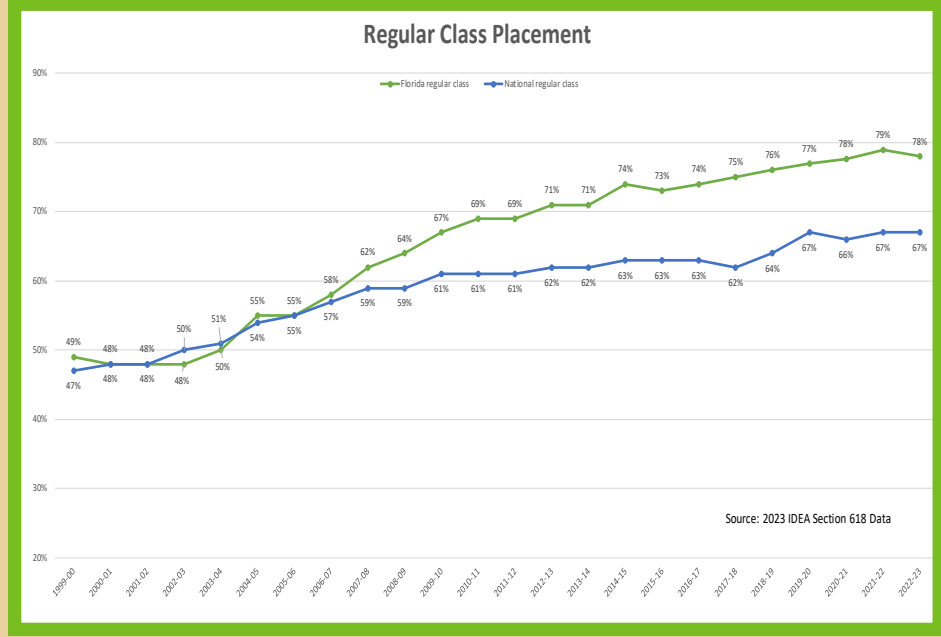


Florida's Regular Class Placement Timeline for Students with Disabilities

From 1999 until 2023: A 29 percent increase in students with disabilities being served in regular education settings (80% or more of their day with peers without disabilities).



Final regulations for No Child Left Behind (NCLB) were published emphasizing general education settings³; K-20 educational performance accountability system created in Florida to align with IDEA⁴; first Best Practices for Inclusive Education (BPIE) was published as a result of state legislation; Federal Higher Education Opportunity Act amended to create post-secondary programs and expand Pell grant and other need-based aids for students with Intellectual Disabilities.⁷

Florida became the first state in the nation to require self-determination instruction for students with disabilities.¹ State Performance Plans were required by IDEA re-authorization (publicly available and with improvement plans).²

1915

Children with mental and physical handicaps exempted from the new compulsory attendance law in Florida.¹

1941

Florida school districts were permitted to serve students who were identified as "physically handicapped" or "educable mentally retarded".¹

1973

Special legislative session in Florida resulted in educational program mandates including a requirement that all students receive 13 consecutive years of instruction, beginning with kindergarten.¹

1975

The first revision of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) which continued to require schools to educate children in the least restrictive environment possible.¹

1999 - 49%

The Education for All Handicapped Children Act is passed, providing a free appropriate public education, individualized education plans, due process hearings, and education in the least restrictive environment possible.¹

Florida lawmakers enact section 1003.57, Florida Statutes (F.S.). FIN revised the BPIE 1.0 assessment instrument and process in response to the requirement for "each district and school to complete a BPIE assessment every three years."⁶

2004 - 55%

2013 - 71%

The Federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed.³ It established challenging academic standards in reading, math and science for ALL students, with supports starting in the general education setting, and focused on closing achievement gaps, thus assuring access to a quality public education resulting in college or career-ready skills.⁸

2005 - 54%

2015 - 73%

The U.S. Supreme Court made a landmark decision in the Endrew F. case that Individual Educational Plans must be reasonably calculated for a child to make progress in light of their circumstances.⁵

2017 - 75%

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that individuals could seek monetary relief under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 without seeking remedy under IDEA.⁹

2022 - 78%

Least Restrictive Environment

1915-1940: Students with disabilities are not required to attend school or have access to instruction.¹

1975: Students with disabilities are required to attend school and be educated in the least restrictive environment.¹

2007: Students with disabilities are required to both attend school and have access to the general curriculum.¹

2017: Students with disabilities are required to have Individual Education Plans reasonably calculated for the child to make progress in light of their circumstances.⁵



¹ http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7674/urlt/0064488-hist_letter.pdf ² <https://sites.ed.gov/idea/spp-apr/> ³ <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/index.html> ⁴ http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=1000-1099/1008/Sections/1008.22.html ⁵ https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/16pdf/15-827_0pm1.pdf ⁶ http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?mode=View%20Statutes&SubMenu=1&App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=1003.57&URL=1000-1099/1003/Sections/1003.57.html ⁷ <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/highered/leg/hea08/index.html> ⁸ <https://www.ed.gov/essa> ⁹ https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/16pdf/15-827_0pm1.pdf