# Florida's High School Cohort <br> 2016-17 Dropout Rate 

## February 2018

## Florida's Dropout Rate

Florida's cohort-based dropout rate has declined since 2011-12, with 0.9 percentage points fewer students dropping out prior to their scheduled graduation. The rate declined from 4.9 percent in 2011-12 to 4.0 percent in 2016-17, with a slight increase of 0.2 percent from 2015-16 to 2016-17. Exhibit 1 shows the cohort-based dropout rates from 2011-12 to 2016-17.

Exhibit 1: Florida's Cohort-Based Dropout Rates, 2011-12 to 2016-17


The cohort-based dropout rate is the percentage of students who drop out of school within four years of their first enrollment in ninth grade. Subsequent to their enrollment in ninth grade, students who transfer out and deceased students are removed from the calculation. Entering transfer students are included in the rate for the class with which they are scheduled to graduate, based on their date of enrollment. In a cohort, at the end of four years students can be classified as graduates, dropouts, or nongraduates. A dropout is defined as a student who withdraws from school for any of several reasons without transferring to another school, home education program, or adult education program (see Table 1). In 2016-17, the cohort-based dropout rate was 4.0\%, down from 4.9\% in 2011-12.

The department used to publish a single-year dropout rate. The single-year dropout rate often caused confusion because it was not comparable to the graduation rate. It represented the percentage of high school students who dropped out in any one year and was not an inverse of the graduation rate. The department no longer produces a single-year dropout rate.

Exhibit 2 below provides the definitions for students counted as dropouts.

## Exhibit 2: Dropout Withdrawal Codes and Definitions

DNE - Any KG-12 student who was expected to attend a school but did not enter as expected for unknown reasons and required documented efforts to locate the student are maintained per s. 1003.26, Florida Statutes.
W05 - Any student age 16 or older who leaves school voluntarily with no intention of returning and has filed a formal declaration of intent to terminate school enrollment per s. 1003.21, Florida Statutes.
W13 - Any KG-12 student withdrawn from school due to court action.
W15 - Any KG-12 student who is withdrawn from school due to nonattendance after all procedures outlined in sections 1003.26 and 1003.27, Florida Statutes, have been followed.
W18 - Any KG-12 student who withdraws from school due to medical reasons and the student is unable to receive educational services, such as those provided through the hospital/homebound program.
W21 - Any KG-12 student who is withdrawn from school due to being expelled with no educational services.
W22 - Any KG-12 student whose whereabouts is unknown and required documented efforts to locate the student are maintained per s. 1003.26, Florida Statutes.

W23 - Any KG-12 student who withdraws from school for any reason other than W01-W22 or W24-W27.

## Cohort-Based Dropout Rates by Race/Ethnicity and Sex

Florida's cohort-based dropout rates vary by race/ethnicity. The subgroups with the largest decreases since 2012-13 include: African American (-1.5 percentage points) and Hispanic ( -0.5 percentage points). The subgroups with the largest one-year decreases include: American Indian ( -0.3 percentage points) and Pacific Islander (-0.6 percentage points). Exhibit 3 below shows the cohort-based dropout rates by race/ethnicity.

Exhibit 3: Cohort-Based Dropout Rates by Race/Ethnicity, 2012-2013 through 2016-2017

|  |  | Black or |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | White | African <br> American | Hispanic/ <br> Latino | Asian | American <br> Indian or <br> Alaska <br> Native | Two or <br> More <br> Races | Hawaiian <br> or Other <br> Pacific <br> Islander | Total |
| $2012-13$ | $3.7 \%$ | $6.7 \%$ | $4.8 \%$ | $1.3 \%$ | $4.3 \%$ | $3.2 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $4.6 \%$ |
| $2013-14$ | $3.5 \%$ | $6.0 \%$ | $4.5 \%$ | $1.1 \%$ | $5.3 \%$ | $3.3 \%$ | $3.2 \%$ | $4.3 \%$ |
| $2014-15$ | $3.5 \%$ | $5.5 \%$ | $4.2 \%$ | $0.9 \%$ | $6.4 \%$ | $3.8 \%$ | $2.2 \%$ | $4.1 \%$ |
| $2015-16$ | $3.2 \%$ | $4.9 \%$ | $4.1 \%$ | $0.8 \%$ | $5.7 \%$ | $3.6 \%$ | $2.8 \%$ | $3.8 \%$ |
| $2016-17$ | $3.3 \%$ | $5.2 \%$ | $4.3 \%$ | $0.9 \%$ | $5.4 \%$ | $4.0 \%$ | $2.2 \%$ | $4.0 \%$ |

Exhibit 4 provides the dropout rates for sex and by race/ethnicity within sex. Overall, the dropout rates for both females and males have decreased since 2012-13, by 0.5 percent and 0.7 percent, respectively. Additional disaggregations for the cohort-based dropout rates may be obtained through the "Build Your Own Table" feature in the High School Graduation Rates section of the EDStats tool at https://edstats.fldoe.org.

Exhibit 4: Cohort-Based Dropout Rates by Sex within Race/Ethnicity, 2012-13 through 2016-17

| Year | White <br> Female | White <br> Male | Black or <br> African <br> Female | Black or <br> African <br> American <br> Male | Hispanic/ <br> Latino <br> Female | Hispanic/ <br> Latino <br> Male | Asian <br> Female | Asian <br> Male |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $2012-13$ | $2.9 \%$ | $4.5 \%$ | $5.3 \%$ | $8.0 \%$ | $3.9 \%$ | $5.7 \%$ | $1.0 \%$ | $1.6 \%$ |
| $2013-14$ | $2.8 \%$ | $4.2 \%$ | $4.7 \%$ | $7.3 \%$ | $3.5 \%$ | $5.4 \%$ | $0.9 \%$ | $1.3 \%$ |
| $2014-15$ | $2.7 \%$ | $4.3 \%$ | $4.2 \%$ | $6.7 \%$ | $3.4 \%$ | $5.0 \%$ | $0.6 \%$ | $1.3 \%$ |
| $2015-16$ | $2.3 \%$ | $4.0 \%$ | $3.7 \%$ | $6.1 \%$ | $3.0 \%$ | $5.2 \%$ | $0.6 \%$ | $1.0 \%$ |
| $2016-17$ | $2.6 \%$ | $4.1 \%$ | $3.9 \%$ | $6.4 \%$ | $3.3 \%$ | $5.3 \%$ | $0.7 \%$ | $1.1 \%$ |

Exhibit 4 Continued: Dropout Rates by Sex within Race/Ethnicity, 2012-13 through 2016-17

|  | American <br> Indian or <br> Alaska Native <br> Female | American <br> Indian or <br> Alaska Native <br> Male | Two or <br> More <br> Races <br> Female | Two or <br> More <br> Races <br> Male | Native <br> Hawaiian or <br> Other Pacific <br> Islander <br> Female | Native <br> Hawaiian or <br> Other Pacific <br> Islander <br> Male | Total <br> Female | Total <br> Male |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $2012-13$ | $3.0 \%$ | $5.4 \%$ | $2.3 \%$ | $4.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $0.0 \%$ | $3.6 \%$ | $5.6 \%$ |
| $2013-14$ | $4.6 \%$ | $6.1 \%$ | $2.5 \%$ | $3.5 \%$ | $1.0 \%$ | $5.4 \%$ | $3.4 \%$ | $5.1 \%$ |
| $2014-15$ | $3.5 \%$ | $9.4 \%$ | $3.0 \%$ | $4.7 \%$ | $3.5 \%$ | $0.9 \%$ | $3.2 \%$ | $5.0 \%$ |
| $2015-16$ | $5.5 \%$ | $5.9 \%$ | $2.7 \%$ | $4.6 \%$ | $1.7 \%$ | $4.0 \%$ | $2.8 \%$ | $4.7 \%$ |
| $2016-17$ | $5.7 \%$ | $5.2 \%$ | $3.2 \%$ | $4.8 \%$ | $0.8 \%$ | $3.8 \%$ | $3.1 \%$ | $4.9 \%$ |

## Cohort-Based Dropout Rates by District

Exhibit 5 shows the cohort-based dropout rates by district from 2012-13 to 2016-17. School-level and additional district-level disaggregations for the cohort-based dropout rates may be obtained via the "Build Your Own Table" section in the High School Graduation Rates section of the EDStats tool at https://edstats.fldoe.org.

Exhibit 5: Cohort-Based Dropout Rates by District, 2012-13 through 2016-17

| District |  | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | FLORIDA | 4.6\% | 4.3\% | 4.1\% | 3.8\% | 4.0\% |
| 01 | Alachua | 7.5\% | 6.2\% | 6.1\% | 4.6\% | 4.8\% |
| 02 | Baker | 9.6\% | 2.9\% | 3.7\% | 3.2\% | 4.5\% |
| 03 | Bay | 3.2\% | 4.3\% | 3.6\% | 2.5\% | 2.6\% |
| 04 | Bradford | 7.6\% | 6.2\% | 5.0\% | 1.0\% | 3.0\% |
| 05 | Brevard | 1.5\% | 2.0\% | 2.3\% | 1.7\% | 2.3\% |
| 06 | Broward | 3.1\% | 2.9\% | 2.5\% | 2.5\% | 2.1\% |
| 07 | Calhoun | 5.9\% | 7.7\% | 4.9\% | 6.7\% | 7.0\% |
| 08 | Charlotte | 7.4\% | 6.6\% | 8.0\% | 8.9\% | 7.4\% |
| 09 | Citrus | 4.2\% | 5.6\% | 4.7\% | 3.4\% | 6.1\% |
| 10 | Clay | 2.9\% | 3.6\% | 3.6\% | 3.4\% | 2.8\% |
| 11 | Collier | 5.7\% | 5.4\% | 5.0\% | 4.4\% | 3.4\% |
| 12 | Columbia | 1.2\% | 1.7\% | 3.5\% | 1.8\% | 2.5\% |
| 13 | Miami-Dade | 5.7\% | 4.9\% | 4.7\% | 5.0\% | 5.7\% |
| 14 | DeSoto | 9.4\% | 12.9\% | 12.7\% | 14.2\% | 7.6\% |
| 15 | Dixie | 6.1\% | 2.6\% | 1.0\% | 1.6\% | 3.5\% |
| 16 | Duval | 5.7\% | 5.3\% | 5.1\% | 4.5\% | 5.3\% |
| 17 | Escambia | 3.3\% | 2.9\% | 2.1\% | 1.9\% | 1.1\% |
| 18 | Flagler | 4.4\% | 3.8\% | 5.3\% | 3.1\% | 2.6\% |
| 19 | Franklin | 7.5\% | 13.3\% | 4.1\% | 9.5\% | 10.4\% |
| 20 | Gadsden | 7.0\% | 5.6\% | 11.0\% | 11.6\% | 11.5\% |
| 21 | Gilchrist | 2.6\% | 1.1\% | 1.2\% | 0.0\% | 2.4\% |
| 22 | Glades | 9.2\% | 6.8\% | 5.3\% | 6.7\% | 3.7\% |
| 23 | Gulf | 0.7\% | 4.4\% | 4.1\% | 1.3\% | 4.5\% |
| 24 | Hamilton | 18.2\% | 4.8\% | 11.1\% | 9.0\% | 18.6\% |
| 25 | Hardee | 12.1\% | 14.4\% | 11.2\% | 10.8\% | 8.0\% |
| 26 | Hendry | 9.0\% | 13.4\% | 11.2\% | 12.2\% | 9.0\% |
| 27 | Hernando | 6.6\% | 7.9\% | 7.1\% | 7.3\% | 9.0\% |
| 28 | Highlands | 13.0\% | 12.0\% | 8.1\% | 6.9\% | 5.4\% |
| 29 | Hillsborough | 3.1\% | 2.6\% | 2.8\% | 3.3\% | 3.4\% |
| 30 | Holmes | 9.9\% | 9.5\% | 5.9\% | 9.4\% | 11.6\% |
| 31 | Indian River | 1.9\% | 0.4\% | 0.9\% | 0.8\% | 0.6\% |
| 32 | Jackson | 4.3\% | 3.3\% | 4.2\% | 3.4\% | 2.9\% |
| 33 | Jefferson | 12.2\% | 8.3\% | 2.2\% | 4.0\% | 5.6\% |
| 34 | Lafayette | 0.0\% | 1.3\% | 3.9\% | 1.4\% | 1.2\% |
| 35 | Lake | 5.3\% | 5.6\% | 6.5\% | 5.4\% | 6.1\% |
| 36 | Lee | 2.8\% | 3.9\% | 5.4\% | 3.5\% | 4.3\% |
| 37 | Leon | 3.0\% | 2.7\% | 1.3\% | 0.7\% | 0.4\% |

Exhibit 5: Cohort-Based Dropout Rates by District, 2012-13 through 2016-17

| District |  | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | FLORIDA | 4.6\% | 4.3\% | 4.1\% | 3.8\% | 4.0\% |
| 38 | Levy | 4.9\% | 4.7\% | 4.2\% | 3.1\% | 3.8\% |
| 39 | Liberty | 3.3\% | 3.2\% | 3.2\% | 3.1\% | 4.8\% |
| 40 | Madison | 3.2\% | 5.9\% | 3.0\% | 2.7\% | 0.6\% |
| 41 | Manatee | 4.7\% | 9.0\% | 7.3\% | 6.8\% | 4.7\% |
| 42 | Marion | 3.6\% | 4.9\% | 2.8\% | 3.4\% | 6.3\% |
| 43 | Martin | 1.4\% | 2.1\% | 1.6\% | 1.6\% | 4.3\% |
| 44 | Monroe | 4.8\% | 5.0\% | 3.9\% | 4.4\% | 4.4\% |
| 45 | Nassau | 0.7\% | 0.7\% | 1.2\% | 1.6\% | 0.9\% |
| 46 | Okaloosa | 1.3\% | 1.5\% | 2.5\% | 1.7\% | 2.1\% |
| 47 | Okeechobee | 17.5\% | 11.4\% | 12.0\% | 9.5\% | 10.5\% |
| 48 | Orange | 3.1\% | 3.2\% | 1.9\% | 1.4\% | 1.4\% |
| 49 | Osceola | 2.1\% | 2.0\% | 1.8\% | 2.3\% | 1.7\% |
| 50 | Palm Beach | 8.4\% | 7.3\% | 6.8\% | 5.0\% | 5.9\% |
| 51 | Pasco | 3.1\% | 1.6\% | 2.0\% | 2.3\% | 3.3\% |
| 52 | Pinellas | 4.0\% | 2.1\% | 3.2\% | 5.0\% | 4.1\% |
| 53 | Polk | 11.9\% | 10.0\% | 9.0\% | 8.8\% | 8.4\% |
| 54 | Putnam | 14.2\% | 14.3\% | 13.9\% | 11.1\% | 7.1\% |
| 55 | St. Johns | 3.6\% | 3.0\% | 2.6\% | 2.0\% | 2.9\% |
| 56 | St. Lucie | 5.8\% | 4.4\% | 3.0\% | 1.8\% | 1.9\% |
| 57 | Santa Rosa | 3.6\% | 3.4\% | 3.2\% | 2.6\% | 2.9\% |
| 58 | Sarasota | 5.1\% | 4.3\% | 5.0\% | 3.1\% | 3.6\% |
| 59 | Seminole | 0.8\% | 1.0\% | 1.4\% | 1.3\% | 1.8\% |
| 60 | Sumter | 7.7\% | 6.1\% | 9.4\% | 6.1\% | 3.6\% |
| 61 | Suwannee | 3.9\% | 1.1\% | 1.9\% | 0.8\% | 1.3\% |
| 62 | Taylor | 9.1\% | 15.0\% | 6.6\% | 12.6\% | 9.7\% |
| 63 | Union | 1.2\% | 3.8\% | 2.9\% | 3.7\% | 1.3\% |
| 64 | Volusia | 2.5\% | 2.1\% | 2.5\% | 2.2\% | 3.4\% |
| 65 | Wakulla | 5.3\% | 6.8\% | 3.4\% | 1.2\% | 1.4\% |
| 66 | Walton | 7.3\% | 10.7\% | 7.3\% | 8.1\% | 4.8\% |
| 67 | Washington | 6.9\% | 9.7\% | 10.3\% | 10.2\% | 9.3\% |
| 68 | Deaf/Blind | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 1.5\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% |
| 69 | Wash. Special | **.* | **.* | **.* | **.* | **.* |
| 71 | FL Virtual | **.* | 7.7\% | 8.6\% | 6.8\% | 4.9\% |
| 72 | FAU Lab School | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% |
| 73 | FSU Charter School | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.7\% | 0.7\% | 0.0\% |
| 74 | FAMU Lab School | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% |
| 75 | UF Lab School | 3.4\% | 0.9\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% | 0.0\% |

## Note:

To provide meaningful results and to protect the privacy of individual students, data are displayed only when the total number of students in a group is at least 10. Data for groups less than 10 are displayed with asterisks (**.*). A blank cell indicates no students in the cohort.

