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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2018 Vital Statistics Annual Report reveals that Florida is growing in population and in health. Several key indicators point to progress made in enhancing the quality of life across different parts of Florida's population, as well as areas needing continued attention and improvement.

In 2018, Florida's population reached 20,957,706 residents, a 2.0 percent increase from 2017. In 2018, the racial distribution of the population was 77.4 percent white, 16.9 percent black and 5.7 percent other race. Hispanics comprised 25.7 percent of the population and Non-Hispanics 74.3 percent. A Florida resident born in 2018 can be expected to live 79.8 years, which is an increase of almost 9 years from the life expectancy in 1970.

In 2018, the number of live births among residents in Florida decreased from 2017 by 0.9 percent to 221,508. In 2018, Florida experienced a birth rate of 10.6 births per 1,000 population, which was a 2.8 percent decrease from 2017. The birth rate among black mothers was the highest at 13.7 births per 1,000 population. Hispanic mothers also experienced a birth rate higher than white mothers at 12.3 births per 1,000 population. The percent of births to mothers younger than 19 declined to 2.3 percent which was an 8.0 percent decline from 2017 and the lowest on record. Roughly 5.6 out of every 12 resident live births (46.3 percent) were to unwed mothers.

In 2018, fetal deaths, also known as stillbirths, decreased to 6.7 per 1,000 live births and fetal deaths. This represents a 2.9 percent decrease from 2017.

Florida's 2018 infant mortality rate decreased to 6.0 per 1,000 live births. This represents a decline of 1.6 percent since 2017. The resident infant mortality rate has dropped 37.5 percent since 1990 and is currently less than half the rate of 1980. The most frequent causes of resident infant deaths in 2018 were: 1) Perinatal Period Conditions (693 deaths), 2) Congenital Malformations (246 deaths), 3) Unintentional Injuries (Accidents) (110 deaths), and 4) Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) (69 deaths). These causes accounted for 83.8 percent of all resident infant deaths.

In 2018, Florida resident deaths increased to 205,461, a 1.0 percent increase from 2017. Heart disease was the leading cause of death in 2018, accounting for 46,929 deaths. Cancer was the second leading cause of death in 2018, accounting for 45,199 deaths.

The number of marriages in Florida decreased by 4.6 percent from 2017 (163,746 marriages) to 2018 (156,168 marriages). The marriage rate, per 1,000 population, decreased from 8.0 in 2017 to 7.5 in 2018. The month of March was the most popular month for marriage with 15,146 marriages performed. Of the 77,054 dissolutions of marriage in 2018, over half (53.3 percent) did not affect any minor children.

INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes data compiled from the original records/reports that were filed with the Bureau of Vital Statistics as required by law. These include records and reports of live births, deaths, fetal deaths, marriages and dissolutions of marriage. Responsibility for filing birth records lies with the physician, midwife or other attendant. Funeral directors, or other persons acting as such, are legally charged with filing death records. The quality of data presented in this Annual Report is directly related to the completeness, accuracy and processing associated with the source documents, registration procedures and statistical reporting systems.

HISTORY OF FLORIDA'S VITAL STATISTICS:

Official collection of Florida's birth and death records started in 1917 and the mandate to collect these data statewide was addressed again in 1927. Florida became a nationally recognized death registration jurisdiction in 1919 and a nationally recognized birth registration jurisdiction in 1924. Marriage and dissolution records have been filed with Florida's Bureau of Vital Statistics since June 1927.

Annual reporting of Vital Statistics began in 1919. Publication of the Florida Vital Statistics Annual Report 2018 marks the 100th year this Annual Report has been produced.

RATES AND FORMULAE:

Various rates are presented throughout this Annual Report. Formulas used for these calculations are presented in Appendix 1.

RESIDENT AND RECORDED EVENTS:

Data on births and deaths are tabulated according to both the usual place of residence (events occurring to Florida residents regardless of the place of occurrence) and the place of occurrence (events occurring in Florida regardless of the usual place of residence). The former are referred to as resident events and the latter as recorded events. Prior to 1933 only recorded data are available.

Varying interpretations of the usual place of residence by Florida's many seasonal visitors and military families may influence the accuracy of resident tabulations since the residence shown on the record is normally accepted without question. For births, the mother's residence is always used.

Data on marriages are based on county of marriage record issuance. Data on dissolution of marriage records are by place of occurrence only; there is no interstate exchange of these records. Florida dissolutions of marriage are granted only to legal residents.

POPULATION:

The resident midyear July 1 population estimates for 2001-2018 used in this Annual Report were developed by the Department of Health, Division of Public Health Statistics and Performance Management in consultation with the Florida Legislature's Office of Economic and Demographic Research (s. 216.135, Florida Statutes).

RACE:

Since 1989, the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) has classified live births according to the race of the mother. Because of this change and for purposes of comparability, vital statistics data in this report have been modified and are based on the race of the mother for all live birth data. In examining trends for related indicators such as infant deaths, low birthweight and births to unwed mothers, it is important to use the same race methodology throughout the time period being analyzed. Due to the change in methodology from the use of the race of the child to the use of the race of the mother, some of the black and other race births (based on the race of child) will now be classified as white births (based on the race of the mother).

Race entries usually are tabulated as stated on the birth, death and marriage certificates. However, designations such as Hispanic are generally classified as white. Designations such as bi-racial, black and other race or mixed race are classified as "other race." The 2000 Census permitted multiple responses to be made for the question

regarding race. When the Florida Bureau of Vital Statistics revised its birth certificate for the 2004 data year and its death certificate for the 2005 data year, the new certificates also permitted multiple responses to be made for the race question. There are 15 race designations from which any number may be chosen. For tabulation purposes, frequency counts for each of the 15 designations indicate that only a single selection was made. When the single category "other" was selected and a black Hispanic designation was specified, the race was classified as black. Otherwise, "other" with a Hispanic designation was classified as white. When white and black are displayed in the data tables, they represent only white race and only black race, respectively. When "other" is displayed in the data tables it represents multiple races or only a race other than white or black.

CAUSE OF DEATH:

The underlying cause of death is determined from death certificate medical information in accordance with procedures established by the World Health Organization (WHO) and NCHS. Standardized codes are assigned from the International Classification of Diseases (ICD). To keep abreast of changes in medical knowledge, the ICD is revised approximately every 10 to 15 years. Revisions and years used in Florida are:

<u>Revision</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Revision</u>	<u>Years</u>
Second	1917-1920	Seventh	1958-1967
Third	1921-1929	Eighth	1968-1978
Fourth	1930-1940	Ninth	1979-1998
Fifth	1941-1948	Tenth.....	1999-Present
Sixth	1949-1957		

Due to these revisions, year-to-year comparisons of deaths by cause can be misleading, unless such comparisons span a period of years in which only one revision was used or in which the changes from one revision to another were minor.

The Tenth Revision contains major modifications and a disease category such as pneumonia/influenza may be redefined so that more or fewer deaths are included in the classification. To permit more accurate comparisons, NCHS coded a sample of 1996 U.S. deaths by both the Ninth and Tenth Revision rules. The results were grouped by major causes and, for each of these, the number of Tenth Revision deaths was divided by the number of Ninth Revision deaths to produce a comparability ratio. For example, the comparability ratio for Malignant Neoplasm is 1.0068. This means the Tenth Revision coding of 10,000 death certificates will produce about 68 more malignant neoplasms than the Ninth Revision. The comparability ratios for 113 selected causes of death and the 130 selected causes of infant death may be found in the National Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 49, No. 2, May 18, 2001 available at http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr49/nvsr49_02.pdf.

AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATE (AADR):

The Age-Adjusted Death Rate (AADR) is a summary rate of deaths that facilitates the comparability of rates for areas or population subgroups with different age distributions. These rates are presented as per 1,000 or 100,000 population. The AADRs published in this report are the rates that would have been observed if the age-specific death rates for the given year had prevailed in a population whose age distribution was the same as that of the standard population. Through 1960, the population of the United States in 1940 was used as a standard for computation of the AADRs using the direct method. For 1970 and forward, the projected 2000 standard million population of the United States is used as a standard for computation of the AADRs using the direct method. The specified age intervals are under 1, 1-4, 5-14, 15-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65-74, 75-84 and 85 years or older.

STATE TOTALS:

State totals include individuals whose age, gender or resident county/city is unknown or not reported. State totals on tables showing race may include individuals who belong to a race other than white or black, or whose race is unknown. As a result, a state total may be greater than the sum of the rows or columns.

MORE INFORMATION:

For more information, access www.FLHealthCHARTS.com. Call the Florida Bureau of Vital Statistics at (904) 359-6900 for assistance with this Annual Report.