

Unintentional Injuries and Violence Among Florida Public High School Students



Results from the 2009 Florida Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Fact Sheet 1

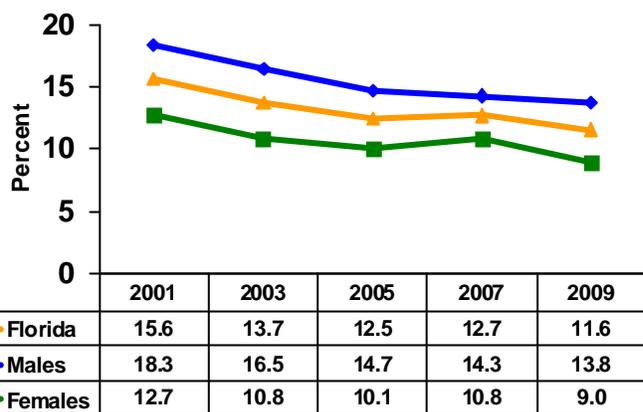
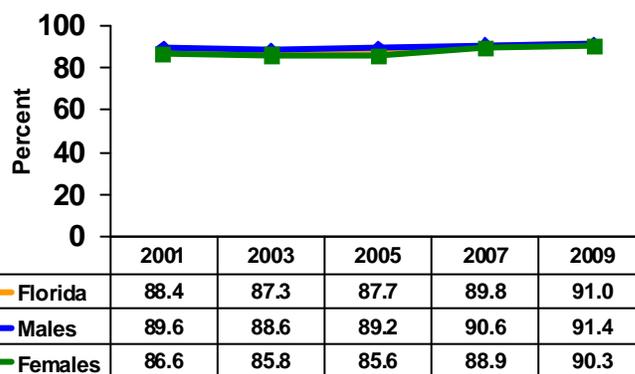
Introduction

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 2009, 5,684 students in 80 public high schools in Florida completed the YRBS. The overall response rate was 71%. 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 2009, among students who rode a bicycle during the past 12 months, approximately 464,700 students (91.0%) never or rarely wore bicycle helmets. This prevalence did not change significantly in Florida from 2001 to 2009. Females consistently had a lower prevalence of this behavior than males.

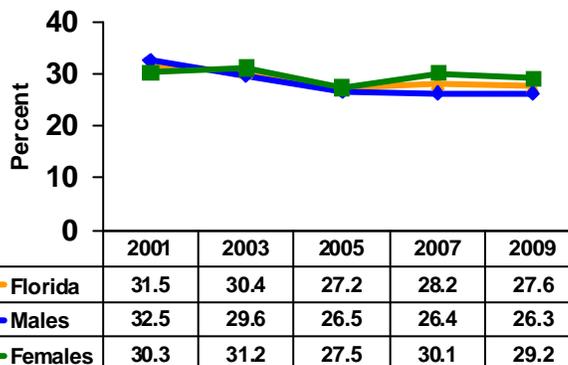


Never or rarely wore seatbelts in a vehicle driven by someone else

Approximately 90,700 students (11.6%) never or rarely wore a seat belt in 2007. This prevalence decreased significantly by 25.6% from 2001 to 2009. Females consistently had a lower prevalence of this behavior than males.

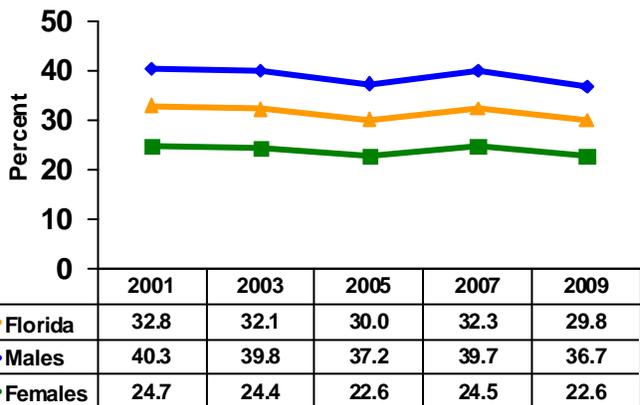
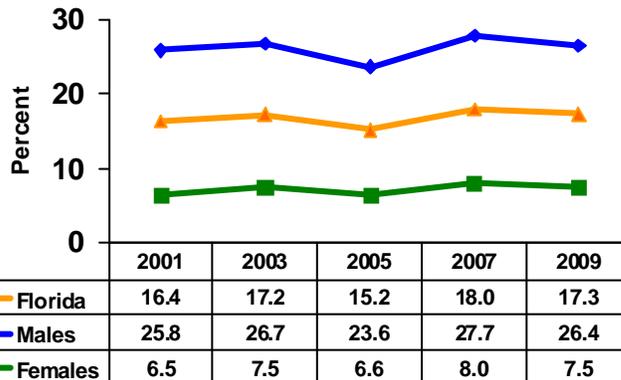
Rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol

In 2009, approximately 216,300 students (27.6%) 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 12.4% from 2001 to 2009. Males had a lower prevalence of this behavior than females in all years except 2001.



Carried a weapon

In 2009, approximately 133,900 students (17.3%) 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 2009. Females consistently had a lower prevalence of this behavior than males.

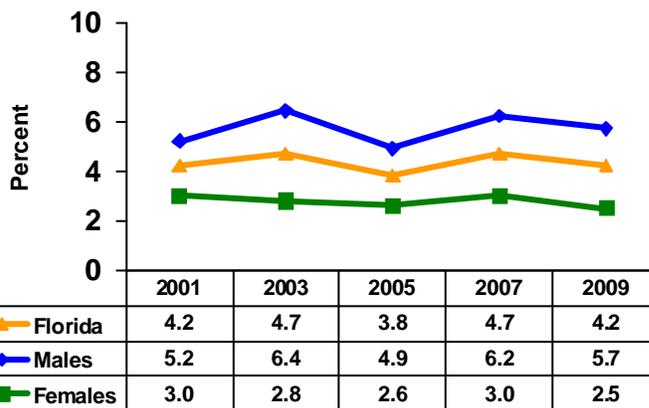


Involved in a physical fight

In 2009, approximately 230,000 students (29.8%) were involved in a physical fight one or more times during the past 12 months. This prevalence did not change significantly from 2001 to 2009. Females consistently had a lower prevalence of this behavior than males.

Injured in a Physical Fight

In 2009, approximately 32,400 students (4.2%) 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 2009. Females consistently had a lower prevalence of this behavior than males.



For more information about the YRBS, 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/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.

