

# YOUTH EDUCATION IN FLORIDA

## PERCENT OF STUDENTS READING AT GRADE LEVEL (2006)

| GRADE | NUMBER OF STUDENTS | ACHIEVEMENT Level Three and above |
|-------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 3     | 204,238            | 75%                               |
| 4     | 192,480            | 66%                               |
| 5     | 197,054            | 67%                               |
| 6     | 186,948            | 64%                               |
| 7     | 202,438            | 61%                               |
| 8     | 200,421            | 46%                               |
| 9     | 202,904            | 40%                               |
| 10    | 185,568            | 32%                               |

Source: Florida Department of Education, May 2006

## NATIONAL EDUCATION FACTS

Students reading below grade level are twice as likely to drop out of school.

Source: 2006 READ 180 Awards

Teen girls in bottom 20% of basic reading and math skills are five times more likely to become mothers over a two-year high school period than teen girls in the top 20%.

Source: Alliance for Excellent Education, 2003b

Male and female students with low academic achievement are twice as likely to become parents by their senior year of high school compared to students with high academic achievement.

Source: Alliance for Excellent Education, 2003b

## FLORIDA EDUCATION FACTS

There are more than 2,609,000 students in Florida's public schools, which makes Florida the 4<sup>th</sup> largest public school system in the country.

Source: Melton, R.H. 2006, Florida School Boards Association

Over the last 5 years, Florida's public school K-12 student population has grown by an average of more than 56,000 students each year.

Source: Melton, R.H. 2006, Florida School Boards Association

The 2004-2005 basic operating budget for K-12 public education – as provided through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) and major categorical allocations – is approximately \$15 billion. This provides an average of \$5735 per student.

Source: Melton, R.H. 2006, Florida School Boards Association

Nationally, Florida ranks 41<sup>st</sup> in per pupil spending and 23<sup>rd</sup> in per capita personal income, but 49<sup>th</sup> in the percent of personal income spent on K-12 education.

Source: Melton, R.H. 2006, Florida School Boards Association

Florida must spend approximately \$83,000,000 each school day to operate in public schools.

Source: Melton, R.H. 2006, Florida School Boards Association

Every \$1 invested in quality early childhood care and education saves as much as \$7 by increasing the likelihood that children will be literate, employed, and less likely to be school dropouts, dependent on welfare, or arrested.

Source: Data compiled by the Florida School Boards Association, 2004-2005