



Revised estimates of Florida population by county 1972-1979

Stanley K. Smith, Population Program Director
and
Melinda S. Craine, Statistician

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During the 1970s Florida's population increased by almost three million persons, making Florida the third most rapidly growing state in the nation. During this decade thirty-one of Florida's sixty-seven counties grew by more than 50 percent; nine counties more than doubled. Along with high levels of tourism, seasonality and foreign immigration, these high growth rates make the production of accurate population estimates a very difficult task. In spite of these difficulties the population estimates produced by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research compared very well with 1980 census results. The average estimation error for counties was 5.3 percent; for counties with greater than 100,000 population in 1970 the average error was 3.1 percent. Seventeen counties had errors of less than 2 percent, thirty-six had errors of less than 5 percent. Seven counties had errors of 10-15 percent; only one had an error greater than 15 percent.

While this is quite a good record, there are several reasons for producing a revised set of annual population estimates for the 1970s. First and foremost, a revision makes the intercensal estimates consistent with the

census count of April 1, 1980. While the necessary revisions are not large for most counties, they are substantial for a few. In addition, a revised set incorporates refinements in methodology developed during the past decade, and takes into account any breaks or revisions that may have occurred in the base data series. A revised set of estimates not only gives a more accurate population estimate for any given year during the past decade, but a more accurate assessment of annual population changes as well.

This bulletin contains revised population estimates for Florida and its counties for April 1 of each year between 1972 and 1979 (the Bureau did not produce population estimates in 1971).¹ They were produced by combining 1970 and 1980 census data with a reconstructed annual series of active residential electric customers (REC). The REC data provided by Florida's fifty-six electric utility companies were checked for every county for each year since 1970 (except 1971). Revisions were made to account for reporting errors, allocation errors and changes in accounting systems.

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Bulletin No. 55

July, 1981

This public document was promulgated at an annual cost of \$48.18 or \$.06 per copy to make available information about population in Florida. The sales cost of this publication was set to cover the total cost of producing it. The "annual cost" to the Bureau shown above is only that part of the cost paid out of state funds.

Population Division
BUREAU OF ECONOMIC & BUSINESS RESEARCH



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Table 1.—Revised estimates of Florida.

State County	Census April 1, 1970	Estimate 1972	Estimate 1973	Estimate 1974	Estimate 1975
FLORIDA	6,791,400	7,565,500	8,041,700	8,453,100	8,618,500
Alachua	104,800	115,400	120,100	122,200	128,000
Baker	9,200	10,600	11,600	12,700	13,300
Bay	75,300	78,600	80,900	89,400	89,900
Bradford	14,600	15,600	16,000	16,800	17,400
Brevard	230,000	235,900	247,300	248,400	246,700
Broward	620,100	720,000	776,200	840,700	876,700
Calhoun	7,600	7,800	7,900	8,200	8,500
Charlotte	27,600	34,900	37,900	42,100	44,600
Citrus	19,200	26,200	31,900	36,100	38,100
Clay	32,100	38,100	42,500	47,500	50,400
Collier	38,000	50,100	58,000	64,800	66,300
Columbia	25,300	27,500	28,800	30,400	30,900
Dade	1,267,800	1,381,700	1,429,600	1,478,900	1,496,100
De Soto	13,100	14,900	16,500	17,700	17,900
Dixie	5,500	5,900	6,100	6,600	6,800
Duval	528,900	537,400	549,400	558,900	568,000
Escambia	205,300	217,600	222,900	227,400	227,700
Flagler	4,500	5,200	6,000	6,800	7,300
Franklin	7,100	7,300	7,500	7,700	7,700
Gadsden	39,200	40,500	40,400	40,300	40,800
Gilchrist	3,600	4,100	4,300	4,700	4,800
Glades	3,700	4,600	5,000	5,700	5,900
Gulf	10,100	10,100	10,400	10,500	10,600
Hamilton	7,800	8,000	8,200	8,300	8,800
Hardee	14,900	16,600	17,500	18,200	18,400
Hendry	11,900	13,700	14,900	15,700	16,100
Hernando	17,000	24,600	30,200	30,800	31,500
Highlands	29,500	36,100	37,600	39,900	41,100
Hillsborough	490,300	529,300	578,200	595,300	604,300
Holmes	10,700	10,900	12,100	13,100	13,400
Indian River	36,000	41,200	44,600	46,800	47,400
Jackson	34,400	34,700	34,700	36,300	37,200
Jefferson	8,800	9,200	9,500	9,600	9,800
Lafayette	2,900	3,100	3,300	3,400	3,200
Lake	69,300	78,800	83,200	86,900	89,500
Lee	105,200	131,800	143,600	157,000	162,000
Leon	103,000	113,700	123,800	127,700	127,300
Levy	12,800	14,700	15,200	16,400	17,300
Liberty	3,400	3,600	3,800	3,900	4,000
Madison	13,500	14,300	14,600	14,700	14,700
Manatee	97,100	116,400	122,000	131,000	131,400
Marion	69,000	78,500	85,000	93,100	97,000
Martin	28,000	35,600	42,500	47,600	49,500
Monroe	52,600	59,500	61,800	62,500	64,500
Nassau	20,600	22,900	25,300	28,700	30,800
Okaloosa	88,200	94,400	98,000	103,500	102,400
Okeechobee	11,200	14,300	15,900	17,900	18,200
Orange	344,300	380,700	403,900	423,500	421,800
Osceola	25,300	30,600	35,000	37,400	37,100
Palm Beach	349,000	389,400	435,900	471,100	481,500
Pasco	76,000	109,300	116,600	132,300	141,700
Pinellas	522,300	604,500	634,200	657,100	667,500
Polk	228,500	260,300	272,500	282,800	290,000
Putnam	36,400	40,400	42,600	44,700	46,100
St. Johns	31,000	33,400	35,900	38,600	40,900
St. Lucie	50,800	55,200	64,400	69,800	71,200
Santa Rosa	37,700	43,200	49,800	52,400	51,900
Sarasota	120,400	140,100	150,200	160,700	164,300
Seminole	83,700	107,300	123,100	134,100	135,600
Sumter	14,800	16,900	18,400	19,700	20,300
Suwannee	15,600	16,700	17,600	18,700	19,700
Taylor	13,600	14,100	14,600	14,800	14,900
Union	8,100	7,900	9,000	9,600	10,300
Volusia	169,500	184,100	197,400	212,800	218,900
Wakulla	6,300	7,800	8,300	8,900	9,200
Walton	16,100	16,000	16,800	17,500	17,900
Washington	11,500	11,700	12,600	13,500	13,600

Note: County numbers do not add to state totals due to rounding.

population April 1, 1972 - April 1, 1979

Estimate 1976	Estimate 1977	Estimate 1978	Estimate 1979	Census April 1, 1980	State County
8,744,300	8,920,000	9,156,700	9,448,500	9,740,000	FLORIDA
130,900	135,000	144,600	148,200	151,300	Alachua
13,400	13,900	14,500	14,900	15,300	Baker
91,800	94,100	94,100	94,400	97,700	Bay
17,800	18,500	19,000	19,500	20,000	Bradford
244,600	248,500	255,200	264,300	273,000	Brevard
894,600	921,900	953,300	988,100	1,014,000	Broward
8,700	8,700	8,800	8,900	9,300	Calhoun
44,700	47,100	50,800	54,900	59,100	Charlotte
40,500	43,900	47,200	50,800	54,700	Citrus
53,500	55,500	59,500	63,300	67,100	Clay
67,300	70,500	74,700	79,700	85,800	Collier
31,400	31,900	33,100	34,400	35,400	Columbia
1,509,100	1,534,500	1,561,000	1,597,400	1,626,000	Dade
17,900	17,900	18,400	18,600	19,000	De Soto
6,800	7,000	7,400	7,700	7,800	Dixie
571,300	566,400	567,500	571,300	571,000	Duval
227,800	230,000	230,000	232,200	233,800	Escambia
8,100	8,600	9,100	9,900	10,900	Flagler
7,700	7,600	7,700	7,700	7,700	Franklin
39,800	40,900	40,600	41,100	41,600	Gadsden
4,900	5,200	5,300	5,600	5,800	Gilchrist
6,000	6,000	6,200	6,000	6,000	Glades
10,700	10,800	10,700	10,600	10,700	Gulf
8,900	9,000	8,600	8,800	8,800	Hamilton
18,700	18,800	18,900	19,300	19,400	Hardee
16,400	16,900	17,400	18,100	18,600	Hendry
32,600	32,900	36,100	39,300	44,500	Hernando
41,800	43,300	44,700	46,300	47,500	Highlands
602,400	605,600	616,600	630,800	647,000	Hillsborough
13,900	14,000	14,200	14,500	14,700	Holmes
47,700	50,800	53,300	56,800	59,900	Indian River
37,900	38,200	38,700	39,100	39,200	Jackson
9,900	10,000	10,300	10,600	10,700	Jefferson
3,400	3,500	3,900	4,000	4,000	Lafayette
91,800	95,700	97,900	99,200	104,900	Lake
164,500	170,600	182,200	192,700	205,300	Lee
128,700	135,300	140,200	142,200	148,700	Leon
17,400	17,700	18,500	19,800	19,900	Levy
4,100	4,100	4,200	4,200	4,300	Liberty
14,600	14,600	14,600	14,800	14,900	Madison
132,700	134,900	137,800	142,800	148,400	Manatee
100,100	104,400	109,000	114,500	122,500	Marion
51,000	53,500	57,200	60,600	64,000	Martin
63,300	63,200	62,800	64,000	63,100	Monroe
31,700	32,000	32,400	32,400	32,900	Nassau
103,900	105,800	107,800	108,600	109,900	Okaloosa
18,400	18,600	19,200	19,900	20,300	Okeechobee
434,400	439,000	448,800	460,600	471,700	Orange
38,300	39,500	40,900	46,500	49,300	Osceola
487,100	496,500	514,800	542,700	573,100	Palm Beach
149,400	155,700	163,700	178,000	194,100	Pasco
678,700	687,000	700,200	714,700	728,400	Pinellas
294,900	299,200	302,700	311,800	321,700	Polk
47,000	47,800	48,400	49,700	50,500	Putnam
42,000	44,900	46,300	48,700	51,300	St. Johns
73,000	75,100	78,200	82,800	87,200	St. Lucie
53,200	53,900	54,100	54,600	56,000	Santa Rosa
166,500	172,400	182,200	193,500	202,300	Sarasota
141,700	150,200	158,900	168,000	179,800	Seminole
21,000	21,200	21,600	22,100	24,300	Sumter
20,200	20,600	21,000	21,700	22,300	Suwannee
15,000	15,100	16,000	16,200	16,500	Taylor
11,200	10,900	10,800	10,600	10,200	Union
223,900	230,300	238,500	248,100	258,800	Volusia
9,500	9,700	10,200	10,500	10,900	Wakulla
18,400	19,400	20,100	20,600	21,300	Walton
13,500	13,600	14,100	14,300	14,500	Washington

Note: County numbers do not add to state totals due to rounding.

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The ratio of total population to number of RECs was calculated for April 1, 1970, and April 1, 1980, for each county. Ratios for 1972-1979 were estimated by linearly interpolating between the values for 1970 and 1980. The revised annual estimates were then obtained by multiplying the revised number of RECs by the interpolated population/REC ratio.²

Differences between the estimates shown here and those originally published may be due to changes in base REC data, refinements in the estimation methodology and/or the inclusion of 1980 census data. In some counties these differences are substantial; in others, they are very small. While the revised estimates give a more accurate description of the population changes that occurred during the last decade than the numbers originally published, even the revised estimates are subject to error. Particularly in the mid-seventies--when growth trends for the state and many counties were sharply

interrupted by a severe recession--the numbers published in this bulletin must be interpreted with some caution.

¹While the Bureau of Economic and Business Research did not produce population estimates for 1971, such estimates were produced by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Population estimates by county for July 1, 1971, are published in Current Population Reports, Series P-26, No. 46, July 1973. Copies of this publication may be obtained from the Bureau of Economic and Business Research for \$2 (please include payment with order).

²For Gadsden and Union counties, where institutional inmates account for a large proportion of total population and fluctuated a great deal during the decade, explicit account was taken of changes in the inmate population. For all other counties, changes in the inmate population were picked up through the procedure described in the text.

FLORIDA POPULATION: A SUMMARY OF 1980 CENSUS RESULTS

The report of 1980 Census figures for Florida population by cities and counties is now available and may be ordered with the form below.

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