



Florida Department of Education
Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services

2011 LEA Profile

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Commissioner

Introduction

District:	Enrollment Group:	PK-12 Population:	Percent Disabled:
Highlands	7,000 to 20,000	12,128	13%

The LEA profile is intended to provide districts with a tool for use in planning for systemic improvement in exceptional education programs. The profile contains a series of data indicators that describe measures of educational benefit, educational environment, prevalence, parent involvement and provides information about **district performance as compared to state level targets in Florida's State Performance Plan (SPP)**. Required by IDEA 2004, the State Performance Plan (2005-2012) is a eight-year plan that establishes annual benchmarks and targets for 20 indicators. Annual Performance Reports (APR) are submitted to report progress in these performance areas and the process requires annual public reporting for the state and each local education agency.

Data in the LEA profile are presented for the district and the state. Where appropriate and available, comparative data for enrollment group and/or general education students are included. Indicators in **bold** are part of the State Performance Plan.

Data presented as indicators of educational benefit (*Section One*)

- **NCLB graduation rate**
- Standard diploma graduation rate
- **Dropout rate**
- **Postschool outcome data**

Note: Statewide assessment data (participation and performance) are published separately in the fall of each year.

Data presented as indicators of educational environment (*Section Two*)

- **Students with disabilities ages 6-21 by placement setting**
- **Children with disabilities ages 3-5 by placement setting**
- **Part C to Part B transition**
- **Secondary Transition IEPs**
- **Students with disabilities suspended/expelled for more than 10 days in a school year**

Data presented as indicators of prevalence (*Section Three*)

- **Evaluations completed within 60 days**
- Student membership by race/ethnicity
- **Risk ratios of racial/ethnic groups being identified as disabled**

Data presented as an indicator of parent involvement (*Section Four*)

- **Survey of parent perceptions**

Selected State Performance Plan indicators (*Section Five*)

- **Summary information on selected state performance plan indicators**
- **State level targets**
- **District level data**

Data Sources and Reporting

The data contained in this profile were obtained from data submitted electronically by districts through the Department of Education Information Database in surveys 2 and 5, parent survey submissions, the Florida Education and Training Placement Information Program (FETPIP), and through the Department of Health (DOH) Early Steps program.

Data contained in Section One through Section Four are rounded to the nearest whole number. Because rounding is not used in determining if SPP targets have been met, data in Section Five contain all decimal places.

Districts in Enrollment Group:

Charlotte, Citrus, Columbia, Flagler, Highlands, Indian River, Jackson, Martin, Monroe, Nassau, Putnam, Sumter, Walton

Section One: Educational Benefit

Educational benefit refers to the extent to which children benefit from their educational experience. Progression through and completion of school are dimensions of educational benefit as are postschool outcomes. This section of the profile provides data on indicators of school completion, and postschool outcomes.

No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Graduation Rate:

The number of first-time ninth graders from four years ago, plus incoming transfer students on the same schedule to graduate, minus students from this population who transferred out or left to enroll in a private school, home education, or adult education, divided into the number of standard diploma graduates from the same group. The resulting percentages are reported for the three-year period from **2007-08** through **2009-10** for students with disabilities and all students.

Student with Disabilities

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Highlands	23%	31%	39%
Enrollment Group	48%	56%	49%
State	43%	47%	49%

All Students

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Highlands	65%	73%	75%
Enrollment Group	77%	81%	82%
State	73%	76%	78%

Standard Diploma Graduation Rate:

The number of standard diploma graduates divided by the number of students with disabilities who completed their education (received either a standard diploma, GED, special diploma, certificate of completion or special certificate of completion) or dropped out. This graduation rate is calculated based on the total number of students with disabilities who exited school in a given year, rather than using the four-year cohort model described in the NCLB graduation rate. The data are reported for the three year period from **2007-08** through **2009-10**.

Standard Diploma Graduation Rate for Students with Disabilities

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Highlands	29%	31%	39%
Enrollment Group	49%	51%	53%
State	45%	50%	53%

Dropout Rate:

The number of students grades 9-12 for whom a dropout withdrawal reason (DNE, W05, W11, W13-W23) was reported, divided by the total enrollment of grades 9-12 students and students who did not enter school as expected (DNEs) as reported at the end of the school year (survey 5). The resulting percentages are reported for students with disabilities, all students, students identified as emotionally/behaviorally disabled (EBD), and students identified as specific learning disabled (SLD) for the years **2007-08** through **2009-10**.

Dropout Rate for Students with Disabilities

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Highlands	8%	9%	7%
Enrollment Group	4%	4%	4%
State	4%	4%	4%

Dropout Rate for All Students

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Highlands	4%	4%	3%
Enrollment Group	2%	2%	2%
State	3%	2%	2%

Dropout Rate for EBD Students

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Highlands	10%	18%	18%
Enrollment Group	5%	7%	7%
State	7%	7%	6%

Dropout Rate for SLD Students

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Highlands	8%	8%	5%
Enrollment Group	4%	4%	4%
State	4%	4%	4%

Postschool Outcome Data:

The Florida Education and Training Placement Information Program (FETPIP) is an interagency data collection system that obtains follow-up data on former students. The most recent FETPIP data available reports on students who exited Florida public schools during the **2008-09** school year. The table below displays percentage of students with disabilities exiting school in **2007-08** and **2008-09** who were found during the fall/winter following the school year and were (1) enrolled in higher education, (2) enrolled in higher education or competitively employed, and (3) enrolled in higher education or some other

postsecondary education or training program or competitively employed or employed in some other employment. The **2008-09** data represent new baseline data for Indicator 14.

Students with Disabilities in Higher Education

	2007-08	2008-09
Highlands	22%	29%
Enrollment Group	24%	26%
State	24%	27%

Students with Disabilities in Higher Education/Competitively Employed

	2007-08	2008-09
Highlands	38%	42%
Enrollment Group	40%	37%
State	40%	37%

Students with Disabilities in any Employment or Continuing Education

	2007-08	2008-09
Highlands	51%	46%
Enrollment Group	56%	49%
State	54%	50%

Section Two: Educational Environment

Indicators related to educational environment address the extent to which students with disabilities receive special education with their nondisabled peers, timely transition from Part C programs to Part B programs, secondary transition IEPs, and risk ratios of out-of-school suspensions/expulsions for students with disabilities when compared to nondisabled peers.

Regular Class, Resource Room, Separate Class Placement, and Other Separate Environments, Ages 6-21:

The number of students with disabilities ages 6-21 in regular class, resource room, separate class, and other separate environment, divided by the total number of students with disabilities ages 6-21 reported October (survey 2). Regular class includes students who spend 80% or more of their school week with nondisabled peers. Resource room includes students spending between 40% and 80% of their school week with nondisabled peers. Separate class includes students spending less than 40% of their week with nondisabled peers. Other separate environment includes students served in public or private separate schools, residential placements or hospital/homebound placements. The resulting percentages are reported for the three years from **2008-09** through **2010-11**. Students served in corrections facilities and students enrolled by their parents in private schools who are receiving special education and/or related services from the LEA are not included in this calculation.

Regular Class

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Highlands	66%	64%	66%
Enrollment Group	61%	63%	66%
State	64%	67%	69%

Resource Room

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Highlands	12%	16%	13%
Enrollment Group	19%	17%	15%
State	15%	13%	12%

Separate Class

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Highlands	21%	19%	20%
Enrollment Group	16%	15%	15%
State	17%	16%	15%

Other Separate Environment

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Highlands	<1%	1%	1%
Enrollment Group	4%	4%	4%
State	4%	4%	4%

Early Childhood Education Settings, Ages 3-5:

The number of students with disabilities ages 3-5 attending a regular early childhood program or kindergarten at least 10 hours a week *and* receiving the majority of special education and related services in the regular early childhood program; attending a regular early childhood program or kindergarten at least 10 hours a week *and* receiving the majority of special education and related services outside the regular early childhood program; attending a regular early childhood program or kindergarten less than 10 hours a week *and* receiving the majority of special education and related services in the regular early childhood program; attending a regular early childhood program or kindergarten less than 10 hours a week *and* receiving the majority of special education and related services outside the regular early childhood program; attending a special education program in a class with less than 50% nondisabled children; attending a public or private day school designed specifically for children with disabilities; or in another separate environment (residential facility, home or service provider location) divided by the total number of students with disabilities ages 3-5 reported in October (survey 2). Students attending a regular early childhood program or kindergarten are those who spend any time in a program that includes at least 50% nondisabled children. The resulting percentages are reported for **2010-11**.

Regular Early Childhood Program or Kindergarten ≥ 10 Hours

	Service Inside	Service Outside
Highlands	4%	3%
Enrollment Group	29%	8%
State	24%	11%

Regular Early Childhood Program or Kindergarten < 10 Hours

	Service Inside	Service Outside
Highlands	7%	<1%
Enrollment Group	8%	8%
State	11%	4%

Other Early Childhood Settings

	Separate Class	Separate School	Other Separate Environment
Highlands	82%	<1%	4%
Enrollment Group	41%	2%	5%
State	39%	6%	5%

Part C to Part B Transition:

The number of children referred for eligibility determination by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays, divided by the number of children served in Part C and referred to Part B for eligibility determination (not including children determined to be ineligible for Part B prior to age 3 or children for whom parent refusal to provide consent caused delays in evaluation or initial services). The resulting percentages are reported for **2007-08** through **2009-10**.

IEP Developed and Implemented by 3rd Birthday

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Highlands	74%	96%	100%
State	90%	99%	100%

Secondary Transition IEPs:

The percentage of compliant transition IEPs are calculated by dividing (a) the number of youth with IEPs aged 16 and above with an IEP that includes appropriate measurable postsecondary goals that are annually updated and based upon an age appropriate transition assessment, transition services, including courses of study, that will reasonably enable the student to meet those postsecondary goals, and annual IEP goals related to the student's transition services needs by (b) the number of youth with an IEP age 16 and above. The resulting percentages are reported for **2007-08** through **2009-10**. The **2009-10** data represent new baseline data for Indicator 13.

Transition IEPs Found Compliant

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Highlands	90%	100%	100%
State	24%	61%	82%

Discipline Rates and Risk Ratios:

Discipline rates for students with disabilities and nondisabled students are calculated by dividing the number of students who received out-of-school suspensions or expulsions that total more than 10 days by total-year enrollment as reported at the end of the school year (survey 5). Discipline risk ratios are calculated by dividing the discipline rate of students with disabilities by the discipline rate of nondisabled students. Risk ratios indicate the risk that students with disabilities will be suspended/expelled for greater than 10 days compared to nondisabled students. A risk ratio of 1.0 indicates that students with disabilities and nondisabled students are equally likely to be suspended/expelled. The resulting rates are reported for students with disabilities and nondisabled students for three years from **2007-08** through **2009-10** along with risk ratios for students with disabilities.

Students with Disabilities Suspended/Expelled For Greater than 10 Days

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Highlands	4%	5%	4%
State	1%	2%	1%

Nondisabled Students Suspended/Expelled For Greater than 10 Days

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Highlands	<1%	1%	1%
State	<1%	<1%	<1%

Risk Ratios

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Highlands	3.9	4.5	3.9
State	1.6	1.6	1.4

Discipline risk ratios by racial/ethnic group are calculated for students with disabilities and nondisabled students by dividing the discipline rate of a specific racial/ethnic group by the discipline rate of all other racial/ethnic groups. Risk ratios indicate the risk that students (either with disabilities or nondisabled) from a specific racial/ethnic group is suspended/expelled for greater than 10 days compared to students (either with disabilities or nondisabled) from all other racial/ethnic groups. A risk ratio of 1.0 indicates that, for instance, white students with disabilities are equally likely to be suspended/expelled as students with disabilities from all other racial/ethnic groups. The resulting risk ratios are reported for students with disabilities and nondisabled students from **2008-09** through **2009-10**. The **2008-09** data represent new baseline data for Indicator 4b. Blank cells indicate that there are less than 10 students (either with

disabilities or nondisabled) for a specific racial/ethnic group suspended/expelled for greater than 10 days. N/A refers to risk ratios that cannot be calculated because the sum of all other racial/ethnic groups is zero.

2008-09 Risk Ratios

	Nondisabled Students	Students with Disabilities
White	0.40	0.53
Black	3.70	3.04
Hispanic	0.87	0.62
Asian/Pacific Islander		
American Indian/Alaskan Native		

2009-10 Risk Ratios

	Nondisabled Students	Students with Disabilities
White	0.36	0.39
Black	4.79	4.25
Hispanic	0.65	0.59
Asian/Pacific Islander		
American Indian/Alaskan Native		

Section Three: Prevalence

Indicators relative to the prevalence of students with disabilities include the percentage of students evaluated within 60 days, student membership by racial/ethnic category, and risk ratios of racial/ethnic groups being identified as disabled. Beginning with the 2009-10 school year, race and ethnicity are reported using seven categories to comply with federal requirements.

Evaluation within 60 Days:

The number of students with parental consent to evaluate who were evaluated within 60 days of referral divided by the total number of students with parental consent to evaluate in a given school year as reported via school district survey. The data are reported for **2007-08** through **2009-10**.

Students Evaluated within 60 Days of Referral

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Highlands	97%	96%	100%
Enrollment Group	98%	98%	100%
State	94%	97%	98%

Student Membership by Racial/Ethnic Category:

The two columns on the left of the table below show the statewide racial/ethnic distribution for all PK-12 students and all students with disabilities as reported in **October 2010** (survey 2). Statewide, there is a larger percentage of black students in the disabled population than in the total PK-12 population (26% vs. 23%). Similar data for the district are reported in the two right-hand columns.

All Students

	State	District
White	43%	49%
Black	23%	17%
Hispanic	28%	29%
Asian	2%	2%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	<1%	<1%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Island	<1%	<1%
Two or more races	3%	3%

Students with Disabilities

	State	District
White	44%	48%
Black	26%	21%
Hispanic	26%	27%
Asian	1%	<1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	<1%	<1%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Island	<1%	<1%
Two or more races	3%	2%

Selected Disabilities by Racial/Ethnic Category:

Racial/ethnic data for all students as well as students with a primary disability of SLD, EBD, and intellectually disabled (IND) are presented for the district and state as reported in **October 2010** (survey 2).

SLD, EBD, and IND Students

	State SLD	District SLD	State EBD	District EBD	State IND	District IND
White	42%	44%	40%	47%	35%	35%
Black	24%	22%	40%	36%	40%	37%
Hispanic	30%	31%	17%	15%	21%	27%
Asian	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Island	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
Two or more races	2%	3%	3%	2%	2%	<1%

Risk Ratios For Students Placed in Exceptional Education:

The risk that students of a given race will be identified as a student with a disability or a student in selected disability categories when compared to students of all other races. A risk ratio of 1.0 indicates the students of a given race are equally likely as all other races combined to be identified as disabled. A risk ratio equal to NA indicates that either the race of interest or the sum of all other races is equal to zero. In calculating risk ratios, students reported as multiracial are prorated across other racial/ethnic categories. The data are presented for all students with a disability, students who are identified as IND, EBD, or SLD, and students who are identified as having autism spectrum disorder (ASD), speech or language impairments (SI-LI), other health impaired, or homebound or hospitalized (OHI-HH). The data are presented for the district and the state as reported in **October 2010** (survey 2). A blank cell indicates less than 30 students of a specific race/ethnicity with the given disability.

State

	IND	EBD	ASD	SI-LI	OHI-HH	SLD	All Disabled
White	0.72	0.92	1.25	1.28	1.45	0.96	1.05
Black	2.22	2.11	0.71	0.96	0.84	1.07	1.13
Hispanic	0.68	0.52	1.01	0.76	0.80	1.11	0.91
Asian	0.55	0.10	1.12	0.76	0.31	0.28	0.50
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1.02	0.78	0.90	1.13	0.60	1.20	1.09
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Island			1.45	1.04		0.69	0.83
Two or more races	0.71	0.98	1.02	1.08	0.89	0.82	0.92

District

	IND	EBD	ASD	SI-LI	OHI-HH	SLD	All Disabled
White	0.57	0.93	1.29	1.24	1.80	0.84	0.96
Black	2.90	2.63		0.97		1.32	1.31
Hispanic	0.88			0.80	0.74	1.06	0.91
Asian							
American Indian/Alaskan Native							
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Island							
Two or more races							0.81

Section Four: Parent Involvement

Parent Survey:

The parent involvement rate is the number of parents reporting that schools facilitated parent involvement as a means of improving services and results for children with disabilities, divided by the total number of responding parents. These data are reported for parents of preschool children with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities in grades K-12 for **2007-08** through **2009-10**.

Preschool Parent Involvement Rate

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Highlands	21%	60%	>99%
Enrollment Group	53%	41%	56%
State	46%	43%	53%

Grades K-12 Parent Involvement Rate

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Highlands	31%	44%	21%
Enrollment Group	30%	32%	48%
State	32%	32%	40%

Section Five: Selected State Performance Plan Indicators

The following table includes selected state performance plan indicators, the state targets for 2009-10 for these indicators, district data, and whether or not the district met the target. State targets are presented in **bold**. Because rounding is not used in determining if targets have been met, LEA data contain as many decimal places as needed to determine if the target has been met. If, for example, 3.9% of students with disabilities in a given district drop out of school, the district will not be considered as having met the target of 4.0%. For indicators 4, 9, and 10, an "N" in the Target Met column means that a district's data contributed to Florida not making the state target. For indicators 1, 2, and 4, the data lag one year, meaning that data are from the 2008-09 school year, although more recent data may also be found in this profile.

Indicator	2009-10 State-Level Target	LEA Data	Target Met
1. Graduation rate	The percentage of students graduating with a standard diploma in 2008-09 will increase to 43.5% .	31.50%	N
2. Dropout rate	The dropout rate for students with disabilities in 2008-09 will decrease to 3.75% .	9.42%	N
3. Participation and performance of children with disabilities on statewide assessments	98% of students with disabilities in grades three through ten will participate in statewide assessment for reading.	97.90%	N
	98% of students with disabilities in grades three through ten will participate in statewide assessment for math.	97.15%	N
	48% of students with disabilities in grades three through ten will demonstrate proficiency in reading.	25.00%	N
	50% of students with disabilities in grades three through ten will demonstrate proficiency in math.	33.13%	N
4. Rates of suspension and expulsion	The percent of districts with a significant discrepancy in 2008-09 (a risk ratio of 3.0 or higher) will decrease to 3% .	4.47	N
5. FAPE in the LRE, children ages 6-21	Increase the percentage of students with IEPs age 6 to 21 years removed from regular class placement for less than 21% of the day to 60.8% .	64.17%	Y
	Decrease the percentage of student with IEPs age 6-21 years removed from regular class placement for greater than 60% of the day to 19.3% .	19.10%	Y
	Decrease the percentage of students with IEPs age 6 to 21 years served in public or private separate schools, residential placements, or homebound or hospital placements to 2.6% .	1.09%	Y

Indicator	2009-10 State-Level Target	LEA Data	Target Met
7. Prekindergarten performance	65.9% of children who entered preschool below grade expectations will substantially increase their growth in positive social emotional skills by the time they exit the preschool program.	N/A	Y
	59.0% of children who entered preschool below grade expectations will substantially increase their growth in acquisition and use of knowledge and skills by the time they exit the preschool program.	N/A	Y
	59.5% of children who entered preschool below grade expectations will substantially increase their growth in use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs by the time they exit the PK program.	N/A	Y
	75.8% of children were functioning within age expectations in positive social emotional skills by the time they turn 6 years of age or exit the preschool program.	100.00%	Y
	52.9% of children were functioning within age expectations in acquisition and use of knowledge and skills by the time they turn 6 years of age or exit the preschool program.	100.00%	Y
	73.3% of children were functioning within age expectations in use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs by the time they turn 6 years of age or exit the preschool program.	100.00%	Y
8. Parent involvement	50% of parents with a preschool child receiving special education services report that schools facilitate parent involvement as a means of improving services and results for children with disabilities.	100.00%	Y
	40% of parents with a child in K-12 receiving special education services report that schools facilitate parent involvement as a means of improving services and results for children with disabilities.	21.05%	N
9. Disproportionality in Special Education	In 0% of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services, the disproportionality can be attributed to inappropriate identification.		Y
10. Disproportionality in Specific Disability Categories	In 0% of districts with disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services, the disproportionality can be attributed to inappropriate identification.		Y

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Indicator	2009-10 State-Level Target	LEA Data	Target Met
11. Evaluation within 60 Days	100% of students referred, with parental consent, for evaluation are evaluated within 60 school days of which the student is in attendance.	100.00%	Y
12. Part C children eligible for Part B who have IEPs developed and implemented by their third birthday	100% of children served and referred by part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B, have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthday.	100.00%	Y
15. Correction of noncompliance	100% of noncompliance identified through the general supervision system will be corrected no later than one year from identification.	100.00%	Y
20. Timely and accurately reported data*	100% of state reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) are timely and accurate.	100.00%	Y

*Indicator 20 is calculated based on timely submission of data for Indicators 11 and 12, accuracy of data submitted for indicator 5, timely correction of noncompliance for indicator 15, and reporting CEIS students if funds reserved for CEIS.