TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NOTE

No. T-06-11

Department Of Education
John L. Winn, Commissioner

School Business Services

School Transportation Management Section

Contact:
Herman Carter

(850) 245-9795
SC 205-9795

School District Transportation Profiles for School Year 2004-05

DATE: **August 18, 2006**

TO: **School District Transportation Directors**
School District Finance Officers

FROM: **Charlie Hood, Director**
School Transportation Management

SUBJECT: **School District Transportation Profiles for School Year 2004-05**

Ensuring efficient student access to educational programs requires that school districts and charter schools periodically analyze school transportation data, demographics, and trends. Attached is a copy of Quality Link - Florida School District Transportation Profiles, Volume 15. This report is organized by district, with a two-page summary of data for each school district transportation program. The report contains data from the 2004-05 school year, the most recent year for which complete data on expenditures is available.

The appendices contain a series of data comparisons that provide information such as:

- The percentage of bus ridership that generates no state funding
- The percentage of each district's total budget spent on transportation
- The percentage of transportation expenses funded by local dollars
- The percentage of the transportation budget expended for salaries and benefits

We encourage you to discuss your district's reported information with existing or prospective charter schools and other clients.

We hope you will find this report useful. If you have questions about the contents or any suggestions for next year's Quality Link, please contact Herman Carter at Herman.Carter@fldoe.org or (850) 245-9795.

CFH/RHM/hc

Attachment

cc: School District Superintendents
Charter Schools

The Quality Link

FINANCE
SAFETY
POLICY

Florida School District Transportation Profiles

Volume 15 July 2006

School Year 2004 - 2005

INTRODUCTION
Florida School District Transportation Profiles

The quality of Florida's school transportation programs is measured by safety, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness. The purpose of this document is to allow transportation directors and other interested persons to obtain a thumbnail picture of the unique characteristics of each of Florida's school districts. This is the fifteenth annual edition of the profiles. The data demonstrates the complexity and variety of factors that result in differing costs for student transportation among districts.

This document should provoke thoughtful, probing questions and encourage more complex data collection to explain many of the variations in costs among districts. Great care should be taken when making comparisons among districts. Conclusions should be drawn with extreme caution and only after careful scrutiny and analysis.

Please send suggestions for improved reporting to:

School Transportation Management Section
Florida Department of Education
325 W. Gaines Street
1134 Turlington Building
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

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* (BRF) = Bus Replacement Factor
(TOE) = Transportation Operating Expenditures
(TTE) = Total Transportation Expenditures

Sources of Information for Profiles

Data for the Transportation Profiles were compiled from the following sources:

1. 2002 Florida Statistical Abstract, Florida Estimates of Populations: 2000 Census Data from the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

2. Florida Department of Transportation, 2003 City/County Mileage Report.

3. Florida Department of Education: School Transportation Management; Funding and Financial Reporting, and Education Information and Accountability Services. Student Membership, Fall 2004.

4. Chief Operating and Education Finance Officer (COEFO) Memorandum Number 06-13, 2004-05 Final Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) Calculation.

5. District Annual Financial Reports, FY 04-05, Office of Funding and Financial Reporting, School Support Services.

6. Transportation Directors, Florida School Districts.

Sources and Methodology

General Information	Sources
Fiscal Year	2004-05
Enrollment Pre-K-12	DOE/Education Information and Accountability Services, Fall 2004
Eligible Students Transported	Automated FEFP Trans. Survey Average Oct. 2004/Feb. 2005
Percentage Enrollment Transported	Eligible Trans. Student/Enrollment, Pre-K-12
# Students Center-to-Center	Automated FEFP Trans. Survey Average Oct. 2004/Feb. 2005
# Pre-K Students	Automated FEFP Transportation Survey (TS)
# Teen Parent Students	Automated FEFP TS
# Hazardous Walking Students	Automated FEFP TS
# K-12 Students With Disabilities	Automated FEFP TS
# Courtesy Students	Automated FEFP TS (minus ineligible students transported)

District Demographics

Area	2002 Florida Statistical Abstract/2000 Census Data
Population	2002 Florida Statistical Abstract/2000 Census Data
Road Miles	
Paved	FL DOT, 2003 City/County Mileage Report
Non-paved	FL DOT, 2003 City/County Mileage Report

School Demographics

# Designated "Choice Schools"	District Profiles Worksheet for 2004-05
ESE Centers	District Profiles
Teen Parent Centers	District Profiles
Pre-K Centers	District Profiles
School Centers Served by Bus (not including charter schools)	District Profiles

School Day Characteristics

1/2 Day K or Pre-K	District Profiles Worksheet for 2004-05
# Schools with Mandatory 7th Period	District Profiles
# Schools with Optional 7th Period	District Profiles
# Schools with Early Release Days	District Profiles
# Early Release Days	District Profiles
Year-Round Schools	District Profiles
Staggered School Times	District Profiles
Court-Ordered Busing	District Profiles

Personnel Data

# Positions with Primarily Supervisory Duties (Operations and Maintenance)	District Profiles Worksheet for 2004-05
# Positions with Primarily Clerical Duties (Operations and Maintenance)	District Profiles
# Bus Drivers	District Profiles
# Substitutes (Permanent and Part-time)	District Profiles
# Bus Attendants	District Profiles
# Additional Operations Positions	District Profiles
# Technicians	District Profiles
# Additional Fleet Maintenance Positions	District Profiles
Total Transportation Positions (= Total above)	District Profiles

Sources and Methodology (continued)

Bus and Facility Summary	Sources
Daily Service Buses on District Inventory	School Bus Inventory system data, April 2006
Spare Buses on District Inventory	School Bus Inventory system data, April 2006
Activity/Other Buses on District Inventory	School Bus Inventory system data, April 2006
Buses in Daily Service from Automated FEFP Report	Automated FEFP Trans. Survey Average Oct. 2004/Feb. 2005
Percent Fleet Used Primarily for Special Needs Students	District Profiles Worksheet for 2004-05
# Bus Maintenance Facilities	District Profiles
# Bus Compounds	District Profiles
# Fuel Sites	District Profiles
Percent Fleet Compounded	District Profiles

Bus Type	
Type A	School Bus Inventory system data, April 2006
Type B	School Bus Inventory system data, April 2006
Type C	School Bus Inventory system data, April 2006
Type D	School Bus Inventory system data, April 2006
Gas	School Bus Inventory system data, April 2006
Diesel	School Bus Inventory system data, April 2006
Alternate Fuels	School Bus Inventory system data, April 2006
With Lift	School Bus Inventory system data, April 2006
Without Lift	School Bus Inventory system data, April 2006

Expenditure Summary	
Total Transportation Expenditures	District Annual Financial Report (AFR) 04-05
Total Transportation Expenditures less actual Bus Purchases plus 10% Bus Replacement Factor	AFR 04-05
Expenditures for:	
Purchase of Buses	AFR 04-05
Motor Fuel	AFR 04-05
Vehicles Miles:	
Total Annual Miles	District Profiles Worksheet for 2004-05
Total Annual Field/Activity Trip Miles	District Profiles Worksheet for 2004-05
Total Salaries	AFR 04-05
Total Benefits	AFR 04-05

State Funding	
2004-05 State Allocation	COEFO 06-13, 04-05 Final Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) Calculation
Estimated Summer School Allocation	July 04 + June 05 Allocation from COEFO 06-13
Average Bus Occupancy	COEFO 06-13, 04-05 Final FEFP Calculation
Annual Allocation per Student	COEFO 06-13, 04-05 Final FEFP Calculation
Annual Supplement per Student with Disabilities	COEFO 06-13, 04-05 Final FEFP Calculation
Percent State Funding	COEFO 06-13, 04-05 Final FEFP Calculation
Percent Local Funding	100% minus Percent State Funding for 04-05
FPLI Index	COEFO 06-13, 04-05 Final FEFP Calculation

Explanation of Methodology

Percentage Enrollment Transported

Derived by dividing the average number of eligible students reported as transported on the October 2004/February 2005 Automated Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) Transportation Survey by the Fall 2004 Student Membership reported to the Bureau of Education Information and Accountability Services, Florida Department of Education (DOE).

- State Average: 39.25%
- Mega District Average: 34.27% (districts with 400 or more buses in daily service)
- Urban District Average: 48.12% (200-399 buses)
- Rural District Average: 48.19% (199 or fewer buses)

Percentage of State Funding

Derived by dividing legislative appropriation by total transportation expenditures including bus replacement (less actual bus purchases, but including bus replacement factor) on 2004-05 Annual Financial Report (AFR) (general and special revenue).

- State Average: 48.81%

Operating Expenditures per Student

Derived from total transportation expenditures on 2004-05 AFR (general and special revenue) including capital projects expenditures for bus purchases, less total expenditures for purchase of buses from all fund sources. This calculation is divided by total adjusted number of students transported from the final transportation calculation (all 2004-05 transportation surveys).

- State Average: $771.53

Operating Cost per Annual Mile

Derived from total transportation expenditures on 2004-05 AFR (general and special revenue) including capital projects expenditures for bus purchases, less total expenditures for purchase of buses from all fund sources. This calculation is divided by the total annual miles reported by school districts on the Transportation Profile Worksheet.

- State Average: $2.66
- Mega District Average: $2.84 (districts with 400 or more buses in daily service)
- Urban District Average: $2.49 (200-399 buses)
- Rural District Average: $ 2.32 (199 or fewer buses)

Explanation of Methodology (continued)

Total Transportation Expenditures Including Bus Replacement

Derived from total transportation expenditures on 2004-05 AFR (general and special revenue) including capital expenditures for bus purchases, less total expenditures for purchase of buses from all fund sources, plus 10% bus replacement factor. Bus replacement factor included due to impact of time lines associated with ordering, manufacturing, and delivering district school buses.

- Statewide Total: $901,941,609.99

TRANSPORTATION PROFILE WORKSHEET for 2004-05 - *District name*: _____

• Physical Demographics

	A. Percent Fleet Used Primarily for Special Needs Students
	B. # Bus Maintenance Facilities
	C. # Fuel Sites
	D. # Bus Compounds
	E. Percent Fleet Compounded
	F. # Designated "Choice Schools"
	G. # Charter Schools
	H. # ESE Centers (not including charter schools)
	I. # Teen Parent Centers
	J. # Pre-K Centers
	K. # Charter Schools Served by Bus
	L. # School Centers Served by Bus (not including charter schools)

• Personnel

	U. # Positions with Primarily Supervisory Duties (Operations & Fleet Maintenance)
	V. # Positions with Primarily Clerical Duties (Operations & Fleet Maintenance)
	W. # Bus Drivers
	X. # Substitutes (Permanent and Part-Time)
	Y. # Bus Attendants/Aides/Monitors
	Z. # Additional Operations Positions (Non-Supervisory)
	AA. # Technicians
	BB. # Additional Fleet Maintenance Positions
	CC. Total Transportation Positions (= Total Above)

• School Day Characteristics

	M. 1/2 Day Pre-K or Kindergarten
	N. # Schools with Mandatory 7th period
	O. # Schools with Optional 7th period
	P. # Schools with Early Release Days
	Q. # of Early Release Days
	R. # Year-Round Schools
	S. Staggered School Times to Accommodate Buses
	T. Court-Ordered Busing for Racial Balance (Court-Ordered=CO; District Imposed=DI; See instructions)

• Mileage Data

	DD. Total Annual Route Miles (not including field and activity trips)
	EE. Total Annual Field and Activity Trips Miles (not including regular route miles)

- All other data provided by DOE

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING DISTRICT PROFILE
Note: All data is to be supplied for the 2004-05 school year.

- **Physical Demographics**

A. Please include number of buses used for all categories of Exceptional Student Education (ESE) program students, not just physically disabled.
B. Include any facility where monthly inspections or higher level maintenance is being performed. Please do not include any site that does not have a garage building.
C. Include garages, schools, or other sites where buses are fueled.
D. Include any garage or other area where buses are stored overnight. (Do not include driver's home.)
E. Percentage of fleet stored at locations in (D) above.
F. Include any school designated as a school serving more than one attendance zone or the entire district and which students may attend based on full or controlled parental option. Also include schools serving as Magnet Schools.
G. Include any schools operating under charter school statutes.
H. Include all ESE sites where students are transported primarily from door to door and/or on special education buses (at regular school sites, special sites, or both); **do not include charter schools**.
I. Include all locations to which you transport either teen parents or the children (babies) of teen parents.
J. Include any sites where Pre-K instructional programs are provided and to which Pre-K students are transported by bus.
K. Number of charter schools served by bus.
L. Include all regular school sites and any special sites that are classified as "school centers" (i.e., sites that have a Florida School House Inventory number).

- **School Day Characteristics**

M. Does your district transport students home after half-day Kindergarten or Pre-K? Answer Yes or No.
N. Number of schools that offer mandatory 7th period.
O. Number of schools that offer transportation for optional 7th period.
P. Other than Kindergarten or Pre-K, indicate the number of schools with scheduled early release days.
Q. How many days during the school year are early release days?
R. How many schools operate on Year-Round Education schedules?
S. Does your district stagger school bell times to accommodate transportation efficiency and scheduling? Answer Yes or No.
T. Do you have court-ordered (CO) or district imposed (DI) busing to provide for racial balance? **Answer CO, DI, Unknown, or No**.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING DISTRICT PROFILE (continued)
Note: All data is to be supplied for the 2004-05 school year.

- **Personnel**

U-CC. These questions are self-explanatory. Include the number of positions (as described in each category) assigned to transportation and those with primary responsibility in transportation if paid from a separate fund source (e.g., ESE).

- **Mileage Data**

DD. Show total annual route miles for 2004-05. This includes all regular routes and any other daily school use, **but <u>does not</u> include field and activity trips, etc.**
EE. Show total annual field and activity trip miles for 2004-05, **<u>not</u> including regular route miles**.

For DOE Use: (DD) plus (EE) equals Total Annual Miles