SFRPC

South Florida Regional Planning Council

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2022 - 2027 South Florida DRAFT Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

CEDS

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

SOUTH FLORIDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ESTABLISHED 1994

COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR SOUTH FLORIDA 2022 – 2027

October 1, 2022

(Draft Date Sept 30, 2022)

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CHAIR'S LETTER (Under Development)

INTRODUCTION

Economic Development District

The South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) is one of Florida's ten regional planning councils created to address issues that require intergovernmental and multi-sector regional approaches, collaboration, and solutions to effectively address challenges and opportunities of regional importance. The Florida Legislature has recognized that regional planning councils are the only multipurpose regional entity that is in position to plan for intergovernmental solutions to growth related problems and meet other needs of communities in each region.

The SFRPC serves Monroe, Miami-Dade, and Broward counties; 70 municipalities; and 4.8 million residents. By 2045, the region is expected to grow to an estimated population of more than 5.7 million[1] residents. The SFRPC supports regional and community economic development efforts through its economic planning activities; provision of technical assistance and project development support in coordination with the region's local governments and economic development organizations; regional convenings and planning; and the operation of multiple revolving loan funds which support entrepreneurs, create affordable housing, and further the remediation and redevelopment of brownfields.

Since 1994 the SFRPC has served as the Economic Development District (EDD) for South Florida and as the Economic Development Administration's (EDA) regional point of contact. In this role, the SFRPC works closely with regional stakeholders and the EDA to identify, secure, and deploy funding and technical assistance programs in South Florida. As the EDD, the SFRPC is responsible for developing, maintaining, and updating South Florida's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) every five years working in partnership with the region's leaders and community stakeholders. As a strategy-driven plan for regional economic development, the CEDS provides an analysis of economic trends, opportunities, and challenges and then provides regional goals, strategies, and metrics to promote and support long-term economic prosperity for South Florida and its residents.

EDA directs each designated Economic Development District to develop and maintain a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) with the assistance of public involvement. A CEDS is the result of a regionally owned planning process designed to build capacity and guide the economic prosperity and resiliency of an area or region. As a strategy-driven plan, the CEDS provides an analysis of economic trends, opportunities, and challenges and then provides goals, strategies, and metrics to promote and support long-term economic prosperity. As the EDD, the SFRPC works closely with regional stakeholders and the EDA to identify, secure, and deploy funding and technical assistance programs in South Florida.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

In preparation for the 2022-2027 CEDS, SFRPC staff reviewed past CEDS, the Seven50 Regional Prosperity Plan, Census Data, United Way ALICE Reports, Economic Mobility Project Studies (an initiative of The Pew Charitable Trusts), and strategic economic development plans prepared by the Beacon Council, Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, the Florida Chamber Foundation. SFRPC staff also reviewed documents by the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact and other public sources of information. In reviewing these and other documents, particularly past CEDS developed in 2007, 2012, and 2017, it is noteworthy that many of the challenges identified in the past continue to be challenges today.

How to use this Report

The CEDS Strategy Committee consists of the region's top public, private, and nonprofit CEOs representing educational institutions, economic development organizations, chambers of commerce, employers, transit agencies, workforce training, local governments, resilience officers, and senior level staff among others. This report reflects their agreement on regional goals and key strategies to leverage regional assets and opportunities, diminish barriers, and create a vibrant and competitive economic environment that is diversified and resilient. The CEDS serves as a guiding document for economic development activities that regional leaders have agreed are important to advance.

For applicants seeking funding from the federal government, particularly the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), a finding by the SFRPC of a grant proposal's consistency with the CEDS is a key step toward securing funding from the EDA. The Council believes that "consistency" is also a critical step toward securing funding from other federal agencies. Grant proposals that advance the priority goals, activities, and investments contained in the CEDS, are deemed to be "consistent" with the CEDS.

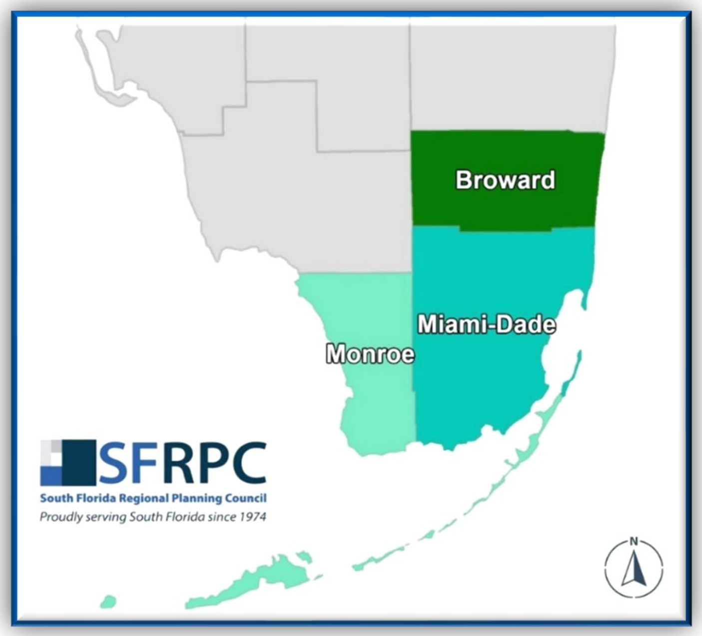
Alignment with the regional CEDS effectively bolsters local efforts as communities and businesses build strategic partnerships and search for federal and state funding for investments and local economic development and recovery efforts. The CEDS is considered a 'living document'. As time passes and regional conditions and trends change, the data in the CEDS plan will be updated periodically to reflect those changes.

Defining the Region

In 2021 the South Florida Region had a resident population of 4.7 million, which is a population larger than that of 27 states. South Florida's role as a national and international banking, commerce, and tourism gateway is supported by three international airports, executive airports, three major seaports, industrial parks, foreign trade zones and other critical infrastructure. Apart from South Florida's three-county region, Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties form a separate census area known as the Metropolitan Statistical Area of Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach.

For most of South Florida's history, tourism has been the key driver of the economy leaving the Region's economy vulnerable to economic downturns when tourism decreases. With varying landscapes and culture, each county offers tourists and snowbirds different natural and man-made amenities and cultures. Broward

County and the majority of Miami-Dade County are a continuously developed, large, dense, urbanized area. Its cosmopolitan international vibe and beaches make it an attractive location to multinational firms and international residents. South Miami-Dade, home to NASCAR, rodeos, and Everglades National Park and Biscayne National Park, is historically known for its rich farmlands, tropical agriculture, and exotic fruit stands although, increasingly, South Dade's farmland is being converted to housing and non-agricultural uses.



Monroe County - home to the world-famous Florida Keys - enjoys a slower pace of life with villages and smaller cities. The Keys are known for sportfishing, boating, scuba diving and seafood as well as a laid-back island lifestyle. The City of Key West with more than 26,000 residents is the most populated city in Monroe County and the county seat. Seventy-miles west of Key West is the Dry Tortugas National Park, a unique treasure of the National Park System featuring Fort Jefferson which was constructed in 1846 to defend the United States.

The three counties support important military installations and personnel that perform critical national security functions: Naval Air Station Key West; Homestead Air Reserve Base, U.S. SouthCOM; and the South Florida Ocean Measurement Facility (U.S. Navy).

The regional overview which follows provides an illustrative snapshot of each county individually as well as the region in its entirety. The CEDS is intended to inform discussion regarding the region's goals to encourage robust growth and diversification of the economy. Please note that economic conditions are fluctuating at a rapid pace with inflation, supply chain difficulties, rising prices for food, housing, insurance, etc. so this data may under or over represent certain economic indicators.

Geography & Geology

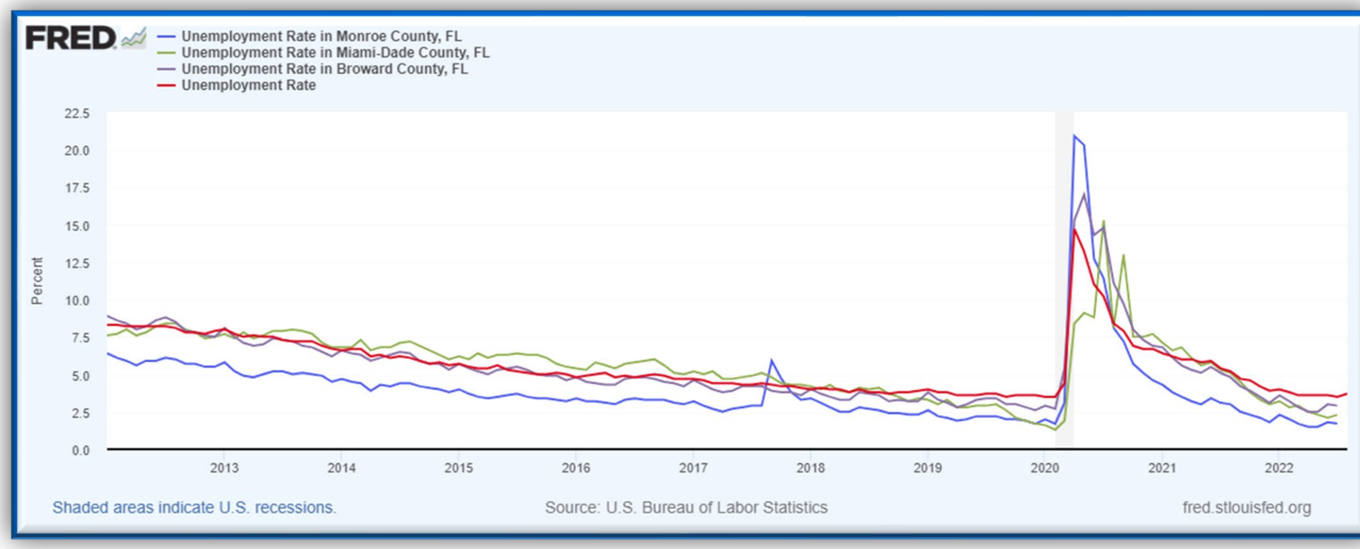
The South Florida Region is approximately 7,500 square miles, of which approximately 45% (3,338 square miles) is water.[2] The region is a coastal area bounded by the Atlantic Ocean on the east and the Everglades and wetlands on the west. Built upon a limestone geology, concerns over sea-level rise, flooding, storm surge and other related effects are resilience considerations that impact both inland and coastal communities. This geographic constraint limits development and greatly contributes to rising housing costs and the lack of sufficient affordable housing.

South Florida is characterized by a relatively flat topography with elevations trending downwards from the east and along the Atlantic Coastal Ridge to the west. Elevation is generally under 10 feet above sea level, excluding the Coastal ridge where it reaches 20 feet above sea level in select areas. Most of South Florida's landscape is composed of karst landforms, created through the dissolution of the limestone bedrock by groundwater. This creates honeycombed underground formations, subterranean tunnels, and cavities filled with freshwater, collectively termed the Floridian Aquifer which is overlaid by the Biscayne Aquifer. The water table is close to the surface which makes South Florida's water supply susceptible to pollution from the urban and agricultural environment. In addition, the high-water table makes South Florida more susceptible to flooding due to sea level rise. The combination of low topography, karst substrate, and coastal proximity creates unique environmental and climate resilience vulnerabilities for South Florida, exacerbated by the possibility, and sometimes actual landfall, of hurricanes between June and November every year.

Economic Summary & Factors Impacting Economic Performance

Unemployment throughout the region had been trending downwards pre-pandemic decreasing from August 2021 to August 2022 by 2.8% in Miami-Dade County, 2% in Broward County, and 1.3% in Monroe County. In 2018, Miami-Dade County dipped below the national unemployment rate for the first time in years.

SFRPC Area & National Unemployment



The trend of SFRPC counties having lower than national unemployment rates continued until the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Monroe County especially felt the acute pain of the shut-down, with unemployment soaring to over 20%. However, since 2021 the unemployment rates in all counties have remained below the national average. Most indicators point to a strong economy.

Please note that because the South Florida region is part of the Metropolitan Statistical Area of Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, much of the available data is for the Metropolitan Area is referred to as the "Miami Metro Area" which is comprised of Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties.

- The Miami Metro Area had the fastest over-the year job growth rate among Florida's metro areas in August 2022 (+7.9%)
- The Miami Metro Area gained the highest number of private sector jobs among Florida's metro areas in August 2022, adding 82,500 jobs
- The Miami Metro Area's nonagricultural employment increased by 80,400 jobs (+6.8% over the year)
- The Miami Metro Area's unemployment rate dropped 2.8 percentage points over the year to 2.3%
- Industries gaining the most jobs in the Miami Metro Area over the year were as follows:

- Trade, transportation, and utilities with 26,300 jobs
- Leisure and hospitality with 15,700 new jobs
- Education and health services with12,000 jobs
- Professional and business services with 11,900 new jobs[3]

- According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics from August 2021 - July 2022, the Civilian Labor Forces for each county grew:
  - by 10,089 persons in Miami-Dade
  - by 34,769 persons in Broward County
  - by 4,512 persons in Monroe County

SFRPC Area Median Listing Prices

The region's economy also struggles. The extremely low August 2022 unemployment rate of 2.3% in Miami-Dade County, 2.8% in Broward County, and 1.7% in Monroe County, combined with the high cost of housing, transportation, and inflation, makes it challenging for employers to find employees to fill vacant positions.

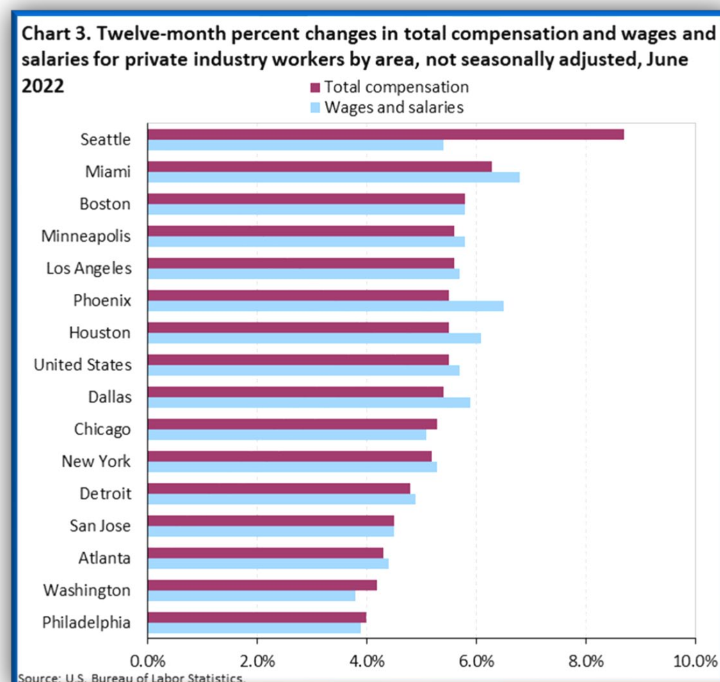


Chart 3. Twelve-month percent changes in total compensation and wages and salaries for private industry workers by area, not seasonally adjusted, June 2022

The most significant economic challenge facing the South Florida economy is affordability. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) as of August 2022 was up 8.3 percent[4] for the U.S. with a 10.7 percent increase in the Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach area over the past year[5]. Items such as food have increased 11.4 percent over the last year (July 2021 – August 2022) and energy has risen 23.8% during this same period nationally. [6]

Housing is one of the largest household budget costs followed by transportation. On June 29, 2022, Miami-Dade County was deemed the "epicenter of the country's housing crisis" by the U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. The housing crisis extends to neighboring Monroe and Broward counties as well. The Median Sale Listing Price in Monroe County is presently over $1.28 million; $674,000 in Miami-Dade County; and nearly $525,000 in Broward County[7] making this housing unaffordable to many South Florida residents.

Rental prices have skyrocketed. Rentcafe, a nationwide internet listing service providing apartments and houses for rent throughout the United States, named Miami as one of the most competitive rental markets in the country. Rentcafe recorded the average rent in Miami at $2,307 with an average apartment size of 887 Square Feet as of July 2022. This is equivalent to approximately 47% of Miami-Dade's Median Household Income (MHI), which was $59,259 in 2020. In Fort Lauderdale, the average rent is $2,719 with an average apartment size of 959 Square Feet as of July 2022. Broward County's 2020 Median Household Income was $68,584. Therefore, the average rent equivalates to a housing cost of 51% of the Median Household Income; 21% over the U.S. Department Housing and Urban Development affordability standard of 30% of household income.

In Monroe County, Rentcafe data is not available, but Rent.com, a similar listing service, reports an average one-bedroom rental in Key West at $2,500 per month. This is nearly 44% of Monroe County's Median Household Income. The housing crisis stems from a confluence of factors including limited availability of land, high demand from Latin American investment buyers, large numbers of employees of low-wage industry sectors such as Hospitality & Leisure, and people relocating from higher priced states for remote work opportunities. Limited land for development, rising construction costs, and skyrocketing insurance prices pose additional challenges for the construction of middle-class housing.

Wages and compensation are increasing in the Miami Metro Area, but not at the same pace as inflation. In June 2022 the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics placed the Miami Metro Area second in the U.S. for its annual increase for total compensation as well as wages and salaries. However, despite at an annual increase in compensation costs it is not sufficient to overcome the rate of inflation. For the regional economy to sustain its growth, it must devise strategies and solutions to address its high housing and costs of living.

Key Findings: UNDER DEVELOPMENT

Labor Force as a % of Population

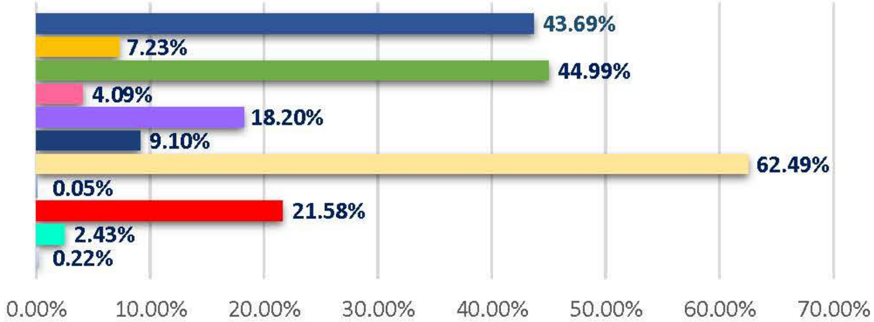
	Population April 1, 2020	Labor Force August 2022 (seasonally adjusted)	Labor Force as a % of Population	Employment August 2022	Unemployment August 2022	Unemployment Rate August 2022	Unemployment Rate August 2021
United States	331,449,281	164,746,000	50%	158,732,000	6,014,000	3.7%	5.2%
Florida	21,538,187	10,706,000	50%	10,413,000	293,000	2.7%	4.3%
Broward	1,944,375	1,077,924	55%	1,047,528	30,396	2.8%	4.8%
Miami-Dade	2,701,767	1,335,706	49%	1,305,136	30,570	2.3%	5.1%
Monroe	82,874	50,973	62%	50,120	853	1.7%	3.0%

Source: DEO, Retrieved 9/22/2022,
https://floridajobs.org/workforce-statistics/workforce-statistics-data-releases/latest-statistics

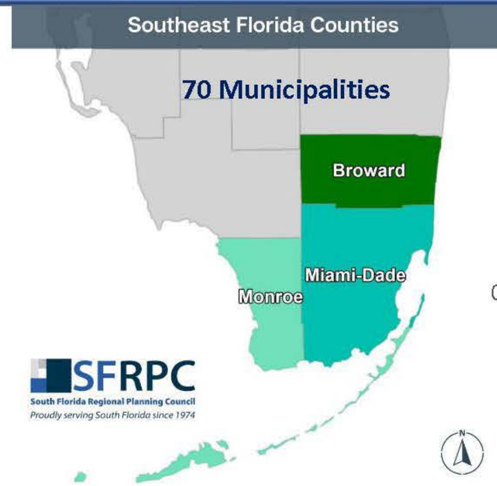
REGIONAL FACT SHEET

Southeast Florida (Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe Counties)

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2020



- Other
- Cuban
- Total Hispanic or Latino
- White Alone
- Black Alone
- Puerto Rican
- Mexican
- Two or More Race Groups
- Native Hawaiian and Other Pac. Isl. Alone
- Asian Alone



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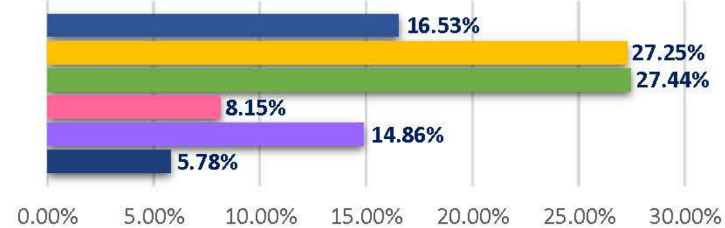
Population by Age, 2020 / Median Age 40.66



- Older Adult (65 plus)
- Adult (45 to 64)
- Young Adult (25 to 44)
- College Age (18 to 24)
- School Age (5 to 17)
- Preschool (0 to 4)

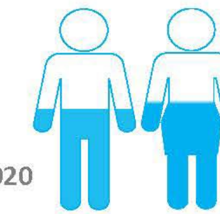
Male	Female
49%	51%








55.0 %
US Born 2020
45.0%
Foreign Born 2020



Median Household Income
$57,161

Florida	$57,703
U.S.	$64,994

Per Capita Income
$31,754

Florida	$32,848
U.S.	$35,805

Labor Force
2.34 Million
Employed Civilian Population 16 years and over

Business Establishments
159,027

Payroll	$89,952,608
Employees	1,778,442

Households
1.63 Million

Family Households	1,086,441
Married w/Children	272,061
Single Parents	163,086
Living Alone	451,153

Total Population
4.7 Million (2020 Est.)

5.0M	2030 Est
7.62%	Growth

Housing Units
1.91 Million / $304,417

Owner Occupied	49%
Renter Occupied	37%
Seasonal/Rec Use	14%

Poverty Rate
14.55%

ALICE Households	37%
Poverty Households	15%

2018 Data

Educational Attainment 25 Years & Older
3.36 Million

Less than 9th	242,819
HS Diploma	904,156
Bachelor's	669,384
Graduate	398,418

Commuting to Work
2.29 Million

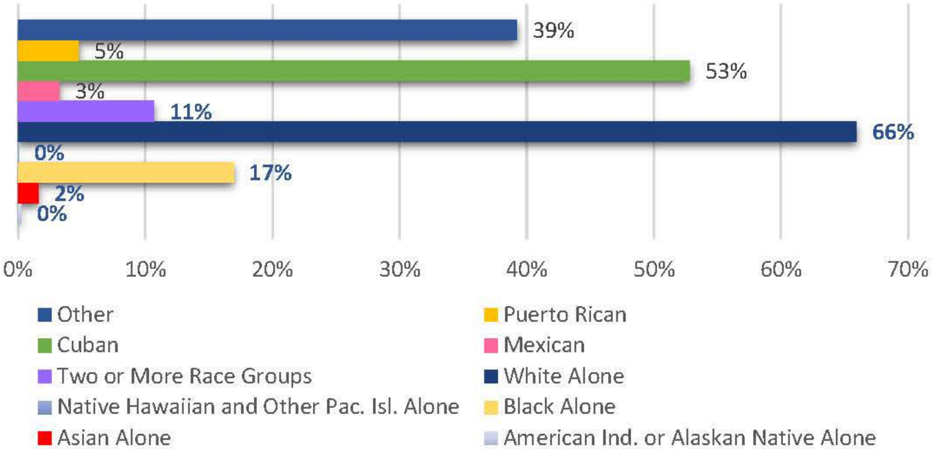
Worked at Home	154,791
Public Transportation	77,895
Walked	38,161
Other Means	60,497

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, and Stats America

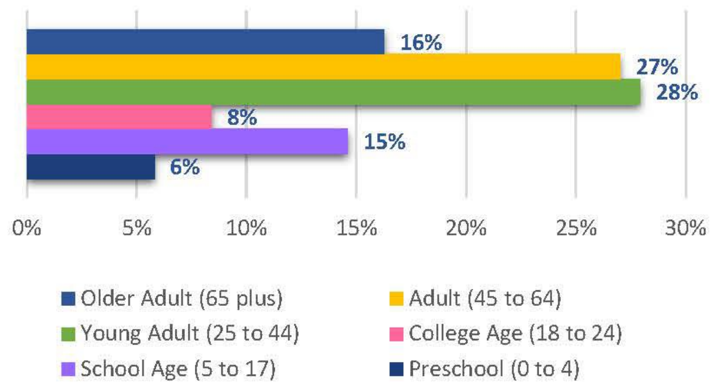
REGIONAL FACT SHEET

Miami-Dade County

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin in 2020

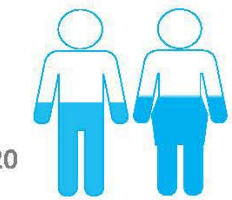


Population by Age in 2020, Media Age 40.2



46.0 %
US Born 2020
54.0%
Foreign Born 2020

Male 49%   Female 51%



Median Household Income

$59,259

Florida	$57,703
U.S.	$64,994

Per Capita Income

$29,598

Florida	$32,848
U.S.	$35,808

Labor Force

1,326,437

Employed Civilian Population 16 years and over

Business Establishments

90,482

Payroll	$51,381,658
Employees	1,009,024

Households

902,200

Family Households	619,475
Married w/Children	153,770
Single Parents	95,373
Living Alone	231,236

Total Population

2.7 Million (2020 Est.)

2.9M	2030 Est
7.70%	Growth

Housing Units

1,032,310 / $310K

Owner Occupied	45%
Renter Occupied	42%
Seasonal/Rec Use	13%

Poverty Rate

16%

ALICE Households	37%
Poverty Households	17%

2018 Data

Educational Attainment 25 Years & Older

1.92 Million

Less than 9th	178,065
HS Diploma	515,319
Bachelor's	371,822
Graduate	218,483

Commuting to Work

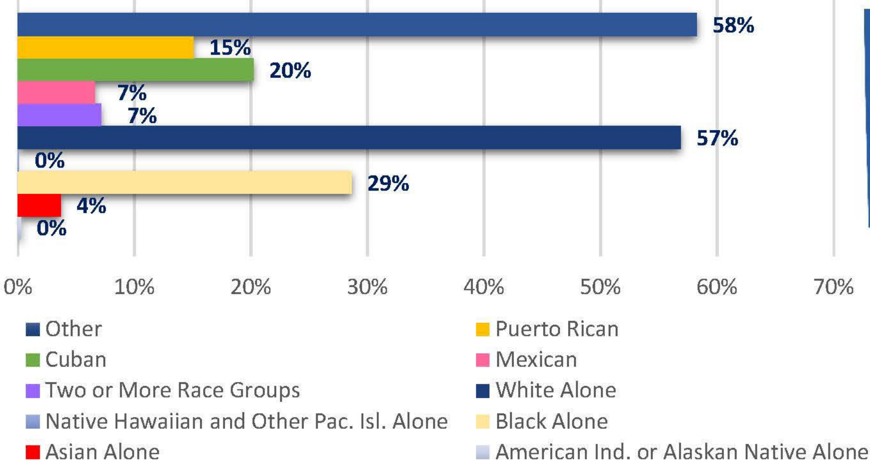
1,326,437

Worked at Home	87,709
Public Transportation	54,818
Walked	25,033
Other Means	33,107

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, and Stats America

REGIONAL FACT SHEET
Broward County

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin, 2020



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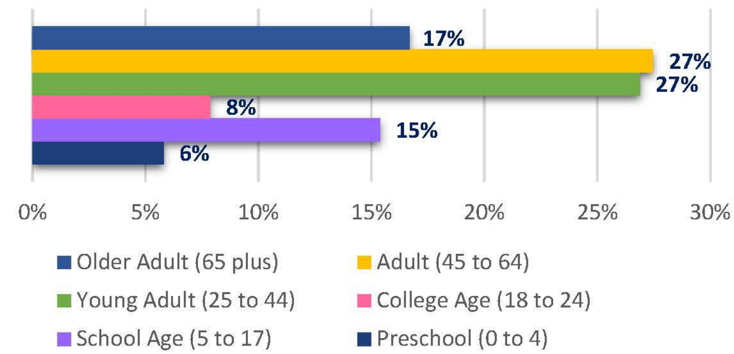
Population by Age, 2020 / Median Age 40.5



MALE	FEMALE
49%	51%





65.7 %
US BORN 2020
34.3%
FOREIGN BORN 2020

Median Household Income

$60,922

Florida	$57,703
U.S.	$64,994

Per Capita Income

$34,063

Florida	$32,848
U.S.	$35,808

Labor Force

974,826

Employed Civilian Population 16 years and over

Business Establishments

64,660

Payroll	$37,387,991
Employees	736,661

Households

704,942

Family Households	447,453
Married w/Children	114,141
Single Parents	65,678
Living Alone	210,351

Total Population

1.9 Million (2020 Est.)

2.09M	2030 Est
7.18%	Growth

Housing Units

826,382 / $282K

Owner Occupied	54%
Renter Occupied	32%
Seasonal/Rec Use	15%

Poverty Rate

12.7%

ALICE Households	37%
Poverty Households	13%

2018 Data

Educational Attainment 25 Years & Older

1.37 Million

Less than 9th	62,581
HS Diploma	372,575
Bachelor's	284,566
Graduate	172,135

Commuting to Work

954,804

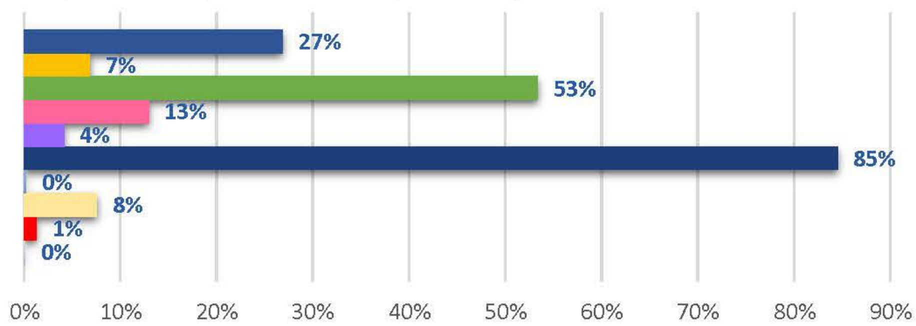
Worked at Home	63,985
Public Transportation	22,765
Walked	11,015
Other Means	23,057

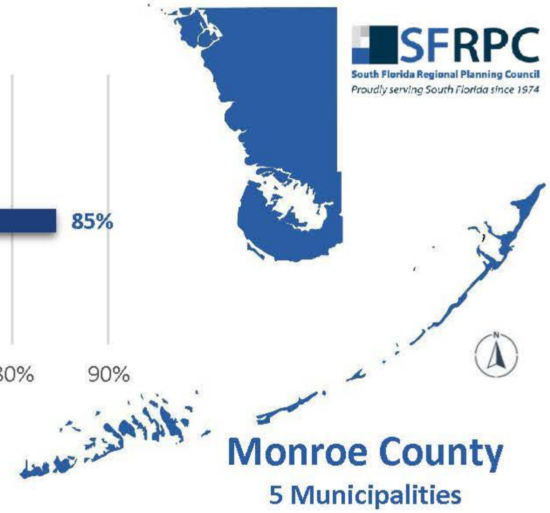
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, and Stats America

REGIONAL FACT SHEET

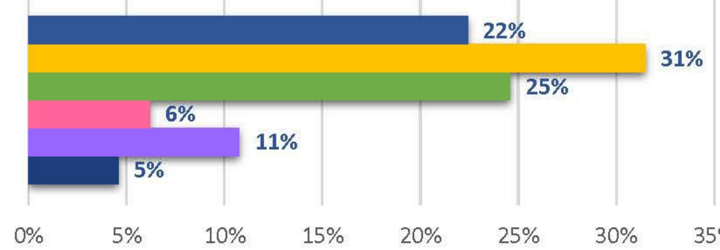
Monroe County

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin in 2020



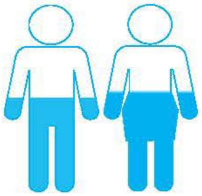


Population by Age in 2020 / Median Age 47.9



MALE 52% FEMALE 48%

80.2 %
US BORN 2020
19.8%
FOREIGN BORN 2020



Median Household Income	Per Capita Income	Labor Force	Business Establishments	Households
$60,922	$47,382	40,129	3,885	32,794
Florida $57,703 U.S. $64,994	Florida $32,848 U.S. $35,808	Employed Civilian Population 16 years and over	Payroll $1,182,959 Employees 32,757	Family Households 19,513 Married w/Children 4,150 Single Parents 2,035 Living Alone 9,566

Total Population	Housing Units	Poverty Rate	Educational Attainment 25 Years & Older	Commuting to Work
82,170 (2020 Est.)	53,759 / $558K	10.6%	58,963	40,129
93K 2030 Est 12.2% Growth	Owner Occupied 36% Renter Occupied 25% Seasonal/Rec Use 39%	ALICE Households 29% Poverty Households 8% *2018 Data*	Less than 9th 2,173 HS Diploma 16,262 Bachelor's 12,996 Graduate 7,800	Worked at Home 3,097 Public Transportation 312 Walked 2,113 Other Means 4,333

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, and Stats America

SWOT ANALYSIS – STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND THREATS

The SWOT analysis of the regional economy answers the question of “Where are we now?” In September 2021 a survey was sent to stakeholders to request their feedback on the region’s Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT). Using their responses, this chart identifies the region’s competitive advantages that can be leveraged to enhance economic growth including cultural, economic, technological, intellectual, and physical assets. The SWOT analysis exercise was instrumental in shaping the Plan’s Vision Statement, Goals, and Strategies. Leveraging regional strengths and opportunities to diminish weaknesses and threats is key to developing a resilient, vibrant economy.

- Airports & Seaports
- Location
- Tourism
- Diverse Population
- Higher Education
- Weather
- Low tax rate
- Arts & Culture
- Growing Access to Capital
- Healthcare System
- Small Business Community
- Economic Growth

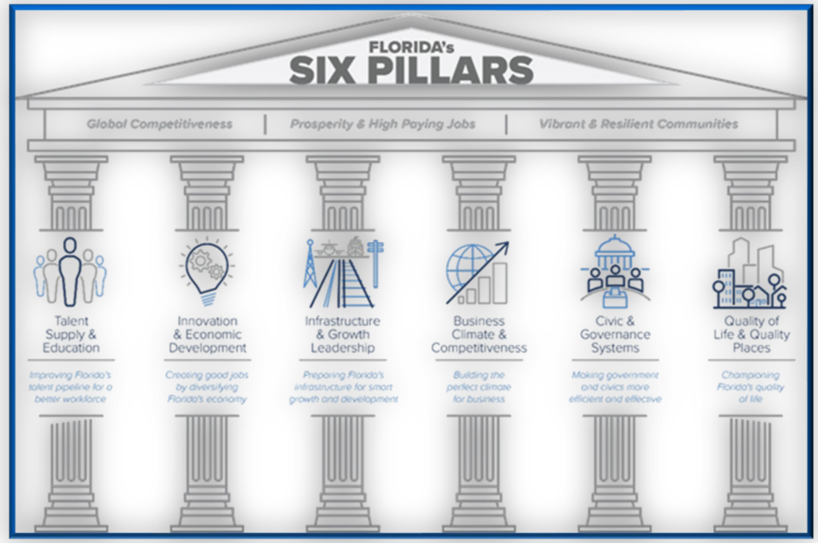
- Climate Change / Sea Level Rise
- Housing Affordability (affects ability to attract/retain talent)
- Lack of Skilled Workforce
- Lack of Leadership
- Lack of Regional Collaboration
- High Living Costs
- Lack of Transportation / Transit
- Low Wages
- Inequity / Racial Equity
- Water Quality
- Lack of Investment (Access to Capital)
- K-12 Educational Achievement
- Employability Skills (Soft Skills)

- Airports & Seaports
- Apprenticeships
- Regional Collaboration
- Economic Diversification
- Green Industries
- Entrepreneurship
- Investment in Emerging Industries
- Workforce Development
- Improvement of Education System
- Leader in Resiliency Initiatives
- Small Businesses
- Eco-Tourism

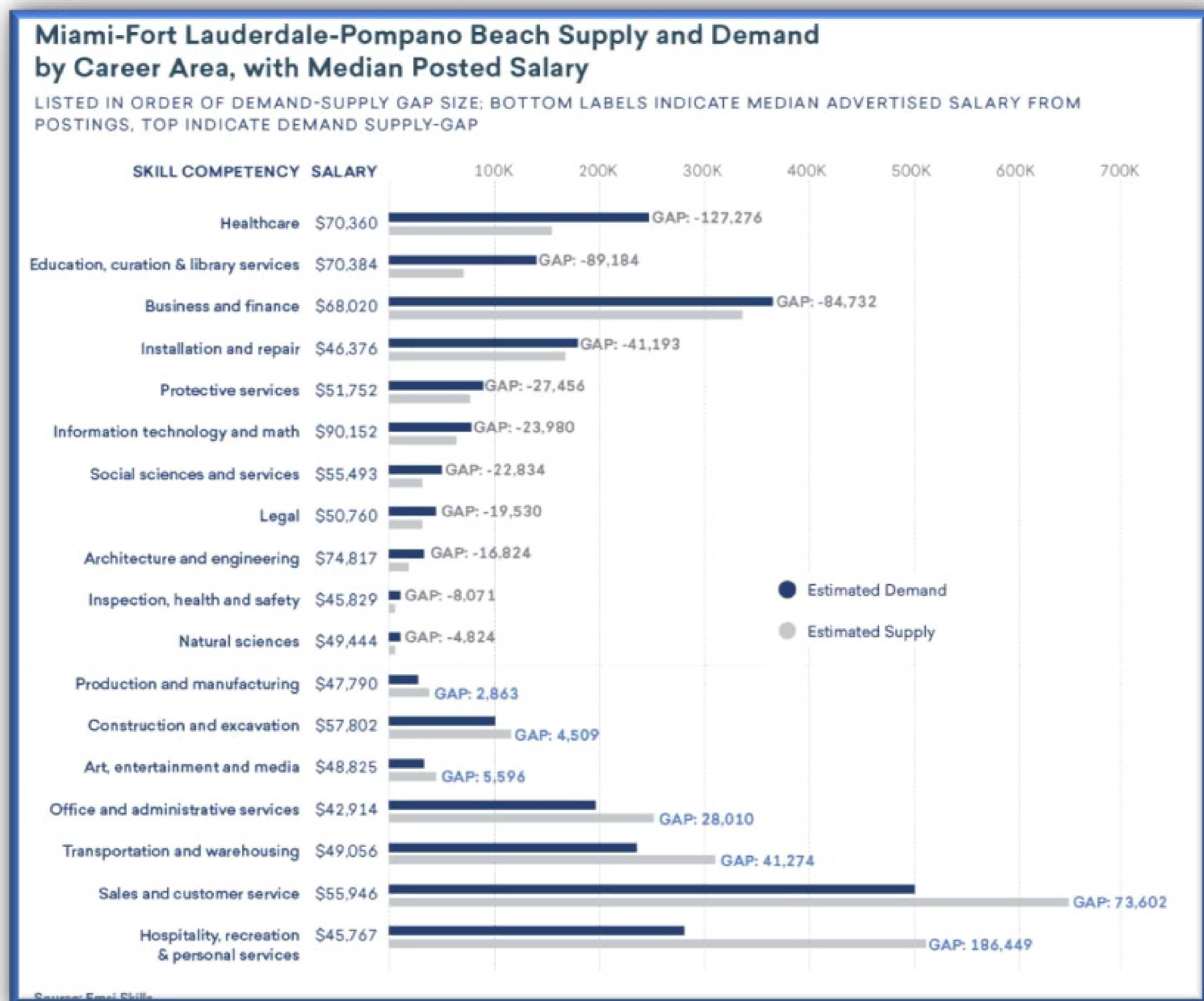
- Governmental & Organizational Capacity
- Lack of Affordable Housing
- High Living Costs
- High Insurance Costs
- Pockets of Concentrated Poverty
- Sea Level Rise
- Lack of Regional Collaboration
- Natural Disasters
- Lack of Qualified Skilled Workforce
- Transportation / Transit
- Water Supply & Flood Management
- Domestic & International Competition
- High Number of Workforce in Low Wage Jobs

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

As South Florida continues to emerge as a globally connected metropolitan area, the EDD continues to develop robust goals with implementation action measures that address the CEDS goals for the next five years. The South Florida CEDS, augmented by the CEDS Strategy Committee, provides a strategy for resilient regional development. The Florida Chamber Foundation's Six-Pillars Framework[8], which includes Talent Supply and Education, Innovation and Economic Development, Infrastructure and Growth, Business Climate and Competitiveness, Civic and Governance Systems, and Quality of Life and Quality of Place are incorporated into the CEDS by reference.



- **Talent Supply & Education Pillar** – Florida is experiencing a talent gap — a crisis in human capital that represents a vast and growing unmet need for a highly skilled and educated workforce. As technology and new innovations continue to change, Florida will struggle to remain a global leader without a thriving base of knowledge workers. Education and training are the foundation of Florida's future workforce.
- **Innovation & Economic Development Pillar** – Competitiveness and prosperity in the 21st century will be based on technology, knowledge, and innovation. Demands for return on investment have never been greater and legacy industries will continue to contend with pressure as new industries emerge. As we consider Florida's future, transforming our existing business base is the key to retention and expansion.
- **Infrastructure & Growth Pillar** – Florida's seaports, airports, highways, railways and supporting infrastructure need to be able to grow smarter for the future residents. Planning for future development, water, transportation and logistics, energy, communications, waste management, emergency preparedness, and environmental issues are essential to a prosperous, inclusive future.
- **Business Climate & Competitiveness Pillar** – Providing the resources for businesses to start and grow including ensuring reasonable regulations, expedited permitting, low tax rates, and access to capital and business assistance are components of creating a friendly business climate that encourages and support entrepreneurs.
- **Civic and Governance Pillar** – Creating orderly, ethical, and reliable civic and governance structures are key to a prosperous society and economic growth.
- **Quality of Life & Quality of Place Pillar** – The region's unique natural resources make it a great place to live, learn, work, and play but this is not enough for future economic prosperity. The region must continue to plan for a future that encourages and creates opportunities for prosperity, healthcare, housing and livability, economic opportunity and prosperity, families and children, safety and security, retirement and lifelong engagement, and sense of place and community. These opportunities are essential to creating and maintaining a quality and competitive metropolitan area. Maintaining affordable housing and smart land use planning in Florida's communities is essential in fostering thriving families and neighborhoods. As a primary building block of prosperity, these factors impact the entire population from very low-income, low-income, and middle-class residents to upper-middle class and wealthy individuals and families, especially during times of unemployment to economic downturn.



Source: Miami Metro Skills Report, 2019

Florida Chamber Foundation Miami Metro Skills Report

In June 2021, the Florida Chamber Foundation released its Florida Workforce Needs Study (2021)[9] and accompanying Miami Metro Skills Report[10] which analyzes the Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach MSA. In the *Miami Metro Skills Report* the Foundation identifies and evaluates workforce skill gaps and opportunities that exist in the Miami Metro.

Researchers divided the workforce into "Career Areas" which groups workers by similarity of skills instead of industries. All career areas were then evaluated and compared to display the gap between workforce supply, employer demand, and deficiencies in skills training and core competencies in jobs were advertised wages exceed state averages. The criteria used to identify the target career areas include:

- High-volume shortages of in-demand competencies and skills observed in the career area.
- Advertised wage rates significantly exceeding state averages.
- Very strong historical job growth and expectation for continued growth as evidenced by high demand relative to supply.
- A wide array of career entry and growth opportunities supporting workforce transitions, training, and upskilling/reskilling initiatives.

Their research found that 433,313 net new jobs need to be created by 2030 to meet demand in four Career Areas identified as careers where the demand for workers is greater than the supply. These are 1) Education / Curation / Library Services; 2) Business / Finance; 3) Healthcare; and 4) IT / Math. This information is provided courtesy of the Florida Chamber Foundation.

VISION STATEMENT

The SFRPC Comprehensive Development Strategy (CEDS) will inspire and guide the region, its leaders, and the SFRPC Economic Development District in creating a dynamic region that measures economic resilience broadly to include, but not limited to, expanding access to opportunity by all residents especially those in low-income communities; business retention, attraction, entrepreneurial support; workforce development; mobility, access, and transit-oriented development (TOD); clean environment and resilient infrastructure; and regional collaboration. This strategy focuses on economic resiliency and recovery while building regional capacity; creating a stable and diversified economy; and improvements to the overall living environment for our citizens to create a more resilient, vibrant, equitable, and prosperous region.

VISION STATEMENT

Increase regional prosperity by building *economic resilience*, fostering *equitable job creation*, increasing local *collaboration*, and building a more *diversified economy* and a *connected environmentally sustainable* vibrant region.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN

The South Florida CEDS provides a strategy for resilient regional development aligning with other county, municipal, and state strategic plans. Based upon their experience and analysis, the CEDS Strategy Committee Members and Work Group Members developed robust, detailed implementation action strategies that will address four priority goals during the next five years. This is a plan for region-wide collaboration, pulling together the Region's diverse strengths and united energy to build upon South Florida's strengths and opportunities and address weaknesses and threats to South Florida's future.

This implementation plan will be utilized to help guide the selection of future economic development projects and investments as they are created to address critical barriers to regional economic prosperity. Each goal and objective are associated with tactics and specific actions to provide accountability and performance measurements.

CEDS STRATEGY COMMITTEE AND WORK GROUPS

The engagement of regional stakeholders played an integral role in the CEDS process. Council staff developed the foundation for the 2022-2027 CEDS update by comparing the approaches of other RPCs and considering local economic development priorities to assemble a highly qualified CEDS Steering Committee composed the region's top public, private, and non-profit leaders.

The CEDS Strategy Committee developed the plan's vision statement and strategies and identified potential implementation partners that will assist in the accomplishment of regional goals. Four subject matter expert Work Groups were created to address challenges and opportunities for economic diversification and develop strategies for training and shifting displaced tourism / leisure and hospitality workers into existing and emerging, higher wage industry clusters. These Work Groups tackled 1) Economic Diversification; 2) Business Attraction and Workforce Development; 3) Mobility and Access; and 4) Environment and Resilient Infrastructure.

Each Work Group conveyed their category's highest priority issues and strategies, identified priority projects, identified resource gaps, and collaborated with their staff to return to the SFRPC a list of projects, challenges, and outcomes for success. The CEDS Committee and Work Group recommendations and action steps follow below. On the following pages please find the "Priority Goals for the South Florida Region" as identified by the Committee and Work Group members.

PRIORITY GOAL 1: CULTIVATE A COMPETITIVE ECONOMY AND FOSTER ECONOMIC MOBILITY

1.1 Maintain a Competitive Edge

1. Support business incentives and programs to advance traditional and emerging industries, create local jobs, and increase competitiveness in a global marketplace.
2. Routinely review and update current and nascent cluster analyses to identify workforce needs.
3. Support high quality early childhood education (including family support services) and life skills trainings.
4. Recruit top-notch faculty to higher education institutions and market the region to relocating firms.
5. Enhance and support the regional airports and seaports.

1.2 Boost Entrepreneurial Development

1. Invest in small business and scalable startup training incubators and accelerators.
2. Integrate entrepreneurship into the K-12 curriculum to encourage it at a young age and provide a way change to an innovation mindset over time.
3. Support existing entrepreneurial programs offered by academic institutions and other partners.
4. Encourage new businesses, job creation, and investment within low-income communities to reverse negative trends, create equity and opportunity, and a more positive future for residents.
5. Educate the community about the importance of attracting entrepreneurs and instilling an entrepreneurial mindset.
6. Engage with the entrepreneurial population directly to create business events to retain them in the region.
7. Market and prepare missing entrepreneurial resources including access to community-based funding, angel investment, venture capital, and ecosystems.
8. Collaborate and educate local municipalities to expedite new business permits.

1.3 Invest in Workforce Development

Workforce development is a high economic development priority in South Florida. As noted in the Florida Chamber Foundation's 2021 Florida's Workforce Needs Study, a skilled and competitive labor force is key to the prosperity and sustainability of the economy.

The core of workforce development is the provision of high quality and targeted training for the workforce to match current and future business needs, and we address those below. However, we recognize that a successful strategy to build a competitive labor force requires a comprehensive approach. The concept of workforce development is no longer confined to diverse training programs or employment opportunities. The ability of a region to offer connected, well-maintained, and convenient transportation and transit systems to enhance mobility; diverse and affordable housing; quality affordable child-care; quality educational opportunities; and other amenities are an important part of a successful and sustainable workforce development strategy.

If a region cannot offer a good quality of life for its workforce, workers may choose to relocate, especially those in high-skilled, high-demand fields. Likewise, increasing postsecondary education attainment without sufficiently increasing the jobs that require advance talent simply furthers brain drain into regions and states where college-level and higher-skilled jobs are available.

1. Support and invest in apprenticeship, internships, youth employment, existing educational credentials, micro credentials, and on the job training programs to create high paying jobs and address future building trade labor shortages.
2. Connect the region's labor force with the necessary skills and trainings to create pathways for quality career opportunities in targeted industries of the region to fill in the workforce gap for high paying jobs.
3. Connect existing workforce needs with upskilling opportunities of underemployed workers.
4. Develop strategies to help close the gap between the region's employer needs and education.
5. Create and build upon strategies that lead to a more inclusive labor market that support the growth of quality jobs.
6. Strengthen resources and partnerships that support pathways to 21st century jobs.
7. Expand programs that build soft skills alongside certification or training.
8. Expand awareness of available workforce programs to local businesses and job seekers.

POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS INCLUDE:
SFRPC; CEDS Committee; Broward, Miami–Dade, and Monroe counties and municipalities; K-12 Public Schools; Academic & Research Institutions; Workforce Organizations; Chambers of Commerce; Children's Services Councils; Community- & Faith-Based Organizations; Miami-Dade & Broward Urban Leagues; Florida Department of Education; Hospitals; Industry Associations; Regional Employers; Youth Services; Community Foundations; Economic Development Organizations; Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

PRIORITY GOAL 2: CREATE VIBRANT AND CONNECTED PLACES TO INCREASE THE OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE

2.1 Promote transit planning, implementation, and utilization to move people throughout the region

1. Expand economically beneficial and safety-focused bicycle and pedestrian projects and facilities and support first and last mile connections to communities to include all modes of transportation.
2. Assess current and future housing availability and its alignment with future growth and employment patterns.
3. Support implementation/investment of a "South Florida Mobility Plan" including possible rail, rapid bus, and new technology.
4. Support policies that incentivize transit and Transit Oriented Development (TOD) investments such as a mobility fees, tax increment finance districts, and increased density around transit hubs.

2.2 Mobility and Access

1. Support placemaking investments in diverse communities throughout the region to meet the needs of residents.
2. Accelerate investments in livable-walkable neighborhoods to increase safety and strengthen connections to key community resources.
3. Provide access to affordable and safe transportation options.
4. Support and/or facilitate infrastructure to accelerate electric, connected, and autonomous vehicles adoption.
5. Leverage existing infrastructure through new technologies.

POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

SFRPC; CEDS Committee; Broward, Miami–Dade, and Monroe counties and municipalities; county & municipal transportation/transit agencies and planning departments; Florida Department of Transportation; Broward County Planning Council; Miami-Dade County TPO; Broward County MPO; Academic & Research Institutions; South Florida Regional Transportation Authority; Brightline; Regional Employers, Economic Development Organizations; Industry Associations

PRIORITY GOAL 3: DESIGN, CONSTRUCT, AND MAINTAIN RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS AND POPULATION GROWTH

3.1 Water/Wastewater/ Stormwater

1. Work proactively with local governments, state agencies, and other relevant groups to identify causes of water pollution and coordinated strategies to alleviate them.
2. Investigate opportunities for future water, wastewater, and stormwater system expansion, hardening, coordination, connection, and/or interconnections to achieve regional resilience, resource optimization, and environmental priorities.
3. Reduce barriers and increase accessibility to more diverse alternative water sources through utilities (rainwater, greywater, stormwater, and recycled/reused water and the Floridan Aquifer).
4. Support financial models and funding strategies addressing regional stormwater management, including support to funding alternatives to advance projects identified as part of the upcoming Central and Southern Florida Resilience Studies being initiated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) and the South Florida Water Management District as the local sponsor.

3.2 Housing

1. Educate policy makers, staff, and additional stakeholders about the role quality affordable housing plays in support of a healthy economy.
2. Increase density housing along transportation corridors and around TOD mobility hubs through partnerships with the public and private sectors.
3. Encourage zoning changes of commercial areas to include multifamily residential development.
4. Support new and current financial incentives for affordable and workforce housing.
5. Advocate for legislative changes and solutions to curb skyrocketing homeowner and flood insurance policy premiums.

3.3 Sustainable Land Development Patterns

1. Support programs and investments that match public and private land use and development decisions with existing and planned infrastructure investments.
2. Educate governments, citizens, and developers on the importance of investing in green and climate-resilient infrastructure.
3. Inventory available properties that need restoration and/or preservation, including brownfields and historic districts and resources.

3.4 Proactively Plan for Natural Disasters / Economic Shocks

1. Align regional planning efforts with local Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plans, Local Emergency Planning Committee, Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact, Florida Division of Emergency Management, and other partners to enhance local and regional preparedness, mitigation, and response due to sea level rise, tidal flooding, storm surge, and saltwater intrusion.
2. Develop a list of critical wetlands for protection using the Land Acquisition Trust Fund based on the critical ecological value of wetland and vulnerability to development.
3. Enhance and protect the environment and the region's natural resources.
4. Educate local governments on the importance of effective land use planning, zoning code updates, incentive programs, and the development of disaster-specific structure design to better prepare for likely shocks.
5. Create financing opportunities for resilient infrastructure and have a coordinated public private investment.
6. Create public private partnerships to pilot innovative resilience solutions including dedicated funding pools.
7. Collaborate with nonprofits and academic institutions to commercialize research on resiliency.

POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

SFRPC; CEDS Committee; Broward, Miami–Dade, and Monroe counties and municipalities; local planning and utilities departments; Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact; Academic Research Institutions, Florida Department of Environmental Protection; South Florida Water Management District; Florida Housing Coalition; Industry Associations; Community Foundations; Florida Advisory Council on Climate and Energy; Economic Development Organizations; Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

PRIORITY GOAL 4: PROMOTE REGIONAL COLLABORATION OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL, PUBLIC-PRIVATE, INTERAGENCY, AND NON-PROFITES TO ADDRESS SOUTH FLORIDA'S ECONOMIC CHALLENGES

4.1 Strengthen partnerships with existing regional organizations and explore opportunities for joint projects

1. Using the SFRPC as a liaison and communicator, enhance understanding of regional issues and areas of partners expertise among the region's public, private, non-profit, and philanthropic sectors.
2. Host and engage regional roundtables around topics of mutual interest and prioritization and growth of regional economic clusters.
3. Encourage widespread use of design charrettes and other venues for public input into project development.
4. Improve internal communications among all government agencies and stakeholders and support external communications processes through partners.
5. Engage the business community (including major employers), nonprofit sector, academic institutions, elected officials, and government staff (city managers, county administrators, ports/airports) to implement the CEDS.
6. Encourage coordination with the South Florida Regional Planning Council to increase focus on regional resilience and attract critical investment to the seven-county Southeast Florida Region.

POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

SFRPC; CEDS Committee; Broward, Miami–Dade, and Monroe counties and municipalities, Academic & Research Institutions; Industry Associations; Community Foundations; Economic Development Organizations; South Florida Business Council; Broward Workshop and other private-sector business leaders, elected officials, county and city administrators & managers; Ports/Airports; Non-Profit Organizations; Small Business Administration

ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

The creation of a resilient economy is a long-standing priority of the South Florida EDD and U.S. EDA. Resiliency has many facets with a wide range of contributing factors including literacy, educational attainment, transportation, housing, a wide range of infrastructure, general affordability (insurance, utilities, child-care, etc.), health, and family, social, and community influences. In South Florida climate resilience is recognized as an integral component of economic resilience and has been an area of significant effort and investment for more than a decade. In recent years the state of Florida has undertaken significant planning and investment to augment local efforts in South Florida and other areas of the state to advance resilient communities and economy initiatives.

Economic resilience refers to the ability of local economies to “bounce back” to normal conditions after losing function because of an uncontrollable event. Resilient economies have the capacity to quickly respond to, withstand, and recover from adverse situations such as a public health crisis or high intensity storm events. Bordered by the Atlantic Ocean, South Florida is an environmentally vulnerable region susceptible to intense flooding and other damage from tropical weather systems and hurricanes. As demonstrated by Hurricane Andrew (1992), Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Wilma (2005), and most recently Hurricane Irma (2017), the region faces potentially devastating physical, economic, and community damage when a powerful hurricane makes landfall in South Florida.

“Resilience” became an increasingly important concept with the onset of COVID-19 pandemic in South Florida in March 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic dramatically exposed the region’s economic inequality and the underlying weaknesses of the economy. While all economic sectors in South Florida were affected, the Leisure & Hospitality industry, a major employer of low-income workers, was the hardest hit sector in terms of employment loss and a decrease in economic activity. This industry basically shut down as in person interactions were limited or outright banned. Some of the region’s workers were able to transition smoothly to remote work without disruptions to their employment, but others could not.

The South Florida Regional Planning Council received funding from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) in August 2020 to support economic resilience efforts across the region directly related to COVID-19. With this funding SFRPC focused staff resources toward COVID-19 response, recovery, and long-term planning. The final Economic Resilience Plan was a coordinated effort to develop a strategic plan aligned with the CEDS for South Florida to address recovery from the economic shock of COVID-19, future pandemics, and similar economic shocks.

The stakeholders identified the highest priority issues in each of the four Focus Areas, set goals and objectives, and listed priority projects to address needs, goals, and objectives. Please refer to Appendix 1 for a list of stakeholder recommended projects, project outcomes, possible action partners, successful outcomes. To build a regional capacity for economic resilience, a network of partner organizations and individuals must anticipate risk, evaluate how that risk can impact critical economic assets, and build a responsive capacity.

Projected Outcomes:

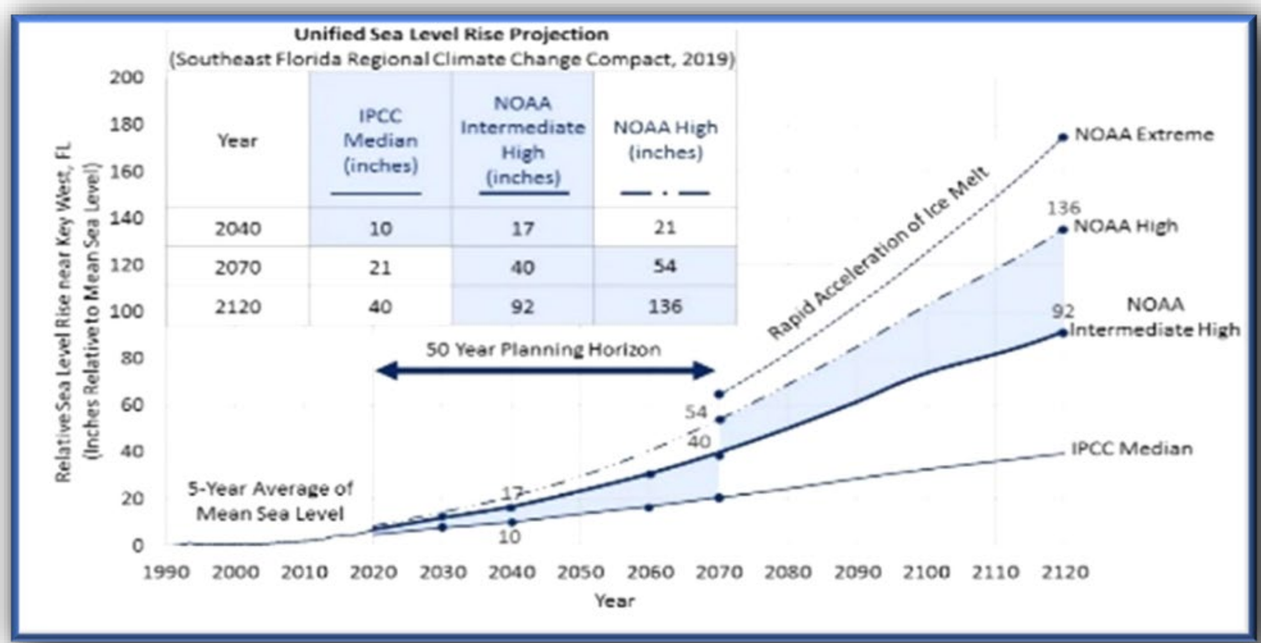
1. Creation of a fully staffed and operational training facility which can serve as an Emergency or Security Operations Center responding to disasters (pre, during, post) and improve training and communication channels for government and other local agencies.
2. Provide innovative solutions and digital technologies that will help resource constrained governments and regulators address capacity challenges and improve regulatory capacity, service delivery, and crisis management.
3. Augment and enhance support services in the areas of job training, childcare, success coaching, education, social services, and assist with work-related needs to transition low income, structurally unemployed individuals to living wage jobs and career pathways.
4. Advance equity by assisting resident entrepreneurs from low-wealth communities in launching sustainable businesses that will generate and build generational and community-based wealth.
5. Build a "Worker-Owned Enterprises" incubator that will provide services such as technical and legal assistance, consulting, and access to funding to businesses that wish to develop a worker cooperative.
6. Development of a much-needed talent skills pipeline that will advance the design and implementation of new programs including degrees and certifications to attract new talent, and train and retain local talent.
7. Create new technologies, recruit new companies, and generate scaling of early stage and young startup companies that will bring job creation.
8. Provide multimodal connectivity and create an interconnected system of transit and transportation opportunities that are easily accessible to all residents.
9. Secure regional grant funding which can be used for program development (degrees, certifications, short courses, seminars, workshops, event), Research & Development, "Train the Trainer" programs, the creation of new technologies etc. through enhanced regional collaboration and diverse partnerships.

South Florida's high concentration of businesses and workforce in the Hospitality & Leisure sector makes our economy exceptionally vulnerable to high impact events that adversely affect tourism such the pandemic, natural disasters, inflation, etc. In building South Florida's economic resilience, it is critical that economic development organizations and regional stakeholders continue efforts to reduce overreliance on the Hospitality & Leisure sector through education, training, and attracting a skilled workforce into higher paying industries. Creation of a connected, vibrant region that is supported by robust infrastructure and multimodal mobility network is needed as well. Communication and collaboration are keys to success. Government agencies and other regional stakeholders need to establish a process for regular communication, monitoring, and updating of business community needs and issues.

Climate Change / Sea Level Rise and Natural Disasters

South Florida's economic resilience is dependent, in significant measure, on the region's ability to mitigate and adapt to sea level rise and climate change while continuing to grow the regional economy. The region's leading business leaders and chambers of commerce, organized as the South Florida Business Council, are working closely with each other and elected leaders, the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact, and SFRPC to develop strategies to strengthen regional economic resilience.

In the short term, the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact in its *2019 Unified Sea Level Rise Projection – Southeast Florida*[11] estimates that sea level rise will be 10 to 17 inches by 2040 and 21 to 54 inches by 2070 (above the 2000 mean sea level in Key West, Florida). In the long term, sea-level rise is projected to be 40 to 136 inches by 2120. The adjacent chart presents estimates from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).



Source: Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact

Proactive efforts to address climate change – both in building resilience and reducing damaging gasses such as CO2 and Methane – represent specific economic development opportunities for the region.

These efforts will serve to preserve and enhance existing businesses and industries critical to a diverse economic base. The Southeast Florida Regional Climate Action Plan (RCAP 3.0), currently under development, contains Goals and Recommendations in 11 diverse topic areas including Regional Economic Resilience.

Its Guiding Goal is to "Strengthen regional economic resilience, integrity, and opportunity through the involvement of elected and business leadership, and the advancement of public and private investments that mitigate climate risks and foster innovative solutions.

GOAL: Strengthen regional economic resilience, integrity, and opportunity through the involvement of elected and business leadership, and the advancement of public and private investments that mitigate climate risks and foster innovative solutions.

RCAP 3.0 - Economic Resilience Recommendations

ER-1 Establish a regional economic resilience marketing strategy
ER-2 Advance regional resilience standards and infrastructure improvements
ER-3 Seek federal and state engagement to reduce flood risk.

ER-4 Integrate climate resilience and economic development at the regional level

ER-5 Improve understanding of the compounding role of climate change and sea level rise in the affordable housing crisis in the region. Identify opportunities for integrated solutions that center equity, prevent displacement, and bolster economic development.

ER-6 Identify diverse funding, financing institutions, and strategies that facilitate equitable resilience investments.

ER-7 Advocate for effective and affordable risk management strategies.

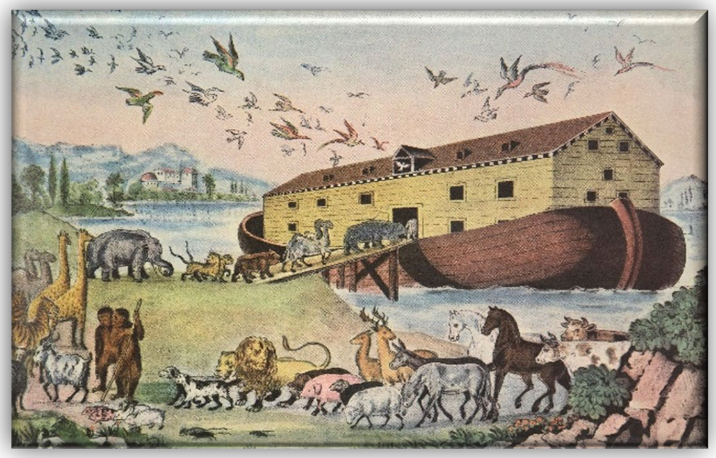
ER-8 Serve as a model for national climate resilience.

Source: https://southeastfloridaclimatecompact.org/regional-climate-action-plan-rcap-3-0-development/

In recent years, extreme heat has become an increasingly important concern. In its report *EXTREME HEAT The Economic and Social Consequences for the United States*, extreme heat is both the number one cause of death related to climate change with a current $10B annual economic cost to Miami-Dade alone with a projected increase to $20B by 2030. It adversely impacts trade and logistics, real estate, and construction.

Local and state government are making significant investments in both planning and infrastructure to grapple with the mounting impacts of climate change. Demonstrating its commitment, the State of Florida appropriated more than $3.6 billion to projects focused on the environment and water quality, including an investment of $1.2 billion for Everglades restoration in the 2022-2023 fiscal year. This appropriation in the Everglades Restoration and targeted water quality improvements brings the total investment for the past four year in these areas to more than $3.3 billion. Additionally, in FY 2021 – 2022 the State's Resilient Florida Program made $5.6 million worth of awards in planning grants for municipalities to conduct vulnerability assessments as well as adaptation plans.

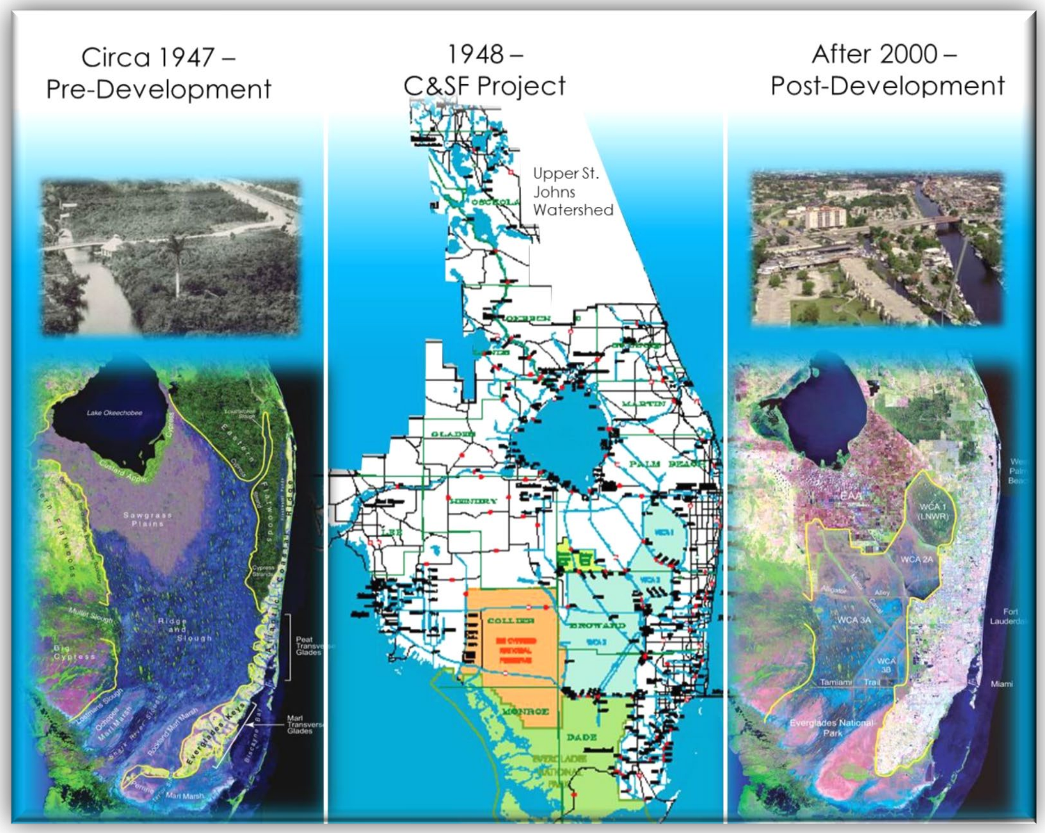
Central & Southern Florida Project



A key to economic resilience in South Florida is the proposed Central and Southern Florida Flood Resiliency Study. The Central and Southern Florida Project (CS&F) was authorized by Congress in 1948 – more than 70 years ago- and has served as an invaluable contributor to the economic success of south Florida, particularly Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. However, it was designed to deliver flood protection for 2 million residents, not the 11 million it currently serves or the estimated 15 million the CS&F is expected to serve in 30 years. Today the C&SF system is under substantial stress due to changes in the physical environment, especially increased rainfall intensity and rising sea levels. Stormwater severely strains the system and sea level rise significantly threatens project operations.

It is important to understand that central and southern Florida was carved out of the historic Everglades. Drainage Canals were built to drain the land to make the land suitable for agriculture and to prevent flooding. These canals generally drain the land by catching rainwater and sending it through the canals to the Atlantic Ocean. These canals are primarily gravity-based, meaning that they drain because the inland water is higher than the Ocean water, so gravity is sufficient to accomplish the draining. However, as Sea Level rises, it is becoming more and more difficult to drain the inland areas after times of high rain, particularly during high tide. Extreme high tide events already preclude operation of many of the flood control gates in the system.

Higher sea levels associated with high tide events have already reduced the operational capacity of many flood control gates and coastal structures in the C&SF water management system. Recent studies, performed by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD)[12] and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)[13] in 2020 and August 2022 respectively, determined that 20 C&SF coastal structures are experiencing full bank elevation at upstream canals during a 25-year / 4 percent annual exceedance probability surge with 1 foot or less of sea level rise, meaning that stormwater discharges capacity to tide are limited, resulting in reduced flood protection level of service in the entire upstream drainage basins. Local investment in resilience from land use to design standards and infrastructure improvements are dependent upon the effective functioning of the C&SF Project.



Source: South Florida Water Management District

The South Florida Water Management District and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers executed a feasibility study partnership agreement, on September 21, 2022 to advance the Central and Southern Florida Flood Resiliency Study under Section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1970. This study analyzes the current Central and Southern Florida Project (C&SF Project), that laid the groundwork for the series of flood protection canals that exist today.

Advancing the study is justified by the changing physical conditions already impacting the original project purposes, including land development, population increase, sea level rise and climate change. It assesses which infrastructure is at the highest risk of impact from a changing climate, watr supply needs, and surge protection. A phased approach is being proposed, focusing on the critical project features and coastal structures which can reduce the most immediate flood risk, based on a broad C&SF system overview, resulting in actionable recommendations to Congress.

This initial study will focus most immediately on improvements needed at the salinity control structures, with a comprehensive evaluation of the project still pending a broader authorization. Additionally, the amount of money needed to complete study recommendations will likely be in the billions of dollars. The Army

Corps has stated that the best-case scenario is to have initial projects constructed in 15 years, assuming full funding, while sea level rise is anticipated to further obstruct drainage and flood protection in the ensuing years. Additional exposure includes saltwater infiltration of South Florida's potable water supply via the aquifer if existing salinity control structures on the canals cannot keep saltwater at bay.

Water & Wastewater Infrastructure

As noted previously, all three counties are low-lying with very little elevation. Low elevations combined with the area's limestone ground makes the region exceptionally susceptible to the impacts of sea level rise. Traditional coastal solutions for addressing sea level rise, such as sea walls, are limited in their effectiveness in South Florida since sea water can rise through porous limestone and under sea walls. Adaptation plans call for more pumps, back-flow preventers to keep water from flowing into the systems, higher sea walls, and wells to store storm water runoff to enhance drainage and flood control.

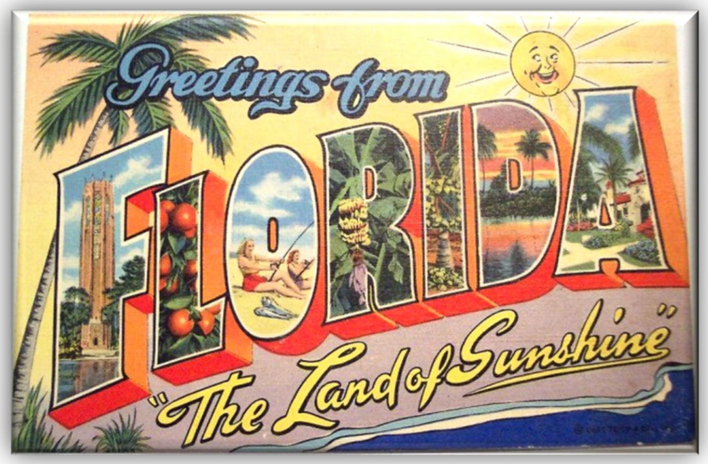
Sewage systems, roads and homes are at risk of flooding and damage due to the rising water levels. South Florida's antiquated drainage system is a "gravity fed" system meaning that when water rises, the system ceases to function. The impacts are most acutely felt during the fall months when king tides are prevalent and ocean pressure backs up through pipes, pushing saltwater above ground. The presence of numerous septic tanks throughout the region creates an exceptionally challenging situation as it relates to sea level rise. As sea levels rise the septic tanks can no longer drain, consequently sending dirty water into groundwater, surface water, or marine water and, at times, sending sewage into yards and homes. The overflow carries nitrogen, phosphorus, bacteria, viruses, and pharmaceuticals into the groundwater and ultimately surface waters. The sewage causes both public health problems and contributes to demise of the coral reefs. The costly challenge of converting septic tanks to centralized sewage systems has long plagued the region.

Most properties in Monroe County are now connected to a municipal sewer system since being ordered by the State of Florida to convert its 33,000 septic and cesspits to centralized sewer systems. In Broward County there are an estimated 67,000 septic systems in use[14]. The Broward County Water Advisory Board has highlighted septic systems as a top priority for connection to central systems and is working with municipal governments to achieve this.

In 2019, Miami-Dade County issued a report that estimated it would take $3 billion for the county to make the switch from septic tanks to sewer systems, and it was stated that as many as 56% of septic tanks in Miami-Dade are not working properly at times. To improve the resiliency of the region's wastewater infrastructure, local government officials in Miami-Dade recently announced $230 million in funding to convert 13,000 of the 120,000 septic tanks in the county to municipal wastewater infrastructure within the next 5 years. Additionally, the Florida Department of Environment and Protection will make funding available for low-income households to make the costly connections from their homes to the newly installed municipal infrastructure. This initial step to convert more than 10% of the septic tanks is a critical step to making the region's infrastructure more resilient to climate change.

POPULATION TRENDS

Continued Growth



South Florida had a population of 4.7 million in 2020. According to the Florida Office of Economic and Demographic Research, the region is projected to add about 717,000 new residents in the tri-county area through 2045 to reach an estimated population of 5.4 million. The regional economy and number of residents who call South Florida home has consistently increased over time. Between 2010 and 2020 the population of Broward County grew by 11.7% and Miami-Dade County by 8%, outpacing the growth of the nation. Meanwhile, Monroe County's population remained relatively unchanged. Despite significant population growth from 2010 – 2020, the most recent Census data update for the period of July 2020 – July 2021 shows population decline for Miami-Dade and Broward counties. This recent population decline, masked partially by international migration, is attributable to a trend of out-migration from Miami-Dade and Broward counties. It appears that this out-migration may be in response to soaring housing and cost of living costs.

According to annual reports from United Van Lines, U-Haul, and Allied Van Lines, Florida, with its beaches and natural environment, no income tax, and cultural and recreational opportunities is consistently once again in the top 5 of inbound states with 39.29% of respondents choosing Florida as a top state to retire in 2020[15]. For those who can work remotely, the broad adoption of remote work policies has made it possible to live in one state and work in another.

The major van lines report that the pandemic continues to influence American's decisions to move as they relocate to lower-density communities and to be closer to family. Florida is particularly attractive to high-income earners seeking to exit high cost, high tax states who find Florida relatively affordable despite rising housing and living prices. Florida was a top inbound state in 2021 although it appears that growth is concentrating outside of South Florida. South Florida is a popular destination for residents from California and New York and is expected to benefit from high-earning professionals relocating from high-cost, higher-density cities in the Northeast and West Coast who still seek to enjoy an urban lifestyle.

Age & Diversity

The age distribution of the population in Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe shows significant increases in the 45 - 64 year old age cohort over the past 30 years. All the counties also show a decline in the percent of the population in the 18 - 44 year old category. Miami-Dade and Broward counties also show decreases in the percent of the population in the 0 - 17 cohort as well as increases in the percent of the population in the 65 plus cohort signaling a potential workforce shortage in the future. The population age trends of Miami-Dade and Monroe counties mirrors that of the state of Florida. Only Broward County shows an increase in the percent of the population in the 0 - 17 cohort and a decline in the 65 plus cohort, although this is only true over the 30-year analysis as Broward joined Miami-Dade and Monroe in decreases in the 0-17 cohort over the last 20 years.

South Florida's population is diverse, with many people arriving in the region from other places. According to Census data from the 2016-2020 American Community Survey, 54% of the population in Miami-Dade was foreign born; 34.3% of persons in Broward County; and 19.8% in Monroe County compared to the U.S. average of 13.5%[16]. The gender of residents is almost evenly split in all counties. The median age in Broward and Miami-Dade is 40.5 and 40.2 respectively with a higher median age of 47.9 in Monroe County. The median age of foreign-born residents is higher, with the exception of Monroe County.

South Florida's veteran community represents 5% of Florida's veterans or 71,574 veterans living in Broward County, 47,227 veterans in Miami-Dade, and almost 6,400 veterans in Monroe County. While a small part of the overall population of the region, this population may require specialized services and attention.

The ethnic and racial composition of South Florida's population continues to grow more diverse. Nearly 40% of the region's population today is of Hispanic origin. This ethnic group, which can be of any race, continues to grow more diverse with large communities from Central and South America, the Caribbean, Mexico, and Puerto Rico. The Cuban community is historically the largest Hispanic group, although its percentage of the overall Hispanic population has slowly decreased as other Hispanic populations grow. The Black population in South Florida includes not only African Americans but also large communities from the Caribbean and Latin America. In 2020 the Black population represented 16.8% of the overall population. The growing and highly diverse population is an asset for the region's competitiveness in the global economy. It provides a multi-ethnic, multi-lingual workforce and culturally diverse environment for businesses and international companies.

Age Distribution (Percentage) of the Population of Florida and Its Counties 1990 to 2020

		Percent of Population			
		2020	2010	2000	1990
Broward	0-17	21.2	22.4	23.6	20.6
	18-44	34.7	35.6	38.6	40.2
	45-64	27.4	27.7	21.7	18.6
	65+	16.7	14.3	16.1	20.7
Miami-Dade	0-17	20.4	21.9	24.8	24.3
	18-44	36.3	38.5	40.1	41.5
	45-64	27	25.6	21.7	20.3
	65+	16.3	14.1	13.3	13.9
Monroe	0-17	15.3	15.1	17.1	17.5
	18-44	30.8	32.5	37.4	43
	45-64	31.5	35.4	30.9	23.7
	65+	22.4	17.1	14.6	15.8
Florida	0-17	19.9	21.3	22.8	22.3
	18-44	33.3	34.4	36.9	39.8
	45-64	26.3	27	22.7	19.7
	65+	20.5	17.3	17.6	18.2

Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau (2020, 2010, 2000, and 1990 Census)

Percentage of Foreign Born Persons (2016-2020) ACS		
Broward		34.3%
Miami-Dade		54.0%
Monroe		19.8%
United States		13.5%

Sources: Census 2016-2020 ACS

EDUCATION

Educational Attainment

Education is a key component of economic competitiveness, equity, and economic mobility. Monroe and Broward counties populations show higher percentages of persons age 25 or older with a high school degree or higher at 91.9% and 89.4% respectively. Miami-Dade County has a significantly lower percent of the population possessing a high school degree or higher at 81.8% compared to 88.5% of the U.S. population age 25 or higher. The percent of the population with a bachelor's degree or higher in Miami-Dade County at 30.7% lags behind the national average of 32.9%, where Broward and Monroe counties show similar and higher rates of population with Bachelors' degrees or higher at 35.3% and 33.1% respectively[17].

Enrollment & Diversity

Miami-Dade County Public Schools is the 4th largest school district in the nation with nearly 400 schools and a diverse enrollment of more than 350,000 students from over 160 countries. Broward County is the 6th largest school district in the nation with 330 schools and more than 256,000 students from more than 170 countries. The Monroe County School District is home to 16 learning institutions serving almost 9,000 students. Additionally, there are 703 private schools, many religiously affiliated, serving the tri-county area.

K – 12 ENROLLMENT DATA							
State of Florida Public Schools							
Year	**Total Enrollment**	**White**	**Black**	**Hispanic**	**2 or More Races**	**Asian**	**Other**
2017-18	2,869,115	1,077,904	626,568	938,248	99,333	77,817	49,245
2021-22	2,833,179	1,021,740	602,424	1,004,441	113,466	79,142	11,966
Miami-Dade County Public Schools							
Year	**Total Enrollment**	**White**	**Black**	**Hispanic**	**2 or More Races**	**Asian**	**Other**
2017-18	354,840	24,327	72,670	251,572	2,037	3,940	294
2021-22	329,575	20,830	61,389	241,471	2,049	3,595	241
Broward County Public Schools							
Year	**Total Enrollment**	**White**	**Black**	**Hispanic**	**2 or More Races**	**Asian**	**Other**
2017-18	271,956	55,726	105,896	92,089	7,247	9,816	440
2021-22	256,037	45,617	99,018	94,389	6,715	9,347	407
Monroe County Public Schools							
Year	**Total Enrollment**	**White**	**Black**	**Hispanic**	**2 or More Races**	**Asian**	**Other**
2017-18	8,500	3,874	902	3,307	270	132	0
2021-22	8,851	3,857	1,025	3,528	328	94	11

Source: FL DOE https://edudata.fldoe.org/AdvancedReports.html

	2017-2018	**2021-2022**
Florida		
Charter	295,814	361,939
Non-Charter	2,573,301	2,471,240
Total	2,869,115	2,833,179
Broward		
Charter	45,799	48,574
Non-Charter	226,157	207,463
TTL	271,956	256,037
Miami-Dade		
Charter	65,296	77,675
Non-Charter	289,544	251,900
TTL	354,840	329,575
Monroe		
Charter	1,113	1,160
Non-Charter	7,387	7,691
TTL	8,500	8,851

https://edudata.fldoe.org/AdvancedReports.html

A review of public-school enrollment data for Florida, Miami-Dade, Broward, and Monroe counties from 2017-18 through 2021-2022 indicates that, except for Monroe County, overall enrollment in the public school system in Florida, Miami-Dade, and Broward has been steadily decreasing each year from 2017-2018 to 2021-22. In Florida, all Charter schools are part of the Public School system, although they operate largely independently of local School Boards. In the state of Florida and in the three counties, the overall number of students in charter schools increased and as non-charter public school enrollment decreased.

The Florida Department of Education's (FL DOE) Race and Ethnicity definitions do not account for white or black Hispanics, Asians etc. Whites are defined as having origins in the peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa. Similarly, Hispanics are persons of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central America irrespective of race. Blacks are persons having origins in black racial groups in Africa.

By these definitions the Broward County School District is somewhat more diverse than the Miami-Dade County Public Schools District. "Whites" have decreased in all three counties, "Blacks" have decreased in Miami-Dade and Broward, with Broward County Public Schools having the greatest number of Asians and Pacific Islanders. Hispanics in Miami-Dade County Public Schools are by the far the largest population while in Broward Public Schools, there are more Blacks than Hispanics. In Monroe County, both Blacks and Hispanics are growing in number. While these statistics do not account for the difference between race and ethnicity, there is a growing concern about re-segregation in public schools. During 2017-2018 the number of white students decreased from 6.9% to 6.3% of the student population in Miami-Dade; 20.5% to 17.8% in Broward County; and 45.6% to 43.9% in Monroe County.

Public School Funding (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

The Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) enacted by the Florida Legislature in 1973 was established to provide each student access to program and services that are substantially equal to any similar student irrespective of geographical differences and local economic factors. The FEFP considers variations in 1) local property tax bases; 2) education program costs; 3) cost of living; and 4) costs for equivalent educational programs due to sparsity and dispersion of the student population. In 2019 – 20 school districts received 39.15 % of their financial support from state sources, 50.11 % from local sources including the Required Local Effort portion of the FEFP, and 10.73 % from federal sources[18].

The FEFP funding formula is quite complex. In the 2022-23 Florida Budget legislators increased per-student funding by $384.55 to $8,143[19] which is the highest amount per-student funding in Florida's history. Even so, the Florida Education Association argues that "the budget has not caught up with pre-recession levels when adjusted for inflation." According to the Education Data Initiative's U.S. Public Education Spending Statistics last updated June 15, 2022, Florida receives the third-largest amount of federal K-12 education funding at $1,243 per public. Florida ranks 42nd in spending and 43rd in funding among the states.[20] While funding is not the only factor, or even the most important component of student educational performance, it is certainly a critical component particularly when considering the need to hire, train, and keep the highest quality teachers.

Staff Note: This section requires the special expertise and additional data from the School Districts and State of Florida. US News reports per student revenue of $11,149 with per pupil spending of $10,366 in Miami-Dade County Public Schools[21]; per student revenue of $10,765 with per pupil spending of $10,142 in Broward County;[22] per student revenue of $17,599 with per pupil spending of $13,954 in Monroe County.[23] While the source of the data are the school districts, the date the data is not provided but it appears to be recent.

(Source: https://www.usnews.com/education/k12/districts#FL)

Educational Quality (UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

Numerous organizations assess and rank the nation's public K-12 school systems by the "quality" of their elementary, middle, and high schools. Florida's ranking varies widely depending on the organization preparing the ranking. Ed Week's *Quality Counts 2021: Educational Opportunities and Performance in Florida*,[24] the organization referenced by the Florida Department of Education, reports that Florida finished 23rd among the 50 states and District of Columbia with an overall score of 75.6 out of 100 points and a grade of C in 2021; the same average score of the nation as a whole. The states are graded and ranked in three categories: Chance for Success, School Finance, and K-12 Achievement. These scores are averaged and reflected on the report card.

Education has been identified by the Florida Chamber Foundation as the critical foundation toward meeting the goal of having the #1 workforce and talent pipeline in America. The Pew Charitable Trusts in its Economic Mobility Project series and report *Pathways to Economic Mobility: Key Indicators* highlights education as the largest known factor in explaining the connection between parents' earnings and their children's.

All skills begin with developing proficiency in reading and mathematics at an early age to create the foundation for future learning and workforce success. A key measure of future success in school is Third Grade Reading Performance. A long-term study by the Annie E. Casey Foundation *Early Warning! Why Reading by the End of Third Grade Matters* states that reading proficiently by the end of third grade can be a make-or-break benchmark in a child's educational development because up until the third grade, most children are learning to read. After third grade, they are reading to learn, and applying this skill to gain information, think critically, solve problems, and act upon the information they are gaining. They continue that "low achievement in reading has long-term consequences in terms of individual earning potential, global competitiveness, and general productivity." Child studies show that low literacy achievement is associated with behavioral and social problems, and higher high school drop-out rates. Recognizing the importance of reading literacy at this early age, the Florida Chamber Foundation has highlighted in their *Florida Workforce Needs Study* that "100% of Florida 3rd graders reading at or above grade level" is a critical aspirational goal and component of developing Florida's future workforce and economy.

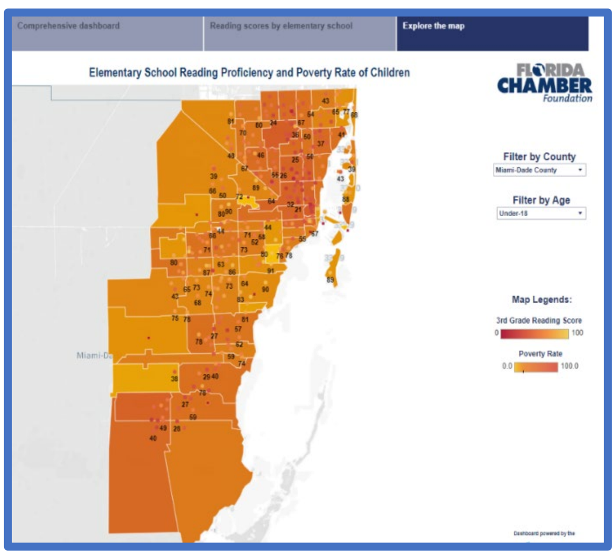
SFRPC staff reviewed Florida Statewide Assessment Reports[25] and 3rd grade reading scores provided by the Florida Department of Education by school and county. Key to understanding what the test scores mean is understanding the Performance Levels used by the Florida Department of Education. The Florida Department of Education tracks school districts as well as individual schools based by percentages of students in each category.

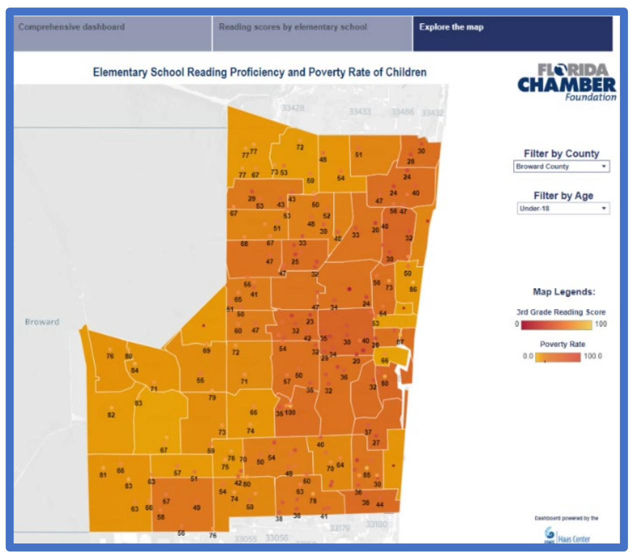
1. **Inadequate** - Highly likely to need substantial support for the next grade/course
2. **Below Satisfactory** - Likely to need substantial support for the next grade/course
3. **Satisfactory** - May need additional support for the next grade / course
4. **Proficient** - Likely to excel in the next grade / course
5. **Mastery** - Highly likely to excel in the next grade / course

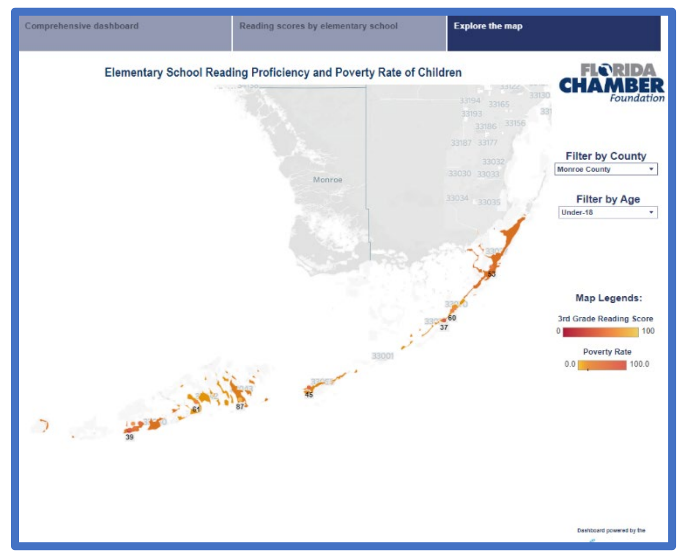
District Number	District Name	English Language Arts – Third Grade Reading Scores Percentage Achievement Level 3 or Above Satisfactory or Above													
		2015	GAP	2016	GAP	2017	GAP	2018	GAP	2019	GAP	2021	GAP	2022	GAP
00	**STATE**	**53%**	**47%**	**54%**	**46%**	**58%**	**42%**	**57%**	**43%**	**58%**	**42%**	**54%**	**46%**	**53%**	**47%**
06	BROWARD	52%	**48%**	55%	**45%**	57%	**43%**	59%	**41%**	60%	**40%**	53%	**47%**	**54%**	**46%**
13	MIAMI-DADE	53%	**47%**	54%	**46%**	58%	**42%**	61%	**39%**	60%	**40%**	57%	**43%**	**56%**	**44%**
44	MONROE	63%	**37%**	60%	**40%**	68%	**32%**	62%	**38%**	70%	**30%**	58%	**42%**	**52%**	**48%**

The shortfall in reading proficiency is particularly pronounced in low-income children. In comparing the individual school 3rd Grade Reading Assessment scores in 2017 and 2022 by county, the data documents that schools with 50%, 60%, 70% + failure rates (= Categories 1 + 2) are more often in high poverty areas. These assessments can be accessed by year, test topic, school district, and individual schools at 2022 (fldoe.org).

Interactive Maps from the Florida Chamber Foundation provide a visual picture of failing schools in predominantly low-income, minority areas. The Third Grade Reading Score is the percentage of students who achieved Level 3 or Above in the 3rd Grade Reading Florida Standards Assessment alongside the child poverty rate of the school's zip code. Greater detail can be seen by visiting The Florida GAP Map at https://www.flchamber.com/floridagapmap/.







School District Grading Model

Data from the Florida Department of Education showed Broward County Public Schools earned a “B” rating in 2022, which is indicative of its historical performance. Miami-Dade County Public Schools earned an “A” rating in 2022, which it has maintained since 2018. Monroe County Public Schools slipped from an “A” rating in 2019 to a “B” rating in 2022 (data for 2020 and 2021 are not available due to COVID-19). Graduation rates for 2020 – 2021 for the school districts remained relatively high and are as follows: Broward: 89%; Miami-Dade: 90%; and Monroe: 91%.

The School Grading Model is complex and varies from elementary to middle to high school measuring not only achievement but learning gains, graduation rates, and acceleration success. With the passage of CS/SB 1048 (Chapter 2022-16) and SB 2524 (Chapter 2022-154), the Florida Legislature, amongst other measures, substantially modified Florida’s statewide standardized assessment program and school grading system. The updated school grading system will begin no earlier than in the 2023-2024 school year. Over time an “A” will require 90% or more of the points (currently 62% or greater); a “B” will require 80% to 89% of the points (currently 54% - 61%); a “C” will require 70% to 79% of the points (currently 41% - 53%); and a “D” will require 60 to 69 percent of the points (currently 32% - 40%).

Access to Broadband Internet

Access to a computer and broadband Internet, are key necessities and tools for living, learning, and working in 2022. This is a comparison of households with access to Broadband Internet and Households with a computer.

Households With Access to Broadband Internet Percent of Households, 2016 - 2020		Households with a Computer Percent of Households, 2016-2020
County	**Percent (%)**	**Percent (%)**
Florida	**85.4**	**93.1**
United States	**85.2**	**91.9**
Broward	86.5	94.3
Miami-Dade	80.0	92.4
Monroe	85.7	94.2
Other Large Counties		
Hillsborough	89.6	95.0
Orange	89.6	95.7
Palm Beach	86.9	93.7
Pinellas	85.1	92.1

Source: U.S. Census Quick Facts; U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: United States

Postsecondary & Higher Education
Trade, Career, and Vocational Schools

There are many options for quality Postsecondary Education in South Florida. In addition to boasting top quality public and private colleges and universities, South Florida is increasingly leading the way in providing training pathways in Trade, Career, and Vocational Schools.

As many baby boomers enter retirement, well paying, essential skilled trade jobs need to be filled. With training courses averaging from six months to two years, these schools provide direct and less expensive career pathways for students in careers that are in-demand, well paying, and quickly accessible in the labor market. If South Florida fails to fill these upper middle-class jobs as the current workforce ages out, the economy of South Florida and residents will suffer a substantial adverse impact.

Good jobs for workers without bachelor's degrees are increasingly concentrated in skilled services. These high demand jobs include, but are not limited to, electronic technicians, aircraft technicians, the construction trades (HVAC technicians, plumbers, pipefitter, electricians, inspectors, welders etc.), medical technicians, automotive mechanics, landscape designers, web developers, and elevator mechanics to name a few.

South Florida's education and workforce development partners are working to elevate Trade, Career, and Vocational Schools as a promising path for high school students who can't, or do not want to, pursue a traditional college or university degree immediately following high school. The Public School System, colleges, and workforce development organizations are leading the way along with county and state government, unions, the Associated Builders and Contractors, career technical education /vocational schools operated by the region's School Boards, and non-profit partners.

The U.S. Department of Commerce EDA recently announced a $1.8 million grant to Miami-Dade College to support creation of a new Construction Trade Institute where they expect to train 120 students per year. The College of the Florida Keys has a new Construction Apprenticeships in a Construction Technologies Program that offers new opportunities to help individuals train and advance in high wage, high demand construction careers in the Florida Keys. This program is offered tuition free with paid employment – including raises – while taking classes. Students are employed and paid full time by a sponsoring employer that is partnered with the College of the Florida Keys.

Broward College's Broward UP provides courses and workshops to upskill and retool students for the workforce by providing both the technical and soft skills needed for college and career readiness. Course offerings span multiple career pathways and impart valuable skills that can be applied to numerous work settings. Certifications can be earned in as little as one day or up to several months online from a student's neighborhood. Through grant funding, Broward UP offers free courses and workshops to qualify students who reside in targeted low-income communities and those referred by community partners. The Broward County

Board of County Commissioners approved a Construction Apprenticeship Program that requires vendors (contractors) bidding on County construction projects to participate in an apprenticeship program registered with the Florida Department of Education or the United States Department of Labor.

Higher Education

South Florida's public and private colleges, universities, and specialty centers such as the NOVA NSU Alan B. Levan | NSU Broward Center of Innovation, FIU Sea Level Solutions Center, and FAU Center for Environmental Solutions are leading the way in higher education. These colleges and universities, many of them award winning institutions, offer students educational opportunities in every field of study.

Ocean Research is an important and growing field of expertise in the region. Although many people think of Wood's Hole Massachusetts or San Diego as leading the nation in University Based marine research, in fact South Florida's four Universities together compromise the largest university-based marine research. The four Research Universities have combined to create the South Florida Marine Research Hub. The NOVA Guy Harvey Oceanograhic Center, UM's Cooperative Institute for Marine & Atmospheric Studies and Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, FAU SeaTech, and FIU Institute of Environment are key institutions that have made South Florida a unique leader in ocean and coral reefs research, marine-based medicine, and energy development among other areas.

Research institutions are leading in the development of new patents. In September 2022, Florida International University placed among the top three Florida universities for creating new patented technology with 62 new patents this year alone.

REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION		
Major Four-Year Institutions	**Medical Schools**	**Two Year + Institutions of Higher Education**
• Barry University • Everglades University • Florida Atlantic University • Florida International University • Florida Memorial University • Lynn University • Miami International University of Art & Design • Nova Southeastern University • St. Thomas University • University of Miami	• University of Miami Miller School of Medicine • Florida Atlantic University Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine • Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine • Nova Southeastern University Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine • Nova Southeastern University Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Allopathic Medicine	• Broward College • Miami Dade College • The College of the Florida Keys • City College Fort Lauderdale • Keiser University • Vargas University

Key Findings:

1. Fair and Equal Access to Opportunity and upward economic mobility is inextricably tied to K-12 Public Education. If South Florida families and leaders fail to address the issue of low performing schools and 3rd Grade Reading and Math Performance among other important metrics, large numbers of children, many low-income, will be on a road to a very difficult life and poor economic prospects adversely impacting not only their future quality of life and that of their families, but also South Florida's economy.

2. Trade, Career, and Vocational Schools are a critical part of South Florida's future workforce development providing highly skilled workers in the professional trades that South Florida residents and businesses need to work and live in South Florida. To the extent that there is a "stigma" associated with not going to college or a university straight out of high school, it is important to elevate these schools as valued and important career pathways which provide well-paying jobs in less time with little or no educational debt.

3. Expertise in climate and ocean research makes South Florida a logical hub for climate and ocean research, innovation, new technologies, and business creation.

ALICE Index

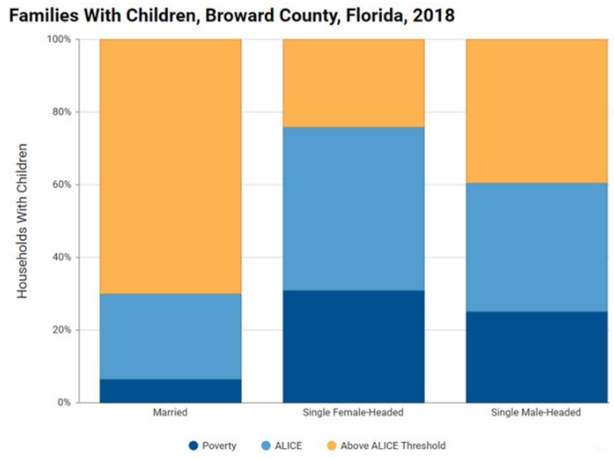
The **ALICE** Index, which stands for **A**sset **L**imited, **I**ncome **C**onstrained, and **E**mployed provides a different view of financial burden than the official measure of poverty used by the Census Bureau. United Way, the developer of the index, describes ALICE as representing "those who work hard and are above the poverty line, but due to high costs and factors often beyond their control, must live paycheck to paycheck." The COVID-19 pandemic exposed exactly the issues of economic fragility and widespread hardship that the United for ALICE and ALICE data reveals. Their most recent 2020 report, shows that the cost of living for the ALICE population is growing significantly in both urban and rural areas, often driven by the cost of housing.

ALICE households are determined by the ALICE Household Survival Budget, a county-specific estimate of the minimal cost of living. It includes housing, food, transportation, health care, childcare, taxes, a modest phone bill, and a small "contingency fund" equal to 10% of the total budget. Incidentals like emergency repairs, Internet and cable, or holiday gifts are not figured into the ALICE Household Survival Budget. Due to skyrocketing housing prices, healthcare, childcare, transportation, food costs, and other essentials, more families are unable to afford their basic needs and have fallen below the ALICE threshold into poverty.

A sset
L imited
I ncome
C onstrained
E mployed

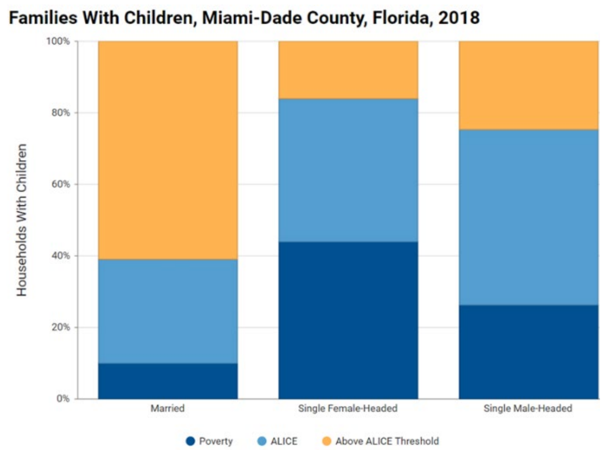
Broward County

- 50% of households in Broward County are ALICE or below the ALICE threshold. An increase of 6% since 2017.
- Families with children have been hit the hardest. With the new, more county specific figures reflected in this Household Survival Budget, the minimum needed to survive has increased by roughly 22.5% over the budget from just two years ago.
- https://unitedforalice.org/local-maps/focus-children



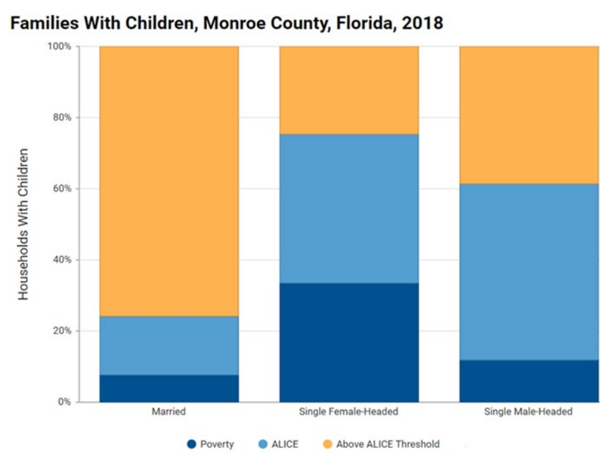
Miami-Dade County

- 63% of households in Miami-Dade County are ALICE or below the ALICE threshold. An increase of 16.8% since 2017.
- While the number of households in poverty has declined from 2015 to 2020, the number of ALICE households has continued to increase. Rising costs of seven of the eight essential monthly budget items increased significantly over the past decade, while wages for ALICE workers have remained largely stagnant.



Monroe County

- 37% of households in Monroe County are ALICE or below the ALICE threshold. A decrease of 9% since 2017.
- While the number of households in poverty has declined from 2015 to 2020 according to census data, the number of ALICE households has continued to increase. Rising costs of seven of the eight essential monthly budget items increased significantly over the past decade, while wages for ALICE workers have remained largely stagnant. Based on 2018 data, the economic benefit to Florida of bringing all households to the ALICE Threshold would be approximately $244 billion, meaning that the state GDP would grow by 23%.[26]



ALICE Households with Children and Poverty Levels

A review of data from United for ALICE shows that 16% of children in the U.S. lived in poverty in 2019 while another 33% were growing up in households that earn above the poverty level but earn less than what it costs to purchase basic necessities. Broward and Miami-Dade counties have higher percentage of ALICE Households with Children with 41% and 42% respectively. Broward County's poverty rate of Households with Children in 2019 was equal to that of the United States at 16% while Miami-Dade's poverty rate was higher at 20%. In this study, Miami-Dade and Monroe counties were combined. [27]

Family Structure, Poverty, & the Economic Mobility of Families

The Economic Mobility Project[28], an Initiative of The Pew Charitable Trusts, Foundation, found in its studies Pathways to Economic Mobility: Key Indicators (2008)[29] and *Getting Ahead or Losing Ground: Economic Mobility in America (2008)*[30] that "the economic position of many children is "… closely tied to the economic mobility of their parents and that African American children have much less upward mobility – and more downward mobility – than white children." The report continues that "numerous studies have found that family structure matters" with "children growing in stable, married families less likely to drop out of schools, less likely to have children as teenagers, and less likely to be out of school but not working, all of which could lead to greater economic success." Additionally, "studies have found that "children whose parents divorce have, on average, lower test scores and worse behavioral outcomes."

The *ALICE in Focus: Children Florida Research Brief (April 2022)*[31], provides important data on the importance of family structure on the well-being of children from a financial standpoint.

Children by Household Financial Status and Key Demographics (Florida 2019). Takeaways include:

- Single-Female-Headed households with children are second only to Married, Different Sex Households and vastly outnumber Single-Male-Headed households with children (1,224,787 and 378,862 respectively).
- Of these households 78% or 955,334 of Single-Female Headed households are below the ALICE threshold (36% in Poverty and 42% ALICE) compared to 63% or 239,000 of Single-Male-Headed households (18% in Poverty and 45% ALICE).
- Unmarried couples have worse outcomes than married couples with 26% Poverty and 38% ALICE.
- Married, Different Sex households represent approximately 61% of Florida's families. They perform better than any other family structure with 54% above the ALICE threshold, 37% ALICE, and 8% Poverty.
- Two Adults, Two Workers households have the best outcomes with 4% Poverty, 32% ALICE, and 64% above the ALICE threshold.
- One Adult, One Worker households have the worst outcome among workers with 31% Poverty, 46% ALICE, and 24% above the ALICE threshold.

Impact of Fatherless Families

In Miami-Dade County the number of single-parent households with children have increased from 35.8% in 2009 to 38.2% in 2020. In Broward County the number of single parent households have increased to 36.52% in 2020 from 34% in 2009, with Monroe County increasing from 29.3 in 2009 to 32.9% in 2020. The highest ALICE and poverty rates in Households with Children are found in Female-headed Single-Parent Households so an increase in these households is a negative trend for South Florida's families and economy[32].

There are numerous resources that discuss the deleterious impacts of growing up in families lacking a father. These effects do not simply impact a child individually in the present and in the future, but also have implications for economic development, economic mobility, poverty rates, and workforce development. Research has found that fathers play a unique role in producing positive outcomes for children.

According to the Florida House of Representatives Committee on Children, Families, and Seniors Subcommittee "Although mothers tend to be more nurturing and emotionally supportive than fathers, fathers tend to focus more on preparing children for their lives as adults. There is growing research on the link between father involvement and children's well-being. Father involvement and positive interactions with their children are important for children's health, self-esteem, social skills, and educational attainment. Multiple studies have found positive links between father involvement and a child's graduation from high school, social-emotional adjustment, and mental health into adulthood."[33]

Common Effects of Growing up without a Father include:

- More likely to experience poverty and homelessness
- More likely to suffer from drug and alcohol abuse
- More likely to have mental issues low self-esteem, anxiety, and depression
- More likely to do poorly in schools
- More likely to be incarcerated and die by suicide
- More likely to be engaged in sexual activity
- Higher risk of teen pregnancy
- More likely to have issues with perceived abandonment
- More likely to have attachment issues
- More likely to have been victims of child abuse
- More likely to be involved in gangs

Sources: Source: Fatherless Boys Foundation

https://fatherlessboysfoundation.org/ ; fathers.com;

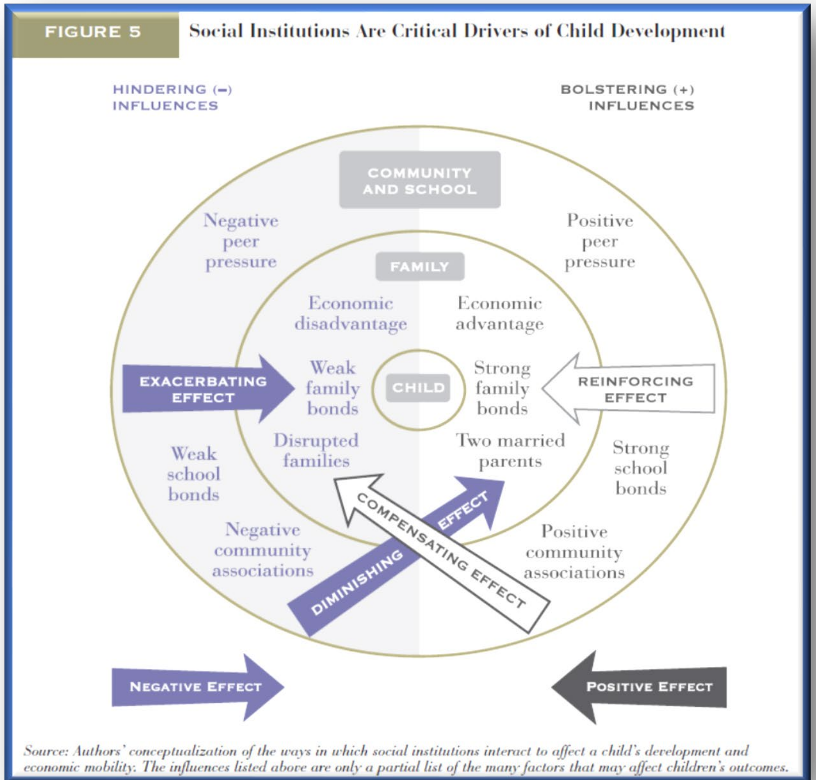
Minnesota Psychological Association: mnpsych.org

The Minnesota Psychological Association summarizes "Given the large research base suggesting that children who grow up in homes without a father present adverse outcomes at rates significantly above those with fathers present, attention to this phenomenon is perhaps warranted by clinicians, researchers, and policymakers. **It is important to point out that not all children who are raised in a father-absent home will experience adverse outcomes (Emphasis Added).** This said, available evidence cannot be ignored."

Recognizing the crucial role of a father in a family, Prosperity Broward, an initiative of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Foundation and Six Pillars Broward, is launching a ground-breaking pilot project in Lauderdale Lakes to increase economic mobility through policy and system changes. The pilot project will consist of a co-research process with single mothers, employers, community partners and elected officials. Through a detailed analysis, the project partners identified that families with children under 18 and no spouse present were the group with the most need in the city. As 80% of head of the families with children under 18 and no spouse present are females, the project partners decided to focus the pilot project on single mothers to maximize the positive impact on the community.

At the conclusion of the pilot, systemic changes and new policies will be introduced and adopted, along with the creation of a roadmap that will help and empower other communities to dismantle their barriers to economic mobility.

Source: https://fred.stlouisfed.org/release/tables?rid=412&eid=358905
Economic Research Division of the St. Louis Federal Reserve (2020)



Source: Pew Charitable Trusts Pathways to Economic Mobility

Findings

1. A concerted effort to educate the public on the importance of intact families on the well-being of families and children and their current and future economic prospects should be undertaken to reduce the number of Single-Female Households with Children and increase Married Households with Children should be undertaken to improve the well-being and economic prospects of families.
2. In coordination with state efforts, the region should develop additional outreach and support services for fathers to enhance their abilities as fathers.

Equity: Building Pathways to Economic Opportunity & Success

The economies of Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe counties are robust with exceptionally low unemployment rates, ranging from 1.7% in Monroe County, 2.8% in Broward County, and 3.0% in Miami-Dade County as of March 2022.[34] However, measures of income and poverty show another side to the economic story of the tri-county area of South Florida. Only one county – Monroe County – recorded a Median Household Income (MHI) higher than the national average from 2016 – 2020. Additionally, the Per Capita Income (PCI) was well below the national PCI of $53,504 and the percentage of persons in poverty far exceeded the national rate of 11.4% in Miami-Dade County with a rate of 15%. The good news is that the percentage of persons in poverty has declined across the board when compared data from the American Community Survey in 2015 (5 Year estimate).

Not all communities in South Florida are benefiting from the region's economic activity and participating in its benefits. To ensure that all communities can participate in the benefits of South Florida's economy and workforce it is necessary to identify and remove barriers to participation in the economy by improving the access of communities, especially low-income communities, to enhanced opportunities to education, workforce training, well-paying jobs and careers, essential services, affordable housing, transportation options, childcare, etc.

Nationally, economic inequality, whether measured through gaps in income or wealth between richer and poorer households, continues to widen[35]. A 2020 Pew Research Center report[36] examining trends in income and wealth inequality found that although household incomes were growing again after a lengthy stagnation, the gaps in income between upper-income and middle- and lower-income households are rising, and the share of wealth held by middle-income households is falling.

A 2019 Study *Toward a More Inclusive Region: Inequality and Poverty in Greater Miami* authored by Richard Florida and Steven Pedigo of the Miami Urban Future Initiative at Florida International University found that despite the region's booming economy and tremendous wealth, the level of economic inequality is similar to that of Panama or Colombia. This high level of economic inequality in the South Florida is due in part to the shrinking middle class and prevalence of low-paying service jobs. The Pew Research Center defines "middle-income" adults i.e. "middle class" in 2021 as those "… with an annual household income that was two-thirds to double the national median income in 2020, after incomes have been adjusted for household size, or about $52,000 to $156,000 annually in 2020 dollars for a household of three. 'Lower-income' adults have household incomes less than $52,000 and "upper-income" adults have household incomes greater than $156,000."[37] They continue "But being middle class can refer to more than just income, be it the level of education, the type of profession, economic security, home ownership …". In the Miami Urban Future Initiative report, the authors defined "middle class" as households earning between two-thirds and double the national median income between 2015 and 2017.

According to the authors, in 2017 Greater Miami had the ninth-highest rate of poverty amongst 53 large metros, behind only New York. They found that the middle class had shrunk from 65% in 1970 to just over 40% in 2017. The region also has the highest elder poverty rate among large metros, deeply concentrated poverty which is most pronounced in South Florida's black and Hispanic populations; and a youth poverty rate (children under the age of 18) of 19.3% which is higher than the overall poverty rate.[38]

Income & Poverty			
	Media Household Income (MHI)	Per Capital Income (PCI)	% Persons in Pverty
Miami-Dade	$ 53,975	$ 29,598	15.0%
Broward	$ 60,922	$ 34,063	11.0%
Monroe	$ 72,012	$ 47,382	10.2%
Florida	$ 57,703	$ 32,848	12.4%
United States	$ 67,521	$ 53,504	11.4%

Source: American Community Survey 2016-2020

Common equity indicators include Economic Opportunity, Education, Housing, Public Safety, Governance, and Public Health. The Florida Department of Health releases annual County Health Rankings for health outcomes and health factors prepared by the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. The data tool the University has created allows researchers to compare data by county in the United States.

The County Health Rankings includes data on education, jobs, incomes, and the environment which impacts how healthy people are and how long they live. While all the counties in South Florida fared better in 2022 for health outcomes (length and quality of life), when compared with 2017, rankings or health factors (health behaviors, access to and quality clinical care, social and economic factors, and physical environment) fell in all three counties. The percentage of the population with health insurance was decreasing through 2020 but appears to have increased in 2022. In 2022, the insurance data is collected as a percentage of adults and children. It is curious that while the ranking in health outcomes score rose in 2022, the ranking in health factors score decreased. The 2020 Rankings include data predating the COVID-19 pandemic.

The concept of "Equity" recognizes that communities in greater distress need greater investment to help individuals close the gap between their current state and key measures of success such as income, health, housing, education, economic opportunity, self-sufficiency, and independence. Investing in education is an effective strategy to reduce income disparity. Targeted programs such as Broward UP model led by Broward College is one example of a "best practice" illustrating how to meaningfully assist low-income community residents with personalized care providing access to workforce training, job opportunities, and supportive services.

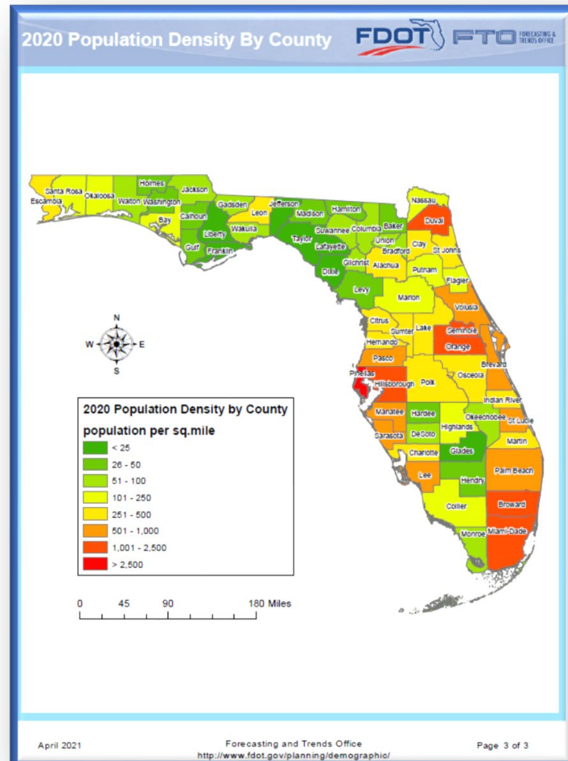
County	Population Without Health Insurance %		
	2017	**2020**	**2022**
Florida	20%	16%	Adults 19% Children 8%
Broward	21%	17%	Adults 21% Children 9%
Miami-Dade	26%	20%	Adults 23% Children 7%
Monroe	22%	20%	Adults 24% Children 14%

County	Ranking in Health Outcomes			Ranking in Health Factors		
	2017	2020	2022	2017	2020	2022
Florida	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Broward	19	11	10	14	12	30
Miami-Dade	23	6	6	28	32	37
Monroe	10	8	4	6	8	20

Source: County Health Rankings, www.countyhealthrankings.org, 2017, 2020, 2022 Data

Development & Density

Scarcity of developable land in South Florida creates problems, especially within the context of projected population increases. While urban infill and redevelopment are viable strategies for accommodating population growth and encouraging economic development, South Florida is already one of the densest regions in the state, bordered by the Atlantic Ocean to the east and the Everglades to the west. The limited land for development is an issue that is unique to South Florida. This limitation is especially pronounced in Monroe County which is an state-designated area of "Critical State Concern" where new development is greatly limited because of potential impacts to resources of major statewide significance.



Energy

Florida is the nation's second largest producer of electricity after Texas. The state's electric energy is sourced from a diverse mixture such as coal, natural gas, nuclear, renewables and other sources. Florida's renewable energy generation continues to expand. According to the U.S. Department of Energy's, Energy Information Administration, Florida is the fourth in the nation of solar power generating capacity[39].

South Florida is a key contributor to Florida's energy security contributing natural gas, nuclear power, solar power generation, and petroleum imports and distribution. South Florida has a high number of natural gas local distribution companies. The region hosts the Turkey Point Nuclear Generating Station in South Miami-Dade County which generates about 1,600 million watts of electricity which supplies the annual energy needs of more than 900,000 homes[40]. Port Everglades in Broward County serves 100% of the petroleum product needs of Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Martin counties with a distribution area that incorporates eight additional counties[41].

Environment

South Florida Region's climate is considered tropical, with wet savanna, monsoon, or rainforest sub-climates. All three sub-classifications are characterized by average monthly mean temperatures above 64°F. Within the two most prominent climates in the Region, tropical savanna and tropical monsoon, a distinct wet season typically occurs in late summer, and a dry season occurs in late winter to early spring. South Florida experiences a tropical climate year-round.

As a direct result of South Florida's warm climate, coastal location, uniquely diverse ecosystems, and cultural heritage sites, and abundance of national, state, and county parks in the region, environmental tourism thrives. Ecotourism, distinguished from environmental tourism as low impact, education-based, and conservation conscientious, continues to gain traction. A shift from high-impact tourism to ecotourism signifies a growing regional interest in both environmental and economic sustainability.

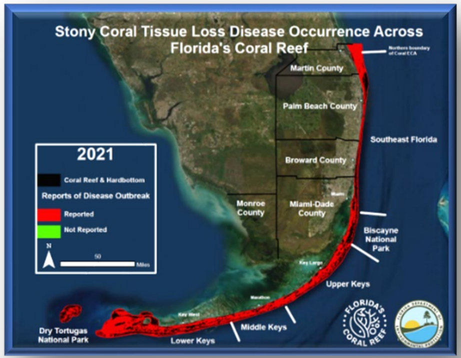
Parks

The region is blessed with several national parks including Everglades National Park, Biscayne National Park, and Dry Tortugas National Park which is accessible from Key West. Among "South Florida" national parks is Big Cypress National Preserve in Collier County. Everglades National Park is a World Heritage Site, International Biosphere Reserve, a Wetland of International Importance, and a specially protected area under the Cartagena Treaty. A 2019 National Park Service reported more than 1.9 million visitors, collectively spending $156 million, resulting in 2,089 jobs with a cumulative benefit to South Florida's economy of $225.4 million. The region's local governments have invested heavily in their respective county and municipal park systems. In addition to state and municipal parks, Miami-Dade County boasts more than 280 parks, with 55 in Broward County, and 23 in Monroe County. In South Florida, the environment is our economy.

Florida's Coral Reef

Over the past five years, the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils have worked in close partnership with local, state, and federal agencies, as well as academic, nonprofit, and private leaders to further awareness, restoration, and protection of Florida's endangered coral reef. The seven-county Southeast Florida region, with 122 municipalities and more than 6.8 million residents, is home to Florida's Coral Reef - the only living barrier coral reef system in the continental United States. Florida's Coral Reef is experiencing a multi-year outbreak of Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease. This disease is a new lethal disease first reported in Florida in 2014.

While the exact cause of the disease is unknown, evidence points to a bacterial pathogen transmitted by touch and water circulation[42]. Experts believe that the disease may be related to, in part, poor water quality from urban pollution including stormwater and wastewater runoff, and warming water temperatures.



This event is unique due to its large geographic range, extended duration, rapid progression, and high rates of mortality including reef-building coral species listed under the Endangered Species Act. First reported off the coast of Miami-Dade County in 2014, this outbreak has spread along Florida's Coral Reef and to reefs throughout the Caribbean, including Jamaica, Mexico, St. Maarten, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Dominican Republic.

This highly contagious and lethal disease has affected more than 30 species of corals especially 20 or more of Florida's approximately 45 species of reef-building corals including five species listed pursuant to the Endangered Species Act[43]. Once an infected coral begins to lose living tissue, colonies will die within weeks or months absent active intervention.

Healthy reefs are critically important ecologically and consequently economically for the following reasons:

Habitat for myriad organisms (including fish): biodiversity repository and enhancement

- Protection of coastlines from storms and erosion
- Source of food and new medicines
- Opportunities for recreation, tourism, and marine industries.

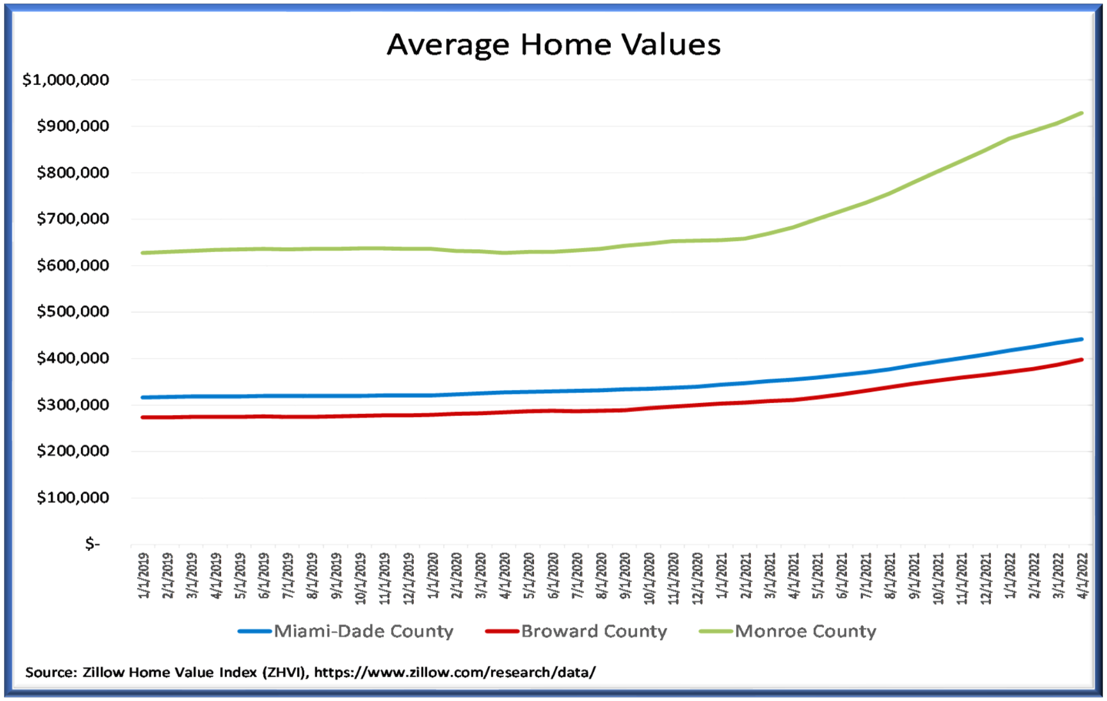
Jobs for local communities, local, regional, and national economic impact

- Sport and commercial fishing
- Tourism and diving - reef- related diving and snorkeling supports thousands of jobs in Florida, Puerto Rico and the USVI
- The 2020 Marine Industry Economic Impact Numbers - MIASF show that Florida's marine industry [remains] … an essential and growing component of the state's overall economy
- Extractive recreation (sport fishing) [$37.8 million in total Saltwater license sales FY 19/20; $9.2 Billion in saltwater recreational fishing; 120,000 jobs]
- Commercial fishing ($1 million in licenses; $197 million in commercial food fish sales dockside; Florida's commercial fisheries generate $3.2 billion in income & 76,700 jobs)
- Tourism and diving - reef- related diving and snorkeling support 8,668 jobs and generate about $902 million in total economic output over the course of a year in Florida

Coastal Resilience & Flood Protection

- Healthy and resilient coral reefs safeguard against extreme weather, shoreline erosion and coastal flooding. Florida's Coral Reef provides more than $355 million per year in flood protection benefits and protects nearly $320 million in annual economic activity. (Storlazzi et al. [44])
- Coral reefs are one of the most ecologically diverse and productive biomes in the world—they are also one of the most threatened.

Housing

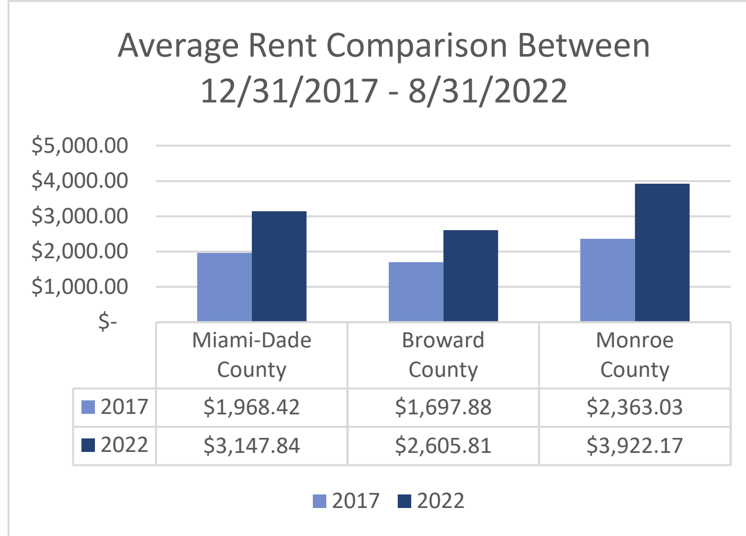


Affordable housing, defined by U.S. HUD as housing on which the occupant is paying no more than 30% of gross income, has far reaching impacts on economic growth, opportunity, educational performance and attainment, health, social mobility, and equity. Typically, housing costs are the largest component of total household expenses for most American families and households. The second largest spending costs for the typical U.S. family is transportation.

In 2022, South Florida counties and municipalities face an elevated affordable housing crisis. This crisis is carried on the backs of hard-working Florida families who face impossible household budget choices like whether a rent payment should come before purchasing groceries, medical care, or an electric bill. Most policymakers, employers, and residents in southeast Florida are familiar with the mounting pressure for affordable and workforce housing in their communities.

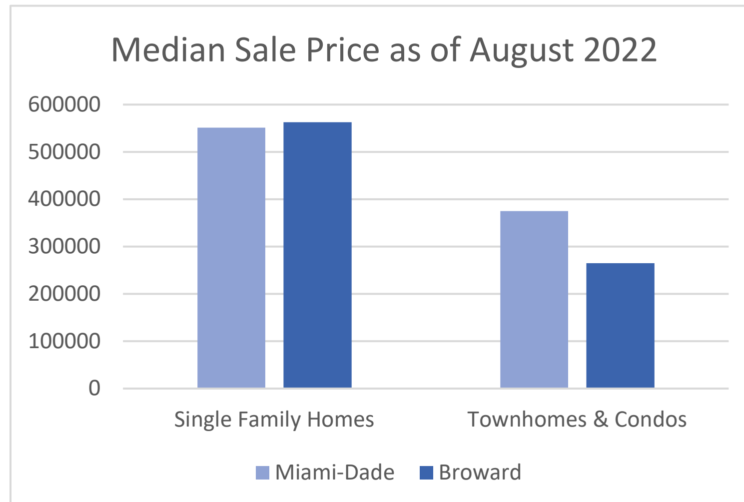
In addition to the limited amount of land available for development in this region bordered by Everglades and the Atlantic Ocean, several trends have converged to significantly impact affordable housing availability, supply, and demand. Contributing market factors include investor buying single family homes for conversion to rentals, the conversion of affordable housing to vacation rentals, and increased demand from international and other in-migration to South Florida. Aging housing stock, low rental vacancy rates, low affordable housing production, and low wages in the predominant industry sectors Leisure & Hospitality, retail trade, and health services impact housing availability and push housing costs up for both renters and owners. Due to its limited availability, the high cost of land in the region makes it prohibitive to build affordable housing without significant government assistance in funding and higher density which is often opposed by local governments and residents. Miami-Dade and Broward counties are increasingly focused on the development of incentives for increased Transit Oriented Development (TOD) to develop additional affordable housing and reduce high combined housing and transportation expenses burdening residents.

South Florida is known for its volatile housing market. In 2008 housing prices were at an unseen peak before a major crash. Over the course of a decade they rebounded, and today they are at all-time highs, although recent interest hikes may foretell the decline of home prices without making homes more affordable. Both rents and home ownership costs have skyrocketed.



A household is classified as "low-income" if its income is at or below 60 percent of the area median income (AMI), adjusted for household size. A household is "cost burdened" if it pays more than 40 % of income for gross rent, including utility costs. According to the University of Florida's Shimberg Center for Housing Studies' *June 2022 Rental Market Study*, just under 60 % of low-income, cost burdened renter households are located in large counties such as Broward and Miami-Dade. Miami-Dade County has the largest share of the state's low-income, cost burdened renters, at 16 %. Monroe County, a small sized county, has the largest share of cost burdened households in the state, with 3,913 households or 27% of all renters in the county.

CoStar shows rents at the conclusion of the second quarter of 2022 at $2,218 in Broward County; $2,156 in Miami-Dade County and $2,271 in outlying Miami-Dade County compared to $1,619 nationally. Zillow shows the average home value, different from median sale price, as of April 30, 2022 at $397,189 in Broward County; $441,318 in Miami-Dade County, and $928,714 in Monroe County compared to $344,000 nationally.



Source: https://www.zillow.com/research/data/

Most cost burdened renters in the South Florida region have incomes below 60% of Average Median Income (AMI), but some renters with higher incomes also experience cost burden. Cost burden among renters above 60% of AMI is geographically concentrated in high-cost counties, mostly in southeast Florida and the Orlando area. Sixty-three percent (63%) of renters under this income level are cost burdened in Miami-Dade and Monroe, and 40% in Broward County[45].

While the housing numbers change daily, Zillow shows that the average rents for the tri- county area as of August 31, 2022 have drastically increased since 2017. Miami-Dade County has seen an average rent increase of 60%, Broward 53%, and Monroe 89%. Home sale prices have skyrocketed as well. According to the latest MIAMI Association of Realtors South Florida Market Stats, the August 2022 Median Sale Price for a single-family home in Broward County was $562,500 and in Miami-Dade $551,250. Zillow data reported a median sale price of $1,034,537 for Monroe County.

Mounting insurance costs are a contributing factor the rising costs of housing. Illustrating the exorbitant cost of Homeowners Insurance policies, the following table shows the average cost of Homeowners Insurance policies for homes located in Miami (Miami-Dade County), Fort Lauderdale (Broward County), Key West

(Monroe County) and the State of Florida for homes valued at $150,000 and $300,000. These example policies were supplied by Clover Insurance at clover.com. [46] [47] [48] [49] [50] The average cost nationally was found at nerdwallet.com. These prices show homeowners insurance costs that are more than 3x the cost nationally and in some cases more than 5x-6x the national rate for homeowner's insurance.

In Florida, over 50% of the cost of homeowner's insurance policies goes to pay for reinsurance, and in some cases much more than 50%. Reinsurance prices have been on the rise globally, and a tsunami in Japan would affect the cost of reinsurance in Florida. Reinsurance companies are primarily global in nature and are not bound by anti-trust provisions in America, nor are they required to actuarily justify their rates. This and other factors have dramatically increased Florida's homeowner's and multifamily rental insurance rates. Cancellation notices and non-renewals form insurance companies are becoming commonplace with more than nine companies in receivership.

Simultaneously, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) has altered the way it calculates risk under the new Risk Rating 2.0. NFIP's authority to provide flood insurance is currently scheduled to expire on Friday, September 30th. Should the program be reauthorized, it is anticipated that 80 percent of Floridians will see a price increase with the recalculated NFIP policies. Insurance is undoubtedly a major area of concern for the affordability of housing in South Florida. Many factors combine to play a significant role in escalating insurance premiums. What is clear is that significant reform is needed.

The Average Cost of Homeowners Insurance

	$150,000 home	$300,000 home
US	$1,413	$1,784
Florida	$2,043	$4,086
Miami	$5,695	$11,390
Fort Lauderdale	$4,688	$9,376
Key West	$4,966	$9,931

Sources: clovered.com; National Association of Insurance Commissioners, nerdwallet.com

Homelessness

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development releases the Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress providing a point-in-time snapshot of homelessness – both sheltered and unsheltered – on one night. This count is conducted during a ten-day period in January. The 2020 Count is the last count that included both sheltered and unsheltered homeless due to COVID limitations in the 2021 Count. In 2020, it was estimated that roughly 580,000 people were experiencing homelessness. Realtor.com reported in March 2022[51], that the Miami-Florida Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL experienced a year over year average increase of 57.2% in overall median rent with some communities in South Florida experiencing rent increases of 60%, 70%, or more.

Although, homelessness has been decreasing in the region in recent years, the region should prepare for increasing homelessness as the working, middle-class is forced out of housing[52]. Strategies include, and are not limited to, rapid rehousing, rental assistance, enhancing the population's access to public benefits, increasing shelter beds, employment training, transportation, and mental and general health services.

According to the American Society on Aging, the fastest growing population of homeless are people ages 65 and older. It is estimated that by 2030 their number will triple[53]. In November 2021, the Miami Herald[54] reported that those over 60 now account for 1 in 4 or 25% of the county's homeless population. They moved to South Florida to retire and found that the cost of living outpaced their savings. South Florida's condominiums, many of which are inhabited by income-constrained elderly, are a source of affordable housing. The tragic Champlain Tower Condominium collapse on June 24, 2021, in the Village of Surfside Beach in Miami-Dade County, highlighted a silent crisis unfolding throughout many regions of the state due to lack of sufficient management and maintenance investments in older buildings. The significant investment needed to rehabilitate this housing stock requires high-cost special assessments which will force many residents out of their homes, particularly those on fixed incomes.

Homeless Estimate							
County	Count 2021	Rank out of 67 Counties 2021	% of Florida Homeless 2021	Count 2020	Count 2018	Count 2017	Count 2012
Florida	21,141		100%	27,679	29,717	32,109	54,972
Broward	2,561	2	12%	2,312	2,318	2,450	3,801
Miami-Dade	3,224	1	15%	3,472	3,516	3,721	3,817
Monroe	242	24	1%	437	973	631	904

Source: Florida Health Charts[55]

Transportation

Florida's Strategic Intermodal System

Florida's Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) is the backbone of the region's overall transportation, playing a vital role in the region's economy by moving both people and goods. It is a high priority network of transportation facilities established to focus resources on transportation facilities of statewide and interregional significance. Along with Florida' Turnpike Enterprise, the airports, seaports, waterways, rail corridors and terminals, urban fixed guideway transit corridors, and highways designated as part of the SIS are the workhorses of South Florida's transportation system. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) investments in the SIS, leveraged with additional regional, local, and private sector funding, have enabled the region's economy and communities to continue thriving. Statewide, FDOT has invested more than $13 billion of state and federal funding into the SIS since it was created in 2003[56].

For the SFRPC region, the U.S. 1 corridor, which connects the more urbanized areas of the region to the southernmost point of Monroe County in Key West, is the only transportation corridor that runs the entire length of the region. This connectivity is particularly important to Monroe County for emergency evacuation, transportation, trade, tourism, and members of its workforce, many of whom travel from outside of the county to work because they are unable to find affordable housing locally. This vital corridor requires both transit and resilience investments to ensure the region's continued connectivity and economic growth.

Mobility

The regional mobility network is integral to economic prosperity and growth. It also provides vital access to opportunity and upward mobility, when available. Regional congestion, on the other hand, can have dampening effects on the economy with significant consequences. Longer commute and trip times, slower speeds, and safety issues have raised the cost of doing business and threaten the region's productivity. The Miami Urbanized area mean time travel to work is 29.9 minutes, about 10 percent higher than the U.S. Drivers in the Miami Urbanized Area lose up to 105 hours in traffic annually[57] as of 2019, costing the region $4 billion with an annual cost to individual drivers of $1,470. Research shows that additional time spent commuting is detrimental to personal well-being and worker productivity with financial implications for the region as well.

The regional mobility challenges are a call to innovation and investment, so that the network may continue to be a driver of economic development. Robust regional transit is key to support anticipated growth and long-term mobility, as is supportive land use that drives many of our transportation outcomes. Creating viable transit options that can compete with the car will be key to reducing congestion on roadways. Currently 77% of people in the Miami Urbanized Area drive alone; 9% carpooled; 3% use public transit; 1% bicycle; 2% walk; 7% work from home, and 2% use other means.[58] Unlike cooler areas of the state and nation, the tropical heat is a hindrance to biking along with dangerous roadways where bicyclists and heavy automobile traffic share the road.

Improving first and last mile connections to the network, embracing safety and adopting pedestrian-oriented design standards, and promoting policy that incentivizes Transit Oriented Development are all necessary to support the success of investment in high-capacity public transportation. Supportive public policies and investment is needed to achieve equitable access to 21st century jobs and a better quality of life for all.

Regional Transit

The Miami Urbanized Area is fortunate to have a relatively high number of transit trips per capita. Further connecting the region's population with well-connected transit remains a priority. With 18 stations along a 70-mile stretch, Tri-rail, a commuter rail connecting the northern and southern portions of the Miami Urbanized areas, provides important linkages for regional commuters from West Palm Beach to Miami. Like Broward Transit and Miami-Dade Transit, the SFRTA's Tri-Rail ridership declined with the onset of the COVID pandemic. However, transit ridership increased due to rising gas prices with Tri-Rail reporting 11,000 customers on a single day in March 2022; the highest level since the start of pandemic in March 2020. Public policies to enhance and facilitate public transportation, particularly convenient east-west connectivity to key destinations such as educational institutions and facilities should lead to greater ridership.

Recent private sector investment in mass transit has also broadened the regional mobility options. Introduced in 2018, Brightline is a higher speed rail line than previously existing regional mass transit and has limited stops with stations in downtown West Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale, and Miami. Brightline has planned expansion of its services within the Miami Urbanized Area with local stations planned for Aventura and Boca Raton as well as service connecting South Florida with other cities in Florida, including Orlando and Tampa. Brightline has already constructed the rail to Orlando and is in the process of construction a station near the Orlando Airport[59]. Brightline was also recently awarded $15.9 million by the U.S. Department of Transportation to begin work on the proposed Tampa to Orlando segment, connecting the South Florida region to other urbanized areas.[60]

Key regional transit initiatives include Miami-Dade County's "SMART" or Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit Program. This ambitious program seeks to advance five rapid transit corridors of the People's Transportation Plan to support mobility, and future population and employment growth. In Broward, the Mobility Advancement Program (MAP) funded by a 30-Year Transportation Surtax advances five goals: 1) Enhancing transit services; 2) Improving connectivity; 3) Improving traffic system management; 4) Enhancing multimodal options; and 5) Increasing economic development and benefits.

In a giant step forward for regional transit and collaboration, in August 2022 the Broward County Commission unanimously approved $15.5 million for the study and development of a southern segment to connect to Miami-Dade County's SMART Northeast Corridor along the FEC Railway line to bring local train service from Aventura in Miami-Dade County to a point south of the New River in Fort Lauderdale. The Broward County southern segment is part of the Tri-County "Coastal Link" project which envisions the expansion of commuter rail along the FEC through Palm Beach County. To provide a truly multimodal regional network, the service will also include bus and highway connections through Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. Broward and Miami-Dade counties are collaborating to secure funding for this expansion of rail service. The major obstacle currently hindering expansion of the Coastal Link into northern Broward County and Palm Beach is the crossing of the New River in Fort Lauderdale. Local governments are working together to produce a viable solution that has the most stakeholder support. It may be a bridge over, or a tunnel under, the New River but there is agreement on the importance of this project continuing to move forward so the Coastal Link can expand northward. Expanding rail transportation in the region is expensive and difficult given that the necessary rail easements were not contemplated or set aside early in the development history of the region.

Regional transportation is particularly important to the economy of Monroe County, where many workers live outside of the County, and rely on public transportation to access more affordable housing. The U.S. 1 corridor, connecting the more urbanized area of the region to the southernmost point of the country in Key West, is a vital corridor that requires investment in both transit and resilience to ensure continued economic growth. Monroe County's U.S. 1 Transportation Plan (2021) indicates the need to explore alternative modes of transportation and improved transit alternatives to help relieve congestion and improve safety.

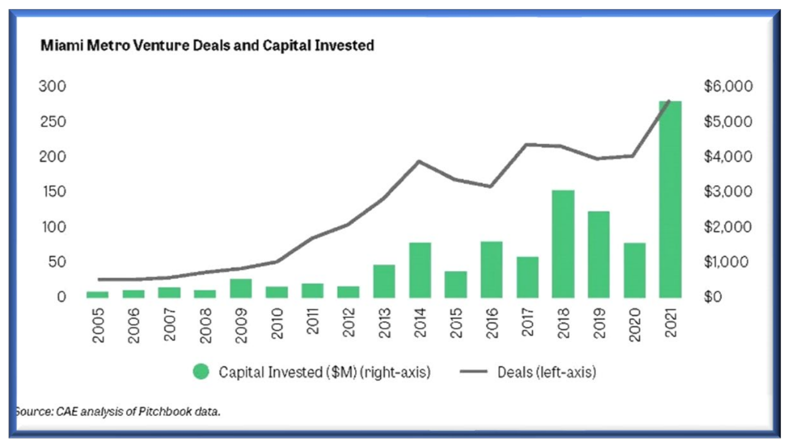
Small Businesses – The Heart of Florida's Economy

Small businesses are an essential part of Florida's economy landscape making up 99.8% of all Florida Businesses and employing 3.6 million employees which represent 41.1 percent of Florida employees according to a [2021 Small Business Profile] by the U.S. Small Business Administration. County Business Patterns data, released April 28, 2022, by the U.S. Census Bureau tells the story more clearly. Small businesses with less than five employees represent 69% of Miami-Dade County's business establishments, 68% of Broward County's, and 66% of Monroe Counties. Businesses employing 5 to 9 employees represent an additional 13% of businesses in Miami-Dade and Broward, and 16% of Monroe County businesses. When businesses of 19 or less employees are tallied together, these businesses represent approximately 90% of the Region's business establishments (Appendix II). The outsized predominance of small businesses in the region underscores their importance to the economy and need to continually work with small businesses to support them with access to capital, technical assistance, mentoring, and a trained workforce.

Numerous resources are available to the region's small businesses including the SFRPC's successful small business revolving loans funds including the $5.9 million CARES RLF capitalized by the U.S. EDA, county economic development offices, South Florida's Small Business Development Centers, and the region's chambers of commerce and economic development practitioners.

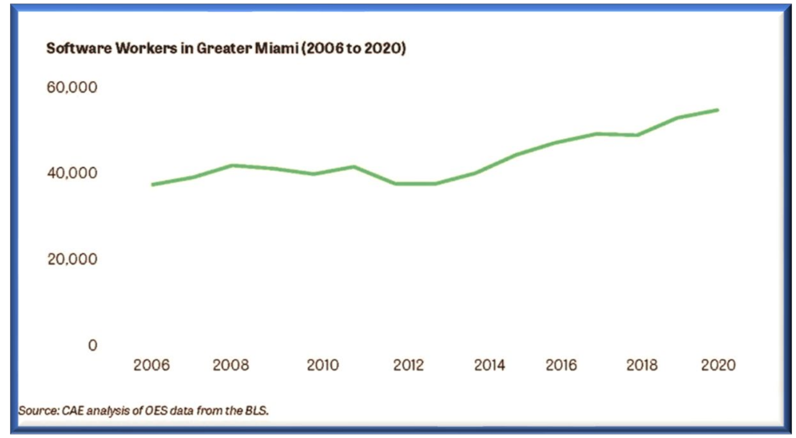
Innovation

At the heart of innovation is entrepreneurship and the Miami-Fort Lauderdale metro area has been growing its base of companies. As reported by Refresh Miami, Pitchbook recorded $2.8 billion in venture capital investments across 191 deals for the first half of 2022 in the region. In 2021, the region had a record-breaking 285 deals for a total of $5.33 billion of venture capital investment to South Florida companies. Presently, the Miami metro ranks #10 for venture capital dollars in the first half of the year. [61] [62] With significant nurturing of the entrepreneurial ecosystem, the number of venture capital investments into Greater Miami area businesses increased significantly since 2012 with 2021 and 2022 marking an exponential uptick in the flow of venture capital to the Greater Miami region.[63]



https://knightfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Miami-Tech-Assessment_Final_2022.pdf

During this time the number of people employed within the tech sector has also significantly grown. An analysis of OES data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows an almost 50% increase in the number of workers employed in software occupations within the region since 2012, growing from roughly 37,000 workers in 2012 to approximately 54,000 workers in 2020.[30]



https://knightfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Miami-Tech-Assessment_Final_2022.pdf

The Innovation Intelligence Report, created by the Indiana Business Research and provided by the U.S. EDA via STATSAMERICA, provides a composite index of various inputs related to innovation. The updated Innovation Index 3 (II3) [64] analyzes five major index categories: three based on innovation inputs (human capital and knowledge creation, business dynamics, business profile) and two on innovation outputs (employment and productivity, and economic well-being).

“Innovation” is defined as putting “ideas into action with the result of increasing firms’ compensation and profits. The Index creates a measurable value and is assigned a ranking of low, moderate, or high with a ranking that allows the region to compare itself to others.

The index contains values between 0 and 200 with a baseline of 100 for the United States as a whole. A score above 100 is better when compared to the nation. Likewise, a score under 100 is worse when compared to the nation. The Innovation Index headline number combines the five major indexes with each index weighted equally at 20 percent each. The index is based on a broad range of data such as educational attainment, patents, knowledge creation, STEM education and occupations, business formation, business expansion, venture capital, foreign direct investment, industry cluster performance, gross domestic product, residential broadband connectivity, and compensation among other measures.

The South Florida region shows an overall “High” score on the innovation index with an index value of 132, with individual county values of 134.7 for Miami-Dade; 137.5 for Broward; and 126.3 for Monroe. Of note, the region scored high in the categories of business dynamics, business profiles as well as employment and productivity. This Index is comprehensive and utilizes a multitude of data sources to create its rankings.

Index Categories	Index Value
Innovation Capacity Profile	**132**
Human Capital and Knowledge Creation	120.8
Educational Attainment	112.1
Knowledge Creation and Technology Diffusion	161.8
STEM Education and Occupations	91.7
Business Dynamics	160.4
Establishment Formation	173.6
Establishment Dynamics	147.3
Business Profile	126.9
Venture Capital Dollar Measures	127.8
Venture Capital Count Measures	119.1
Foreign Direct Investment Attractiveness	133.8
Proprietorship	126.8
Employment and Productivity	128.6
Industry Performance	187.6
Industry Cluster Performance	52.3
GDP	91.3
Patents	134.3
Economic Well-Being	123
Residential Internet Connectivity	185.8
Compensation	150.3

(statsamerica.org/innovation)

In recent years Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties have become burgeoning technology hubs. The South Florida region has teamed up to demonstrate the power of the region in technology. The South Florida Tech Gateway "work in the cloud live in the sun" is an effort to solidify the region as a technology hub to attract and retain talent, entrepreneurs, investors, and the support system needed to sustain and grow an innovation economy. Led by the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, in partnership with the Beacon Council and Business Development Board Palm Beach County, the South Florida Tech Gateway brings visibility and support to the world class technology companies that are increasingly locating in South Florida. One of the region's strategic advantages is Miami-Dade County's NAP of the Americas, one of the world's few Tier-1 network access points and a high-speed connection for data, voice and video traffic throughout the Americas and Europe. Other data centers include Telefonica USA, ColoHouse, QTS and Miami Data Vault. Twenty-seven top South Florida companies represent more than $3.14 billion in capital investment as of 2021[65].

The brands born or raised in the region are well-known well beyond South Florida. From health-tech (Mako Surgical / Stryker), fintech (TradeStation), HR-tech (UKG), travel-tech (JetBlue Travel Products), edu-tech (Nearpod) and even "pet-tech" (Chewy), the names are common in C-suites and households alike. South Florida is at the nexus of a connected and collaborative tech ecosystem. Today, Florida leads the Southeast United States in high-tech employment, with South Florida leading the state.

Intelligence Index 3	Broward	Miami-Dade	Monroe
Overall Innovation Intelligence Index	137.5	134.7	126.3
Human Capital & Knowledge Creation	141.5 High	139.9 Moderate	147.5 Moderate
Business Dynamics	150.2 High	149.2 High	138.8 Moderate
Business Profile	121.9 High	125.8 High	94.5 Moderate
Employment & Productivity	137.0 High	134.2 High	135.7 High
Economic Well-Being Index (Standard of Living)	137.1 Moderate	130.5 Moderate	155.1 High

Source: statsamerica.org/innovation

Regional Industry Clusters & Location Quotients

For the purposes of this CEDS the businesses within South Florida have been predominantly organized by industry as it is easier to display the data based upon how jobs are classified in the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). However, in some instances, such as the cluster dubbed "Creative Media and Design", it is a compilation of knowledge-based jobs focused from an array of sectors that focus on digital media and design. The following cluster and industry overviews provide a brief discussion of trends impacting each cluster or industry and supporting data.

Industries & Clusters Overview

An economic cluster is a critical mass of businesses located in one place that have unusual competitive success in a particular field. Michael Porter, who created the cluster theory, contends that despite the changes ushered in by technology, location remains fundamental albeit drastically different than a generation ago. Knowledge, relationships, and motivation remain local things that are found in specific regions and locations. These elements drive competitive advantage in a global economy. Clusters include production companies, raw materials suppliers, service providers, as well as companies in related industries and public institutions.

Industries and clusters significant to the tri-county economies were identified by those that exhibited strong **location quotients (LQ)** as well as those expressed as important by Economic Development Organization (EDO) partners. A location quotient is a tool to reveal industries within the region that are unique and specialized within the regional economy. When considering an industry's Location Quotient, one must also consider the number of employees or jobs to access the economic impact in the overall economy's health.

For example, International Trade Financing has a location quotient of 11.05 in South Florida. This means that the International Trade Financing is 11.05 times more concentrated in the South Florida than the typical region nationally. The location quotients may also help a region to identify export industries, endangered export industries, as well as industries and occupations that are below equilibrium and might be fighting to regain balance.[66] The following cluster/industry overviews provides a brief discussion of trends impacting each cluster or industry and supporting data.

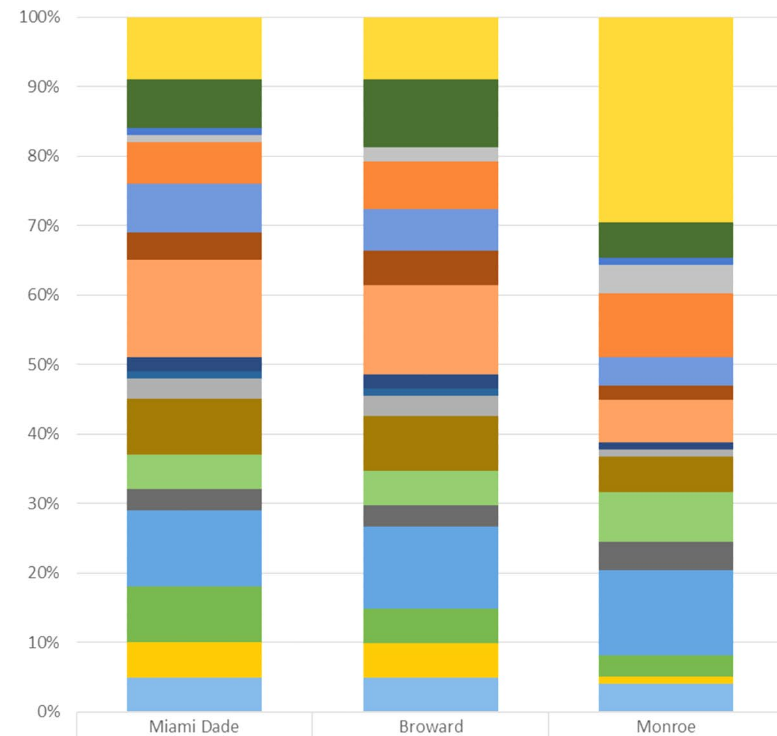
In South Florida, Hospitality & Tourism is a well-established cluster that draws upon a range of industries including those related to tourism such as hotels accommodations, deep sea transportation (cruises), etc. other industries that are related to tourism though not exclusively, are also paramount to the tourism, including aviation, cruises services and boating as well as environmental organizations focused on coral reef restoration and environmental quality. The industries related to tourism and hospitality are far reaching. For the purposes of this CEDS the businesses within South Florida have been predominantly organized by industry as it is easier to display the data based upon how jobs are classified in the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). However, in some instances, such as the cluster dubbed "Creative Media and Design", it is a compilation of knowledge-based jobs focused from an array of sectors that focus on digital media and design.

South Florida Industry Clusters

"Health Care and Social Assistance" is the largest industry sector within Miami-Dade and Broward Counties employing 14% and 13% respectively of all jobs. Accommodation and Food Services industries, which is closely tied to Hospitality and Tourism cluster employs 29% of the workers in Monroe County; 9% of Miami-Dade and Broward Counties. Monroe County's extraordinarily high percentage of people employed in this sector underscores the need for economic diversification.

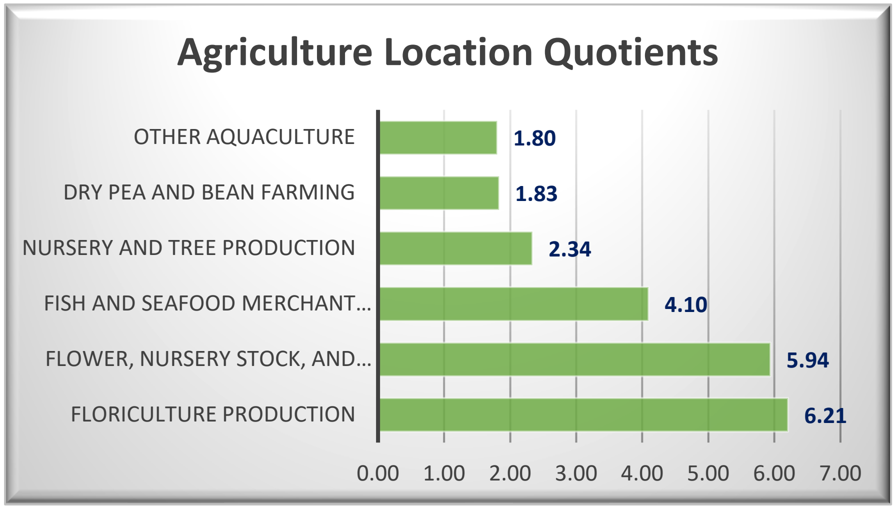
Retail also employs a significant number of workers. In Monroe and Broward counties 12% of employees are in retail trade and 11% in Miami-Dade County. Industries such as Finance and Insurance, and Professional, Scientific, and Technical services employ smaller percentages of people (4% and 8% respectively) but have larger ripple effects and support more jobs within the region. Many of the clusters and industries identified as important for growth in the CEDS are those that are focused on growing higher paying jobs for the region.

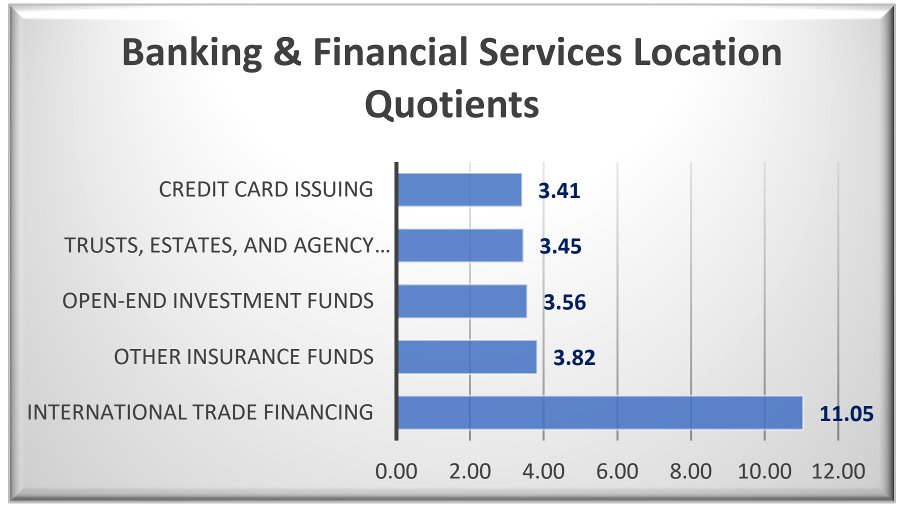
Detailed industry charts by county with NAICS, Employees, Average Annual Wages and Percent of Jobs can be found in Appendix III.

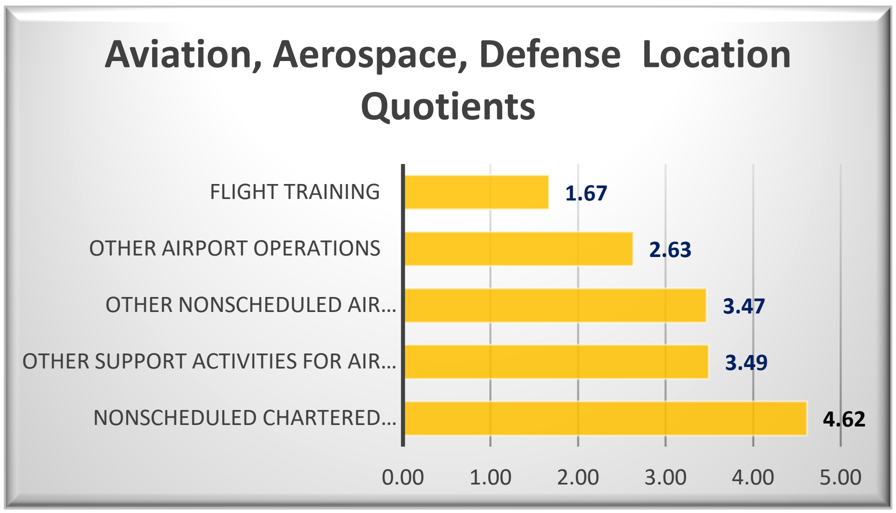


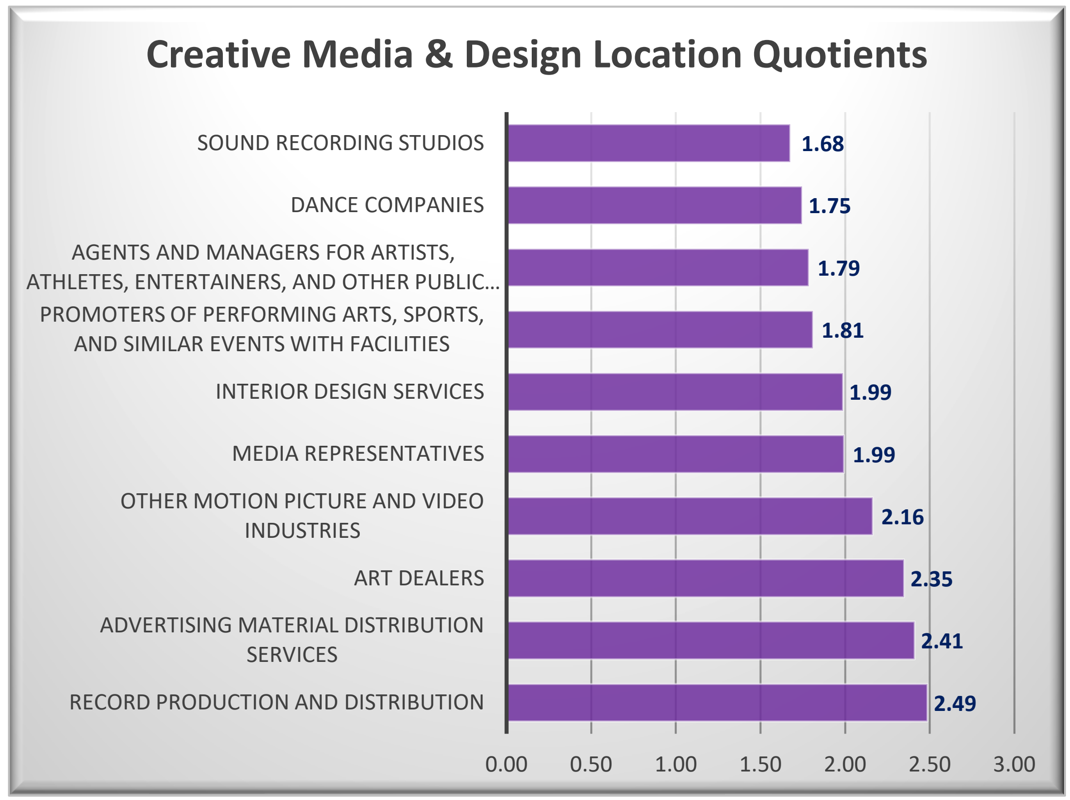
	Miami Dade	Broward	Monroe
Accommodation and Food Services	9%	9%	29%
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	7%	10%	5%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	1%	0%	1%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1%	2%	4%
Construction	6%	7%	9%
Educational Services	7%	6%	4%
Finance and Insurance	4%	5%	2%
Health Care and Social Assistance	14%	13%	6%
Information	2%	2%	1%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	1%	1%	0%
Manufacturing	3%	3%	1%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	8%	8%	5%
Public Administration	5%	5%	7%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	3%	3%	4%
Retail Trade	11%	12%	12%
Transportation and Warehousing	8%	5%	3%
Wholesale Trade	5%	5%	1%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	5%	5%	4%

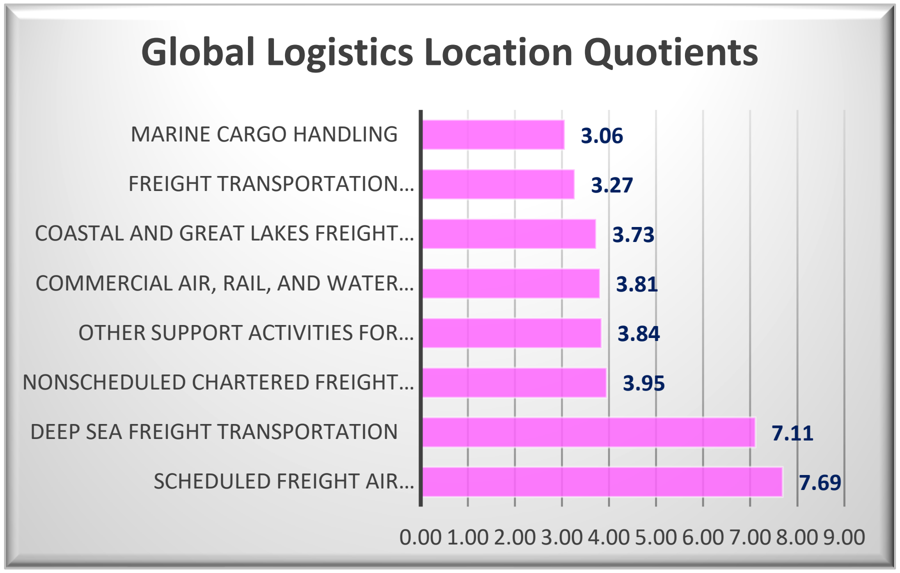
Location Quotients by Industry



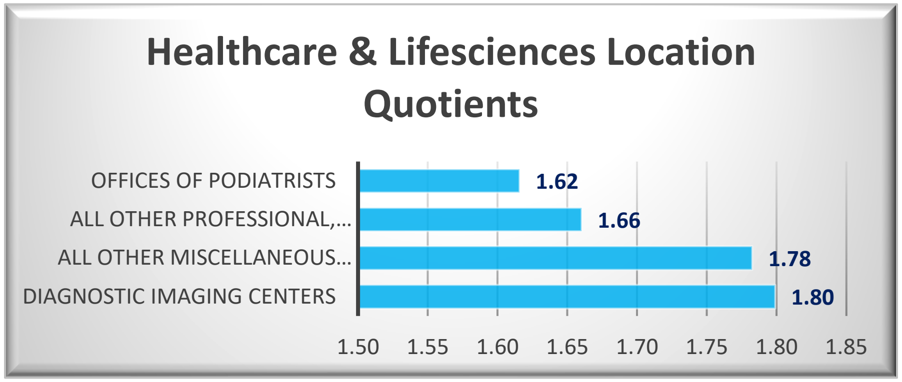


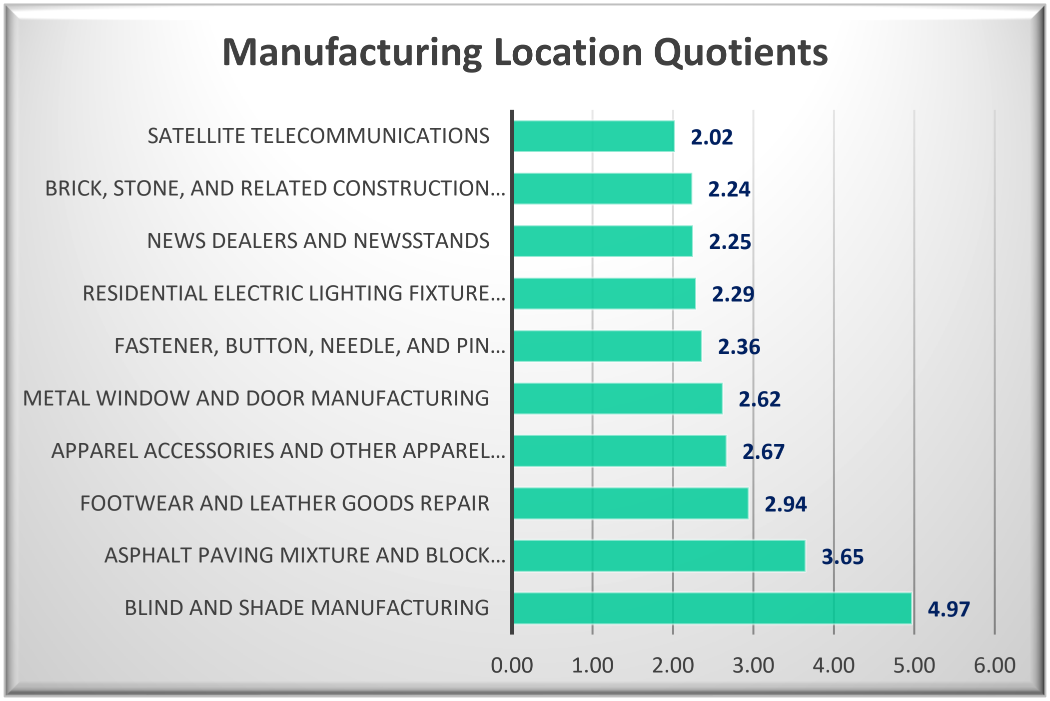


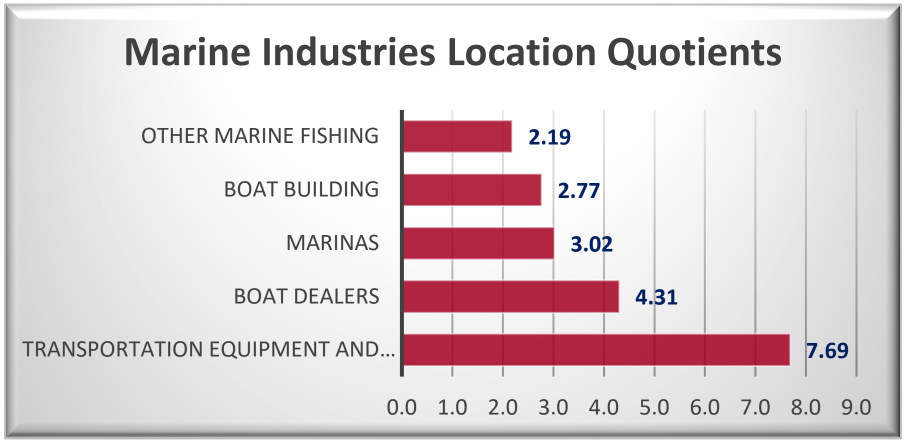



Global Logistics Location Quotients
MARINE CARGO HANDLING
FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION...
COASTAL AND GREAT LAKES FREIGHT...
COMMERCIAL AIR, RAIL, AND WATER...
OTHER SUPPORT ACTIVITIES FOR...
NONSCHEDULED CHARTERED FREIGHT...
DEEP SEA FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION
SCHEDULED FREIGHT AIR...
3.06
3.27
3.73
3.81
3.84
3.95
7.11
7.69
0.00 1.00 2.00 3.00 4.00 5.00 6.00 7.00 8.00 9.00


Hospitality & Tourism Location Quotients
CONVENTION AND TRADE SHOW ORGANIZERS
CASINO HOTELS
TOUR OPERATORS
PASSENGER CAR RENTAL
INLAND WATER PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION
HOTELS (EXCEPT CASINO HOTELS) AND MOTELS
RACETRACKS
ALL OTHER TRAVEL ARRANGEMENT AND...
TRAVEL AGENCIES
PASSENGER CAR LEASING
SCENIC AND SIGHTSEEING TRANSPORTATION,...
COASTAL AND GREAT LAKES PASSENGER...
DEEP SEA PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION
1.54
1.66
1.76
1.82
1.93
1.97
2.37
2.65
3.09
4.41
4.49
4.85
50.57
0 10 20 30 40 50 60


Healthcare & Lifesciences Location Quotients
OFFICES OF PODIATRISTS
ALL OTHER PROFESSIONAL,...
ALL OTHER MISCELLANEOUS...
DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING CENTERS
1.62
1.66
1.78
1.80
1.50 1.55 1.60 1.65 1.70 1.75 1.80 1.85


Manufacturing Location Quotients
SATELLITE TELECOMMUNICATIONS
BRICK, STONE, AND RELATED CONSTRUCTION...
NEWS DEALERS AND NEWSSTANDS
RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC LIGHTING FIXTURE...
FASTENER, BUTTON, NEEDLE, AND PIN...
METAL WINDOW AND DOOR MANUFACTURING
APPAREL ACCESSORIES AND OTHER APPAREL...
FOOTWEAR AND LEATHER GOODS REPAIR
ASPHALT PAVING MIXTURE AND BLOCK...
BLIND AND SHADE MANUFACTURING
2.02
2.24
2.25
2.29
2.36
2.62
2.67
2.94
3.65
4.97
0.00 1.00 2.00 3.00 4.00 5.00 6.00


Marine Industries Location Quotients
OTHER MARINE FISHING
BOAT BUILDING
MARINAS
BOAT DEALERS
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT AND...
2.19
2.77
3.02
4.31
7.69
0.0 1.0 2.0 3.0 4.0 5.0 6.0 7.0 8.0 9.0

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting

Agriculture is an industry unique to South Dade. Miami-Dade County's agriculture industry is one of most diverse in the country employing over 10,000 in the 4th Quarter of 2021. In Miami-Dade County, with 70,000 acres in production, the Florida County Value of Agricultural Products sold in 2017 was $838 million, the largest in the state behind only Palm Beach County with more than 410,000 acres. In 2017, 73% of the farms were under 10 acres in size. The area has very high location quotients in floriculture production as well as flower, nursery stock and florists' supplies merchant wholesalers - 6.21 and 5.94 respectively. These location quotients support the findings of a recent impact and outlook report completed by the Florida Nursery Growers and Landscape Association (FNGLA) which named Miami-Dade as one of the top producers of indoor foliage plants within Florida. The report also revealed that Florida is the number one producer of indoor foliage plants in the U.S, producing nearly 69% of total wholesale value for the United States. The location quotients indicate that floriculture as well as flower, nursery stock and florists' supplies provide an opportunity for export. In a time of growing global food insecurity and supply chain difficulties, local agriculture is a critical mainstay of South Florida's sustainability and well-being.

In the *South Miami-Dade Economic Development Strategy 2020* it was acknowledged that agriculture is a traditional industry for South Miami-Dade County and that it remained important to maintain the present levels of employment. The EDA funded strategy also identified significant agriculture assets, including Atlantic Sapphire Salmon Farm, Brooks Tropicals, LLC., Costa Farms, R.F. Orchids, Gulf Stream Tomato Packers, Dade County Farm Bureau, and UF Tropical Research and Education Center.

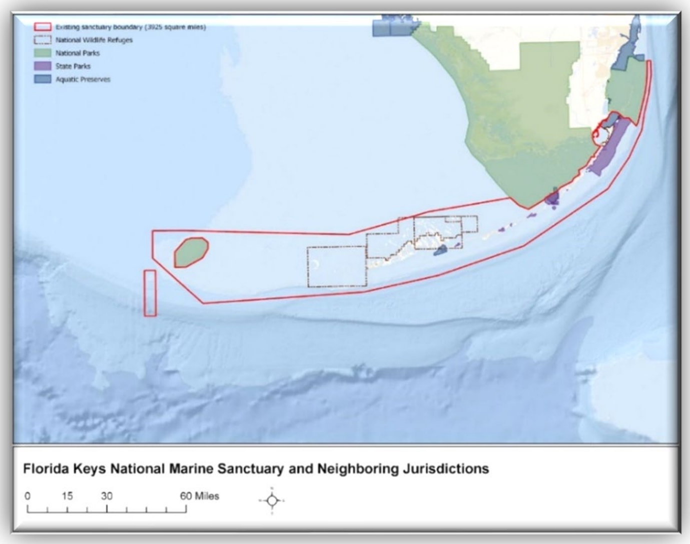
Four targeted strategies for maintaining and growing the agriculture industry were listed, as follows:

- Advocate for additional housing for graduate students working the UF Tropical Research and Education Center. Research performed by graduate students allows new crops to be placed in the hands of farmers more quickly.
- Assist the farm community strengthen the supply chain to produce new products resulting from new agricultural crops, i.e., the production of vanilla by supporting the development of plants and packing houses.
- Work with the farm bureau to expand knowledge of innovation efforts in agriculture through transfer of knowledge from other areas of the United States and world.
- Encourage changes to rules which will allow the continued evolution of farms to provide the facilities to support agritourism in the region.

Agriculture	Miami-Dade County			
	Current		5 Year History	
	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change
Crop Production (Proprietors)	853	$92,176	-118	-2.6%
Nursery and Tree Production	2,897	$37,219	871	7.4%
Floriculture Production	3,954	$37,205	535	3.0%
Crop Production (Proprietors)	853	$92,176	-118	-2.6%

Source: Jobs EQ

Commercial Fisheries – The Florida Keys



Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and Neighboring Jurisdictions

Home to the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, commercial fishing is one of the key export industries in Monroe County/Florida Keys. Commercial fishing panels have been monitored since 1998 for catch, spatial distribution of catch, and financial performance. The socioeconomic impacts of marine zoning, including the impacts of Sanctuary Preservation Areas (SPAs) and Ecological Reserves (ERs), which are no-take areas are a primary focus of monitoring.[67]

According to data from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Monroe County has harvested 4,543,452 pounds of seafood with an estimated value of $27,125,752; approximately 15% of total pounds of Florida seafood and 21% of the statewide estimated value from January 2022 – August 2022. This compares to 436,045 pounds of seafood from Miami-Dade with an estimated value of 1,657,162 and 189,663 pounds of seafood from Broward County with an estimated value of $1,081,654.[68]

Aviation, Aerospace, & Defense

The aerospace industry focuses on the designing and constructing of aircrafts, rockets, and missiles as well as devices or vehicles operated in outer space, whereas the aviation industry focuses on the practice of flying aircraft. Given that aerospace focuses on the designing and construction of aircraft there can be significant interplay between these two industries. The aviation industry also plays an important role in the hospitality and tourism cluster.

The Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood Airport and the Miami International Airport are the largest airports serving the Miami Metropolitan Area. Both airports welcome millions of international visitors per year. MIA alone receives 70% of all international passengers in Florida and is America's third-busiest airport for international passengers. The airport offers more flights to Latin America and the Caribbean than any other U.S. airport. In 2019, MIA had nearly 46 million passengers and was the top U.S. airport for international freight. It is projected that by 2040, MIA will serve 77 million travelers and more than 4 million tons of freight. To accommodate the airport's continued anticipated growth, the Miami-Dade County Commission adopted a new capital improvement program at MIA that will fund up to $5 billion in airport-wide modernization projects. It is anticipated that the slate of projects over the course of the next 15 years. [69] Additionally, the Miami area has three smaller general aviation and executive airports. MIA and the county's general aviation airport's annual economic impact is $31.9 billion, contributing 275,708 jobs directly and indirectly to the local economy.[70]

Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) is the fastest growing large hub airport. To accommodate its continued growth, FLL is in the midst of a $3.2 billion capital improvement program that includes 20 plus projects across four terminals focused on modernization in addition to 500,000 square feet of expansion and renovation across three terminals.[71] Spirit Airlines, which employs thousands of people in South Florida, has been a major anchor of the Fort Lauderdale Airport with its headquarters in Fort Lauderdale. However, recently a $3.8 billion merger with JetBlue was announced. JetBlue has stated that it will utilize Spirit's new headquarters, which is under construction as a support center, but it may divest of assets at FLL in order to appease the Federal Trade Commission and avoid a blockage of the merger. However, JetBlue has stated that it will continue to allow Spirit employees to remain in Florida and plans to grow in Florida.[72] Monroe County has also experienced record numbers of passengers at its airport and has planned expansion projects to accommodate its increased number or visitors. Presently, the county has committed $80 million to build a concourse with jet bridges, anticipated to be complete in 2024. Monroe County is also home to Marathon airport, which operates mostly as a private and charter plane airport.[73]

There are a significant number of jobs within the aviation and aerospace industries between Broward and Miami-Dade Counties. While some of the jobs are lower paying jobs, such as those classified as "other airport operations", jobs such as aircraft engine and engine parts manufacturing pay well at an average annual wage of $67,945 in Miami-Dade County and $112,573 in Broward County. There are over 6,000 jobs classified as "other support activities for air transportation" between Broward and Miami-Dade Counties, which offer average annual wages of $59,312 and $57,892 respectively. These support activities for air transportation have a significantly high location quotient of 3.49 indicating that this is an area with a concentration of nearly 3.5 times the national average. Nonscheduled chartered passenger air transportation is also a unique specialty throughout the region with a location quotient of 4.62.

Aviation is an important industry to the South Florida region as it is a critical component to the hospitality and tourism cluster, but its presence goes beyond the simple task of transporting travelers. The region has grown a sizeable number of jobs within aircraft engine and parts manufacturing and support activities to support the industry. Many of the jobs within this sector represent an opportunity for well-paid employment.

Aviation & Aerospace	Broward County				Miami-Dade County			
	Current		5 Year History		Current		5 Year History	
	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change
Air Traffic Control	102	$112,563	2	0.4%	171	$93,085	-21	-2.2%
Other Airport Operations	850	$24,045	-209	-4.3%	3,499	$37,475	-181	-1.0%
Other Support Activities for Air Transportation	1,672	$59,312	143	1.8%	4,497	$57,892	776	3.9%
Aircraft Manufacturing	28	$95,065	-126	-28.9%	114	$63,255	-13	-2.2%
Aircraft Engine and Engine Parts Manufacturing	690	$112,573	108	3.4%	886	$67,945	271	7.6%
Other Aircraft Parts and Auxiliary Equipment Manufacturing	322	$73,221	-68	-3.7%	652	$67,802	152	5.5%

Source: Jobs EQ

Defense

The defense economy in Southeast Florida includes annual direct spending of $5.2 billion, total economic impacts of $16.1 billion to the Gross Regional Product, 155,000+ jobs. It ranks #4 in the state in economic impact and jobs and is the fastest growing region in the state in both these metrics.

South Florida's military history dates back nearly 200 years to 1823 when the U.S. Navy established a naval base and presence in Key West to stop piracy in the area. The modern military footprint dates back to World War II when the region had numerous locations dedicated for military training. Throughout the Cold War South Florida installations were on the front lines protecting the interests of the United States. Today, these Commands are the bulwark that protects the southern approaches to the United States while enabling the military to project power around the globe.

The South Florida region is home to more than 30 commands, including: the U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM), Marine Forces South (MARFORSOUTH), Special Force South (SOCSOUTH), Joint Interagency Task Force South (JIATF-S), Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB), Naval Air Station Key West (NAS-KW), the 482 Fighter Wing, Navy aggressor squadrons, Army Special Forces Underwater Operations School to highlight a few.

Defense test and training ranges include the South Florida Ocean Measurement Facility (SFOMF), Tactical Combat Training System, and multiple test and training range areas around Key West. The National Guard maintains a robust presence in the region including an alert detachment of fighters as the southernmost NOBLE EAGLE air defense alert in the United States. Several non-DoD components, including the U.S. Coast Guard footprint in the region, are one of the most robust in the United States including District 7 (D7) Headquarters, Base Miami Beach, Air Station Miami, Sector Miami, Sector Key West, six Stations, 17 Cutters, and multiple other support commands. Several of these Coast Guard commands are co-located with key Department of Defense installations as well as Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) aviation assets at the Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB).

The SFRPC, and its consultant team Jacobs Engineering and the South Florida Defense Alliance, in partnership with the Department of Defense Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation and local military leadership is conducting a regional Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR) of Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB), U.S. Army Garrison-Miami (USAG-Miami), U.S. Naval Surface War Center South Florida Ocean Measurement Facility (SFOMF), and U.S. Naval Air Station Key West (NASKW).

National Security	Current		5 Year History	
	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change
Broward County	853	$92,176	-118	-2.6%
Miami-Dade County	2,897	$37,219	871	7.4%
Monroe County	3,954	$37,205	535	3.0%

Source: Jobs EQ

The purpose of the MIRR is to identify the risks, hazards, and vulnerabilities of concern as it relates to the ability of the military to carry out its missions that can be mitigated through investments and solutions outside the fence line. Through this effort the resilience of these military installations will be enhanced to protect against encroachment, realignment, or action pursuant to Base Realignment and Closure. Initial meetings with military command personnel indicates that the lack of affordable housing, sea level rise, and weather changes are among the top resilience issues facing the military in South Florida.

Banking & Financial Services

South Florida has become a hub of International Banking Facilities, which allow deposits, make loans and provide other banking services to foreign residents and institutions. Today, the Miami MSA is the second largest international banking center in the U.S., second only to New York.[74] Florida's proximity to Central and South American markets, its bilingual population, and the State's passage of catalyzing legislation as international banking and finance emerged have all contributed to Miami's emergence as an international banking center.[75] Additionally, Florida has incentivized International Banking Facilities by exempting them from state income tax and allowing these institutions to deduct their losses.[76]

As the region's presence in international banking has grown, so have the jobs associated with the industry. Today, alongside bankers there are a range of firms and jobs within the professional services that specialize in global finance. Businesses, such as those focused on international tax practices have matured from fledgling companies to regional businesses with multiple locations. They have also been joined by multinational corporations transacting cross-border business.[77] Given the ripe climate for international baking, it is not shocking that the region has a location quotient of 11.05 in international trade financing demonstrates the region's unique and leading presence in this area.

In addition to the region's reputation as a center for international banking, it also has a strong presence in domestic banking and financial services, many of these jobs are paid extremely well with numerous jobs showing six figure average annual wages and many of these areas showing significant employment growth over the past five years. Commercial banking is a large source of employment for the region with approximately 16,000 jobs between Broward and Miami-Dade Counties. Credit card issuing is a novel area for the Broward County, employing nearly 3,300 people with average annual wages of $79,262 and showing a location quotient of 3.41. Banking and finance are industries that employ many people in well paid positions throughout South Florida.

Banking & Finance	Broward County				Miami-Dade County			
	Current		5 Year History		Current		5 Year History	
	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change
Securities Brokerage	1,770	$212,301	-190	-2.0%	2,859	$313,411	-74	-0.5%
Investment Advice	1,077	$155,815	84	1.6%	1,888	$187,242	330	3.9%
Commercial Banking	4,375	$93,357	-510	-2.2%	11,631	$104,140	-532	-0.9%
Credit Card Issuing	3,299	$79,262	-494	-2.8%	69	$116,707	-21	-5.2%
Real Estate Credit	982	$150,413	389	10.6%	2,213	$166,169	593	6.4%
All Other Non-depository Credit Intermediation	916	$105,722	287	7.8%	614	$68,300	63	2.2%
Portfolio Management	702	$160,219	208	7.3%	1,832	$277,647	629	8.8%
Financial Transactions Processing, Reserve, and Clearinghouse Activities	556	$113,798	-316	-8.6%	1,911	$126,807	175	1.9%
Other Activities Related to Credit Intermediation	446	$74,706	-276	-9.2%	593	$107,518	159	6.5%
Mortgage and Nonmortgage Loan Brokers	1,337	$147,579	599	12.6%	935	$136,752	92	2.1%

Source: Jobs EQ

The Blue Economy

Related to the Marine and Tourism Industries is "the Blue Economy" otherwise referred to as the Global Ocean Economy. The Blue Economy is the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods and jobs, and ocean ecosystem health. The blue economy includes a range of activities including maritime transport, fisheries, tourism, renewable energy, climate change and waste management.[78] The global ocean economy is projected to reach $3 trillion by 2030, according to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).[79] In South Florida it is estimated that 23,251 businesses are within the Blue Economy, supporting 521,441 jobs and $16.5 billion in wages. Supporting the efforts of the Blue Economy, The Marine Research Hub (MRH) was formed in 2017 to raise the visibility, reputation, and prestige of Florida's oceanographic research institutions and facilitate university research and the transfer of technology into marketable goods and services. A true regional collaboration, the founding members of the Marine Research Hub include Florida Atlantic University, Florida International University, Nova Southeastern University, University of Miami, Business Development Board of Palm Beach County, Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, Miami-Dade Beacon Council, and Marine Industries Association of South Florida.

In October 2019, Fort Lauderdale hosted the 9th Annual Ocean Exchange, which featured twelve innovative, sustainable worldwide solutions that demonstrated the ability to generate economic growth and increase productivity while reducing the use of nature's resources. During the 2022 Florida legislative session, the Marine Research Hub secured $300,000 to promote and expand the Blue Economy in Florida.[80]

Focused on solving environmental and climate change related problems, the Blue Economy draws entrepreneurs with new profitable ideas and solutions to grapple with these issues. The race to see which region will become the hub of blue tech is still happening. Although Boston and San Diego are both home to major ocean research institutes and have strong emerging blue tech ecosystems, South Florida still has the potential to become synonymous with blue tech. Government regulations and access to capital remain hurdles for blue tech entrepreneurs. In some cases, regulations intended to protect the ocean from pollution are also preventing startups from deploying technology prototypes for testing. Additionally, start-up investors are often reluctant to fund early-stage climate startups due to the need for "patient capital", as it can take years for a technology to become profitable. Seeing the need to nurture these ventures, Endeavor Miami launched its first start-up accelerator program focused on scaling clean and climate tech companies.

Creative Media, Design, & the Arts

South Florida is known for its fashion, art, music, and design. Its creative culture has been an asset for growing businesses in film, architecture, engineering, fashion, advertising, public relations, software development and other creative arts. Jobs, particularly those involved with digital media including software publishers, internet publishing, data processing and hosting, computer programming and computer system design services all pay more than $100,000 a year. Many of these jobs are growing. Miami-Dade County had a 24.3% increase in the number of software publishers employed over the course of the past 5 years. Internet publishing, data processing and custom computer programming services all saw increases of 8% or greater as well in Miami-Dade. In Broward County, internet publishing had nearly a 6% increase, custom computer programming approximately 7%, and computer systems design services had an almost 8% increase.

Within Creative Media and Design, film has been a burgeoning industry for South Florida. Most recently there were approximately 2,800 people working in motion picture and video production. Previously, Florida ranked no. 3 in the country for film production until 2016 when the State discontinued its incentive program prompting a mass exodus. In recent years, the industry has remained relatively stable with only slight decline in Miami-Dade 3.7% growth in Broward County. Jobs within motion picture and video production pay well with the average annual wage surpassing $85,000. Both counties have launched their own local incentive programs to lure back the film industry and Broward County.

Efforts to attract more the film and television industry to Broward County accelerated with the creation of the County's Film Commission. Working in partnership with Broward County, the City of Fort Lauderdale recently announced that the City of Fort Lauderdale is scheduled to be home to one of the largest sound stages in the country. The $164 million state-of-the-art movie studio is scheduled to be fully built by 2025 on a former superfund site. This project is expected to create more than 10,000 highly-paid jobs over the next few years.

The arts and cultural sector of the economy continues to distinguish our region as one of the fastest growing and most diverse cultural centers in the nation. Hundreds of nonprofit arts organizations and thousands of artists/entrepreneurs are presenting and creating exhibitions, performances and events that are expanding the image of South Florida. Now we are being increasingly viewed as the “sophisticated subtropics.” This cultural life is providing South Florida with the competitive edge for attracting businesses, tourism, and a skilled workforce all of whom consider the attractiveness of a vibrant cultural life when making decisions about where to live, work, visit, and raise a family.

South Florida theaters, museums, arts centers, and artists are among the most diverse and innovative in the hemisphere, reflecting the myriad cultural heritages and artistic traditions that now comprise our population. The creation of new artistic work with a South Florida voice is putting our region on the international cultural map as a leader in creativity for the 21st century. The arts are not only invaluable as a regional business asset, but they also are helping to improve neighborhoods and change lives for the better through the revitalizing impact of pioneering arts organizations and artists. As an example, in Miami-Dade County alone, neighborhoods like Wynwood, Allapattah, Liberty City, Doral and Little River are experiencing an economic and social renewal as a result of catalytic arts initiatives. Artists and nonprofit arts organizations are helping to create a region where differences are shared and celebrated forging a sense of pride of place.

The arts are essential to a well-rounded education, providing children with creative problem-solving skills, training in teamwork, and the discipline necessary to succeed once they enter the 21st century workforce in any job or profession.

The nonprofit arts industry, including museums, theaters, festivals, and arts centers, continues to generate significant jobs and impact on the economy in South Florida. A 2015 Arts & Economic Prosperity Study for this sector documented 40,944 full-time jobs in Miami-Dade, 11,078 jobs in Broward and 2,193 in Monroe. The total impact on the South Florida economy was $1,929,811,931.[81]

Creative Media, Design, & the Arts	Broward County				Miami-Dade County			
	Current		5 Year History		Current		5 Year History	
	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change
Software Publishers	3,605	$207,391	482	2.9%	2,168	$91,330	1,437	24.3%
Internet Publishing and Broadcasting and Web Search Portals	898	$86,314	221	5.8%	1,302	$134,021	422	8.1%
Data Processing, Hosting, and Related Services	4,274	$115,453	183	0.9%	1,631	$187,708	522	8.0%
Motion Picture and Video Production	1,212	$88,061	203	3.7%	1,631	$85,317	-105	-1.2%
Tele production and Other Postproduction Services	56	$33,033	10	3.8%	244	$62,977	48	4.5%
Graphic Design Services	700	$51,665	-113	-3.0%	995	$53,763	-2	0.0%
Other Specialized Design Services	146	$53,075	22	3.4%	278	$56,065	19	1.4%
Custom Computer Programming Services	5,449	$115,679	1,551	6.9%	4,545	$109,014	1,499	8.3%
Computer Systems Design Services	4,158	$105,143	1,427	8.8%	4,434	$130,171	623	3.1%

Source: Jobs EQ

Global Logistics

Port Everglades and PortMiami are some of the busiest ports in the country. In fact, Port Miami was recently ranked the 10th busiest port in the U.S.[82] Port Everglades sees similar volumes of cargo as PortMiami, with even slightly higher volumes of Twenty-foot Equivalent Units (TEU) in 2016, 2017 and 2018. In 2019, Port Everglades was named the 12th busiest port in the country.[83] Both ports are able to accommodate large ships with deep water berths and offer a nexus of intermodal options once containers arrive by ship. PortMiami touts being able to reach 70% of the U.S. population within 4 days via the Florida East Coast on dock intermodal rail.[84] Port Everglades in Broward County serves 100% of the petroleum product needs of Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Martin counties with a distribution area that incorporates eight additional counties.[85]

Historical Rates of Container Shipments in TEUs						
	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021
Miami-Dade	1,037,226	1,076,912	1,108,465	1,053,078	945,512	1,038,179
Broward	1,028,156	1,020,192	1,083,586	1,120,913	1,066,738	1,254,062

Source: Port Everglades, https://www.porteverglades.net/cargo/containerized and Port Miami, https://www.miamidade.goc/portmiami/cargo.asp

Miami International Airport (MIA) and Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) are major assets for the global logistics industry. MIA sees millions of tons of cargo pass through its grounds annually. While FLL sees significantly less air cargo than MIA, FLL has seen sizeable growth with a 19.5% increase in the volume of air freight from 2020 to 2021. MIA also saw tremendous growth from 2020 to 2021 with an approximately 18% increase. With major facilities to support logistics, Port Everglades and FLL Airport located in Broward County and Port Miami and MIA Airport located in Miami-Dade County, the jobs associated with logistics are dominant in these counties. There are few jobs related to logistics in Monroe County. Many of the jobs within the global logistics industry pay well with average annual wages of more than $45,000. Warehousing and storage jobs have seen tremendous growth with an increase of 9.8% in Broward County and nearly new 2,000 jobs and an increase of 37.8% in Miami-Dade County and nearly 11,000 new jobs in this area. There is a significant difference in the average annual wages recorded between the two counties.

Annual Air Freight Cargo in US Tons					
	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
FLL	110,049	92,121	114,301	118,494	107,325
MIA	2,746,899	2,327,747	2,270,365	2,305,941	2,245,190

Source: Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood Interntational Aiport and Miami Internation Airport Monthly Statistical Summares

Global Logistics	Broward County				Miami-Dade County			
	Current		5 Year History		Current		5 Year History	
	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change
Deep Sea Freight Transportation	252	$76,686	-74	-5.0%	823	$80,481	-114	-2.6%
Coastal and Great Lakes Freight Transportation	435	$94,092	119	6.6%	73	$51,891	-49	-9.8%
General Freight Trucking, Local	1,115	$45,973	91	1.7%	4,408	$41,370	706	3.6%
General Freight Trucking, Long-Distance, Truckload	1,356	$46,390	412	7.5%	3,854	$46,669	707	4.1%
General Freight Trucking, Long-Distance, Less Than Truckload	788	$62,430	91	2.5%	1,749	$63,645	-57	-0.6%
Specialized Freight (except Used Goods) Trucking, Local	702	$58,961	90	2.8%	934	$50,807	138	3.2%
Specialized Freight (except Used Goods) Trucking, Long-Distance	187	$54,933	-84	-7.2%	329	$50,866	-187	-8.6%
Marine Cargo Handling	574	$61,839	-18	-0.6%	2,217	$56,259	-851	-6.3%
Freight Transportation Arrangement	1,855	$60,575	241	2.8%	10,791	$50,304	10	0.0%
General Warehousing and Storage	5,371	$51,400	1,998	9.8%	13,609	$33,843	10,869	37.8%

Source: Jobs EQ

Life Sciences & Healthcare

Life Sciences

The life sciences industry includes organizations that perform research, development and manufacturing of pharmaceuticals, biotechnology-based food and medicines, medical devices, biomedical technologies, nutraceuticals, cosmeceuticals, food processing as well as other products that improve health. South Florida is home to approximately 1,500 bioscience businesses and institutions that generate over $4 billion in sales, employing nearly 13,000 life sciences workers in South Florida.[86] The region possesses five universities that offer life science master's degrees and four universities that offer life science doctorates.

Life Sciences South Florida is a collaborative of the region's academic institutions, research parks and economic development organizations with the goal of both public and private investment opportunities. Additionally, the collaborative aids with the sharing of specialized equipment and provides a forum for guiding biotech workforce development. The region also benefits from membership in BioFlorida, the voice of Florida's life sciences industry as well as the Florida Institute for the Commercialization of Public Research, which cultivates technology transfer at Florida's public universities.

The region possesses several other biotech incubators, including the Center for Collaborative Research at Nova Southeastern University at Fort Lauderdale/Davie which features wet and dry laboratory space as well as access to specialized core facilities related to genomics, flow cytometry, cell therapy and imaging. Converge Miami, a partnership between Wexford Science and Technology and the University of Miami offers an urban research campus with lab space, office and coworking space in the heart of the Miami Health District. The facilities are important infrastructure for supporting the growth and development of life science-based companies.

The life sciences industry has seen both high rates of growth as well as areas of job loss. The loss of 1,091 jobs in electromedical and electrotherapeutic apparatus manufacturing in Miami-Dade County is significant. However, many other areas of manufacturing have seen sizeable increases. There has been a nearly 72% increase in in-vitro diagnostic substance manufacturing in Broward County as well as a nearly 30% increase in the jobs pertaining to R&D in Nanotechnology in Miami-Dade County. The manufacturing jobs within the life sciences represent advanced manufacturing employment opportunities requiring highly specialized skills and higher rates of pay than traditional manufacturing.

Healthcare

Broward County's healthcare industry cluster is comprised of both the healthcare and the biosciences industries. Careers in this industry sector include pharmaceutical preparation manufacturing, surgical and medical instrument manufacturing, physicians, dentists, outpatient care centers operations, home health aides and more. Nationally, the employment of healthcare occupations is projected to grow 19 percent from 2014 to 2024. Healthcare-related occupations are expected to add more jobs than any other group of occupations. This growth is expected due to an aging population, as well as an increase of individuals who have gained access to health insurance.[87]

Since the 1950s, Miami-Dade's entrepreneurial climate has nurtured successful biomedical, medical device and pharmaceutical companies. Today, Miami-Dade is home to industry leaders such as Beckman Coulter, BD Biosciences, Cordis (a Johnson & Johnson Company) and Merck. A major new asset for the region is the University of Miami's Life Science Park, a catalyst that will bring faculty, scientists, students, and entrepreneurs together to encourage collaboration and innovation. Located in Miami's Health District, which includes the University's Miller School of Medicine, six hospitals and numerous specialty care centers, the park will eventually encompass up to 2 million square feet dedicated to supporting this sector. Florida International University's College of Medicine and Biomedical Engineering program, as well as Miami Dade College's life science education programs contribute to the region's workforce and research capabilities.[88] Nova Southeastern University in Broward County has a Health Professions Division is leading the university and region to new levels of excellence. The division boasts eight colleges – allopathic medicine, osteopathic medicine, pharmacy, optometry, medical sciences, dental medicine, health care sciences, and nursing – and more than 60 degree and certificate programs.

The Alan B. Levan | NSU Broward Center of Innovation, is a public-private partnership between Nova Southeastern University and Broward County acting as an economic and education development engine linking the South Florida Innovation ecosystem. The Center is works closely with its research partners, particularly in Life Sciences & Healthcare and the Blue Economy, to commercialize their discoveries and support new business development and investment.

Life Sciences	Broward County				Miami-Dade County			
	Current		5 Year History		Current		5 Year History	
	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change
Medicinal and Botanical Manufacturing	354	$47,470	166	13.5%	337	$43,735	310	66.0%
Pharmaceutical Preparation Manufacturing	1,648	$65,251	554	8.5%	1,013	$72,304	73	1.5%
In-Vitro Diagnostic Substance Manufacturing	415	$83,035	387	71.6%	23	$60,225	4	3.8%
Electromedical and Electrotherapeutic Apparatus Manufacturing	41	$69,842	30	30.0%	360	$109,251	-1,091	-24.3%
Surgical and Medical Instrument Manufacturing	622	$68,520	126	4.6%	615	$134,781	-113	-3.3%
Surgical Appliance and Supplies Manufacturing	1,445	$45,031	251	3.9%	298	$57,322	120	10.9%
Dental Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing	43	$54,165	-10	-4.3%	131	$82,859	66	15.1%
Dental Laboratories	317	$42,172	-72	-4.0%	291	$43,819	-59	-3.6%
Testing Laboratories	515	$83,036	38	1.6%	490	$61,103	141	7.0%
Research and Development in Nanotechnology	27	$125,640	1	1.1%	166	$101,047	121	29.9%
Research and Development in Biotechnology (except Nanobiotechnology)	328	$169,652	110	8.5%	649	$111,976	234	9.3%
Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences (except Nanotechnology and Biotechnology)	506	$101,731	0	0.0%	1,122	$97,576	243	5.0%
Medical Laboratories	3,400	$75,140	288	1.8%	1,503	$62,498	307	4.7%
Diagnostic Imaging Centers	707	$59,850	-86	-2.3%	1,414	$48,821	325	5.4%
Blood and Organ Banks	476	$54,354	232	14.3%	315	$52,015	-66	-3.8%
Medical, Dental, and Hospital Equipment and Supplies Merchant Wholesalers	3,091	$106,426	547	4.0%	3,450	$100,970	1,032	7.4%
Drugs and Druggists' Sundries Merchant Wholesalers	3,306	$105,356	7	0.0%	3,034	$75,673	-163	-1.0%

Source: Jobs EQ

Hospitality & Tourism

Hospitality and Tourism have been anchors of the South Florida economy dating back to the early 1900s, but after WWII the industry grew exponentially and quickly became the State's biggest source of income.[89] Warm weather, beaches, and an expansive coral reef system – the only living coral barrier reef in the continental U.S. and third largest in the world – make it a top destination for travelers. Beyond its natural wonders, South Florida has developed a reputation as a cosmopolitan, cultural destination. The region offers unique culinary experiences, well known for its Latin and Caribbean influences with fresh seafood. Additionally, events such as Art Basel have elevated Miami's recognition as an arts and culture center and brought numerous people to South Florida in search of art. In 2018, more than 83,000 people attended Art Basel.[90] Festivals, conferences, and expos suffered greatly with the shutdown from the COVID-19 pandemic that occurred in 2020 and while many events have begun to return, attendance has been diminished and organizations have struggled.[91]

The cruise industry is a significant component of the hospitality and tourism cluster in South Florida. In fact, Port Miami and Port Everglades are two of three largest cruise ports in Florida. Before the pandemic Port Miami welcomed 6.8 million cruise passengers[92] and Port Everglades typically hosts nearly 4 million passengers annually.[93] The port in Key West is the only cruise port to function solely as a port of call and contributes $85 million in economic benefits, 1,250 local jobs, and 15% of the City's local tax revenue.[94]

The pandemic devastated the cruise industry with no cruises occurring for approximately 15 months. It was not until the end of June 2021 that cruises resumed in Port Everglades and the beginning of July 2021 when Port Miami reinstated cruises. The strength and uniqueness of this industry is captured in its off the charts location quotient of 50.57 for deep sea passenger transportation, a score far exceeding any other industry within the hospitality and tourism sector, signifying the region's dominance in this area. There is an abundance of jobs within the hospitality and tourism sector, but many of the jobs are low wage jobs. Among the three counties there are over 85,000 full-service restaurant jobs, but the average annual wages for these jobs is low ranging from $31,569 to $39,300. It is challenging for these workers to afford the high cost of living in South Florida. Some jobs within this industry, particularly those within deep sea passenger transportation (also known as the cruise industry) pay significantly more with average annual wages ranging from $61,452 to $104,854. There tri-county region showing more than 7,500 of jobs within this industry, with most of these jobs located in Miami-Dade County.

Hospitality & Tourism	Broward County				Miami-Dade County				Monroe County			
	Current		5 Year History		Current		5 Year History					
	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change
Deep Sea Passenger Transportation	323	$61,452	62	4.3%	7,267	$104,854	2,277	7.8%	24	$77,315	24	107.0%
Coastal Passenger Transportation	92	$59,217	28	7.7%	291	$68,902	-2,815	-37.7%	2	$30,773	-8	-26.6%
Scenic & Sightseeing Transportation, Water	294	$42,543	2	0.1%	247	$43,139	6	0.5%	420	$41,233	82	4.5%
Scenic & Sightseeing Transportation, Land	25	$20,626	-3	-2.4%	93	$51,916	-49	-8.1%	87	$33,766	-54	-9.3%
Casinos (except Casino Hotels)	1,127	$54,961	-230	-3.6%	465	$47,123	-310	-9.7%				
Snack & Nonalcoholic Beverage Bars	4,815	$21,077	1,489	7.7%	4,579	$23,069	1,114	5.7%	188	$19,112	-21	-2.1%
Limited-Service Restaurants	22,406	$19,573	-929	-0.8%	26,036	$24,915	-2,155	-1.6%	879	$29,923	-280	-5.4%
Full-Service Restaurants	33,683	$31,569	-2,179	-1.2%	46,877	$36,196	-3,085	-1.3%	5,148	$39,300	-160	-0.6%
Drinking Places (Alcoholic Beverages)	2,472	$30,287	-326	-2.4%	3,260	$39,197	-456	-2.6%	771	$36,376	-27	-0.7%
Casino Hotels	1,290	$54,402	-2,146	-17.8%	5,288	$57,689	5,287	506.7%	91	$47,840	-13	-2.6%
Hotels (except Casino Hotels) and Motels	7,978	$36,570	-3,745	-7.4%	20,952	$45,289	-11,623	-8.4%	5,659	$46,011	-459	-1.5%
Amusement and Theme Parks	170	$17,633	118	26.8%	388	$30,705	288	31.2%	11	$24,434	-3	-5.1%
Museums	206	$42,098	-79	-6.3%	697	$44,774	105	3.3%	107	$31,975	-26	-4.3%
Sports Teams and Clubs	529	$194,041	-84	-2.9%	2,267	$270,596	-222	-1.8%	14	$115,926	3	4.9%
Convention and Visitors Bureaus	38	$74,702	0	-0.2%	86	$100,173	-36	-6.7%	3	$34,385	0	3.1%
Tour Operators	176	$68,506	46	6.3%	308	$59,398	-265	-11.7%	20	$22,875	-71	-26.4%
Travel Agencies	1,455	$62,300	-1,061	-10.4%	1,690	$62,300	-589	-5.8%	40	$38,171	-33	-11.3%
Other Travel Arrangement & Reservation Svcs	1,018	$66,660	94	2.0%	116	$68,936	-2,028	-16.1%	34	$51,629	-305	-36.7%

Source: Jobs EQ

Manufacturing

While South Florida's manufacturing sector is not a top employer (only 3% of jobs among the tri-county region are within manufacturing), it is a major contributor of output and has strong linkages to other important industry sectors. For example, many of the advanced manufacturing jobs produce medical devices or aircraft engine parts bolstering the life sciences and aviation industries. Furthermore, manufacturing within these advanced industry sectors- those characterized by high levels of research & development technology and Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) workers- pay high wages. The average annual wage for an employee in medical and surgical instrument manufacturing is nearly $135,000 in Miami-Dade County.

Make It Miami, a report on South Florida's manufacturing sector in 2019 found that most manufacturing employees earn above the median earnings for Miami-Dade County overall, and more than one-third of Miami's manufacturing firms are within the advanced manufacturing industry sector. In the report, which included results from a manufacturing survey, it found that Miami manufacturers have a positive outlook and were pleased with their access to international markets and quality of life. However, most businesses perceived the cost of commercial and industrial sites, poor transportation infrastructure, the lack of an adequately educated workforce and the lack of business incentives to be negative factors. In fact, 46.1% have considered relocating.[95] Given the lengthy detail of the Manufacturing Chart, please refer to Appendix IV.

Marine Industries

The region's location adjacent to the stunning Caribbean waters makes it a natural location for boating. The marine industries are tied to the hospitality and tourism cluster but also serve area residents. In 2022 The Discover Boating Miami International Boat Show generated more than $955.6 million in economic impact throughout the state of Florida, created over 5,000 jobs, and with more than 100,000 visitors over the five-day event. Similarly, the 2021 Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show, the largest in-water boat show in the world, contributed $1.79 billion to Florida's economy with $899 million in direct sales over the 5 days of the show.[96] The Island Boat Show in the Florida Keys, the "Sport Fishing Capital of the World", also attracts national and international visitors. Fort Lauderdale is often referred to as "the Yachting Capital of the World" and/or "the Venice of the America's" because of the large number of recreational boats and canals in Broward.

The Marine Industries Association of South Florida reports the marine industries has a regional economic impact of $12.5 billion with $9.7 billion impact in Broward County. The Marine Industry Economic provides 149,000 jobs regionally with 121,000 middle class jobs in Broward County.[97] The robust demand for purchasing boats through the region generates demand for parts, marinas, boat building, etc. The location quotient of 4.31 for boat dealers demonstrates the region as an industry that has a concentration of 4.31 times greater than the national average and the transportation equipment and supplies, except for motor vehicles, has a concentration of 7.69 times greater than the national average. The marine industries are a unique industry in which South Florida has a strong presence. The wages for employees in these industries vary, but average annual wages, particularly for boat dealers, have generous salaries with average annual wages ranging from $58,225 to $120,493 depending on the county.

Ports & Airports Infrastructure

Marine Industries	Broward County				Miami-Dade County				Monroe County			
	Current		5 Year History		Current		5 Year History					
	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change	Employees	Avg Annual Wages	Employment Change	Annual % Change
Boat Dealers	1,610	$120,493	145	1.9%	614	$73,831	84	3.0%	264	$58,225	24	1.9%
Marinas	941	$59,694	25	0.5%	518	$54,420	-1	0.0%	392	$41,166	32	1.7%
Boat Building	444	$58,151	-50	-2.1%	1,375	$53,111	508	9.7%	42	$47,295	30	29.3%
Marinas	941	$59,694	25	0.5%	518	$54,420	-1	0.0%	392	$41,166	32	1.7%

Source: Jobs EQ

The airports and seaports are critical components of the regional economy, supporting domestic and international trade. The South Florida region is served by three international airports and two major seaports. The Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood Airport (FLL) and the Miami International Airport (MIA) are the largest airports serving the Miami Metropolitan Area. Both airports welcome millions of international visitors per year. Much of the cargo entering the South Florida region is transported by sea through the Port of Miami and Port Everglades. Total cargo volume at Port Everglades was 24.3 million tons and 11.1 million tons at the Port of Miami in 2021.

MIA alone receives 70% of all international passengers in Florida and is America's third-busiest airport for international passengers. The airport offers more flights to Latin America and the Caribbean than any other U.S. airport. In 2019, MIA had nearly 46 million passengers and was the top U.S. airport for international freight. It is projected that by 2040, MIA will serve 77 million travelers and more than 4 million tons of freight. To accommodate the airport's continued anticipated growth, the Miami-Dade County Commission adopted a new capital improvement program at MIA that will fund up to $5 billion in airport-wide modernization projects. It is anticipated that the slate of projects over the course of the next 15 years.[98] Additionally, the Miami area has three smaller general aviation and executive airports.[99] MIA and the county's general aviation airport's annual economic impact is $33.7 billion, contributing 275,708 jobs directly and indirectly to the local economy. MIA alone handles 80.7 percent of all goods arriving to or leaving from Florida, positioning itself among the most important airports in the country for air cargo. The airport specializes in handling perishable goods like fish, fruits, vegetables, and flowers, which represent almost three quarters of MIA's air cargo imports. The Miami International Airport processes more cut flowers than any other airport in the U.S., accounting for about 85 percent of all flowers imported to the country.

Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) is the fastest growing large hub airport. To accommodate its continued growth, FLL is in the midst of a $3.2 billion capital improvement program that includes 20 plus projects across four terminals focused on modernization in addition to 500,000 square feet of expansion and renovation across three terminals.[100] The airport's location adjacent to Port Everglades makes it an important facility for business and cargo activity. FLL's annual economic impact is $37.5 billion, contributing to almost 255,386 jobs directly and indirectly to the local economy.[101]

Key West International Airport primarily supports commercial service users and the local tourism industry. The airport's location makes it vital to serving the local community of Key West, which is one of Florida's major tourist destinations. Monroe County has $80 million project to build a concourse with jet bridges, which is anticipated to be complete in 2024. Monroe County is also home to Marathon airport, which operates mostly as a private and charter plane airport.[102]

Opportunity Zones

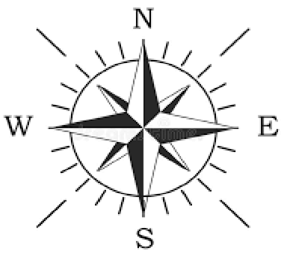
An Opportunity Zone is an economically distressed community where private investments, under certain conditions, may be eligible for capital gain tax incentives. The South Florida region contains 98 Qualified Opportunity Zone Census Tracks, with 30 in Broward County, 67 in Miami-Dade County, and 1 in Monroe County. The Opportunity Zones were certified by the U.S. Department of the Treasury on June 14, 2018. Investors can defer tax payment on any prior gains invested in a Qualified Opportunity Fund (QOF) until the earlier of the date on which the investment in a QOF is sold or exchanged or until December 31, 2026.

Workforce Development is a major part of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for South Florida. Workforce development is addressed in the Innovation and Competitiveness, Opportunity and Prosperity, and Economic Resilience Goals and Objectives of the CEDS action plan. Our analysis of the census tracts belonging to Qualified Opportunity Zones shows that there is greater poverty, lower educational attainment, and a greater reliance on transit in these areas than the state and regional averages. This revelation is consistent with findings in the 2018 ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) report for South Florida, which indicates many residents in low-income communities make the difficult choice between food, shelter, and transportation on a regular basis. The COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent closure of vast segments of the economy has further exacerbated economic hardship and elevated the importance of community and economic development, supply chain development and management, and diversification of the economy. Encouraging and supporting new businesses, job creation, and investment within Opportunity Zones is key to reversing negative trends and creating opportunity and a more positive future for Opportunity Zone residents and South Florida as a whole.

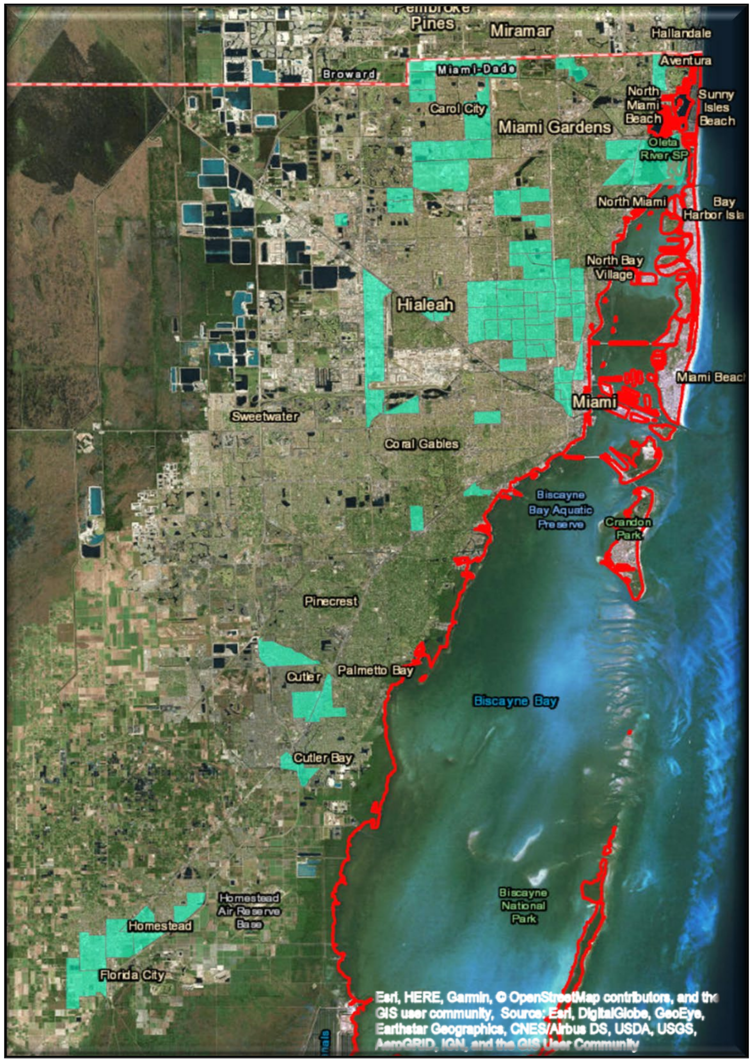
Legend

Opportunity Zones

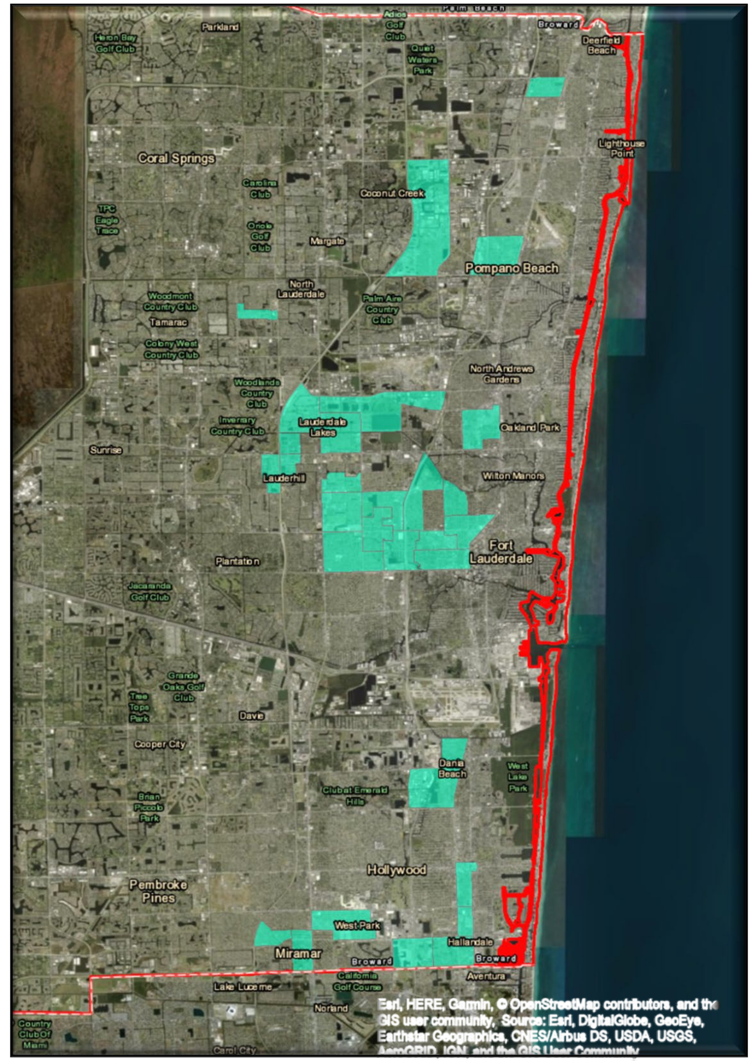
County Boundary



Miami-Dade County



Broward County



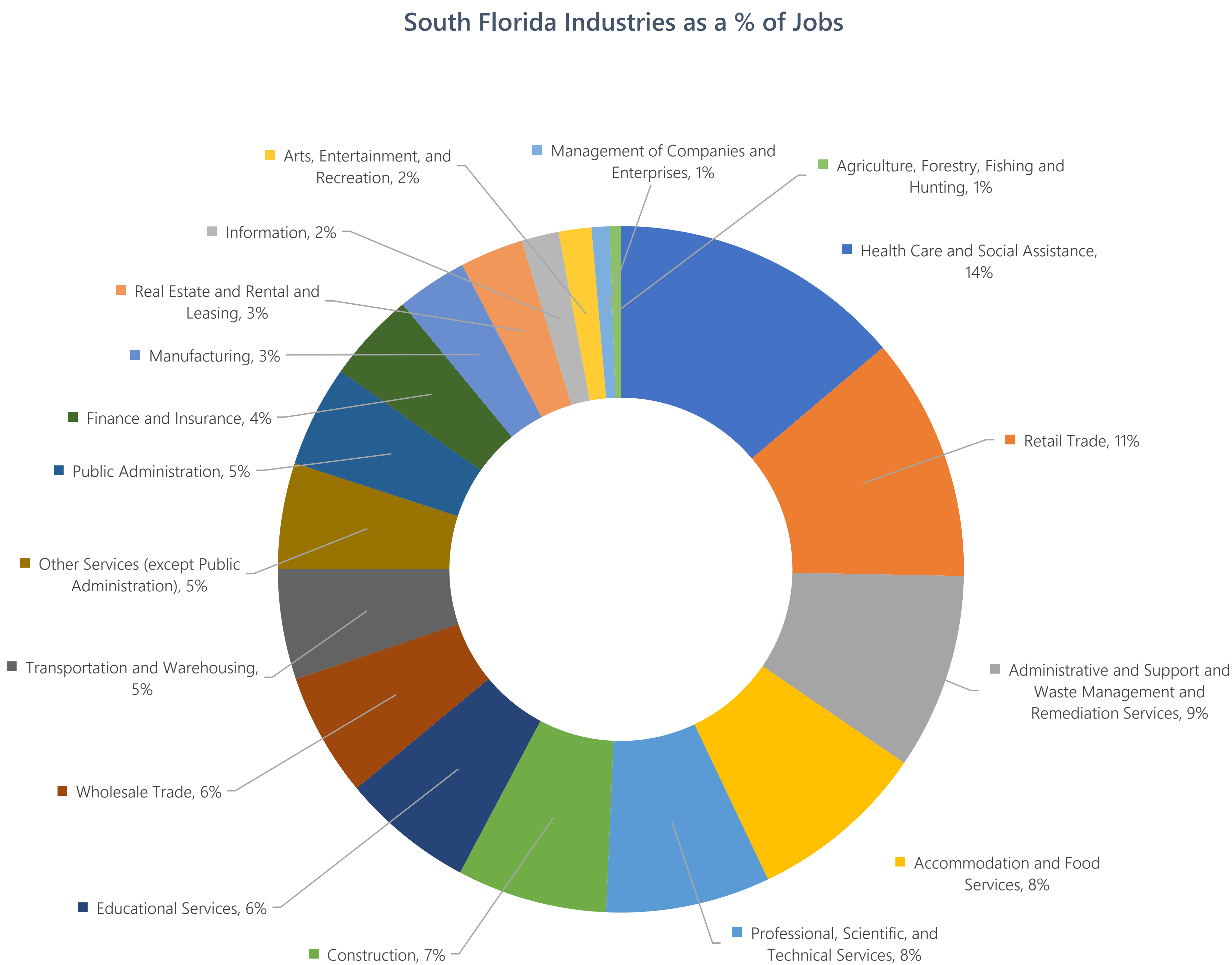
Note: Add Legend / U.S. Dept of the Treasury June 14, 2018

SFRPC
South Florida Regional Planning Council

Target Clusters

This table shows industry clusters of focus in the 2017 CEDS and identifies new industry clusters and niche sectors based on their economic development significance and projected demand over the next five years.

2017 CEDS TARGET CLUSTERS	2022 CEDS TARGET CLUSTERS
HEALTHCARE & SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	HEALTHCARE & LIFE SCIENCES
MANUFACTURING	TRADITIONAL AND ADVANCED MANUFACTURING
SCIENCE & TECH	TECHNOLOGY
ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, RECREATION	CREATIVE DESIGN/MEDIA
HOSPITALITY & TOURISM	HOSPITALITY & TOURISM
AGRICULTURE FORESTRY FISHING, HUNTING	AGRICULTURE FORESTRY FISHING, HUNTING
	BANKING & FINANCIAL SERVICES
	GLOBAL LOGISTICS
	MARINE INDUSTRIES
	BLUE ECONOMY/INDUSTRIES
	ADMINISTRATIVE, SUPPORT


South Florida Industries as a % of Jobs
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation, 2%
Management of Companies and Enterprises, 1%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting, 1%
Information, 2%
Health Care and Social Assistance, 14%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing, 3%
Manufacturing, 3%
Finance and Insurance, 4%
Retail Trade, 11%
Public Administration, 5%
Other Services (except Public Administration), 5%
Transportation and Warehousing, 5%
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services, 9%
Wholesale Trade, 6%
Accommodation and Food Services, 8%
Educational Services, 6%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services, 8%
Construction, 7%

Evaluation Framework

The CEDS Evaluation Framework is a summary of key regional, state, and U.S. data points from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. These data metrics service as performance metrics in evaluating the progress of achieving the CEDS Goals and Objectives.

Goal: To Promote Innovation and Competitiveness, Opportunity and Prosperity, Vitality and Sustainability

Growth in the county's workforce ages 24 – 44 (this age group is likely to be less risk adverse and more entrepreneurial)
Population
Demographics
Gross Regional Product
Median Household Income: South Florida Region: $62,303; Florida: $57,703; United States: $64,994
Per Capita Income
Labor Force Participation
Business Establishments
Average Annual Unemployment Rates
Annual Building Permits
Employment by Industry
Employment by Sector or Occupation
Average Annual Wages by Industry
Tourism Development Tax Collections
Trade Imports / Exports
Location Quotients
Educational Attainment

- High School Graduation Rates
- Third Grade English Language Arts
- Enrollment in Trades (if available)

Innovation Index
Number of Septic Tanks
Median Housing Price
Median Housing Rental Cost
Percent of Persons Living in Poverty
ALICE (Asset-Limited, Income-Constrained, but Employed) Population
ALICE Children and Children in Poverty
Single Parent Households with Children

Community Participation & Acknowledgements

The CEDS Strategy Committee consists of the region's top public, private, and nonprofit CEOs representing economic development organizations, chambers of commerce, educational institutions, employers, transit agencies, workforce training professionals, local businesses, local governments, and resilience officers among others. These leaders brought their expertise and insights to the critical focus areas of Economic Diversification, Business Attraction & Workforce Development, Mobility & Access, and Environment & Resilient Infrastructure.

Regional stakeholders played an integral role in the CEDS development and implementation process. September 2021 and September 2022, the SFRPC convened 18 hybrid / virtual and in-person meetings to collect input from the CEDS Strategy Committee, regional stakeholders, and the public; conducted a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis; discussed regional climate resilience and performance measures, and brainstormed goals and strategies to incorporate into the plan. More than 100 individuals participated in the CEDS development process through the CEDS Strategy Committee and topic area Work Groups.

The South Florida Regional Planning Council would like to thank the CEDS Strategy Committee and Work Group Members for their input and guidance for the 2022-2027 CEDS update.

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Joanna C. Walczak, Administrator, Coral Protection and Restoration Program, Florida Department of Environmental Protection

FUNDING RESOURCES

Funding will be a critical component to implement many of the goals and strategies outlined in this document. Below are several potential resources that could be utilized to support these initiatives.

U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA)

The EDA's mission is to forward the Federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness and preparing American regions for economic growth and success within the worldwide economy. This mission is fulfilled through strategic investment and partnerships to create regional economic ecosystems necessary to cultivate competitive regions throughout the United States.

- **Planning and Local Technical Assistance Program:** This program assists eligible recipients in developing economic development plans and studies designed to build capacity and guide the economic prosperity and resiliency of a region. It supports organizations and other eligible recipients with short-term and state planning investments to guide the potential creation and retention of high- quality jobs, particularly for the unemployed and underemployed in the Nation's most economically distressed regions.

- **Build to Scale Program:** The B2S Program builds regional economies through scalable startups through the Venture Challenge and Capital Challenge. Through this program, the EDA manages several grant competitions furthering technology-based economic development initiatives that accelerate high quality job growth, create more economic opportunities, and support the future of the next generation of industry leading companies.

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)

The DEO's primary goal is to assist the Governor in advancing Florida's economy through advocating for the state's economic development vision and by administering state and federal programs that seek to help visitors, citizens, businesses, and communities.

- **Community Development Block Grant:** Federally awarded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, CDBG funds are administered through DEO and focus on developing viable communities through the provision of decent housing, suitable living environments, and expanding economic opportunities for persons of low- and moderate-income. The DEO manages several CDBG programs: Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program, Community Development Block Grant – CV (Corona Virus), and Community Development Block Grant – DR (Disaster Recovery).

- **Community Planning Technical Assistance Grants:** These grants provide counties, municipalities, and regional planning councils the ability to create innovative plans and development strategies to promote diverse economies, vibrant rural and suburban areas, and meet statutory requirements for planning, while protecting environmentally sensitive areas. These grants can also be used for disaster recovery, resilience planning, and economic development planning.

- **Florida Job Growth Grant Fund:** This is an economic development program focused on promoting public infrastructure and workforce training across the state. Proposals are reviewed by DEO and Enterprise Florida and selected by the Governor to meet the demand for workforce or infrastructure needs in the community they are awarded to. Florida Job Growth Grant Fund: This is an economic development program focused on promoting public infrastructure and workforce training across the state. Proposals are reviewed by DEO and Enterprise Florida and selected by the Governor to meet the demand for workforce or infrastructure needs in the community they are awarded to.

- **Competitive Florida Partnership Grant:** Competitive Florida Partnership grants offer small and rural cities, along with regional planning councils, the ability to create an asset-based economic development strategy through innovative planning and development.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

- **Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program:** FRDAP is a competitive, reimbursement grant program that offers assistance for acquisition or development of land for public outdoor recreation. County governments, municipalities, and other legally constituted local governmental entities with the responsibility of providing outdoor recreation sites and facilities for the public are all eligible for this program.

- **Florida Forever:** Florida Forever is the State's conservation and recreation land acquisition program and serves as a blueprint for conserving natural resources, thereby renewing Florida's commitment to conserve natural and cultural heritage.

    - **Parks and Open Space Florida Forever Grant Program:** The Parks and Open Space Florida Forever Grant Program helps communities meet the challenges associated with growth, supports viable community development, and protects natural resources and open space. This program receives 21% of the Florida Forever appropriation.

- **Land and Water Conservation Fund:** This is a federal competitive program that provides grants for the acquisition or development of land for public outdoor recreation. Eligible participants include Florida municipalities, county governments, and any other legally constituted local government entities that maintain outdoor recreational sites and facilities for the public.

- **Recreation Trails Program:** RTP is another federally funded competitive grant program through DEP that offers financial assistance to city, county, state, or federal governments or organizations for the development of recreational trails, trailheads, and trailside facilities.

- **Resilient Florida:** The Resilient Florida program is a selection of different grants available to counties, water management districts, flood control districts, and regional resilience entities. Eligible entities may receive funding to analyze and plan for vulnerabilities and implement projects for adaptation and mitigation.

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- **Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program:** This program provides affordable funding in the form of low-interest direct loans or grant awards to purchase, construct, and/or improve essential community facilities, purchase equipment, and pay related expenses. Public bodies and community-based nonprofits within rural areas (outside of Census defined urban areas) are eligible.

- **Economic Impact Initiatives Grants:** These grants provide funding assistance for the development of essential community facilities in rural communities with extreme unemployment and economic depression. Eligible entities include public bodies, non-profits, and federally recognized tribes.

- **Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program:** This program offers funding for rural projects through local utility organizations. USDA provides zero-interest loans or grants to create RLF programs to local utilities to pass through to local businesses for projects to create and retain employment in local areas. Eligible entities include nonprofit utilities, former Rural Utilities Service borrowers, and current Rural Development Electric or Telecommunication Programs borrowers.

- **Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants:** This program assists eligible communities in preparing for or recovering from an emergency that threatens the availability of safe, reliable drinking water. Eligible entities include most state and local governmental entities, nonprofit organizations, and federally recognized tribes.

United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

- **Brownfield Assessment Grant:** Brownfield Assessment Grants provide funding for the recipient to inventory, characterize, assess, conduct planning activities, develop site-specific cleanup plans, and conduct community involvement related to brownfield sites.

- **Environmental Justice Small Grants Program:** This program supports communities working on solutions to local environmental and public health issues. It focuses on helping communities understand and address exposure to multiple environmental issues and risks. Eligible entities include most non-profits, U.S. territories, and tribal governments and organizations.

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)

- **Transportation Alternative Grants:** This program focuses on funding a variety of small-scale transportation projects such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, recreational trails, safe routes to school projects, community improvements such as historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to stormwater and habitat connectivity.

- **Commuter Assistance Funds:** Florida's Commuter Assistance Program offers quality travel choices to ensure mobility, sustain the quality of the environment, preserve community values, and reduce energy consumption. While funds are generally used for marketing and outreach programs, they can also be used for innovative commuter routes.

- **State Block Grant Program:** This program offers numerous grants related to different areas of transportation including metropolitan and state transit planning, capital and operating assistance in urban areas, capital projects to meet the needs of the elderly and individuals with disabilities, capital and operating assistance in rural areas, buses and bus facilities, and metropolitan planning.

- **Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act:** The FAST Act focuses on safety, keeps the established structure of various highway- related programs managed, continues efforts to streamline project delivery, and provides a dedicated source of federal dollars for freight projects.

Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

- **Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program:** This federal program offers funding to states and direct recipients to replace, rehabilitate, and purchase buses and related equipment as well as construct bus-related facilities including technological changes or innovations to modify low or no emission vehicles or facilities. Funding is provided through formula allocations or competitive grants.

United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

- **Choice Neighborhoods Planning Program:** The Choice Neighborhoods program utilizes public and private dollars to support locally driven strategies that address struggling neighborhoods with severely distressed public housing and/or HUD-assisted housing through a comprehensive approach to neighborhood revitalization. The goal is to bring local leaders, residents, and various stakeholders such as public housing agencies, cities, schools, police, business owners, nonprofits, and private developers together to implement a plan that transforms distressed HUD housing and addresses challenges in the surrounding neighborhood.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX I

Focus Area 1: Cultivate a Competitive Economy and Foster Economic Mobility

1.1 ALIGNED PROJECTS	1.1 PROJECT OUTCOMES
1. Health Sciences Curriculum Development – Broward College	The development of an in-house Health Sciences Curriculum will reduce training costs for students, align students to the needs of the local labor market, provide a sustainable and more flexible model for workforce training (i.e., face to face, remote, hybrid, community-based, etc.), and provide completion of the development of five health science courses.
2. Big Pine Key Facility – The College of the Florida Keys (CFK)	The property will be used to expand the college's successful Marine Environmental Technician Program and expand partnerships that encourage marine resource research, conservation, and restoration. The College expects to increase research and work-based learning experiences for students enrolled in the MET program. Identified as a training need within the community for CDL and BLE Vehicle Operations as well, the college expects at least sixty (60) CDL and fifty (50) BLE certificate holders and graduates per year.
3. Top Notch Faculty – Broward College	The program would establish a pool of top-notch faculty for hard to recruit staff in high-demand industries such as nursing, IT, and the marine industry.
4. Summer Youth Employment Program – Career Source Broward	The program would increase not only earnings for the youth and their families, but their knowledge of employability, soft skills, and money management. The program would provide youth with summer jobs and give employers an opportunity to mentor them.
5. Expanding Apprenticeship Programs in Broward County – Career Source Broward	The program would increase the skills and wages of job seekers through certifications and employers will get a trained workforce based on their requirements.
6. Workforce Academy – OIC South Florida	Informed by labor market needs, the project will provide certification offerings and soft skills training for career advancement. The program will serve the unemployed & underemployed citizens in underserved communities that have the highest unemployment and lowest educational attainment in the region.

7. Social Enterprise Workforce / Self-Sufficiency Initiative – OIC South Florida	Provide transitional and experiential workforce development opportunities, including wrap around case management services to the unemployed and under employed individuals.
8. Small Business Technical Assistance Program – Catalyst Miami	The program will build a local ecosystem that supports cooperative development through free educational sessions, community meetings, and collaborations with partner organizations. It will help residents of low-wealth communities launch sustainable businesses that build generational and community-based wealth and become engaged leaders in community economic development efforts. And it will serve as another counter to structural poverty and help equalize economic opportunity.
9. National Dislocated Worker Grant Funding for clean-up, humanitarian assistance and other Disaster Relief – Career Source Broward – Career Source Broward	The program would provide temporary work to adversely affected individuals from the disaster and placing them at governmental and non-profit worksites throughout Broward County to aid the recovery; or to provide them occupational training in-demand careers that lead to unsubsidized employment.
10. Occupational Skills Training – WIOA (Adults and Dislocated Workers) – Career Source Broward	The program would create and develop a talent pipeline by upskilling Broward County residents who are economically disadvantaged and have barriers to employment. The program would also help to address emerging occupational workforce needs, create upward mobility for greater economic independence, and assist employers maintain their competitive position.
11. Cybersecurity Training Range – Alan B. Levan NSU Broward Center of Innovation (Levan Center).	The project will create a fully staffed and operational training facility which can serve as an Emergency or Security Operations Center responding to disasters (pre, during, post) and improve training and communication channels for government and other local agencies. The project will additionally establish one of the most powerful cybersecurity training range in the southeast U.S.A, develop and scale a much needed talent skills pipeline focused on cybersecurity knowledge, awareness, and credentials, expand awareness related to cybersecurity threats including the ability to be proactive and reactive, increase protective measures solidifying cyber defense systems and attract grant funding to support public and private sectors.
12. Alan B. Levan | NSU Broward Center of Innovation	Breakthrough ideation, creation of new technologies, talent skills pipeline (emerging technology sectors), company formation, job creation, scaling of early-stage and young startup companies.

13. Smart Cities Artificial Intelligence (AI) Labs – Levan Center NSU	Establishment of the first AI Smart Cities Lab in the southeast region of the U.S.A. Homegrown talent skills pipeline leading to retaining of such talent in South Florida. New company formation. Attraction of new industries and companies.
14. Volumetric Motion Capture Studio – Levan Center NSU	South Florida could be designated as a Center of Excellence in Spatial Computing. The studio could be utilized as a valuable resource for simulation of events (i.e., emergency response, disaster planning) by creating real life scenarios.
15. Worker Owned Enterprises Academy and Incubator – Catalyst Miami	The program is an academy and incubator. Academy: Participants receive comprehensive knowledge about worker cooperatives and the business, management, and financial skills needed to launch one. Incubator: Catalyst provides the business, financial, and legal help they need to launch their ventures. The program has graduated nearly fifty learners, launched one cooperative, and is supporting four cooperatives in various stages of incubation.
16. Small Business Technical Assistance Program – Catalyst Miami	Served 110 Small businesses with business counseling, incorporation, organization, brand development, assistance in applying for federal, state, local financial relief programs, capacity building, and various administrative support.

1.1 POSSIBLE ACTION PARTNERS

Alan B. Levan NSU Broward Center of Innovation
Broward College
Broward College's Talent and Culture Department
Broward County
Broward County Public Schools (CTACE)
Broward Health
CareerSource Broward
Chambers of Commerce
Children's Services Council
Cities/Municipalities
City of Key West
Cleveland Clinic
Community-based Organizations
Florida Department of Education
Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority
Holy Cross Hospital
Industry Associations
Keys Energy Services
Memorial Healthcare Systems
Miami-Dade College
Monroe County Emergency Management Services
Monroe County Sheriff's Office
Mote Marine Laboratory
Regional Employers/ Staffing Agencies
Youth Services
FIU SBDC
Prospera
Community Fund of North Miami Dade (OLCDC)
Miami Bayside Foundation
SCORE
South Florida Anchor Alliance
Entrepreneurs
Tech Industry
Funders and Professional Networks

1.1 SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES

- Diversity training and programs will be provided.
- Employers have access to new training programs that focus on their needs.
- Allow small businesses and individuals to receive assistance evaluating their business for adapting or pursuing ideas for establishing a new business or reinventing a current business.
- Increase the availability of innovation skills for dislocated workers with key elements of future job skills.
- Workforce training programs are aligned with business and industry needs and are developed, funded, and provided through close collaboration between businesses, educators, and government.
- Out-of-state trained, certified, and licensed workers, including skilled workers and professionals, move to the region, augmenting an already large pool of well-trained workers.
- Training in the trades is consistent across the region.
- Provide innovative solutions and digital technologies that will help resource constrained governments and regulators address capacity challenges and improve regulatory capacity, service delivery, and crisis management.
- Augment and enhance support services in the areas of job training, childcare, success coaching, education, social services, and assist with work-related needs to transition low income, structurally unemployed individuals to living wage jobs and career pathways.
- Advance equity by assisting resident entrepreneurs from low-wealth communities in launching sustainable businesses that will generate and build generational and community-based wealth.
- Advance equity by assisting resident entrepreneurs from low-wealth communities in launching sustainable businesses that will generate and build generational and community-based wealth.
- Create new technologies, recruit new companies, generate scaling of early stage and young startup companies that will bring job creation.

2.1 ALIGNED PROJECTS	2.1 PROJECT OUTCOMES
1. Flagler Village Complete Streets Improvements – Fort Lauderdale DDA	The project will provide multimodal connectivity to the Brightline Station to a future regional commuter rail system with Downtown Fort Lauderdale and Flagler Village at the geographic center.
2. Reimagining Huizenga Park – Fort Lauderdale DDA	With a multi-generational appeal, the park will incorporate core themes centered around art, resilience, and wellness. Cities need engaging and activated parks and outdoor spaces to support health and wellness, improve environmental resiliency, and enhance social and creative connections.
3. Riverwalk Seawall Improvements – Fort Lauderdale DDA	As sea levels rise, improving the seawall along the Riverwalk Linear Park is essential to preserving a regional public space of significance and notable cultural amenities.
4. Smart Cities Artificial Intelligence (AI) Labs – Levan Center NSU	The project will localize smart cities technology currently only available in California. The project will also create new opportunities to develop and implement new programs (i.e., degrees, certifications, short-courses, seminars, workshops) with the focus on AI smart cities planning leading to company formation, recruitment of new companies, retaining of skilled talent.

2.1 POSSIBLE ACTION PARTNERS

City of Fort Lauderdale
Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization
Brightline
Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale
NSU Art Museum
Broward College
Florida Atlantic University
Broward County

2.1 SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES

- Provide multimodal connectivity
- Create an interconnected system of transit and transportation opportunities that are easily accessible to all residents.
- Increased working relationship with transportation agencies and local governments
- Coordinate economic development efforts with regional current and proposed infrastructure projects.
- Coordinate economic development efforts with regional current and proposed infrastructure projects.

APPENDIX II

ALL SECTORS: COUNTY BUSINESS PATTERNS 2020

2020	Miami-Dade	Broward	Monroe
All Establishments	90,482	64,660	3,885
< 5 employees	62,041	44,082	2,552
5 to 9 employees	12,042	8,182	603
10 to 19 employees	7,587	5,609	364
20 to 49 employees	5,475	4,235	249
50 to 99 employees	1,817	1,367	84
100 to 249 employees	1,062	877	27
250 to 499 employees	314	200	5
500 to 999 employees	51	72	0
1,000 employees or more	23	36	0
1,000 to 1,499 employees	15	16	0
1,500 to 2,499 employees	9	9	0
2,500 to 4,999 employees	15	8	0
5,000 or more employees	4	3	0
Annual Payroll ($1000) All Establishments	51,381,658	37,387,991	1,182,959
Number of Employees	1,009,024	736,661	32,757
% of Businesses < 19 Employees	0.902%	0.894%	0.906%

Source: U.S. Census, 2020 County Business Patterns

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https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=CBP2020.CB2000CBP&g=0500000US12086
https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=CBP2020.CB2000CBP&g=0500000US12087&tid=CBP2020.CB2000CBP

Miami-Dade County Industries				
NAICS	**Industry**	**Employees**	**Average Annual Wages**	**Percent of Jobs**
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	177,762	$62,933	14%
44	Retail Trade	143,248	$42,850	11%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	117,806	$35,501	9%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	108,763	$55,252	8%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	101,630	$94,075	8%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	95,235	$39,303	7%
61	Educational Services	85,444	$58,212	7%
23	Construction	82,591	$45,811	6%
42	Wholesale Trade	69,261	$76,985	5%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	65,148	$35,817	5%
92	Public Administration	63,488	$81,766	5%
52	Finance and Insurance	53,171	$133,796	4%
31	Manufacturing	44,179	$55,288	3%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	38,941	$60,278	3%
51	Information	20,404	$108,422	2%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	19,069	$75,427	1%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	11,087	$139,625	1%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	10,192	$41,405	1%
	Source: Jobs EQ, Data as of 2021Q4			

Broward County Industries				
NAICS	Industry	Employees	Average Annual Wages	Percent of Jobs
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	120,063	$64,551	13%
44	Retail Trade	109,789	$45,387	12%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	86,018	$47,471	10%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	77,423	$27,965	9%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	70,118	$85,840	8%
23	Construction	61,728	$55,147	7%
61	Educational Services	52,646	$55,379	6%
42	Wholesale Trade	46,564	$83,105	5%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	45,730	$56,161	5%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	45,421	$36,749	5%
92	Public Administration	42,432	$75,445	5%
52	Finance and Insurance	40,792	$97,478	5%
31	Manufacturing	29,684	$60,562	3%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	27,681	$55,507	3%
51	Information	18,499	$113,352	2%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	14,992	$45,909	2%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	7,561	$149,806	1%
	Source: Jobs EQ, Data as of 2021Q4			

Monroe County Industries				
NAICS	**Industry**	**Employees**	**Average Annual Wages**	% of Jobs
72	Accommodation and Food Services	13,327	$40,866	29%
44	Retail Trade	5,582	$38,899	12%
23	Construction	3,865	$50,146	9%
92	Public Administration	2,999	$69,082	7%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	2,637	$63,679	6%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	2,325	$46,860	5%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	2,057	$77,588	5%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	2,016	$39,537	4%
61	Educational Services	1,991	$55,595	4%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1,826	$51,001	4%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1,626	$41,135	4%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	1,513	$45,168	3%
52	Finance and Insurance	792	$115,134	2%
42	Wholesale Trade	674	$63,489	1%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	598	$36,843	1%
22	Utilities	580	$85,793	1%
51	Information	440	$65,191	1%
31	Manufacturing	392	$56,021	1%
	Source: Jobs EQ, Data as of 2021Q4			

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