



# FLORIDA

## Adolescent Mental Health Fact Sheet

Last Updated 12/15/11

### Adolescent Mental Health in FLORIDA

Among U.S. children and adolescents aged 10 to 19, approximately 11% are estimated to suffer from a serious mental disorder that causes significant functional impairment in their day-to-day lives at home, in school and with peers.

In Florida, this translates to an estimated:

- 246,567 young people suffering from serious mental illness with significant functional impairment.

(Report of the U.S. Surgeon General, 1999 & U.S. Census Estimates, 2008)

Among adolescents 12 to 17 years old in Florida:

- 9% suffered an episode of major depression
- 4% experienced illicit drug dependence or abuse
- 5% experienced alcohol dependence or abuse

(National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2008-2009)

### Adolescent Suicide in FLORIDA

Suicide is the third leading cause of death for 11 to 21 year-olds. Between 1999 and 2008, 1,296 of these young people died by suicide.

(CDC, WISQARS Database)

High school students reported in 2009 that within the last 12-month period:

- 26% felt sad and hopeless enough over a two-week period to halt usual activity
- 12% thought seriously about suicide
- 9% made a plan for suicide
- 7% attempted suicide
- 2% made a suicide attempt that required medical attention

(CDC, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance, 2009)

### TeenScreen in FLORIDA:

#### Primary Care Sites

Confirmed primary care providers:	35
Screening brochures ordered for use in primary care sites:	46,455

#### TeenScreen Schools and Communities Sites:

The first local TeenScreen program was established:	2001
Number of mental health screens offered between 2005 - 2010:	11,432
Number of adolescents screened between 2005 - 2010:	12,268

The TeenScreen program in Florida serves teens in grades 6-12 and is made up of 5 urban and 41 suburban sites.

The Florida suicide prevention plan highlights TeenScreen as a model program. The plan is available at: [www.flgov.com](http://www.flgov.com).

### FLORIDA State Agency Contacts

Department of Children and Families  
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[www.dcf.state.fl.us/MentalHealth](http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/MentalHealth)

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