



Highlands County High Schools

(see page 2 for sources and explanations of data components)

2019 U.S. News and World Report of Best High schools

	National Rank	State Rank	% Reading Proficiency	% Math Proficiency	College Ready Index
County Average	n/a	n/a	44	41	27
AVON PARK HIGH SCHOOL	9,787	394	36	34	26
LAKE PLACID HIGH SCHOOL	6,264	279	47	47	28
SEBRING HIGH SCHOOL	6,722	294	49	41	26

Top High Schools as of 2019

Florida					
Pine View School, Osprey (STEM/MAG)	15	1	100	100	100
School For Advanced Studies Homestead, Homestead	26	2	N/A	100	100
Suncoast Community High School, Riviera Beach	88	11	90	85	91
Coral Reef Senior High School, Miami (MAG)	193	19	88	81	76
Best State (Massachusetts)					
Boston Latin School, Boston	33	1	100	100	95
Medfield Senior High, Medfield	610	20	98	96	69

FL Dept. of Education School Grades, School Year ending:

2019	2018	2017	2016
C	C	C	C
C	C	C	C
C	C	C	C
C	C	C	C
A	A	A	A
A	A	A	A
A	A	A	A
A	A	A	A

NOTE: blank cells indicate data not available or (in the case of rankings) indicate that the school was not qualified to be ranked by U.S. News and World Report. For example, schools below the 25th percentile have their scores concealed by US News & World Report who simply report the entire bottom quartile's ranking range. We elected not to show that range here because it's not specific enough to be meaningful in our data. Schools without a grade 12 or with very small enrollment are simply displayed as Unranked by US News & World Report and not shown here.



Explanations of County High School Data Components

U.S. News and World Report Data	
Overall data source	http://tinyurl.com/usn-education
Ranking Algorithm & Criteria for a School to Be Ranked	http://tinyurl.com/usn-algorithm
Nationally-Ranked Schools	http://tinyurl.com/usn-national-ranking
Florida Ranked Schools	http://tinyurl.com/usn-florida-ranking
Reading Proficiency	Assessment of students' ability to read at grade level.
Math Proficiency	Assessment of students' ability to perform math at grade level.
College Readiness Index	Index representing the proportion of a school's 12th graders that took and passed AP/IB exams. Maximim possible: 100
County Average	Average scores for the Florida schools listed
Top High Schools - Florida	Shows a sampling of highly-ranked Florida Schools
Top High Schools - Best State	Shows a sampling of highly-ranked schools from the #1 nationally-ranked state

FL Dept. of Education School Grades	
School and County Letter Grades as calculated by the Florida DOE	http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/accountability-reporting/school-grades/ (see "School Grades" Excel file for individual school grades) (see "District Grades" Excel file for county grades)

Comparing Ranking Data (proficiencies & college-ready index) with Florida DOE school grades

The main purpose for sharing this data is to point out the obvious disconnect when you compare nationally-normed high school ranking data (reading proficiency, math proficiency and college-ready index) with the Florida DOE "report card" grades which are calculated using a FL DOE proprietary formula. This proprietary grading formula was created by and can be manipulated by the FL DOE. By grading on the low "curve", the school grades can be made to look much better than is actually the case. So don't take it at face value when your school claims to be an "A" school (for example). Look at the U.S. News and World Report data and see if it supports the claim. We need visibility into the TRUE academic performance of Florida schools. Moving away from the highly manipulated FL DOE proprietary grading system is a MUST if we're to effectively judge the efficiency of Florida Schools.