



Youth Alcohol Epidemiology Trends and SAMHSA Community Coalition Funding – Florida, 2002-2014

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Background

Florida received a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) funded Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) grant in 2004 to develop effective community coalitions to combat substance use in local communities using evidence-based practices. The Florida State Epidemiology Workgroup was also established under this grant in June 2005. Regional in-person workshops were held in 2006-2007 to train the coalitions on using the data to determine needs and selecting programs to address these needs. Soon after the expiration of the original SPF grant, Florida received a SAMHSA-funded Partnership for Success (PFS) grant to further reduce substance use problems at the state level. Florida's emphasis was on underage past-30-day drinking, concentrating efforts on the strongest functioning coalitions in counties with the largest populations (46% of the 10-17 year old population).

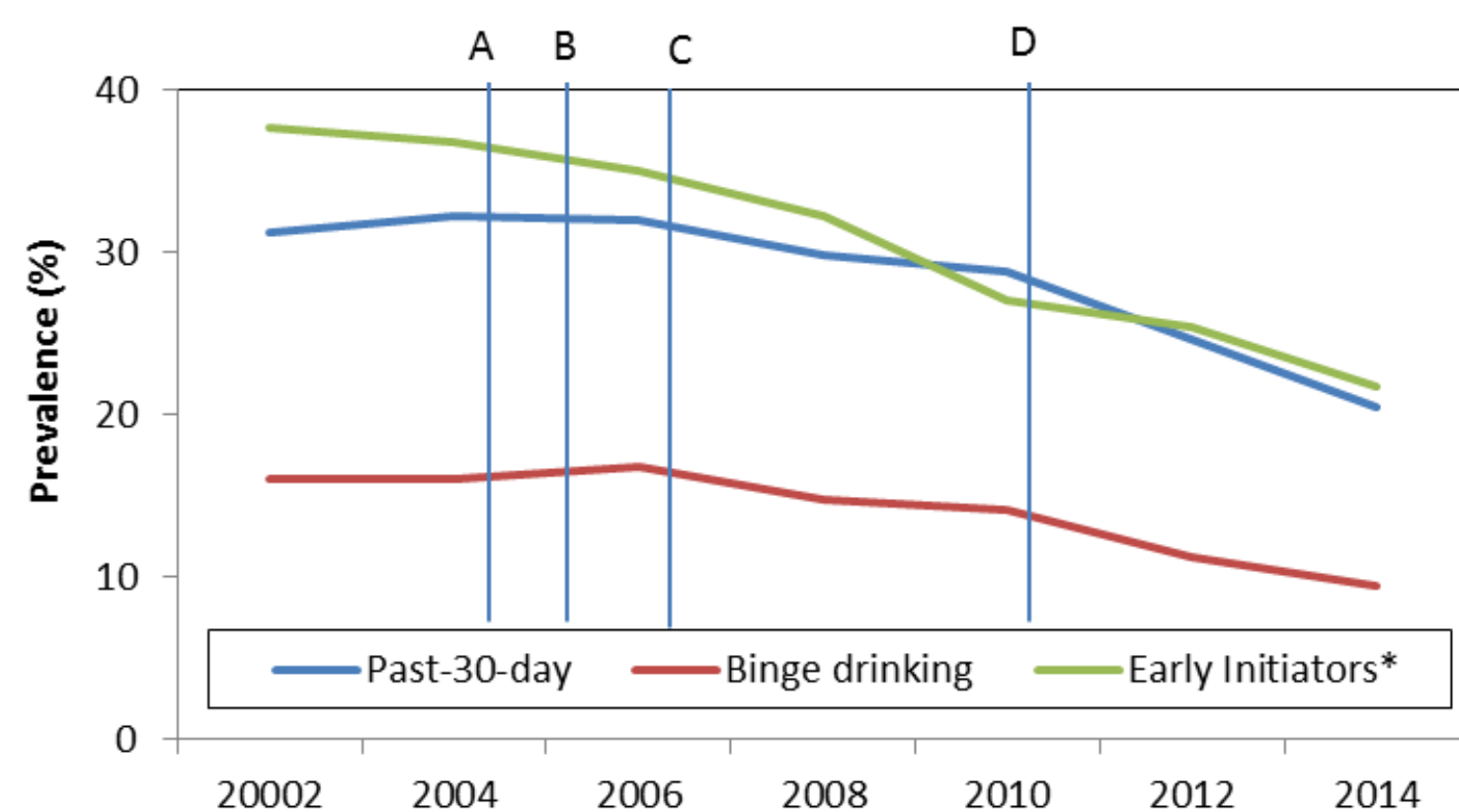
Methods

The Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey (FYAS) is administered annually in Florida. It is a modified version of the Communities That Care (CTC) Survey that assesses alcohol and other substance use, delinquent behaviors, and risk factors for substance use and other delinquent behaviors. In even numbered years the survey sample is selected to be representative at the county level. The county data is then weighted to be representative at the state level. Total sample sizes in these years all exceed 65,000. Even-year FYAS data from 2002 through 2014 was analyzed for this presentation. Trends were analyzed for alcohol prevalence rates and other alcohol related measures.

Results

As seen in Figure 1, past-30-day alcohol use prevalence decreased from 31.2% in 2002 to 29.8% in 2008 and 20.5% in 2014. Binge drinking decreased from 16.0% in 2002 to 14.8% in 2008 and 9.5% in 2014. The percent of high school youth that first drank at age 13 or younger decreased from 37.7% in 2002 to 32.3% in 2008 to 21.8% in 2014. Consistent with these trends, perceptions of youth drinking as wrong, and of drinking as harmful, increased since 2002 (Figure 2.). These trends are consistent

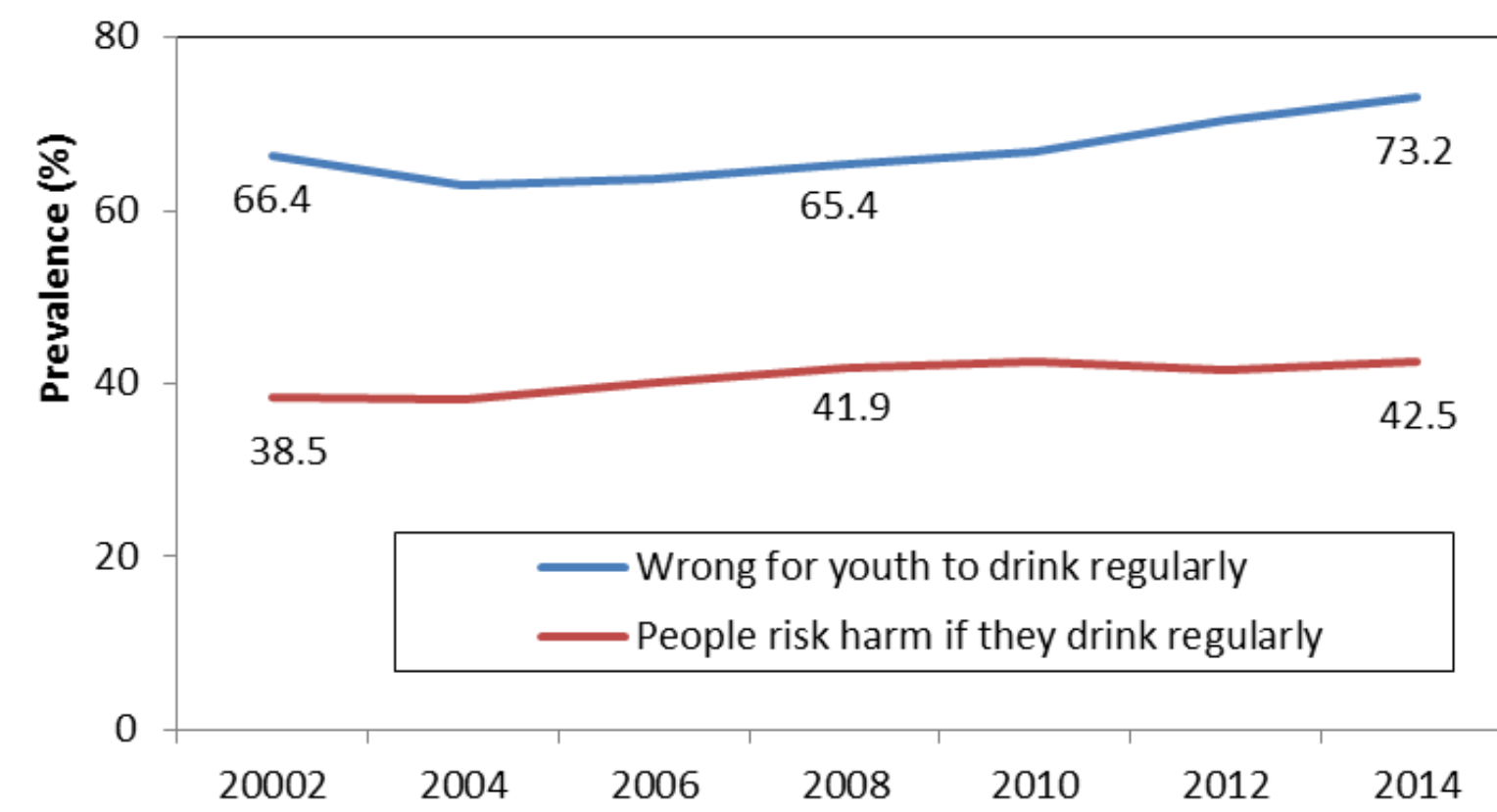
Figure 1. Trends in alcohol use and SAMHSA grant activities, 2002-2014



- A. Florida awarded Strategic Prevention Framework grant
- B. Florida State Epidemiology Workgroup formed
- C. First statewide regional coalition training on data use for planning
- D. Florida awarded Partnership for Success grant

* High school youth that first drank alcohol at age 13 or younger

Figure 2. Trends in alcohol use attitudes, 2002-2014



across demographic groups. However, past-30-day alcohol use among Non-Hispanic Black youth increased from 2006 (19.3%) to 2010 (21.7%), before decreasing to 13.8% in 2014 (Figure 3). Across all years, females drank at a higher rate than males, and Non-Hispanic Whites used at a higher rate than Hispanics and Non-Hispanic Blacks.

All six counties funded by the PFS grant showed a reduction in past-30-day alcohol use from 2010 to 2014 (Figure 4). The reduction ranged from 21% in Duval County (Jacksonville) to 36% in Pinellas (St. Petersburg) and Orange (Orlando). The reduction in Florida overall was 29%.

Figure 3. Trends in past-30-day alcohol use by gender and race/ethnicity, 2002-2014

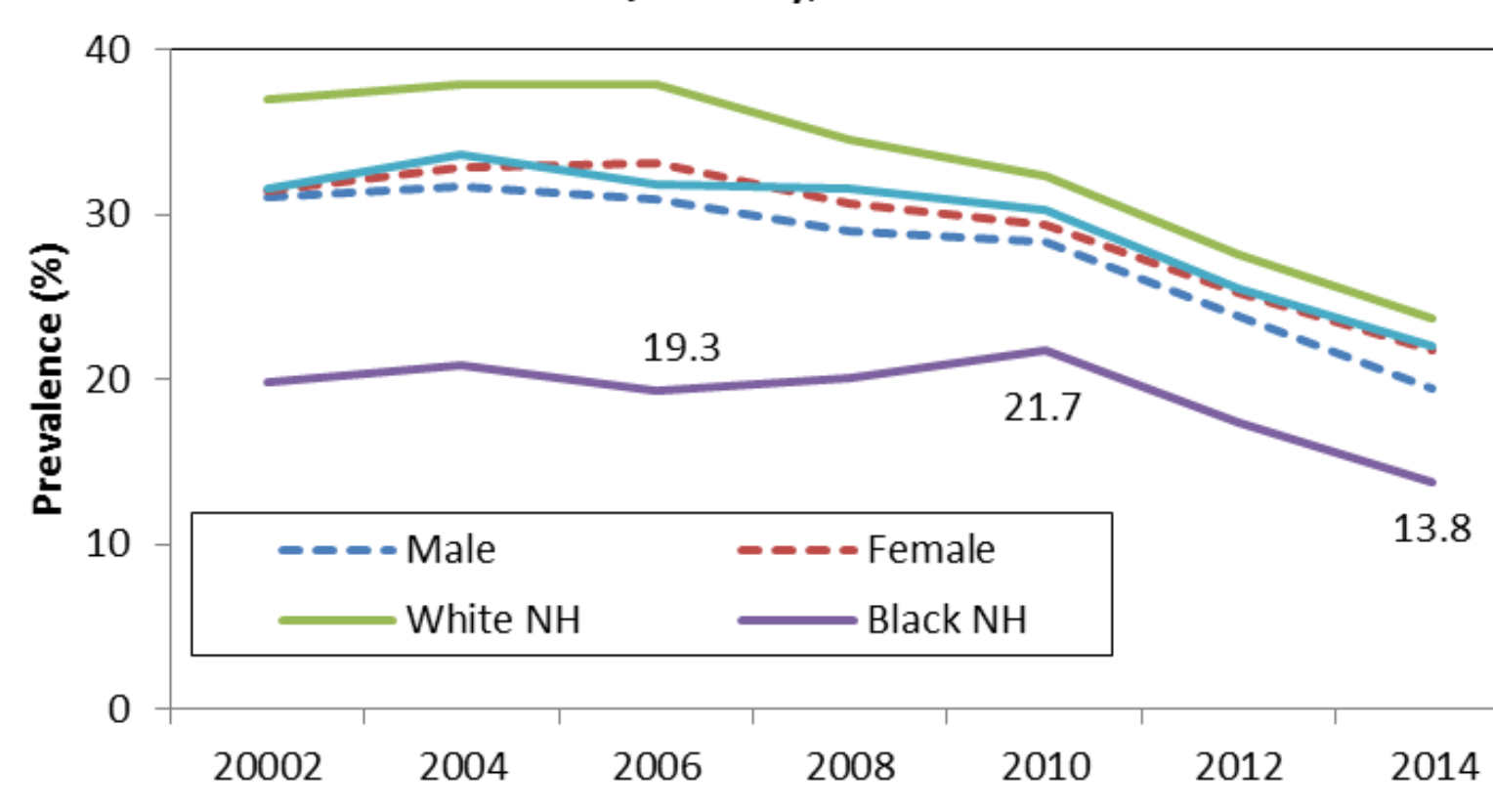
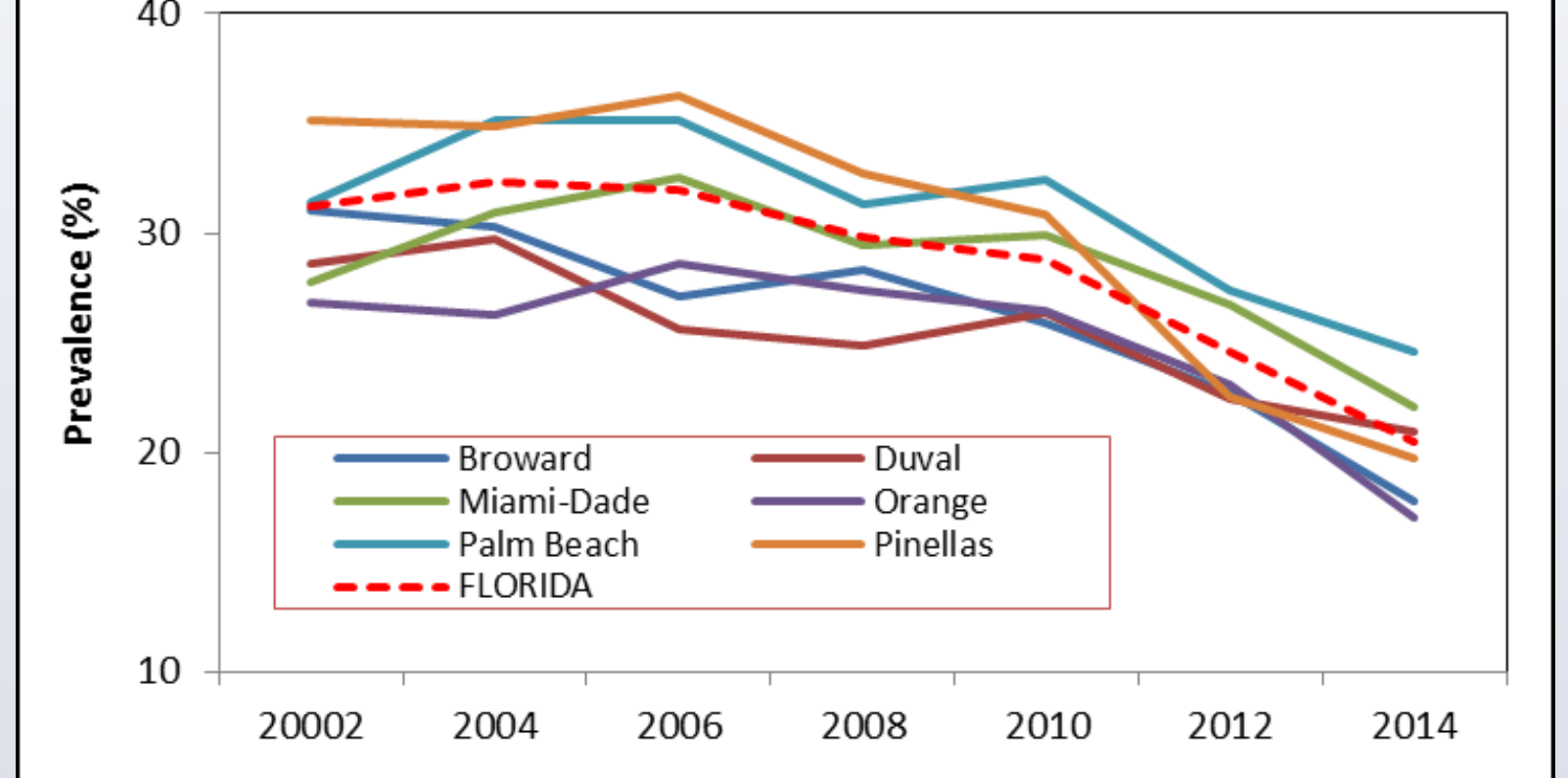


Figure 4. Trends in past-30-day alcohol use by PFS-funded counties and Florida overall, 2002-2014



Conclusions/Discussion

- PFS Coalitions**
- Broward (Ft. Lauderdale)
 - Miami-Dade
 - Duval (Jacksonville)
 - Orange (Orlando)
 - Palm Beach (W. Palm Bch)
 - Pinellas (St. Petersburg)

Alcohol epidemiology measures among Florida youth changed in the desired direction between 2002 and 2014. Past-30-day use is the primary measure of youth alcohol use. Prevalence rates declined steadily beginning in 2006, soon after SPF activities and coalition training began. Beginning in 2010 the decline accelerated, corresponding with the next generation federal grant - Partnership for Success. The six county coalitions chosen as sub-recipients of the PFS grant funds comprise 46% of the youth population in the state. When the entire Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) that each of these counties are in is taken into

account, this rises to 65% of the youth population. Since the emphasis of each of the funded coalitions is on environmental strategies, it is reasonable to assume that the reach extends to the entire MSA, and probably beyond. While causation cannot be determined, the Florida experience may be an indicator of the value of strategically targeting specific sub-populations for prevention efforts.

Reference

Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey link: <http://www.myflfamilies.com/service-programs/substance-abuse/fyas>

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