



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**  
fldoe.org

# Home Education in Florida

## 2016-17 School Year Annual Report

Florida Department of Education

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## Home Education in Florida

Established by the Florida Legislature as a school choice option in 1985, home education is defined in Section 1002.01, Florida Statutes (F.S.), as “the sequentially progressive instruction of a student directed by his or her parent.” Section 1002.41, F.S., requires parents to notify the district school superintendent in the county of residence of their intent to establish and maintain a home education program and to provide the name, address, and birth date of each participating student.

Florida law does not require a particular educational background for parents of home-educated students. Parents who home educate their children are able to customize the curriculum to the needs of each child. However, a portfolio of activities, records and materials showing student work must be maintained for two years and made available to the school district if requested in writing. Additionally, Section 1002.41, F.S. requires that students in home education programs annually undergo one of five academic evaluation options, the results of which must be submitted to the school district by the parent.

Each year, the Department of Education surveys all school districts to collect data on the number of students and families who have registered their intent to establish home education programs. For the 2016-17 school year, the numbers provided by the districts indicate that 60,547 families and 87,462 students participated in home education programs. In the last five years, the total number of students in home education has increased by 11,661 or 15% over the 75,801 students reported in 2012-13, with a five-year average of 81,554 students.

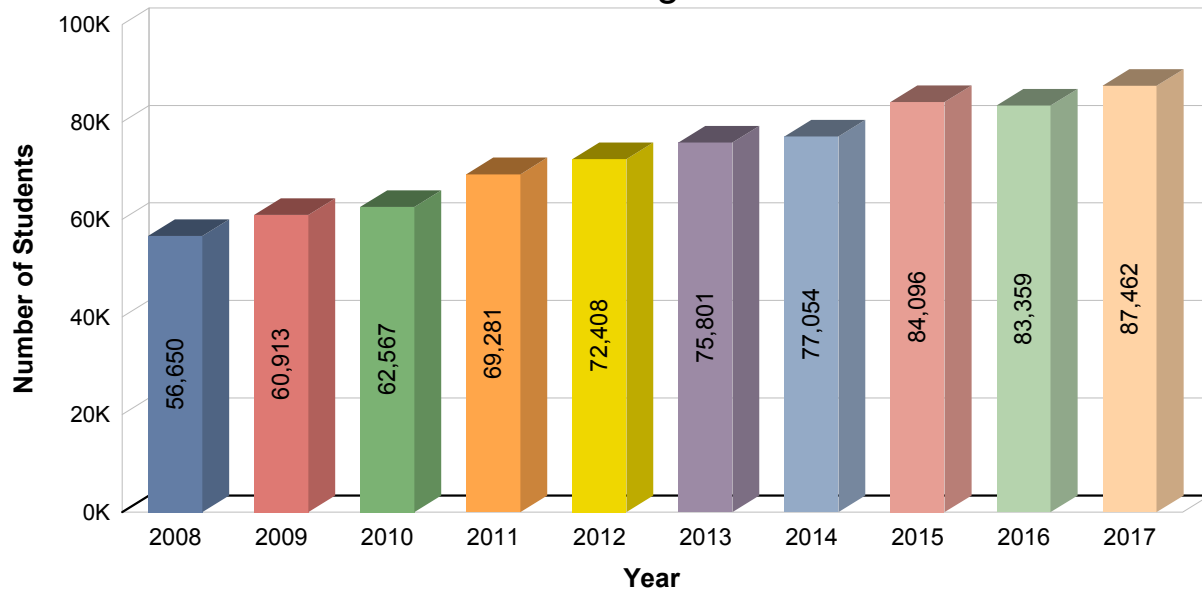


For more information on home education in Florida, please visit the Web site of the Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice at:  
<http://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/other-school-choice-options/home-edu/>.

## HOME EDUCATION STATISTICS BY DISTRICT, 2016-17

DISTRICT ID	DISTRICT NAME	STUDENTS	FAMILIES
1	Alachua	1,450	892
2	Baker	209	149
3	Bay	1,071	680
4	Bradford	234	153
5	Brevard	4,045	2,944
6	Broward	3,995	3,202
7	Calhoun	68	42
8	Charlotte	583	524
9	Citrus	683	509
10	Clay	1,249	901
11	Collier	1,471	1,028
12	Columbia	584	485
13	Dade	3,087	1,543
14	DeSoto	184	140
15	Dixie	122	102
16	Duval	6,772	5,375
17	Escambia	1,300	845
18	Flagler	605	439
19	Franklin	27	23
20	Gadsden	292	194
21	Gilchrest	180	153
22	Glades	64	58
23	Gulf	83	61
24	Hamilton	137	96
25	Hardee	164	117
26	Hendry	100	66
27	Hernando	1,100	805
28	Highlands	394	317
29	Hillsborough	5,860	3,410
30	Holmes	183	142
31	Indian River	1,131	817
32	Jackson	360	233
33	Jefferson	119	65
34	Lafayette	65	43
35	Lake	3,140	2,215
36	Lee	2,021	1,492
37	Leon	1,633	1,075
38	Levy	373	300
39	Liberty	20	17
40	Madison	180	138
41	Manatee	1,647	1,283
42	Marion	2,542	2,007
43	Martin	831	558
44	Monroe	195	28
45	Nassau	657	414
46	Okaloosa	1,132	724
47	Okeechobee	509	367
48	Orange	5,221	3,829
49	Osceola	1,530	1,122
50	Palm Beach	5,974	3,115
51	Pasco	3,253	2,230
52	Pinellas	3,069	2,179
53	Polk	3,238	2,476
54	Putnam	317	201
55	St. Johns	1,617	980
56	St. Lucie	1,686	1,252
57	Santa Rosa	1,040	565
58	Sarasota	1,260	950
59	Seminole	1,878	1,348
60	Sumter	483	171
61	Suwannee	334	301
62	Taylor	191	159
63	Union	139	87
64	Volusia	2,566	1,860
65	Wakulla	210	147
66	Walton	442	300
67	Washington	163	104
<b>STATE TOTAL:</b>		<b>87,462</b>	<b>60,547</b>

## Student Enrollment in Home Education Programs 2007-08 Through 2016-17

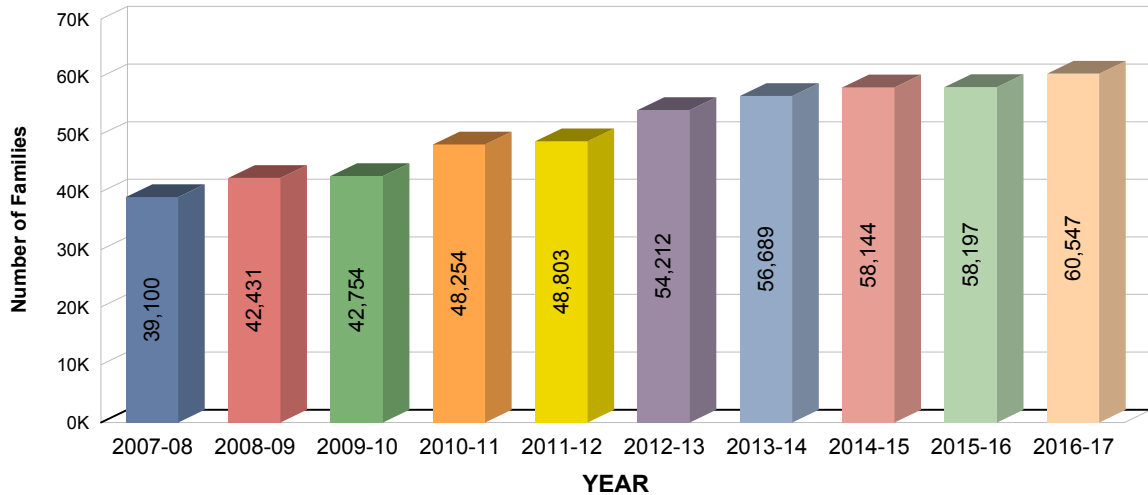


<u>School Year</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
2017	87,462	4,103	4.9%
2016	83,359	-737	-0.9%
2015	84,096	7,042	9.1%
2014	77,054	1,253	1.7%
2013	75,801	3,393	4.7%
2012	72,408	3,127	4.5%
2011	69,281	6,714	10.7%
2010	62,567	1,654	2.7%
2009	60,913	4,263	7.5%
2008	56,650		

## Districts with the Most Home Education Students 2016-17

<u>District Name</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>%</u>
Duval	6,772	7.7%	5,375	8.9%
Palm Beach	5,974	6.8%	3,115	5.1%
Hillsborough	5,860	6.7%	3,410	5.6%
Orange	5,221	6.0%	3,829	6.3%
Brevard	4,045	4.6%	2,944	4.9%
Broward	3,995	4.6%	3,202	5.3%
Pasco	3,253	3.7%	2,230	3.7%
Polk	3,238	3.7%	2,476	4.1%
Lake	3,140	3.6%	2,215	3.7%
Dade	3,087	3.5%	1,543	2.5%

## Families in Home Education Programs 2007-08 Through 2016-17



<u>Year</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
2016-17	60,547	4.0%
2015-16	58,197	0.1%
2014-15	58,144	2.6%
2013-14	56,689	4.6%
2012-13	54,212	11.1%
2011-12	48,803	1.1%
2010-11	48,254	12.9%
2009-10	42,754	0.8%
2008-09	42,431	8.5%
2007-08	39,100	