	72.1
<b>Grade (Middle/High)</b>	6th/9th	53.2	50.5	55.8	63.5	60.8	66.2
	7th/10th	56.7	54.2	59.1	65.9	63.1	68.8
	8th/11th	63.5	60.9	66.2	66.7	63.7	69.7
	--/12th	.	.	.	72.8	69.6	76.0
<b>Total</b>		57.9	56.4	59.4	66.6	65.2	68.1

\* 95% confidence interval

**Table 10. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who reported that smoking was allowed inside their homes, by gender, race/ethnicity, and grade, FYTS 2003**

		Middle School Smoking allowed in home			High School Smoking allowed in home		
		%	95% CI*		%	95% CI*	
<b>Gender</b>	Female	20.0	18.3	21.6	19.0	17.4	20.7
	Male	18.6	16.9	20.3	17.4	15.7	19.1
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	non-Hispanic White	23.2	21.3	25.1	23.8	21.9	25.7
	non-Hispanic Black	16.1	13.8	18.4	11.9	9.6	14.3
	Hispanic	15.7	13.3	18.0	11.1	9.1	13.0
	Other	17.3	13.6	20.9	21.1	16.6	25.6
<b>Grade (Middle/High)</b>	6th/9th	19.5	17.4	21.6	19.5	17.3	21.7
	7th/10th	18.5	16.6	20.4	18.2	15.9	20.5
	8th/11th	20.0	17.8	22.2	17.9	15.4	20.3
	--/12th	.	.	.	16.4	13.8	19.1
<b>Total</b>		19.4	18.2	20.6	18.2	17.0	19.4

\* 95% confidence interval

**Table 11. Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who reported that someone else smoked cigarettes in their homes, by gender, race/ethnicity, and grade, FYTS 2003**

		Middle School			High School		
		Someone else smoked in home			Someone else smoked in home		
		%	95% CI*		%	95% CI*	
<b>Gender</b>	Female	39.0	37.0	41.1	39.7	37.6	41.8
	Male	34.9	32.8	37.0	36.7	34.5	38.8
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	non-Hispanic White	42.7	40.4	44.9	45.5	43.3	47.7
	non-Hispanic Black	26.1	23.3	28.9	24.4	21.3	27.5
	Hispanic	37.2	34.1	40.4	34.3	31.3	37.3
	Other	36.5	31.8	41.3	35.8	30.5	41.2
<b>Grade (Middle/High)</b>	6th/9th	36.3	33.7	38.8	38.7	35.9	41.4
	7th/10th	36.2	33.8	38.6	39.0	36.1	41.9
	8th/11th	38.6	35.9	41.3	38.9	35.8	42.0
	--/12th	.	.	.	35.0	31.6	38.4
<b>Total</b>		37.1	35.6	38.5	38.1	36.6	39.6

\* 95% confidence interval

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