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Department of State / Florida Facts / Quick Facts

Quick Facts

Geographical facts

- › Total Area - **58,560 square miles**
- › Total land area - **54,136 square miles**
- › Total water area - **4,424 square miles**
- › Rank among states in total area - **22nd**
- › Length north and south - **447 miles (St. Marys River to Key West)**
- › Width east and west - **361 miles (Atlantic Ocean to Perdido River)**
- › Distance from Pensacola to Key West - **792 miles (by road)**
- › Highest Natural Point - **345 feet**
- › Geographic Center - **12 miles northwest of Brooksville, Hernando County**
- › Coastline - **1,197 statute miles**
- › Tidal shoreline (general) - **2,276 statute miles**
- › Beaches - **663 miles**
- › Longest River - **St. Johns, 273 miles**
- › Largest Lake - **Lake Okeechobee, 700 square miles**
- › Largest county - **Palm Beach, 2,578 square miles**
- › Smallest county - **Union, 245 square miles**
- › Number of lakes (greater than 10 acres) - **about 7,700**
- › Number of first-magnitude springs - **33**
- › Number of islands (greater than 10 acres) - **about 4,500**

Historical facts

- › First permanent European settlement - **1565, St. Augustine, by Spain**
- › Acquired from Spain as a U.S. Territory - **1821**
- › Admitted as 27th state of the U.S. - **March 3, 1845**

Current facts

- › Capital - **Tallahassee**
- › Population 2020 (estimate) - **20,216,600 (Rank 4th)**
- › Population 2015 (estimate) - **19,421,200 (Rank 4th)**
- › Population 2012 (estimate) - **19,074,434 (Rank 4th)**
- › Population 2010 - **18,801,310 (Rank 4th)**
- › Population 2000 - **15,982,378**
- › Population 1990 - **12,937,926**
- › Population growth rate 2010-2015 (estimate) - **3.3%**
- › Population growth rate 2000-2010 - **17.6%**
- › Most populous metropolitan area 2012 - Miami-Ft. Lauderdale-Pompano Beach: **5,657,804** (estimate - Ranked 8th in the US)
- › Most populous metropolitan area 2010 - Miami-Ft. Lauderdale-Pompano Beach: **5,564,635**
- › Most populous County 2020 - Miami-Dade County: **2,722,900 (estimate)**
- › Most populous County 2015 - Miami-Dade County: **2,600,900 (estimate)**
- › Most populous County 2010 - Miami-Dade County: **2,496,435 (estimate)**
- › Number of counties - **67**
- › Form of government - **Governor and cabinet consisting of Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Agriculture**
- › State sales tax - **6%**
- › State income tax - **None**
- › Legislature - **120 house districts, 40 senate districts, 25 congressional districts**

Sources:

US Census Bureau [↗](#)

The Florida Handbook, Allen Morris. © 2003.

Florida Statistical Abstract, 2012



Rick Scott, Governor
Ken Detzner, Secretary of State

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