

Youth Cigarette Use



Results from the 2005 Florida Youth Tobacco Survey

Fact Sheet 1

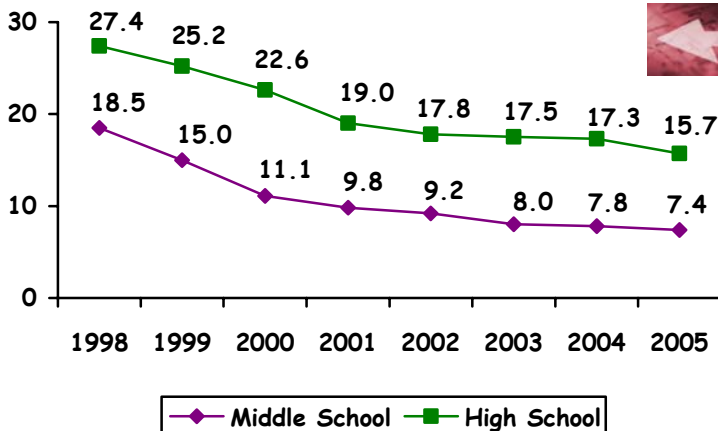
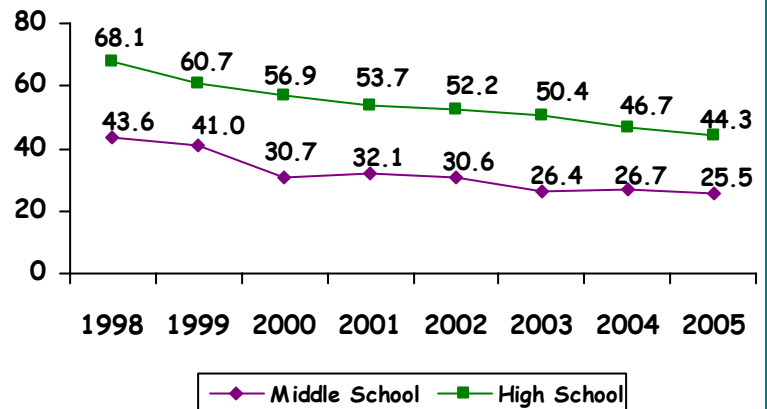
Introduction:

In the spring of 2005 the Florida Youth Tobacco Survey (FYTS) was administered to 9,296 middle and high school students in 149 public schools throughout the state. The FYTS has been conducted annually since 1998. The data presented in this fact sheet is weighted to represent the entire population of public middle and high school students in Florida.



Ever Tried Cigarettes

In 2005, 25.5 percent of middle school and 44.3 percent of high school students had tried smoking at least once. Since 1998, the prevalence of youth who have ever tried smoking has decreased by 41.5 percent among middle school students and by 34.9 percent among high school students.



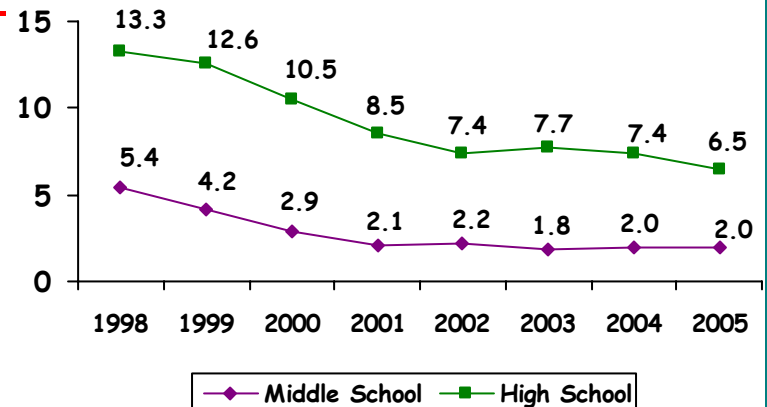
Current Cigarette Use

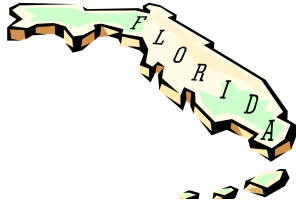
In 2005, 7.4 percent of middle school students and 15.7 percent of high school students smoked at least once during the past 30 days. Since 1998, the prevalence of students who currently smoke has decreased by 60 percent among middle school students and by 42.7 percent among high school students.



Frequency of Cigarette Use

In 2005, 2.0 percent of middle school students and 6.5 percent of high school students smoked on 20 or more of the past 30 days. Since 1998, the prevalence of this frequency of smoking has decreased by 63.0 percent among middle school students and by 51.1 percent among high school students.



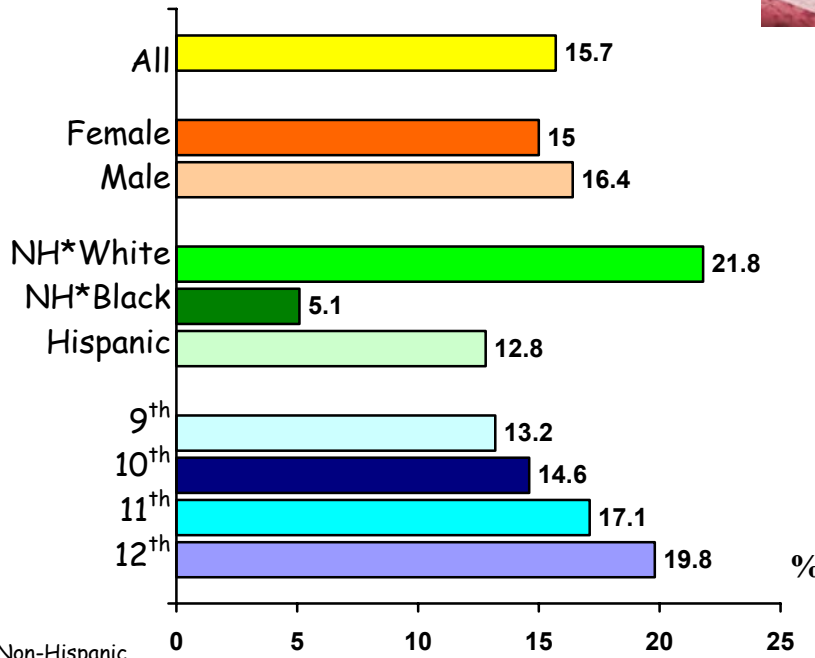
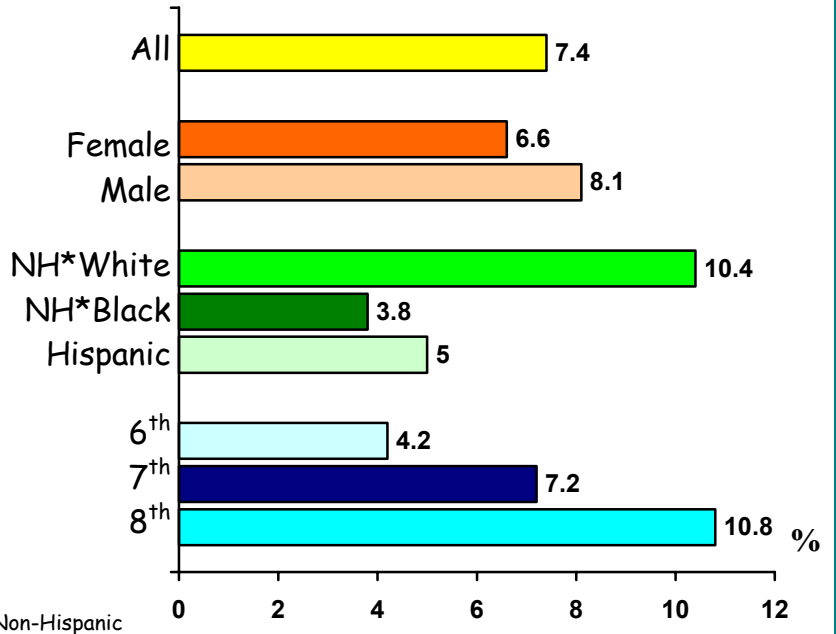


Current Cigarette Use (Past 30 Days) Florida 2005



Middle School

Overall, 7.4 percent of middle school students smoked at least once during the past 30 days. Non-Hispanic White students were more likely to be current smokers than non-Hispanic Black and Hispanic students. The prevalence of this behavior increases with increasing grade level.



High School

Overall, 15.7 percent of high school students smoked at least once during the past 30 days. Non-Hispanic White students were more likely to be current smokers than non-Hispanic Black and Hispanic students. The prevalence of this behavior tends to increase with increasing grade level.

For more information about the FYTS, please contact: Ms. Melissa Murray, M.S., Florida Youth Survey Coordinator, at (850) 245-4444, extension 2445 or by e-mail at Melissa_Murray@doh.state.fl.us, or contact Mr. Zhaohui Fan, M.P.H., Epidemiologist, at extension 2418 or by e-mail at Zhaohui_Fan@doh.state.fl.us. Or check out our website at: www.doh.state.fl.us.

