

WEB SITES WITH INFORMATION USEFUL FOR ASSESSING FINANCIAL CONDITION

STATE OF FLORIDA

Auditor General: <https://flauditor.gov/> This site includes financial condition assessment procedures and Auditor General rules and guidelines.

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity:

<http://www.floridajobs.org/workforce-statistics/about-workforce-statistics/our-mission>

Labor Market Statistics Center includes: (1) Employment and Wages - current employment, projections, and wages by industry and occupation, occupational profiles, and career information, (2) Labor Force - labor force, employment, unemployment, and unemployment rates, (3) Economic Indicators - Florida Price Level Index, Consumer Price Index, income, and unemployment claims data, and (4) Population - age, race, gender, income, veteran's status, and education information.

Florida Association of Counties: <https://www.fl-counties.com/> Has tables and schedules of county tax rates, legislative summary with hotlinks to the Legislature, map of counties with links to their web sites.

Florida Department of Education: <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/data-sys/edu-info-accountability-services/pk-12-public-school-data-pubs-reports/index.shtml> Compiles data of graduation/dropout rates, student skills and competency testing, and teacher salaries and degree levels.

Florida Department of Revenue: <http://floridarevenue.com/pages/default.aspx> This is a handy site for finding information about sales taxes, ad valorem taxes, and proposed administrative rules.

Florida Government Finance Officers Association (FGFOA): <http://www.fgfoa.org> The Florida Government Finance Officers Association (FGFOA) was founded in 1937 and serves more than 2,800 professionals from state, county and city governments, school districts, colleges and universities, special districts, and private firms.

Florida League of Cities: <http://www.floridaleagueofcities.com> Has links to all member cities in Florida. This site contains, among other things, a link to municipal codes and legislation affecting Florida cities.

Local Government Financial Information Handbook:

<http://edr.state.fl.us/Content/local-government/reports/index.cfm>

The Local Government Financial Information Handbook, published by the Office of Economic and Demographic Research (EDR), is considered by many to be a useful resource for local government revenue estimating. The entire handbook is downloadable.

Office of Economic and Demographic Research (EDR), Florida Legislature: <http://edr.state.fl.us>

The Office is a research arm of the Legislature principally concerned with forecasting economic and social trends that affect policy making, revenues, and appropriations. EDR publishes all of the official economic, demographic, revenue, and agency workload forecasts that are developed by Consensus Estimating Conferences. EDR, through a contract with the University of Florida, arranges for annual estimates of population of each city and county in Florida, which provide the basis for revenue sharing programs.

State of Florida: <http://www.myflorida.com/> A central site with links to numerous individual state departments, agencies, and commissions.

State of Florida Local Governments:

<http://www.myfloridacfo.com/Division/AA/LocalGovernments/default.htm> this is a site within the Florida Department of Financial Services' web site. You can download the revenues and expenditures of any Florida local government as reported on the entity's Annual Financial Report. It also has the Uniform Accounting System Manual.

University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR):

<http://www.bebr.ufl.edu/> A research center of the College of Business. BEBR publishes Florida county and municipal population estimates, building permit data, sales data, and various data compendia for Florida. BEBR also produces the annual Florida Long-term Economic Forecast.

FEDERAL

Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA): <http://www.bea.gov/> A statistical office of the U.S. Department of Commerce. BEA maintains the National Income and Product Accounts which estimate the total economic output or Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the U.S. BEA compiles and releases personal income data and employment data for states and local areas as well as nationally (<https://www.bea.gov/data/economic-accounts/regional>). BEA also produces a regional input-output economic model called RIMS II (<http://www.bea.gov/regional/rims/>).

Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS): <http://stats.bls.gov/> Primary statistical office of the U.S. Department of Labor. BLS publishes monthly estimates of unemployment, employment, wages (bls.gov/bls/proghome.htm), inflation (bls.gov/cpi), and employment costs (bls.gov/ncs/ect/).

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): <http://www.epa.gov/> EPA's mission is "to protect human health and the environment." EPA gathers various data on environmental topics such as drinking water and air quality, both of which are available at a local level.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC): <http://www.fdic.gov/> Charged with maintaining the stability of public confidence in the U.S. financial system by promoting sound banking practices. The FDIC insures individual bank deposits and manages bank failures. FDIC compiles financial data including Summary of Deposits data showing local bank deposits by institution.

Federal Reserve System (The Fed): <http://www.federalreserve.gov/> The central bank of the U.S. The Fed manages the monetary policy of the U.S. and regulates the banking system. In pursuit of these mandates, the Fed collects and produces financial data on topics such as interest rates (www.federalreserve.gov/releases/H15/data.htm), consumer credit and commercial bank assets and liabilities. The Fed also produces data on industrial production and capacity utilization.

International Trade Administration (ITA): <http://www.trade.gov/> An office of the U.S. Department of Commerce, ITA compiles data and conducts research on international and domestic trade and investment issues. Trade data by Metropolitan Statistical Area are available.

United States Census Bureau: <http://www.census.gov/> Conducts the 10-year census and other numerous surveys, estimates, and projections. Topics include:

- Population <https://www.census.gov/topics/population.html>
- Income <http://www.census.gov/topics/income-poverty/income.html>
- Poverty <http://www.census.gov/topics/income-poverty/poverty.html>
- Housing <http://www.census.gov/topics/housing.html>
- Construction <https://www.census.gov/construction/nrc/index.html>

OTHER

American City and County Magazine: <http://www.americancityandcounty.com/> This magazine provides readers with news, government trends, policy alternatives, and operational solutions. The magazine also publishes the municipal cost index (MCI), which is a combination of the consumer price index (CPI), producer price index (PPI), and the construction cost index (CCI). All of these indices are found within the “MCI Archive” site feature.

Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB): <http://www.gasb.org/> The GASB establishes and improves standards of state and local governmental accounting and financial reporting that will result in useful information for users of financial reports and guide and educate the public, including issuers, auditors, and users of those financial reports. Site includes links to financial condition reporting information.

Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA): <http://www.gfoa.org/> GFOA is the professional association of state/provincial and local finance officers in the United States and Canada, and has served the public finance profession since 1906.

International City/County Management Association (ICMA): <http://www.icma.org/> ICMA is a professional and educational organization representing appointed managers and administrators in local government.

National Association for Business Economics (NABE): <http://www.nabe.com/> NABE is a prominent professional organization of business economists and others using business economics at work. NABE produces a quarterly economic *Outlook* forecast (<http://nabe.com/Surveys>).

National Association of Realtors (NAR): <https://www.nar.realtor/> NAR produces national, state, and metropolitan housing data. Data compiled include median housing prices, existing home sales, and a housing affordability index.

National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc.: <http://www.nber.org/> A private research organization whose Business Cycle Dating Committee determines the official peak and trough of the economic or business cycle.

The Conference Board: <http://www.conference-board.org/> A private research organization producing the Consumer Confidence Index and the Composite Index of Leading Economic Indicators (as well as indices for Lagging and Coincident Indicators). The economic indicators indices are contracted to the Conference board by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

The Dismal Scientist: <https://www.economy.com/dismal> A private economic indicator and analysis web site owned by Dismal Sciences, Inc., an economic research consultancy located in West Chester, PA. Dismal Scientist provides national, state, metropolitan, and international economic data and analysis in one web site. Its coverage is extensive both topically and geographically.

The International Budget Partnership (IBP): <http://www.internationalbudget.org/> The IBP of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities assists non-governmental organizations and researchers in analyzing and improving budget policies and decision-making processes. The role of independent budget analysis is growing around the world as researchers try to increase public access to budget information and debates. The site also has some great links to other budget sites.