

Personal Safety and Violence

Among Florida Public Middle School Students



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

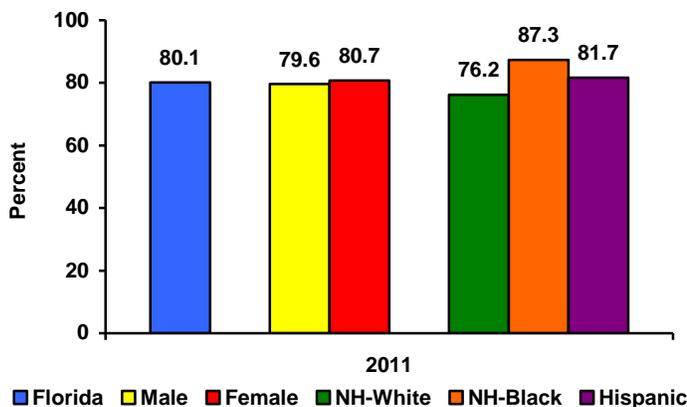
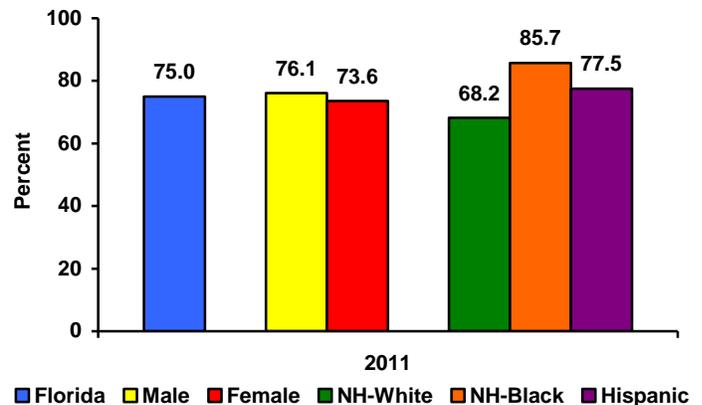
Fact Sheet 1

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.

Never or rarely wore a bicycle helmet

In 2011, among the approximate 503,900 students who rode a bicycle during the past 12 months, approximately 377,700 of these students (75.0%) never or rarely wore a bicycle helmet. The prevalence of this behavior did not vary significantly by gender. Non-Hispanic black students had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than Hispanic students, and Hispanic students had a significantly higher prevalence compared to non-Hispanic white students.

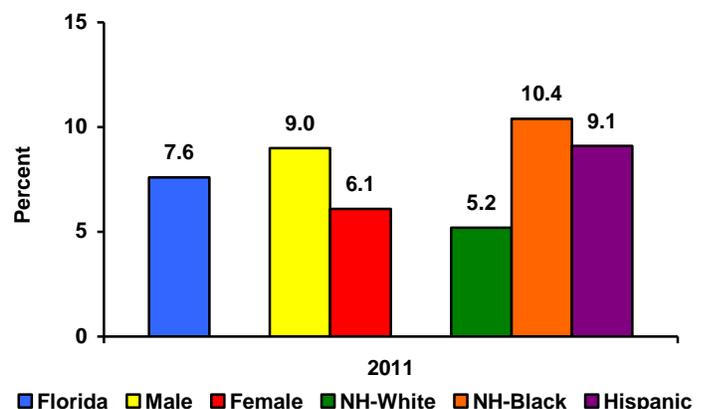


Never or rarely wore helmet when skating

In 2011, among the approximate 318,600 students who rollerbladed or rode a skateboard during the past 12 months, approximately 255,300 of these students (80.1%) never or rarely wore a helmet. The prevalence of this behavior did not vary significantly by gender. Non-Hispanic black students had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than non-Hispanic white students.

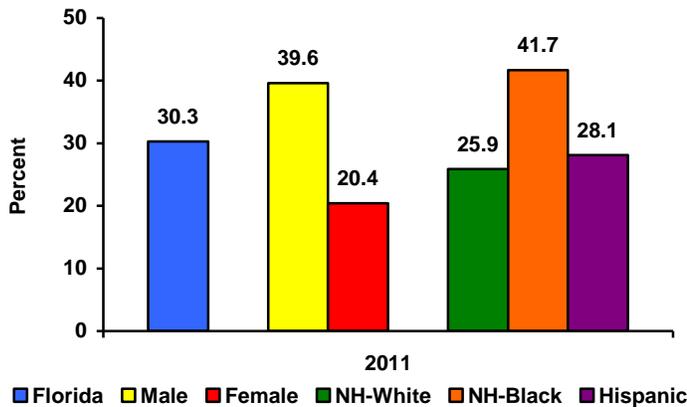
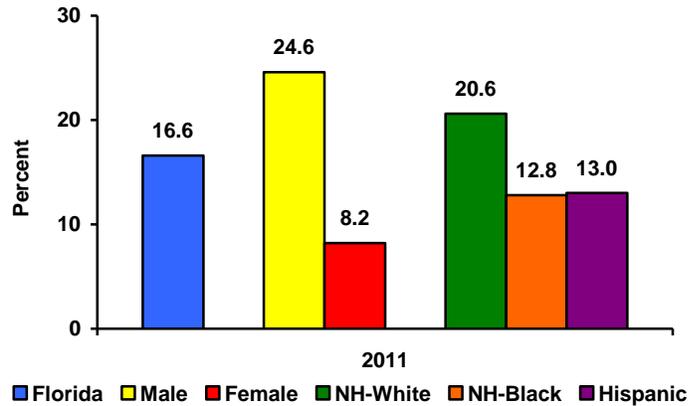
Never or rarely wore a seat belt

In 2011, approximately 45,600 students (7.6%) never or rarely wore a seat belt when riding in a car. Males had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than females. Non-Hispanic black and Hispanic students had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than non-Hispanic white students.



Carried a weapon

In 2011, approximately 100,000 students (16.6%) carried a weapon, such as a gun, knife, or club, on one or more of the past 30 days. Males had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than females. Non-Hispanic white students had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than non-Hispanic black and Hispanic students.



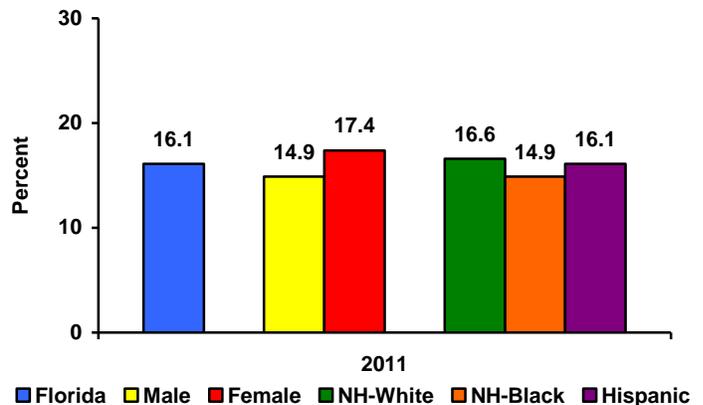
Involved in a physical fight

In 2011, approximately 182,400 students (30.3%) were involved in a physical fight one or more times during the past 12 months. 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.



Rode in a car or other vehicle driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol

In 2011, approximately 80,300 students (16.1%) rode in a car driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol, on one or more occasions during the past 30 days. The prevalence of this behavior did not vary significantly by gender or 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>

