## **Florida Population Studies**



# Projections of Florida Population by County, 2025–2050, with Estimates for 2023

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The Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) at the University of Florida has produced population projections for Florida and its counties since the 1970s. This report presents our 2024 set of projections and describes the methodology used to construct those projections. To account for uncertainty regarding future population growth, we publish three series of projections – low, medium, and high. We recommend using the medium series for most purposes; this series has historically provided the most accurate forecasts for Florida counties. It should be noted that these projections refer solely to the resident population of Florida; they do not include temporary or seasonal residents whose usual place of residence is in another jurisdiction.

#### **State Projections**

The starting point for the state-level projections was the decennial census count for April 1, 2020. Projections were made in one-year intervals using a cohortcomponent methodology in which births, deaths, and migration are projected separately for each age-sex cohort in Florida.

Survival rates were applied by single year of age and sex to project future deaths in the population. These rates were based on Florida Life Tables for 2012–2018, using mortality data published by the Office of Vital Statistics in the Florida Department of Health. We adjusted the survival rates for 2020–2028 to make them consistent with recent mortality trends, and to align the projected deaths with those from the State of Florida's Demographic Estimating Conference (DEC) held November 28, 2023. After 2028, we made small adjustments to the survival rates based on projected changes in survival rates released by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Domestic migration rates by age and sex were based on Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) files from the 2011–2019 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year estimates and 2015–2019 ACS 5-year estimates. We calculated an average of those two sets of migration estimates; projections based on input data from more than one period tend to be more accurate than those based on a single period. By combining 1-year ACS estimates, which are more current, with 5-year ACS estimates, which are more stable, we make use of the different strengths of each type of ACS data.

We applied smoothing techniques to the migration rates by single year of age and sex to adjust for data irregularities caused by small sample sizes. The smoothed in- and out-migration rates were weighted to account for recent changes in Florida's population growth rates. Projections of domestic in-migration were made by applying weighted in-migration rates to the projected population of the United States (minus Florida), using the most recent set of national projections produced by the U.S. Census Bureau. Projections of out-migration were made by applying weighted outmigration rates to the Florida population. In both instances, rates were calculated separately for males and females for each age up to 90 and over. The distribution of foreign immigrants by age and sex was also based on averages of the patterns observed over the same time periods using the same ACS data sets as for domestic migration. Again, we smoothed the estimates to account for irregularities in the age/sex distribution of immigrants.

Projections were made in one-year intervals, with each projection serving as the base for the following projection. Projected in-migration for each one-year interval was added to the survived Florida population at the end of the interval and projected out-migration was subtracted, giving a projection of the population age one and older.

Births were projected by applying age-specific birth rates (adjusted for child mortality) to the projected female population. These birth rates were based on Florida birth data for 2012–2018 published by the Office of Vital Statistics in the Florida Department of Health. They imply a total fertility rate (TFR) of 1.75 births per woman. These rates were reduced in the short-term projections to make them consistent with recent fertility trends, and to align the projected births with those from the November 28, 2023 DEC. The long-term projections imply about 1.83 births per woman.

The medium projections of total population for 2024–2028 were adjusted to be consistent with the state population forecasts for those years produced by the November 28, 2023 DEC. None of the projections after 2028 had any further controls.

In the addition to the medium series, we also created a low and a high series for Florida. These should not be considered low and high growth scenarios; rather, they represent an indication of the uncertainty surrounding the medium projections. The low and high series were based on analyses of past population forecast errors for Florida. In this publication, we provide projections for 2025, 2030, 2035, 2040, 2045, and 2050. State projections for other years are available by request.

#### **County Projections**

The cohort-component model is the most widely used technique to make population projections for larger areas such as states, but it is not necessarily the best way to make projections at the county level. Many counties in Florida have small populations, which make it difficult to produce reliable cohort-component projections by age and sex. Furthermore, county growth patterns can be volatile, and projections based on a single technique using data from a single time period may provide suboptimal results. We believe more useful projections of total population can be made by applying different techniques that incorporate data from different time periods.

For counties, we started with the population estimate constructed by BEBR for April 1, 2023. We made projections for each county using six different techniques in five-year increments. The six techniques were:

1. Linear – the population will change by the same number of persons in each future year as the average annual change during the base period.

2. Exponential – the population will change at the same percentage rate in each future year as the average annual rate during the base period.

3. Share-of-growth – each county's share of state population growth in the future will be the same as its share during the base period.

4. Shift-share – each county's share of the state population will change by the same annual amount in the future as the average annual change during the base period.

5. Constant-share – each county's share of the state population will remain constant at its 2023 level.

6. Constant – each county's population will remain equal to its 2023 estimate.

For the linear technique, we used base periods of ten and twenty years (2013–2023, and 2003–2023) yielding two sets of projections; for the exponential technique, we used a fifteen-year base period (2008-2023) yielding one projection; for the share-of-growth technique, we used base periods of two, ten, and twenty years (2021–2023, 2013–2023, and 2003–2023) yielding three sets of projections; and for the shift-share technique, we used base periods of five and fifteen years (2018–2023 and 2008–2023) yielding two sets of projections; and. The constant-share and constant techniques were based on data from a single year (2023).

This methodology produced ten different projections for each county for each projection year (2025, 2030, 2035, 2040, 2045, and 2050). From these, we calculated four averages: one using all ten projections (AVE-10), one that excluded the highest and lowest projections (AVE-8), one that excluded the two highest and two lowest projections (AVE-6), and one that excluded the three highest and three lowest projections (AVE-4). Based on the results of previous research, we designated the average that excluded the three highest and three lowest projections (AVE-4) as the default technique for each county. For counties in which AVE-4 did not provide reasonable projections, we selected the technique producing projections that fit most closely with our evaluation criteria. We evaluated the resulting projections by comparing them with historical population trends and with the level of population growth projected for the state.

For 62 counties we selected projections made with AVE-4, the default technique. In the remaining five counties, we selected projections made with an individual technique or calculated a custom average (e.g., an average of two individual techniques). These include Gadsden, Hardee, Lee, Monroe, and Sumter counties.

In counties with large institutional populations – including university students and state and federal prison inmates – we projected the non-institutional population separately from the institutional population. In the present set of projections, such adjustments were made for Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Calhoun, Columbia, DeSoto, Dixie, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Glades, Gulf, Hamilton, Hardee, Hendry, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Okeechobee, Santa Rosa, Sumter, Suwannee, Taylor, Union, Wakulla, Walton, and Washington counties. In all other counties the projections were made for total population.

#### **Range of County Projections**

The methodology described above was used to construct the medium series of county projections. This is the series we believe will generally provide the most accurate forecasts of future population change. We also constructed a low and a high series, which provide an indication of the uncertainty surrounding the medium county projections. The low and high series were based on analyses of past population forecast errors for counties in Florida, broken down by population size and growth rate. They indicate the range into which approximately three-quarters of future county populations will fall, if the future distribution of forecast errors is similar to the past distribution.

The range between the low and high projections varies based on three factors: a county's population size in 2023 (less than 30,000; 30,000–199,999; and 200,000 or more), rate of population growth between 2013 and 2023 (less than 7.5%; 7.5–15%; 15–30%; and 30% or more), and the length of the projection horizon. Our studies have found that the distribution of absolute percent errors tends to remain relatively stable over time, leading us to believe that the low and high projections provide a reasonable range of errors for most counties. It must be emphasized, however, that the actual future population of any given county could be below the low projection or above the high projection.

For the medium series of projections, the sum of the county projections equals the state projection for each year (except for slight differences due to rounding). However, for the low and the high series, the sum of the county projections does not equal the state projection. The sum of the low projections for counties is lower than the state's low projection and the sum of the high projections for counties is higher than the state's high projection. This occurs because potential variation around the medium projection is greater for counties than for the state.

#### Acknowledgement

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County and State	Estimates April 1, 2023	Projections, April 1						
		2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	
ALACHUA Low Medium High	293,040	282,700 300,800 318,800	285,300 317,000 348,700	284,000 329,300 374,600	280,000 338,400 396,800	274,800 345,600 416,500	269,300 352,000 434,700	
BAKER Low Medium High	28,339	26,900 28,900 31,000	26,700 30,200 33,700	26,400 31,300 36,200	25,800 32,200 38,500	25,200 32,900 40,700	24,500 33,600 42,700	
BAY Low Medium High	187,545	179,600 191,000 202,500	178,800 198,600 218,500	176,900 205,100 233,300	174,100 210,400 246,700	171,000 215,100 259,200	167,800 219,400 270,900	
BRADFORD Low Medium High	27,389	26,000 27,700 29,300	25,400 28,200 31,100	24,700 28,600 32,500	23,900 28,900 33,900	23,200 29,200 35,200	22,600 29,500 36,400	
BREVARD Low Medium High	640,773	618,800 658,300 697,700	625,100 694,600 764,100	625,000 724,600 824,300	619,200 748,300 877,400	610,400 767,700 925,100	600,100 784,500 968,800	
BROWARD Low Medium High	1,973,579	1,906,400 2,006,700 2,107,000	1,899,700 2,076,200 2,252,700	1,876,000 2,125,800 2,375,600	1,842,400 2,161,100 2,479,900	1,806,200 2,189,300 2,572,400	1,771,100 2,213,800 2,656,600	
CALHOUN Low Medium High	13,816	13,000 13,800 14,700	12,500 13,900 15,300	12,000 13,900 15,800	11,500 13,900 16,300	11,100 13,900 16,800	10,700 14,000 17,200	
CHARLOTTE Low Medium High	204,126	198,700 211,300 224,000	204,200 226,900 249,600	207,000 240,000 273,000	207,900 251,300 294,600	208,000 261,600 315,300	206,900 270,500 334,000	
CITRUS Low Medium High	162,240	156,400 166,400 176,400	157,800 175,400 192,900	157,300 182,400 207,500	155,400 187,800 220,200	152,900 192,300 231,800	150,400 196,500 242,700	
CLAY Low Medium High	231,042	224,200 238,500 252,800	229,100 254,500 280,000	231,000 267,900 304,700	229,200 276,900 324,700	225,900 284,200 342,400	222,300 290,600 358,900	
COLLIER Low Medium High	399,480	388,500 413,300 438,100	398,700 443,000 487,300	402,000 466,000 530,100	400,600 484,100 567,600	396,900 499,300 601,700	392,200 512,700 633,200	
COLUMBIA Low Medium High	72,191	69,600 73,300 76,900	69,000 75,400 81,800	68,100 77,100 86,200	67,000 78,600 90,200	65,800 79,800 93,700	64,700 80,900 97,000	
DESOTO Low Medium High	34,974	33,400 35,200 36,900	32,500 35,500 38,500	31,600 35,800 40,000	30,700 36,000 41,300	29,700 36,100 42,400	28,900 36,200 43,400	
DIXIE Low Medium High	17,271	16,500 17,500 18,600	16,200 18,000 19,800	15,900 18,400 20,900	15,500 18,700 21,900	15,000 18,900 22,800	14,700 19,200 23,700	

County and State	Estimates April 1, 2023	Projections, April 1						
		2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	
DUVAL Low Medium High	1,051,278	1,018,200 1,083,200 1,148,200	1,034,800 1,149,800 1,264,700	1,033,400 1,198,100 1,362,900	1,022,700 1,235,900 1,449,000	1,006,000 1,265,400 1,524,800	987,900 1,291,400 1,594,900	
ESCAMBIA Low Medium High	333,452	322,100 339,100 356,000	319,900 349,700 379,400	315,500 357,500 399,500	310,800 364,600 418,400	306,100 371,000 435,900	301,300 376,700 452,000	
FLAGLER Low Medium High	130,756	126,400 137,400 148,400	133,000 152,900 172,700	137,100 166,700 196,300	138,500 178,100 217,800	138,100 187,900 237,700	136,600 196,600 256,500	
FRANKLIN Low Medium High	12,971	12,300 13,300 14,400	12,300 14,100 16,000	12,100 14,700 17,400	11,800 15,200 18,600	11,400 15,500 19,700	11,000 15,900 20,700	
GADSDEN Low Medium High	44,421	42,300 44,500 46,700	40,800 44,600 48,400	39,400 44,700 49,900	38,100 44,700 51,300	37,000 44,800 52,600	35,900 44,800 53,800	
GILCHRIST Low Medium High	19,123	18,200 19,600 21,000	18,200 20,600 23,000	18,100 21,400 24,800	17,700 22,100 26,500	17,400 22,700 28,100	17,000 23,300 29,600	
GLADES Low Medium High	12,591	11,900 12,700 13,500	11,600 12,900 14,200	11,300 13,000 14,800	10,900 13,100 15,400	10,500 13,200 15,900	10,100 13,200 16,400	
GULF Low Medium High	16,323	15,400 16,700 18,000	15,200 17,500 19,800	14,900 18,100 21,300	14,500 18,600 22,800	14,000 19,100 24,100	13,500 19,500 25,400	
HAMILTON Low Medium High	13,671	13,000 13,800 14,600	12,600 14,000 15,400	12,100 14,100 16,000	11,700 14,200 16,600	11,400 14,300 17,200	11,000 14,400 17,800	
HARDEE Low Medium High	25,645	24,100 25,700 27,200	23,200 25,700 28,300	22,200 25,800 29,300	21,400 25,800 30,300	20,600 25,900 31,200	19,800 25,900 32,000	
HENDRY Low Medium High	40,895	39,000 41,500 43,900	38,300 42,600 46,900	37,500 43,400 49,400	36,400 44,000 51,600	35,400 44,500 53,600	34,400 45,000 55,500	
HERNANDO Low Medium High	204,265	197,700 210,300 222,900	200,700 223,000 245,300	201,300 233,400 265,500	199,700 241,300 282,900	196,500 247,100 297,800	193,000 252,200 311,500	
HIGHLANDS Low Medium High	104,385	100,400 105,700 111,000	99,100 108,300 117,500	97,300 110,300 123,300	95,500 112,000 128,500	93,600 113,500 133,300	91,900 114,900 137,900	
HILLSBOROUGH Low Medium High	1,541,531	1,498,300 1,593,900 1,689,600	1,536,100 1,706,800 1,877,400	1,548,400 1,795,300 2,042,200	1,540,000 1,861,000 2,182,100	1,522,300 1,914,900 2,307,400	1,502,000 1,963,400 2,424,800	

County and State	Estimates April 1, 2023	Projections, April 1						
		2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	
HOLMES	19 910							
Low	10,010	18,800	18,100	17,400	16,700	16,100	15,600	
Medium		20,000	20,100	20,200	20,200	20,300	20,300	
High		21,200	22,100	22,900	23,700	24,400	25,100	
INDIAN RIVER	167,781							
Low	- , -	161,000	163,200	162,700	159,800	156,100	152,200	
Medium		173,100	184,400	193,100	199,200	204,100	208,400	
High		185,200	205,600	223,500	238,500	252,000	264,700	
JACKSON	48,982							
Low		46,800	45,600	44,300	43,100	42,000	41,000	
Medium		49,300	49,800	50,300	50,600	50,900	51,200	
High		51,700	54,100	56,200	58,100	59,800	61,400	
JEFFERSON	15,402							
Low		14,700	14,400	14,100	13,700	13,300	13,000	
Medium		15,600	16,000	16,300	16,600	16,800	17,000	
High		16,500	17,600	18,500	19,400	20,200	21,000	
LAFAYETTE	8,074							
Low		7,700	7,600	7,400	7,200	7,000	6,800	
High		8,200	8,400 9 300	8,600	8,700	8,800	8,900	
Ingn		8,700	9,300	9,800	10,200	10,000	11,000	
LAKE	414,749	101.100	422 500	422 700	424 700	422.200	420.400	
LOW Medium		404,400	423,500	432,700	434,700	433,200	430,100	
High		465.300	533,500	594,500	648,700	699.300	748.300	
		103,000	333,300	33 1,300	010,700	000,000	, 10,000	
LEE	800,989	705 700	017 000	004.000	000 400	000 700		
LOW		/85,/00	817,600	831,800	833,100	828,700	822,400	
High		886,000	999,300	1,097,000	1,180,400	1,256,200	1,327,700	
		,		, ,	, ,	, ,	, ,	
LEON	301,724	201 200	200 200	287 800	282 700	270 100	274 600	
Medium		306.600	317,200	326,100	332,700	338,300	343.300	
High		322,000	344,100	364,400	381,800	397,400	412,000	
I EV/V	15 283							
low	43,205	43,500	43,500	43,200	42,500	41,800	41.000	
Medium		46,200	48,300	50,000	51,400	52,500	53,600	
High		49,000	53,200	56,900	60,200	63,300	66,100	
LIBERTY	7.977							
Low	.,	7,500	7,300	7,000	6,800	6,600	6,300	
Medium		8,000	8,100	8,200	8,200	8,300	8,300	
High		8,500	8,900	9,300	9,600	9,900	10,200	
MADISON	18,698							
Low		17,600	16,900	16,300	15,600	15,100	14,500	
Medium		18,700	18,800	18,900	18,900	18,900	19,000	
High		19,900	20,700	21,500	22,200	22,800	23,400	
MANATEE	439,566							
Low		427,300	445,200	455,000	455,900	453,000	448,600	
Niedium		459,500	503,100	540,100	568,100	592,200	614,600	
півн		491,000	561,000	025,100	080,300	/31,500	780,500	
MARION	403,966							
Low		392,100	401,800	406,300	406,800	405,600	402,800	
High		417,100 442 100	446,400 491 000	471,100 535 900	491,700 576 500	614 800	520,500 650 300	
		2,100	-31,000	555,500	3, 0, 300	014,000	030,300	
MARTIN	162,847	155 000	154.000	153.000	150.000	140 000	1 4 2 7 0 0	
Medium		165 700	172 100	153,000 177 400	181 300	140,800 184 700	143,700 187 800	
High		175.700	189.300	201.700	212.600	222.500	232.000	
5		,	,	,	,	,	,	

County and State	Estimates April 1, 2023	Projections, April 1						
		2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	
MIAMI-DADE Low Medium High	2,768,954	2,673,300 2,814,000 2,954,700	2,663,100 2,910,500 3,157,900	2,630,800 2,981,000 3,331,300	2,587,800 3,035,500 3,483,200	2,543,600 3,083,200 3,622,700	2,501,800 3,127,200 3,752,700	
MONROE Low Medium High	84,511	80,300 85,400 90,600	78,400 87,100 95,800	76,000 88,100 100,200	73,300 88,600 103,900	70,700 88,900 107,100	68,100 89,000 110,000	
NASSAU Low Medium High	100,763	97,300 105,700 114,200	101,400 116,600 131,700	103,400 125,700 148,000	103,800 133,500 163,200	102,800 139,900 177,000	101,300 145,800 190,200	
OKALOOSA Low Medium High	219,260	211,400 224,900 238,400	212,900 236,500 260,200	211,500 245,200 278,900	208,500 251,900 295,400	204,700 257,500 310,300	200,600 262,200 323,800	
OKEECHOBEE Low Medium High	39,591	37,800 39,800 41,800	36,600 40,000 43,400	35,500 40,300 45,000	34,500 40,500 46,400	33,500 40,600 47,700	32,600 40,800 48,900	
ORANGE Low Medium High	1,492,951	1,454,400 1,547,200 1,640,000	1,497,700 1,664,100 1,830,500	1,513,900 1,755,300 1,996,600	1,510,700 1,825,600 2,140,500	1,496,500 1,882,400 2,268,300	1,479,200 1,933,600 2,388,000	
OSCEOLA Low Medium High	439,225	436,200 469,000 501,900	470,500 531,600 592,800	490,600 582,300 674,000	500,600 623,800 747,000	505,200 660,500 815,700	507,300 695,000 882,600	
PALM BEACH Low Medium High	1,532,718	1,489,100 1,567,500 1,645,800	1,503,700 1,643,400 1,783,100	1,500,300 1,700,000 1,899,800	1,485,500 1,742,500 1,999,500	1,463,900 1,774,400 2,084,900	1,440,800 1,801,100 2,161,300	
PASCO Low Medium High	610,743	598,400 636,600 674,800	624,100 693,400 762,800	640,000 742,100 844,100	644,400 778,700 913,000	644,100 810,200 976,300	642,200 839,500 1,036,700	
PINELLAS Low Medium High	974,689	943,000 982,200 1,021,500	926,100 995,900 1,065,600	909,600 1,007,800 1,106,100	893,000 1,017,600 1,142,300	877,200 1,025,900 1,174,700	862,600 1,033,000 1,203,500	
POLK Low Medium High	797,616	782,400 832,400 882,300	817,400 908,200 999,000	838,800 972,600 1,106,300	845,700 1,022,000 1,198,400	846,100 1,064,300 1,282,500	844,100 1,103,400 1,362,700	
PUTNAM Low Medium High	75,906	72,600 76,400 80,300	71,000 77,600 84,200	69,000 78,100 87,300	66,900 78,500 90,100	65,100 79,000 92,800	63,500 79,400 95,300	
ST. JOHNS Low Medium High	315,317	313,800 337,400 361,000	341,200 385,500 429,800	359,500 426,700 493,900	368,300 459,000 549,600	372,800 487,300 601,800	375,100 513,900 652,600	
ST. LUCIE Low Medium High	368,628	362,300 385,400 408,600	381,600 423,900 466,300	394,000 456,800 519,600	400,600 484,200 567,700	404,500 508,800 613,100	406,000 530,700 655,400	

County and State	Estimates	Projections, April 1						
	April 1, 2023	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	
SANTA ROSA Low Medium	202,772	198,900 211,600	207,800 230,900	212,100 245,900 270,700	213,400 257,900	213,300 268,300	212,700 278,000 242,400	
півії		224,500	254,000	279,700	302,400	525,400	545,400	
SARASOTA Low Medium High	464,223	450,200 479,000 507,700	459,100 510,100 561,100	462,400 536,100 609,900	462,000 558,300 654,600	457,700 575,700 693,700	452,300 591,200 730,200	
SEMINOLE Low Medium High	486,839	472,500 497,400 522,300	475,900 520,200 564,400	474,000 537,200 600,300	468,600 549,700 630,800	462,100 560,100 658,200	455,200 569,000 682,800	
SUMTER Low Medium High	155,318	153,200 166,500 179,800	165,900 190,700 215,500	173,400 210,900 248,300	176,800 227,400 278,000	178,000 242,200 306,300	178,000 256,100 334,100	
SUWANNEE Low Medium High	45,448	43,900 46,200 48,500	43,600 47,600 51,700	43,000 48,700 54,400	42,200 49,500 56,800	41,500 50,300 59,000	40,800 51,000 61,200	
TAYLOR Low Medium High	21,686	20,600 21,900 23,200	20,000 22,300 24,500	19,500 22,600 25,700	18,900 22,800 26,800	18,300 23,100 27,800	17,800 23,300 28,700	
UNION Low Medium High	16,137	15,300 16,400 17,600	15,000 17,000 18,900	14,700 17,400 20,200	14,300 17,800 21,300	13,800 18,100 22,300	13,400 18,400 23,300	
VOLUSIA Low Medium High	583,505	563,000 598,900 634,900	567,800 630,900 694,000	566,800 657,200 747,600	561,500 678,600 795,600	553,100 695,700 838,300	543,100 709,900 876,700	
WAKULLA Low Medium High	36,168	34,800 37,400 40,000	35,300 39,900 44,500	35,500 42,100 48,700	35,200 43,900 52,500	34,800 45,500 56,200	34,200 46,900 59,500	
WALTON Low Medium High	83,342	81,200 88,300 95,300	85,700 98,500 111,300	87,800 106,700 125,600	88,200 113,400 138,600	87,700 119,300 150,900	86,700 124,800 162,900	
WASHINGTON Low Medium High	25,497	24,300 25,900 27,400	23,900 26,500 29,200	23,400 27,100 30,800	22,800 27,600 32,300	22,200 27,900 33,700	21,600 28,300 34,900	
FLORIDA Low Medium High	22,634,867	22,826,400 23,292,200 23,758,000	23,710,600 24,698,500 25,686,500	24,266,100 25,815,000 27,363,900	24,547,500 26,682,000 28,816,600	24,668,400 27,409,400 30,150,300	24,697,200 28,065,000 31,432,800	

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