

Florida Department of Education



For High Schools

January 2011

GRADING FLORIDA PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS 2009-2010

High schools are assigned a grade based 50% upon student achievement and learning gains data from the FCAT, and 50% upon several non-FCAT based components. School grades communicate to the public how well a school is (1) performing relative to state standards, (2) encouraging its students to participate and succeed in accelerated course offerings, (3) graduating its students, and (4) preparing its students for postsecondary education. School grades are calculated based on annual learning gains of each student toward achievement of Sunshine State Standards, the progress of the lowest quartile of students, the meeting of proficiency standards, the graduation rate of all students and those identified as academically at risk, the participation and performance of students in accelerated coursework, and the postsecondary readiness of students.

High school grades utilize a point system. Schools are awarded points based on FCAT performance and learning gains, graduation rate, participation and performance in accelerated coursework, and college readiness.

School Grades for High Schools

A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,050 points or more • Meet adequate progress of lowest students in reading and math • Meet adequate progress in graduating at-risk students • Test at least 95% of eligible students
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 990 to 1,049 points • Meet adequate progress of lowest students in reading and math within two years • Test at least 90% of eligible students
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 870 to 989 points • Meet adequate progress of lowest students in reading and math within two years • Test at least 90% of eligible students
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 790 to 869 points • Test at least 90% of eligible students
F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fewer than 790 points

Scoring High on the FCAT

The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) is the primary measure of students' achievement of the Sunshine State Standards. Student scores are classified into five achievement levels, with 1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest.

- Schools earn one point for each percent of students who score in achievement levels 3, 4, or 5 in **reading**, one point for each percent of students who score 3, 4, or 5 in **math**, and one point for each percent of students who score 3, 4, or 5 in **science**. If a school does not have science scores, the district average for all students in science will be used.
- The **writing** exam is scored on a scale of 1 to 6. Schools earn one point for the average of the percent of students scoring 3.0 or above and the percent of students scoring 4.0 and above. If a school does not have writing scores, the district average for all students in writing will be used.

Making Annual Learning Gains

Since FCAT **reading and math** exams are given in grades 3 – 10, it is possible to monitor how much students learn from one year to the next.

- Schools earn one point for each percent of students who make learning gains in reading and one point for each percent of students who make learning gains in math. Students can demonstrate learning gains in any one of three ways:
 - (1) Improve achievement levels from 1-2, 2-3, 3-4, or 4-5; **or**
 - (2) Maintain within the relatively high levels of 3, 4, or 5; **or**
 - (3) Demonstrate more than one year's growth within achievement levels 1 or 2 (does not include retained students).

Special attention is given to the reading and math gains of students in the lowest 25%¹ in levels 1, 2, or 3 in each school. Schools earn one point for each percent of the lowest performing students who make learning gains in reading and math from the previous year. It takes at least 50% to make "adequate progress" for this group. If a school has less than 50% of this group making gains, schools can still make "adequate progress" for the group if they demonstrate improvement over the prior year.

Bonus Points for 11th and 12th Grade Retakes

High schools can earn 10 bonus points if at least 50% of their 11th and 12th grade students pass the FCAT retake in reading and math.

Which students are included in school grade calculations?

As in previous years, only standard curriculum students (including speech impaired, gifted, hospital/homebound, and limited English proficient students (LEP) with more than two years in an ESOL program) enrolled in the same school in both October and February are included in the components for scoring high on the FCAT. All students, including students with disabilities (SWD) and LEP students, are included in the learning gains component of the school grade calculation.

What happens if the lowest performing students in the school do not make "adequate progress" in reading and math?

If a school, otherwise graded "C" or "B", does not demonstrate adequate progress in either the current or prior year, the final grade will be reduced by one letter grade. If a school, otherwise graded "A", does not demonstrate adequate progress in the current year, the final grade will be reduced by one letter grade.

¹ For schools with fewer than 30 students in the lowest 25%, the 30 lowest performing students will be substituted.

Grading Florida's High Schools in 2009-10

As established in s. 1008.34, F.S., Florida's high schools are graded using the FCAT and learning gains components described on the previous page (worth 800 points), plus several non-FCAT based components that account for 50 percent of the high school grade (also worth 800 points). The non-FCAT-based grading components include the following measures (note that measures counting for more than 100 points are double-weighted):

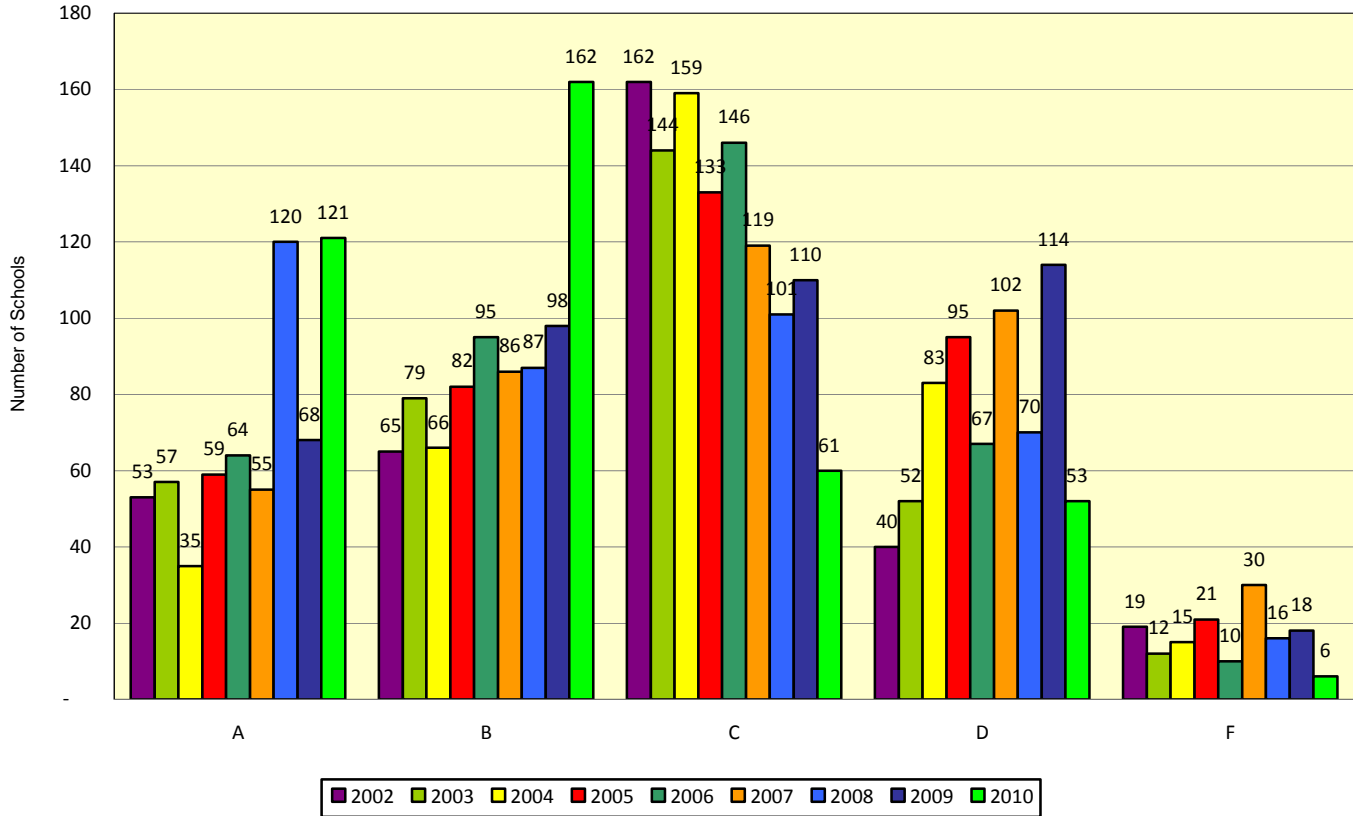
- **Graduation rate** – the percentage of students graduating with a standard or special diploma within four years of initial enrollment in grade 9, adjusting for transfers. [200 points]
- **Graduation rate of at-risk students** – Students are identified as at-risk if they score no higher than level 2 on the grade 8 FCAT in both reading and math. [100 points]
- **Accelerated curriculum participation** – for students in grades 9 – 12, based on exams taken for AP, IB, AICE, and industry certification, as well as dual enrollment course enrollments. This component measures the combined weighted student participation count divided by the membership count of students in grades 11-12. Students in grades 9 and 10 may only be included as participants if they have successful completions (passing test scores, or, for dual enrollment, passing course grades of “C” or higher). [200 points]
- **Accelerated curriculum performance** – the measure of weighted successful completions in accelerated curricula (as described above) divided by the count of accelerated coursework participants. [100 points]
- **Postsecondary readiness of students in reading and in math** – (calculated separately for each subject) as measured by the SAT, ACT, or the CPT. [100 points, Math; 100 points, Reading]
- **Growth or decline in the data components of these measures from year to year** – Schools that demonstrate an annual increase in their component points receive additional points based on the annual increase in points, up to 20 points per component (up to 40 points for components worth 200 points). Schools lose five points for this component if performance declines by 10 or more percentage points annually (with up to ten points subtracted for component worth 200 points).
- Additionally, to receive an “A”, high schools that would otherwise earn an “A” on points must meet a statewide target of 75% for the graduation rate of at-risk students or show sufficient annual improvement in that rate to qualify for a grade of “A.” Sufficient annual improvement = 1% or more for schools that have an at-risk graduation rate of at least 65%. Schools that have an at-risk graduation rate of below 65% must show at least a 5% annual increase in the rate to meet this requirement.

Grading Combination Schools (Weighting Factors)

K-12 schools: FCAT components = 80% of grade. Non-FCAT components = 20% of grade.

6-12 schools: FCAT components = 70% of grade. Non-FCAT components = 30% of grade.

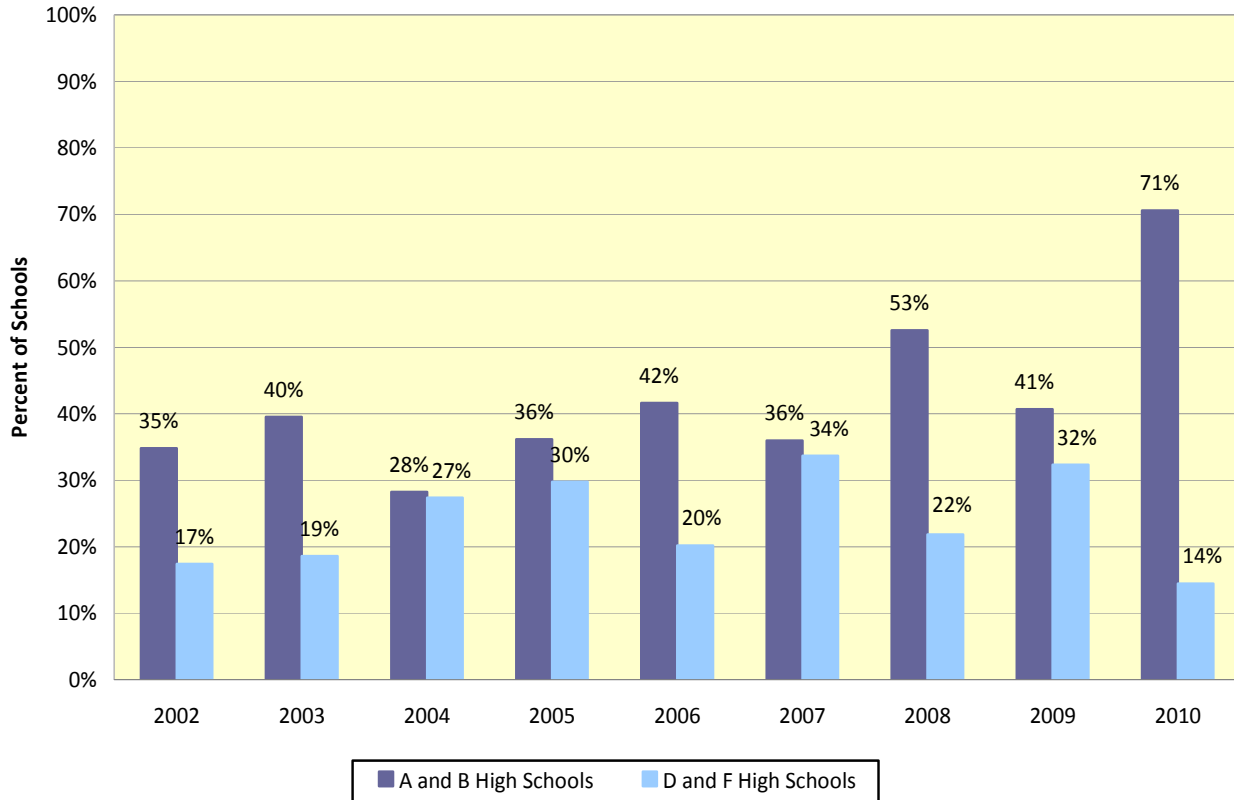
School Grades – High Schools 2002 – 2010



Since 2002, the number of high schools earning "A" school grades has increased to 121 in 2010 from 53 in 2002, 57 in 2003, 35 in 2004, 59 in 2005, 64 in 2006, 55 in 2007, 120 in 2008, and 68 in 2009. The number of high schools earning "B" school grades has increased to 162 in 2010 from 65 in 2002, 79 in 2003, 66 in 2004, 82 in 2005, 95 in 2006, 86 in 2007, 87 in 2008, and 98 in 2009. The number of high schools earning "C" school grades has decreased to 61 in 2010 from 162 in 2002, 144 in 2003, 159 in 2004, 133 in 2005, 146 in 2006, 119 in 2007, 101 in 2008, and 110 in 2009. The number of high schools earning "D" school grades has increased to 53 in 2010 from 40 in 2002, is equal to 52 in 2003, decreased from 83 in 2004, 95 in 2005, 67 in 2006, 102 in 2007, 70 in 2008, and 114 in 2009. The number of high schools earning "F" school grades has decreased to 6 in 2010 from 19 in 2002, 12 in 2003, 15 in 2004, 21 in 2005, 10 in 2006, 30 in 2007, 16 in 2008, and 18 in 2009.

Source: Florida Department of Education

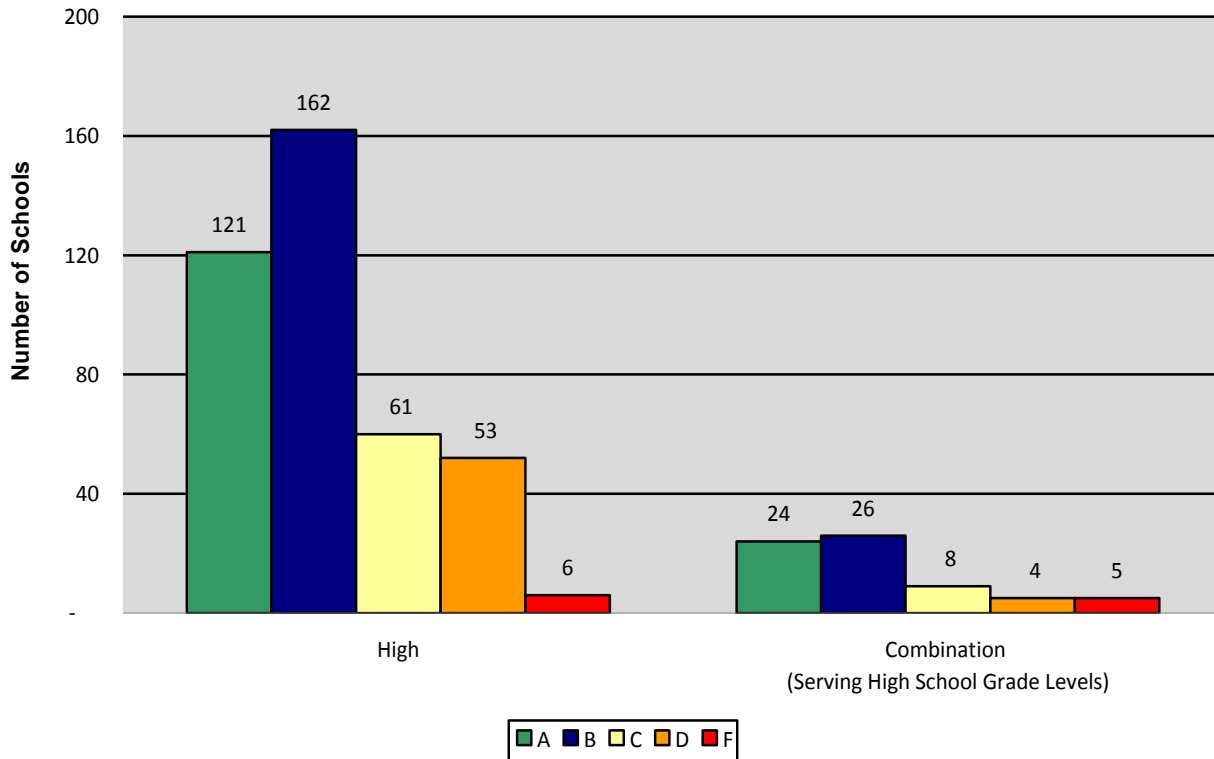
School Grades – High Schools 2002 – 2010



In 2010, 71% of high schools earned an “A” or a “B” school grade. This was an increase from 35% in 2002, 40% in 2003, 28% in 2004, 36% in 2005, 42% in 2006, 36% in 2007, 53% in 2008, and 41% in 2009. In 2010, 14% of high schools earned a “D” or an “F” school grade. This is a decrease from 17% in 2002, 19% in 2003, 27% in 2004, 30% in 2005, 20% in 2006, 34% in 2007, 22% in 2008, and 32% in 2009.

Source: Florida Department of Education

School Grades by School Type 2010



In 2010, there were 121 high schools and 24 combination schools (serving high school grade levels) that earned an "A" school letter grade; 162 high schools and 26 combination schools (serving high school grade levels) that earned a "B" school letter grade; 61 high schools and 8 combination schools (serving high school grade levels) that earned a "C" school letter grade; 53 high schools and 4 combination schools (serving high school grade levels) that earned a "D" school letter grade; and 6 high schools and 5 combination schools (serving high school grade levels) that earned an "F" school letter grade.

Source: Florida Department of Education

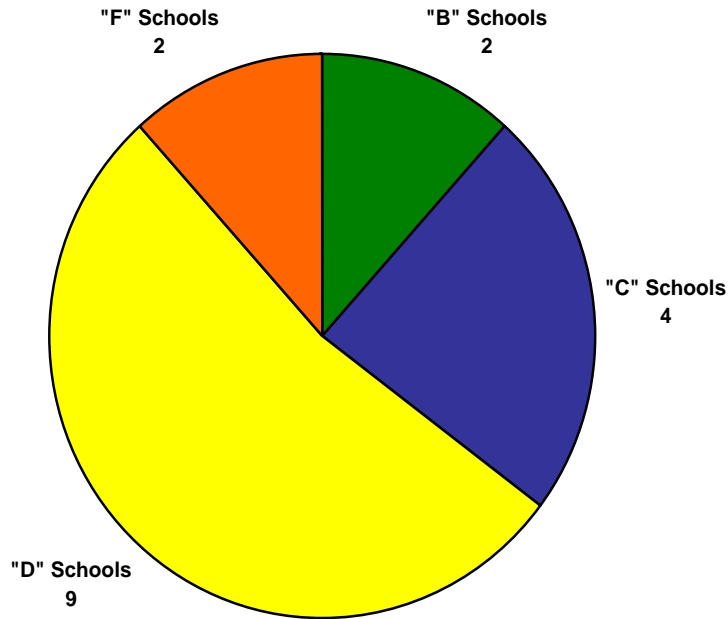
2010 School Grades Compared to 2009 – High Schools

		2010 School Grade				
		A	B	C	D	F
2009 School Grade	A	41	22	0	0	0
	B	39	51	4	1	0
	C	22	59	15	11	1
	D	18	28	38	31	0
	F	0	2	4	9	2

In 2010, 41 high schools maintained an "A" school grade, 51 high schools maintained a "B" school grade, 15 high schools maintained a "C" school grade, 31 high schools maintained a "D" school grade, and 2 high schools maintained an "F" school grade. There were 22 high schools that dropped from an "A" to a "B", 0 high schools dropped from an "A" to a "C", 0 high schools dropped from an "A" to a "D", and 0 high schools dropped from an "A" to an "F". There were 39 high schools that improved from a "B" to a "A", 4 high schools dropped from a "B" to a "C", 1 high school dropped from a "B" to a "D", and 0 high schools dropped from a "B" to an "F". There were 22 high schools that improved from a "C" to an "A", 59 high schools that improved from a "C" to a "B", 11 high schools that dropped from a "C" to a "D", and 1 high school that dropped from a "C" to an "F". There were 18 high schools that improved from a "D" to an "A", 28 high schools that improved from a "D" to a "B", 38 high schools that improved from a "D" to a "C", and 0 high schools that dropped from a "D" to an "F". There were 0 high schools that improved from an "F" to an "A", 2 high schools that improved from an "F" to a "B", 4 high schools that improved from an "F" to a "C", and 9 high schools that improved from an "F" to a "D".

Source: Florida Department of Education

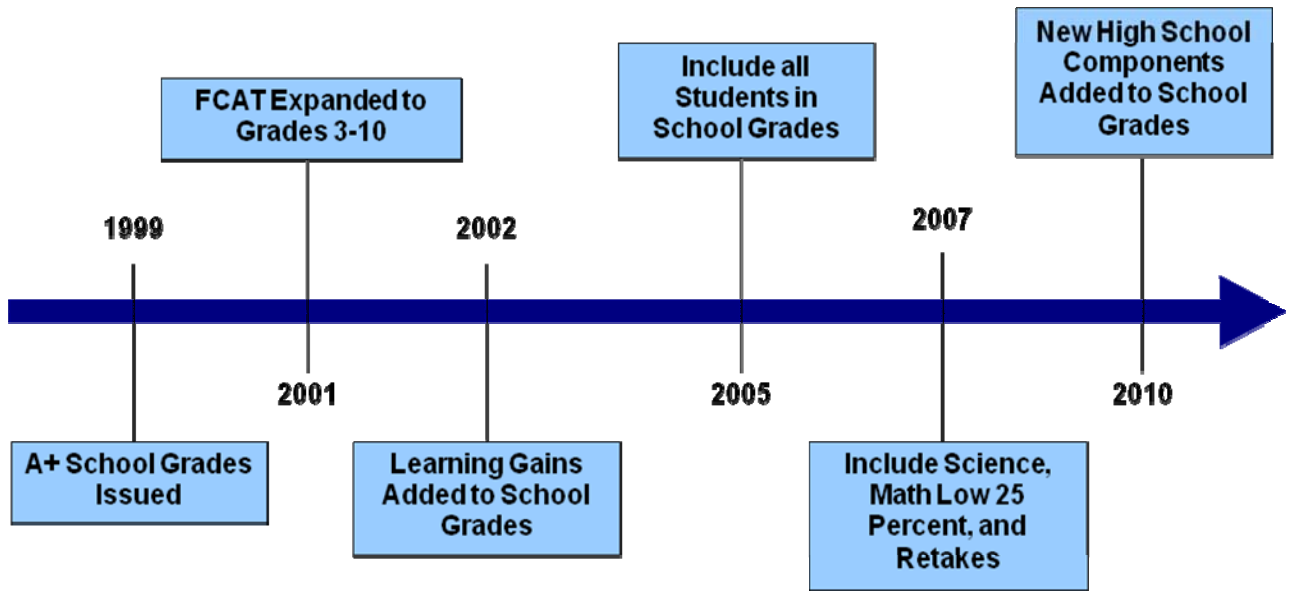
2010 Grades for 2009 "F" Schools – High Schools



There were a total of 18 "F" high schools in 2009. Of high schools graded an "F" in 2009, 2 earned a "B", 4 earned a "C", 9 earned a "D", and 2 earned an "F" in 2010. There was 1 "F" school in 2009 did not have a sufficient number of students tested in order to receive a school grade in 2010.

Source: Florida Department of Education

History of School Grades



School Grades were first issued in 1999 under the A+ Plan for Education. Since then, school grading evolved in 2001 to include the FCAT results of students in Grades 3-10. In 2002, student learning gains were added to school grades, and in 2005 all students were included in school grades. In 2007, performance in FCAT Science, the learning gains of students scoring in the lowest 25 percent in mathematics, and the performance of those retaking the FCAT were added to school grades. In 2010, new components including graduation rate, student performance and participation in accelerated coursework, and college readiness were added to school grades for high schools.

Source: Florida Department of Education

High and Combination (serving High School Grade Levels) School Grades by District

District Name	A	B	C	D	F
ALACHUA	2	3	0	2	0
BAKER	0	0	0	1	0
BAY	0	5	0	0	0
BRADFORD	0	0	0	1	0
BREVARD	5	10	0	0	0
BROWARD	14	14	8	2	0
CALHOUN	0	1	1	0	0
CHARLOTTE	2	1	0	0	0
CITRUS	1	2	0	0	0
CLAY	2	4	0	0	0
COLLIER	1	4	3	1	0
COLUMBIA	0	2	0	0	0
DADE	17	11	10	9	4
DESOTO	0	0	1	0	0
DIXIE	0	0	0	1	0
DUVAL	4	3	1	10	1
ESCAMBIA	1	4	0	2	0
FLAGLER	0	2	0	0	1
FRANKLIN	0	1	0	0	0
GADSDEN	0	0	1	1	0
GILCHRIST	2	0	0	0	0
GLADES	0	0	1	0	0
GULF	0	2	0	0	0
HAMILTON	0	0	0	1	0
HARDEE	0	0	0	1	0
HENDRY	0	1	0	1	0
HERNANDO	0	3	1	0	0
HIGHLANDS	0	0	1	2	0
HILLSBOROUGH	10	11	4	1	0
HOLMES	0	1	3	0	0
INDIAN RIVER	1	2	0	0	0
JACKSON	1	2	2	0	0
JEFFERSON	0	0	0	1	0
LAFAYETTE	0	1	0	0	0
LAKE	1	3	3	0	0
LEE	3	10	1	0	0
LEON	3	3	0	0	0

High and Combination (serving High School Grade Levels) School Grades by District

District Name	A	B	C	D	F
LEVY	2	1	1	0	0
LIBERTY	0	1	0	0	0
MADISON	0	0	1	0	0
MANATEE	0	5	1	1	0
MARION	1	5	1	0	0
MARTIN	3	1	0	0	0
MONROE	1	2	0	0	0
NASSAU	0	4	0	0	0
OKALOOSA	6	1	0	0	1
OKEECHOBEE	0	0	1	0	0
ORANGE	4	9	2	5	1
OSCEOLA	4	6	0	0	0
PALM BEACH	15	9	2	1	1
PASCO	2	7	1	1	1
PINELLAS	8	3	3	3	0
POLK	1	6	6	3	0
PUTNAM	0	1	1	1	0
ST. JOHNS	5	2	0	0	1
ST. LUCIE	1	1	3	1	0
SANTA ROSA	4	2	0	0	0
SARASOTA	4	3	0	0	0
SEMINOLE	5	4	0	0	0
SUMTER	2	1	0	0	0
SUWANNEE	0	1	0	1	0
TAYLOR	1	0	0	0	0
UNION	0	0	1	0	0
VOLUSIA	1	5	1	2	0
WAKULLA	0	1	0	0	0
WALTON	2	0	1	1	0
WASHINGTON	0	1	1	0	0
FAU LAB SCH	1	0	0	0	0
FSU LAB SCH	1	0	0	0	0
FAMU LAB SCH	0	0	1	0	0
UF LAB SCH	1	0	0	0	0
STATE	145	188	69	57	11

High and Combination (Serving High School Grade Levels) School Grades by District by Percent

District Name	A	B	C	D	F
ALACHUA	29%	43%	0%	29%	0%
BAKER	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
BAY	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
BRADFORD	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
BREVARD	33%	67%	0%	0%	0%
BROWARD	37%	37%	21%	5%	0%
CALHOUN	0%	50%	50%	0%	0%
CHARLOTTE	67%	33%	0%	0%	0%
CITRUS	33%	67%	0%	0%	0%
CLAY	33%	67%	0%	0%	0%
COLLIER	11%	44%	33%	11%	0%
COLUMBIA	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
DADE	33%	22%	20%	18%	8%
DESOTO	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%
DIXIE	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
DUVAL	21%	16%	5%	53%	5%
ESCAMBIA	14%	57%	0%	29%	0%
FLAGLER	0%	67%	0%	0%	33%
FRANKLIN	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
GADSDEN	0%	0%	50%	50%	0%
GILCHRIST	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
GLADES	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%
GULF	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
HAMILTON	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
HARDEE	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
HENDRY	0%	50%	0%	50%	0%
HERNANDO	0%	75%	25%	0%	0%
HIGHLANDS	0%	0%	33%	67%	0%
HILLSBOROUGH	38%	42%	15%	4%	0%
HOLMES	0%	25%	75%	0%	0%
INDIAN RIVER	33%	67%	0%	0%	0%
JACKSON	20%	40%	40%	0%	0%
JEFFERSON	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
LAFAYETTE	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
LAKE	14%	43%	43%	0%	0%
LEE	21%	71%	7%	0%	0%
LEON	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%

High and Combination (Serving High School Grade Levels) School Grades by District by Percent

District Name	A	B	C	D	F
LEVY	50%	25%	25%	0%	0%
LIBERTY	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
MADISON	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%
MANATEE	0%	71%	14%	14%	0%
MARION	14%	71%	14%	0%	0%
MARTIN	75%	25%	0%	0%	0%
MONROE	33%	67%	0%	0%	0%
NASSAU	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
OKALOOSA	75%	13%	0%	0%	13%
OKEECHOBEE	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%
ORANGE	19%	43%	10%	24%	5%
OSCEOLA	40%	60%	0%	0%	0%
PALM BEACH	54%	32%	7%	4%	4%
PASCO	17%	58%	8%	8%	8%
PINELLAS	47%	18%	18%	18%	0%
POLK	6%	38%	38%	19%	0%
PUTNAM	0%	33%	33%	33%	0%
ST. JOHNS	63%	25%	0%	0%	13%
ST. LUCIE	17%	17%	50%	17%	0%
SANTA ROSA	67%	33%	0%	0%	0%
SARASOTA	57%	43%	0%	0%	0%
SEMINOLE	56%	44%	0%	0%	0%
SUMTER	67%	33%	0%	0%	0%
SUWANNEE	0%	50%	0%	50%	0%
TAYLOR	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
UNION	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%
VOLUSIA	11%	56%	11%	22%	0%
WAKULLA	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
WALTON	50%	0%	25%	25%	0%
WASHINGTON	0%	50%	50%	0%	0%
FAU LAB SCH	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
FSU LAB SCH	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
FAMU LAB SCH	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%
UF LAB SCH	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
STATE	31%	40%	15%	12%	2%



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