

The Florida Legislature



Economic and Demographic News for Decision Makers

2020 Volume I

Florida's Population

Florida Population — April 1, 2019

Florida's population on April 1, 2019 was estimated to be 21,208,589 a gain of 2,407,257 residents (12.8 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 66.2 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 approximately 29.1 percent of Florida's population.

Table 1 shows number of counties by population size. Thirtysix counties, those with at least 100,000 residents, represent 95.2% of the state's population.

Table 1 - Number of Counties by Population Range

April 1, 2019 Population	Number of Florida Counties	
One million or more	5	
500,000 to 999,999	7	
250,000 to 499,999	12	
100,000 to 249,999	12	
50,000 to 99,999	5	
Under 50,000	26	

Miami-Dade 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 (2,812,130) to Lafayette (8,482) (Table 2).

The top five counties adding the most population since April 1, 2010 were: Miami-Dade (315,673), Orange (240,124), Hillsborough (215,644), Broward (171,578), and Palm Beach (127,723). The counties with population growth rates at or above 20.0% were: Osceola (37.9%), Sumter (37.7%), St. Johns (33.9%), Walton (27.3%), Orange (21.0%), Lake (20.3%) and Manatee (20.0%). (Figures 1 & 2).

Population by City

Since April 1, 2010, the top five cities that have added the most population were: Jacksonville, Miami, Tampa, Orlando, and Cape Coral. These cities accounted for 13.9 percent of the total population change during this time period.

Among cities with a population greater than 50,000 and a growth rate above 25 percent, the areas growing the fastest were: Doral, Fort Myers, North Port, Apopka, Homestead, and Kissimmee. Among all Florida's cities, those with the fastest growth rates were: Fruitland Park, Freeport, Lake Buena Vista, Groveland, and Davenport.

Florida's Growth

Between 2010 and 2019, the majority of Florida growth was due to net migration (88.1%), while natural increase (the excess of births over deaths) accounted for 11.9% 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, 2019, the Census Bureau estimates that about 46.2 percent of Florida's net migration was international and the remainder was domestic.



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Table 2 - Florida County Population April 1, 2019 Estimate Ranked by Size					
County	Population	Rank	County	Population	Rank
Miami-Dade	2,812,130	1	Flagler	110,635	35
Broward	1,919,644	2	Highlands	103,434	36
Palm Beach	1,447,857	3	Nassau	85,070	37
Hillsborough	1,444,870	4	Monroe	76,212	38
Orange	1,386,080	5	Putnam	73,268	39
Pinellas	978,045	6	Columbia	70,492	40
Duval	970,672	7	Walton	70,071	41
Lee	735,148	8	Jackson	46,969	42
Polk	690,606	9	Gadsden	46,277	43
Brevard	594,469	10	Suwannee	45,423	44
Volusia	538,763	11	Okeechobee	41,808	45
Pasco	527,122	12	Levy	41,330	46
Seminole	471,735	13	Hendry	40,120	47
Sarasota	426,275	14	DeSoto	36,065	48
Manatee	387,414	15	Wakulla	32,976	49
Collier	376,706	16	Bradford	28,682	50
Osceola	370,552	17	Baker	28,249	51
Marion	360,421	18	Hardee	27,385	52
Lake	357,247	19	Washington	25,387	53
Escambia	321,134	20	Taylor	22,458	54
St. Lucie	309,359	21	Holmes	20,049	55
Leon	296,499	22	Madison	19,570	56
Alachua	267,306	23	Gilchrist	17,766	57
St. Johns	254,412	24	Dixie	16,610	58
Clay	215,246	25	Union	15,505	59
Okaloosa	201,514	26	Jefferson	14,776	60
Hernando	188,358	27	Hamilton	14,600	61
Charlotte	181,770	28	Calhoun	14,067	62
Santa Rosa	179,054	29	Glades	13,121	63
Bay	167,283	30	Gulf	13,082	64
Martin	158,598	31	Franklin	12,273	65
Indian River	154,939	32	Liberty	8,772	66
Citrus	147,744	33	Lafayette	8,482	67
Sumter	128,633	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, 2019, the Census Bureau estimated that Florida added almost 2.7 million residents, becoming the third most populous state earlier this decade. Over the past nine years, New York has only added 75,417 residents, while California and Texas have added about 2.3 million and 3.8 million residents. respectively. During this time period, the Census Bureau estimated that Florida's population growth rate was faster than California's, but slightly slower than Texas.



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 180,000). 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 percentage is forecast to increase to 30.0 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 by Age Group

According to the 2000 and 2010 Census, Florida's population under the age of 18 accounted for 22.8 percent and 21.3 percent of total population, respectively. Currently, this age group is estimated to account for 20.3 percent of Florida's population and is expected represent 19.9 percent in 2030. 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 37.2 percent of Florida's total population in 2019 and is expected to represent 35.9 percent in 2030.

In 2010, 17.3 percent of Florida's population was aged 65 and older. Growth depends upon overall growth and the aging of the resident population. Based on both of those components, between 2010 and 2030, the population aged 65 and older will represent 47.6 percent of the Florida's total population growth. This age group is forecast to represent 24.3 percent of Florida's population in 2030 (Figure 5).



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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