



Florida Information Note

Education Information & Accountability Services

Growth of Minority Student Populations in Florida's Public Schools

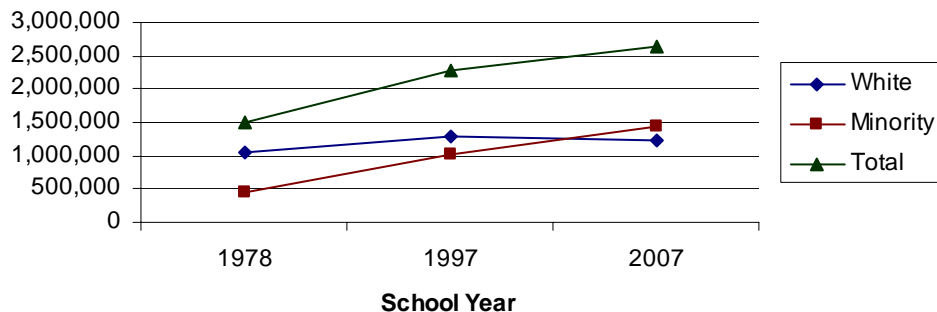
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Introduction

During the last quarter century, minority student populations have grown substantially in Florida's public schools. Beginning with the school year 2003-04, enrollment for minority students exceeded the white student enrollment. This continued growth has been accompanied by shifts in the demographic composition of the most densely populated counties in south Florida, along with continuing growth in minority student populations in other urban areas of the state. From 1978 to 2007, the number of minority students in Florida's public schools grew from 458,817 to 1,437,451, an increase of 213.3 percent. This compares with an increase of 75.6 percent for the overall student population (from 1,510,633 to 2,652,684) and a 15.5 percent increase for the white student population (from 1,051,816 to 1,215,233) during the same period.

Comparative Growth of White and Minority Student Populations



Nineteen of Florida's 67 school districts have minority enrollments of 50 percent or more (see chart below). Only nine districts have experienced a decrease in their minority enrollment since 1978. Additional information for each of the state's school districts is provided in tables at the end of this document.

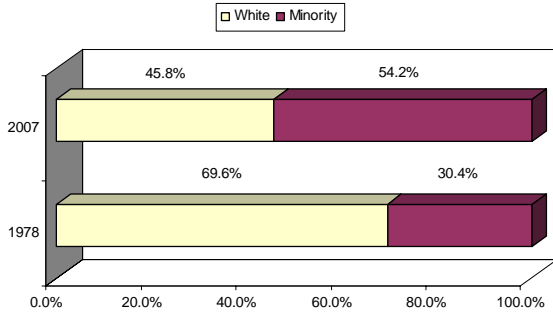
Districts with Greater than 50 Percent Minority Enrollment, Fall 2007

District	Percent Minority	District	Percent Minority
Gadsden	96.76	Duval	59.08
Dade	90.84	Glades	58.39
Jefferson	76.17	Hillsborough	58.16
Hendry	71.06	St. Lucie	57.87
Broward	69.66	Collier	56.39
Osceola	69.21	Hamilton	51.39
Orange	65.90	Alachua	51.39
Hardee	62.35	Leon	51.16
Madison	61.12	DeSoto	50.87
Palm Beach	60.18		

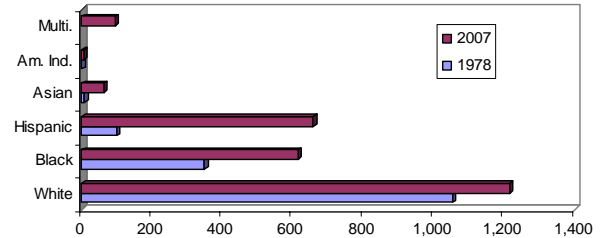
Summaries by Racial/Ethnic Category

As shown in the bar chart below, the percentage of white students in Florida's public schools has dropped from 69.6 percent in 1978 to 45.8 percent in 2007. At the same time, the minority student representation statewide increased from 30.4 percent to 54.2 percent.

Demographic Shift in Florida's K-12 Student Population, Student Populations by Race (in Thousands)



Public Schools, 1978 to 2007

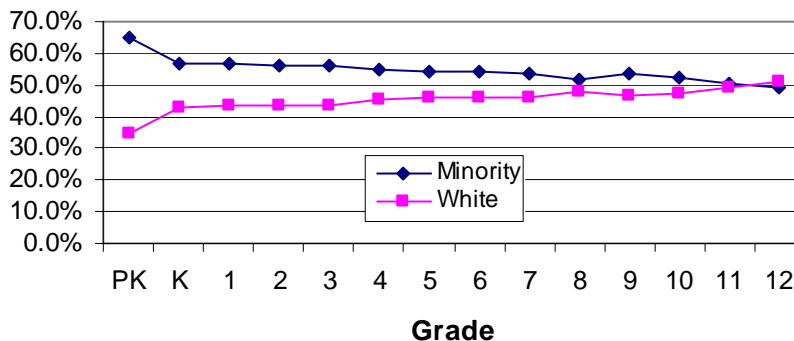


Within specific racial/ethnic categories, the degree of growth (or decline) in comparative representation varies. From 1978 to 2007, the greatest numerical gains occurred in the Hispanic population, which increased from 100,021 students to 657,372, representing a gain of 557,351. By contrast, the population of black students increased by 265,606 (from 348,545 in 1978 to 614,151 in 2007), while the population of white students increased by 163,417 (from 1,051,816 to 1,215,233). Growth for the period is illustrated above for the major racial/ethnic categories.

Grade Level Summaries

Minority enrollment versus white enrollment by grade is displayed in the line graph below. As the graph depicts, minority enrollment now exceeds white enrollment for all grade levels except the 12th grade.

Minority Enrollment Versus White Enrollment by Grade, 2007



Fall 1978 Minority and White Students Fall 2007 Minority and White Students*

DISTRICT	Minority				Minority				% Change in Minority
	Minority#	White #	%	White %	Minority#	White #	%	White %	
ALACHUA	7,308	14,210	34.0%	66.0%	14,583	13,795	51.4%	48.6%	17.4%
BAKER	645	2,810	18.7%	81.3%	770	4,153	15.6%	84.4%	-3.0%
BAY	3,388	16,303	17.2%	82.8%	6,779	19,455	25.8%	74.2%	8.6%
BRADFORD	838	2,942	22.2%	77.8%	1,012	2,561	28.3%	71.7%	6.2%
BREVARD	7,516	42,088	15.2%	84.8%	22,547	51,817	30.3%	69.7%	15.2%
BROWARD	35,041	101,607	25.6%	74.4%	180,244	78,502	69.7%	30.3%	44.0%
CALHOUN	313	1,686	15.7%	84.3%	426	1,803	19.1%	80.9%	3.5%
CHARLOTTE	376	6,009	5.9%	94.1%	4,137	13,661	23.2%	76.8%	17.4%
CITRUS	572	6,812	7.7%	92.3%	2,471	13,695	15.3%	84.7%	7.5%
CLAY	1,207	14,791	7.5%	92.5%	8,946	27,179	24.8%	75.2%	17.2%
COLLIER	3,422	10,162	25.2%	74.8%	24,424	18,285	57.2%	42.8%	32.0%
COLUMBIA	2,022	5,265	27.7%	72.3%	3,073	7,060	30.3%	69.7%	2.6%
DADE	142,595	86,479	62.2%	37.8%	316,222	31,894	90.8%	9.2%	28.6%
DESOTO	948	2,528	27.3%	72.7%	2,550	2,463	50.9%	49.1%	23.6%
DIXIE	295	1,390	17.5%	82.5%	265	1,925	12.1%	87.9%	-5.4%
DUVAL	37,678	67,707	35.8%	64.2%	73,698	51,043	59.1%	40.9%	23.3%
ESCAMBIA	12,881	30,767	29.5%	70.5%	19,616	22,235	46.9%	53.1%	17.4%
FLAGLER	442	1,261	26.0%	74.0%	4,011	8,760	31.4%	68.6%	5.5%
FRANKLIN	346	1,498	18.8%	81.2%	211	1,035	16.9%	83.1%	-1.8%
GADSDEN	7,699	1,864	80.5%	19.5%	6,305	211	96.8%	3.2%	16.3%
GILCHRIST	92	1,352	6.4%	93.6%	254	2,635	8.8%	91.2%	2.4%
GLADES	410	661	38.3%	61.7%	797	568	58.4%	41.6%	20.1%
GULF	540	1,871	22.4%	77.6%	429	1,742	19.8%	80.2%	-2.6%
HAMILTON	1,064	1,219	46.6%	53.4%	1,138	880	56.4%	43.6%	9.8%
HARDEE	1,139	2,853	28.5%	71.5%	3,126	1,888	62.3%	37.7%	33.8%
HENDRY	1,605	2,835	36.1%	63.9%	5,194	2,115	71.1%	28.9%	34.9%
HERNANDO	862	5,244	14.1%	85.9%	5,587	17,253	24.5%	75.5%	10.3%
HIGHLANDS	1,958	5,271	27.1%	72.9%	5,893	6,552	47.4%	52.6%	20.3%
HILLSBOROUGH	27,802	83,106	25.1%	74.9%	112,282	80,780	58.2%	41.8%	33.1%
HOLMES	76	3,351	2.2%	97.8%	221	3,209	6.4%	93.6%	4.2%
INDIAN RIVER	2,182	6,603	24.8%	75.2%	6,412	11,234	36.3%	63.7%	11.5%
JACKSON	2,599	5,559	31.9%	68.1%	2,721	4,642	37.0%	63.0%	5.1%
JEFFERSON	1,462	771	65.5%	34.5%	879	275	76.2%	23.8%	10.7%
LAFAYETTE	88	792	10.0%	90.0%	288	803	26.4%	73.6%	16.4%
LAKE	3,785	13,334	22.1%	77.9%	15,365	25,343	37.7%	62.3%	15.6%
LEE	5,944	22,506	20.9%	79.1%	39,373	41,168	48.9%	51.1%	28.0%
LEON	7,063	14,346	33.0%	67.0%	16,612	15,860	51.2%	48.8%	18.2%
LEVY	1,016	2,865	26.2%	73.8%	1,579	4,649	25.4%	74.6%	-0.8%
LIBERTY	119	791	13.1%	86.9%	316	1,197	20.9%	79.1%	7.8%
MADISON	1,936	1,407	57.9%	42.1%	1,701	1,082	61.1%	38.9%	3.2%
MANATEE	4,504	15,588	22.4%	77.6%	18,418	24,084	43.3%	56.7%	20.9%
MARION	6,377	15,152	29.6%	70.4%	17,073	25,210	40.4%	59.6%	10.8%
MARTIN	1,750	6,580	21.0%	79.0%	5,884	12,225	32.5%	67.5%	11.5%
MONROE	2,002	6,357	24.0%	76.0%	3,459	4,902	41.4%	58.6%	17.4%
NASSAU	1,283	6,204	17.1%	82.9%	1,528	9,551	13.8%	86.2%	-3.3%
OKALOOSA	3,450	21,663	13.7%	86.3%	7,965	21,585	27.0%	73.0%	13.2%
OKEECHOBEE	699	3,580	16.3%	83.7%	2,953	4,085	42.0%	58.0%	25.6%
ORANGE	19,882	61,389	24.5%	75.5%	114,696	59,337	65.9%	34.1%	41.4%
OSCEOLA	991	7,321	11.9%	88.1%	36,509	16,243	69.2%	30.8%	57.3%
PALM BEACH	25,223	45,500	35.7%	64.3%	102,832	68,045	60.2%	39.8%	24.5%
PASCO	1,494	22,189	6.3%	93.7%	16,971	49,343	25.6%	74.4%	19.3%
PINELLAS	16,396	73,350	18.3%	81.7%	40,170	67,712	37.2%	62.8%	19.0%
POLK	13,599	44,972	23.2%	76.8%	45,795	48,370	48.6%	51.4%	25.4%
PUTNAM	2,923	6,919	29.7%	70.3%	4,850	6,961	41.1%	58.9%	11.4%
ST. JOHNS	1,892	5,988	24.0%	76.0%	4,915	22,914	17.7%	82.3%	-6.3%
ST. LUCIE	5,787	7,371	44.0%	56.0%	23,344	16,998	57.9%	42.1%	13.9%
SANTA ROSA	854	11,400	7.0%	93.0%	3,638	22,073	14.1%	85.9%	7.2%
SARASOTA	3,336	20,933	13.7%	86.3%	11,966	30,047	28.5%	71.5%	14.7%
SEMINOLE	5,685	28,780	16.5%	83.5%	27,154	38,236	41.5%	58.5%	25.0%
SUMTER	1,269	3,193	28.4%	71.6%	2,207	5,311	29.4%	70.6%	0.9%
SUWANNEE	1,160	3,573	24.5%	75.5%	1,553	4,452	25.9%	74.1%	1.4%
TAYLOR	952	2,516	27.5%	72.5%	1,001	2,388	29.5%	70.5%	2.1%
UNION	328	1,070	23.5%	76.5%	475	1,821	20.7%	79.3%	-2.8%
VOLUSIA	7,951	27,846	22.2%	77.8%	23,310	41,260	36.1%	63.9%	13.9%
WAKULLA	495	1,867	21.0%	79.0%	794	4,385	15.3%	84.7%	-5.6%
WALTON	516	3,216	13.8%	86.2%	1,156	5,815	16.6%	83.4%	2.8%
WASHINGTON	745	2,383	23.8%	76.2%	868	2,723	24.2%	75.8%	0.4%
DEAF/BLIND					345	358	49.1%	50.9%	N/A
DOZIER					250	81	75.5%	24.5%	N/A
FAU LAB					331	309	51.7%	48.3%	N/A
FSU LAB					1,142	1,068	51.7%	48.3%	N/A
FAMU LAB					370	0	100.0%	0.0%	N/A
UF LAB					547	615	47.1%	52.9%	N/A
CONNECTIONS					288	613	32.0%	68.0%	N/A
FL VIRTUAL					237	706	25.1%	74.9%	N/A
STATE TOTAL	458,817	1,051,816	30.4%	69.6%	1,437,451	1,215,233	54.2%	45.8%	23.8%

*Survey 2 Data as of November 21, 2007

As a service to Florida school districts, each *Florida Information Note* (FIN) presents substantive information on education topics of current interest. Each FIN is prepared by Education Information and Accountability Services, 852 Turlington Bldg., 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400. For further information, call (850) 245-0400 or SunCom 205-0400, or visit our web address at <http://www.fldoc.org/eias/>.