

Demographic Estimating Conference
Executive Summary
July 8, 2019

The Demographic Estimating Conference met on July 8, 2019, to adopt a new population forecast. The new estimates reflect recent demographic and economic-related data. Compared to the last conference, the population projection for April 1, 2019 was revised upward by 16,264, reflecting stronger residential electric meter growth than anticipated in February. The upward revisions grow to around 60,000 by April 1, 2024.

Data was presented to the Conference that indicated there were some regional impacts to select panhandle counties from Hurricane Michael. The forecast adopted by the Conference did not make a discrete adjustment, as the hurricane is thought to have caused some shifting of population among counties and cities, not affecting the overall state total population.

In the new forecast, changes in population growth are due mostly to net migration, as natural increase represented even a smaller percentage of the change relative to the last conference, reflecting the most recent provisional 2018 vital statistics information.

April 1	Population	Change from the Prior Year	
		Percent	Numeric
2012	19,074,434	0.90%	169,364
2013	19,259,543	0.97%	185,109
2014	19,507,369	1.29%	247,826
2015	19,815,183	1.58%	307,814
2016	20,148,654	1.68%	333,471
2017	20,484,142	1.67%	335,488
2018	20,840,568	1.74%	356,426
<i>Forecast</i>			
2019	21,200,796	1.73%	360,228
2020	21,546,885	1.63%	346,089
2021	21,881,835	1.55%	334,950
2022	22,206,881	1.49%	325,046
2023	22,521,566	1.42%	314,685
2024	22,824,196	1.34%	302,630

Between April 1, 2018 and April 1, 2024, population growth is expected to average 330,605 net new residents per year (906 per day), representing a compound growth rate of 1.53% over this six-year time horizon. These increases are analogous to adding a city slightly larger than Orlando every year.

Of note, the population estimates developed by the U.S. Census Bureau continue to be higher than the official state estimates adopted by the Demographic Estimating Conference. In the latest comparable set of estimates (July 1, 2018), the difference was about 370,990 persons. The Legislative Office of Economic and Demographic Research is continuing its efforts to identify how the differing underlying methodologies contribute to the gap between the two sets of estimates.