



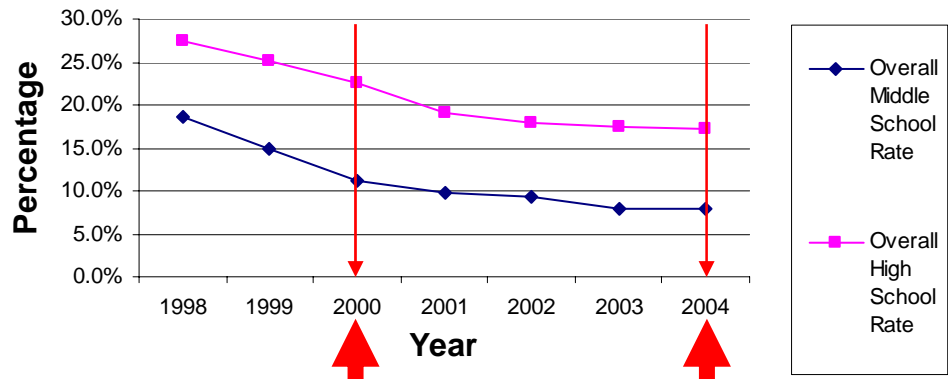
A Program of Washington County Health Partners

Impact of Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Funding Reductions on Youth Tobacco Use

States like Florida that have implemented comprehensive tobacco use prevention and cessation programs have achieved significant reductions in tobacco use among both adults and youth. However, cuts to program funding are taking their toll, and reductions in youth smoking have stalled. Even more alarming is how quickly progress can be slowed or reversed.

Despite the program's steady success from its beginning in 1998, the Florida legislature and governor cut its funding particularly deep in FY00 and again in FY04 (red arrows) from \$70 million to \$44 million in FY00 and \$37.5 million to \$1 million in FY04. These cuts have halted the program's early progress and, more ominously, begun to reverse it. After several years of consistent progress in reducing youth smoking rates, the declines in smoking among students stopped in 2001. In 2002, 2003, and 2004, current smoking among students remained flat.¹

Percentage of Florida public middle and high school students who smoked cigarettes on one or more of the previous 30 days (current cigarette smokers), 1998-2004



Short-sighted funding cuts in Pennsylvania's Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Programs would incur \$764.5 million in higher future health costs from more youth smoking and 20,380 more future youth smoking deaths.²

¹ Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, *The Impact of Reductions to State Tobacco Control Program Funding Factsheet*, 11-2-2004.

² Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, *Increased Youth Smoking, Deaths & Costs from Eliminating Current State Tobacco Prevention Funding Factsheet*, 1-24-2005.