Introduction
The Florida Middle School Health Behavior Survey (MSHBS) is a self-administered, school-based, anonymous survey that has been conducted in Florida public middle schools every two years since 2009. It is part of a national survey effort led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to monitor priority health risk behaviors that contribute markedly to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth in the United States. In 2013, a total of 6,738 out of 8,080 sampled students in 96 public middle schools in Florida completed the MSHBS. The overall response rate was 83%. The data presented in this fact sheet are weighted to represent the entire population of public middle school students in Florida. The prevalence estimates and 95% confidence intervals (95% CI, represented by the error bars) were calculated using SAS® 9.3. The difference in prevalence between two different populations is statistically significant if the 95% confidence intervals of the two prevalence estimates do not overlap. Data are presented by sex and by three racial/ethnic groupings: non-Hispanic (NH) white, non-Hispanic black, and Hispanic.

Ever carried a weapon (such as a gun, knife, or club)
In 2013, 1.6% of students (approximately 9,300) carried a weapon, such as a gun, knife, or club on school property on one or more of the past 30 days. Males were significantly more likely to carry a weapon than females. Non-Hispanic white students were significantly more likely to have carried a weapon than non-Hispanic black and Hispanic students.

Carried a weapon on school property (such as a gun, knife, or club)
In 2013, 1.6% of students (approximately 9,300) carried a weapon, such as a gun, knife, or club on school property on one or more of the past 30 days. Males were significantly more likely to carry a weapon on school property than females. This behavior did not vary by race/ethnicity.

Were ever in a physical fight
In 2013, 28.9% of students (approximately 163,300) were involved in a physical fight in the past year. Males were significantly more likely to be involved in a physical fight than females. Non-Hispanic black students were significantly more likely to be involved in a physical fight than non-Hispanic white and Hispanic students.
In a physical fight on school property

In 2013, 13.8% of students (approximately 77,800) were involved in a physical fight one or more times during the past year on school property. Males were significantly more likely to be involved in a physical fight on school property than females. Non-Hispanic black students were significantly more likely to be involved in a physical fight on school property than non-Hispanic white and Hispanic students.

Were bullyed on school property

In 2013, 29.1% of students (approximately 166,100) were bullied on school property in the past year. Females were significantly more likely to be bullied on school property than males. Non-Hispanic white students were significantly more likely to be bullied on school property than non-Hispanic black and Hispanic students.

Self-injured, without wanting to die

In 2013, 10.5% of students (approximately 59,200) did something to purposefully hurt themselves without wanting to die, such as cutting or burning themselves on purpose. Females were significantly more likely to purposefully hurt themselves than males. Non-Hispanic white and Hispanic students were significantly more likely to purposefully hurt themselves than non-Hispanic black students.
Ever been choked on purpose
In 2013, 7.3% of students (approximately 41,000) had ever been choked by someone or tried to choke themselves on purpose, such as with a belt, towel or rope, for the feeling or experience it caused. This behavior did not vary significantly by sex. Non-Hispanic black students were significantly more likely to have been choked on purpose than non-Hispanic white students.

Ever seriously thought about killing themselves
In 2013, 15.7% of students (approximately 94,800) ever seriously thought about killing themselves. Females were significantly more likely to seriously think about killing themselves than males. This behavior did not vary significantly by race/ethnicity.

Ever made a plan about how they would kill themselves
In 2013, 10.2% of students (approximately 61,800) ever made a plan about how they would kill themselves. Females were significantly more likely to make a suicide plan than males. This behavior did not vary significantly by race/ethnicity.

Ever tried to kill themselves
In 2013, 6.1% of students (approximately 36,700) ever tried to kill themselves. Females were significantly more likely to attempt suicide than males. This behavior did not vary significantly by race/ethnicity.