



Briefing Report
School-Related Delinquency Referrals
(2010-11 vs. 2011-12)
March 2012: Preliminary Assessment

Contact:

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Issue:

This briefing report summarizes the results of an analysis of delinquency referrals in Florida's schools during the first eight months of FY 2010-11 and FY 2011-12. This is a briefing sheet and is not intended to be a complete or definitive study of all data and issues surrounding delinquency in Florida's schools. Final figures will be released via the Department's research website:

<http://www.djj.state.fl.us/Research/index.html>

Methodology:

All of the data in this briefing sheet was derived from the Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS) and analyzed by the Bureau of Research and Planning. The methods used to generate the attached figures are identical to those used in the official annual reports, which can be found on the Department's research web site: http://www.djj.state.fl.us/Research/School_Referrals/index.html.

For purposes of this analysis, delinquency referrals are reported. A delinquency referral represents a case referred to the Department for one or more alleged acts of delinquency. In this analysis, some youth may have been referred to the Department more than once during the study period. These youth are reported separately for each unique delinquency referral presented to the Department.

Highlighted Results:

The results of this analysis indicate that delinquency referrals in schools declined overall during the first eight months of FY 2011-12. Specifically:

- Delinquency referrals in schools declined 14% compared to a similar period during the previous fiscal year.
- Delinquency referrals in schools declined in 46 of Florida's 67 counties.
- Miami-Dade recorded the largest numeric *decline* in school related delinquency.

Results of the analysis point to some areas that are still in need of improvement. Specifically:

- Although the statewide number of delinquency referrals declined, there was an increase in referrals in several jurisdictions.
- Polk County recorded a substantial *increase* ($n=117$ or 22%) in school related delinquency.

- Minority overrepresentation remains a pervasive issue in most jurisdictions.
- Although declining, the majority of school-related offenses remain misdemeanor offenses.

Recommendations from Research and Planning:

- Provide Chief Probation Officers and Boards and Councils with school referral data so that they can review current school referral activity in their respective jurisdictions.
- Although the majority of school-related referrals are ultimately dismissed or diverted, there is a high degree of variation in the use of diversion throughout the state.
 - Recommend the expansion of low-cost community or school-based alternatives to arrest such as mediation, teen court, or civil citation.

Supplemental Data:

The following pages provide detailed charts and tables by county and judicial circuit. These tables represent delinquency referrals received by the Department, and not individual youth. Although the majority of school-related delinquency referrals (57%) involve a first-time offender, it is possible for youth to have been referred to the Department more than once during the six-month study period.

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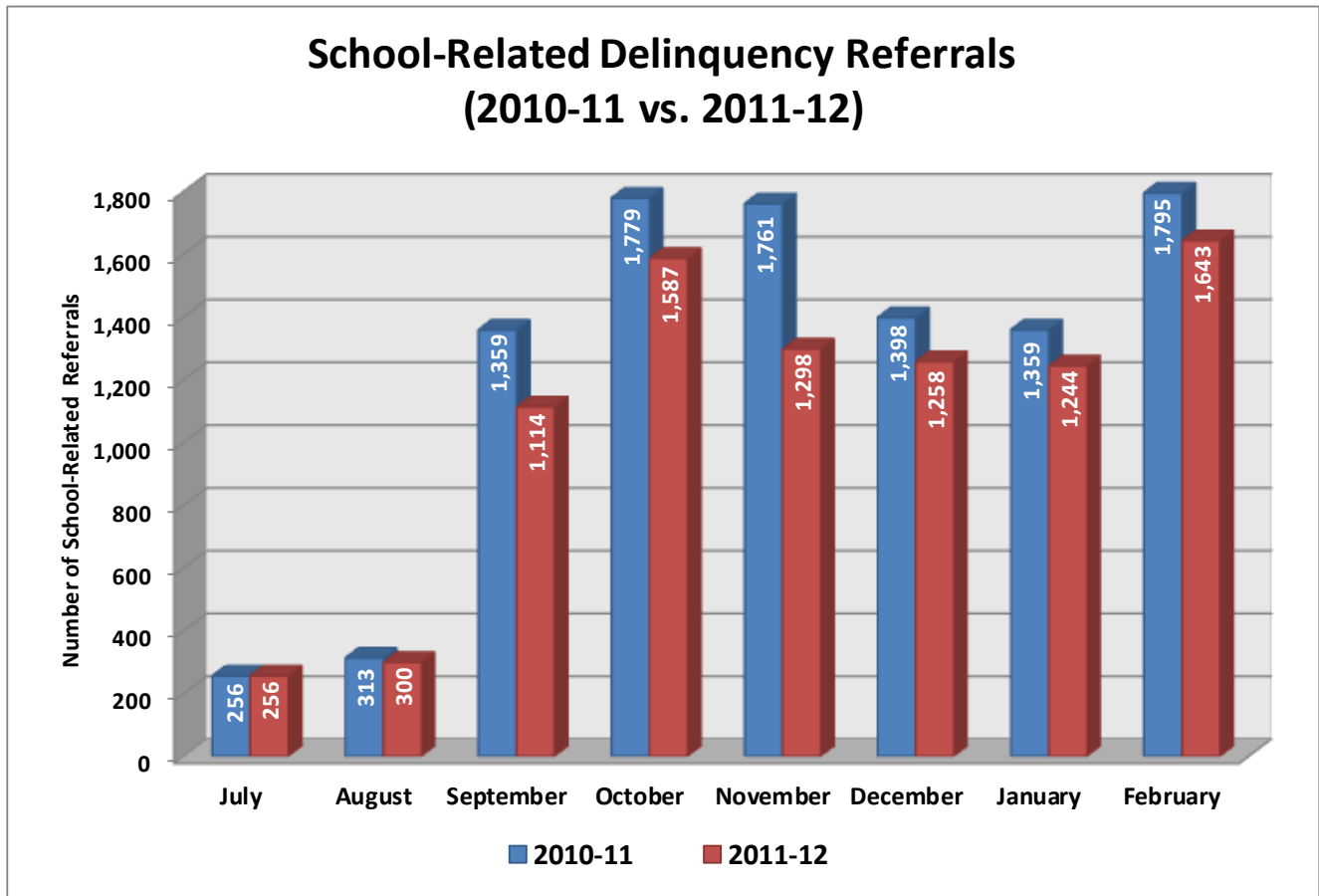
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Monthly Changes in School-Related Delinquency Referrals (Statewide)



Overall School Referral Comparison (by County)

School Referral Comparison (FY 2010-11 to FY 2011-12) (OVERALL School Referrals)

County	2010-11	2011-12	Change	%Change ¹	County	2010-11	2011-12	Change	%Change ¹
Alachua	201	212	11	5%	Lake	182	178	-4	-2%
<i>Baker</i>	28	29	1	4%	Lee	193	169	-24	-12%
Bay	118	123	5	4%	Leon	194	142	-52	-27%
<i>Bradford</i>	8	15	7	88%	<i>Levy</i>	24	22	-2	-8%
Brevard	267	185	-82	-31%	<i>Liberty</i>	2	2	0	0%
Broward	686	603	-83	-12%	<i>Madison</i>	18	24	6	33%
<i>Calhoun</i>	10	5	-5	-50%	Manatee	258	226	-32	-12%
<i>Charlotte</i>	69	57	-12	-17%	Marion	174	161	-13	-7%
<i>Citrus</i>	56	53	-3	-5%	Martin	95	113	18	19%
<i>Clay</i>	99	54	-45	-45%	<i>Monroe</i>	26	19	-7	-27%
Collier	157	135	-22	-14%	<i>Nassau</i>	21	19	-2	-10%
<i>Columbia</i>	42	29	-13	-31%	<i>Okaloosa</i>	82	47	-35	-43%
Dade	840	353	-487	-58%	<i>Okeechobee</i>	62	45	-17	-27%
<i>Desoto</i>	12	15	3	25%	Orange	729	615	-114	-16%
<i>Dixie</i>	4	4	0	0%	Osceola	243	207	-36	-15%
Duval	268	311	43	16%	Palm Beach	414	437	23	6%
Escambia	241	280	39	16%	Pasco	225	218	-7	-3%
<i>Flagler</i>	66	62	-4	-6%	Pinellas	599	520	-79	-13%
<i>Franklin</i>	2	2	0	0%	Polk	528	645	117	22%
<i>Gadsden</i>	16	12	-4	-25%	Putnam	121	100	-21	-17%
<i>Gilchrist</i>	9	8	-1	-11%	St Johns	138	69	-69	-50%
<i>Glades</i>	3	9	6	200%	St Lucie	287	218	-69	-24%
<i>Gulf</i>	4	5	1	25%	<i>Santa Rosa</i>	45	32	-13	-29%
<i>Hamilton</i>	3	4	1	33%	Sarasota	148	99	-49	-33%
<i>Hardee</i>	8	7	-1	-13%	Seminole	220	212	-8	-4%
<i>Hendry</i>	37	61	24	65%	<i>Sumter</i>	32	20	-12	-38%
Hernando	101	80	-21	-21%	<i>Suwannee</i>	42	44	2	5%
<i>Highlands</i>	86	71	-15	-17%	<i>Taylor</i>	6	5	-1	-17%
Hillsborough	708	654	-54	-8%	<i>Union</i>	14	6	-8	-57%
<i>Holmes</i>	4	4	0	0%	Volusia	500	408	-92	-18%
Indian River	101	76	-25	-25%	<i>Wakulla</i>	21	9	-12	-57%
<i>Jackson</i>	48	11	-37	-77%	Walton	33	26	-7	-21%
<i>Jefferson</i>	4	3	-1	200%	<i>Washington</i>	5	8	3	60%
<i>Lafayette</i>	4	1	-3	-75%	<i>Out of State</i>	29	16	-13	-45%
Total						10,020	8,614	-1,406	-14%

¹ Italics indicate that there were fewer than 100 referrals of this type; therefore, care should be taken in interpreting the resulting percentage change.

Misdemeanor School Referral Comparison (by County)

School Referral Comparison (FY 2010-11 to FY 2011-12) (MISDEMEANOR School Referrals)

County	2010-11	2011-12	Change	%Change ¹	County	2010-11	2011-12	Change	%Change ¹	
Alachua	133	157	24	18%	Lake	117	108	-9	-8%	
<i>Baker</i>	25	25	0	0%	Lee	146	125	-21	-14%	
Bay	92	102	10	11%	Leon	154	97	-57	-37%	
<i>Bradford</i>	6	11	5	83%	<i>Levy</i>	17	18	1	6%	
Brevard	187	116	-71	-38%	<i>Liberty</i>	1	0	-1	-100%	
Broward	448	428	-20	-4%	<i>Madison</i>	14	14	0	0%	
<i>Calhoun</i>	9	4	-5	-56%	Manatee	195	170	-25	-13%	
<i>Charlotte</i>	50	50	0	0%	Marion	128	113	-15	-12%	
<i>Citrus</i>	41	33	-8	-20%	<i>Martin</i>	75	96	21	28%	
<i>Clay</i>	66	41	-25	-38%	<i>Monroe</i>	21	13	-8	-38%	
Collier	114	97	-17	-15%	<i>Nassau</i>	14	5	-9	-64%	
<i>Columbia</i>	25	17	-8	-32%	<i>Okaloosa</i>	65	32	-33	-51%	
Dade	473	129	-344	-73%	<i>Okeechobee</i>	40	39	-1	-3%	
<i>Desoto</i>	11	10	-1	-9%	Orange	462	387	-75	-16%	
<i>Dixie</i>	1	1	0	0%	Osceola	150	142	-8	-5%	
Duval	131	138	7	5%	Palm Beach	252	281	29	12%	
Escambia	156	197	41	26%	Pasco	142	153	11	8%	
Flagler	52	48	-4	-8%	Pinellas	417	362	-55	-13%	
<i>Franklin</i>	1	1	0	0%	Polk	329	479	150	46%	
<i>Gadsden</i>	6	7	1	17%	<i>Putnam</i>	78	63	-15	-19%	
<i>Gilchrist</i>	9	8	-1	-11%	St Johns	109	44	-65	-60%	
<i>Glades</i>	3	6	3	100%	St Lucie	228	167	-61	-27%	
<i>Gulf</i>	3	3	0	0%	<i>Santa Rosa</i>	33	21	-12	-36%	
<i>Hamilton</i>	3	4	1	33%	<i>Sarasota</i>	95	75	-20	-21%	
<i>Hardee</i>	5	6	1	20%	Seminole	141	149	8	6%	
<i>Hendry</i>	23	48	25	109%	<i>Sumter</i>	23	12	-11	-48%	
<i>Hernando</i>	74	72	-2	-3%	<i>Suwannee</i>	32	32	0	0%	
<i>Highlands</i>	50	46	-4	-8%	<i>Taylor</i>	3	1	-2	-67%	
Hillsborough	454	422	-32	-7%	<i>Union</i>	5	5	0	0%	
<i>Holmes</i>	4	2	-2	-50%	Volusia	338	296	-42	-12%	
<i>Indian River</i>	93	61	-32	-34%	<i>Wakulla</i>	19	7	-12	-63%	
<i>Jackson</i>	36	8	-28	-78%	<i>Walton</i>	31	20	-11	-35%	
<i>Jefferson</i>	4	2	-2	200%	<i>Washington</i>	4	7	3	75%	
<i>Lafayette</i>	1	1	0	0%	<i>Out of State</i>	13	11	-2	-15%	
Total						6,680	5,845	-835	-13%	

¹ Italics indicate that there were fewer than 100 referrals of this type; therefore, care should be taken in interpreting the resulting percentage change.

Felony School Referral Comparison (by County)

School Referral Comparison (FY 2010-11 to FY 2011-12) (FELONY School Referrals)

County	2010-11	2011-12	Change	%Change ¹	County	2010-11	2011-12	Change	%Change ¹
<i>Alachua</i>	66	54	-12	-18%	<i>Lake</i>	65	69	4	6%
<i>Baker</i>	3	4	1	33%	<i>Lee</i>	47	44	-3	-6%
<i>Bay</i>	24	21	-3	-13%	<i>Leon</i>	40	45	5	13%
<i>Bradford</i>	2	4	2	100%	<i>Levy</i>	7	4	-3	-43%
<i>Brevard</i>	80	69	-11	-14%	<i>Liberty</i>	1	2	1	100%
<i>Broward</i>	237	173	-64	-27%	<i>Madison</i>	4	10	6	150%
<i>Calhoun</i>	1	1	0	0%	<i>Manatee</i>	59	50	-9	-15%
<i>Charlotte</i>	18	7	-11	-61%	<i>Marion</i>	46	48	2	4%
<i>Citrus</i>	15	20	5	33%	<i>Martin</i>	20	17	-3	-15%
<i>Clay</i>	33	12	-21	-64%	<i>Monroe</i>	4	6	2	50%
<i>Collier</i>	43	37	-6	-14%	<i>Nassau</i>	7	14	7	100%
<i>Columbia</i>	17	12	-5	-29%	<i>Okaloosa</i>	16	15	-1	-6%
<i>Dade</i>	363	222	-141	-39%	<i>Okeechobee</i>	22	6	-16	-73%
<i>Desoto</i>	1	5	4	400%	<i>Orange</i>	261	227	-34	-13%
<i>Dixie</i>	3	3	0	0%	<i>Osceola</i>	93	65	-28	-30%
<i>Duval</i>	137	173	36	26%	<i>Palm Beach</i>	160	156	-4	-3%
<i>Escambia</i>	84	83	-1	-1%	<i>Pasco</i>	82	64	-18	-22%
<i>Flagler</i>	14	14	0	0%	<i>Pinellas</i>	182	156	-26	-14%
<i>Franklin</i>	1	1	0	0%	<i>Polk</i>	192	163	-29	-15%
<i>Gadsden</i>	10	5	-5	-50%	<i>Putnam</i>	43	36	-7	-16%
<i>Gilchrist</i>	0	0	0	0%	<i>St Johns</i>	29	25	-4	-14%
<i>Glades</i>	0	3	3	200%	<i>St Lucie</i>	57	50	-7	-12%
<i>Gulf</i>	1	2	1	100%	<i>Santa Rosa</i>	12	11	-1	-8%
<i>Hamilton</i>	0	0	0	0%	<i>Sarasota</i>	53	21	-32	-60%
<i>Hardee</i>	3	1	-2	-67%	<i>Seminole</i>	77	61	-16	-21%
<i>Hendry</i>	14	13	-1	-7%	<i>Sumter</i>	9	8	-1	-11%
<i>Hernando</i>	26	8	-18	-69%	<i>Suwannee</i>	10	12	2	20%
<i>Highlands</i>	36	25	-11	-31%	<i>Taylor</i>	3	4	1	33%
<i>Hillsborough</i>	252	232	-20	-8%	<i>Union</i>	9	1	-8	-89%
<i>Holmes</i>	0	2	2	200%	<i>Volusia</i>	160	112	-48	-30%
<i>Indian River</i>	5	14	9	180%	<i>Wakulla</i>	2	2	0	0%
<i>Jackson</i>	11	3	-8	-73%	<i>Walton</i>	2	6	4	500%
<i>Jefferson</i>	0	1	1	0%	<i>Washington</i>	1	1	0	0%
<i>Lafayette</i>	3	0	-3	-100%	<i>Out of State</i>	16	5	-11	-69%
					Total	3,294	2,740	-554	-17%

¹ Italics indicate that there were fewer than 100 referrals of this type; therefore, care should be taken in interpreting the resulting percentage change.

Delinquency in School Rates (by County)

School Referral Rates by County (Youth Referred) FY 2011-12 (as of February 29, 2012)

County	Student Population ¹	Youth w/ School Referral ²	Rate ³	County	Student Population ¹	Youth w/ School Referral ²	Rate ³
ALACHUA	14,286	212	15	LAKE	21,199	178	8
BAKER	2,459	29	12	LEE	41,843	169	4
BAY	13,049	123	9	LEON	16,646	142	9
BRADFORD	1,555	15	10	LEVY	2,963	22	7
BREVARD	38,127	185	5	LIBERTY	711	2	3
BROWARD	137,626	603	4	MADISON	1,405	24	17
CALHOUN	1,088	5	5	MANATEE	22,096	226	10
CHARLOTTE	9,622	57	6	MARION	22,252	161	7
CITRUS	8,671	53	6	MARTIN	9,875	113	11
CLAY	19,909	54	3	MONROE	4,340	19	4
COLLIER	22,181	135	6	NASSAU	6,084	19	3
COLUMBIA	4,773	29	6	OKALOOSA	15,371	47	3
DADE	184,157	353	2	OKEECHOBEE	3,512	45	13
DESOTO	2,445	15	6	ORANGE	92,711	615	7
DIXIE	945	4	4	OSCEOLA	28,758	207	7
DUVAL	61,513	311	5	PALM BEACH	93,248	437	5
ESCAMBIA	20,345	280	14	PASCO	35,360	218	6
FLAGLER	7,014	62	9	PINELLAS	56,252	520	9
FRANKLIN	614	2	3	POLK	47,944	645	13
GADSDEN	2,705	12	4	PUTNAM	5,364	100	19
GILCHRIST	1,284	8	6	ST. JOHNS	16,834	69	4
GLADES	602	9	15	ST. LUCIE	20,793	218	10
GULF	1,090	5	5	SANTA ROSA	13,861	32	2
HAMILTON	834	4	5	SARASOTA	22,202	99	4
HARDEE	2,396	7	3	SEMINOLE	35,827	212	6
HENDRY	3,440	61	18	SUMTER	3,828	20	5
HERNANDO	12,360	80	6	SUWANNEE	3,094	44	14
HIGHLANDS	6,372	71	11	TAYLOR	1,426	5	4
HILLSBOROUGH	100,233	654	7	UNION	1,189	6	5
HOLMES	1,711	4	2	VOLUSIA	33,391	408	12
INDIAN RIVER	9,468	76	8	WAKULLA	2,419	9	4
JACKSON	3,515	11	3	WALTON	3,657	26	7
JEFFERSON	482	3	6	WASHINGTON	1,816	8	4
LAFAYETTE	552	1	2	OTHER	N/A	16	N/A
				TOTAL	1,385,694	8,614	6

¹ Source: Florida Department of Education, 2010-11 Survey 2 Data. Population of public school students in grades 6-12 during the 2010-11 school year (most recent population data available).

² Source: Source: Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS).

³ Number of school-related youth referred to DJJ per 1,000 students ((School Referrals/Student Population)*1,000). Italics indicate that there were fewer than 100 youth referred from school; therefore, care should be taken in interpreting the resulting rate calculation.