



# FTC ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT

2015-2016



## Introduction

This school report looks at characteristics of private schools that enrolled students receiving a Florida Tax Credit scholarship through Step Up For Students during the 2015-2016 school year. In particular, the report examines the distribution of private schools by various characteristics and calculates graduate rates for 12<sup>th</sup> grade scholarship students enrolled in these schools.

This report is modeled after the National Center for Education Statistics' (NCES) biennial report: "Characteristics of Private Schools in the United States: Results from the 2013-2014 Private School Universe Survey (PSS)." The mandate of the NCES is to collect, analyze, and report on education throughout the U.S. and abroad. The PSS serves as their primary source of data on private schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. This report is focused on private schools in Florida that serve students who receive a Florida Tax Credit (FTC) scholarship through Step Up For Students.

## Data

In examining these private schools, data from the Florida Department of Education was utilized along with data collected by Step Up For Students through surveys of schools and students' primary guardians. In doing so, data was collected at the school level concerning grades served, number of students, accreditation status, religious affiliation, proportion of FTC students, and Success Partners Program participants. At the student level, information was obtained in relation to the students' gender, race/ethnicity, and graduation status.

Private schools that had Step Up For Students participants enrolled in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade during the 2015-2016 school year were surveyed online to determine the exit status of these students at the end of the academic year. Schools that did not respond to the online survey received follow-up phone calls and emails. For the remaining schools that did not respond to requests for exit status information, we contacted the parents of scholarship students enrolled in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade during the 2015-2016 school year to obtain the exit status for these students. This resulted in a 97.7% response rate.<sup>1</sup>

Similar to the NCES report, we calculate the graduation rate for FTC students enrolled at these schools by focusing on FTC students who were enrolled in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade at the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year and compared that number to how many of these students graduated at the end of the school year. A graduate is defined as those 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who received a standard diploma, special education diploma, or other certificate or diploma by the end of the academic year.<sup>2</sup> Those students who dropped out or otherwise failed to complete the 12<sup>th</sup> grade were calculated as not graduating.<sup>3</sup> This resulted in a total of 1,670 12<sup>th</sup> grade students included in this analysis.

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<sup>1</sup> Forty-one students with no response concerning exit status were not included in the analysis.

<sup>2</sup> Four students received a GED but were excluded from the analysis.

<sup>3</sup> Seventy-four students who transferred out of a private school to a public school were excluded from the private school analysis.

## Selected Findings

- In Fall 2015, there were 1,599 private schools serving 79,877 FTC students.<sup>4</sup>
- Of these, there were 409 schools with 1,789 FTC students enrolled in the 12th grade.
- 1,074 of these private schools were religious schools and 80.4% of scholarship students attended one of these schools.
- Step Up For Students scholarship students who were enrolled in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade during the 2015-2016 school year had a high graduation rate with 1,566 students or 93.8% of all students included in the analysis graduating from a private school.
- During the 2015-2016 school year, most scholarship students (62.1%) were enrolled in schools located in Southeast Florida.
- The average school size in 2015-2016 was 163 students.
- 34.8% of schools had a small proportion of FTC students (less than 25%) enrolled in their schools.
- In terms of demographics, there were slightly more female scholarship students than male scholarship students.
- More scholarship students were Hispanic than any other race. However, a large percentage of scholarship students were white and African-American.
- 1,034 of these private schools were not accredited.
- 423 schools participated in at least one of Step Up For Students' training sessions and were a part of the Success Partners Network, while 309 schools were deemed Success Partner Schools, as they had participated in the Step Up For Students 2-year professional development program.

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<sup>4</sup> There was a total of 79,877 FTC students enrolled in private schools during the 2015-2016 school year. Of these students, 155 were enrolled in more than one private school resulting in 80,032 entries for FTC students for the 2015-2016 school year.

## Appendix A

**Table 1: Number and percentage distribution of private schools and students by selected characteristics (2015-2016)**

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS	<i>SCHOOL NUMBER</i>	<i>SCHOOL PERCENT</i>	<i>STUDENT NUMBER</i>	<i>STUDENT PERCENT</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,599</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>79,887</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Private School Typology</b>				
Religious	1,077	67.4%	64,369	80.4%
Non-Religious	512	32.0%	15,503	19.4%
N/A	10	.06%	160	0.2%
<b>Religious school type</b>				
Assemblies of God	31	2.8%	2,796	4.3%
Baptist	172	15.8%	12,733	19.7%
Catholic	187	17.2%	14,465	22.4%
Church of God	21	1.9%	1,347	2.1%
Episcopalian	17	1.6%	529	0.8%
SDA	48	4.4%	2,882	4.5%
Islamic/Muslim	15	1.4%	1,924	3.0%
Jewish	38	3.5%	2,175	3.4%
Lutheran	47	4.3%	2,013	3.1%
Multi/Inter/Trans-Denominational	23	2.1%	920	1.4%
Methodist	14	1.3%	471	0.7%
Nazarene	9	0.8%	329	0.5%
Non-Denominational	369	33.9%	17,872	27.7%
Pentecostal	42	3.9%	1,392	2.2%
Presbyterian	19	1.7%	1,330	2.1%
Other Religious	20	1.8%	1,146	1.8%
N/A	16	1.5%	209	0.3%
<b>School Level</b>				
Elementary	376	23.7%	9,248	11.6%
Secondary	46	2.9%	2,990	3.7%
Combined	1,162	73.5%	67,466	84.3%
N/A	15	0.9%	328	0.4%
<b>Size (Number of Students)</b>				
Less than 50	488	30.7%	6,317	7.9%
50-149	519	32.7%	19,137	24.0%
150-299	333	21.0%	26,774	33.6%
300-499	141	8.9%	16,223	20.3%
500-749	64	4.0%	7,373	9.2%
750 +	43	2.7%	3,913	4.9%
<b>Proportion FTC<sup>5</sup></b>				
Less than 25%	556	34.8%	13,417	16.8%
26-50%	492	30.8%	25,736	32.2%
51-75%	355	22.2%	26,723	33.4%
76-100%	196	12.3%	14,156	17.7%
<b>Region</b>				
NE	314	19.6%	14,972	18.7%
NW	74	4.6%	2,940	3.7%
SW	900	56.3%	49,706	62.1%
SE	311	19.4%	12,414	15.5%
<b>Success Partner School</b>				
Yes	309	19.3%	22,118	27.6%
No	1290	80.7%	57,914	72.4%
<b>Accredited</b>				
Yes	557	34.8%	41,302	51.6%
No	1034	64.7%	38,607	48.2%
N/A	8	0.5%	123	0.2%

<sup>5</sup> For the proportion of FTC students, 13 schools were omitted from this calculation due to missing data for total school enrollment.

**Table 2: Average private school size by school level and selected school characteristics  
(2015-2016)**

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS	AVERAGE NUMBER OF STUDENTS			
	<i>Total</i> <b>1,599</b>	<i>Elementary</i> <b>376</b>	<i>Secondary</i> <b>46</b>	<i>Combined</i> <b>1,162</b>
<b>Private School Typology</b>				
Religious	198.4	93.8	552.6	196.0
Non-Religious	90.4	57.8	48.5	125.1
Unknown	32.3	0.0	0.0	79.0
<b>Religious School Type</b>				
Assemblies of God	186.1	71.6	0.0	219.5
Baptist	184.5	95.1	0.0	200.4
Catholic	388.6	107.5	717.2	331.2
Church of God	117.4	34.3	0.0	137.0
Episcopalian	319.1	0.0	0.0	366.5
Islamic/Muslim	226.7	165	0.0	226.7
Jewish	252.3	182.5	132.4	298.6
Lutheran	178.9	84.6	0.0	195.8
Methodist	172.1	100.8	0.0	267.2
Multi/Inter/Trans- Denominational	129.4	0.0	95.0	131.0
Nazarene	90.8	0.0	0.0	90.8
Non-Denominational	137.7	62.6	186.3	145.1
Other Religious	163.26315	43.5	0.0	177.4
Pentecostal	52.902439	61.0	142.0	49.5
Presbyterian	308.89474	192.4	413.0	391.7
SDA	107.35416	37.5	354.0	105.0
Unknown	29.0	0.0	0.0	43.3
<b>School Level</b>				
Elementary	69.1	---	---	---
Secondary	508.8	---	---	---
Combined	180.7	---	---	---
Unknown	43.1	---	---	---
<b>Size (Number of Students)</b>				
Less than 50	27.3	26.8	24.5	27.8
50-149	89.0	87.6	93.1	89.5
150-299	214.9	189.1	227.8	216.9
300-499	390.4	367.2	403.8	390.3
500-749	593.7	0.0	589.9	594.2
750 +	1090.8	0.0	1262.1	1009.2
<b>Proportion FTC</b>				
Less than 25%	228.1	86.4	624.8	249.1
26-50%	145.9	62.7	265.6	167.0
51-75%	123.2	66.2	106.0	135.5
76-100%	87.6	45.1	77.0	114.0
<b>Region</b>				
NE	163.7	95.4	402.7	170.3
NW	125.8	74.7	373.0	123.7
SW	162.1	62.7	581.8	193.1
SE	173.2	82.2	415.6	177.6
<b>Success Partner</b>				
Yes	156.5	75.7	332.0	166.4
No	164.4	68.3	525.6	185.0
<b>Accredited</b>				
Yes	314.1	168.9	597.5	301.8
No	81.6	59.4	87.5	93.2
Unknown	27.1	0.0	0.0	50.5

**Table 3: Percentage distribution of private schools by school size and selected school characteristics (2015-2016)**

<b>SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS</b>	<i>LESS THAN 50 STUDENTS</i> (488 schools)	<i>50-149 STUDENTS</i> (519 schools)	<i>150-299 STUDENTS</i> (333 schools)	<i>300-499 STUDENTS</i> (141 schools)	<i>500-749 STUDENTS</i> (64 schools)	<i>750 STUDENTS OR MORE</i> (43 schools)
<b>Private School Typology</b>						
Religious	53.7%	60.1%	82.3%	90.1%	93.8%	81.4%
Non-Religious	44.9%	39.5%	17.7%	9.9%	6.8%	16.3%
Unknown	1.4%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.3%
<b>Religious School Type</b>						
Assemblies of God	1.5%	1.3%	3.3%	3.1%	0.0%	2.8%
Baptist	12.6%	10.8%	20.4%	14.2%	11.7%	5.6%
Catholic	0.7%	0.6%	31.4%	38.6%	45.0%	38.9%
Church of God	2.2%	1.9%	0.7%	0.0%	1.7%	0.0%
Episcopalian	0.4%	0.3%	1.5%	2.4%	3.3%	5.6%
Islamic/Muslim	0.7%	0.6%	2.2%	0.8%	3.3%	0.0%
Jewish	1.9%	1.6%	2.2%	5.5%	6.7%	5.6%
Lutheran	2.2%	1.9%	5.8%	3.9%	3.3%	2.8%
Methodist	0.4%	0.3%	1.8%	2.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Multi/Inter/Trans-Denominational	2.6%	2.2%	0.4%	2.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Nazarene	0.7%	0.6%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Non-Denominational	51.5%	44.3%	24.5%	18.9%	16.7%	25.0%
Other Religious	1.9%	1.6%	1.8%	1.6%	1.7%	2.8%
Pentecostal	10.4%	8.9%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	2.8%
Presbyterian	0.7%	0.6%	0.7%	4.7%	5.0%	2.8%
SDA	2.9%	4.5%	2.6%	1.6%	1.7%	0.0%
Unknown	2.5%	3.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	5.6%
<b>School Level</b>						
Elementary	37.3%	29.9%	7.8%	7.8%	0.0%	23.3%
Secondary	0.4%	2.1%	1.5%	4.3%	10.9%	7.0%
Combined	60.2%	67.6%	90.4%	87.9%	89.1%	65.1%
Unknown	2.0%	0.4%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	4.7%
<b>Proportion FTC</b>						
Less than 25%	27.5%	33.1%	29.7%	51.8%	70.3%	62.8%
26-50%	31.1%	30.3%	38.1%	27.7%	20.3%	7.0%
51-75%	22.1%	26.2%	24.6%	14.2%	7.8%	2.3%
76-100%	19.3%	10.4%	7.5%	6.4%	1.6%	27.9%
<b>Region</b>						
NE	17.8%	19.8%	23.1%	17.0%	20.3%	16.3%
NW	4.7%	4.2%	6.6%	2.8%	3.1%	0.0%
SW	60.0%	55.7%	49.2%	60.3%	54.7%	62.8%
SE	17.4%	20.2%	21.0%	19.9%	21.9%	20.9%
<b>Success Partner</b>						
Yes	13.3%	24.1%	23.1%	22.0%	9.4%	7.0%
No	86.7%	75.9%	76.9%	78.0%	90.6%	93.0%
<b>Accredited</b>						
Yes	3.5%	21.8%	64.9%	85.8%	93.8%	69.8%
No	95.3%	78.0%	35.1%	14.2%	6.3%	27.9%
Unknown	1.2%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.3%

**Table 4: Percentage distribution of FTC students, by racial/ethnic background and selected school characteristics (2015-2016)**

<b>SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS</b>	<i>WHITE</i>	<i>AFRICAN AMERICAN</i>	<i>HISPANIC</i>	<i>ASIAN</i>	<i>NATIVE AMERICAN</i>	<i>PACIFIC ISLANDER</i>	<i>TWO OR MORE RACES</i>	<i>UNKNOWN</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,977</b>	<b>24,281</b>	<b>30,385</b>	<b>1,254</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>2,580</b>	<b>1,366</b>
<b>Private School Typology</b>								
Religious	93.8%	81.4%	69.0%	94.7%	94.7%	88.5%	90.6%	88.2%
Non-Religious	6.2%	18.1%	30.9%	5.3%	5.3%	11.5%	9.1%	11.7%
Unknown	0.0%	0.5%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%
<b>Religious School Type</b>								
Assemblies of God	2.9%	3.0%	7.2%	0.8%	1.4%	4.0%	4.2%	2.7%
Baptist	21.8%	20.6%	17.6%	12.9%	15.3%	19.0%	21.3%	16.1%
Catholic	17.5%	18.6%	30.3%	30.2%	33.3%	34.0%	20.6%	16.7%
Church of God	2.7%	2.5%	1.2%	0.8%	2.8%	3.0%	2.8%	2.1%
Episcopalian	1.0%	0.5%	0.8%	0.9%	4.2%	1.0%	1.1%	0.8%
Islamic/Muslim	5.5%	0.6%	0.4%	38.0%	2.8%	4.0%	2.6%	13.2%
Jewish	9.9%	0.0%	0.9%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%	9.3%
Lutheran	3.8%	3.1%	2.5%	1.8%	1.4%	2.0%	3.8%	2.9%
Methodist	0.5%	0.7%	1.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	0.6%
Multi/Inter/Trans-Denominational	1.3%	1.9%	1.1%	1.2%	1.4%	2.0%	1.8%	1.5%
Nazarene	0.8%	0.3%	0.5%	0.4%	0.0%	1.0%	0.4%	0.7%
Non-Denominational	26.2%	32.3%	25.6%	9.9%	30.6%	21.0%	30.4%	24.6%
Other Religious	2.2%	1.6%	1.6%	0.6%	0.0%	1.0%	2.5%	1.3%
Pentecostal	0.7%	4.2%	1.7%	0.3%	0.0%	1.0%	1.2%	2.4%
Presbyterian	2.0%	0.7%	3.6%	0.6%	4.2%	2.0%	1.8%	1.0%
SDA	1.0%	8.5%	4.0%	2.2%	2.8%	5.0%	3.4%	4.0%
Unknown	0.1%	0.7%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.2%
<b>School Level</b>								
Elementary	5.4%	9.1%	18.6%	3.4%	6.6%	3.5%	6.2%	6.5%
Secondary	3.9%	3.2%	4.0%	4.4%	2.6%	5.3%	3.3%	5.3%
Combined	90.4%	87.2%	76.9%	92.2%	90.8%	91.2%	89.8%	87.9%
Unknown	0.3%	0.6%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.3%
<b>Size (Number of Students)</b>								
Less than 50	1.2%	10.7%	7.7%	5.5%	0.0%	4.4%	6.3%	7.9%
50-149	10.7%	29.0%	24.1%	19.1%	25.0%	21.2%	21.1%	22.6%
150-299	42.0%	35.3%	30.1%	36.0%	43.4%	36.3%	36.4%	31.1%
300-499	26.3%	15.8%	23.5%	20.4%	19.7%	24.8%	21.2%	21.4%
500-749	15.4%	5.1%	9.9%	12.5%	11.8%	12.4%	10.7%	11.7%
750 +	4.4%	4.0%	4.7%	6.4%	0.0%	0.9%	4.2%	5.3%
<b>Proportion FTC</b>								
Less than 25%	24.6%	10.0%	16.4%	21.9%	17.1%	25.7%	21.9%	16.1%
26-50%	42.8%	25.6%	29.5%	31.4%	57.9%	34.5%	42.8%	32.1%
51-75%	30.1%	33.9%	35.0%	41.9%	21.1%	25.7%	28.1%	40.2%
76-100%	2.6%	30.5%	19.1%	4.8%	3.9%	14.2%	7.2%	11.6%
<b>Region</b>								
NE	29.2%	21.4%	8.7%	22.5%	39.5%	15.9%	27.6%	17.6%
NW	6.2%	4.8%	0.9%	2.2%	7.9%	6.2%	7.3%	3.3%
SW	37.9%	64.9%	78.1%	53.6%	42.1%	42.5%	41.5%	59.5%
SE	26.7%	8.9%	12.2%	21.8%	10.5%	35.4%	23.6%	19.5%
<b>Success Partner</b>								
Yes	22.0%	34.9%	24.9%	41.2%	10.5%	31.0%	27.6%	30.3%
No	78.0%	65.1%	75.1%	58.8%	89.5%	69.0%	72.4%	69.7%
<b>Accredited</b>								
Yes	61.5%	43.8%	49.4%	72.5%	72.4%	61.1%	62.3%	54.8%
No	38.5%	55.8%	50.6%	27.5%	27.6%	38.9%	37.4%	45.1%
Unknown	0.05%	0.4%	0.02%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.07%

**Table 5: Student-Level Characteristics: Gender and Selected School Characteristics  
(2015-2016)**

<b>SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS</b>	<b>MALE</b>	<b>FEMALE</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>39,047</b>	<b>40,840</b>
<b>Private School Typology</b>		
Religious	79.7%	81.1%
Non-Religious	20.0%	18.7%
Unknown	0.2%	0.2%
<b>Religious School Type</b>		
Assemblies of God	4.4%	4.3%
Baptist	20.1%	19.4%
Catholic	21.9%	22.9%
Church of God	2.2%	2.0%
Episcopalian	0.8%	0.8%
SDA	4.6%	4.3%
Islamic/Muslim	2.7%	3.2%
Jewish	3.3%	3.5%
Lutheran	3.2%	3.1%
Multi/Inter/Trans- Denominational	1.4%	1.4%
Methodist	0.8%	0.7%
Nazarene	0.6%	0.5%
Non-Denominational	27.9%	27.5%
Pentecostal	2.2%	2.1%
Presbyterian	1.9%	2.2%
Other Religious	1.6%	1.9%
<b>School Level</b>		
Elementary	12.0%	11.2%
Secondary	4.0%	3.5%
Combined	83.6%	85.0%
Unknown	0.4%	0.4%
<b>Size (Number of Students)</b>		
Less than 50	8.3%	7.6%
50-149	24.7%	23.4%
150-299	33.2%	33.9%
300-499	20.0%	20.7%
500-749	9.0%	9.5%
750 +	4.9%	4.9%
<b>Proportion FTC</b>		
Less than 25%	17.0%	16.5%
26-50%	32.0%	32.3%
51-75%	33.3%	33.5%
76-100%	17.7%	17.6%
<b>Region</b>		
NE	18.7%	18.8%
NW	3.7%	3.7%
SW	61.8%	61.8%
SE	15.8%	15.8%
<b>Success Partner</b>		
Yes	27%	28%
No	73%	72%
<b>Accredited</b>		
Yes	50.8%	52.3%
No	49.0%	47.5%
Unknown	0.2%	0.1%



**Table 6: Percentage of private schools with 12th-graders, number of graduates, graduation rate, by selected school characteristics (2015-2016)**

<b>SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE OF SCHOOLS WITH FTC STUDENTS IN THE 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF 2015-2016 FTC GRADUATES</b>	<b>2015-2016 FTC GRADUATION RATE*</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24.4%</b>	<b>1,566</b>	<b>93.8%</b>
<b>Private School Typology</b>			
Religious	84.1%	1408	93.4%
Non-Religious	15.4%	152	92.1%
Unknown	0.5%	6	75.0%
<b>Religious School Type</b>			
Assemblies of God	3.6%	53	98.1%
Baptist	19.4%	261	92.2%
Catholic	10.3%	401	95.9%
Church of God	2.4%	28	84.8%
Episcopalian	0.9%	6	100.0%
Islamic/Muslim	1.5%	49	100.0%
Jewish	3.6%	63	87.5%
Lutheran	0.9%	10	90.9%
Methodist	0.0%	0	0.0%
Multi/Inter/Trans-Denominational	1.8%	14	87.5%
Nazarene	0.9%	3	100.0%
Non-Denominational	43.3%	390	92.0%
Other Religious	2.1%	24	96.0%
Pentecostal	3.9%	16	84.2%
Presbyterian	1.8%	38	97.4%
SDA	1.8%	48	92.3%
Unknown	1.5%	10	83.3%
<b>School Level</b>			
Elementary	0.0%	0	0.0%
Secondary	11.5%	410	96.2%
Combined	86.4%	1136	92.2%
Unknown	2.1%	20	87.0%
<b>Size (Number of Students)</b>			
Less than 50	16.3%	71	79.8%
50-149	28.2%	213	84.9%
150-299	25.3%	374	91.9%
300-499	14.7%	379	97.2%
500-749	8.5%	250	98.0%
750 +	7.0%	269	96.8%
<b>Proportion FTC</b>			
Less than 25%	27.2%	498	96.1%
26-50%	36.2%	498	93.3%
51-75%	27.4%	440	91.3%
76-100%	9.2%	130	88.4%
<b>Region</b>			
NE	21.3%	333	93.3%
NW	5.4%	57	95.0%
SW	53.1%	939	92.4%
SE	20.3%	237	95.6%
<b>Success Partner</b>			
Yes	19.2%	303	93.5%
No	80.8%	1263	93.1%
<b>Accredited</b>			
Yes	49.7%	1078	94.5%
No	50.3%	488	90.4%
Unknown	0.0%	0	0.0%

## Appendix B

### Glossary

**School level:** Schools that served high school students along with students in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade or below were classified as combined schools. Those schools that only offered grades higher than the 6<sup>th</sup> grade were classified as secondary schools.

**Proportion FTC:** The proportion of FTC students is the number of students receiving a Florida Tax Credit scholarship through Step Up For Students in relation to the total number of students enrolled at the school.

**Success Partner Schools:** Success partner schools are schools that participate in a comprehensive research-based professional development program offered by Step Up For Students.

**Region:** Schools were divided up into 4 regions based on the county that the school is located within. These regions are northeast, northwest, southeast, and southwest Florida. The northeast region is comprised of Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Clay, Columbia, Dixie, Duval, Flagler, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Marion, Nassau, Putnam, Seminole, St. Johns, Suwannee, Union, and Volusia County. The northwest region includes Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton, and Washington County. In the southern part of Florida, the southeast region comprises Charlotte, Citrus, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Lee, Manatee, Monroe, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota, and Sumter County. The remaining counties make up the southwest region and include Brevard, Broward, Indian River, Lake, Martin, Miami-Dade, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Polk, and St. Lucie County.