

Prevention of Unsafe Sexual Behaviors Among Florida Public High School Students



Results from the 2005 Florida Youth Risk Behavior Survey

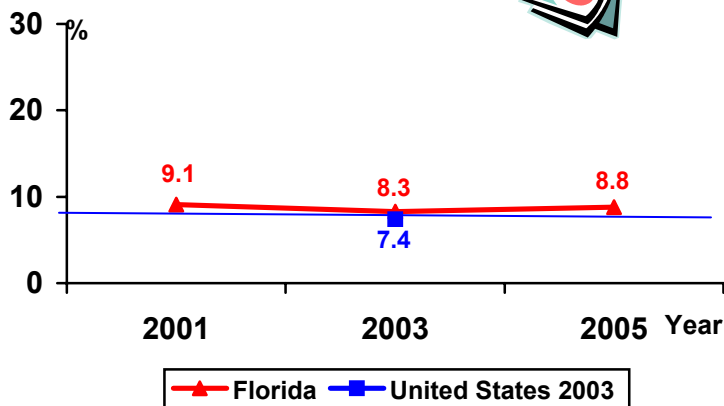
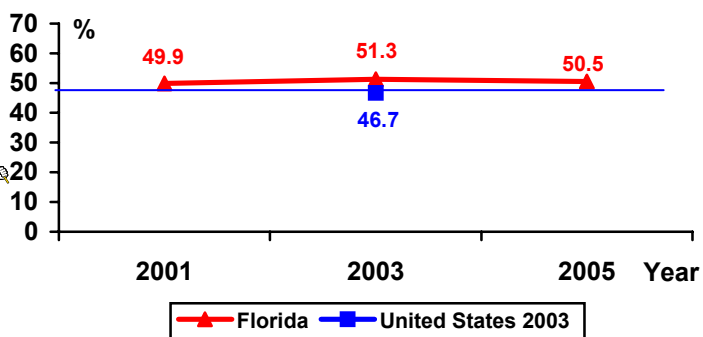
Fact Sheet 4

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 2005, 4,564 students in 75 public high schools in Florida completed the YRBS. The overall response rate was 66 percent. Since 2001, the response rate has been high enough for the data to be weighted to represent all Florida public high school students.

Ever had sexual intercourse

In 2005, approximately 357,000 students (50.5 percent) reported having ever had sexual intercourse. This prevalence remained the same from 2001 to 2005. Compared to the national average of 46.7 percent in 2003, Florida had a significantly higher percentage of students who reported in 2003 and 2005 that they ever had sexual intercourse.

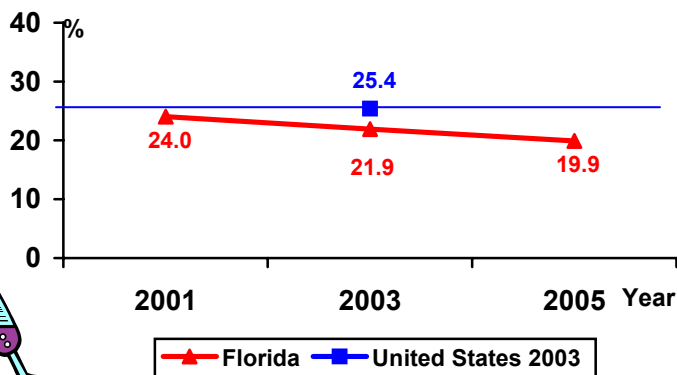


Had first sexual intercourse before age 13 years

In 2005, approximately 62,000 students (8.8 percent) reported having had sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13 years. This prevalence did not change significantly from 2001 to 2005. There was no significant difference in this prevalence between Florida during 2001-2005 and the national average of 7.4 percent in 2003.

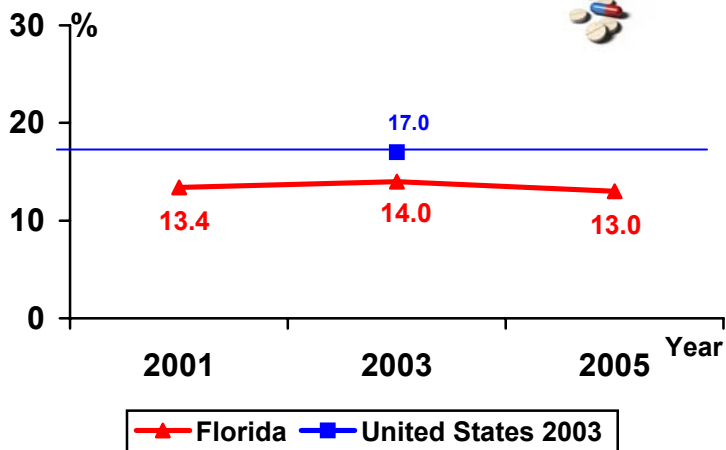
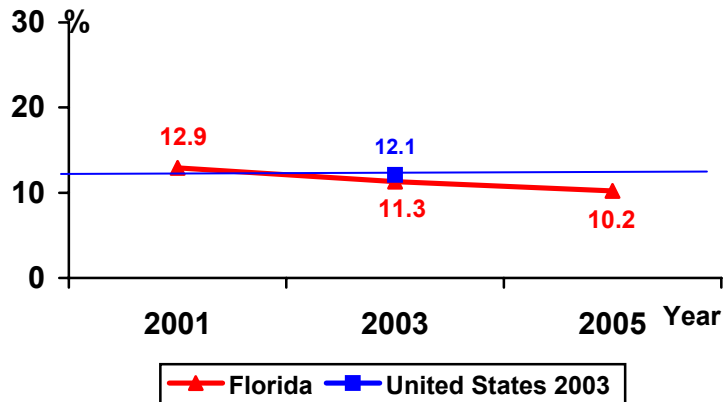
Used alcohol or drugs at last sexual intercourse

Among students who had sexual intercourse during the past three months in 2005, approximately 51,000 students (19.9 percent) drank alcohol or used drugs before having sexual intercourse. This prevalence decreased significantly by 17.1 percent in Florida from 2001 to 2005. Florida had a significantly lower prevalence in 2003 and 2005 compared to the national average of 25.4 percent in 2003.



Used condom

Among Florida students who had sexual intercourse during the past three months in 2005, approximately 166,000 students (66.8 percent) used a condom the last time they had sexual intercourse. This prevalence did not change significantly from 2001 to 2005. Compared to the national average of 63.0 percent in 2003, Florida had a significantly higher percentage of students who used condoms in 2005.

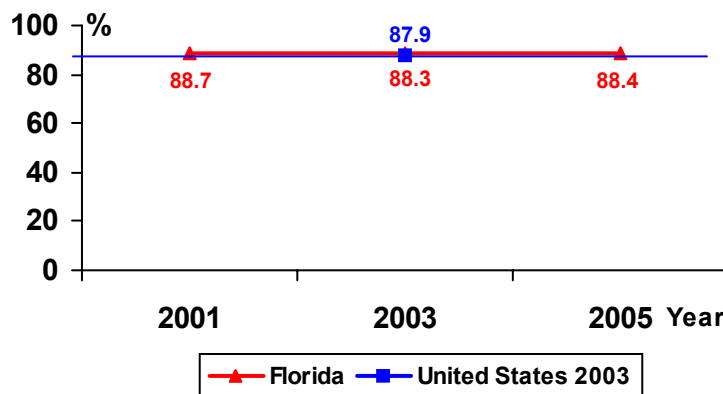


Used birth control pill

Among Florida students who had sexual intercourse during the past three months in 2005, approximately 32,000 students (13.0 percent) used birth control pills to prevent pregnancy the last time they had sexual intercourse. This prevalence did not change significantly from 2001 to 2005. Compared to the national average of 17.0 percent in 2003, Florida had a significantly lower percentage of students who used birth control pills during 2001-2005.

Taught about HIV/AIDS in school

In 2005, approximately 668,000 students (88.4 percent) reported being taught about HIV or AIDS infection in school. This prevalence remained the same from 2001 to 2005. There was no significant difference in the prevalence of being taught about HIV or AIDS infection between Florida during 2001-2005 and the national average of 87.9 percent in 2003.



For more information about the YRBS, please contact: Ms. Jamie Weitz, M.S., Florida Youth Survey Coordinator, at (850) 245-4444, extension 2424, or by e-mail at Jamie_Weitz@doh.state.fl.us; or contact Mr. Zhaohui Fan, M.P.H., Epidemiologist, at extension 2418, or by e-mail at Zhaohui_Fan@doh.state.fl.us. You can also check out our web site at: www.doh.state.fl.us. For an interactive database of YRBS data, try the CDC's YRBS web site at: www.cdc.gov/yrbs.

