



## The Florida Legislature

# Econographic News

Economic and Demographic News for Decision Makers

2022 Volume I

## Florida's Population

### Florida Population — April 1, 2021

Florida's population on April 1, 2021 was estimated to be 21,898,945, a gain of 348,338 residents (1.6 percent) 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 65.8 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 28.3 percent of Florida's population.

Table 1 shows number of counties by population size. Thirty-six counties, those with at least 100,000 residents, represent 95.3% of the state's population.

**Table 1 - Number of Counties  
by Population Range**

April 1 2021 Population	Number of Florida Counties
One million or more	6
500,000 to 999,999	6
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 (2,731,939) to Liberty (7,464) (Table 2).

The top five counties adding the most population since April 1, 2020 were: Hillsborough (30,612), Miami-Dade (30,172), Orange (28,032), Polk (23,319), and Lee (21,757). The counties with population growth rates at or above 3.5% were: Osceola (4.6%), Gulf (4.5%), St. Johns (4.4%), Lake (4.2%), Sumter (3.7%), Flagler (3.7%), Walton (3.5%). (Figures 1 & 2).

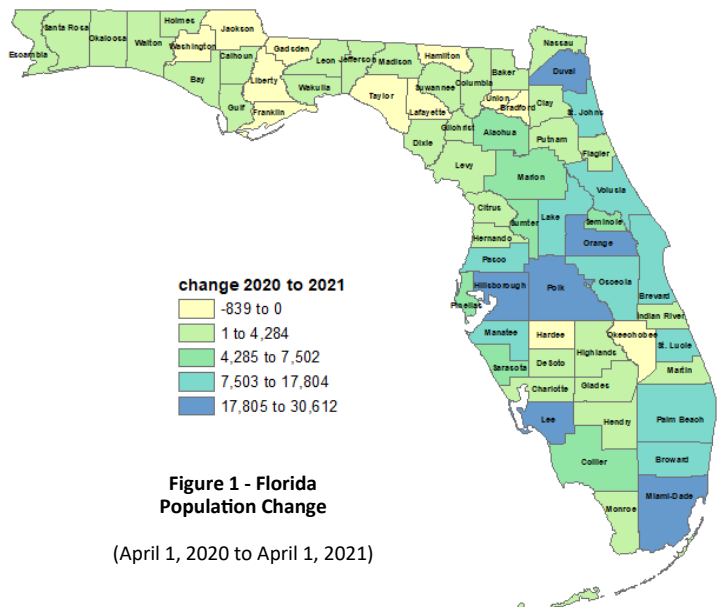
### Population by City

Since April 1, 2020, the top five cities that have added the most population were: Jacksonville, Port St. Lucie, Cape Coral, Miami, and Orlando. These cities accounted for 14.6 percent of the total population change during this time period.

Among cities with a population greater than 50,000 and a growth rate at or above 4.0 percent, the areas growing the fastest were: Doral, Fort Myers, Port St. Lucie, North Port, and Palm Coast. Among all Florida's cities, those with the fastest growth rates were: Westlake, Wildwood, Freeport, Davenport, and Mexico Beach.

### Florida's Growth

Between 2020 and 2021, all of the Florida's growth was due to net migration, while natural increase (the excess of births over deaths) was negative. In comparison, between 2010 and 2020, 89.5 percent of the state's growth was due to net migration. For the period from April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021, the Census Bureau estimates that only 13.5 percent of Florida's net migration was international, while the remainder (86.5 percent) was domestic.



**Table 2 - Florida County Population  
April 1, 2021 Estimate**

County	Population	Rank	County	Population	Rank
Miami-Dade County	2,731,939	1	Flagler County	119,662	35
Broward County	1,955,375	2	Highlands County	102,065	36
Palm Beach County	1,502,495	3	Nassau County	93,012	37
Hillsborough County	1,490,374	4	Monroe County	83,411	38
Orange County	1,457,940	5	Walton County	77,941	39
Duval County	1,016,809	6	Putnam County	73,673	40
Pinellas County	964,490	7	Columbia County	69,809	41
Lee County	782,579	8	Jackson County	47,198	42
Polk County	748,365	9	Gadsden County	43,813	43
Brevard County	616,742	10	Suwannee County	43,676	44
Pasco County	575,891	11	Levy County	43,577	45
Volusia County	563,358	12	Hendry County	40,540	46
Seminole County	477,455	13	Okeechobee County	39,148	47
Sarasota County	441,508	14	Wakulla County	34,311	48
Manatee County	411,209	15	DeSoto County	34,031	49
Osceola County	406,460	16	Baker County	28,692	50
Lake County	400,142	17	Bradford County	27,955	51
Collier County	382,680	18	Hardee County	25,269	52
Marion County	381,176	19	Washington County	24,995	53
St. Lucie County	340,060	20	Taylor County	20,957	54
Escambia County	324,458	21	Holmes County	19,665	55
Leon County	295,921	22	Gilchrist County	18,126	56
St. Johns County	285,533	23	Madison County	18,122	57
Alachua County	284,607	24	Dixie County	16,804	58
Clay County	221,440	25	Union County	15,799	59
Okaloosa County	213,204	26	Gulf County	14,824	60
Hernando County	196,540	27	Jefferson County	14,590	61
Santa Rosa County	191,911	28	Calhoun County	13,683	62
Charlotte County	190,570	29	Hamilton County	13,226	63
Bay County	178,282	30	Franklin County	12,364	64
Indian River County	161,702	31	Glades County	12,130	65
Martin County	159,053	32	Lafayette County	7,937	66
Citrus County	155,615	33	Liberty County	7,464	67
Sumter County	134,593	34			

## Florida versus the Nation

Florida is the third most populous state, behind California (39.5 million), Texas (29.1 million). Between April 1, 2020 and July 1, 2021, the Census Bureau estimated that Florida added 242,941 residents\*; with Texas being the only state that added more residents. During this time period, the Census Bureau estimated that 19 states lost population, including California. Overall, the Census Bureau estimated that between April 1, 2020 and July 1, 2021, the Northeast and Midwest lost population, while the South and West gained population.

**Table 1 - Population Change  
April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021**

Northeast	-449,310
Midwest	-144,010
South	959,222
West	78,562

## Florida's Population by Age Group

According to the 2010 and 2020 Census, Florida's population under the age of 18 accounted for 21.3 percent and 19.5 percent of total population, respectively. Detailed age data from the 2020 Census was not yet available at publication.

In 2000, Florida's prime working age population (ages 25-54) accounted for 41.5 percent of total population, while it accounted for 39.7 percent in 2010. This age group is expected to represent a slightly smaller percentage of total population in 2020.

In 2010, 17.3 percent of Florida's population was aged 65 and older. With the aging baby boom generation and the attractiveness of Florida to retirees, this age group is expected to represent a larger share of Florida's population in 2020.

## 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 continues to have the greatest percentage of Hispanic population in the state with 65.0% in 2010 and 68.7% in 2020. (Figure 3).

\*The Census Bureau and Florida use different methodologies to produce population estimates. 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.

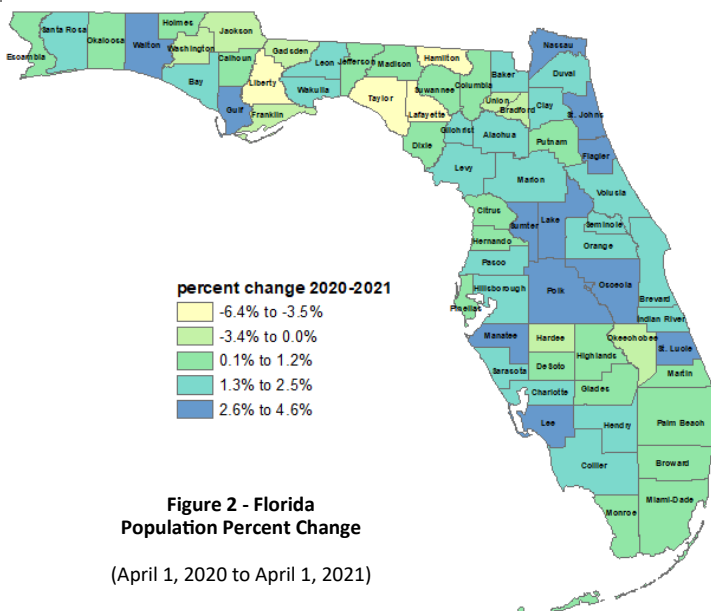
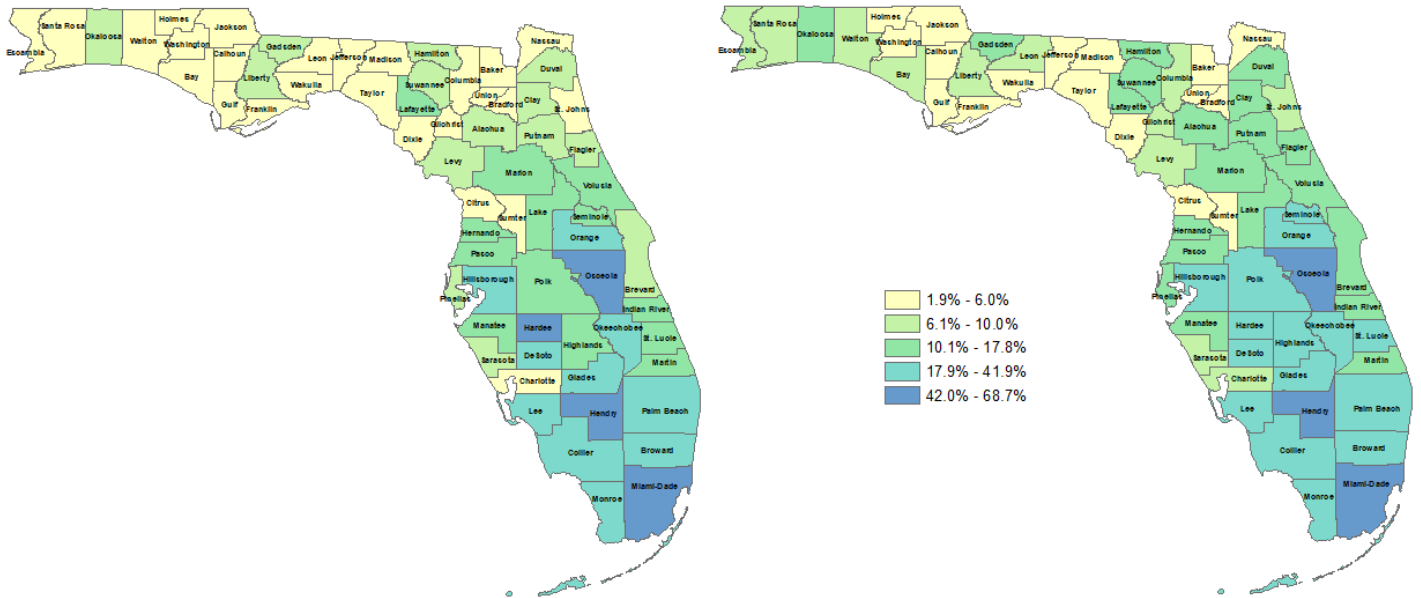


Figure 3 - Florida's Hispanic Population



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

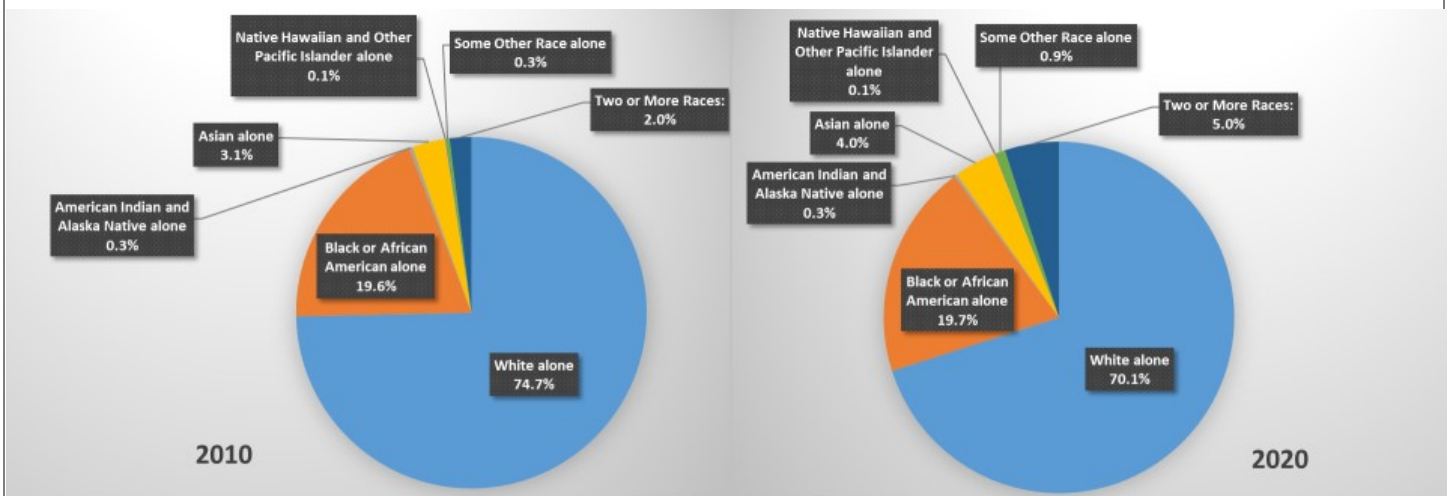
Beginning with Census 2000 respondents were given the option of selecting more than one racial category. Figure 4 displays the racial composition of the state's non-Hispanic population based on the results of the 2020 Census.

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 multira-

cial 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 represented 1.2 percent of Florida's non-Hispanic population.

Figure 4 - Florida's Non-Hispanic Population by Race



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.