



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

Home Education in Florida

2020-21 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 2020-21 school year, the numbers provided by the districts indicate that 100,293 families and 143,431 students participated in home education programs. This represents a 35% increase over the 2019-20 school year and is believed to be a direct result of families opting out of face-to-face instruction in a classroom due to the ongoing pandemic. In the last five years, the total number of students in home education has increased by 55,969 or 64% over the 87,462 students reported in 2016-17, with a five-year average of 104,817 students.

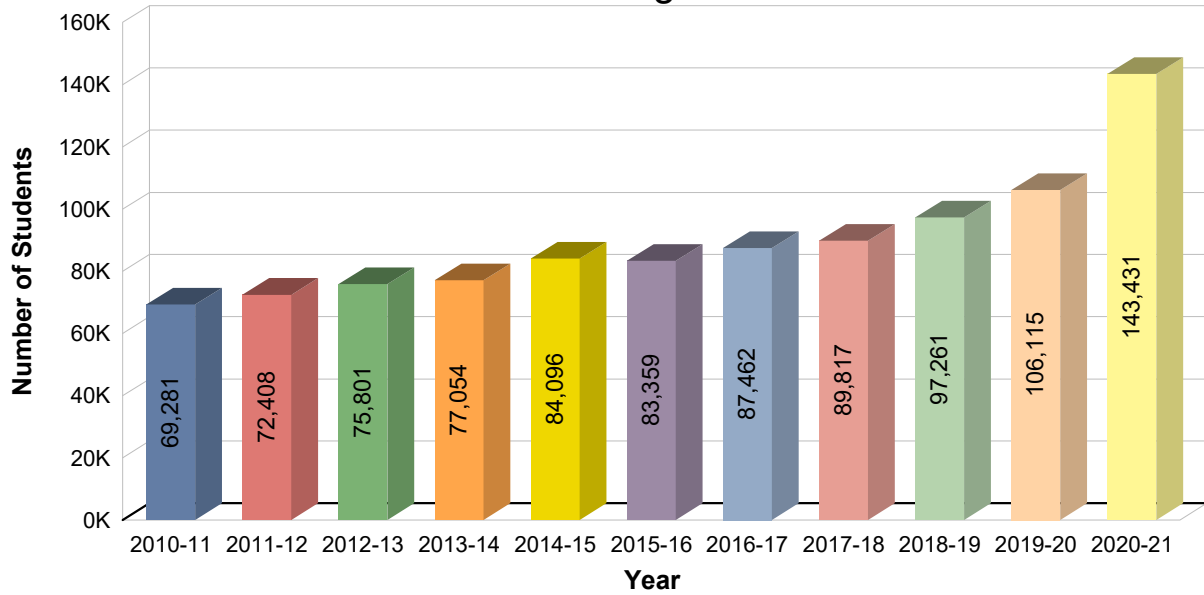
For more information on home education in Florida, please visit the Web site of the Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice at:
<http://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/other-school-choice-options/home-edu/>.



HOME EDUCATION STATISTICS BY DISTRICT, 2020-2021

<u>DISTRICT ID</u>	<u>DISTRICT NAME</u>	<u>STUDENTS</u>	<u>%STUDENTS</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>	<u>%FAMILIES</u>
1	Alachua	2,109	1.47%	1,783	1.78%
2	Baker	449	0.31%	310	0.31%
3	Bay	1,671	1.17%	1,200	1.20%
4	Bradford	388	0.27%	315	0.31%
5	Brevard	6,664	4.65%	4,776	4.76%
6	Broward	8,782	6.12%	6,572	6.55%
7	Calhoun	196	0.14%	144	0.14%
8	Charlotte	997	0.70%	623	0.62%
9	Citrus	1,427	0.99%	1,059	1.06%
10	Clay	2,165	1.51%	1,490	1.49%
11	Collier	2,231	1.56%	1,505	1.50%
12	Columbia	910	0.63%	621	0.62%
13	Dade	5,883	4.10%	4,274	4.26%
14	DeSoto	324	0.23%	215	0.21%
15	Dixie	174	0.12%	136	0.14%
16	Duval	7,886	5.50%	6,651	6.63%
17	Escambia	2,111	1.47%	1,362	1.36%
18	Flagler	1,036	0.72%	716	0.71%
19	Franklin	19	0.01%	15	0.01%
20	Gadsden	273	0.19%	169	0.17%
21	Gilchrist	287	0.20%	194	0.19%
22	Glades	83	0.06%	53	0.05%
23	Gulf	129	0.09%	92	0.09%
24	Hamilton	125	0.09%	86	0.09%
25	Hardee	279	0.19%	185	0.18%
26	Hendry	237	0.17%	172	0.17%
27	Hernando	1,891	1.32%	1,546	1.54%
28	Highlands	664	0.46%	427	0.43%
29	Hillsborough	10,964	7.64%	8,134	8.11%
30	Holmes	249	0.17%	168	0.17%
31	Indian River	1,075	0.75%	839	0.84%
32	Jackson	586	0.41%	494	0.49%
33	Jefferson	272	0.19%	169	0.17%
34	Lafayette	102	0.07%	76	0.08%
35	Lake	4,366	3.04%	3,089	3.08%
36	Lee	3,302	2.30%	2,214	2.21%
37	Leon	2,007	1.40%	1,412	1.41%
38	Levy	554	0.39%	392	0.39%
39	Liberty	113	0.08%	86	0.09%
40	Madison	249	0.17%	168	0.17%
41	Manatee	2,236	1.56%	1,584	1.58%
42	Marion	5,458	3.81%	3,717	3.71%
43	Martin	1,342	0.94%	299	0.30%
44	Monroe	316	0.22%	233	0.23%
45	Nassau	1,326	0.92%	881	0.88%
46	Okaloosa	2,180	1.52%	1,337	1.33%
47	Okeechobee	640	0.45%	454	0.45%
48	Orange	9,098	6.34%	6,416	6.40%
49	Osceola	2,417	1.69%	1,590	1.59%
50	Palm Beach	9,141	6.37%	6,213	6.19%
51	Pasco	4,583	3.20%	3,091	3.08%
52	Pinellas	4,143	2.89%	2,833	2.82%
53	Polk	4,646	3.24%	3,291	3.28%
54	Putnam	695	0.48%	396	0.39%
55	St. Johns	3,164	2.21%	2,200	2.19%
56	St. Lucie	3,345	2.33%	1,683	1.68%
57	Santa Rosa	2,150	1.50%	840	0.84%
58	Sarasota	2,652	1.85%	1,871	1.87%
59	Seminole	3,506	2.44%	2,425	2.42%
60	Sumter	977	0.68%	691	0.69%
61	Suwannee	580	0.40%	422	0.42%
62	Taylor	373	0.26%	288	0.29%
63	Union	288	0.20%	224	0.22%
64	Volusia	3,379	2.36%	2,326	2.32%
65	Wakulla	344	0.24%	234	0.23%
66	Walton	1,009	0.70%	679	0.68%
67	Washington	214	0.15%	143	0.14%
STATE TOTAL		143,431	100.00%	100,293	100.00%

Student Enrollment in Home Education Programs 2010-11 Through 2020-21

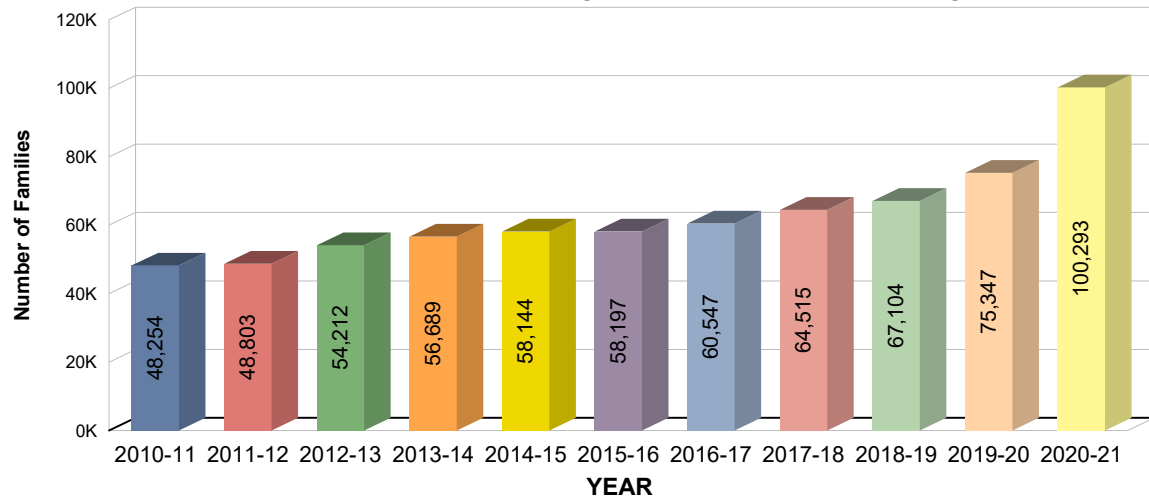


<u>School Year</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
2020-21	143,431	37,316	35.2%
2019-20	106,115	8,854	9.1%
2018-19	97,261	7,444	8.3%
2017-18	89,817	2,355	2.7%
2016-17	87,462	4,103	4.9%
2015-16	83,359	-737	-0.9%
2014-15	84,096	7,042	9.1%
2013-14	77,054	1,253	1.7%
2012-13	75,801	3,393	4.7%
2011-12	72,408	3,127	4.5%
2010-11	69,281		

Districts with the Most Home Education Students 2020-21

<u>District Name</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>%</u>
Hillsborough	10,964	7.6%	8,134	8.1%
Palm Beach	9,141	6.4%	6,213	6.2%
Orange	9,098	6.3%	6,416	6.4%
Broward	8,782	6.1%	6,572	6.6%
Duval	7,886	5.5%	6,651	6.6%
Brevard	6,664	4.6%	4,776	4.8%
Dade	5,883	4.1%	4,274	4.3%
Marion	5,458	3.8%	3,717	3.7%
Polk	4,646	3.2%	3,291	3.3%
Pasco	4,583	3.2%	3,091	3.1%

Families in Home Education Programs 2010-11 Through 2020-21



<u>School Year</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
2020-21	100,293	33.1%
2019-20	75,347	12.3%
2018-19	67,104	4.0%
2017-18	64,515	6.6%
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	