

Florida Population Studies

Households and Average Household Size in Florida: April 1, 2024

Stefan Rayer, Population Program Director
Conor Comfort, Research Demographer
Richard Doty, GIS Coordinator/Research Demographer
Suzanne Roulston-Doty, GIS Project Manager/Research Demographer

The Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) at the University of Florida produces population estimates for Florida and each of its cities and counties using the housing unit method. In this method, changes in population are based on changes in occupied housing units (or households), average household size, and the group quarters population. This is the most commonly used method for making local population estimates in the United States, because it can utilize a wide variety of data sources, can be applied at any level of geography, and can produce estimates that are at least as accurate as those produced by any other method.

The two primary components of the housing unit method are the number of households and average household size. In this report, we provide estimates of these two components for Florida and each of its counties for April 1, 2024. For purposes of comparison, we also provide the number of households and average household size for 2010 and 2020, based on decennial census data. We note that Census 2020 only includes average household size at the national and state level; for counties, it had to be estimated. The county average household size values for 2020 shown in this report were derived by dividing the population not in group quarters by the number of occupied housing units.

Households include all the people who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence. According to Census Bureau guidelines, usual residence is defined as the place where a person lives and sleeps most of the time. Because we follow these guidelines, temporary residents such as tourists and snowbirds are not included in the estimates shown here. The number of households is identical to the number of occupied housing units, but differs from the total number of housing units, since the latter also includes vacant and seasonally occupied units.

Households

We estimate that there were 9,142,194 households in Florida on April 1, 2024, an increase of 613,127 (7.2%) since April 1, 2020. All 67 Florida counties were estimated to have gained households between 2020 and 2024. Hillsborough County had the largest increase in households between 2020 and 2024, growing by 38,898. Other large increases occurred in Polk (37,964), Miami-Dade (36,074), Orange (30,062), Duval (28,625), Pasco (28,569), and Lee (28,478) counties. In percentage terms, the largest increases occurred in Sumter (23.5 percent), St. Johns (20.3 percent), Flagler (18.5 percent), St. Lucie (17.4 percent), Walton (17.1 percent), and Gulf (16.2 percent) counties.

(Continued on Page 6)

**Table 1. Number of Households and Average Household Size in Florida
and Its Counties 2024, 2020, and 2010**

| State and County | Estimates, April 1, 2024 | | Census, April 1, 2020 | | Census, April 1, 2010 | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| | Households | Average Household Size | Households | Average Household Size | Households | Average Household Size |
| FLORIDA * | 9,142,194 | 2.46 | 8,529,067 | 2.47 | 7,420,812 | 2.48 |
| Alachua | 119,847 | 2.32 | 112,723 | 2.31 | 100,516 | 2.32 |
| Baker | 9,793 | 2.76 | 9,087 | 2.77 | 8,772 | 2.82 |
| Bay | 78,667 | 2.45 | 70,134 | 2.45 | 68,438 | 2.41 |
| Bradford | 9,796 | 2.53 | 9,462 | 2.53 | 9,479 | 2.53 |
| Brevard | 277,192 | 2.33 | 257,026 | 2.33 | 229,692 | 2.33 |
| Broward | 771,990 | 2.55 | 756,657 | 2.55 | 686,047 | 2.52 |
| Calhoun | 4,997 | 2.47 | 4,784 | 2.48 | 5,061 | 2.52 |
| Charlotte | 97,095 | 2.12 | 85,846 | 2.13 | 73,370 | 2.14 |
| Citrus | 75,244 | 2.17 | 69,438 | 2.17 | 63,304 | 2.20 |
| Clay | 85,782 | 2.72 | 78,939 | 2.73 | 68,792 | 2.76 |
| Collier | 172,350 | 2.34 | 157,921 | 2.35 | 133,179 | 2.38 |
| Columbia | 27,525 | 2.49 | 26,424 | 2.50 | 24,941 | 2.52 |
| DeSoto | 12,590 | 2.56 | 11,941 | 2.58 | 11,445 | 2.71 |
| Dixie | 6,614 | 2.37 | 6,248 | 2.38 | 6,316 | 2.37 |
| Duval | 428,384 | 2.42 | 399,759 | 2.43 | 342,450 | 2.47 |
| Escambia | 134,563 | 2.36 | 128,160 | 2.37 | 116,238 | 2.41 |
| Flagler | 57,418 | 2.36 | 48,450 | 2.36 | 39,186 | 2.42 |
| Franklin | 5,419 | 2.21 | 4,947 | 2.22 | 4,254 | 2.29 |
| Gadsden | 17,308 | 2.47 | 16,806 | 2.48 | 16,952 | 2.61 |
| Gilchrist | 7,185 | 2.57 | 6,551 | 2.57 | 6,121 | 2.58 |
| Glades | 4,534 | 2.38 | 4,250 | 2.40 | 4,533 | 2.52 |
| Gulf | 6,475 | 2.32 | 5,571 | 2.33 | 5,335 | 2.33 |
| Hamilton | 4,858 | 2.45 | 4,690 | 2.47 | 4,617 | 2.54 |
| Hardee | 8,285 | 2.89 | 8,059 | 2.91 | 8,245 | 3.12 |
| Hendry | 14,569 | 2.94 | 12,644 | 2.95 | 12,025 | 3.09 |
| Hernando | 85,945 | 2.42 | 79,773 | 2.41 | 71,745 | 2.38 |
| Highlands | 46,676 | 2.24 | 44,376 | 2.25 | 42,604 | 2.28 |
| Hillsborough | 598,847 | 2.55 | 559,949 | 2.55 | 474,030 | 2.55 |
| Holmes | 7,491 | 2.43 | 7,282 | 2.44 | 7,354 | 2.47 |
| Indian River | 76,266 | 2.22 | 71,177 | 2.22 | 60,176 | 2.26 |
| Jackson | 17,588 | 2.39 | 17,083 | 2.39 | 17,417 | 2.40 |
| Jefferson | 6,149 | 2.31 | 5,816 | 2.32 | 5,646 | 2.38 |
| Lafayette | 2,903 | 2.43 | 2,727 | 2.45 | 2,580 | 2.63 |
| Lake | 177,674 | 2.41 | 156,923 | 2.42 | 121,289 | 2.42 |

Table 1. Number of Households and Average Household Size in Florida and Its Counties 2024, 2020, and 2010 (Continued)

| State and County | Estimates, April 1, 2024 | | Census, April 1, 2020 | | Census, April 1, 2010 | |
|------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| | Households | Average Household Size | Households | Average Household Size | Households | Average Household Size |
| Lee | 346,781 | 2.34 | 318,303 | 2.35 | 259,818 | 2.35 |
| Leon | 125,686 | 2.28 | 121,085 | 2.29 | 110,945 | 2.35 |
| Levy | 19,045 | 2.39 | 17,756 | 2.40 | 16,404 | 2.45 |
| Liberty | 2,600 | 2.43 | 2,491 | 2.45 | 2,525 | 2.57 |
| Madison | 7,217 | 2.35 | 6,877 | 2.36 | 6,985 | 2.48 |
| Manatee | 192,422 | 2.33 | 168,437 | 2.34 | 135,729 | 2.34 |
| Marion | 175,248 | 2.33 | 156,906 | 2.33 | 137,726 | 2.35 |
| Martin | 71,708 | 2.23 | 68,750 | 2.24 | 63,899 | 2.23 |
| Miami-Dade * | 1,003,488 | 2.73 | 967,414 | 2.75 | 867,362 | 2.83 |
| Monroe | 37,113 | 2.24 | 36,436 | 2.25 | 32,629 | 2.18 |
| Nassau | 41,516 | 2.48 | 35,919 | 2.49 | 28,794 | 2.53 |
| Okaloosa | 88,211 | 2.46 | 83,957 | 2.47 | 72,379 | 2.43 |
| Okeechobee | 14,912 | 2.55 | 14,433 | 2.56 | 14,013 | 2.68 |
| Orange | 549,499 | 2.68 | 519,437 | 2.68 | 421,847 | 2.64 |
| Osceola | 150,963 | 2.97 | 130,574 | 2.95 | 90,603 | 2.93 |
| Palm Beach | 629,284 | 2.41 | 607,880 | 2.41 | 544,227 | 2.39 |
| Pasco | 253,783 | 2.46 | 225,214 | 2.46 | 189,612 | 2.42 |
| Pinellas | 448,453 | 2.12 | 442,789 | 2.12 | 415,876 | 2.16 |
| Polk | 310,382 | 2.61 | 272,418 | 2.60 | 227,485 | 2.59 |
| Putnam | 30,824 | 2.43 | 29,569 | 2.44 | 29,409 | 2.48 |
| St. Johns | 125,848 | 2.60 | 104,640 | 2.58 | 75,338 | 2.49 |
| St. Lucie | 151,404 | 2.53 | 128,997 | 2.53 | 108,523 | 2.53 |
| Santa Rosa | 77,211 | 2.62 | 69,454 | 2.62 | 56,910 | 2.59 |
| Sarasota | 221,539 | 2.12 | 200,211 | 2.13 | 175,746 | 2.13 |
| Seminole | 192,551 | 2.53 | 182,420 | 2.55 | 164,706 | 2.55 |
| Sumter | 77,660 | 1.90 | 62,907 | 1.93 | 41,361 | 2.04 |
| Suwannee | 17,376 | 2.49 | 16,385 | 2.49 | 15,953 | 2.52 |
| Taylor | 8,527 | 2.36 | 8,138 | 2.37 | 7,920 | 2.44 |
| Union | 4,462 | 2.65 | 4,271 | 2.66 | 4,048 | 2.66 |
| Volusia | 250,249 | 2.30 | 232,301 | 2.31 | 208,236 | 2.31 |
| Wakulla | 13,636 | 2.52 | 11,970 | 2.54 | 10,490 | 2.61 |
| Walton | 35,098 | 2.43 | 29,981 | 2.43 | 22,301 | 2.38 |
| Washington | 9,479 | 2.51 | 9,124 | 2.51 | 8,864 | 2.50 |

* Includes Census corrections as of February 11, 2014

Table 2. Change in Households and Average Household Size in Florida and Its Counties, 2020–2024 and 2010–2020

| State and County | Numerical Change | | | | Percentage Change | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------|------------------------|---------|-------------------|---------|------------------------|---------|
| | Households | | Average Household Size | | Households | | Average Household Size | |
| | 2020–24 | 2010–20 | 2020–24 | 2010–20 | 2020–24 | 2010–20 | 2020–24 | 2010–20 |
| FLORIDA * | 613,127 | 1,108,255 | -0.01 | -0.01 | 7.2 | 14.9 | -0.4 | -0.4 |
| Alachua | 7,124 | 12,207 | 0.01 | -0.01 | 6.3 | 12.1 | 0.4 | -0.4 |
| Baker | 706 | 315 | -0.01 | -0.05 | 7.8 | 3.6 | -0.4 | -1.8 |
| Bay | 8,533 | 1,696 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 12.2 | 2.5 | 0.0 | 1.7 |
| Bradford | 334 | -17 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 3.5 | -0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Brevard | 20,166 | 27,334 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 7.8 | 11.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Broward | 15,333 | 70,610 | 0.00 | 0.03 | 2.0 | 10.3 | 0.0 | 1.2 |
| Calhoun | 213 | -277 | -0.01 | -0.04 | 4.5 | -5.5 | -0.4 | -1.6 |
| Charlotte | 11,249 | 12,476 | -0.01 | -0.01 | 13.1 | 17.0 | -0.5 | -0.5 |
| Citrus | 5,806 | 6,134 | 0.00 | -0.03 | 8.4 | 9.7 | 0.0 | -1.4 |
| Clay | 6,843 | 10,147 | -0.01 | -0.03 | 8.7 | 14.8 | -0.4 | -1.1 |
| Collier | 14,429 | 24,742 | -0.01 | -0.03 | 9.1 | 18.6 | -0.4 | -1.3 |
| Columbia | 1,101 | 1,483 | -0.01 | -0.02 | 4.2 | 5.9 | -0.4 | -0.8 |
| DeSoto | 649 | 496 | -0.02 | -0.13 | 5.4 | 4.3 | -0.8 | -4.8 |
| Dixie | 366 | -68 | -0.01 | 0.01 | 5.9 | -1.1 | -0.4 | 0.4 |
| Duval | 28,625 | 57,309 | -0.01 | -0.04 | 7.2 | 16.7 | -0.4 | -1.6 |
| Escambia | 6,403 | 11,922 | -0.01 | -0.04 | 5.0 | 10.3 | -0.4 | -1.7 |
| Flagler | 8,968 | 9,264 | 0.00 | -0.06 | 18.5 | 23.6 | 0.0 | -2.5 |
| Franklin | 472 | 693 | -0.01 | -0.07 | 9.5 | 16.3 | -0.5 | -3.1 |
| Gadsden | 502 | -146 | -0.01 | -0.13 | 3.0 | -0.9 | -0.4 | -5.0 |
| Gilchrist | 634 | 430 | 0.00 | -0.01 | 9.7 | 7.0 | 0.0 | -0.4 |
| Glades | 284 | -283 | -0.02 | -0.12 | 6.7 | -6.2 | -0.8 | -4.8 |
| Gulf | 904 | 236 | -0.01 | 0.00 | 16.2 | 4.4 | -0.4 | 0.0 |
| Hamilton | 168 | 73 | -0.02 | -0.07 | 3.6 | 1.6 | -0.8 | -2.8 |
| Hardee | 226 | -186 | -0.02 | -0.21 | 2.8 | -2.3 | -0.7 | -6.7 |
| Hendry | 1,925 | 619 | -0.01 | -0.14 | 15.2 | 5.1 | -0.3 | -4.5 |
| Hernando | 6,172 | 8,028 | 0.01 | 0.03 | 7.7 | 11.2 | 0.4 | 1.3 |
| Highlands | 2,300 | 1,772 | -0.01 | -0.03 | 5.2 | 4.2 | -0.4 | -1.3 |
| Hillsborough | 38,898 | 85,919 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 6.9 | 18.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Holmes | 209 | -72 | -0.01 | -0.03 | 2.9 | -1.0 | -0.4 | -1.2 |
| Indian River | 5,089 | 11,001 | 0.00 | -0.04 | 7.1 | 18.3 | 0.0 | -1.8 |
| Jackson | 505 | -334 | 0.00 | -0.01 | 3.0 | -1.9 | 0.0 | -0.4 |
| Jefferson | 333 | 170 | -0.01 | -0.06 | 5.7 | 3.0 | -0.4 | -2.5 |
| Lafayette | 176 | 147 | -0.02 | -0.18 | 6.5 | 5.7 | -0.8 | -6.8 |
| Lake | 20,751 | 35,634 | -0.01 | 0.00 | 13.2 | 29.4 | -0.4 | 0.0 |

Table 2. Change in Households and Average Household Size in Florida and Its Counties, 2020–2024 and 2010–2020 (Continued)

| State and County | Numerical Change | | | | Percentage Change | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|---------|------------------------|---------|-------------------|---------|------------------------|---------|
| | Households | | Average Household Size | | Households | | Average Household Size | |
| | 2020–24 | 2010–20 | 2020–24 | 2010–20 | 2020–24 | 2010–20 | 2020–24 | 2010–20 |
| Lee | 28,478 | 58,485 | -0.01 | 0.00 | 8.9 | 22.5 | -0.4 | 0.0 |
| Leon | 4,601 | 10,140 | -0.01 | -0.06 | 3.8 | 9.1 | -0.4 | -2.6 |
| Levy | 1,289 | 1,352 | -0.01 | -0.05 | 7.3 | 8.2 | -0.4 | -2.0 |
| Liberty | 109 | -34 | -0.02 | -0.12 | 4.4 | -1.3 | -0.8 | -4.7 |
| Madison | 340 | -108 | -0.01 | -0.12 | 4.9 | -1.5 | -0.4 | -4.8 |
| Manatee | 23,985 | 32,708 | -0.01 | 0.00 | 14.2 | 24.1 | -0.4 | 0.0 |
| Marion | 18,342 | 19,180 | 0.00 | -0.02 | 11.7 | 13.9 | 0.0 | -0.9 |
| Martin | 2,958 | 4,851 | -0.01 | 0.01 | 4.3 | 7.6 | -0.4 | 0.4 |
| Miami-Dade * | 36,074 | 100,052 | -0.02 | -0.08 | 3.7 | 11.5 | -0.7 | -2.8 |
| Monroe | 677 | 3,807 | -0.01 | 0.07 | 1.9 | 11.7 | -0.4 | 3.2 |
| Nassau | 5,597 | 7,125 | -0.01 | -0.04 | 15.6 | 24.7 | -0.4 | -1.6 |
| Okaloosa | 4,254 | 11,578 | -0.01 | 0.04 | 5.1 | 16.0 | -0.4 | 1.6 |
| Okeechobee | 479 | 420 | -0.01 | -0.12 | 3.3 | 3.0 | -0.4 | -4.5 |
| Orange | 30,062 | 97,590 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 5.8 | 23.1 | 0.0 | 1.5 |
| Osceola | 20,389 | 39,971 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 15.6 | 44.1 | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| Palm Beach | 21,404 | 63,653 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 3.5 | 11.7 | 0.0 | 0.8 |
| Pasco | 28,569 | 35,602 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 12.7 | 18.8 | 0.0 | 1.7 |
| Pinellas | 5,664 | 26,913 | 0.00 | -0.04 | 1.3 | 6.5 | 0.0 | -1.9 |
| Polk | 37,964 | 44,933 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 13.9 | 19.8 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Putnam | 1,255 | 160 | -0.01 | -0.04 | 4.2 | 0.5 | -0.4 | -1.6 |
| St. Johns | 21,208 | 29,302 | 0.02 | 0.09 | 20.3 | 38.9 | 0.8 | 3.6 |
| St. Lucie | 22,407 | 20,474 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 17.4 | 18.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Santa Rosa | 7,757 | 12,544 | 0.00 | 0.03 | 11.2 | 22.0 | 0.0 | 1.2 |
| Sarasota | 21,328 | 24,465 | -0.01 | 0.00 | 10.7 | 13.9 | -0.5 | 0.0 |
| Seminole | 10,131 | 17,714 | -0.02 | 0.00 | 5.6 | 10.8 | -0.8 | 0.0 |
| Sumter | 14,753 | 21,546 | -0.03 | -0.11 | 23.5 | 52.1 | -1.6 | -5.4 |
| Suwannee | 991 | 432 | 0.00 | -0.03 | 6.0 | 2.7 | 0.0 | -1.2 |
| Taylor | 389 | 218 | -0.01 | -0.07 | 4.8 | 2.8 | -0.4 | -2.9 |
| Union | 191 | 223 | -0.01 | 0.00 | 4.5 | 5.5 | -0.4 | 0.0 |
| Volusia | 17,948 | 24,065 | -0.01 | 0.00 | 7.7 | 11.6 | -0.4 | 0.0 |
| Wakulla | 1,666 | 1,480 | -0.02 | -0.07 | 13.9 | 14.1 | -0.8 | -2.7 |
| Walton | 5,117 | 7,680 | 0.00 | 0.05 | 17.1 | 34.4 | 0.0 | 2.1 |
| Washington | 355 | 260 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 3.9 | 2.9 | 0.0 | 0.4 |

* Includes Census corrections as of February 11, 2014

Average Household Size

According to our estimates, average household size has changed only very slightly since 2020 in most counties. For the state overall, it has decreased very slightly from 2.47 in 2020 to 2.46 in 2024. Average household size varies considerably among counties in Florida. In 2024, it was largest in Osceola (2.97), Hendry (2.94), Hardee (2.89), Baker (2.76), Miami-Dade (2.73), Clay (2.72), and Orange (2.68) counties and smallest in Sumter (1.90), Pinellas (2.12), Sarasota (2.12), Charlotte (2.12), Citrus (2.17), Franklin (2.21), and Indian River (2.22) counties.

In general, average household size tends to be higher for Black than White households, for Hispanic than non-Hispanic households, and for households headed by young or middle-aged persons than for households headed by older persons. Although there is not a perfect correlation, the counties in Florida with the largest average household sizes tend to have low proportions of older residents and high proportions of Black or Hispanic residents, whereas counties with the smallest average household sizes tend to have high proportions of older residents and low proportions of Black and Hispanic residents.

Methodology

Estimates of the number of households for each county were constructed by dividing the population in households by average household size. The population in households equals the total population minus the population in group quarters. There are many different types of group quarters, both institutional and non-institutional. We differentiated between inmates in federal and state correctional facilities and persons in all other types of group quarters. Inmate counts for federal and state correctional facilities are available for April 1, 2024 from the Federal Bureau of Prisons and the Florida Department of Corrections. These were used to calculate the proportion of federal and state inmates out of the total population for 2024. For persons in other types of group quarters, we assumed their proportion of the total population to be the same as in 2020 in each

county. Adding the proportions of federal and state inmates to the proportions of persons in all other types of group quarters gives us the overall proportion of the group quarters population out of the total population for April 1, 2024. Subtracting that proportion from the total population provides estimates of the population in households. Estimates of the number of households for counties were added up to yield an estimate of the number of households for the state. From this number we calculated average household size for Florida.

Similar to last year, this year's estimates of the number of households and average household size are based on a simplified trend model. This was done because the detailed demographic data required for the headship rate model that has been used in the past have not yet been released from Census 2020. We also looked at trends in average household size from the American Community Survey (ACS). The most recent 1-year ACS data for 2023 are only available for the larger counties. In a number of counties, we made small adjustments to average household size based on the ACS data. In addition, the model included one minor global adjustment, which reduced the estimated average household size value of each county by about 0.05%. This adjustment ensured that the number of households for all counties was consistent with the number of households for the state on April 1, 2024 – as estimated by the most recent Demographic Estimating Conference (DEC) held July 9, 2024. We note that the July 9, 2024, DEC used a preliminary population estimate for April 1, 2024. The final estimate of Florida's population for 2024 was higher by about 12,000 persons. We raised the household estimate for April 1, 2024, accordingly, assuming the same population to household ratio as at the July 9, 2024, DEC.

Acknowledgement

Funding for these estimates was provided by the Florida Legislature.

Copyright © 2024 by the University of Florida.