



Polk 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 Rates	College Ready Index
<b>County Average</b>	n/a	n/a	44	41	n/a	21
AUBURNDALE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	12,097	485	37	43	89	23
BARTOW SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL (MAG)	9,668	422	49	49	95	18
CHAIN OF LAKES COLLEGIATE HIGH	11,422	473	n/a	n/a	100	10
DISCOVERY HIGH SCHOOL	9,730	426	45	30	98	15
Fort Meade Middle/Senior High School	8,641	387	41	39	97	27
Frostproof Middle/Senior High School	13,383-17,843	512-596	41	51	85	12
GEORGE W. JENKINS SENIOR HIGH	6,729	328	55	57	97	28
HAINES CITY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL (MAG)	12,718	500	39	27	89	21
KATHLEEN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	13,383-17,843	512-596	36	25	92	18
LAKE GIBSON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	10,845	457	39	24	98	27
Lakeland Senior High School	4,903	263	59	49	92	31
LAKE REGION HIGH SCHOOL	13,383-17,843	512-596	31	31	93	18
LAKE WALES SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL (MAG)	6,322	317	52	54	94	21
McKeel Academy of Technology	2,575	154	79	79	100	34
MULBERRY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	12,008	483	37	41	95	17
POLK STATE COLLEGE COLLEGIATE HIGH SCHOOL	10,666	455	n/a	n/a	100	19
RIDGE COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL	13,132	506	37	31	89	21
TENOROC HIGH SCHOOL	13,383-17,843	512-596	25	22	81	22
WINTER HAVEN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	13,121	505	42	39	91	15
<b>Top High Schools as of 2021 Florida</b>						
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,			
2021	2019	2018	2017
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
C	C	C	C
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
n/a	A	A	A
C	C	C	D
C	C	B	C
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
n/a	B	B	C
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
n/a	C	C	D
C	C	C	C
n/a	B	B	C
n/a	C	C	C
n/a	B	B	C
n/a	A	A	A
C	C	B	D
n/a	A	A	A
n/a	C	C	C
n/a	D	C	D
n/a	C	C	C
A	A	A	A
A	A	A	A
A	A	A	A

FL Dept. of Education County			
2021	2019	2018	2017
85	81	80	75



**Explanations of County High School Data Components**

<b>U.S. News and World Report Data</b>	
<b>Ranking Algorithm &amp; Criteria for a School to Be Ranked</b>	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/usn-algorithm">http://tinyurl.com/usn-algorithm</a>
<b>Nationally-Ranked Schools</b>	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/usn-national-ranking">http://tinyurl.com/usn-national-ranking</a>
<b>Florida Ranked Schools</b>	<a href="http://tinyurl.com/usn-florida-ranking">http://tinyurl.com/usn-florida-ranking</a>
<b>Reading Proficiency</b>	Assessment of students' ability to read at grade level.
<b>Math Proficiency</b>	Assessment of students' ability to perform math at grade level.
<b>College Readiness Index</b>	Index representing the proportion of a school's 12th graders that took and passed AP/IB exams.
<b>County Average</b>	Average scores for the Florida schools listed
<b>Graduation Rate</b>	The proportion of entering ninth graders who graduated four academic years later
<b>FL Dept. of Education County Graduation Rates (%)</b>	<a href="http://www.fldoe.org">Florida High School Graduation Rates, 2020-21 (fldoe.org)</a>
<b>Top High Schools - Florida</b>	Shows a sampling of highly-ranked Florida Schools
<b>FL Dept. of Education School Grades</b>	<a href="http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/accountability-reporting/school-grades/">http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/accountability-reporting/school-grades/</a>
<b>School and County Letter Grades as calculated by the Florida DOE</b>	<a href="http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/accountability-reporting/school-grades/">http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/accountability-reporting/school-grades/</a>
<b>School and County Letter Grades as calculated by the Florida DOE</b>	(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.