

Self-Injury and Suicide Ideation and Attempts Among Florida Public High School Students



Results from the 2011 Florida Youth Risk Behavior Survey

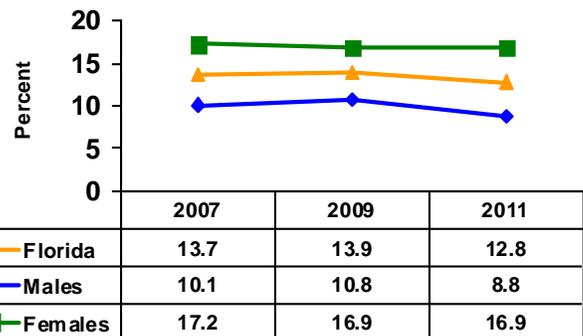
Fact Sheet 3

Introduction

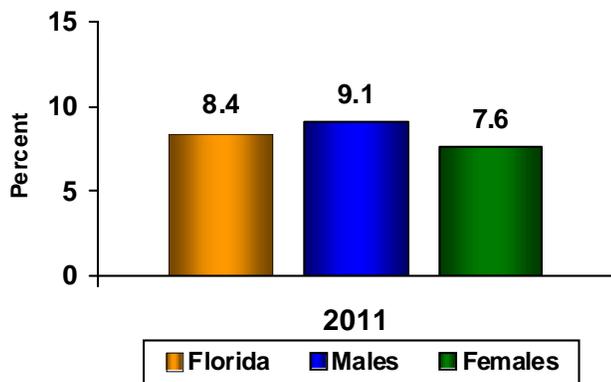
The Florida Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is a self-administered, school-based anonymous survey that has been conducted in Florida public high schools every two years since 1991. It is part of a national survey effort led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to monitor priority 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.

Self-injured, without wanting to die*

In 2011, approximately 100,700 students (12.8%) did something to purposely hurt themselves without wanting to die, such as cutting or burning themselves on purpose, one or more times during the past 12 months. From 2007 to 2011 there was not a significant change in the prevalence of this behavior. Females consistently had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than males.



*Question first asked in 2007



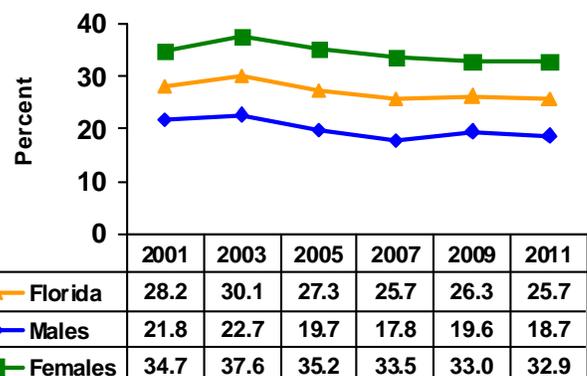
*Question first asked in 2011

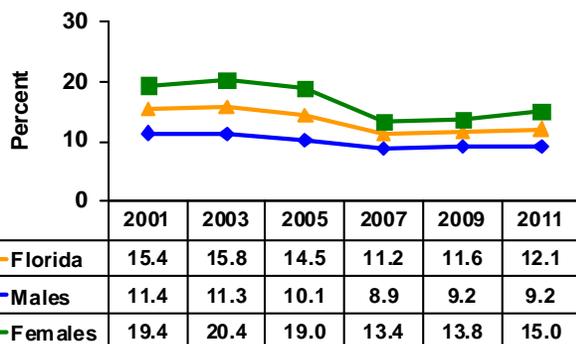
Have been choked on purpose*

In 2011, approximately 65,900 students (8.4%) 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. In 2011, the prevalence of this behavior did not differ significantly by gender.

Felt sad or hopeless and stopped doing some usual activities

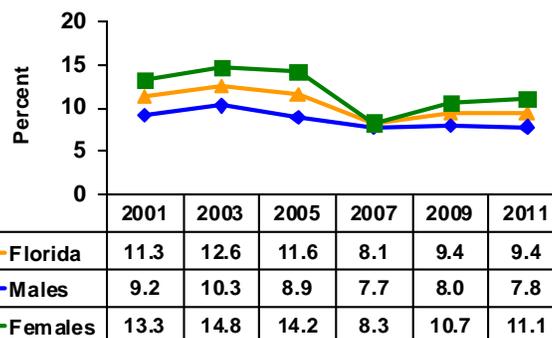
In 2011, approximately 201,100 students (25.7%) felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities during the past 12 months. This prevalence decreased by 8.9% from 2001 to 2011. Females consistently had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than males.





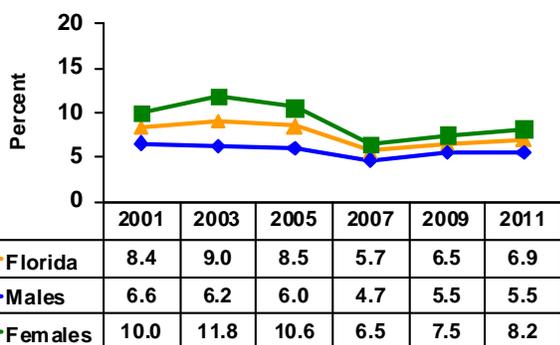
Considered attempting suicide

In 2011, approximately 94,400 students (12.1%) seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months. This prevalence decreased significantly by 21.4% from 2001 to 2011. Females consistently had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than males.



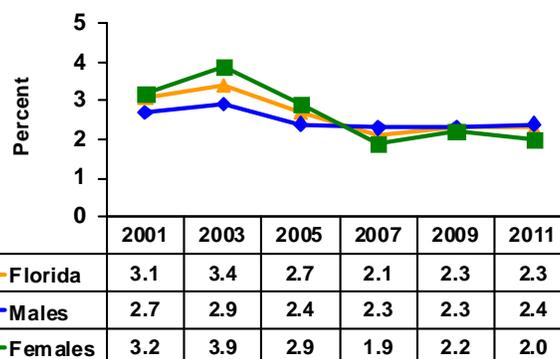
Made a plan of how to commit suicide

In 2011, approximately 73,500 students (9.4%) made a plan about how they would commit suicide during the past 12 months. This prevalence decreased by 16.8% from 2001 to 2011, but did not change from 2009 to 2011. Females had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than males in all years except 2007.



Attempted suicide

In 2011, approximately 47,200 students (6.9%) attempted suicide one or more times during the past 12 months. This prevalence decreased by 17.9% overall from 2001 to 2011 but increased by 21.1% from 2007 to 2011. Females had a significantly higher prevalence of this behavior than males in all years except 2007 and 2009.



Medical attention was required

In 2011, approximately 15,400 students (2.3%) attempted a suicide that resulted in an injury, poisoning, or overdose that had to be treated by a doctor or nurse during the past 12 months. This prevalence decreased by 25.8% from 2001 to 2011. The prevalence of this behavior did not vary significantly by gender, 2001 to 2011.

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.

