

Emotional Bullying and Mental Health

Among Florida Public Middle School Students

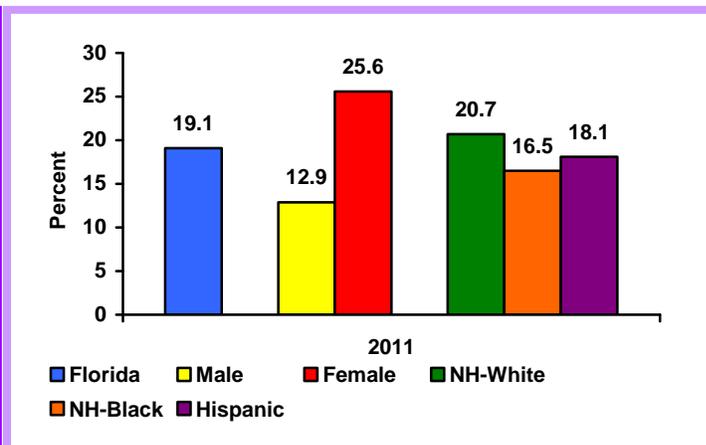
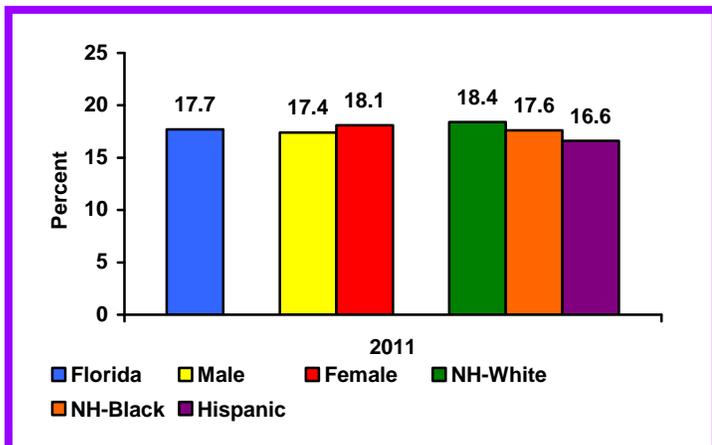


Results from the 2011 Florida Middle School Health Behavior Survey (MSHBS)

Fact Sheet 3

Introduction

The 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. In 2011, 6,057 students in 94 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. Data are presented by gender and by three racial/ethnic groupings: non-Hispanic (NH) white, non-Hispanic (NH) black, and Hispanic.

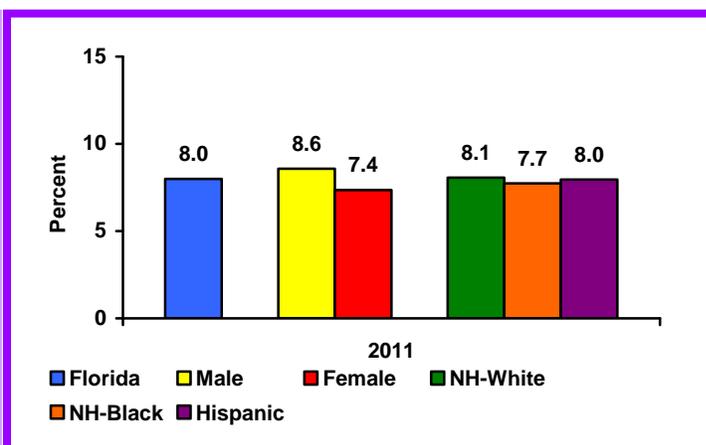
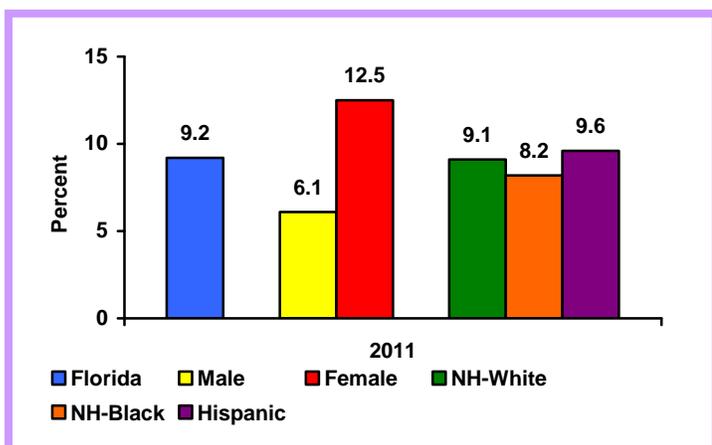


Victim of teasing because of weight

In 2011, approximately 104,600 students (17.7%) were the victim of teasing or name calling due to their weight in the past year. The prevalence of this behavior did not vary significantly by gender or race/ethnicity.

Electronically bullied

In 2011, approximately 113,600 students (19.1%) had been teased, threatened, or had rumors spread about them through e-mail, instant messaging, web sites, or text messaging. Females had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than males. The prevalence of this behavior did not vary significantly by race/ethnicity.



Self-injured, without wanting to die

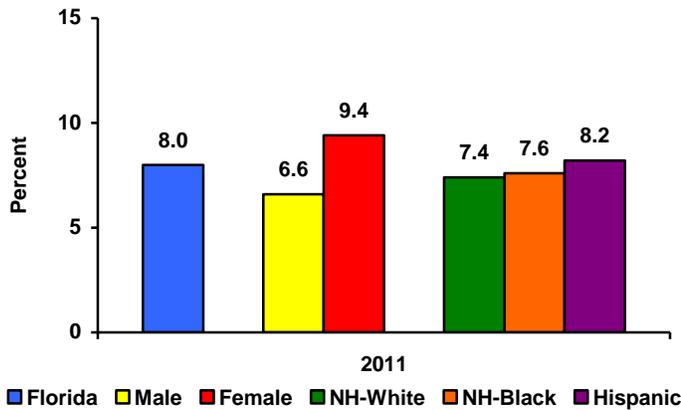
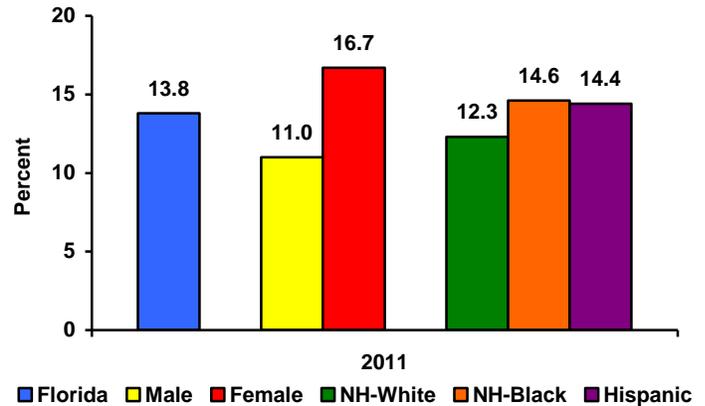
In 2011, approximately 54,600 students (9.2%) did something to purposefully hurt themselves without wanting to die, such as cutting or burning themselves on purpose. Females had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than males. The prevalence of this behavior did not vary significantly by race/ethnicity.

Have been choked on purpose

In 2011, approximately 47,400 students (8.0%) had either 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. The prevalence of this behavior did not vary significantly by gender or race/ethnicity.

Seriously thought about suicide

In 2009, approximately 77,900 students (13.8%) seriously thought about killing themselves during the past year. Females had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than males. The prevalence of this behavior did not vary significantly by race/ethnicity.

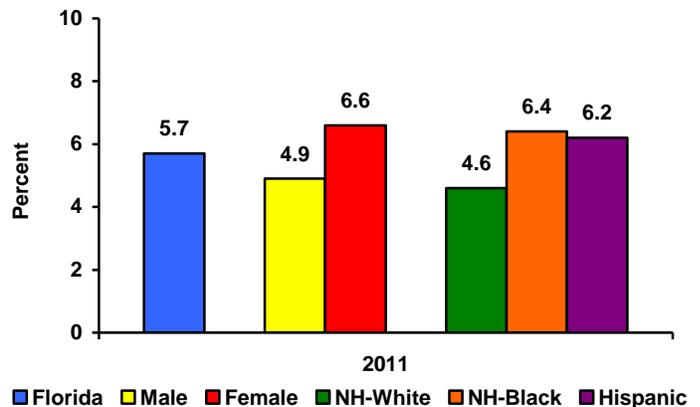


Made a suicide plan

In 2011, approximately 44,800 students (8.0%) made a plan about how they would kill themselves during the past year. Females had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than males. The prevalence of this behavior did not vary significantly by race/ethnicity.

Attempted suicide

In 2011, approximately 32,100 students (5.7%) tried to kill themselves during the past year. Females had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than males. The prevalence of this behavior did not vary significantly by race/ethnicity.



For more information about the MSHBS, please contact the Chronic Disease Epidemiology and Surveillance Section, at (850) 245-4401, or by e-mail at ChronicDisease@flhealth.gov. You can also visit our website at <http://www.floridahealth.gov/reports-and-data/survey-data/middle-school-health-behavior-survey/index.html>

