



Office of Independent Education & Parental Choice

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Home Education in Florida

ANNUAL REPORT 2007-2008

Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice
Florida Department of Education

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Increasing the Quantity and Improving the Quality of Educational 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 2007-2008 school year, the numbers provided by the districts indicate that the statewide roster of home education totals 39,100 families, accounting for 56,650 students.

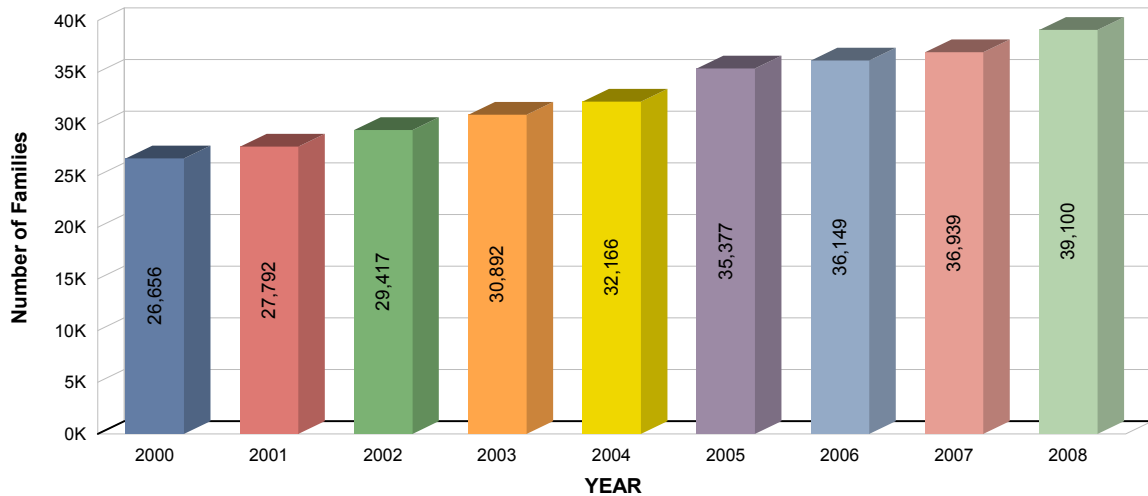
**HOME EDUCATION STATISTICS BY DISTRICT
2007-2008**

<u>DISTRICT ID</u>	<u>DISTRICT NAME</u>	<u>STUDENTS</u>	<u>FAMILIES</u>
01	ALACHUA	642	411
02	BAKER	128	92
03	BAY	743	542
04	BRADFORD	142	94
05	BREVARD	2,452	1,702
06	BROWARD	2,923	2,134
07	CALHOUN	57	41
08	CHARLOTTE	355	260
09	CITRUS	689	515
10	CLAY	893	564
11	COLLIER	887	478
12	COLUMBIA	617	379
13	DADE	2,483	1,273
14	DESOTO	201	147
15	DIXIE	121	88
16	DUVAL	3,487	2,485
17	ESCAMBIA	1,346	1,049
18	FLAGLER	392	269
19	FRANKLIN	47	34
20	GADSDEN	400	298
21	GILCHRIST	148	69
22	GLADES	48	35
23	GULF	21	16
24	HAMILTON	90	58
25	HARDEE	46	36
26	HENDRY	108	69
27	HERNANDO	792	490
28	HIGHLANDS	276	158
29	HILLSBOROUGH	3,230	2,056
30	HOLMES	110	52
31	INDIAN RIVER	547	388
32	JACKSON	275	226
33	JEFFERSON	125	74
34	LAFAYETTE	39	30
35	LAKE	1,336	957
36	LEE	1,155	771
37	LEON	1,043	733
38	LEVY	214	185
39	LIBERTY	5	4
40	MADISON	87	68
41	MANATEE	790	565
42	MARION	2,117	1,228
43	MARTIN	470	357
44	MONROE	185	130
45	NASSAU	336	271
46	OKALOOSA	809	676
47	OKEECHOBEE	220	170
48	ORANGE	2,966	2,171
49	OSCEOLA	1,443	1,104
50	PALM BEACH	4,105	3,043
51	PASCO	1,889	1,123
52	PINELLAS	2,215	1,447
53	POLK	2,244	1,597
54	PUTNAM	296	204
55	ST JOHNS	893	666
56	ST LUCIE	1,084	973
57	SANTA ROSA	818	498
58	SARASOTA	895	653
59	SEMINOLE	1,170	790
60	SUMTER	193	148
61	SUWANNEE	358	257
62	TAYLOR	181	117
63	UNION	67	51
64	VOLUSIA	1,627	1,079
65	WAKULLA	130	100
66	WALTON	281	226
67	WASHINGTON	168	126
	STATE TOTAL:	56,650	39,100

Districts with the Most Home Education Students 2007-2008

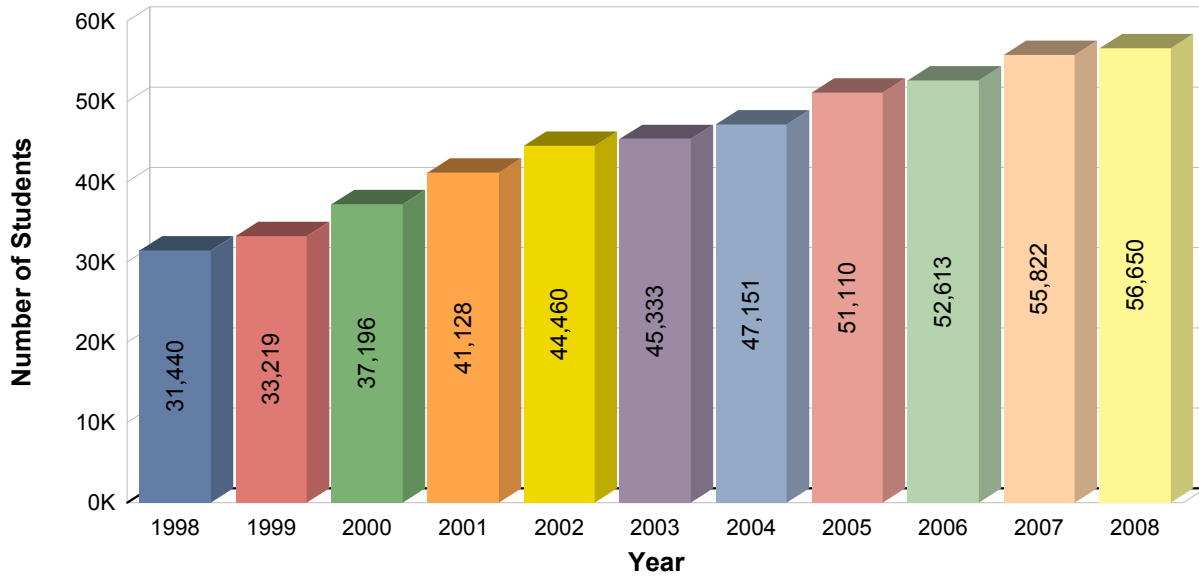
<u>District Name</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>%</u>
Palm Beach	4,105	14.5%	3,043	15.9%
Duval	3,487	12.4%	2,485	13.0%
Hillsborough	3,230	11.4%	2,056	10.7%
Orange	2,966	10.5%	2,171	11.3%
Broward	2,923	10.4%	2,134	11.2%
Dade	2,483	8.8%	1,273	6.7%
Brevard	2,452	8.7%	1,702	8.9%
Polk	2,244	8.0%	1,597	8.3%
Pinellas	2,215	7.8%	1,447	7.6%
Marion	2,117	7.5%	1,228	6.4%

Families in Home Education Programs, 2000-2008



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

Student Enrollment in Home Education Programs 1998-2008



<u>School Year</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>Growth</u>	<u>% Increase In</u>
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		