**Introduction**

The Florida Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is a self-administered, school-based anonymous survey that has been conducted in Florida public high schools every two years since 1991. 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 2011, 6,212 students in 78 public high schools in Florida completed the YRBS. The overall response rate was 75%. Since 2001, the response rate has been high enough for the data to be weighted to represent all Florida public high school students.

**Never or rarely wore bicycle helmets**

In 2011, among students who rode a bicycle during the past 12 months, approximately 471,000 students (89.7%) never or rarely wore bicycle helmets. The prevalence of this behavior increased significantly by 1.5% from 2001 to 2011. The prevalence of this behavior did not vary significantly by gender, 2001 to 2011.

**Rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol**

In 2011, approximately 187,700 students (24.0%) rode in a car or other vehicle at least once during the past 30 days when someone who had been drinking alcohol was driving. This prevalence decreased significantly by 23.8% from 2001 to 2011. The prevalence of this behavior did not vary significantly by gender, 2001 to 2011.

**Never or rarely wore seatbelts in a vehicle driven by someone else**

Approximately 68,800 students (8.8%) never or rarely wore a seat belt in 2011. This prevalence decreased significantly by 43.6% from 2001 to 2011. Males consistently had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than females.
Carried a weapon
In 2011, approximately 121,600 students (15.6%) carried a weapon, such as a gun, knife, or club, on one or more of the past 30 days. This prevalence did not change significantly from 2001 to 2011. Males consistently had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than females.

In 2011, approximately 31,300 students (4.0%) were in a physical fight in which they were injured and had to be treated by a doctor or a nurse one or more times during the past 12 months. This prevalence did not change significantly from 2001 to 2011. Males consistently had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than females.

In 2011, approximately 215,100 students (28.0%) were involved in a physical fight one or more times during the past 12 months. This prevalence decreased significantly by 14.6% from 2001 to 2011. Males consistently had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than females.

For more information about the YRBS, please contact the Chronic Disease Epidemiology Surveillance and Evaluation Section at (850) 245-4401, by e-mail at ChronicDisease@doh.state.fl.us, or visit our website at: http://www.FloridaChronicDisease.org/YRBS/Intro.htm. For an interactive database of YRBS data, visit the CDC’s YRBS web site at: www.cdc.gov/yrbs. This document was developed by the Bureau of Epidemiology for the Florida Department of Education’s Office of Healthy Schools in Cooperation with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Adolescent and School Health Project Number U87/CCU001239-02.