



Polk County High Schools
(see page 2 for sources and explanations of data components)

	2022 U.S. News and World Report of Best High schools						FL Dept. of Education School			
	National Rank	State Rank	% Reading Proficiency	% Math Proficiency	% Graduation Rates	College Ready Index	2022	2021	2019	2018
County Average	n/a	n/a	40	26	n/a	n/a				
Auburndale Senior High School	11,632	484	31	25	90	19	C	C	C	C
Bartow Senior High School	8,295	398	46	28	96	17	C		B	C
Discovery High School	8,064	388	42	33	97	17	C	C	C	C
Fort Meade Middle/Senior High School	11,529	482	41	20	97	17	C	C	C	B
Frostproof Middle/Senior High School	11,188	473	33	27	90	20	C		B	C
George W. Jenkins Senior High School	5,420	288	49	27	97	34	B		B	B
Haines City Senior High School	12,765	521	32	12	86	19	C	C	C	C
Kathleen Senior High School	12,953	529	31	19	89	15	C		C	C
Lake Gibson Senior High School	10,473	459	37	16	95	22	C	C	C	C
Lakeland Senior High School	6,579	338	52	29	88	25	B		B	B
Lake Region High School	13,261-17,680	539-618	22	16	89	20	D		C	C
Lake Wales Senior High School	6,482	332	45	29	91	26	C		B	B
McKeel Academy of Technology	1,826	118	74	66	100	34	A		A	A
Mulberry Senior High School	10,781	464	35	22	91	22	C	C	C	B
Polk Full Time Eschool	13,261-17,680	539-618	64	31	69		C			
Polk Grad Academy	13,261-17,680	539-618		0	68		B		B	B
Polk State College Collegiate High School	1,237	80		85	100	22	A		A	A
Polk State Lakeland Gateway To College Charter High	13,261-17,680	539-618		15	97	10				
Ridge Community High School	12,806	522	32	14	90	20	B		B	B
Tenoroc High School	13,261-17,680	539-618	24	15	81	18	C		D	C
Winter Haven Senior High School	10,682	461	38	25	92	15	C		C	C
Top High Schools as of 2022 Florida										
School for Advanced Studies (SAS), Miami	3	1		100	100	100	A		A	A
Pine View School, Osprey	13	2	99	100	100	100	A		A	A
Archimedean Upper Conservatory Charter School	41	3	91	73	99	99	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. **NOTE:** high schools that did not provide data for this report are not listed here.

FL Dept. of Education County			
2018	2019	2021	2022
81	87	85	78



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.
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)
Comparing Ranking Data (proficiencies & college-ready index) with Florida DOE school grades	(see "District Grades" Excel file for county 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.