



Aug 2011

Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2005-2009: Behaviors Related to Self-Inflicted Injury Miami-Dade County High School Students

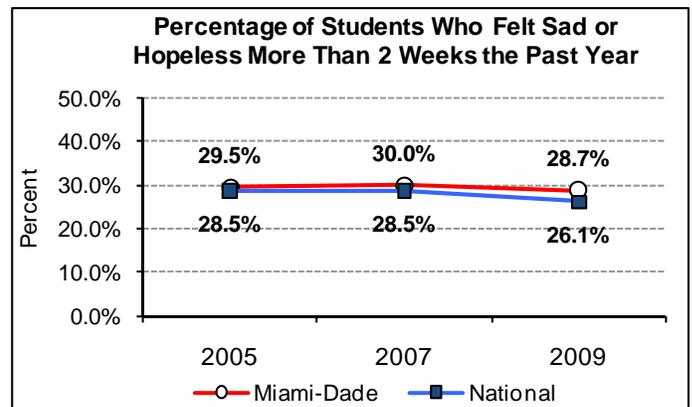
Miami-Dade County Injury Facts

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) was developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to monitor health-risk behaviors known to be related to injury and social problems of America's youth. The survey is conducted every other year at the national, state and local levels and provides information about the prevalence of selected health-risk behaviors among youth. Locally, the YRBS is administered by the Office of Program Evaluation at Miami-Dade County Public Schools. This report summarizes the results for behaviors related to self-inflicted injury among high school students (grades 9-12) for the surveys administered in 2005, 2007 and 2009.

Comparison of Miami-Dade County with National Results

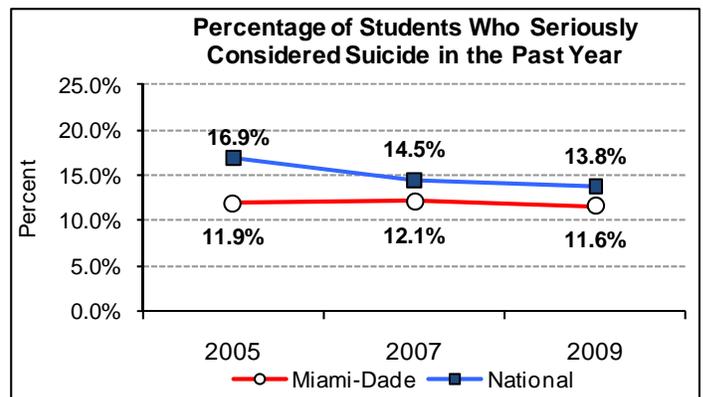
Percentage of Students Who Felt Sad or Hopeless for More Than Two Weeks in the Past Year

- Slightly less than 30% of Miami-Dade high school students reported they had felt sad or hopeless almost everyday for two or more weeks in a row so that they stopped doing usual activities over the past year.



Percentage of Students Who Seriously Considered Attempting Suicide in the Past Year

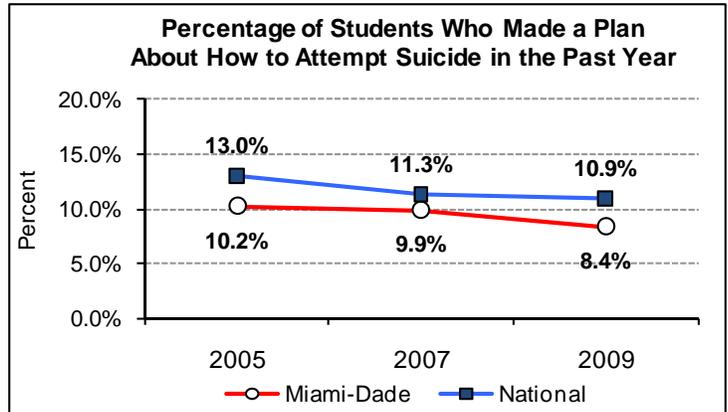
- The percent of Miami-Dade students who reported they seriously considered an attempted suicide in the past year was consistently around 12% (1 in 8 students).
- The county rates for considering suicide were significantly lower than the national rates each year of the survey.



Comparison of Miami-Dade County with National Results

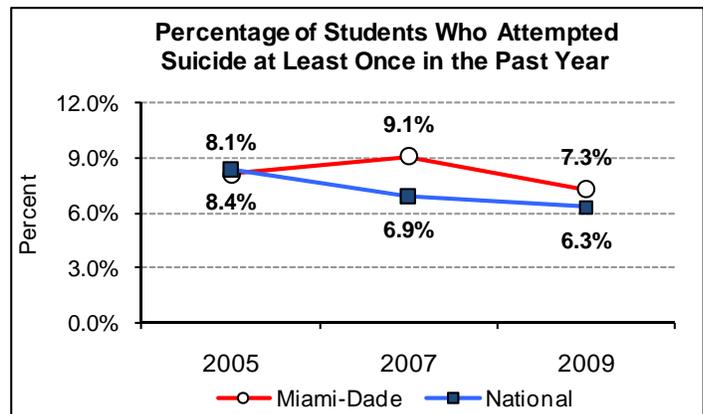
Percentage of Students Who Made a Plan About How to Attempt Suicide in the Past Year

- In 2009, approximately 1 in 12 county students reported they had made a plan during the past year about how they would attempt a suicide.
- The 2005 and 2009 rates for Miami-Dade students were significantly lower than the national rates.



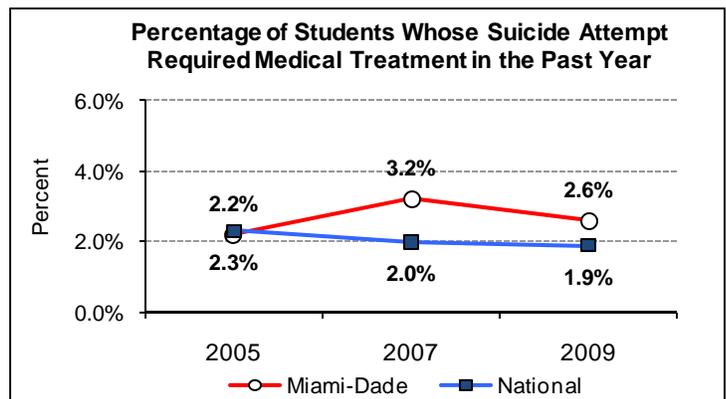
Percentage of Students Who Reported at Least One Attempted Suicide in the Past Year

- The percentage of county students that reported a suicide attempt (range: 7.3%-9.1%) was similar to the percentage who reported planning a suicide (range: 8.4%-10.2%).



Percentage of Students Whose Suicide Attempt Required Medical Treatment by a Doctor or Nurse in the Past Year

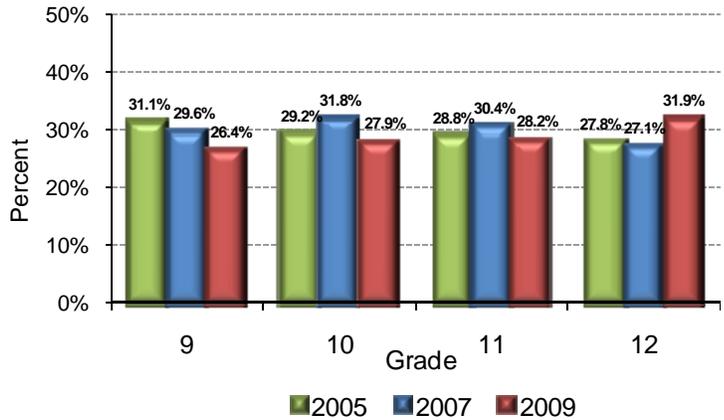
- The percentage of county high school students who reported a suicide attempt that required medical treatment by a doctor or nurse ranged between 2-3% over the three surveys.
- The incidence of medically-treated suicide attempts was approximately 1/3 of all reported suicide attempts.



Percentage of Miami-Dade County High School Students Who Felt Sad or Hopeless for More Than Two Weeks in the Past Year

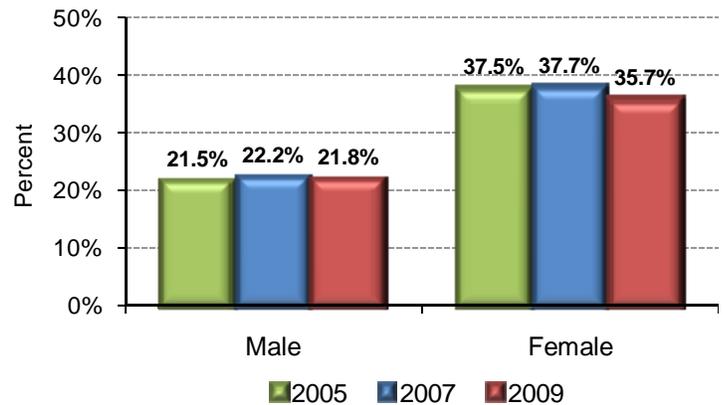
Grade Level

- There was little grade level difference in the percentage of students who reported they felt sad or hopeless almost everyday for 2 or more weeks in a row so that they stopped doing usual activities over the past year.



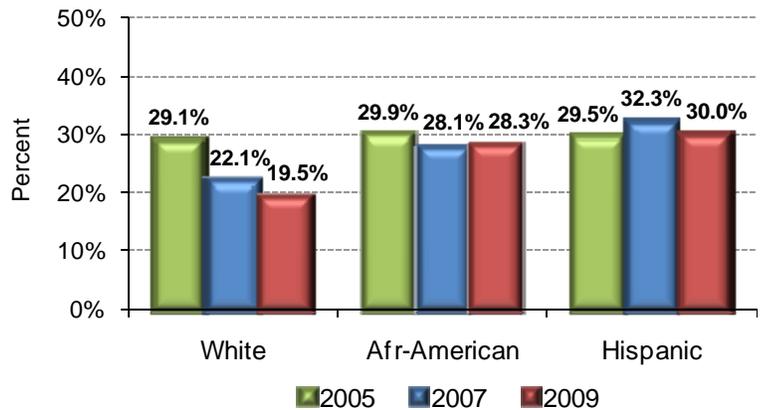
Gender

- Female high school students were 64% more likely than males to report they felt sad or hopeless almost everyday for 2 or more weeks in a row over the past year.



Race & Ethnicity

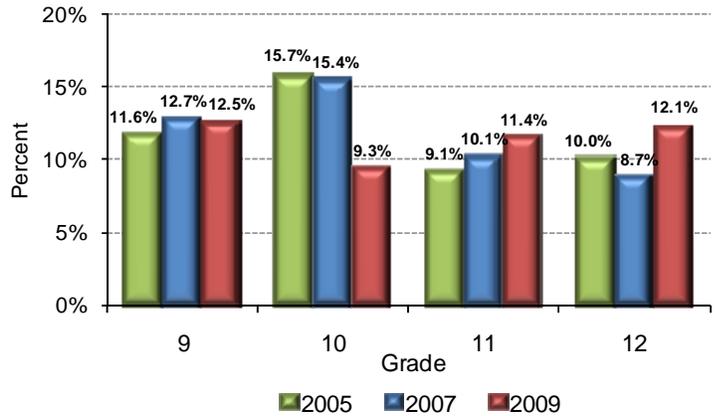
- White students saw a significant decline between 2005 (29.1%) and 2009 (19.5%) in the rate of students feeling sad or hopeless for 2 weeks or more.
- The 2009 rate for feeling sad or hopeless was significantly greater in African-American (28.3%) and Hispanic (30.0%) students than white students (19.5%).



Percentage of Miami-Dade County High School Students Who Seriously Considered Suicide in the Past Year

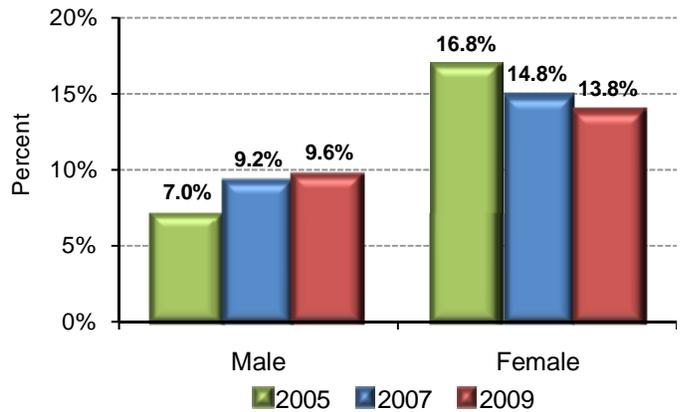
Grade Level

- In 2009, there were no grade level differences for students who seriously considered suicide in the past year.
- 10th grade students who seriously considered suicide significantly declined between 2005 (15.7%) and 2009 (9.3%).



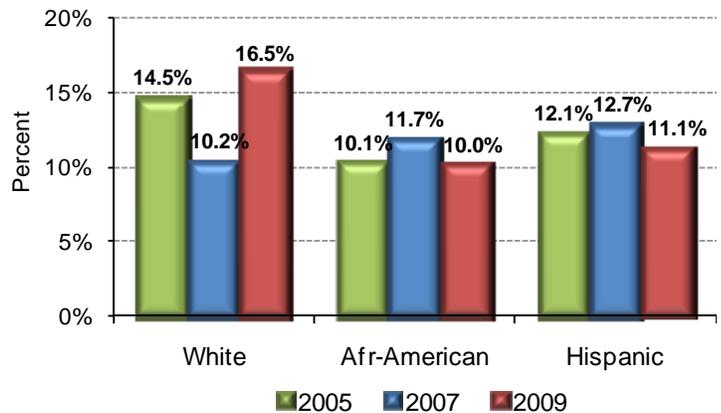
Gender

- In 2009, female high school students were 43% more likely than males to report they seriously considered an attempted suicide in the past year.
- Neither the increase between 2005-2009 observed for males year or the decrease seen for females was statistically significant.



Race & Ethnicity

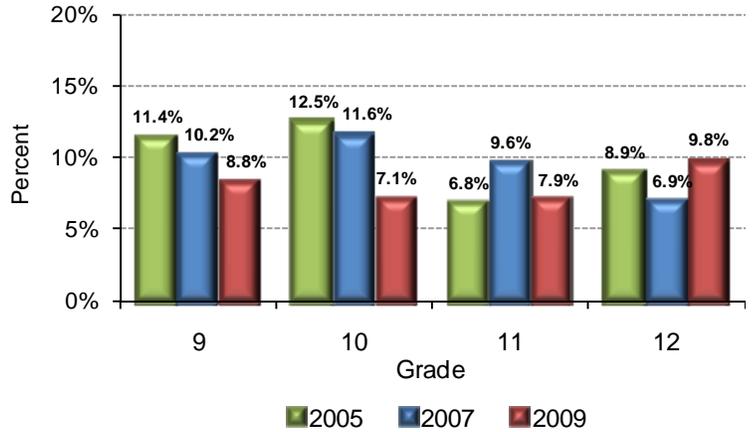
- In 2009, the percent of white high school students who seriously considered suicide in the past year (16.5%) was significantly higher than African-American students (10.0%) but not for Hispanic students (11.1%).



Percentage of Miami-Dade County High School Students Who Made a Plan About How to Attempt Suicide in the Past Year

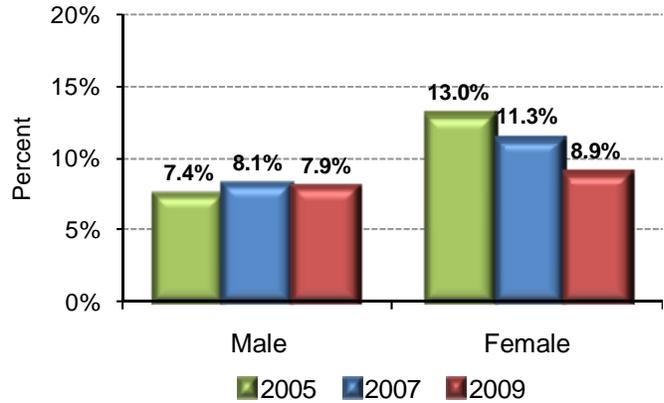
Grade Level

- There was no grade level difference for the number of students who reported they planned a suicide attempt in the past year.



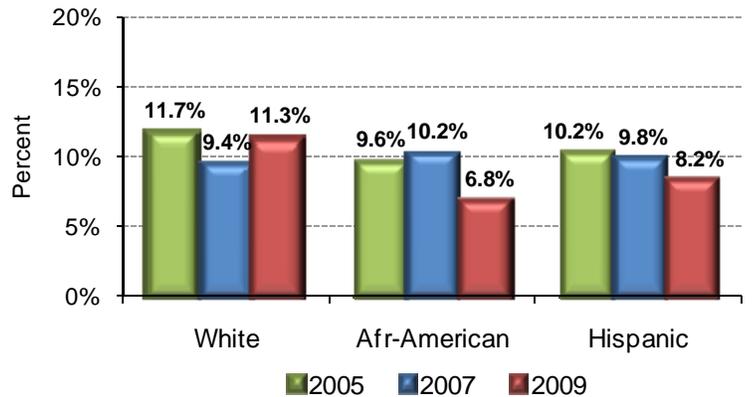
Gender

- Male and female students had similar rates for planning a suicide attempt in the past year.
- The percentage of female students who reported a planned suicide attempt significantly declined between 2005-2009.



Race & Ethnicity

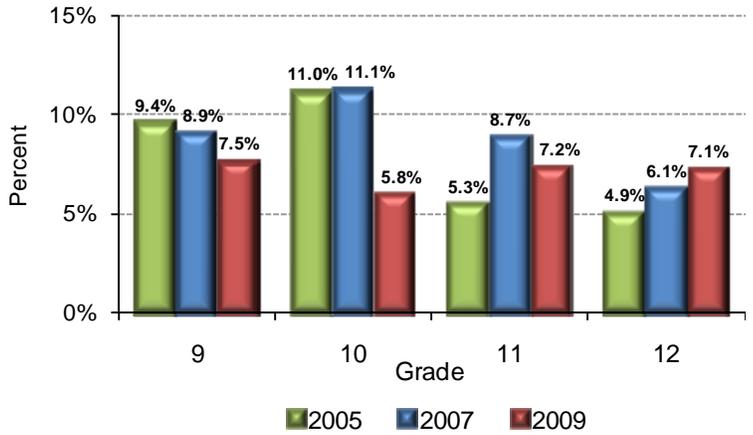
- There were no significant differences between racial and ethnic groups in the percent of students who reported they planned a suicide attempt in the past year.



Percentage of Miami-Dade County High School Students Who Attempted Suicide at Least Once in the Past Year

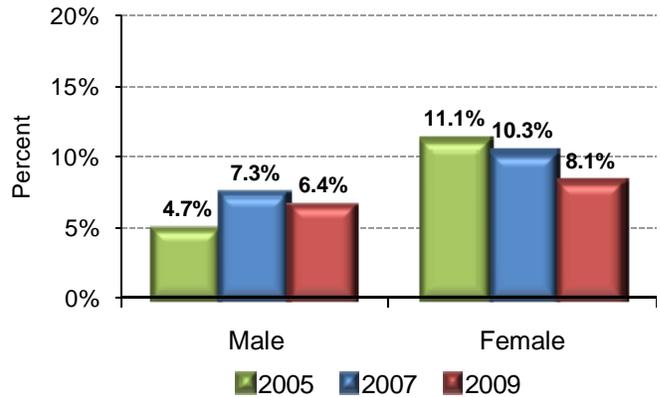
Grade Level

- In 2009, there were no grade level differences for students who reported attempting suicide in the past year.
- The percent of 10th grade students who reported an attempted suicide significantly declined between 2005 (11.0%) and 2009 (5.8%).



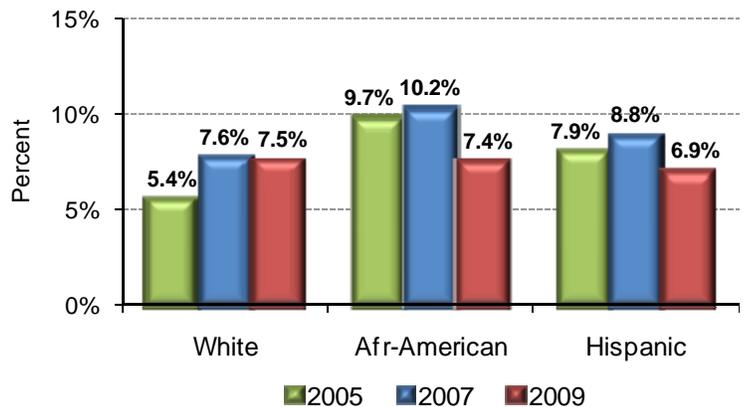
Gender

- There was no significant gender difference for the percent of students who reported an attempted suicide in the past year.



Race & Ethnicity

- In 2009, there were no differences between racial and ethnic groups in the percent of students who reported an attempted suicide in the past year.



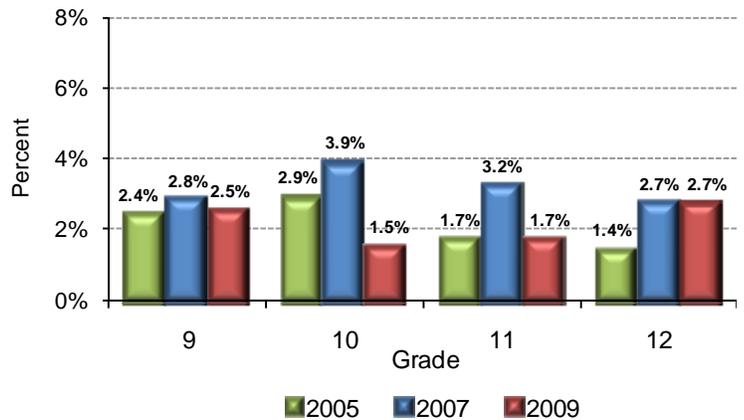
How the YRBS was Administered

The Office of Program Evaluation, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS) administers a high school (grades 9-12) and middle school (grades 6-8) version of the YRBS every other year. Classes of students were randomly selected from all 43 county senior high schools. Students completed the questionnaires voluntarily and anonymously. The behaviors monitored by the YRBS fall into seven categories: behaviors resulting in unintentional and intentional injury, tobacco use, alcohol use, drug use, sexual behaviors, dietary behaviors, physical activity. More information on the YRBS report can be found at <http://oer.dadeschools.net>

Percentage of Miami-Dade County High School Students Whose Suicide Attempt Required Medical Treatment by a Doctor or Nurse in the Past Year

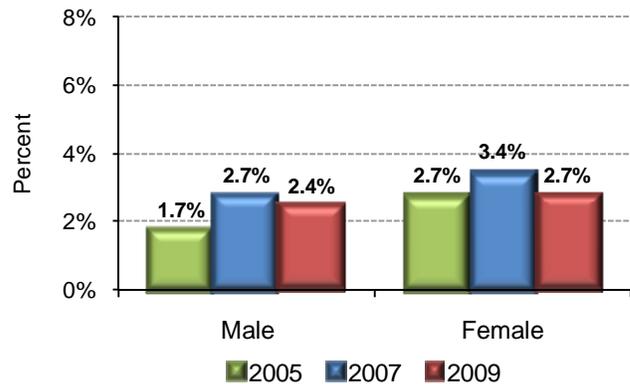
Grade Level

- The percentage of students who reported attempting a suicide that required medical treatment did not differ between grade levels.



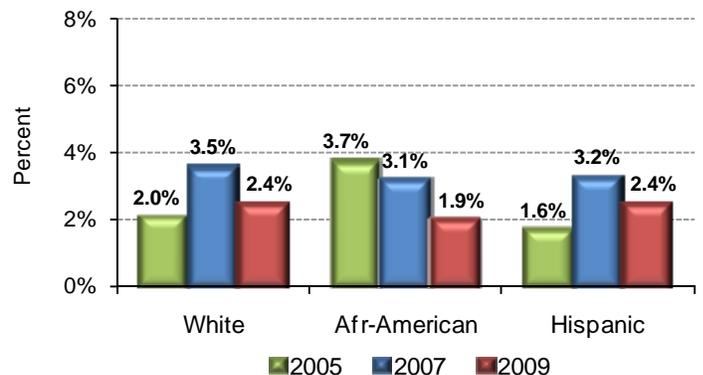
Gender

- There was no gender difference for the percentage of students who reported an attempted suicide that required medical treatment.



Race & Ethnicity

- There were no racial or ethnic differences in the percent of students who reported an attempted suicide that required medical treatment.
- The decline in medically-treated suicide attempts reported for African-American students between 2005 (3.7%) and 2009 (1.9%) was not significant.



Produced by the Miami-Dade County Injury Surveillance System

Data Sources: Office of Program Evaluation, Miami-Dade County Public Schools

CDC Youth Online: High School YRBS

Available at URL: <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/App>

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