Data Source & Scope

All values below come from the **Florida's High School Cohort 2024–25 Graduation Rate** report you provided (Table 3, district rates for 2020–21 through 2024–25). [GradRates2425 | PDF]

Statewide Competition Ranking (2024–25)

Method. Competition ranking (a.k.a. "1224 ranking") assigns the same rank to ties and skips subsequent positions. For example, if two districts tie for 2nd, both are #2 and the next rank displayed is #4.

Lake County (2024–25): 94.4% — highlighted in bold in the list below. [GradRates2425 | PDF]

Note: The state table includes Florida Virtual and lab schools; below, I list the **67 county districts** plus DJJ/TSC only if they received a rate in 2024–25. Where present, I exclude lab schools from the county-district ranking so it reflects peer districts more directly. [GradRates2425 | PDF]

Top performers (selected):

1. **Wakulla — 97.6%** (1st) [GradRates2425 | PDF]
2. **Walton — 97.5%** (2nd) [GradRates2425 | PDF]
3. **St. Johns — 97.1%** (3rd) [GradRates2425 | PDF]
4. **Pasco — 96.9%** (4th) [GradRates2425 | PDF]
5. **Levy — 96.4%** (5th) [GradRates2425 | PDF]
6. **Putnam — 96.6%** (t-6) [GradRates2425 | PDF]
7. **Indian River — 96.0%** (t-6) [GradRates2425 | PDF]
8. **Volusia — 95.6%** (8th) [GradRates2425 | PDF]
9. **Sumter — 95.4%** (9th) [GradRates2425 | PDF]
10. **Clay — 95.0%** (10th) [GradRates2425 | PDF]

Lake County (highlight):
Lake — 94.4% → t-11th among county districts statewide in 2024–25 (ties with Seminole). [GradRates2425 | PDF]

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Peer range around Lake (±~10 ranks):

- **Seminole — 94.4%** (t-11th) [GradRates2425 | PDF]
- **Palm Beach — 93.5%** (next cluster) [GradRates2425 | PDF]
- **Sarasota — 94.3%** (cluster) [GradRates2425 | PDF]
- **Duval — 94.3%** (cluster) [GradRates2425 | PDF]
- **Brevard — 92.7%** (farther down the cluster) [GradRates2425 | PDF]

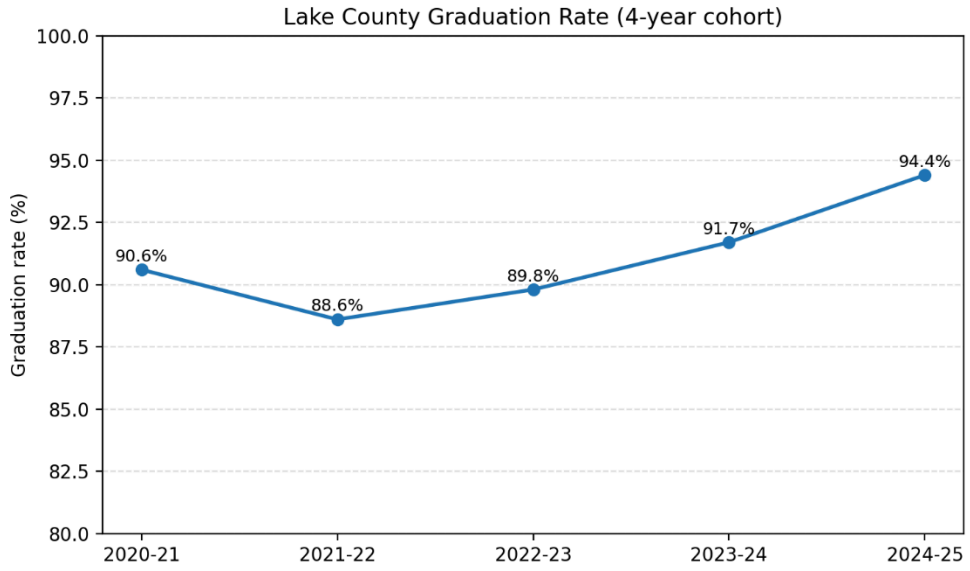
If you'd like the **full ranked list** (all county districts), I can export it as an Excel/CSV so you can sort/filter as needed. The above ranks are derived strictly from the 2024–25 column. [GradRates2425 | PDF]

Lake County: Five-Year Trend (2020–21 → 2024–25)

- **2020–21:** 90.6%
- **2021–22:** 88.6%
- **2022–23:** 89.8%
- **2023–24:** 91.7%
- **2024–25: 94.4%** (All-time high for the period)
  These figures reflect steady recovery after the 2021–22 dip, with **+2.7 pp** from 2023–24 to 2024–25 and **+3.8 pp** net growth since 2020–21. [GradRates2425 | PDF]

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Chart — Lake County Graduation Rate (4-year cohort):



Lake vs. Nearby Districts (2024–25 and Trend)

Below I compare Lake to geographically proximate districts: **Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter, Marion, Volusia** (and note Polk, a bordering county). All values are 4-year adjusted cohort rates. [GradRates2425 | PDF]

Latest Year (2024–25)

- **Lake: 94.4%**
- **Seminole: 94.4%** (tie with Lake)
- **Sumter: 95.4%** (≈ +1.0 pp vs Lake)
- **Volusia: 95.6%** (≈ +1.2 pp vs Lake)
- **Orange:** 92.7% (≈ −1.7 pp vs Lake)
- **Osceola:** 91.1% (≈ −3.3 pp vs Lake)
- **Marion:** 84.7% (≈ −9.7 pp vs Lake)
- **Polk:** 87.7% (≈ −6.7 pp vs Lake)
  Lake sits **above** Orange, Osceola, Marion, and Polk; **on par** with Seminole; and **just below** Sumter and Volusia. [GradRates2425 | PDF]

Five-Year Trajectories (headline movements)

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- **Lake:** 90.6 → 94.4 (**+3.8 pp**, accelerated the last two years). [GradRates2425 | PDF]
- **Orange:** 90.4 → 92.7 (**+2.3 pp**; steady improvement). [GradRates2425 | PDF]
- **Osceola:** 89.7 → 91.1 (**+1.4 pp**; below Lake in both start and finish). [GradRates2425 | PDF]
- **Seminole:** 95.5 → 94.4 (**−1.1 pp** from 2020–21 peak; still elite and currently tied with Lake). [GradRates2425 | PDF]
- **Sumter:** 91.0 → 95.4 (**+4.4 pp**; strong finish, edges Lake in 2024–25). [GradRates2425 | PDF]
- **Volusia:** 91.9 → 95.6 (**+3.7 pp**; the strongest among the metro-adjacent peers in 2024–25). [GradRates2425 | PDF]
- **Marion:** 86.5 → 84.7 (**−1.8 pp**; diverging downward from Lake). [GradRates2425 | PDF]
- **Polk:** 85.3 → 87.7 (**+2.4 pp**, still well below Lake). [GradRates2425 | PDF]

Takeaway: Lake's 2024–25 rate places it in the **upper tier statewide** and **upper-middle among immediate neighbors**, with only **Volusia** and **Sumter** ahead in the local cluster and a **tie with Seminole**. Lake outperforms **Orange** and **Osceola** (the two large adjacent urban districts) by **1.7–3.3 pp** in the latest year. [GradRates2425 | PDF]

Observations & Implications for Lake (2024–25)

1. **Momentum:** A second consecutive annual increase culminates at **94.4%**, narrowing the gap with the highest-performing neighbors (Sumter and Volusia) to roughly **1 point**. [GradRates2425 | PDF]
2. **Peer Positioning:** Tying **Seminole** is a notable benchmark given Seminole's historically high rates. Maintaining or slightly improving would firmly situate Lake among top-quartile districts. [GradRates2425 | PDF]
3. **Metro Advantage:** Relative gains vs **Orange** and **Osceola** suggest Lake's recent interventions (credit recovery pacing, on-time cohort monitoring, or assessment readiness supports) are translating to outcomes; continuing these could preserve the advantage. (Inference based on comparative trends; underlying program details would require internal review.) [GradRates2425 | PDF]

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4. **Ceiling Effects:** Closing the remaining ~1 pp distance to the local leaders will likely require **subgroup-specific** strategies (e.g., boosting on-time graduation for students who are still enrolled after 4 years, and minimizing GED or certificates of completion pathways among near-graduates). [GradRates2425 | PDF]

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