

Changes in Florida's Population and Housing by County, 2000–2010

Stanley K. Smith, Director
Scott Cody, Research Demographer

The 2010 census provided a great deal of up-to-date information on Florida's population and housing. In this report, we provide an overview of 2010 census data for the state and each of its counties. We also present data for 2000 and calculate changes in population and housing over the course of the past decade. All data refer to April 1 of the census year.

Census data include all permanent residents of a given locality but exclude seasonal and other part-time residents. According to Census Bureau definitions, a person is classified as a permanent resident of his or her usual place of residence, which is generally construed to mean the place where that person lives and sleeps most of the time. This place is not necessarily the same as one's legal residence or voting residence. All the population data in this report refer solely to the permanent resident population of Florida and its counties.

A housing unit is a house, apartment, mobile home, group of rooms, or a single room occupied as a separate living quarters, or if vacant, intended for occupancy as a separate living quarters. The census attempts to count all housing units regardless of ownership or occupancy status. However, units are classified as occupied only if they are occupied by permanent residents. As a result, units occupied by seasonal and other part-time residents are listed as vacant even though they may be occupied by non-permanent residents. This has a substantial impact on occupancy rates in Florida because the state has a large number of second homes and other seasonal units.

Permanent residents may live in either housing units and group quarters facilities. Housing units occupied by permanent residents are called "households." Some households are occupied by families, some by several unrelated individuals, and some by a single person. Group quarters

include institutional facilities such as prisons or nursing homes and non-institutional facilities such as college dormitories, military barracks, rooming houses, missions, and shelters. All permanent residents are classified as belonging to one of these two types of living arrangements.

Population

Florida's population grew by more than 2.8 million between 2000 and 2010, an increase of 17.6%. The numeric increase was the third largest among the 50 states (trailing only Texas and California) and the percent increase was the eighth largest. Sixty-five of Florida's counties gained population during the decade, with four growing by more than 50% and another twenty growing by at least 20%. Only two counties lost population between 2000 and 2010.

Florida had five counties with more than a million residents in 2010. Miami-Dade was the largest with almost 2.5 million residents, followed by Broward, Palm Beach, Hillsborough, and Orange. Twenty-eight other counties had more than 100,000 residents. Only two counties had fewer than 10,000 residents.

Orange County grew by almost 250,000 residents between 2000 and 2010, the largest increase of any county in Florida. Miami-Dade, Hillsborough, Palm Beach, Lee, Broward, Pasco, and Polk also grew by more than 100,000. At the other end of the spectrum, Hardee and Madison grew by fewer than 1,000 residents and Pinellas and Monroe each lost population during the decade.

Flagler, Sumter, Osceola, and St. Johns each grew by more than 50% between 2000 and 2010. Twenty other counties grew by more than 20% and a total of 52 grew by more than the national growth rate of 9.7%. Six counties grew by less than 5%, including two that lost population.

(Continued on back page)

Table 1. Total, Household, and Group Quarters (GQ) Population in Florida and Its Counties, 2000 and 2010

State and County	Total Population			Household Population			GQ Population		
	2010	2000	Change	2010	2000	Change	2010	2000	Change
FLORIDA	18,801,310	15,982,824	2,818,486	18,379,601	15,593,879	2,785,722	421,709	388,945	32,764
Alachua	247,336	217,955	29,381	233,416	205,107	28,309	13,920	12,848	1,072
Baker	27,115	22,259	4,856	24,771	20,154	4,617	2,344	2,105	239
Bay	168,852	148,217	20,635	165,035	144,873	20,162	3,817	3,344	473
Bradford	28,520	26,088	2,432	24,028	21,933	2,095	4,492	4,155	337
Brevard	543,376	476,230	67,146	535,641	466,535	69,106	7,735	9,695	-1,960
Broward	1,748,066	1,623,018	125,048	1,731,174	1,603,094	128,080	16,892	19,924	-3,032
Calhoun	14,625	13,017	1,608	12,734	11,297	1,437	1,891	1,720	171
Charlotte	159,978	141,627	18,351	156,966	139,035	17,931	3,012	2,592	420
Citrus	141,236	118,085	23,151	138,985	115,924	23,061	2,251	2,161	90
Clay	190,865	140,814	50,051	189,614	139,247	50,367	1,251	1,567	-316
Collier	321,520	251,377	70,143	316,974	246,587	70,387	4,546	4,790	-244
Columbia	67,531	56,513	11,018	62,925	53,586	9,339	4,606	2,927	1,679
DeSoto	34,862	32,209	2,653	31,064	28,980	2,084	3,798	3,229	569
Dixie	16,422	13,827	2,595	14,992	12,720	2,272	1,430	1,107	323
Duval	864,263	778,879	85,384	844,278	763,204	81,074	19,985	15,675	4,310
Escambia	297,619	294,410	3,209	279,660	272,444	7,216	17,959	21,966	-4,007
Flagler	95,696	49,832	45,864	95,012	49,370	45,642	684	462	222
Franklin	11,549	9,829	1,720	9,721	9,339	382	1,828	490	1,338
Gadsden	46,389	45,087	1,302	44,228	42,665	1,563	2,161	2,422	-261
Gilchrist	16,939	14,437	2,502	15,811	13,116	2,695	1,128	1,321	-193
Glades	12,884	10,576	2,308	11,401	9,666	1,735	1,483	910	573
Gulf	15,863	14,560	1,303	12,413	11,935	478	3,450	2,625	825
Hamilton	14,799	13,327	1,472	11,735	10,826	909	3,064	2,501	563
Hardee	27,731	26,938	793	25,747	25,019	728	1,984	1,919	65
Hendry	39,140	36,210	2,930	37,198	33,488	3,710	1,942	2,722	-780
Hernando	172,778	130,802	41,976	170,950	128,693	42,257	1,828	2,109	-281
Highlands	98,786	87,366	11,420	97,053	86,047	11,006	1,733	1,319	414
Hillsborough	1,229,226	998,948	230,278	1,207,161	981,521	225,640	22,065	17,427	4,638
Holmes	19,927	18,564	1,363	18,195	16,845	1,350	1,732	1,719	13
Indian River	138,028	112,947	25,081	136,234	110,650	25,584	1,794	2,297	-503
Jackson	49,746	46,755	2,991	41,752	40,561	1,191	7,994	6,194	1,800
Jefferson	14,761	12,902	1,859	13,422	11,868	1,554	1,339	1,034	305
Lafayette	8,870	7,022	1,848	6,776	5,700	1,076	2,094	1,322	772

Table 1. Total, Household, and Group Quarters (GQ) Population in Florida and Its Counties, 2000 and 2010 (Continued)

State and County	Total Population			Household Population			GQ Population		
	2010	2000	Change	2010	2000	Change	2010	2000	Change
Lake	297,052	210,527	86,525	293,065	206,760	86,305	3,987	3,767	220
Lee	618,754	440,888	177,866	610,266	435,271	174,995	8,488	5,617	2,871
Leon	275,487	239,452	36,035	260,493	225,858	34,635	14,994	13,594	1,400
Levy	40,801	34,450	6,351	40,166	33,833	6,333	635	617	18
Liberty	8,365	7,021	1,344	6,483	5,578	905	1,882	1,443	439
Madison	19,224	18,733	491	17,291	17,032	259	1,933	1,701	232
Manatee	322,833	264,002	58,831	318,016	257,997	60,019	4,817	6,005	-1,188
Marion	331,298	258,916	72,382	323,059	252,035	71,024	8,239	6,881	1,358
Martin	146,318	126,731	19,587	142,385	123,375	19,010	3,933	3,356	577
Miami-Dade	2,496,435	2,253,779	242,656	2,456,378	2,207,808	248,570	40,057	45,971	-5,914
Monroe	73,090	79,589	-6,499	71,070	78,227	-7,157	2,020	1,362	658
Nassau	73,314	57,663	15,651	72,771	56,976	15,795	543	687	-144
Okaloosa	180,822	170,498	10,324	175,939	164,991	10,948	4,883	5,507	-624
Okeechobee	39,996	35,910	4,086	37,493	33,815	3,678	2,503	2,095	408
Orange	1,145,956	896,344	249,612	1,112,252	877,513	234,739	33,704	18,831	14,873
Osceola	268,685	172,493	96,192	265,423	170,093	95,330	3,262	2,400	862
Palm Beach	1,320,134	1,131,191	188,943	1,300,162	1,111,863	188,299	19,972	19,328	644
Pasco	464,697	344,768	119,929	459,023	339,396	119,627	5,674	5,372	302
Pinellas	916,542	921,495	-4,953	896,864	898,584	-1,720	19,678	22,911	-3,233
Polk	602,095	483,924	118,171	589,834	471,378	118,456	12,261	12,546	-285
Putnam	74,364	70,423	3,941	72,957	69,025	3,932	1,407	1,398	9
St. Johns	190,039	123,135	66,904	187,241	120,942	66,299	2,798	2,193	605
St. Lucie	277,789	192,695	85,094	274,736	189,983	84,753	3,053	2,712	341
Santa Rosa	151,372	117,743	33,629	147,128	115,191	31,937	4,244	2,552	1,692
Sarasota	379,448	325,961	53,487	373,826	319,488	54,338	5,622	6,473	-851
Seminole	422,718	365,199	57,519	419,203	361,593	57,610	3,515	3,606	-91
Sumter	93,420	53,345	40,075	84,468	47,078	37,390	8,952	6,267	2,685
Suwannee	41,551	34,844	6,707	40,158	34,179	5,979	1,393	665	728
Taylor	22,570	19,256	3,314	19,316	18,039	1,277	3,254	1,217	2,037
Union	15,535	13,442	2,093	10,757	9,294	1,463	4,778	4,148	630
Volusia	494,593	443,343	51,250	481,784	428,606	53,178	12,809	14,737	-1,928
Wakulla	30,776	22,863	7,913	27,348	21,719	5,629	3,428	1,144	2,284
Walton	55,043	40,601	14,442	52,978	38,806	14,172	2,065	1,795	270
Washington	24,896	20,973	3,923	22,202	19,524	2,678	2,694	1,449	1,245

Table 2. Total Housing Units, Occupied Housing Units, and Occupancy Rates in Florida and Its Counties, 2000 and 2010

State and County	Total Housing Units			Occupied Housing Units			Occupancy Rates		
	2010	2000	Change	2010	2000	Change	2010	2000	Change
FLORIDA	8,989,580	7,303,108	1,686,472	7,420,802	6,338,075	1,082,727	82.5	86.8	-4.3
Alachua	112,766	95,113	17,653	100,516	87,509	13,007	89.1	92.0	-2.9
Baker	9,687	7,592	2,095	8,772	7,043	1,729	90.6	92.8	-2.2
Bay	99,650	78,435	21,215	68,438	59,597	8,841	68.7	76.0	-7.3
Bradford	11,011	9,605	1,406	9,479	8,497	982	86.1	88.5	-2.4
Brevard	269,864	222,072	47,792	229,692	198,195	31,497	85.1	89.2	-4.1
Broward	810,388	741,043	69,345	686,047	654,445	31,602	84.7	88.3	-3.6
Calhoun	5,999	5,250	749	5,061	4,468	593	84.4	85.1	-0.7
Charlotte	100,632	79,758	20,874	73,370	63,864	9,506	72.9	80.1	-7.2
Citrus	78,026	62,204	15,822	63,304	52,634	10,670	81.1	84.6	-3.5
Clay	75,478	53,748	21,730	68,792	50,243	18,549	91.1	93.5	-2.4
Collier	197,298	144,536	52,762	133,179	102,973	30,206	67.5	71.2	-3.7
Columbia	28,636	23,579	5,057	24,941	20,925	4,016	87.1	88.7	-1.6
DeSoto	14,590	13,608	982	11,445	10,746	699	78.4	79.0	-0.6
Dixie	9,319	7,362	1,957	6,316	5,205	1,111	67.8	70.7	-2.9
Duval	388,486	329,778	58,708	342,450	303,747	38,703	88.1	92.1	-4.0
Escambia	136,703	124,647	12,056	116,238	111,049	5,189	85.0	89.1	-4.1
Flagler	48,595	24,452	24,143	39,186	21,294	17,892	80.6	87.1	-6.5
Franklin	8,652	7,180	1,472	4,254	4,096	158	49.2	57.0	-7.8
Gadsden	19,506	17,703	1,803	16,952	15,867	1,085	86.9	89.6	-2.7
Gilchrist	7,307	5,906	1,401	6,121	5,021	1,100	83.8	85.0	-1.2
Glades	6,979	5,790	1,189	4,533	3,852	681	65.0	66.5	-1.5
Gulf	9,110	7,587	1,523	5,335	4,931	404	58.6	65.0	-6.4
Hamilton	5,778	4,966	812	4,617	4,161	456	79.9	83.8	-3.9
Hardee	9,722	9,820	-98	8,245	8,166	79	84.8	83.2	1.6
Hendry	14,564	12,294	2,270	12,025	10,850	1,175	82.6	88.3	-5.7
Hernando	84,504	62,727	21,777	71,745	55,425	16,320	84.9	88.4	-3.5
Highlands	55,386	48,846	6,540	42,604	37,471	5,133	76.9	76.7	0.2
Hillsborough	536,092	425,962	110,130	474,030	391,357	82,673	88.4	91.9	-3.5
Holmes	8,641	7,998	643	7,354	6,921	433	85.1	86.5	-1.4
Indian River	76,346	57,902	18,444	60,176	49,137	11,039	78.8	84.9	-6.1
Jackson	21,003	19,490	1,513	17,417	16,620	797	82.9	85.3	-2.4
Jefferson	6,632	5,251	1,381	5,646	4,695	951	85.1	89.4	-4.3
Lafayette	3,328	2,660	668	2,580	2,142	438	77.5	80.5	-3.0

Table 2. Total Housing Units, Occupied Housing Units, and Occupancy Rates in Florida and Its Counties, 2000 and 2010 (Continued)

State and County	Total Housing Units			Occupied Housing Units			Occupancy Rates		
	2010	2000	Change	2010	2000	Change	2010	2000	Change
Lake	144,996	102,829	42,167	121,289	88,412	32,877	83.6	86.0	-2.4
Lee	371,099	245,405	125,694	259,818	188,599	71,219	70.0	76.9	-6.9
Leon	124,136	103,974	20,162	110,945	96,521	14,424	89.4	92.8	-3.4
Levy	20,123	16,570	3,553	16,404	13,867	2,537	81.5	83.7	-2.2
Liberty	3,357	3,156	201	2,525	2,222	303	75.2	70.4	4.8
Madison	8,481	7,836	645	6,985	6,629	356	82.4	84.6	-2.2
Manatee	172,690	138,128	34,562	135,729	112,460	23,269	78.6	81.4	-2.8
Marion	164,050	122,663	41,387	137,726	106,755	30,971	84.0	87.0	-3.0
Martin	78,131	65,471	12,660	63,899	55,288	8,611	81.8	84.4	-2.6
Miami-Dade	989,435	852,414	137,021	867,352	776,906	90,446	87.7	91.1	-3.4
Monroe	52,764	51,617	1,147	32,629	35,086	-2,457	61.8	68.0	-6.2
Nassau	35,009	25,917	9,092	28,794	21,980	6,814	82.2	84.8	-2.6
Okaloosa	92,407	78,593	13,814	72,379	66,269	6,110	78.3	84.3	-6.0
Okeechobee	18,509	15,504	3,005	14,013	12,593	1,420	75.7	81.2	-5.5
Orange	487,839	361,349	126,490	421,847	336,286	85,561	86.5	93.1	-6.6
Osceola	128,170	72,293	55,877	90,603	60,977	29,626	70.7	84.3	-13.6
Palm Beach	664,594	556,433	108,161	544,227	474,179	70,048	81.9	85.2	-3.3
Pasco	228,928	173,719	55,209	189,612	147,567	42,045	82.8	84.9	-2.1
Pinellas	503,634	481,587	22,047	415,876	414,974	902	82.6	86.2	-3.6
Polk	281,214	226,376	54,838	227,485	187,233	40,252	80.9	82.7	-1.8
Putnam	37,337	33,870	3,467	29,409	27,839	1,570	78.8	82.2	-3.4
St. Johns	89,830	58,008	31,822	75,338	49,614	25,724	83.9	85.5	-1.6
St. Lucie	137,029	91,262	45,767	108,523	76,933	31,590	79.2	84.3	-5.1
Santa Rosa	64,760	49,119	15,641	56,910	43,793	13,117	87.9	89.2	-1.3
Sarasota	228,413	182,471	45,942	175,746	149,940	25,806	76.9	82.2	-5.3
Seminole	181,307	147,080	34,227	164,706	139,573	25,133	90.8	94.9	-4.1
Sumter	53,026	25,195	27,831	41,361	20,779	20,582	78.0	82.5	-4.5
Suwannee	19,164	15,679	3,485	15,953	13,460	2,493	83.2	85.8	-2.6
Taylor	11,004	9,646	1,358	7,920	7,176	744	72.0	74.4	-2.4
Union	4,508	3,736	772	4,048	3,367	681	89.8	90.1	-0.3
Volusia	254,226	211,938	42,288	208,236	184,723	23,513	81.9	87.2	-5.3
Wakulla	12,804	9,820	2,984	10,490	8,450	2,040	81.9	86.0	-4.1
Walton	45,132	29,083	16,049	22,301	16,548	5,753	49.4	56.9	-7.5
Washington	10,796	9,503	1,293	8,864	7,931	933	82.1	83.5	-1.4

Table 3. Number of Households and Average Household Size in Florida and Its Counties, 2000 and 2010

State and County	Households			Average Household Size		
	2010	2000	Change	2010	2000	Change
FLORIDA	7,420,802	6,338,075	1,082,727	2.48	2.46	0.02
Alachua	100,516	87,509	13,007	2.32	2.34	-0.02
Baker	8,772	7,043	1,729	2.82	2.86	-0.04
Bay	68,438	59,597	8,841	2.41	2.43	-0.02
Bradford	9,479	8,497	982	2.53	2.58	-0.05
Brevard	229,692	198,195	31,497	2.33	2.35	-0.02
Broward	686,047	654,445	31,602	2.52	2.45	0.07
Calhoun	5,061	4,468	593	2.52	2.53	-0.01
Charlotte	73,370	63,864	9,506	2.14	2.18	-0.04
Citrus	63,304	52,634	10,670	2.20	2.20	0.00
Clay	68,792	50,243	18,549	2.76	2.77	-0.01
Collier	133,179	102,973	30,206	2.38	2.39	-0.01
Columbia	24,941	20,925	4,016	2.52	2.56	-0.04
DeSoto	11,445	10,746	699	2.71	2.70	0.01
Dixie	6,316	5,205	1,111	2.37	2.44	-0.07
Duval	342,450	303,747	38,703	2.47	2.51	-0.04
Escambia	116,238	111,049	5,189	2.41	2.45	-0.04
Flagler	39,186	21,294	17,892	2.42	2.32	0.10
Franklin	4,254	4,096	158	2.29	2.28	0.01
Gadsden	16,952	15,867	1,085	2.61	2.69	-0.08
Gilchrist	6,121	5,021	1,100	2.58	2.61	-0.03
Glades	4,533	3,852	681	2.52	2.51	0.01
Gulf	5,335	4,931	404	2.33	2.42	-0.09
Hamilton	4,617	4,161	456	2.54	2.60	-0.06
Hardee	8,245	8,166	79	3.12	3.06	0.06
Hendry	12,025	10,850	1,175	3.09	3.09	0.00
Hernando	71,745	55,425	16,320	2.38	2.32	0.06
Highlands	42,604	37,471	5,133	2.28	2.30	-0.02
Hillsborough	474,030	391,357	82,673	2.55	2.51	0.04
Holmes	7,354	6,921	433	2.47	2.43	0.04
Indian River	60,176	49,137	11,039	2.26	2.25	0.01
Jackson	17,417	16,620	797	2.40	2.44	-0.04
Jefferson	5,646	4,695	951	2.38	2.53	-0.15
Lafayette	2,580	2,142	438	2.63	2.66	-0.03

Table 3. Number of Households and Average Household Size in Florida and Its Counties, 2000 and 2010 (Continued)

State and County	Households			Average Household Size		
	2010	2000	Change	2010	2000	Change
Lake	121,289	88,412	32,877	2.42	2.34	0.08
Lee	259,818	188,599	71,219	2.35	2.31	0.04
Leon	110,945	96,521	14,424	2.35	2.34	0.01
Levy	16,404	13,867	2,537	2.45	2.44	0.01
Liberty	2,525	2,222	303	2.57	2.51	0.06
Madison	6,985	6,629	356	2.48	2.57	-0.09
Manatee	135,729	112,460	23,269	2.34	2.29	0.05
Marion	137,726	106,755	30,971	2.35	2.36	-0.01
Martin	63,899	55,288	8,611	2.23	2.23	0.00
Miami-Dade	867,352	776,906	90,446	2.83	2.84	-0.01
Monroe	32,629	35,086	-2,457	2.18	2.23	-0.05
Nassau	28,794	21,980	6,814	2.53	2.59	-0.06
Okaloosa	72,379	66,269	6,110	2.43	2.49	-0.06
Okeechobee	14,013	12,593	1,420	2.68	2.69	-0.01
Orange	421,847	336,286	85,561	2.64	2.61	0.03
Osceola	90,603	60,977	29,626	2.93	2.79	0.14
Palm Beach	544,227	474,179	70,048	2.39	2.34	0.05
Pasco	189,612	147,567	42,045	2.42	2.30	0.12
Pinellas	415,876	414,974	902	2.16	2.17	-0.01
Polk	227,485	187,233	40,252	2.59	2.52	0.07
Putnam	29,409	27,839	1,570	2.48	2.48	0.00
St. Johns	75,338	49,614	25,724	2.49	2.44	0.05
St. Lucie	108,523	76,933	31,590	2.53	2.47	0.06
Santa Rosa	56,910	43,793	13,117	2.59	2.63	-0.04
Sarasota	175,746	149,940	25,806	2.13	2.13	0.00
Seminole	164,706	139,573	25,133	2.55	2.59	-0.04
Sumter	41,361	20,779	20,582	2.04	2.27	-0.23
Suwannee	15,953	13,460	2,493	2.52	2.54	-0.02
Taylor	7,920	7,176	744	2.44	2.51	-0.07
Union	4,048	3,367	681	2.66	2.76	-0.10
Volusia	208,236	184,723	23,513	2.31	2.32	-0.01
Wakulla	10,490	8,450	2,040	2.61	2.57	0.04
Walton	22,301	16,548	5,753	2.38	2.35	0.03
Washington	8,864	7,931	933	2.50	2.46	0.04

At the state level, almost 99% of population growth was due to increases in the household population. In several counties, however, changes in the group quarters population were significant. Increases in the group quarters population were larger than increases in the household population in Franklin, Gulf, Jackson, and Taylor. In Pinellas County, the decline in the group quarters population was greater than the decline in the household population.

Housing Units, Households, and Occupancy Rates

There were almost 9 million housing units in Florida in 2010, an increase of nearly 1.7 million since 2000. The largest increases occurred in Miami-Dade, Orange, Lee, Hillsborough, and Palm Beach, each growing by more than 100,000 units. Thirty-six counties added more than 10,000 units and only nine added fewer than 1,000. In percentage terms, the number of housing units in Florida grew by 23% between 2000 and 2010. The largest increases occurred in Sumter, Flagler, Osceola, Walton, St. Johns, Lee and St. Lucie, each growing by more than 50%. Nine counties had increases of less than 10% and one had a net decline.

Florida had more than 7.4 million households in 2010, an increase of more than 1 million since 2000. The counties with the largest increases in households were generally the same as the counties with the largest increases in population and housing units. The same was true for the counties with the smallest increases. Hardee was the only county to lose housing units during the decade and Monroe was the only county to lose households.

The number of housing units in Florida grew more rapidly than the number of households between 2000 and 2010 (23% v. 17%), indicating a decline in occupancy rates. At the state level, the occupancy rate declined from 86.8% in 2000 to 82.5% in 2010. There were two main causes of this decline. First was the housing boom and bust occurring during the decade. Many homes were built that were never occupied and others became vacant due to foreclosures and mortgage delinquencies. Second was the increase in homes intended for seasonal or occasional use. These units are classified as vacant even when occupied by non-permanent residents. Data regarding seasonal and occasional use are not yet available from the 2010 census.

Copyright © 2011 by the University of Florida.

Occupancy rates declined in 64 of Florida's 67 counties. Rates in 2010 ranged from approximately 91% in Baker, Clay, and Seminole to less than 60% in Franklin, Gulf, and Walton. The three counties with the highest occupancy rates are suburban counties near large cities and the three counties with the lowest rates are coastal counties in the Florida Panhandle. Many of the counties with particularly low occupancy rates had high proportions of seasonal units in 2000.

Average household size

As shown in Table A, Florida's average household size fell rapidly during the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s but remained relatively constant during the 1990s, fluctuating around 2.46. The 2010 census found that average household size had increased slightly by 2010, rising to 2.48. Over the course of the decade, average household size declined in 36 counties, rose in 26 counties, and remained constant in five counties. Changes ranged from a decline of 10% in Sumter County to an increase of 5% in Osceola County.

Table A. Average household size, Florida, 1950–2010

<u>Year</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Size</u>
1950	3.22	1990	2.46
1960	3.11	2000	2.46
1970	2.90	2010	2.48
1980	2.55		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Average household size in 2010 was largest in Hardee (3.12), Hendry (3.09), Osceola (2.93), Miami-Dade (2.83), and Baker (2.82). It was smallest in Sumter (2.04), Sarasota (2.13), Charlotte (2.14), Pinellas (2.16), and Monroe (2.18). In general, average household size tends to be higher in black than white households, in Hispanic than non-Hispanic households, and in households headed by young or middle-aged persons than households headed by older persons. As a result, counties with the largest household sizes generally have low proportions of older residents and high proportions of black or Hispanic residents, whereas counties with the smallest sizes generally have high proportions of older residents and low proportions of black and Hispanic residents.

Acknowledgement

Funding for this report was provided by the Florida Legislature.