



Highlands County High Schools

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

	2021 U.S. News and World Report of Best High schools					
	National Rank	State Rank	% Reading Proficiency	% Math Proficiency	% Graduation Rate	College Ready Index
County Average	n/a	n/a	41	41	n/a	30
Avon Park High School	7,033	344	37	46	85	31
Lake Placid High School	5,629	299	43	42	88	35
Sebring High School	10,024	438	42	35	92	24
Top High Schools as of 2021						
Florida						
School for Advanced Studies (SAS), Miami	4	1		100	100	99
Pine View School, Osprey	24	2	99	100	100	100
School For Advanced Studies Homestead, Homestead	39	3			99	100

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.
NOTE: high schools that did not provide data for this report are not listed here

FL Dept. of Education School Grades, School			
2021	2019	2018	2017
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

FL Dept. of Education County Graduation Rates (%):			
2021	2019	2018	2017
84	81	77	72



Explanations of County High School Data Components

U.S. News and World Report Data	
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
County Average	Average scores for the Florida schools listed
Graduation Rate	The proportion of entering ninth graders who graduated four academic years later
FL Dept. of Education County Graduation Rates (%)	Florida High School Graduation Rates, 2020-21 (fldoe.org)
Top High Schools - Florida	Shows a sampling of highly-ranked Florida Schools
FL Dept. of Education School Grades	http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/accountability-reporting/school-grades/
School and County Letter Grades as calculated by the Florida DOE	http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/accountability-reporting/school-grades/
School and County Letter Grades as calculated by the Florida DOE	(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 proprietry 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.