

# The Florida Legislature

# **Econographic News**

Economic and Demographic News for Decision Makers

2024 Volume Ia

## Florida's Resident Population

#### Florida Population — April 1, 2024

Florida's population on April 1, 2024 surpassed 23 million, reaching an estimated 23,014,551, a gain of 1,476,364 residents (6.9%) since the 2020 Census. During the decades of the 1980s, Florida grew by 32.7 percent; the 1990s by 23.5 percent; the 2000s by 17.6 percent; and the 2010s by 14.6 percent.

#### Population by County

Twelve Florida counties have over half a million residents. These 12 counties represent 64.9 percent of Florida's population. Florida's three southeast counties (Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach) are among the four most populous counties in the state. These three southeast Florida counties account for approximately 27.4 percent of Florida's resident population.

Table 1 shows number of counties by population size. Thirty-seven counties, those with at least 100,000 residents, represent 95.7 percent of the state's population.

Table 1 - Number of Counties by Population Range

April 1, 2024	Number of Florida
Population	Counties
One million or more	6
500,000 to 999,999	6
250,000 to 499,999	12
100,000 to 249,999	13
50,000 to 99,999	4
Under 50,000	26

Miami-Dade is Florida's most populous county; followed by Broward, Hillsborough, Palm Beach, and Orange counties. Between 2000 and 2010, Orange County moved into the number five spot, supplanting Pinellas County. Between 2021 and 2022 it is estimated that Hillsborough swapped positions with Palm Beach county and is now in the number three spot. The population of Florida's counties are estimated to range from Miami-Dade (2,774,841) to Liberty (8,016) (Table 2).

The top five counties adding the most population since April 1, 2020 were: Polk (101,044), Hillsborough (100,687), Orange (81,660), Miami-Dade (73,074), and Pasco (71,138). The counties with population growth rates at or above 17.0 percent were: St. Johns (21.2%), Sumter (20.8%), Gulf (19.4%), Flagler (18.1%), and St. Lucie (17.2%). (Figures 1 & 2).

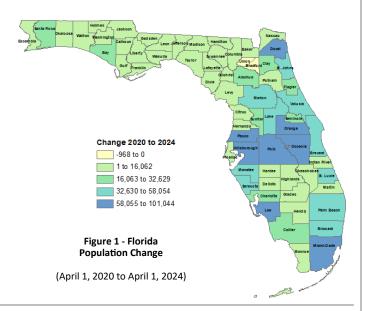
#### **Population by City**

Since April 1, 2020, the cities that have added more than 24,000 net new residents were: Jacksonville, Port St. Lucie, Orlando, Cape Coral, Miami, and Tampa. These six cities accounted for 14.8 percent of the state's total population change, and 31.8 percent of the change in population in incorporated municipalities during this time period.

Among all Florida's cities, those with the fastest growth rates were: Westlake, Ocean Breeze, Wildwood, Freeport, and Eagle Lake. Among cities with a population greater than 50,000 and a growth rate at or above 17.0 percent, the areas growing the fastest were: Port St. Lucie, North Port, Palm Coast, Daytona Beach, Winter Haven, and Palm Bay.

#### Florida's Population Growth

Population growth has two components; net migration (the difference between in and out migration) and natural change (the difference between births and deaths). Between 2020 and 2024, all of Florida's growth was due to net migration, as natural change was negative. Most of Florida's counties follow this pattern. Fifty-one counties grew solely due to net migration (natural change was negative); while another fourteen counties grew due to both positive net migration and natural change. Two counties experienced population decline; Union County had positive net migration but negative natural change; while Bradford County had both negative net migration and natural change (Figure 3).



Website: http://edr.state.fl.us

# Table 2—Florida Population April 1, 2024 Estimate

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County	Population	Rank	County	Population	Rank
Miami-Dade	2,774,841	1	Flagler	136,310	35
Broward	1,981,888	2	Highlands	106,109	36
Hillsborough	1,560,449	3	Nassau	103,990	37
Palm Beach	1,545,905	4	Walton	87,728	38
Orange	1,511,568	5	Monroe	84,147	39
Duval	1,062,593	6	Putnam	76,138	40
Pinellas	971,218	7	Columbia	72,155	41
Lee	827,016	8	Jackson	49,345	42
Polk	826,090	9	Suwannee	46,519	43
Brevard	653,703	10	Levy	45,845	44
Pasco	633,029	11	Hendry	45,413	45
Volusia	594,643	12	Gadsden	44,853	46
Seminole	493,282	13	Okeechobee	40,230	47
Sarasota	479,027	14	Wakulla	37,313	48
Manatee	455,356	15	DeSoto	35,487	49
Osceola	451,231	16	Baker	28,899	50
Lake	433,331	17	Bradford	27,335	51
Marion	419,510	18	Washington	26,568	52
Collier	408,381	19	Hardee	25,883	53
St. Lucie	385,746	20	Taylor	21,802	54
Escambia	336,358	21	Holmes	20,059	55
St. Johns	331,479	22	Gilchrist	19,503	56
Leon	302,197	23	Madison	18,649	57
Alachua	296,313	24	Dixie	17,555	58
Clay	236,365	25	Gulf	16,947	59
Okaloosa	221,806	26	Union	16,100	60
Charlotte	210,645	27	Jefferson	15,667	61
Hernando	210,577	28	Hamilton	14,228	62
Santa Rosa	207,983	29	Calhoun	13,700	63
Bay	196,112	30	Franklin	13,321	64
Indian River	171,029	31	Glades	12,815	65
Citrus	166,151	32	Lafayette	8,504	66
Martin	164,853	33	Liberty	8,016	67
Sumter	156,743	34	,	•	
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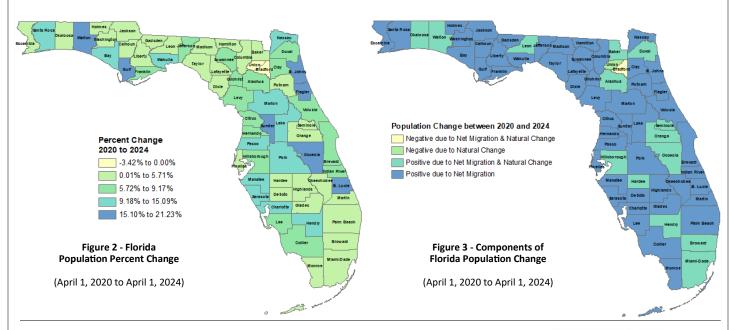
#### Population by Age Group

Based on the 2020 Census, Florida's median age was 43.0 compared to the United States median age of 38.8. This reflects Florida's larger share of the older population; 21.2 percent of Florida's population was aged 65 and older relative to 16.8 percent of the United States. In addition, only 19.5 percent of Florida's population was aged 17 and younger compared to 22.1 percent of the United States. The prime working age population (aged 25-54) followed a similar pattern, representing 36.8 percent of Florida's population compared to 38.6 percent of the United States.

The age group percentages vary by county. Of Florida's 67 counties, none had a 17 or younger population over 30 percent. The working age population for 58 counties was over 30 percent; while the remaining 9 counties were the only counties with a 65 and older population over 30 percent (Charlotte, Citrus, Collier, Flagler, Highlands, Indian River, Martin, Sarasota, and Sumter). Sumter County had the largest percentage of people aged 65 and older (58.9%) and the highest median age (68.5). Orange County had the smallest percentage of people aged 65 and older (12.4%), while Alachua County had the lowest median age (32.2).

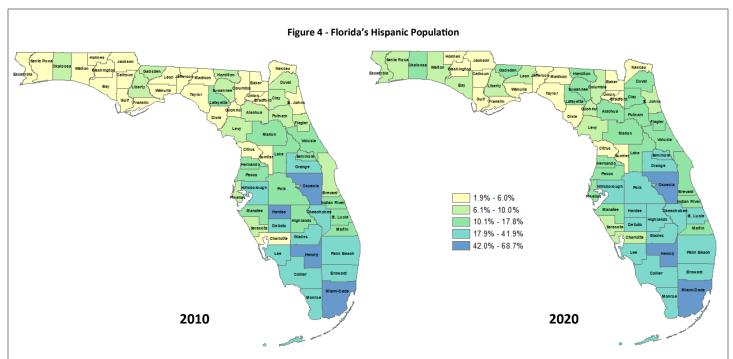
## Florida's Hispanic Population

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, to 22.5 percent in 2010, and to 26.5 percent in 2020. Florida's Hispanic population grew at a faster rate than total population (34.9% as compared to 14.6%) between 2010 and 2020. The percent of the population that was Hispanic or Latino increased in most counties of the state. There were seven counties where the percentage declined: Calhoun, DeSoto, Gulf, Hardee, Lafayette, Sumter, and Union counties over this time period. Miami-Dade County continued to have the greatest percentage of Hispanic population in the state with 65.0 percent in 2010 and 68.7 percent in 2020 (Figure 4).



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#### Florida's Non-Hispanic Population by Race

Beginning with Census 2000, respondents were given the option of selecting more than one racial category. Figure 5 displays the racial composition of the state's non-Hispanic population based on the results of the 2020 Census.

For the 2020 Census, the Census Bureau made improvements to the design of the Hispanic origin and race questions and updated the data processing and coding procedures. Due to these changes, the Census Bureau suggests that data comparisons between 2010 and 2020 be made with caution. Overall, the changes revealed that the US population is more multiracial and diverse than what was measured in the past.

This was also true for Florida. The percentage of the population that selected two or more races was 5.0 percent for Florida's non-Hispanic population. This ranged from a low of 2.0 percent in Lafayette County to a high of 7.9 percent in Okaloosa County.

Of Florida's non-Hispanic population that indicated only one race, 70.1 percent was White, 19.7 percent was Black or African American, and 4.0 percent was Asian. The other three race groups (American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, and some other race alone) represented 1.2 percent of Florida's non-Hispanic population.

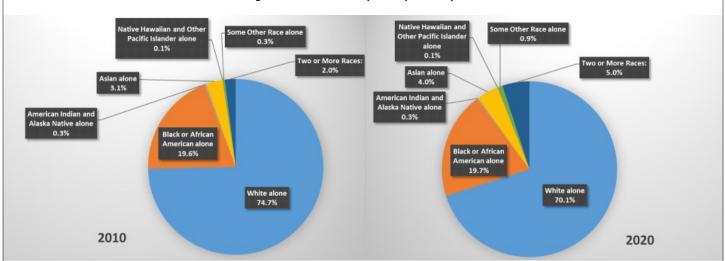


Figure 5 - Florida's Non-Hispanic Population by Race

Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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. Additional data are on our website at: http://edr.state.fl.us or contact us at: 850.487.1402.

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