



Office of Independent Education & Parental Choice

325 West Gaines Street • Suite 522 • Tallahassee, FL • 32399-0400 • 850/245-0502 • www.floridaschoolchoice.org

Home Education in Florida

ANNUAL REPORT 2008-2009

Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice
Florida Department of Education

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Improving K-12 Educational Choice Options

Home Education in Florida

Established by the Florida Legislature as a school choice option in 1985, home education is defined in Section 1002.01, 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 student participating.

Florida’s home education law does not require a particular educational background for parents or standard curricula for students. However, a portfolio of records and materials showing student work must be maintained and made available to the school district if requested in writing. Additionally, Section 1002.41, F.S. requires that students in home education programs must annually undergo one of five academic evaluation options, the results of which must be submitted to the district school superintendent.

Each year, the Department of Education surveys all school districts to determine the number of students and families who have registered their intent to establish home education programs. For the 2008-2009 school year, the numbers provided by the districts indicate that the statewide roster of home education totals 42,431 families, accounting for 60,913 students.

For more information on home education in Florida, please visit the the Web site of the Florida Department of Education Office of Independent Education & Parental Choice at http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/information/home_education/.

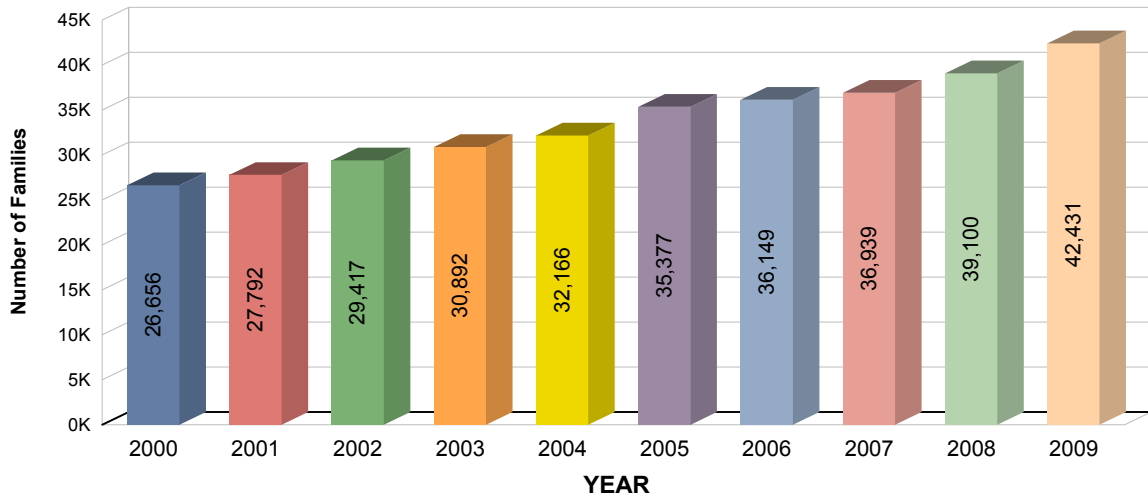
**HOME EDUCATION STATISTICS BY DISTRICT
2008-2009**

<u>DISTRICT ID</u>	<u>DISTRICT NAME</u>	<u>STUDENTS</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>
1	ALACHUA	1,064	718
2	BAKER	121	84
3	BAY	715	505
4	BRADFORD	180	135
5	BREVARD	2,932	1,689
6	BROWARD	2,777	2,027
7	CALHOUN	83	62
8	CHARLOTTE	392	286
9	CITRUS	721	559
10	CLAY	880	161
11	COLLIER	736	480
12	COLUMBIA	594	380
13	DADE	2,650	1,954
14	DESOTO	214	159
15	DIXIE	104	78
16	DUVAL	3,795	2,700
17	ESCAMBIA	1,300	967
18	FLAGLER	440	290
19	FRANKLIN	15	13
20	GADSDEN	397	240
21	GILCHREST	139	92
22	GLADES	33	24
23	GULF	25	22
24	HAMILTON	123	84
25	HARDEE	66	54
26	HENDRY	118	81
27	HERNANDO	864	601
28	HIGHLANDS	260	182
29	HILLSBOROUGH	3,641	2,312
30	HOLMES	120	96
31	INDIAN RIVER	512	430
32	JACKSON	256	179
33	JEFFERSON	141	82
34	LAFAYETTE	43	34
35	LAKE	1,338	984
36	LEE	1,401	937
37	LEON	1,177	763
38	LEVY	215	187
39	LIBERTY	16	7
40	MADISON	80	57
41	MANATEE	945	639
42	MARION	2,700	1,755
43	MARTIN	631	494
44	MONROE	161	89
45	NASSAU	522	400
46	OKALOOSA	800	692
47	OKEECHOBEE	236	54
48	ORANGE	2,983	2,134
49	OSCEOLA	1,591	1,093
50	PALM BEACH	4,144	3,000
51	PASCO	2,165	1,288
52	PINELLAS	2,285	1,519
53	POLK	2,579	2,143
54	PUTNAM	323	250
55	ST. JOHNS	1,023	770
56	ST. LUCIE	923	759
57	SANTA ROSA	850	520
58	SARASOTA	934	867
59	SEMINOLE	1,346	1,012
60	SUMTER	219	158
61	SUWANNEE	366	276
62	TAYLOR	209	150
63	UNION	67	53
64	VOLUSIA	1,738	1,254
65	WAKULLA	151	120
66	WALTON	207	145
67	WASHINGTON	137	102
STATE TOTAL:		60,913	42,431

Districts with the Most Home Education Students 2008-2009

<u>District Name</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>%</u>
PALM BEACH	4,144	6.8%	3,000	7.1%
DUVAL	3,795	6.2%	2,700	6.4%
HILLSBOROUGH	3,641	6.0%	2,312	5.4%
ORANGE	2,983	4.9%	2,134	5.0%
BREVARD	2,932	4.8%	1,689	4.0%
BROWARD	2,777	4.6%	2,027	4.8%
MARION	2,700	4.4%	1,755	4.1%
DADE	2,650	4.4%	1,954	4.6%
POLK	2,579	4.2%	2,143	5.1%
PINELLAS	2,285	3.8%	1,519	3.6%

Families in Home Education Programs, 2000-2009



<u>Year</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
2009	42,431	8.5%
2008	39,100	5.9%
2007	36,939	2.2%
2006	36,149	2.2%
2005	35,377	10.0%
2004	32,166	4.1%
2003	30,892	5.0%
2002	29,417	5.8%
2001	27,792	4.3%
2000	26,656	

Student Enrollment in Home Education Programs, 1998-2009



<u>School Year</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>Growth</u>	<u>% Increase In</u>
2009	60,913	4,263	7.5%
2008	56,650	828	1.5%
2007	55,822	3,209	6.1%
2006	52,613	1,503	2.9%
2005	51,110	3,959	8.4%
2004	47,151	1,818	4.0%
2003	45,333	873	2.0%
2002	44,460	3,332	8.1%
2001	41,128	3,932	10.6%
2000	37,196	3,977	12.0%
1999	33,219	1,779	5.7%
1998	31,440		