



The Florida Legislature

Econographic News

Economic and Demographic News for Decision Makers

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Florida's Population

Florida Population – April 1, 2015

Florida's population on April 1, 2015 was estimated to be 19,815,183, a gain of 1,013,851 residents (5.4 percent) since the 2010 Census. During the decades of the 1980s Florida grew by 32.7 percent; the 1990s by 23.5 percent; and the 2000s by 17.6 percent.

Population by County

Eleven Florida counties have over half a million residents. These 11 counties represent 63.9 percent of Florida's population. Florida's three southeast counties (Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach) are the three most populous counties in the state and account for almost 29.6 percent of Florida's population.

Table 1 - Number of Counties by Population Range

April 1, 2015 Population	Number of Counties
One million or more	5
500,000 to 999,999	6
250,000 to 499,999	12
100,000 to 249,999	13
50,000 to 99,999	6
Under 50,000	25

Miami-Dade with 2,653,934 residents is Florida's most populous county; followed by Broward, Palm Beach, Hillsborough, and Orange counties. Between 2000 and 2010, Orange County moved into the number five spot, supplanting Pinellas County. Florida's counties range in population from Miami-Dade (2,653,934) to Lafayette (8,664) (Table 2).

The top five counties adding the most population since April 1, 2010 were: Miami-Dade (157,477), Orange (106,440), Hillsborough (96,337), Broward (79,301), and Palm Beach (58,283). The counties with population growth rates at or above 5.0% were: Sumter (23.8%), Osceola (14.8%), St. Johns (12.4%), Walton (10.3%), Orange (9.3%). (Figures 1 & 2).

Population by City

Since April 1, 2010, the cities that have added the most population were: Miami, Jacksonville, Orlando, Tampa, and Cape Coral. Among, cities with a population greater than 50,000, the fastest growth rates were in: Doral, Ft. Myers, Homestead, Kissimmee, and Orlando. Compared to all cities, those with the fastest growth rates were: Lake Buena Vista, Sweetwater, Freeport, Groveland, and Davenport.

Florida's Growth

Between 2010 and 2015, the majority of Florida growth was due to net migration (81.3%), while natural increase (the excess of births over deaths) accounted for 18.7% of the growth in the state. In comparison, between 2000 and 2010, 81.6 percent of the state's growth was due to net migration. For the period from April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2015, the Census Bureau estimates that about 48.4 percent of Florida's net migration was international and the remainder was domestic.

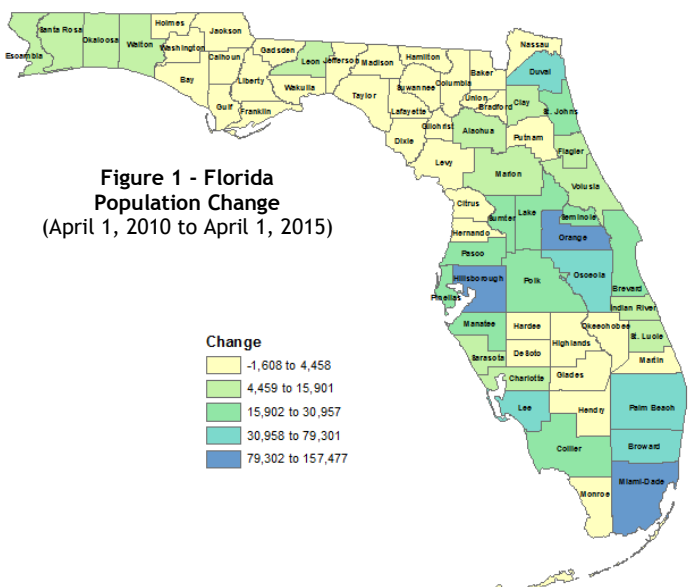


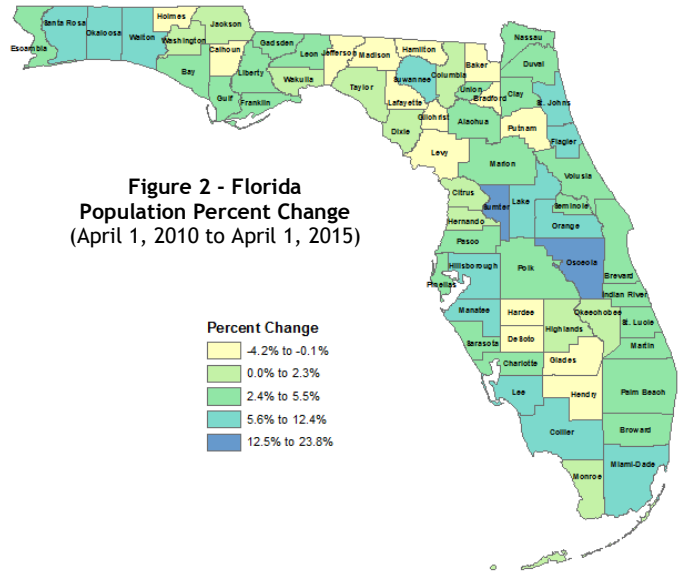
Figure 1 - Florida Population Change (April 1, 2010 to April 1, 2015)

**Table 2 - Florida County Population
April 1, 2015 Estimate**

County	Population	Rank	County	Population	Rank
Miami-Dade County	2,653,934	1	Flagler County	101,353	35
Broward County	1,827,367	2	Highlands County	100,748	36
Palm Beach County	1,378,417	3	Nassau County	76,536	37
Hillsborough County	1,325,563	4	Monroe County	74,206	38
Orange County	1,252,396	5	Putnam County	72,756	39
Pinellas County	944,971	6	Columbia County	68,163	40
Duval County	905,574	7	Walton County	60,687	41
Lee County	665,845	8	Jackson County	50,458	42
Polk County	633,052	9	Gadsden County	48,315	43
Brevard County	561,714	10	Suwannee County	44,452	44
Volusia County	510,494	11	Levy County	40,448	45
Pasco County	487,588	12	Okeechobee County	40,052	46
Seminole County	442,903	13	Hendry County	38,096	47
Sarasota County	392,090	14	DeSoto County	34,777	48
Manatee County	349,334	15	Wakulla County	31,283	49
Collier County	343,802	16	Hardee County	27,645	50
Marion County	341,205	17	Bradford County	27,310	51
Lake County	316,569	18	Baker County	27,017	52
Osceola County	308,327	19	Washington County	24,975	53
Escambia County	306,944	20	Taylor County	22,824	54
St. Lucie County	287,749	21	Holmes County	19,902	55
Leon County	284,443	22	Madison County	19,200	56
Alachua County	254,893	23	Gilchrist County	16,839	57
St. Johns County	213,566	24	Dixie County	16,468	58
Clay County	201,277	25	Gulf County	16,346	59
Okaloosa County	191,898	26	Union County	15,918	60
Hernando County	176,819	27	Hamilton County	14,630	61
Bay County	173,310	28	Calhoun County	14,549	62
Charlotte County	167,141	29	Jefferson County	14,519	63
Santa Rosa County	162,925	30	Glades County	12,853	64
Martin County	150,062	31	Franklin County	11,840	65
Indian River County	143,326	32	Liberty County	8,698	66
Citrus County	141,501	33	Lafayette County	8,664	67
Sumter County	115,657	34			

Florida versus the Nation

As of the 2010 Census, Florida was the fourth most populous state, behind California (37.3 million), Texas (25.1 million), and New York (19.4 million). Between April 1, 2010 and July 1, 2015, the Census Bureau estimated that Florida added almost 1.5 million residents, about 3.5 times as many as New York state. The Census Bureau estimated that Florida surpassed New York to become the third most populous state prior to July 1, 2014; however Florida estimated it was in 2015.



**Figure 2 - Florida
Population Percent Change
(April 1, 2010 to April 1, 2015)**

Percent Change
 4.2% to -0.1%
 0.0% to 2.3%
 2.4% to 5.5%
 5.6% to 12.4%
 12.5% to 23.8%

The Census Bureau and Florida use different methodologies to produce population estimates. Since the 2010 Census, the Census Bureau estimates have been consistently higher than the results from the Florida Demographic Estimating Conference (most recently by over 350,000). The different methodologies and procedures account for the variation in the estimates. Florida's official estimates incorporate local population dynamics and a variety of data and techniques, resulting in more accurate decennial estimates.

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin

Beginning with Census 2000 respondents were given the option of selecting more than one racial category. Figure 3 displays the racial composition of the state, based on the results of the 2000 and 2010 Census.

Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin may be of any race. The percentage of Floridians that were of Hispanic origin increased from 12.2 percent in 1990 to 16.8 percent in 2000 and to 22.5 percent in 2010. This percentage is forecast to increase to 28.6 percent by 2030.

Figure 3 - Florida Population by Race

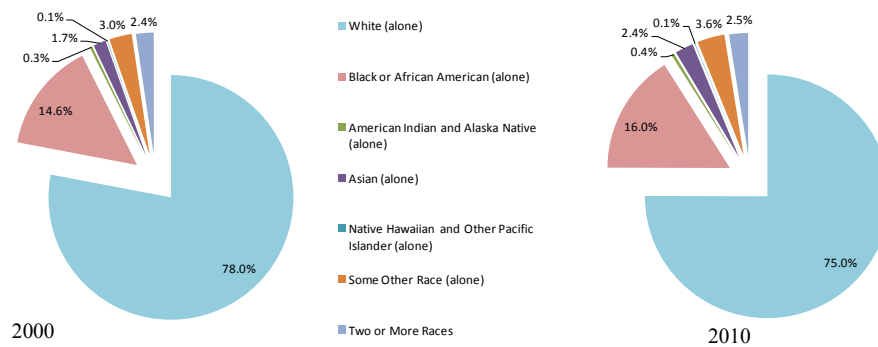
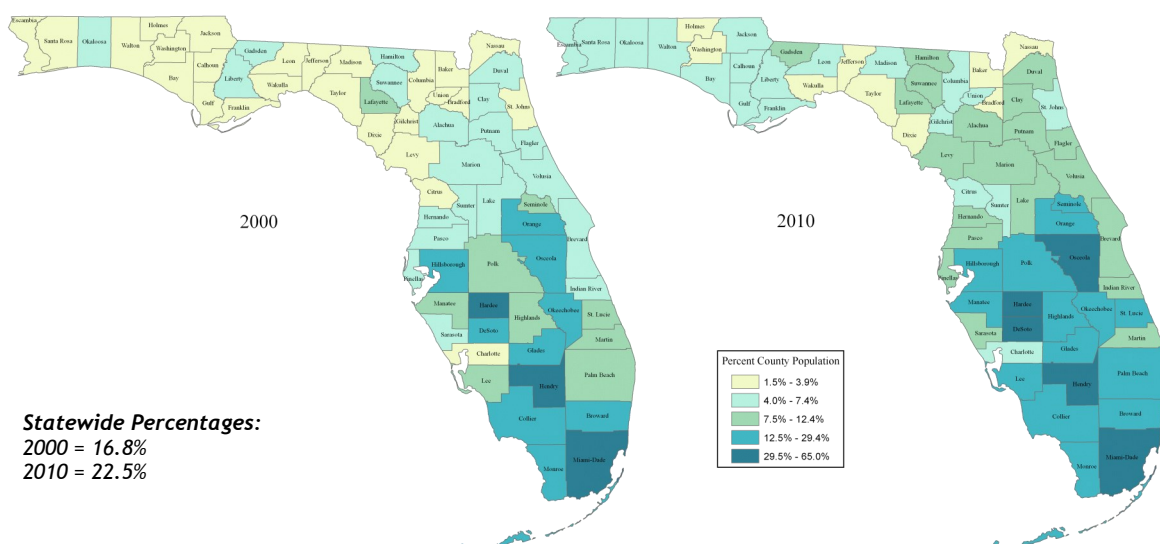


Figure 4 - Hispanic or Latino Population by County



Florida's Hispanic population grew at a faster rate than total population (57.4% versus 17.6%) between 2000 and 2010). The percent of the population that was Hispanic or Latino increased in all counties of the state, except Sumter County over this time period. Miami-Dade County had the greatest percentage of Hispanic population in the state in both 2000 (57.3%) and 2010 (65.0%)(Figure 4).

Population Aged 18 and Older

According to the 2010 Census, Florida's population aged 18 and older represented 78.7 percent of the total population, up from 77.2 percent in 2000. By 2030, the population aged 18 and older is expected to represent 80.5 percent of the total population.

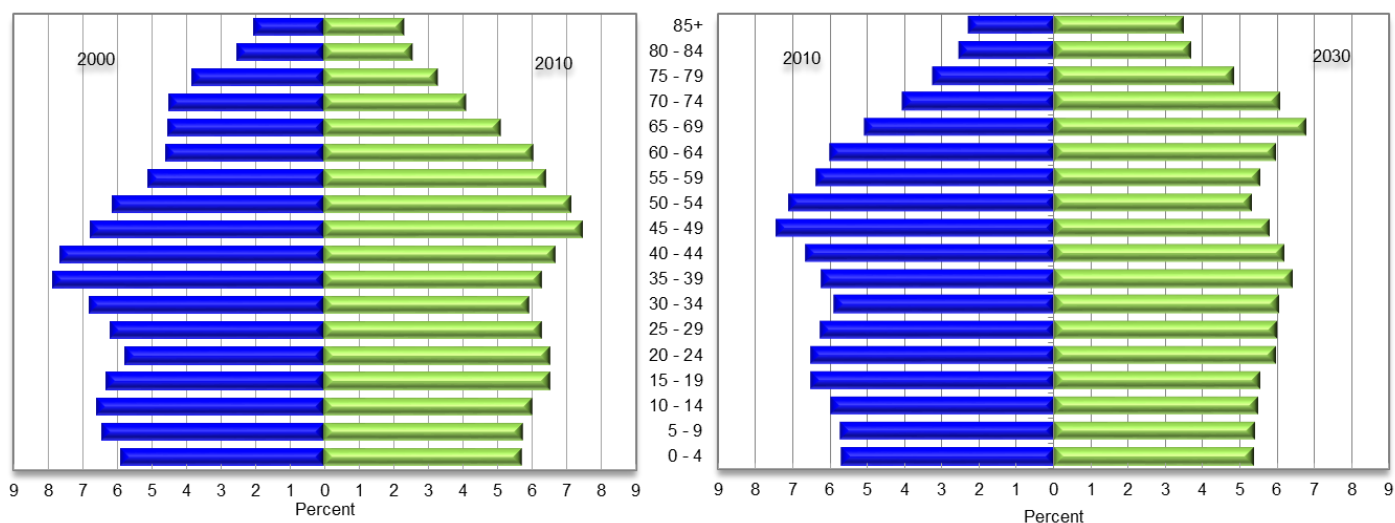
Population by Age Group

In 2000, Florida's prime working age population (ages 25-54) accounted for 41.5 percent of total population. With the aging baby boom generation, this percentage was estimated to represent 38.3 percent of Florida's total population in 2014 and is expected to represent 35.8 percent in 2030.

In 2010, 17.3 percent of Florida's population was aged 65 and older. This age group is forecast to represent 24.9 percent of Florida's population in 2030 (Figure 5).

Over the next two decades, Florida's older population (age 60 and older) will account for most of Florida's population growth, representing 58.6 percent of the gains.

Figure 5 - Percent of Total Population by Age Group



Data in this report are from various sources including the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census; University of Florida, Bureau of Business and Economic Research; and the Florida Legislature, Office of Economic and Demographic Research. All projections are based on April 1, 2010 Census counts. Additional data are on our website at: <http://edr.state.fl.us> or contact us at: 850.487.1402.