

# 1950 CENSUS OF POPULATION

## PRELIMINARY REPORTS

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### CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION OF FLORIDA: APRIL 1, 1950

(This is one of a series of reports presenting figures on selected characteristics of the population of the smaller States. In this series, reports are numbered alphabetically by States. Additional reports will be issued as figures for other States become available. Preliminary sample data for the larger States, not covered in this series, will be found in Series PC-6)

Gains in the population of Florida between 1940 and 1950 were most marked among young children and elderly persons, according to figures from the 1950 Census of Population released today by Roy V. Peel, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. Although the total population of Florida increased by 873,891, or 46.1 percent, during the decade, the number of children under 5 years of age increased by 139,961, or 92.4 percent, and the number of persons 65 years old and over increased by 106,278, or 81.0 percent. Smaller increases were shown by the figures for each of the remaining broad age groups. The smallest increase, 16.3 percent, occurred among persons 15 to 24 years old. In 1950 there were fewer males than females in the population of Florida, and the shortage of males was relatively larger than it had been in the preceding census. There were 97.3 males for every 100 females in 1950 as compared with 98.8 in 1940. Between 1940 and 1950 the nonwhite population of Florida increased by 17.4 percent, in contrast to an increase of 56.7 percent in the white population.

#### DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

Urban and rural residence.--Under the urban definition established for use in the 1950 Census, the urban population comprises all persons living in (a) places of 2,500 inhabitants or more incorporated as cities, boroughs, towns,<sup>1</sup> and villages; (b) the densely settled urban fringe, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas, around cities

<sup>1</sup> Except in New England, New York, and Wisconsin, where "towns" are minor civil divisions of counties and are not necessarily densely settled centers like the towns in other States.

of 50,000 or more; and (c) unincorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more outside any urban fringe. The remaining population is classified as rural. According to the definition used in previous censuses, urban population comprised all persons living in incorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more and areas (usually minor civil divisions) classified as urban under special rules relating to population size and density.

Farm and nonfarm residence.--The rural population is subdivided into the rural-farm population, which comprises all rural residents living on farms, and the rural-nonfarm population, which comprises the remaining rural population. However, the method of determining farm and nonfarm residence in the 1950 Census differs somewhat from that used in earlier censuses. In the 1950 Census, persons on "farms" who were paying cash rent for their house and yard only were classified as nonfarm; furthermore, persons in institutions, summer camps, and tourist courts were classified as nonfarm.

Color.--The group designated as "nonwhite" consists of Negroes, Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and other nonwhite races. Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry who are not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race are classified as white.

Age.--The age classification is based on the age of the person at his last birthday before the date of the census, that is, the age of the person in completed years. The median age may be defined as that age which divides the population into two equal groups--one-half being older and one-half younger than the median.

P R E L I M I N A R Y

Table 1.--COLO. BY SEX, FOR FLORIDA, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Color and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950	Percent distribution			
	1950	1940	Percent change, 1940 to 1950			The State		Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950
						1950	1940		
Total.....	2,771,305	1,897,414	46.1	1,813,890	957,415	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	2,166,047	1,381,986	56.7	1,417,177	748,870	78.2	72.8	78.1	78.2
Nonwhite.....	605,258	515,428	17.4	396,713	208,545	21.8	27.2	21.9	21.8
Male.....	1,366,917	943,123	44.9	872,200	494,717	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	1,072,492	689,570	55.5	684,412	388,080	78.5	73.1	78.5	78.4
Nonwhite.....	294,425	253,553	16.1	187,788	106,637	21.5	26.9	21.5	21.6
Female.....	1,404,388	954,291	47.2	941,690	462,698	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	1,093,555	692,416	57.9	732,765	360,790	77.9	72.6	77.8	78.0
Nonwhite.....	310,833	261,875	18.7	208,925	101,908	22.1	27.4	22.2	22.0

Table 2.--AGE BY SEX, FOR FLORIDA, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Age and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural nonfarm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950	Percent distribution				
	1950	1940	Percent change, 1940 to 1950				The State		Urban, 1950	Rural non- farm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950
							1950	1940			
Total population.....	2,771,305	1,897,414	46.1	1,813,890	724,609	232,806	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percent by residence	100.0	...	...	65.5	26.1	8.4	...	...	...	...	...
Under 5 years.....	291,439	151,478	92.4	174,948	89,245	27,246	10.5	8.0	9.6	12.3	11.7
5 to 14 years.....	434,945	324,051	34.2	247,249	134,625	53,071	15.7	17.1	13.6	18.6	22.8
15 to 24 years.....	394,920	339,496	16.3	248,423	111,407	35,090	14.3	17.0	13.7	15.4	15.1
25 to 34 years.....	440,636	327,776	34.4	302,217	111,857	26,562	15.9	17.3	16.7	15.4	11.4
35 to 44 years.....	411,573	274,185	50.1	284,690	97,738	29,145	14.9	14.5	15.7	13.5	12.5
45 to 54 years.....	324,267	207,284	56.4	227,212	72,270	24,785	11.7	10.9	12.5	10.0	10.6
55 to 64 years.....	236,020	141,226	66.3	164,028	52,855	19,167	8.5	7.5	9.0	7.3	8.2
65 years and over.....	237,495	131,217	81.0	165,123	54,612	17,760	8.6	6.9	9.1	7.5	7.6
Median age.....years..	31.0	29.1	...	32.8	27.4	25.4	...	...	...	...	...
Male.....	1,366,917	943,123	44.9	872,200	373,982	120,739	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	148,156	76,355	94.0	88,491	45,514	14,151	10.8	8.1	10.1	12.2	11.7
5 to 14 years.....	220,331	163,513	34.7	124,149	68,771	27,411	16.1	17.3	14.2	18.4	22.7
15 to 24 years.....	195,605	163,997	19.3	117,387	59,722	18,496	14.3	17.4	13.5	16.0	15.3
25 to 34 years.....	211,540	159,119	32.9	142,321	56,182	13,037	15.5	16.9	15.3	15.0	10.8
35 to 44 years.....	192,804	136,191	46.0	134,726	49,703	14,365	14.9	14.4	15.4	13.3	11.9
45 to 54 years.....	160,783	105,318	52.7	110,478	37,497	12,808	11.8	11.2	12.7	10.0	10.6
55 to 64 years.....	115,714	71,536	61.8	77,949	27,379	10,366	8.5	7.6	8.9	7.3	8.6
65 years and over.....	115,984	67,094	72.9	76,689	29,214	10,061	8.5	7.1	8.8	7.8	8.3
Median age.....years..	30.6	29.3	...	32.5	27.3	25.2	...	...	...	...	...
Female.....	1,404,388	954,291	47.2	941,690	350,627	112,071	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	143,283	75,123	90.7	86,457	43,731	13,095	10.2	7.9	9.2	12.5	11.7
5 to 14 years.....	214,614	160,538	33.7	123,100	65,854	25,660	15.3	16.8	13.1	18.8	22.9
15 to 24 years.....	199,315	175,499	13.6	131,036	51,685	16,594	14.2	13.4	13.9	14.7	14.8
25 to 34 years.....	229,096	168,657	35.8	159,896	55,675	13,525	16.3	17.7	17.0	15.9	12.1
35 to 44 years.....	212,769	137,995	54.2	149,954	48,035	14,780	15.2	14.5	15.9	13.7	13.2
45 to 54 years.....	163,484	101,966	60.3	116,734	34,773	11,977	11.6	10.7	12.4	9.9	10.7
55 to 64 years.....	120,316	70,390	70.9	86,079	25,476	8,761	8.6	7.4	9.1	7.3	7.8
65 years and over.....	121,511	64,123	89.5	88,434	25,398	7,679	8.7	6.7	9.4	7.2	6.9
Median age.....years..	31.3	28.9	...	33.1	27.5	25.5	...	...	...	...	...