Christopher McCarty
Florida League of Cities
August 16, 2013

www.bebr.ufl.edu
BEBR Mission

Collect, generate and analyze economic data on Florida and its local areas

Conduct economic and demographic research that will inform public policy and business decision making

Distribute data and research findings throughout the state and nation
About BEBR

• Founded in 1929
• College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
• Florida’s Official Population Estimates
• Produces Florida’s Price, Wage, and Retail Indexes and the County Price Level Index
• Conducts Surveys, Including Monthly Statewide Consumer Sentiment Index
BEBR’s Three Research Programs

- Population Studies
- Economic Analysis
- Survey Research
BEBR Population Studies Program

- Official Population Estimates (revenue sharing)
- Population Projections
- Population Aging
- Migration
- Demography of Florida

www.bebr.ufl.edu/population
Economic Analysis Program

Conducting research for a variety of local and state government agencies as well as private industry: Cost Effectiveness, Economic Impact, Fiscal Policy
Published Annually Since 1967
Now Online

Florida Statistical Abstract Online

Welcome to the Bureau of Economics and Business Research Florida Statistical Abstract Online. Our users can now begin accessing data historically available in print volumes such as the Florida Statistical Abstract.

Take a moment and preview some of the current features online.
House Value And Consumer Spending In Florida

The effect of recent increases in home value on additional household spending is not overwhelming, but it helps and is a welcome change of direction.

Labor Market Polarization In Florida

Florida's labor market is polarizing. Florida's lack of high-skill jobs and low investment in education, along with baby boom retirements, mean low-skill jobs will likely replace vanishing mid-skill jobs more so than in the rest of the US.

A Look Back: 2012 Presidential Polls In Florida

Florida Indicators

- **Northeast Home Price Index**
  - Jul 24
  - 06/01/2013 - 06/30/2013
  - Indicator Definition

- **Midwest Home Price Index**
  - Jul 24
  - 06/01/2013 - 06/30/2013
  - Indicator Definition

- **Florida Home Sales and Median Price**
  - Jul 23
  - 06/01/2013 - 06/30/2013
  - Indicator Definition

Data Snapshot

- **Real Per Capita Income (2005 $)**
  - Jul 24
  - $34,413.38

- **% Chg (1 yr)**
  - 0.20%

- **% Chg (10 yr)**
  - 4.06%

- **$40,000**
BEBR’s UF Survey Research Center

www.bebr.ufl.edu/survey
UFSRC Methods

- Telephone
  - Landline
  - Cell Phone
- Mail
- Focus Groups
- Web
- Face-to-Face
About the Survey Research Center

- State-of-the-art Survey Research Program
- Computerized Telephone Survey Lab

- 93 Stations
- Data Security
- Exacting Standards of Quality Control
UF Survey Research Center Orientation
Welcome!
Scheduler: Lab Management Software

- Time records & payroll
- Budget tracking
- Employee evaluations
  - Quality control, including call monitoring
  - Productivity & Attendance
- Shift supervision tools
  - Bird’s eye view of employee seating, assignments, and real-time phone activity
UFSRC Interviewers: Professional and Friendly

Bilingual Capacity
- English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole
- Spanish-speaking interviewers from many different countries — Cuba, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela, Columbia, Argentina, Puerto Rico

Interviewing staff often exceeds 200
News sources that have used our data

Tallahassee Democrat
The Miami Herald
TV20
The Gainesville Sun
St. Petersburg Times
The Florida Times-Union
The Palm Beach Post
South Florida Sun-Sentinel
The New York Times
Herald-Tribune
THE TAMPA TRIBUNE
FLORIDA'S 89.1 WUFT-FM
Consumer Sentiment Index Survey

- Calculated each month from telephone responses of approximately 500 Florida households
- Designed to predict consumer spending which accounts for 70% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
- Barometer of public opinion about economy
- Conducted since 1983
Consumer Sentiment Survey Results

Index of Consumer Sentiment

FL  US
Our Survey Design

Consumer Sentiment Survey Methods

- Approximately 5,000 Random Digit Dial phone numbers released each month
- Proportionate to households by county
- Preliminary consumer confidence release the last Tuesday of each month with at least 400 completed interviews
- By the end of the month we collect at least 500 interviews
- *Additional questions can be added*
Partnership with Graham Center
Polling on current issues

- BEBR provides survey expertise
- Graham Center provides context and releases data
Partnership with Graham Center: Issues Facing 2013 Legislature

- Allow undocumented students to receive in-state tuition at Florida’s public colleges and universities
- Require Internet retailers to pay state sales tax
- Ban discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity
- Close the state’s pension plan to new employees
- Ban texting while driving
Florida poll shows support for ban on texting and driving

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
Special to Florida Weekly

A new University of Florida poll concludes that an overwhelming majority of Florida citizens support legislation that would ban texting while driving.

The poll was conducted by the Bob Graham Center for Public Service in collaboration with the University of Florida’s Bureau of Economic and Business Research. Ninety-five percent of respondents support legislation that would ban texting while driving. Only 4 percent oppose the legislation.

In the past three years, attempts to pass such legislation have failed, leaving Florida as one of only five states without restrictions on texting and driving.
Partnership with Graham Center: Texting and Driving

Our Poll vs. Legislature Vote

BEBR Poll
96%

Final Senate Vote
97%

Yes  No  Not Sure
Florida Abandons Statewide Domestic Partnership Registry And LGBT Civil Protections

Florida lawmakers also abandoned the Competitive Workforce Act, which would have updated the state's Civil Rights Act of 1992 to include protections against discrimination for reasons of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Tallahassee dropped the ball on the act, which 73 percent of Floridians support according to a Bob Graham Center for Public Service poll.
Partnership with Graham Center

Quality data collection and analysis &

Insightful explanation of what the data mean