



Florida Department of Education
Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services

2017 LEA Profile

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Commissioner

Introduction

District:	Enrollment Group:	PK-12 Population:	Percent Disabled:
Highlands	7,000 to 20,000	12,318	15%

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/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR)**. Required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the SPP/APR for 2013-2018 contains historical data and targets for 16 indicators along with a State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP). During the six-year period, Florida will annually submit progress reports for each indicator as well as the SSIP. As part of the process, Florida publicly reports data for both 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/Annual Performance Report.

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

- **Federal uniform high school graduation rate**
- Standard diploma graduation rate
- **Federal dropout rate for students with disabilities**
- **Postschool outcome data**

Note: Statewide assessment data for both preschool and school age students are published separately in the winter 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 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 self-assessment monitoring system, 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, Hendry, Highlands, Indian River, Martin, Monroe, Nassau, Putnam, Sumter, Walton, FLVS

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.

Federal Uniform High School 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 or home education divided into the number of standard diploma graduates from the same group. The resulting percentages are reported for **2013-14 through 2015-16** for students with disabilities and all students.

Student with Disabilities

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Highlands	35%	25%	39%
Enrollment Group	53%	54%	60%
State	55%	57%	62%

All Students

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Highlands	64%	64%	68%
Enrollment Group	76%	76%	79%
State	76%	78%	81%

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 federal uniform graduation rate. The data are reported for the three year period from **2013-14 through 2015-16**.

Standard Diploma Graduation Rate for Students with Disabilities

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Highlands	44%	33%	45%
Enrollment Group	57%	61%	64%
State	60%	62%	64%

Federal Dropout Rate for Students with Disabilities:

The number of students who exited special education due to dropping out, divided by the number of students who graduated with a regular high school diploma, special diploma, certificate of completion, special certificate of completion, dropped out or died. The resulting percentages are reported for students with disabilities, students identified as emotionally/behaviorally disabled (EBD) and students identified as specific learning disabled (SLD) for the years **2013-14** through **2015-16**.

Federal Dropout Rate for Students with Disabilities

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Highlands	22%	23%	12%
Enrollment Group	17%	17%	14%
State	19%	19%	17%

Federal Dropout Rate for EBD Students

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Highlands	57%	56%	<1%
Enrollment Group	37%	35%	32%
State	39%	42%	39%

Federal Dropout Rate for SLD Students

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Highlands	23%	23%	12%
Enrollment Group	18%	18%	16%
State	19%	19%	18%

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 **2014-15** school year. The table below displays percentage of students with disabilities exiting school in **2012-13** through **2014-15** 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.

Students with Disabilities in Higher Education

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Highlands	16%	26%	24%
Enrollment Group	26%	26%	27%
State	28%	29%	28%

Students with Disabilities in Higher Education/Competitively Employed

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Highlands	34%	45%	40%
Enrollment Group	37%	41%	46%
State	42%	44%	43%

Students with Disabilities in any Employment or Continuing Education

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Highlands	43%	53%	50%
Enrollment Group	46%	52%	59%
State	54%	56%	55%

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 **2014-15** through **2016-17**. 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

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Highlands	64%	74%	75%
Enrollment Group	69%	74%	76%
State	74%	73%	74%

Resource Room

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Highlands	13%	6%	7%
Enrollment Group	14%	10%	9%
State	9%	9%	9%

Separate Class

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Highlands	22%	19%	17%
Enrollment Group	14%	13%	12%
State	13%	14%	14%

Other Separate Environment

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Highlands	<1%	<1%	<1%
Enrollment Group	4%	3%	3%
State	4%	4%	4%

If an additional calculation reveals that students with disabilities ages 6-21 of any race are at least 3.5 times more likely to be placed in a separate class or other separate environment when compared to all other races combined, the district will be required to set aside IDEA funds for coordinated early intervening services.

Early Childhood Education Settings, Ages 3-5:

The number of students with disabilities ages 3-5 attending a regular early childhood program or kindergarten and receiving the majority of special education and related services *inside* the regular early childhood program; attending a regular early childhood program or kindergarten and receiving the la special education program (separate class, separate school, or residential facility); or served in another separate environment (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 **2014-15** through **2016-17**.

Regular Early Childhood Program or Kindergarten Receiving Services Inside the Classroom

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Highlands	28%	28%	14%
Enrollment Group	31%	46%	45%
State	27%	36%	37%

Regular Early Childhood Program or Kindergarten Receiving Services Outside the Classroom

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Highlands	16%	19%	33%
Enrollment Group	24%	13%	14%
State	18%	11%	10%

Separate Class, Separate School, or Residential Facility

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Highlands	52%	48%	49%
Enrollment Group	41%	38%	38%
State	51%	50%	50%

Home or Service Provider Location

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Highlands	3%	5%	4%
Enrollment Group	4%	2%	3%
State	4%	3%	3%

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 **2013-14** through **2015-16**.

IEP Developed and Implemented by 3rd Birthday

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Highlands	100%	97%	100%
State	100%	100%	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

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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 **2013-14** through **2015-16**.

Transition IEPs Found Compliant

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Highlands	50%	67%	17%
State	89%	88%	90%

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 totaling more than 10 days by total-year enrollment as reported at the end of the school year (survey 5). The risk ratio is calculated by dividing the discipline rate of students with disabilities by the discipline rate of 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 **2013-14** through **2015-16** along with risk ratios for students with disabilities.

Students with Disabilities Suspended/Expelled For Greater than 10 Days

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Highlands	2%	2%	2%
State	<1%	<1%	<1%

Nondisabled Students Suspended/Expelled For Greater than 10 Days

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Highlands	<1%	<1%	<1%
State	<1%	<1%	<1%

Discipline Risk Ratios

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Highlands	2.23	3.04	3.54
State	1.43	1.33	1.17

Discipline risk ratios by racial/ethnic group are calculated for students with disabilities by dividing the discipline rate of a specific racial/ethnic group by the rate of all nondisabled students. A risk ratio of 1.0 indicates that, for instance, Hispanic students with disabilities are equally likely to be suspended/expelled as all nondisabled students. The resulting risk ratios are reported for students with disabilities by race/ethnicity for the state and district during the **2015-16** school year. Blank cells indicate that there are less than 10 students with disabilities for a specific racial/ethnic group suspended/expelled for greater than 10 days.

Discipline Risk Ratios by Race/Ethnicity

	State	District
White	0.81	
Black	2.45	6.81
Hispanic	0.55	
Asian	0.00	
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0.00	
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Island	0.00	
Two or more races	1.60	

If an additional calculation reveals that incidents of removal of students with disabilities of any race through in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, or expulsion are at least 3.5 times more likely to

occur when compared to all other races combined, the district will be required to set aside IDEA funds for coordinated early intervening services.

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.

Evaluation within 60 Days:

The number of students who were evaluated within 60 days of receipt of parent consent 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 **2013-14** through **2015-16**.

Students Evaluated within 60 Days of Receipt of Parent Consent

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Highlands	100%	97%	87%
Enrollment Group	99%	99%	98%
State	99%	98%	97%

Student Membership by Racial/Ethnic Category:

Racial/ethnic membership data for all students and students with disabilities are presented for the state and district as reported in **October 2016** (survey 2).

All Students

	State	District
White	39%	43%
Black	22%	17%
Hispanic	32%	34%
Asian	3%	2%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	<1%	<1%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Island	<1%	<1%
Two or more races	3%	4%

Students with Disabilities

	State	District
White	39%	38%
Black	25%	21%
Hispanic	30%	35%
Asian	1%	<1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	<1%	<1%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Island	<1%	<1%
Two or more races	3%	4%

Selected Disabilities by Racial/Ethnic Category:

Racial/ethnic data for students with a primary disability of SLD, EBD, and intellectually disabled (IND) are presented for the state and district as reported in **October 2016** (survey 2).

SLD, EBD, and IND Students

	State SLD	District SLD	State EBD	District EBD	State IND	District IND
White	36%	34%	37%	47%	33%	24%
Black	27%	24%	39%	33%	36%	33%
Hispanic	33%	37%	19%	16%	26%	35%
Asian	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	2%	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	3%	4%	4%	4%	3%	5%

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. 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 2016** (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	0.78	0.93	1.16	1.27	1.31	0.88	1.03
Black	1.99	2.22	0.75	1.06	0.99	1.32	1.17
Hispanic	0.72	0.49	1.04	0.78	0.84	1.04	0.91
Asian	0.64		1.03	0.63	0.29	0.28	0.50
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1.11	0.97	0.82	0.97	0.88	1.22	1.03
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Island			0.75	0.81		0.69	0.72
Two or more races	0.80	1.26	1.08	1.08	1.00	0.86	0.97

District

	IND	EBD	ASD	SI-LI	OHI-HH	SLD	All Disabled
White	0.43		0.95	0.90	1.27	0.69	0.82
Black	2.42			1.06	1.17	1.58	1.31
Hispanic	1.05		1.34	1.17	0.72	1.14	1.05
Asian							
American Indian/Alaskan Native							
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Island							
Two or more races							1.07

Any risk ratio for students placed in exceptional education or placed in programs for SLD, IND, EBD, ASD, OHI, or SI-LI that is at least 3.5, will result in the district being required to set aside IDEA funds for coordinated early intervening services.

Section Four: Parent Involvement

Parent Survey:

The parent involvement rate is the number of parents who perceive 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 **2013-14** through **2015-16**.

Preschool

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Highlands	57%	67%	82%
Enrollment Group	73%	76%	78%
State	73%	72%	73%

Grades K-12

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Highlands	79%	65%	80%
Enrollment Group	79%	74%	77%
State	76%	74%	77%

Section Five: Selected State Performance Plan Indicators

The following table includes selected state performance plan indicators, the state targets for 2015-16 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, 3.27% of students with disabilities in a given district drop out of school, the district will not be considered as having met the target of 3.25%. 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 2014-15 school year, although more recent data may also be found in this profile.

Indicator	2015-16 State-Level Target	LEA Data	Target Met
1. Graduation rate	The percentage of students graduating with a standard diploma in 2014-15 will increase to 56.3% .	25.41%	N
2. Dropout Rate	The dropout rate for students with disabilities in 2014-15 will decrease to 15.1% .	22.61%	N
3. Participation and performance of children with disabilities on statewide assessments	99% of students with disabilities in grades three through ten will participate in statewide assessment for reading.	95.26%	N
	99% of students with disabilities in grades three through ten will participate in statewide assessment for math.	94.37%	N
	51% of students with disabilities in grades three through ten will demonstrate proficiency in reading.	N/A	Y
	51% of students with disabilities in grades three through ten will demonstrate proficiency in math.	N/A	Y
4. Rates of suspension and expulsion	7% of districts are identified by the state as having a significant discrepancy (a risk ratio of 3.0 or higher) in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with IEPs for greater than 10 days in 2014-15.	3.04	N
	0% of districts are identified by the state as having both (a) a significant discrepancy (a risk ratio of 3.0 or higher) in the rates of suspensions and expulsions of children with IEPs by race or ethnicity for greater than 10 days and (b) policies, procedures or practices that contribute to the significant discrepancy and do not comply with requirements relating to the development and implementation of IEPs, the use of positive behavioral interventions and supports, and procedural safeguards in 2014-15.		Y

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Indicator	2015-16 State-Level Target	LEA Data	Target Met
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 79.0% .	74.07%	N
	Decrease the percentage of student with IEPs age 6-21 years removed from regular class placement for greater than 60% of the day to 9.0% .	19.16%	N
	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 1.75% .	0.86%	Y
6. FAPE in the LRE, children ages 3-5	Increase the percentage of children with disabilities ages 3 through 5 years served by Florida's public school districts in settings with typically developing peers to 38% .	27.59%	N
	Decrease the percentage of children with disabilities ages 3 through 5 years served by Florida's public school districts in a special education class, separate school or residential facility to 48.3% .	47.84%	Y
7. Prekindergarten Performance	66.1% 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. (Summary A1)	86.67%	Y
	66.4% 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. (Summary B1)	81.82%	Y
	57.9% 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. (Summary C1)	90.00%	Y
	83.4% 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. (Summary A2)	96.67%	Y
	71.4% 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. (Summary B2)	90.00%	Y
	80.5% 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. (Summary C2)	98.33%	Y
8. Parent Involvement	80% 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.	82.35%	Y

Indicator	2015-16 State-Level Target	LEA Data	Target Met
	80% 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.	79.73%	N
9. Disproportionate representation 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. Disproportionate representation 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
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.	87.17%	N
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
13. Transition IEP compliance	100% of youth with IEPs aged 16 and above have 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.	16.67%	N
14. Postschool outcomes	33% of youth exiting in 2014-15 who are no longer in secondary school, had IEPs in effect at the time they left school, were found enrolled in higher education within one year of leaving high school.	23.89%	N
	46% of youth exiting in 2014-15 who are no longer in secondary school, had IEPs in effect at the time they left school, were found in higher education or competitively employed within one year of leaving high school.	39.82%	N
	60% of youth exiting in 2014-15 who are no longer in secondary school, had IEPs in effect at the time they left school, were found enrolled in higher education or in some other postsecondary education or training program; or competitively employed or in some other employment within one year of leaving high school.	50.44%	N