

READINESS FOR COLLEGE

Performance of 1999-2000 Florida Public High School Graduates
on Entry-Level College Placement Tests in the 2000-2001 Academic Year

STATE SUMMARIES



Charlie Crist, Commissioner

Florida Department of Education
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STATE SUMMARIES

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INTRODUCTION

Scope and Purpose of Report

As required by Section 240.118, Florida Statutes, this report provides feedback to districts and high schools on their graduates' performance on entry-level placement tests at Florida public community colleges and universities. Every freshman in a public community college or university in Florida must demonstrate certain basic skills before beginning college-level courses. Students who achieve minimum scores on the Elementary Algebra, Reading Comprehension, and Sentence Skills portions of the Florida College Placement Test (CPT) are considered "ready" for college-level math, reading, and writing, respectively. Colleges may exempt students from these tests if the students score high enough on the SAT or ACT. Minimum scores are established by State Board of Education rule 6A-10.0315. Freshmen who do not achieve minimum scores on the CPT, SAT or ACT must take remedial classes before they begin college-level work.

This report includes students who:

- graduated during the 1999-2000 school year with a standard diploma from a Florida public high school
and
- entered a Florida public university or community college as degree-seeking students in 2000-2001.

These students represent about half of the 1999-2000 class of public high school graduates. The report **does not include:**

- graduates who do not go to college,
- graduates who attend private or out-of-state colleges,
- transfer students,
- casual or non-degree-seeking students,
- students who take time off between high school and college,
- GED or non-standard diploma recipients, and
- private high school graduates.

History of the Placement Testing and Feedback Program

In the first years of the statewide testing program, colleges used different tests and different passing scores. Starting with the 1998-99 testing year, colleges were required to use the same tests and scores. In fall 2000, the ACT and SAT scores required to be considered "college-ready" were increased in order to align them with the required scores on the College Placement Test. **Because of these changes, readers should use caution in interpreting changes from one year to the next.** For the current report, results were calculated two ways: first, the percent of students determined "ready" using the new exemption scores; and second, the percent "ready" if students with scores between the old and new ACT/SAT minimums were counted ready.

Following is a brief timeline of the development of the statewide placement test and feedback program:

- 1983 — Legislature establishes common placement testing program
- 1990 — Feedback report to high schools begins
- 1995 — Florida College Placement Test introduced at some colleges
- 1996 — Florida College Placement Test required at all colleges
- 1996 — Placement test cutoff scores raised at many colleges
- 1997 — Placement test cutoff scores raised at remaining colleges, becoming uniform across state in July 1997
- 2000 — First feedback to districts and high schools based on uniform statewide Florida College Placement Test cutoff scores
- 2000 — Starting in fall 2000, ACT and SAT score cutoffs increase

Current Remedial Cutoff Scores

Scores are established in State Board of Education rule 6A-10.0315. For students taking the Florida College Placement Test in 2000-2001, cutoff scores for college-level placement were:

Elementary Algebra	72
Reading Comprehension	83
Sentence Skills	83

Colleges did not have to give the CPT to students who scored at or above the following scores on college admissions tests:

SAT-I, The College Board

Verbal	440 (counts for both Reading and Sentence Skills)
Math	440

Enhanced ACT, American College Testing Program

Reading	18
English	17
Math	19

Although not required to do so, some colleges may also give the College Placement Tests to certain students with scores above these levels.

NOTE: Starting with the fall 2000 semester, the SAT and ACT scores required to be considered “college-ready” (exempt from taking the CPT) changed. The old scores required for exemption were:

SAT-I, The College Board

Verbal	420 (counts for both Reading and Sentence Skills)
Math	440

Enhanced ACT, American College Testing Program

Reading	16
English	16
Math	16

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CHANGES IN THE CURRENT YEAR'S REPORT

The *Readiness for College Report* gives the percentages of students who pass the Elementary Algebra (Math), Reading Comprehension (Reading), and Sentence Skills (Writing) components of the College Placement Test (CPT).

Colleges may, but are not required to, exempt from testing students who score above certain levels on the ACT or SAT. These students are also reported as “ready.”

Note that, while the minimum CPT scores remained constant, the ACT or SAT scores required to be exempt from taking the CPT increased for the cohort of students in this report compared to previous years. Starting in fall 2000, the State Board of Education adjusted these scores to better align with the College Placement Test and the level of preparation required for college-level work. The minimum ACT score increased from 16 to 19 for Math, from 16 to 18 for Reading, and from 16 to 17 for Writing. The minimum SAT Verbal score to be exempted from both the Reading and Writing portions of the CPT increased from 420 to 440. The minimum SAT Math score did not change.

As a result of these changes, the percentage of students counted “ready” in each subject is lower than in last year’s report.

However, if students with borderline ACT/SAT scores – at or above the old levels but below the new ones – were included in the totals, the percent “ready” would be higher than in last year’s report. The charts on the following pages show an increasing trend for the last four years, assuming that students with ACT/SAT scores between the old and new cutoff levels were included.

INCREASES IN NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES OF GRADUATES GOING ON TO FLORIDA PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION

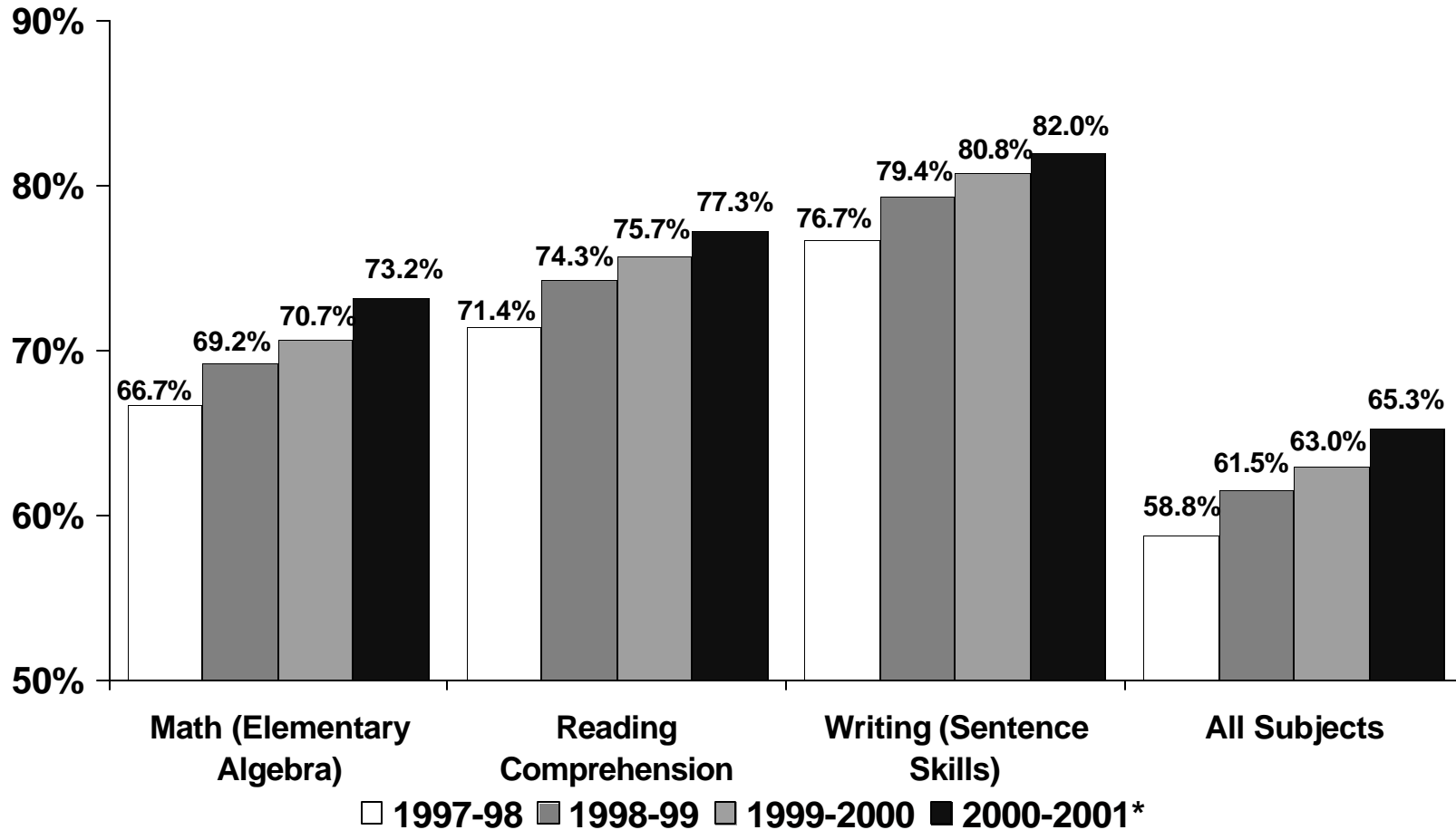
Of the 102,879 recipients of standard diplomas in Florida public high schools in 1999-2000, 54,378, or 52.9%, enrolled as degree-seeking students at a Florida public university or community college during the 2000-2001 academic year. Of these, 31,037, or 30.2% of standard diploma graduates, were last enrolled in a community college and 23,341, or 22.7% of graduates, were last enrolled in a state university. (1,259 graduates enrolled in both systems during the 2000-2001 year; this report counts them at the last institution they entered.) By comparison, in last year's report, 51.6% of 1998-99 graduates were reported to have enrolled in public postsecondary institutions in 1999-2000, with 30.3% in community colleges and 21.3% in state universities.

STATEWIDE RESULTS WITH AND WITHOUT BORDERLINE ACT/SAT SCORES INCLUDED

- Of the graduates tested in all three areas, 32,063 or 60.5% were considered "ready" in all three subject areas. This means that 39.5% needed remedial classes in one or more areas.

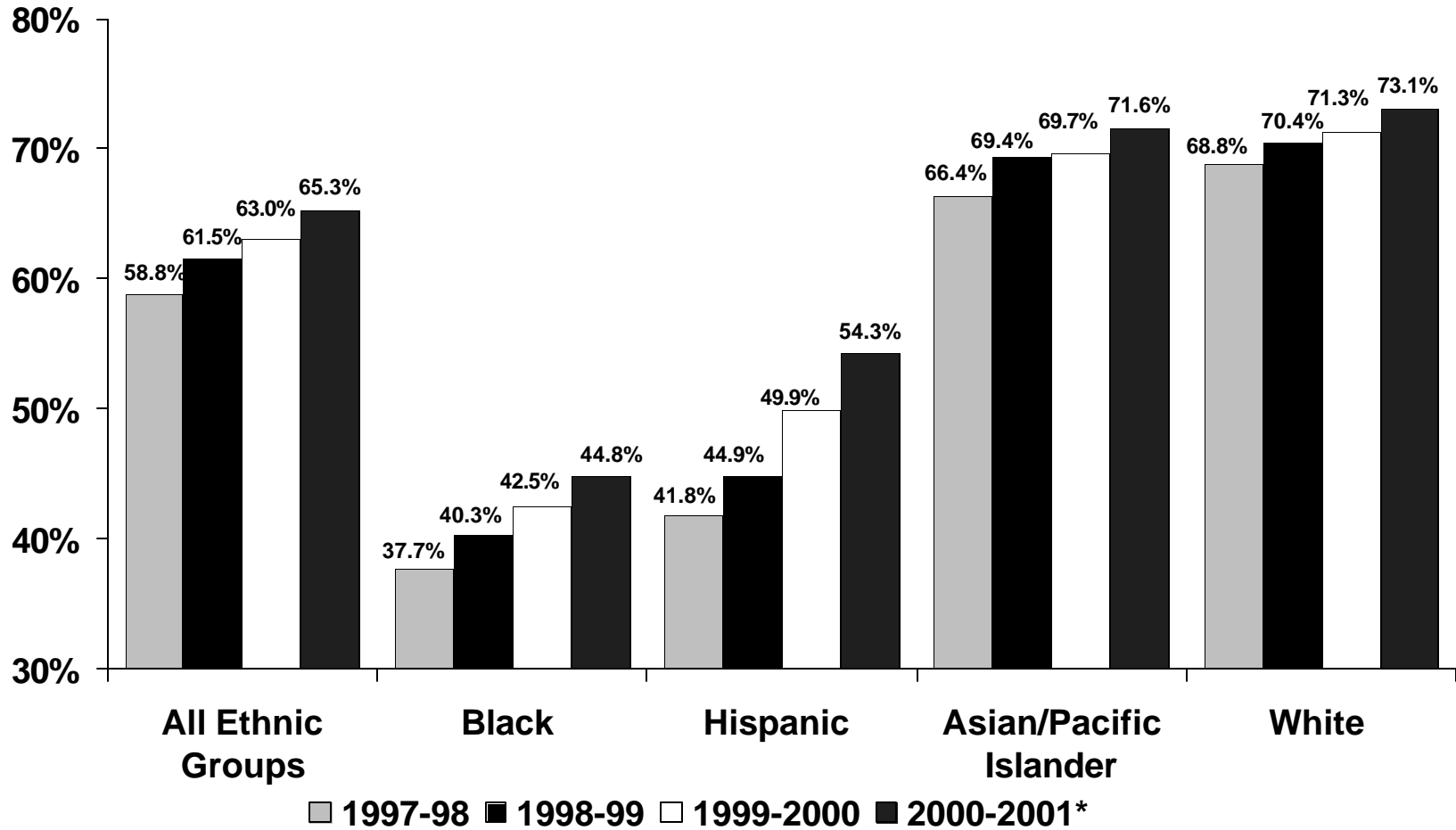
- However, if students with ACT/SAT scores between the old and new cutoff levels were included, 65.3% would have been counted “ready” in all areas. This would have represented the third annual increase in the percentage of students testing “ready” for college in all subjects.
- Fewer test-takers were considered "ready" in math than in reading or writing. There were 67.4% "ready" in math, 74.4% "ready" in reading, and 80.2% "ready" in writing. (With borderline ACT/SAT scores included, the percentages would be 73.2%, 77.3% and 82%, respectively.)
- There were 40.8% of black students "ready" in all three areas, 49.2% of Hispanic students, 68% of Asian students, and 68.1% of white students. (With the borderline ACT/SAT scores, these percentages would be 44.8%, 54.3%, 71.6%, and 73.1%.)
- There were 62.6% of men ready in all three areas, and 58.9% of women (66.5% and 64.4% with borderline ACT/SAT scores included). Women, however, were more likely to pass the writing test than men.
- Of graduates who entered state universities, which have minimum admission requirements, 93.2% were ready for college in all three areas (93.9% with borderline ACT/SAT scores included). Of graduates who entered community colleges, which do not have admission requirements other than a high school diploma, 34.7% were ready for college in all three areas (42.6% with borderline ACT/SAT scores included).

STUDENTS TESTED "READY" FOR COLLEGE BY SUBJECT AREA, INCLUDING STUDENTS WITH ACT/SAT SCORES BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW CUTOFF LEVELS



*Includes students with ACT/SAT scores above the minimums for the previous year but below current requirements.

STUDENTS TESTED "READY" FOR COLLEGE BY RACE/ETHNICITY, INCLUDING STUDENTS WITH ACT/SAT SCORES BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW CUTOFF LEVELS



*Includes students with ACT/SAT scores above the minimums for the previous year but below current requirements.

READINESS FOR COLLEGE: GRADUATES ENROLLED IN FLORIDA PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS, BY DISTRICT

**(FOR RESULTS INCLUDING STUDENTS WITH ACT/SAT SCORES BETWEEN THE
OLD AND NEW MINIMUMS, SEE THE APPENDIX)**



READINESS FOR COLLEGE: GRADUATES ENROLLED IN FLORIDA PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS, BY DISTRICT

1999-2000 public high school graduates enrolled as degree-seeking students in 2000-2001

	STANDARD DIPLOMAS AWARDED 1999-2000	NO. ENROLLED COMM. COLL	PCT. ENROLLED COMM. COLL.	NO. ENROLLED SUS	PCT. ENROLLED SUS	TOTAL ENROLLED IN PUBLIC COLL. OR UNIV.
STATE TOTAL	102,879	31,037	30.2%	23,341	22.7%	54,378
1 ALACHUA	1,424	597	41.9%	355	24.9%	952
2 BAKER	198	67	33.8%	19	9.6%	86
3 BAY	1,189	504	42.4%	159	13.4%	663
4 BRADFORD	173	71	41.0%	13	7.5%	84
5 BREVARD	3,367	1,249	37.1%	695	20.6%	1,944
6 BROWARD	10,056	2,351	23.4%	3,052	30.4%	5,403
7 CALHOUN	101	45	44.6%	0	0.0%	45
8 CHARLOTTE	893	223	25.0%	201	22.5%	424
9 CITRUS	670	206	30.7%	109	16.3%	315
10 CLAY	1,391	463	33.3%	285	20.5%	748
11 COLLIER	1,369	253	18.5%	402	29.4%	655
12 COLUMBIA	397	169	42.6%	35	8.8%	204
13 DADE	14,326	4,507	31.5%	3,228	22.5%	7,735
14 DESOTO	147	33	22.4%	29	19.7%	62
15 DIXIE	104	34	32.7%	2	1.9%	36
16 DUVAL	4,497	1,212	27.0%	1,222	27.2%	2,434
17 ESCAMBIA	1,944	688	35.4%	404	20.8%	1,092
18 FLAGLER	305	114	37.4%	48	15.7%	162
19 FRANKLIN	74	26	35.1%	9	12.2%	35
20 GADSDEN	362	103	28.5%	59	16.3%	162
21 GILCHRIST	122	59	48.4%	5	4.1%	64
22 GLADES	40	11	27.5%	5	12.5%	16
23 GULF	126	53	42.1%	16	12.7%	69
24 HAMILTON	98	29	29.6%	7	7.1%	36
25 HARDEE	237	53	22.4%	16	6.8%	69
26 HENDRY	330	113	34.2%	33	10.0%	146
27 HERNANDO	767	223	29.1%	124	16.2%	347
28 HIGHLANDS	451	154	34.1%	70	15.5%	224
29 HILLSBOROUGH	7,258	1,689	23.3%	2,006	27.6%	3,695
30 HOLMES	184	65	35.3%	7	3.8%	72
31 INDIAN RIVER	728	249	34.2%	140	19.2%	389
32 JACKSON	435	202	46.4%	17	3.9%	219
33 JEFFERSON	69	13	18.8%	7	10.1%	20
34 LAFAYETTE	48	17	35.4%	1	2.1%	18
35 LAKE	1,257	370	29.4%	196	15.6%	566
36 LEE	2,472	582	23.5%	533	21.6%	1,115
37 LEON	1,571	582	37.0%	448	28.5%	1,030
38 LEVY	280	87	31.1%	14	5.0%	101

READINESS FOR COLLEGE: GRADUATES ENROLLED IN FLORIDA PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS, BY DISTRICT

1999-2000 public high school graduates enrolled as degree-seeking students in 2000-2001

	PCT. ENROLLED IN PUBLIC COLL. OR UNIV.	NO. TESTED ALL AREAS	NO. READY ALL AREAS	PCT. READY ALL AREAS	PCT. READY WITH BORDERLINE ACT/SAT SCORES INCLUDED
STATE TOTAL	52.9%	53,029	32,063	60.5%	65.3%
ALACHUA	66.9%	933	602	64.5%	68.7%
BAKER	43.4%	83	39	47.0%	57.8%
BAY	55.8%	657	479	72.9%	76.6%
BRADFORD	48.6%	81	53	65.4%	82.7%
BREVARD	57.7%	1,899	1,189	62.6%	66.6%
BROWARD	53.7%	5,284	3,389	64.1%	67.3%
CALHOUN	44.6%	43	22	51.2%	69.8%
CHARLOTTE	47.5%	415	265	63.9%	69.4%
CITRUS	47.0%	313	186	59.4%	69.6%
CLAY	53.8%	736	434	59.0%	66.7%
COLLIER	47.8%	632	462	73.1%	76.4%
COLUMBIA	51.4%	200	81	40.5%	55.5%
DADE	54.0%	7,382	3,636	49.3%	54.1%
DESOTO	42.2%	62	37	59.7%	71.0%
DIXIE	34.6%	35	14	40.0%	54.3%
DUVAL	54.1%	2,404	1,530	63.6%	67.5%
ESCAMBIA	56.2%	1,048	599	57.2%	67.6%
FLAGLER	53.1%	161	87	54.0%	59.0%
FRANKLIN	47.3%	31	15	48.4%	58.1%
GADSDEN	44.8%	153	42	27.5%	35.3%
GILCHRIST	52.5%	63	28	44.4%	57.1%
GLADES	40.0%	16	7	43.8%	43.8%
GULF	54.8%	67	35	52.2%	58.2%
HAMILTON	36.7%	32	10	31.3%	43.8%
HARDEE	29.1%	67	33	49.3%	62.7%
HENDRY	44.2%	145	62	42.8%	52.4%
HERNANDO	45.2%	342	186	54.4%	62.3%
HIGHLANDS	49.7%	220	146	66.4%	71.8%
HILLSBOROUGH	50.9%	3,557	2,380	66.9%	69.8%
HOLMES	39.1%	72	41	56.9%	72.2%
INDIAN RIVER	53.4%	378	217	57.4%	65.1%
JACKSON	50.3%	218	120	55.0%	64.2%
JEFFERSON	29.0%	20	9	45.0%	55.0%
LAFAYETTE	37.5%	17	8	47.1%	64.7%
LAKE	45.0%	560	316	56.4%	61.4%
LEE	45.1%	1,104	694	62.9%	68.2%
LEON	65.6%	1,011	641	63.4%	67.8%
LEVY	36.1%	100	55	55.0%	65.0%

READINESS FOR COLLEGE: GRADUATES ENROLLED IN FLORIDA PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS, BY DISTRICT

1999-2000 public high school graduates enrolled as degree-seeking students in 2000-2001

	STANDARD DIPLOMAS AWARDED 1999-2000	NO. ENROLLED COMM. COLL	PCT. ENROLLED COMM. COLL.	NO. ENROLLED SUS	PCT. ENROLLED SUS	TOTAL ENROLLED IN PUBLIC COLL. OR UNIV.
39 LIBERTY	51	15	29.4%	5	9.8%	20
40 MADISON	126	46	36.5%	14	11.1%	60
41 MANATEE	1,397	431	30.9%	239	17.1%	670
42 MARION	1,600	524	32.8%	194	12.1%	718
43 MARTIN	726	198	27.3%	174	24.0%	372
44 MONROE	426	92	21.6%	126	29.6%	218
45 NASSAU	466	152	32.6%	74	15.9%	226
46 OKALOOSA	1,752	605	34.5%	282	16.1%	887
47 OKEECHOBEE	273	87	31.9%	33	12.1%	120
48 ORANGE	6,204	1,992	32.1%	1,277	20.6%	3,269
49 OSCEOLA	1,427	510	35.7%	193	13.5%	703
50 PALM BEACH	6,440	1,674	26.0%	1,775	27.6%	3,449
51 PASCO	1,964	565	28.8%	413	21.0%	978
52 PINELLAS	4,809	1,622	33.7%	1,271	26.4%	2,893
53 POLK	3,241	948	29.3%	555	17.1%	1,503
54 PUTNAM	449	151	33.6%	37	8.2%	188
55 ST. JOHNS	927	263	28.4%	269	29.0%	532
56 ST. LUCIE	1,103	410	37.2%	175	15.9%	585
57 SANTA ROSA	1,090	348	31.9%	267	24.5%	615
58 SARASOTA	1,569	388	24.7%	418	26.6%	806
59 SEMINOLE	2,967	982	33.1%	891	30.0%	1,873
60 SUMTER	271	73	26.9%	26	9.6%	99
61 SUWANNEE	299	88	29.4%	27	9.0%	115
62 TAYLOR	153	48	31.4%	24	15.7%	72
63 UNION	108	41	38.0%	8	7.4%	49
64 VOLUSIA	2,656	947	35.7%	475	17.9%	1,422
65 WAKULLA	202	102	50.5%	18	8.9%	120
66 WALTON	263	83	31.6%	18	6.8%	101
67 WASHINGTON	158	65	41.1%	9	5.7%	74
68 DEAF & BLIND	23	9	39.1%	2	8.7%	11
69 DOZIER/OKEECHOBEE	21	4	19.0%	0	0.0%	4
73 FSU LAB	114	45	39.5%	29	25.4%	74
74 FAMU LAB	46	12	26.1%	23	50.0%	35
75 UF LAB	98	51	52.0%	29	29.6%	80

