



# Florida Information Note

## Education Information & Accountability Services

### Explanation of Florida's Three Graduation Rates

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Since the implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) in 2001, Florida has calculated two separate graduation rates: one traditional four-year rate and one rate to meet the federal reporting guidelines established by NCLB. In 2006, the Florida Legislature mandated that the state calculate a third, modified graduation rate to meet an agreement with the National Governors' Association (NGA) Compact. This modified version was first implemented using the data for 2004-05 and reported in the 2005-06 NCLB School Public Accountability Reports (SPARs).

All three versions of the graduation rate use a cohort method of tracking individual students in and out of the system from the time they enter high school in the ninth grade through completion. However, each defines a graduate differently. The differences between Florida's regular graduation rate, the NCLB graduation rate, and the modified NCLB (NGA Compact) graduation rate are as follows:

Florida's regular rate includes all diploma recipients. This includes standard and special diplomas<sup>1</sup>, as well as regular and adult GEDs.

The NCLB graduation rate includes standard diplomas and regular GEDs but excludes the special diplomas and the adult GEDs.

The modified NCLB graduation rate (NGA Compact rate), includes standard and special diplomas but excludes *all* GEDs, regular and adult.

Additional information detailing the descriptions and calculations for these rates is provided in the following online publications:

*Guide to Calculations for the NCLB SPARs:* <http://www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/pdf/nclbguide.pdf> (NCLB and modified NCLB rates)

*Technical Guide for the 2006-07 High School Graduation Rate:*

<http://www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/pdf/gradgde.pdf> (regular Florida rate)

Tables 1 and 2 below compare the three graduation rates for the 2005-06 and 2006-07 school years at the district and state level.

<sup>1</sup> Special diplomas are modified diplomas awarded to students with disabilities who have met the standards set by the state and school system for the students in an individual education plan (IEP).

**Table 1: Florida's Regular Graduation Rate, NCLB Graduation Rate, and the Modified (NGA) Graduation Rate, 2005-06**

<b>DISTRICT</b>	<b>FLORIDA</b>	<b>NCLB</b>	<b>MODIFIED</b>
ALACHUA	69.8%	66.4%	66.3%
BAKER	73.1%	70.1%	68.0%
BAY	77.5%	74.2%	75.8%
BRADFORD	69.5%	62.4%	64.4%
BREVARD	90.7%	88.5%	89.5%
BROWARD	67.8%	66.3%	67.8%
CALHOUN	89.6%	81.8%	87.4%
CHARLOTTE	78.0%	76.6%	74.1%
CITRUS	73.2%	71.1%	70.0%
CLAY	73.8%	72.2%	68.3%
COLLIER	74.7%	70.4%	73.3%
COLUMBIA	67.4%	61.2%	62.8%
DADE	59.2%	58.5%	58.7%
DESOTO	70.0%	67.0%	63.9%
DIXIE	70.4%	69.6%	70.4%
DUVAL	60.5%	59.0%	57.4%
ESCAMBIA	74.8%	69.5%	73.7%
FLAGLER	78.4%	75.9%	78.4%
FRANKLIN	60.7%	60.4%	60.4%
GADSDEN	43.9%	41.5%	41.8%
GILCHRIST	78.7%	78.2%	76.1%
GLADES	63.4%	57.3%	57.3%
GULF	83.8%	80.3%	83.7%
HAMILTON	63.2%	61.5%	52.5%
HARDEE	70.3%	66.1%	69.7%
HENDRY	72.1%	65.2%	70.2%
HERNANDO	74.1%	70.4%	72.9%
HIGHLANDS	69.6%	64.2%	68.0%
HILLSBOROUGH	77.3%	74.7%	74.5%
HOLMES	71.3%	66.7%	68.3%
INDIAN RIVER	84.7%	80.2%	81.0%
JACKSON	87.8%	80.5%	85.5%
JEFFERSON	53.5%	50.0%	50.0%
LAFAYETTE	81.7%	74.4%	81.7%
LAKE	70.1%	67.0%	67.5%
LEE	71.5%	68.0%	69.3%
LEON	76.2%	72.9%	72.5%
LEVY	65.6%	60.8%	63.8%
LIBERTY	89.7%	81.8%	52.9%
MADISON	58.5%	49.2%	55.8%
MANATEE	76.9%	71.0%	70.9%
MARION	71.8%	65.4%	63.1%
MARTIN	93.2%	90.7%	90.7%
MONROE	75.5%	72.7%	71.5%
NASSAU	81.8%	79.2%	71.4%
OKALOOSA	86.0%	84.5%	81.2%
OKEECHOBEE	62.8%	59.4%	57.2%
ORANGE	72.2%	69.0%	70.6%
OSCEOLA	64.5%	60.3%	63.2%
PALM BEACH	69.3%	66.9%	68.2%
PASCO	74.4%	69.6%	68.1%
PINELLAS	67.0%	65.2%	66.1%
POLK	68.8%	63.1%	65.4%
PUTNAM	76.4%	67.3%	68.4%
ST. JOHNS	76.7%	75.4%	75.7%
ST. LUCIE	72.7%	71.2%	72.7%
SANTA ROSA	85.5%	82.2%	84.2%
SARASOTA	79.9%	76.2%	75.6%
SEMINOLE	83.4%	83.6%	84.2%
SUMTER	76.3%	71.3%	74.5%
SUWANNEE	65.1%	63.5%	62.5%
TAYLOR	78.3%	74.3%	76.1%
UNION	76.7%	75.8%	74.5%
VOLUSIA	81.9%	76.7%	80.2%
WAKULLA	77.6%	72.1%	74.6%
WALTON	76.1%	74.9%	75.2%
WASHINGTON	69.8%	69.0%	69.4%
<b>STATE</b>	<b>71.0%</b>	<b>68.3%</b>	<b>68.9%</b>

**Table 2: Florida's Regular Graduation Rate, NCLB Graduation Rate, and the Modified (NGA) Graduation Rate, 2006-07**

DISTRICT	Florida %	NCLB %	Modified (NGA) %
ALACHUA	68.2	63.1	65.2
BAKER	77.9	74.4	76.3
BAY	78.7	75.3	76.8
BRADFORD	70.7	63.4	68.7
BREVARD	92.1	89.6	91.2
BROWARD	66.3	65.0	66.3
CALHOUN	82.5	79.0	80.4
CHARLOTTE	81.6	78.9	75.9
CITRUS	76.1	73.3	74.3
CLAY	75.3	73.6	68.6
COLLIER	73.6	70.1	71.9
COLUMBIA	74.1	68.1	67.2
DADE	63.9	63.0	63.4
DESOTO	70.5	67.6	62.8
DIXIE	75.3	71.7	75.0
DUVAL	64.3	61.3	59.8
ESCAMBIA	75.2	70.4	74.0
FLAGLER	77.1	72.4	77.1
FRANKLIN	56.5	54.1	55.0
GADSDEN	53.3	51.5	46.6
GILCHRIST	86.0	85.6	84.0
GLADES	62.3	59.7	50.6
GULF	85.1	84.5	85.1
HAMILTON	68.1	63.0	50.4
HARDEE	72.7	66.4	72.1
HENDRY	68.3	63.1	65.0
HERNANDO	75.1	70.5	72.8
HIGHLANDS	73.0	67.7	69.3
HILLSBOROUGH	79.1	76.4	76.3
HOLMES	76.2	72.2	70.6
INDIAN RIVER	82.9	80.1	78.7
JACKSON	81.7	76.4	80.1
JEFFERSON	64.2	53.5	58.1
LAFAYETTE	79.4	77.8	77.8
LAKE	73.5	69.8	69.5
LEE	71.8	68.9	70.6
LEON	79.0	76.2	72.7
LEVY	66.4	61.7	64.3
LIBERTY	90.7	79.7	57.9
MADISON	66.9	57.7	59.6
MANATEE	78.7	72.4	73.4
MARION	74.9	68.7	65.4
MARTIN	91.2	87.3	88.9
MONROE	83.6	79.4	76.5
NASSAU	80.7	76.7	70.2
OKALOOSA	84.7	83.2	80.9
OKEECHOBEE	64.0	60.7	57.9
ORANGE	71.7	68.6	69.7
OSCEOLA	66.6	62.3	65.5
PALM BEACH	71.8	69.5	70.2
PASCO	73.7	69.2	67.8
PINELLAS	67.3	65.9	66.3
POLK	70.6	65.3	67.2
PUTNAM	78.6	70.7	71.0
ST. JOHNS	78.3	75.6	76.7
ST. LUCIE	75.4	73.7	75.3
SANTA ROSA	86.8	84.1	85.9
SARASOTA	83.5	79.7	78.8
SEMINOLE	86.7	85.7	85.8
SUMTER	81.1	77.2	77.6
SUWANNEE	74.4	70.4	67.9
TAYLOR	77.4	70.0	74.7
UNION	81.7	79.6	81.7
VOLUSIA	82.6	76.7	80.9
WAKULLA	82.5	75.2	78.5
WALTON	74.2	72.2	72.0
WASHINGTON	71.5	69.5	70.4
STATE	72.4	69.8	70.3

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