

# Data Report

## *Enrollment Size of Florida's Public Schools*

### State and National Comparisons—Elementary, Middle, and High Schools

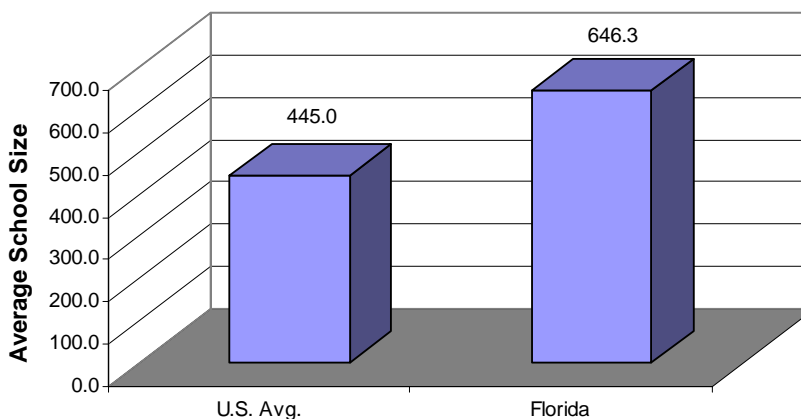
According to data published by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Florida public elementary schools have the highest average enrollment in the nation.<sup>1</sup> For the 2007-08 school year, Florida averaged 646.3 students per elementary school, slightly higher than the second ranked state, Georgia, which averaged 625.6 students per elementary school. By comparison, Nevada averaged 580.8 students per elementary school, Utah averaged 578.0, and South Carolina averaged 531.0. The state with the lowest average enrollment is Montana, at 158.0. The national average is 445.0 (Figure 1).

Average enrollment for Florida's middle schools is also the highest in the nation at 911.3 students per school followed by Nevada with 886.3 students. California follows with 828.7, then Hawaii with 791.2 and Utah with 782.9. The state with the lowest average was Montana with 126.3 students per middle school. The national average was 581.8 (Figure 2).

At 1,716.3 students per school, average enrollment for Florida's public high schools was nearly twice the national average, which was 881.2 (Figure 3). North Dakota has the smallest average high school enrollment with 198.3 students.

Nationally, as well as in Florida, high schools tend to be larger than both middle and elementary schools, though the difference is more significant in Florida (Figure 4).

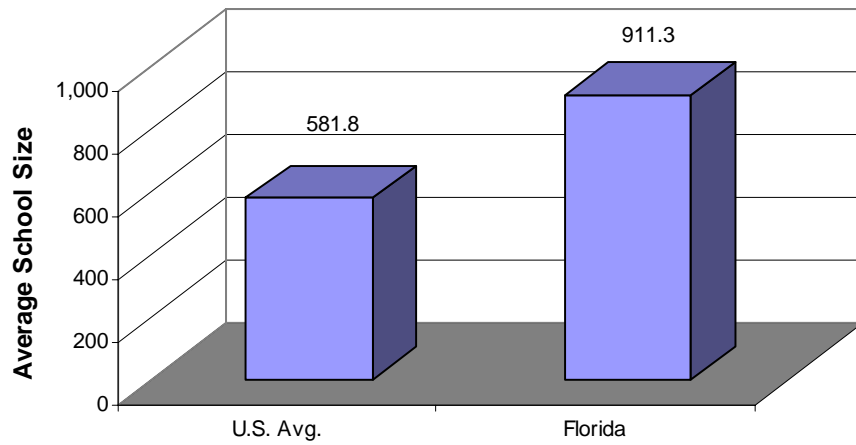
**Figure 1: Elementary Schools, 2007-08 Average Enrollment Size**



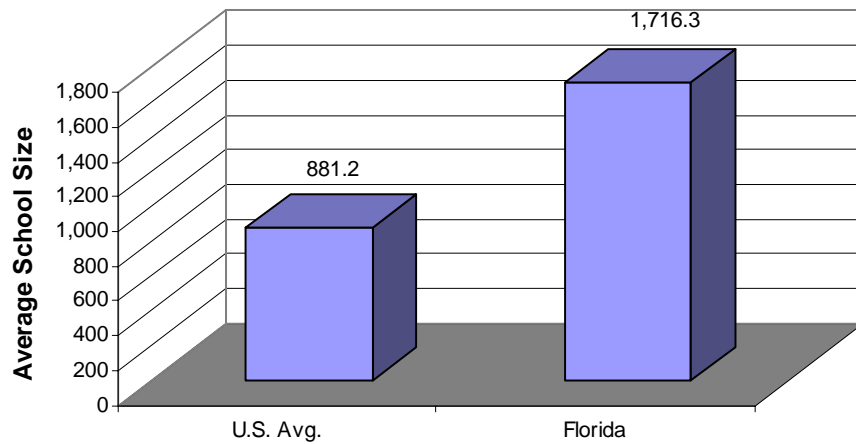
Florida Department of Education  
Eric J. Smith, Commissioner

<sup>1</sup>Source: Hoffman, L. *Numbers and Types of Public Elementary and Secondary Schools from the Common Core of Data: School Year 2007-08*. Washington, D.C.: National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. NCES 2010-305 (2009), 12-13.

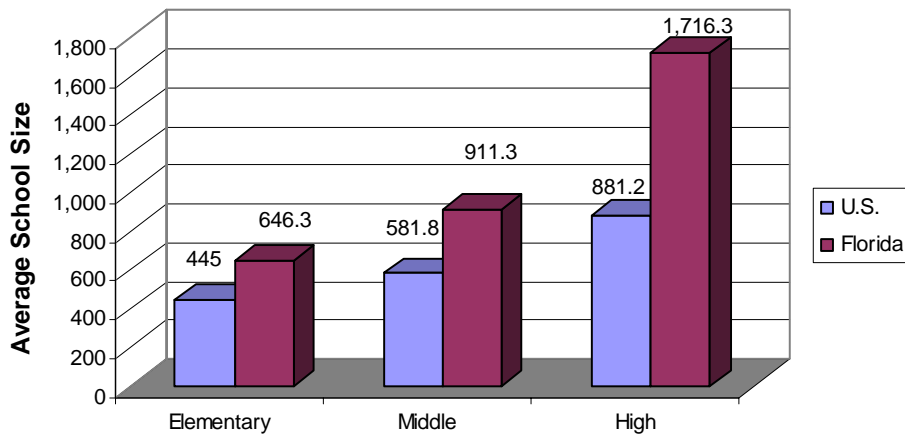
**Figure 2: Middle Schools, 2007-08 Average Enrollment Size**



**Figure 3: High Schools, 2007-08 Average Enrollment Size**



**Figure 4: School Type Comparisons, 2007-08**



**Comparison of Averages among Selected States**

Schools tend to be smaller in predominantly rural states, such as South Dakota, Montana, and Nebraska, and larger in states with larger urban populations, such as Florida and California.<sup>1</sup>

**Table 1: Elementary Schools, 2007-08<sup>2</sup>**

<b>State</b>	<b>Largest</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Smallest</b>
Florida	646.3	Montana	158.0
Georgia	625.6	North Dakota	164.7
Nevada	580.8	South Dakota	166.7
Utah	578.0	Wyoming	205.3
South Carolina	531.0	Vermont	212.2

**Table 2: Middle Schools, 2007-08<sup>3</sup>**

<b>State</b>	<b>Largest</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Smallest</b>
Florida	911.3	Montana	126.3
Nevada	886.3	South Dakota	152.4
California	828.7	Wyoming	280.0
Hawaii	791.2	D.C.	291.5
Utah	782.9	Vermont	316.3

**Table 3: High Schools, 2007-08<sup>4</sup>**

<b>State</b>	<b>Largest</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Smallest</b>
Florida	1,716.3	North Dakota	198.3
California	1,515.4	South Dakota	220.9
Maryland	1,360.4	Montana	276.2
Nevada	1,339.5	Nebraska	352.9
Hawaii	1,315.7	Oklahoma	352.6

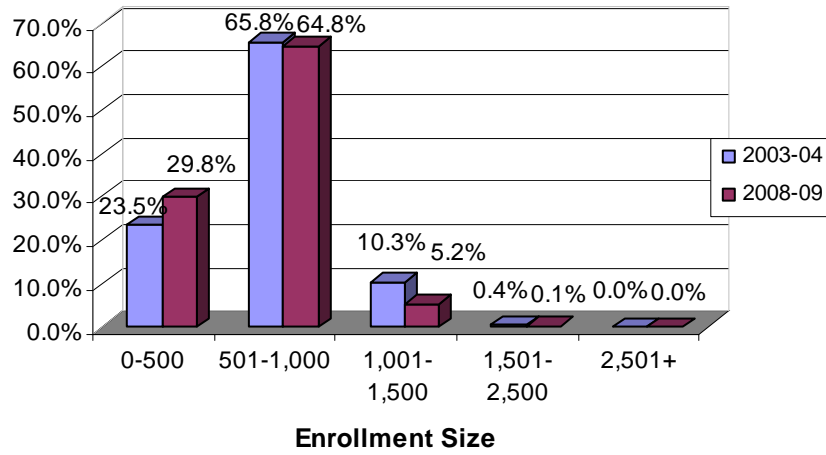
**Florida's Schools – Distribution by Enrollment**

The following figures compare the percentage distribution of Florida public schools by size of enrollment between 2003-04 and 2008-09. The percentage of smaller schools (500 students or fewer) has increased since 2003-04. The percentage of small elementary schools increased from 23.5 in 2003-04 to 29.8 in 2008-09; the percentage of small middle schools increased from 12.8 to 16.8; and the percentage of small high schools increased from 24.8 to 53.9. However, the percentage of small combination schools decreased from 78.8 in 2003-04 to 63.0 to 2008-09. Conversely, the percentage of larger schools (more than 1,000 students) has decreased over the same period. The percentage of large elementary schools decreased from 10.7 in 2003-04 to 5.3 in 2008-09; the percentage of large middle schools decreased from 56.6 to 38.7; and the percentage of large high schools decreased from 68.5 to 39.2. Large combination schools increased from 2.7 percent in 2003-04 to 21.0 percent in 2008-09.

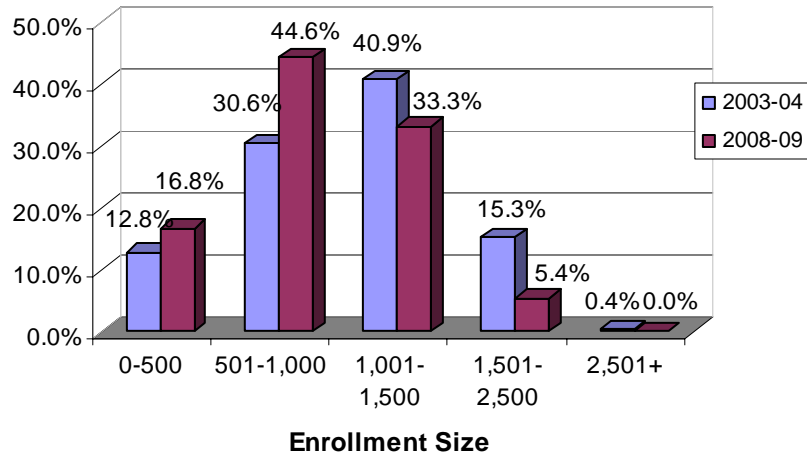
Figures 5 through 8 are followed by Tables 4 through 7, which show, by district, the distribution of elementary, middle, high, and combination schools by enrollment for 2008-09. Please note that, unlike editions of this report prior to 2009, this issue contains separate tables and charts for combination schools as a result of an alteration in the reporting of school types in the Florida School Indicators Report. Therefore, school totals for enrollment size in this report will not be comparable with issues prior to 2009.

<sup>1, 2, 3, 4</sup> Ibid.

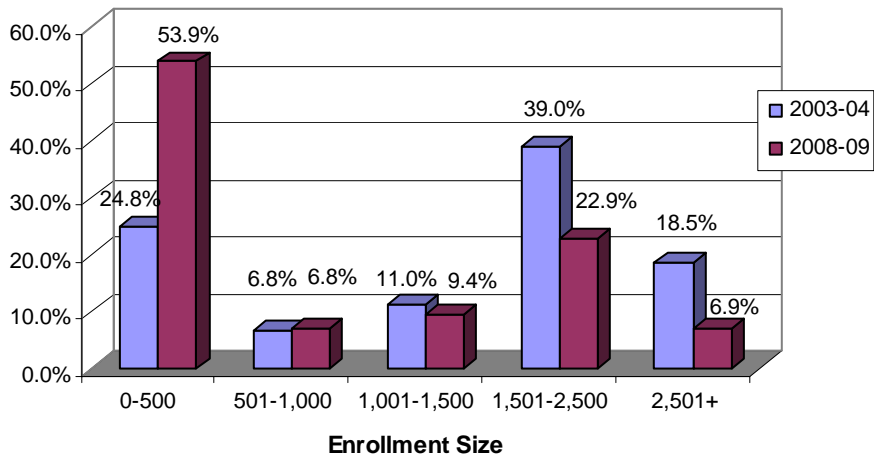
**Figure 5: Elementary Schools**



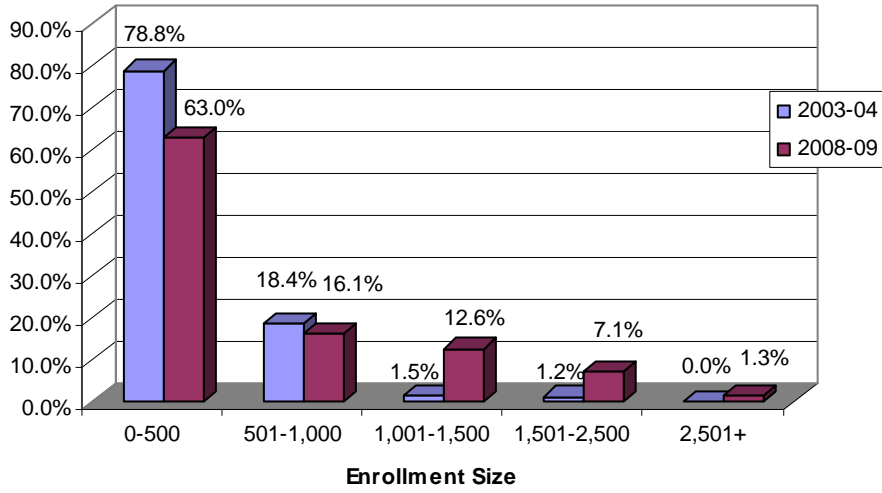
**Figure 6: Middle Schools**



**Figure 7: High Schools**



**Figure 8: Combination Schools**



Source: 2008-09 Florida School Indicators Report

**Table 4: Elementary Schools Enrollment Size, 2008-09**

District	0-500	501-1,000	1,001-1,500	1,501-2,500	2,501+	Total
Alachua	19	11				30
Baker		4				4
Bay	8	14				22
Bradford	4	1				5
Brevard	20	42				62
Broward	41	110	20	1		172
Calhoun		1				1
Charlotte	1	10				11
Citrus	2	9				11
Clay	1	22	2			25
Collier	1	29				30
Columbia	1	7				8
Dade	71	123	22	1		217
DeSoto	1	3				4
Dixie		2				2
Duval	56	38	11			105
Escambia	21	17	1			39
Flagler	1	2	3			6
Franklin						
Gadsden	7	3				10
Gilchrist		2				2
Glades	3					3
Gulf	1	1				2
Hamilton	3					3
Hardee	2	3				5
Hendry	1	5				6
Hernando		8	1			9
Highlands	1	9				10
Hillsborough	50	99	3			152
Holmes	1	1				2
Indian River	9	9				18
Jackson	1	4				5
Jefferson	1	1				2
Lafayette		1				1
Lake	2	17	6			25
Lee	9	32	5			46
Leon	4	22				26
Levy		4				4
Liberty	1					1
Madison	3					3
Manatee	15	25				40
Marion	9	22	1			32
Martin	5	11				16
Monroe	5	2				7
Nassau	4	5				9
Okaloosa	2	17				19
Okeechobee	2	4				6
Orange	33	88	6			127
Osceola	2	16	5			23
Palm Beach	36	79	9			124
Pasco	5	39	2			46
Pinellas	25	60				85
Polk	27	56				83
Putnam	7	5				12
St. Johns	2	13	2			17
St. Lucie	2	17				19
Santa Rosa	4	14				18
Sarasota	8	20	2			30
Seminole	5	35	1			41
Sumter	2	3				5
Suwannee		4				4
Taylor	1	2				3
Union		1				1
Volusia	18	32				50
Wakulla	3	3				6
Walton	2	4				6
Washington		2				2
<b>Florida*</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>1,246</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>1,924</b>

Source: 2008-09 Florida School Indicators Report

\*State totals include Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, Dozier/Okeechobee, Florida Virtual School, four university lab schools, Florida Connections Academy, and Florida Virtual Academy.

**Table 5: Middle Schools Enrollment Size, 2008-09**

District	0-500	501-1,000	1,001-1,500	1,501-2,500	2,501+	Total
Alachua	4	6				10
Baker			1			1
Bay	1	6				7
Bradford		1				1
Brevard	2	9	1			12
Broward	13	9	19	13		54
Calhoun	1					1
Charlotte		3	1			4
Citrus		3	1			4
Clay		4	1			5
Collier	1	8	2			11
Columbia		1	1			2
Dade	23	28	21	6		78
DeSoto		1				1
Dixie	1					1
Duval	4	11	11	1		27
Escambia	4	5	3			12
Flagler	1		1	1		3
Franklin						
Gadsden	1	1				2
Gilchrist						
Glades						
Gulf	2					2
Hamilton						
Hardee			1			1
Hendry		2				2
Hernando	1	3	1			5
Highlands		4				4
Hillsborough	6	23	17	3		49
Holmes	1					1
Indian River	1		3			4
Jackson		1				1
Jefferson						
Lafayette						
Lake		5	5			10
Lee	2	16	2			20
Leon	5	5	1			11
Levy	2	1				3
Liberty						
Madison						
Manatee	2	9	1			12
Marion		3	5			8
Martin	1	3	1			5
Monroe		1				1
Nassau		3				3
Okaloosa		8				8
Okeechobee		2				2
Orange	2	10	21	2		35
Osceola		1	4	2		7
Palm Beach		11	21	1		33
Pasco		8	6	1		15
Pinellas		6	15			21
Polk	5	12	6			23
Putnam	1	3				4
St. Johns	1	4	3			8
St. Lucie		3				3
Santa Rosa		6	1			7
Sarasota	3	5	3			11
Seminole	1	1	9	2		13
Sumter	1	1				2
Suwannee			1			1
Taylor		1				1
Union		1				1
Volusia		4	9			13
Wakulla		2				2
Walton	3	1				4
Washington	1	1				2
<b>Florida*</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>32</b>		<b>597</b>

Source: 2008-09 Florida School Indicators Report

\*State totals include Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, Dozier/Okeechobee, Florida Virtual School, four university lab schools, Florida Connections Academy, and Florida Virtual Academy.

**Table 6: High Schools Enrollment Size, 2008-09**

District	0-500	501-1,000	1,001-1,500	1,501-2,500	2,501+	Total
Alachua	8	1	1	3		13
Baker			1			1
Bay	7		2	1		10
Bradford		1				1
Brevard	7	2	4	3	1	17
Broward	16	6	2	20	9	53
Calhoun	1					1
Charlotte	2		1	2		5
Citrus	5		1	2		8
Clay	1		1	1		3
Collier	6		1	4		11
Columbia	1		1	1		3
Dade	59	6	5	13	19	102
DeSoto	2		1			3
Dixie		1				1
Duval	13	1	7	10	2	33
Escambia	9	1	1	4		15
Flagler	3		1	1		5
Franklin						
Gadsden	3	1	1			5
Gilchrist		2				2
Glades	2					2
Gulf	2					2
Hamilton	1	1				2
Hardee	2					2
Hendry	2	1	1			4
Hernando				2		2
Highlands	1					1
Hillsborough	21		5	17	3	46
Holmes	3					3
Indian River	1	1		1	1	4
Jackson	5	1				6
Jefferson	2					2
Lafayette		1				1
Lake	4	1	3	2	1	11
Lee	16	2	5	7		30
Leon	7		2			12
Levy	1	3				4
Liberty	4					4
Madison	2	1				3
Manatee	10		2	3		15
Marion	8		3	4		15
Martin	4			3		7
Monroe	3	2	1			6
Nassau	3	3				6
Okaloosa	10			4		14
Okeechobee	4		1			5
Orange	27		1	4	12	44
Osceola	8	2	1	5		16
Palm Beach	25	3	5	14	4	51
Pasco	10		3	7	1	21
Pinellas	20		1	12		33
Polk	15	2	5	9		31
Putnam		1				1
St. Johns	6	1	1	4		12
St. Lucie	7		1	4		12
Santa Rosa	8			4		12
Sarasota	4	1	1	2		8
Seminole	5	1		5	1	12
Sumter	4		1			5
Suwannee	1	1	1			3
Taylor	2	1				3
Union	2	1				3
Volusia	16	1	1	4	2	24
Wakulla	2					2
Walton	5	1				6
Washington	1					1
<b>Florida*</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>807</b>

Source: 2008-09 Florida School Indicators Report

\*State totals include Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, Dozier/Okeechobee, Florida Virtual School, four university lab schools, Florida Connections Academy, and Florida Virtual Academy.

**Table 7: Combination Schools Enrollment Size, 2008-09**

District	0-500	501-1,000	1,001-1,500	1,501-2,500	2,501+	Total
Alachua	5	1				6
Baker						
Bay	3		2			5
Bradford	2					2
Brevard	8	3	2	3		16
Broward	12	4				16
Calhoun	1	1				2
Charlotte	1					1
Citrus	1					1
Clay	1		1	3	1	6
Collier	8		2			10
Columbia						
Dade	20	10	17	4		51
DeSoto	5					5
Dixie						
Duval	6	3	1			10
Escambia	7			1		8
Flagler	1					1
Franklin	2	1				3
Gadsden	2					2
Gilchrist						
Glades	1					1
Gulf						
Hamilton	1					1
Hardee			1			1
Hendry	1					1
Hernando	1		4	1		6
Highlands		1	1	1		3
Hillsborough	16	3				19
Holmes	1	1				2
Indian River	1					1
Jackson	4	2				6
Jefferson	2					2
Lafayette						
Lake	6	1				7
Lee	10	5	2			17
Leon	7	1				8
Levy	4					4
Liberty	2	1				3
Madison	1		1			2
Manatee	7			2		9
Marion	2		2			4
Martin	3					3
Monroe	1	3				4
Nassau			1			1
Okaloosa	7	1	1			9
Okeechobee	1					1
Orange	12	2	1			15
Osceola	4	4	2	2		12
Palm Beach	11	1				12
Pasco	5					5
Pinellas	15			3		18
Polk	11	4				15
Putnam	1	1		1		3
St. Johns	3	2				5
St. Lucie	5	2	5	3		15
Santa Rosa	1					1
Sarasota	6		1	1	2	10
Seminole	4			1	1	6
Sumter				1		1
Suwannee						
Taylor	1					1
Union						
Volusia	4				1	5
Wakulla	1		1			2
Walton		2				2
Washington	1	1				2
<b>Florida*</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>397</b>

Source: 2008-09 Florida School Indicators Report

\*State totals include Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, Dozier/Okeechobee, Florida Virtual School, four university lab schools, Florida Connections Academy, and Florida Virtual Academy.