

The Florida Legislature



Economic and Demographic News for Decision Makers

2018 Volume I

Florida's Population

Florida Population – April 1, 2017

Florida's population on April 1, 2017 was estimated to be 20,484,142 a gain of 1,682,810 residents (9.0 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

Twelve Florida counties have over half a million residents. These 12 counties represent 66.3 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 29.4 percent of Florida's population.

Table 1 - Number of Counties by Population Range

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	Number of Florida			
April 1, 2017 Population	Counties			
One million or more	5			
500,000 to 999,999	7			
250,000 to 499,999	11			
100,000 to 249,999	13			
50,000 to 99,999	6			
Under 50,000	25			

Miami-Dade with 2,743,095 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 (2,743,095) to Lafayette (8,479) (Table 2).

The top five counties adding the most population since April 1, 2010 were: Miami-Dade (246,638), Orange (167,924), Hillsborough (150,076), Broward (125,904), and Palm Beach (94,010). The counties with population growth rates at or above 14.0% were: Sumter (29.2%), Osceola (25.7%), St. Johns (20.9%), Walton (18.6%), Orange (14.7%) and Manatee (14.2%). (Figures 1 & 2).

Population by City

Since April 1, 2010, the top 5 cities that have added the most population were: Jacksonville, Miami, Orlando, Tampa, and Cape Coral. Among, cities with a population greater than 50,000, the fastest growth rates were in: Doral, Ft. Myers, Homestead, Orlando, Kissimmee, North Port, and Miami. Among all Florida's cities, those with the fastest growth rates were: Lake Buena Vista, Freeport, Fruitland Park, Groveland, and Davenport.

Florida's Growth

Between 2010 and 2017, the majority of Florida growth was due to net migration (85.1%), while natural increase (the excess of births over deaths) accounted for 14.9% 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, 2017, the Census Bureau estimates that about 47.0 percent of Florida's net migration was international and the remainder was domestic.



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Table 2 - Florida County PopulationApril 1, 2017 Estimate						
County	Population	Rank	County	Population	Rank	
Miami-Dade	2,743,095	1	Flagler	105,157	35	
Broward	1,873,970	2	Highlands	102,138	36	
Palm Beach	1,414,144	3	Nassau	80,456	37	
Hillsborough	1,379,302	4	Monroe	76,889	38	
Orange	1,313,880	5	Putnam	73,176	39	
Pinellas	962,003	6	Columbia	68,943	40	
Duval	936,811	7	Walton	65,301	41	
Lee	698,468	8	Jackson	50,418	42	
Polk	661,645	9	Gadsden	48,263	43	
Brevard	575,211	10	Suwannee	44,690	44	
Volusia	523,405	11	Okeechobee	41,140	45	
Pasco	505,709	12	Levy	41,015	46	
Seminole	454,757	13	Hendry	39,057	47	
Sarasota	407,260	14	DeSoto	35,621	48	
Manatee	368,782	15	Wakulla	31,909	49	
Collier	357,470	16	Bradford	27,642	50	
Marion	349,267	17	Hardee	27,426	51	
Osceola	337,614	18	Baker	27,191	52	
Lake	331,724	19	Washington	24,985	53	
Escambia	313,381	20	Taylor	22,295	54	
St. Lucie	297,634	21	Holmes	20,210	55	
Leon	287,899	22	Madison	19,377	56	
Alachua	260,003	23	Gilchrist	17,224	57	
St. Johns	229,715	24	Dixie	16,726	58	
Clay	208,549	25	Gulf	16,297	59	
Okaloosa	195,488	26	Union	15,947	60	
Hernando	181,882	27	Calhoun	15,001	61	
Вау	178,820	28	Hamilton	14,663	62	
Charlotte	172,720	29	Jefferson	14,611	63	
Santa Rosa	170,835	30	Glades	13,087	64	
Martin	153,022	31	Franklin	12,161	65	
Indian River	148,962	32	Liberty	8,719	66	
Citrus	143,801	33	Lafayette	8,479	67	
Sumter	120,700	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, 2017, the Census Bureau estimated that Florida added almost 2.2 million residents, more than 4.5 times as many as New York state. The Census Bureau estimated that Florida surpassed New York to become the third most populous state before the end of 2014; however Florida estimated it was in 2015.



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 415,000). 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. Florida's methodology has historically produced more accurate estimates than other methodologies.

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 percent-



Figure 3 - Florida Population by Race



age is forecast to increase to 29.7 percent by 2030. 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 80.1 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 37.7 percent of Florida's total population in 2017 and is expected to represent 35.9 percent in 2030.

In 2010, 17.3 percent of Florida's population was aged 65 and older. This age group is forecast to represent 24.4 percent of Florida's population in 2030 (Figure 5).

Between 2010 and 2030, Florida's older population (age 60 and older) will account for most of Florida's population growth, representing 54.0 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.

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