2006 Florida Youth Tobacco Survey
Jefferson County
Changes and Trends from 2000 to 2006

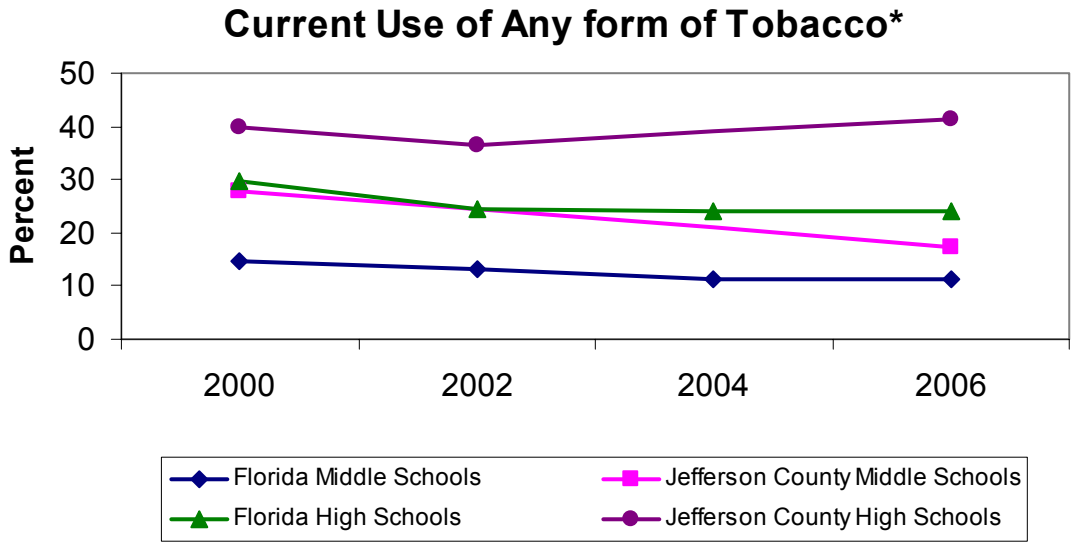
The Florida Youth Tobacco Survey (FYTS) is a statewide, school-based confidential survey that has been conducted annually since 1998. The FYTS collects information regarding the statewide prevalence of tobacco use, attitudes, and related behaviors among middle and high school students throughout Florida and tracks those behaviors over time. The FYTS has been administered annually at the state level since 1998 and has been administered at the county level in 2000, 2002, and 2006. With three years of county level data, we are now able to track changes within each county.

In Jefferson County, 92 middle school students and 88 high school students completed the 2006 FYTS. This report presents the county level data in 2000, 2002, and 2006. State and county prevalence from 2000 and 2002 were included for comparison. The county level data and state level data are weighted to represent the entire population of Jefferson County public middle and high school students and Florida public middle and high school students respectively. These data can be used by county health departments, school districts, and other community organizations and citizens to estimate the magnitude of youth tobacco use in Jefferson County, as well as to compare tobacco use, attitudes, and related behaviors in Jefferson County to those for Florida as a whole.

Current Tobacco Use

Current Tobacco Use

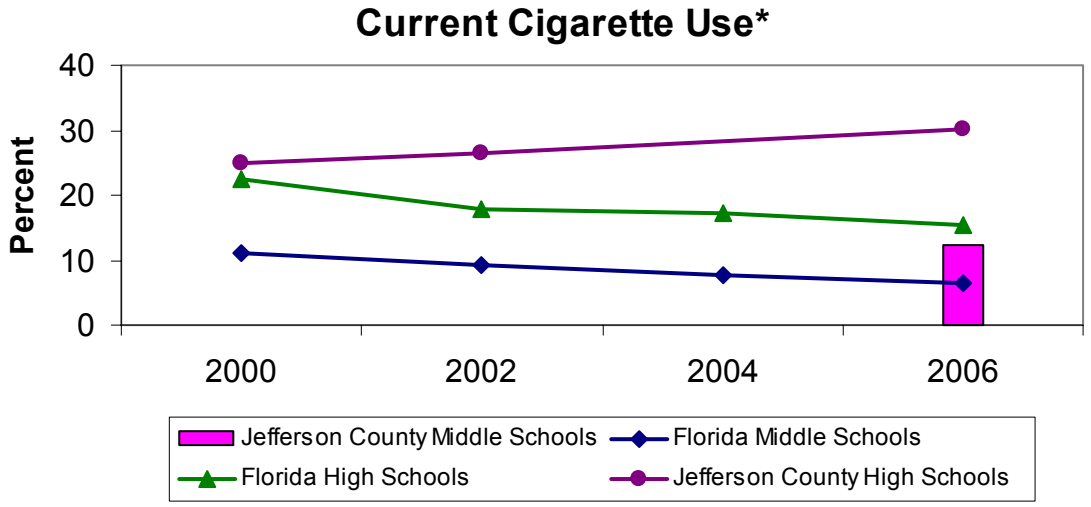
Current tobacco use is defined as having used any form of tobacco, on one or more of the past 30 days. Any form of tobacco includes cigarettes, cigars, smokeless or chewing tobacco, and specialty tobacco such as pipe tobacco, Bidis (small brown cigarettes from India), or Kreteks more commonly known as "clove cigarettes." Overall tobacco use among Jefferson County middle school students has decreased by 37.8 percent from 28.0 percent in 2000 to 17.4 percent in 2006. Overall tobacco use among Jefferson County high school students has increased by 3.5 percent from 40.0 percent in 2000 to 41.4 percent in 2006.



*Data are available only where point estimates are shown.

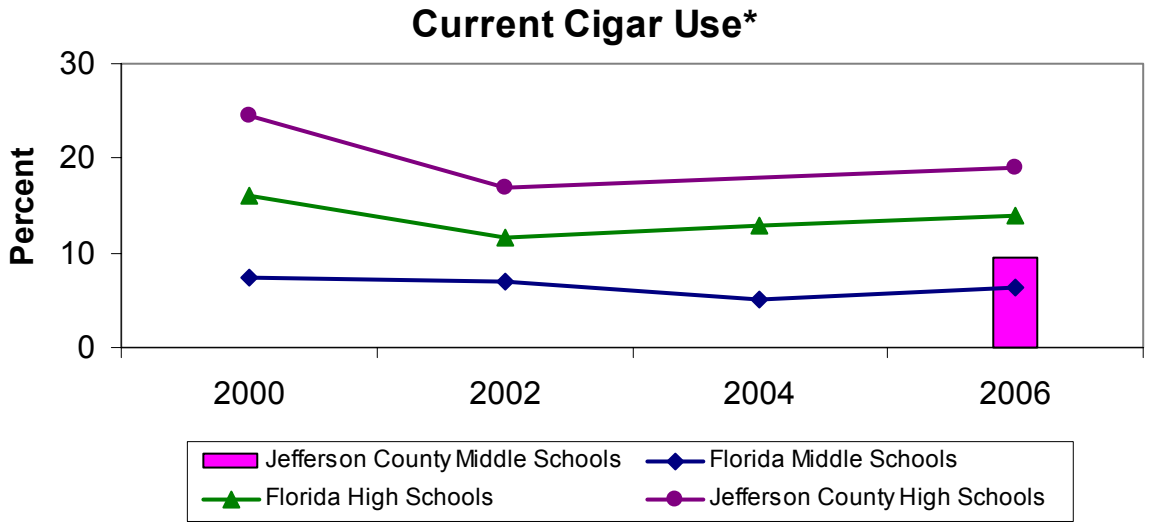
Current Cigarette Use

Current cigarette use is defined as having smoked a cigarette on one or more of the past 30 days. The prevalence of cigarette use among Jefferson County middle school students was 12.3 percent in 2006. The prevalence of cigarette use among Jefferson County high school students has increased by 20.3 percent from 25.0 percent in 2000 to 30.1 percent in 2006.



Current Cigar Use

Current cigar use is defined as having smoked a cigar on one or more of the past 30 days. The prevalence of cigar use among Jefferson County middle school students was 9.5 percent in 2006. The prevalence of cigar use among Jefferson County high school students has decreased by 23.1 percent from 24.6 percent in 2000 to 18.9 percent in 2006.



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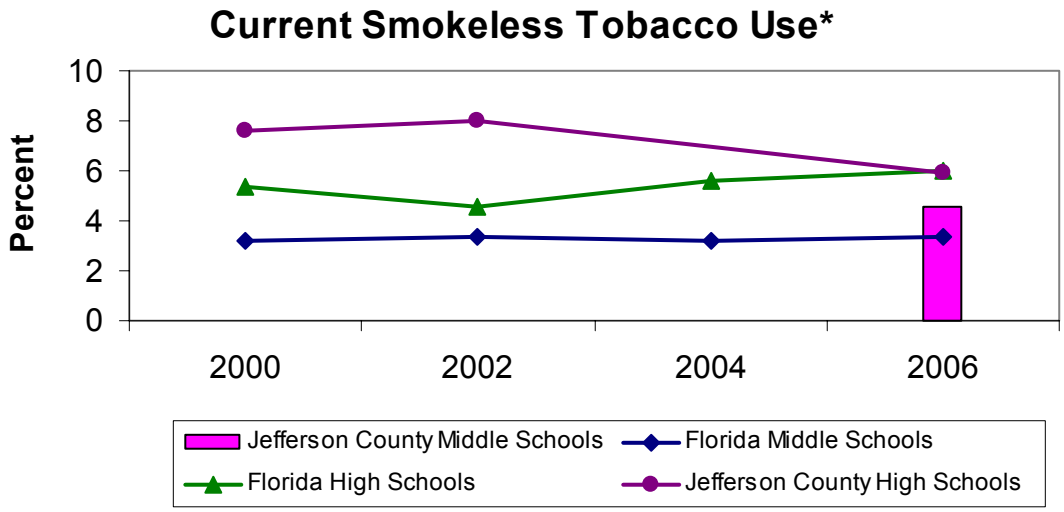
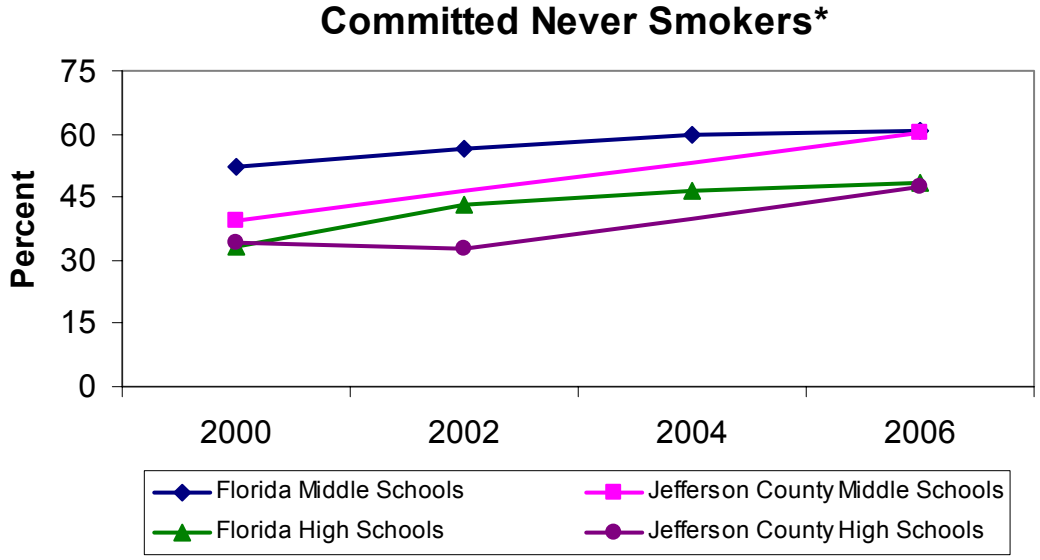
Current Smokeless Tobacco Use

Current smokeless tobacco use is defined as having used smokeless tobacco on one or more of the past 30 days. The prevalence of smokeless tobacco use among Jefferson County middle school students was 4.6 percent in 2006. The prevalence of smokeless tobacco use among Jefferson County high school students has decreased by 22.4 percent from 7.6 percent in 2000 to 5.9 percent in 2006.



"Committed Never Smoker"

"Committed never smokers" are students who have never smoked a cigarette and state they will definitely not smoke a cigarette in the future or if a friend offered one. The prevalence of "committed never smokers" in Jefferson County middle schools has increased by 53.3 percent from 39.4 percent in 2000 to 60.4 percent in 2006. The prevalence of "committed never smokers" in Jefferson County high schools has increased by 38.0 percent from 34.3 percent in 2000 to 47.3 percent in 2006.



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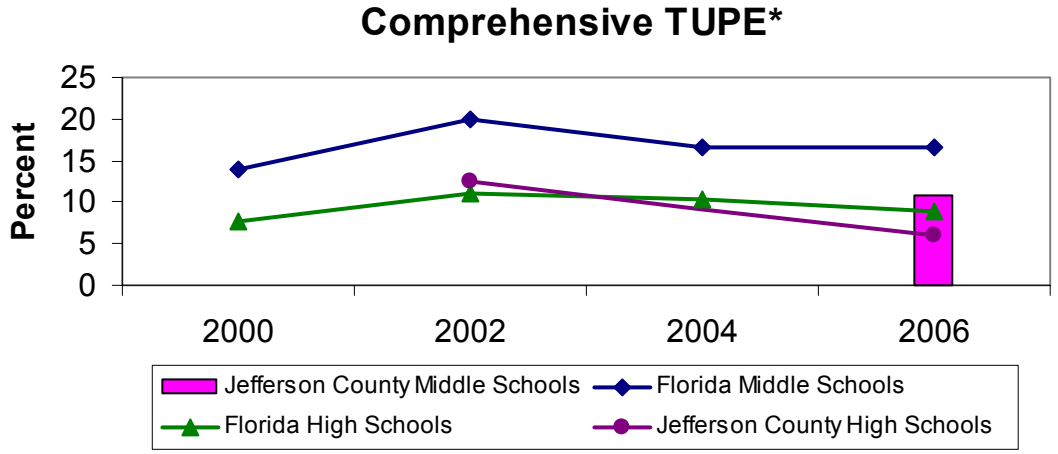
Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE)

To assess the amount of tobacco use prevention education (TUPE) students receive, survey respondents were asked about what they have learned in the past year in school regarding tobacco. Five questions related to TUPE were asked. Students were asked if they had learned: 1) about tobacco use; 2) about reasons why people of their age smoke; 3) that most people of the same age do not smoke; 4) ways to say "no"; and 5) about the negative effects of smoking, such as yellowed teeth, wrinkles, or bad smell.

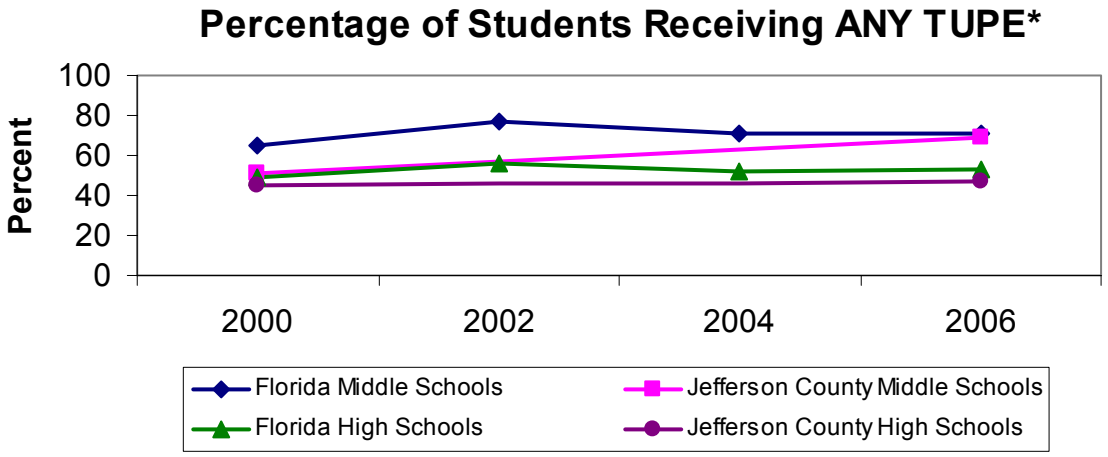
Comprehensive TUPE

Students who respond they have been taught about all five of the above-mentioned topics during the past school year are considered having received comprehensive TUPE. The prevalence of receiving comprehensive TUPE among middle school students in Jefferson County was 10.7 percent in 2006. High school students in Jefferson County show a 49.2 percent decrease of receiving comprehensive TUPE from 12.4 percent in 2002 to 6.1 percent in 2006.



Any TUPE

Students who respond that they have been taught about any one of the above-mentioned topics are considered having received "Any TUPE." Middle school students in Jefferson County show a 36.4 percent increase of receiving "any TUPE" from 50.9 percent in 2000 to 69.4 percent in 2006. High school students in Jefferson County show a 3.5 percent increase of receiving "any TUPE" from 45.0 percent in 2000 to 46.6 percent in 2006.



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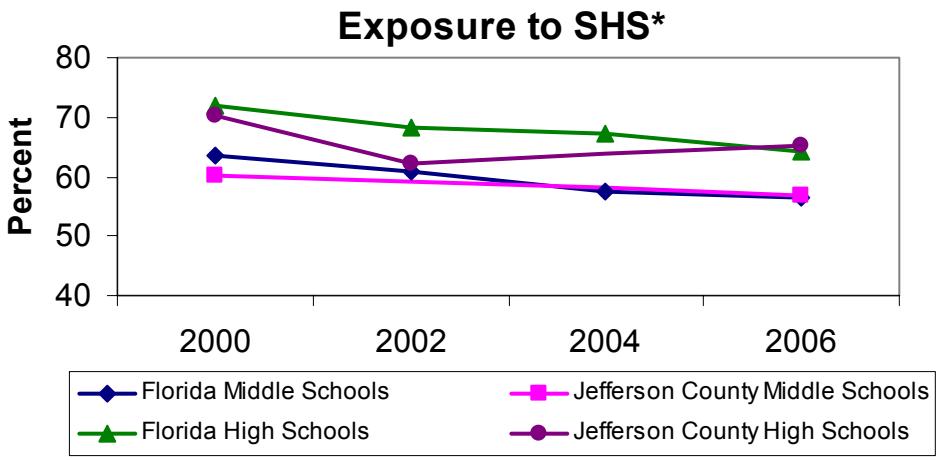
Secondhand Smoke Exposure

Secondhand smoke (SHS), also known as environmental tobacco smoke (ETS), refers to a combination of side-stream smoke (smoke that is emitted from the end of a lit cigarette, pipe, or cigar) and main-stream smoke (smoke exhaled by a smoker). SHS is the third leading cause of preventable death in the United States.[1] In 2003, Florida passed the Florida Clean Indoor Air Act, which bans smoking in workplaces to try to reduce the number of Floridians negatively impacted by the effects of SHS.

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke

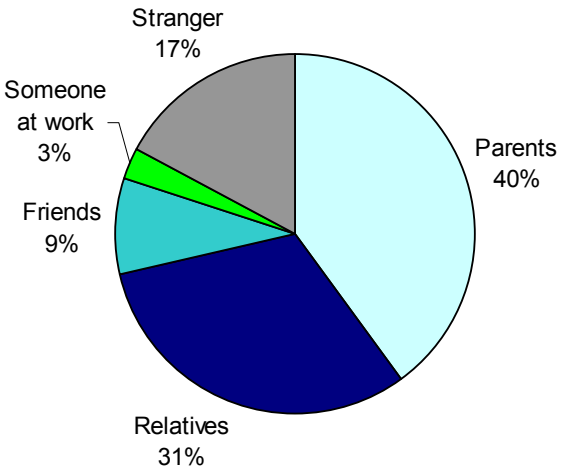
The prevalence of exposure to SHS among Jefferson County middle school students has decreased by 5.5 percent from 60.2 percent in 2000 to 56.9 percent in 2006. The prevalence of exposure to SHS among Jefferson County high school students has decreased by 7.1 percent from 70.1 percent in 2000 to 65.1 percent in 2006.



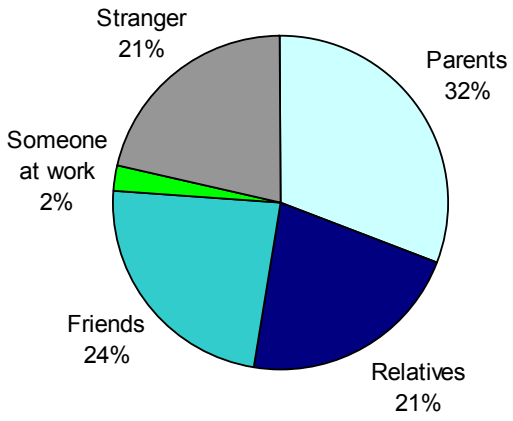
Source of Secondhand Smoke Exposure: 2006 Survey Data

The two charts below show the different people who were the source of SHS exposure for Jefferson County middle and high school students. Both middle and high school students were most likely to be exposed to SHS by their parents.

Jefferson County Middle School Students



Jefferson County High School Students



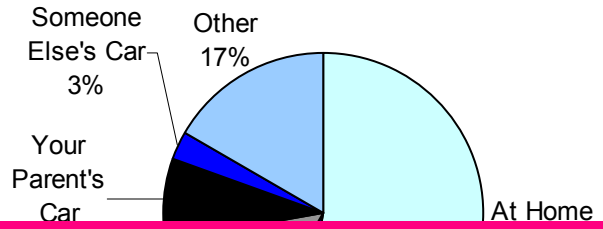
[1] "Secondhand Smoke, Who is at Risk?" Florida Department of Health, Division of Environmental Health, 2006.

*Data are available only where point estimates are shown.

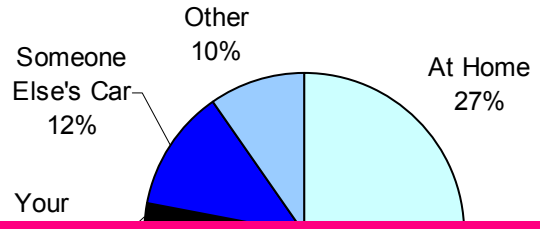
Location of Secondhand Smoke Exposure: 2006 Survey Data

The two charts below show the locations in which Jefferson County middle and high school students were exposed to SHS. Middle school students were most likely to be exposed to SHS at home while high school students were most likely to be exposed to SHS in someone else's home.

Jefferson County Middle School Students



Jefferson County High School Students

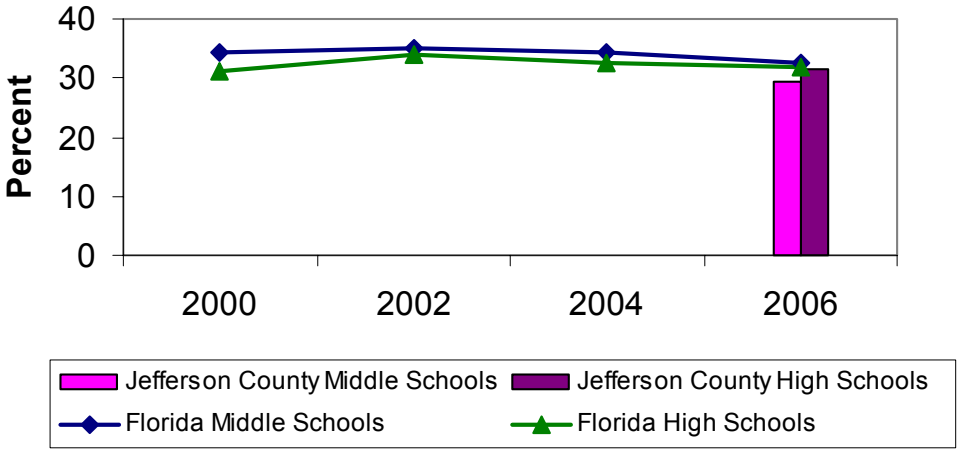


Social Attitudes

Perception that Smokers have More Friends

Students are asked on the FYTS whether or not they believe that young people who smoke have more friends. The chart below shows the percentage of students who report that they "definitely do not think" that smokers have more friends. In 2006, 29.5 percent of Jefferson County middle school students and 31.5 percent of Jefferson county high school students believed that smokers "definitely do not" have more friends.

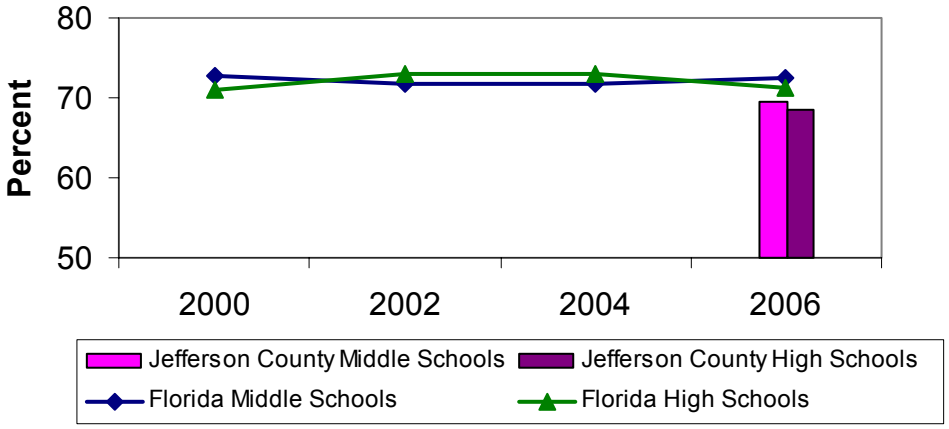
Percentage of students who definitely did not think that smokers have more friends*



Perception that Smokers Look Cool or Fit In

Students are asked on the FYTS whether or not they believe that smoking helps young people "look cool" or "fit in." The chart below shows the percentage of students who report that they "definitely do not think" that smoking helps young people look cool or fit in. In 2006, 69.5 percent of Jefferson County middle school students and 68.9 percent of Jefferson County high school students believed that smoking "definitely does not" help young people "fit in" or "look cool."

Percentage of students who definitely did not think that smoking cigarettes makes young people look cool or fit in*



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Jefferson County: 2006 at a Glance

Indicator	Middle School				High School			
	Jefferson County %	95 % CI	State %	95 % CI	Jefferson County %	95 % CI	State %	95 % CI
Smoked cigarettes on one or more of the past 30 days	**12.3**	(3.7 - 20.9)	**6.6**	(6.1 - 7.1)	**30.1**	(17.6 - 42.5)	**15.5**	(14.7 - 16.3)
Smoked cigars on one or more of the past 30 days	**9.5**	(2.6 - 16.3)	**6.3**	(5.9 - 6.8)	**18.9**	(9.4 - 28.4)	**14.0**	(13.3 - 14.7)
Used smokeless tobacco one or more of the past 30 days	**4.6**	(0.0 – 10.2)	**3.4**	(3.1 – 3.8)	**5.9**	(1.3 – 10.5)	**6.0**	(5.5 – 6.6)
Used any form of tobacco on one or more of the past 30 days	**17.4**	(8.2 - 26.7)	**11.3**	(10.6 - 12.0)	**41.4**	(28.4 - 54.4)	**23.9**	(22.9 - 25.0)
Have never smoked a cigarette and will definitely not smoke a cigarette in the future or if a friend offered one	**60.4**	(49.2 - 71.6)	**60.9**	(59.8 - 61.9)	**47.3**	(33.0 - 61.6)	**48.6**	(47.5 - 49.8)
Exposed to second hand smoke during the past 7 days	**56.9**	(46.1 - 67.7)	**56.3**	(55.1 - 57.6)	**65.1**	(50.7 - 79.6)	**64.1**	(63.0 - 65.3)
Received Comprehensive tobacco use prevention education (TUPE)	**10.7**	(4.3 - 17.2)	**16.7**	(15.6 - 17.8)	**6.1**	(1.3 - 10.8)	**8.8**	(8.2 - 9.4)
Received any tobacco use prevention education (TUPE)	**69.4**	(59.6 - 79.2)	**71.3**	(69.6 - 72.9)	**46.6**	(33.7 - 59.5)	**53.3**	(51.9 - 54.6)
Participated in a community event	**22.5**	(13.9 - 31.1)	**23.8**	(23.0 - 24.6)	**22.5**	(12.5 - 32.5)	**14.1**	(13.5 - 14.7)
Served as an active member of SWAT	**27.9**	(18.5 - 37.3)	**4.0**	(3.6 - 4.4)	**14.3**	(7.2 - 21.4)	**3.4**	(3.1 - 3.7)
Definitely did not think that smokers have more friends	**29.5**	(19.7 - 39.3)	**32.6**	(31.8 - 33.4)	**31.5**	(18.3 - 44.8)	**32.0**	(31.2 - 32.9)
Definitely did not think that smoking helps young people “look cool” or “fit in”	**69.5**	(59.3 - 79.7)	**72.6**	(71.9 - 73.4)	**68.9**	(57.5 - 80.4)	**71.1**	(70.3 - 71.9)