



### ***State Graduation Rate Rises, Dropout Rate Falls***

The 2007-08 graduation and dropout rates were released in November. The state graduation rate increased to 75.4% in 2007-08 from 72.4% in 2006-07. Fifty-two of Florida's 67 school districts also experienced increases in their graduation rates. The graduation rates also rose for all racial groups.

Florida's dropout rate fell from 3.3% in 2006-07 to 2.6% 2007-08. Fifty-five of Florida's 67 school districts also experienced decreases in their dropout rates. Dropout rates also fell for all racial groups.

For district-level graduation and dropout rates by race and gender, please see the "Florida Public High School Graduation Rates" and "Dropout Demographics in Florida's Public Schools and Dropout Rates" data reports on our website at <http://www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/default.asp>. Governor Crist's press release regarding the 2007-08 graduation rates is available at <http://www.flgov.com/release/10352>.

### ***Race and Ethnicity Reporting***

The Technical Assistance Paper (TAP) "Collecting and Reporting Race and Ethnicity Data" was recently released. This TAP is on the web at <http://www.fldoe.org/eias/dataweb/tech/race.pdf>.

This TAP includes information that will assist districts in preparing to collect and report the new data elements on race and ethnicity during the 2009-10 school year. To accomplish this, districts must use a two-question format and allow staff



and parents/guardians of students to re-identify their ethnicity and race(s).

Some districts have reviewed this document and have asked additional questions, answers to which will be included in a future technical assistance document. Please send any further questions on student reporting to Linda Hewett at [linda.hewett@fldoe.org](mailto:linda.hewett@fldoe.org) and questions on staff reporting to Teresa Sancho at [teresa.sancho@fldoe.org](mailto:teresa.sancho@fldoe.org).

### ***Important Dates***

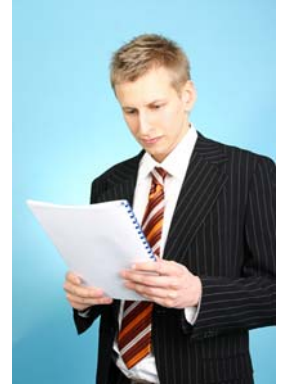
- Dec. 8 – Survey 9, 2008-09, begin state processing
- Dec. 12 – Survey 9, 2008-09, due date
- Jan. 5 – Survey 7, 2008-09, begin state processing
- Jan. 9 – Survey 9, 2008-09, end state processing
- Jan. 12 – Survey 7, 2008-09, due date
- Jan. 15 – Staff e-mail files – begin processing
- Jan. 16 – Survey 7, 2008-09, end state processing
- Feb. 9-13 – Survey 3, 2008-09, survey week
- Feb. 15 – Staff e-mail files – end processing
- Feb. 16 – Survey 3, 2008-09, begin state processing
- Feb. 27 – Survey 3, 2008-09, due date
- Feb. 28 – Survey 5, 2007-08, final update



### Recent Reports and Publications

Several publications have been released in the last few months. They are listed below with their corresponding web links.

- Dropout Demographics in Florida's Public Schools and Dropout Rates, 2007-08 <http://www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/word/dropouts0708.rtf>
- Florida Public High School Graduation Rates, 2007-08 <http://www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/word/gradrate.rtf>
- Pocket Digest of Florida Education Data, 2007-08 <http://www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/pdf/digest08.pdf>
- Snapshot of Florida Public Schools – print only
- English Language Learners, 2007-08 <http://www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/word/ellflus.rtf>
- Free/Reduced Price Lunch Eligibility, 2007-08 <http://www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/word/frplunch.rtf>
- Selected Gender Comparisons Among Students in Florida's Public Schools <http://www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/word/stdgender.rtf>
- Gender Representation Among Professionals in Florida's Public Schools <http://www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/word/genderpro.rtf>
- Retention of First-Year Instructional Staff <http://www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/word/tch1keep.rtf>
- Enrollment Size of Florida's Public Schools <http://www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/word/enroll2008.rtf>



### Staff E-Mail Address Data Collection

In accordance with Section 1012.05(3)(b), Florida Statutes, "By September 15 and February 15 of each year, each school district shall electronically submit accurate public school e-mail addresses for all instructional and administrative personnel, as identified in s.1012.01(2) and (3), to the Department of Education." The submission period for the February 15 data collection is from January 15, 2009, to February 15, 2009. Please review the Paperless Communication memo dated July 29, 2008, on the Update of Personnel E-mail Contact Information for further specifics.

<http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-5070/emailinfo.pdf>

<http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-5071/emailinfoa.pdf>

### Survey 7 2008-09

The purpose of the survey 7 data collection is to populate the Comprehensive English Language Learning Assessment (CELLA) data file used for pre-gridding of CELLA test materials and for reporting of CELLA results. The English Language Learners Information format at [http://www.fldoe.org/eias/dataweb/database\\_0809/0809lep.asp](http://www.fldoe.org/eias/dataweb/database_0809/0809lep.asp) provides information about the population of students to be included in survey 7 reporting. Other formats to be sent are Student Demographic Information, Exceptional Student, and Federal/State Indicator Status. Please direct questions about this data submission to Nada Scott at [nada.scott@fldoe.org](mailto:nada.scott@fldoe.org).

*Have a safe and happy holiday season!*

