

**Demographic Estimating Conference**  
**Executive Summary**  
**November 5, 2018**

The Demographic Estimating Conference met on November 5, 2018, to adopt a new population forecast. The new estimates reflect a final April 1, 2018 population estimate of 20,840,568 and recent demographic and economic-related data. Compared to the last conference, the population projection for April 1, 2019 was revised upward by 14,094, reflecting stronger residential electric meter growth than anticipated in July. The upward revisions grow to 67,776 on April 1, 2024.

The Conference discussed the potential impact from Hurricane Michael on the state’s population. The population of the 16 disaster declared counties represents 3.9% of the state’s population, and the 6 hardest hit counties represent 1.5% of the state’s population. While there will likely be some shifting among counties and cities, the Conference decided that it was unlikely that the overall state total population will be negatively affected. Therefore, no discrete adjustment was made to the forecast.

In the new forecast, changes in population growth from the last conference are due mostly to net migration, as the forecast for natural increase remained relatively unchanged.

April 1	Population	Change from the Prior Year	
		Percent	Numeric
2012	19,074,434	0.90%	169,364
2013	19,259,543	0.97%	185,109
2014	19,507,369	1.29%	247,826
2015	19,815,183	1.58%	307,814
2016	20,148,654	1.68%	333,471
2017	20,484,142	1.67%	335,488
2018	20,840,568	1.74%	356,426
<i>Forecast</i>			
2019	21,170,399	1.58%	329,831
2020	21,496,410	1.54%	326,011
2021	21,817,417	1.49%	321,007
2022	22,132,369	1.44%	314,952
2023	22,439,508	1.39%	307,139
2024	22,735,936	1.32%	296,428

Between April 1, 2018 and April 1, 2024, population growth is expected to average 315,895 net new residents per year (865 per day), representing a compound growth rate of 1.46% over this six-year time horizon. These increases are analogous to adding a city slightly larger than Orlando every year.

Of note, the population estimates developed by the U.S. Census Bureau continue to be higher than the official state estimates adopted by the Demographic Estimating Conference. In the latest comparable set of estimates (July 1, 2017), the difference was about 420,800 persons. The Legislative Office of Economic and Demographic Research is continuing its efforts to identify how the differing underlying methodologies contribute to the gap between the two sets of estimates.