

Middle School Health Behavior Survey (MSHBS)

Fact Sheet 2: Behaviors on School Property



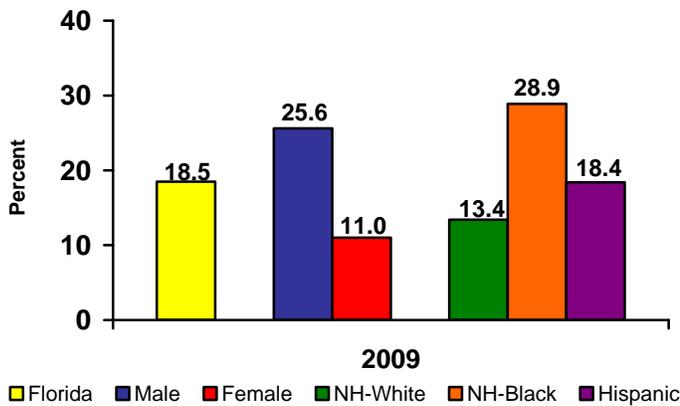
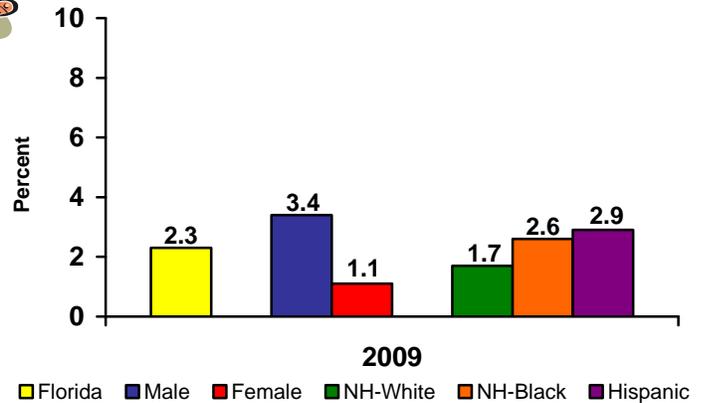
Introduction

The Middle School Health Behavior Survey (MSHBS) is a self-administered, school-based, anonymous survey. The MSHBS was first administered in the spring of 2009 to 6,356 Florida public middle school students in 99 schools throughout the state. The survey response rate was 81%. The data presented in this fact sheet are weighted to represent the entire population of public middle school students in Florida. Data are presented by gender and by three racial/ethnic groupings: non-Hispanic (NH) white, non-Hispanic (NH) black, and Hispanic.

Carried a weapon on school property



In 2009, 2.3% of students carried a weapon, such as a gun, knife, or club, on school property on one or more of the past 30 days. Males had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than females. There were no significant differences between the race/ethnicity groups.

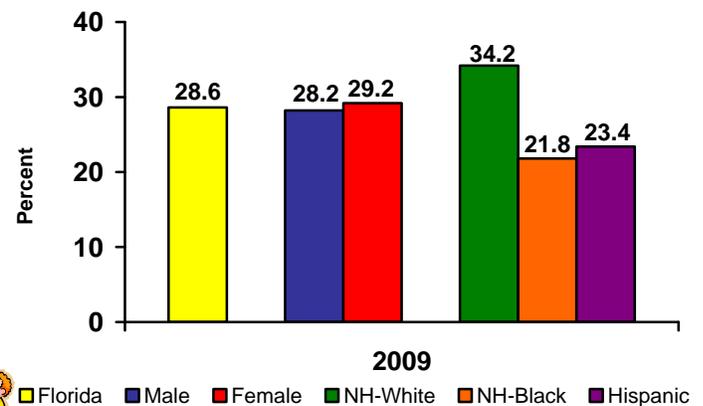


Physical fight on school property

In 2009, 18.5% of students were involved in a physical fight one or more times during the past year on school property. Males had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than females. Non-Hispanic black students had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than non-Hispanic white and Hispanic students and Hispanic students had a significantly higher prevalence than non-Hispanic white students.

Bullied on school property

In 2009, 28.6% of students were bullied on school property in the past year. While females had a higher prevalence of this behavior than males, the difference was not statistically significant. Non-Hispanic white students had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than non-Hispanic black and Hispanic students.

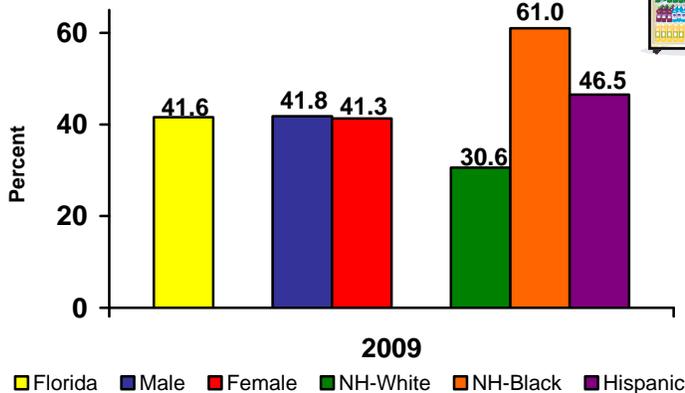
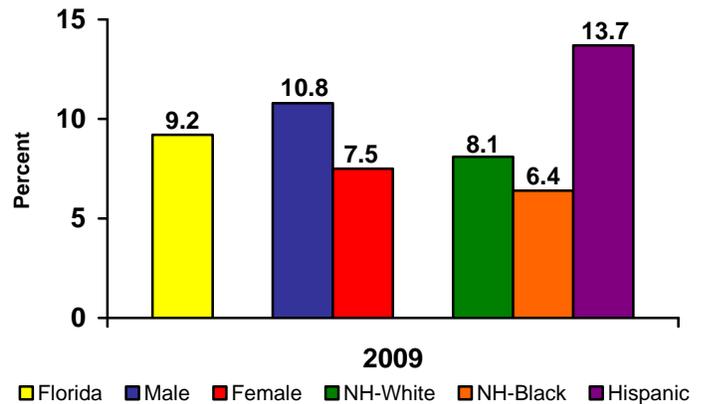


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Offered, sold, or given drugs on school property

In 2009, 9.2% of students were offered, sold, or given drugs on school property on one or more of the past 30 days. Males had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than females. Hispanic students had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than non-Hispanic white and non-Hispanic black students.

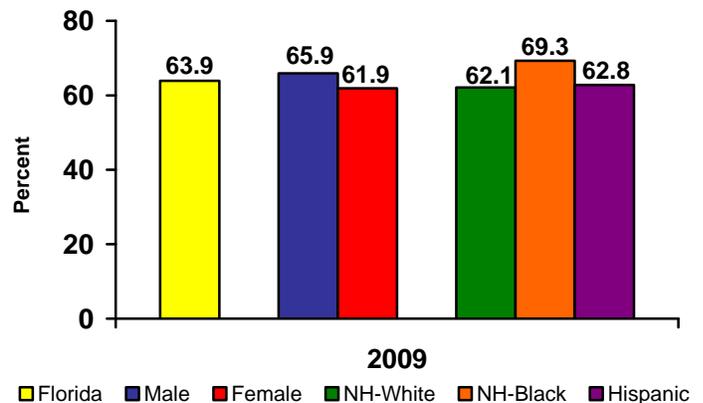


Bought snacks on school property

In 2009, 41.6% of students purchased snacks like candy, chips, cookies, ice cream, or cupcakes from a vending machine at school one or more times in an average school week. This behavior did not differ by gender. Non-Hispanic black students had the highest prevalence and non-Hispanic white students had the lowest prevalence of this behavior.

Taught about HIV/AIDS at school

In 2009, 63.9% of students had ever been taught about AIDS or HIV infection in school. While males had a higher prevalence of this behavior than females, the difference was not significant. Non-Hispanic black students had a higher prevalence of being taught about HIV/AIDS than non-Hispanic white and Hispanic students but this difference was not significant.



For more information about the MSHBS, please contact Ms. Jamie Weitz, M.S., Florida Youth Survey Coordinator, at (850) 245-4444, Ext. 2424, or by e-mail at Jamie.Weitz@doh.state.fl.us or visit our website at <http://www.FloridaChronicDisease.org>.