



FLORIDA CENTER FOR FISCAL
AND ECONOMIC POLICY

www.fcsep.org

The State of the State of Florida
March 2011

Poverty

- **33rd** in percentage of residents in poverty (18 states have higher poverty rates)¹
- Floridians below poverty level: 2.7 million people, including 850,000 children. The number of Floridians living in poverty increased 550,000 in two years²

Residents Without Health Insurance

- **4th-worst** in the nation in the percentage of uninsured³
- **3rd-worst** in the percentage of children under 18 without health insurance⁴

Well-Being of Children

- **35th** in the nation, 2010 Kids Count⁵

Child Health System

- **47th** in the nation, Commonwealth Fund State Scorecard on Child Health System Performance, 2011⁶

Unemployment Rate

- **3rd-highest** in the nation, 11.5%⁷

Unemployment Compensation

- **49th** among the states in the percentage of unemployed who receive benefits⁸
- **46th** among the states in the maximum weekly benefit (\$275)⁹

Foreclosures and Delinquent Mortgages

- **Highest** in nation, total of delinquent mortgages and mortgages in foreclosure, 23.4%¹⁰

Per Capita Income Growth

- **46th** in the nation, 2.2% growth between 2009 and 2010¹¹

Food Stamp Clients

- 3,092,459, February 2011, up 530,000 since February 2010¹²

Medicaid Clients

- 2,553,766, February 2011, up 240,000 since February 2010

Teacher Salaries

- 37th in 2009-10, 47th (estimated) in 2010-11¹³

State Tax Revenue

- 43rd among the states in state tax revenue per capita¹⁴
- 46th in state tax revenue as a percentage of personal income
- State taxes in Florida constitute a lower share of Floridians' personal income than at any time in the last 40 years¹⁵
- Hundreds of exemptions, exclusions, credits, and deductions to Florida's sales and corporate income taxes go unreviewed year after year.
- The state has forgone billions of dollars in potential revenue in the last decade through the elimination of the intangibles tax paid almost entirely by the wealthy, and continues to lose hundreds of millions in intangibles tax revenue year after year.¹⁶

State Tax System

- 2nd most regressive in the nation¹⁷

Number of State Employees

- 2nd-lowest in the nation in the number of state employees per 10,000 population¹⁸
- Lowest in the nation in state government employee payroll per resident¹⁹

Education Expenditures

- 50th in per capita state government expenditures for all education²⁰
- 50th in state government expenditures for all education per \$1,000 of personal income²¹
- 47th in per capita state and local government expenditures for all education²²
- 47th in state and local government expenditures for all education per \$1,000 of personal income²³

Higher Education Expenditures

- 46th-worst in the change in higher education appropriations per full-time equivalent student, 2005-2010²⁴
- 41st in state and local government funding for higher education²⁵
- 40th in state and local government funding for higher education per \$1,000 of personal income²⁶

Endnotes

- ¹ "Poverty 2008 and 2009," American Community Survey Briefs, U.S. Census Bureau
<http://www.census.gov/prod/2010pubs/acsbr09-1.pdf>
- ² "The Poor and Near-Poor in Florida Increase; Income of Those at the Top Rises," Florida Center for Fiscal and Economic Policy, October 2010 <http://www.fcfe.org/attachments/20101011--Poor%20and%20Near-Poor%20Increase>
- ³ Ibid.
- ⁴ Ibid.
- ⁵ "2010 Kids Count Data Book," The Annie E. Casey Foundation
<http://datacenter.kidscount.org/DataBook/2010/OnlineBooks/2010DataBook.pdf>
- ⁶ http://www.commonwealthfund.org/~media/Files/Publications/Fund%20Report/2011/Feb/Child%20Health%20Scorecard/1468_How_securing_a_healthy_future_state_scorecard_child_hlt_sys_performance_2011_web_final_v8.pdf
- ⁷ "Unemployment Rates for States," Bureau of Labor Statistics <http://www.bls.gov/web/laus/laumstrk.htm>
- ⁸ "Unemployment Compensation in Florida," National Employment Law Project and Research Institute on Social and Economic Policy, Florida International University http://www.risep-fiu.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/UI_IssueBrief.pdf
- ⁹ Ibid.
- ¹⁰ "LPS Mortgage Monitor, February 2011 Mortgage Performance Observations," Lender Processing Services
http://www.lpsvcs.com/NewsRoom/IndustryData/Documents/2011%20-01%20January%20Mortgage%20Monitor/LPS_Mortgage_Monitor_January_2011.pdf
- ¹¹ State Personal Income 2010, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce
<http://www.bea.gov/newsreleases/regional/spi/2011/pdf/spi0311.pdf>
- ¹² Access Florida, Public Assistance Caseload Reports, Florida Department of Children and Families
<http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/access/standarddatareports.shtml>
- ¹³ "Rankings & Estimates, Rankings of the States 2010 and Estimates of School Statistics 2011," National Education Association Research, December 2010
http://www.nea.org/assets/docs/HE/NEA_Rankings_and_Estimates010711.pdf
- ¹⁴ "2009 State Tax Revenue," Federation of Tax Administrators <http://www.taxadmin.org/Fta/rate/09taxbur.html>
- ¹⁵ "The Facts About Florida Taxes: Already Among the Lowest in the Nation," Florida Center for Fiscal and Economic Policy <http://www.fcfe.org/attachments/20110203--The%20Facts%20About%20Florida%20Taxes.pdf>
- ¹⁶ Ibid.
- ¹⁷ "Who Pays? A Distributional Analysis of the Tax Systems of All 50 States," Institute on Taxation & Economic Policy, November 2009 <http://www.itepnet.org/whopays3.pdf>
- ¹⁸ "Annual Workforce Report, 2009-10," Florida Department of Management Services
http://www.dms.myflorida.com/human_resource_support/human_resource_management/for_state_hr_practitioners/reports
- ¹⁹ Ibid.
- ²⁰ "Rankings & Estimates, Rankings of the States 2010 and Estimates of School Statistics 2011," National Education Association Research, December 2010
http://www.nea.org/assets/docs/HE/NEA_Rankings_and_Estimates010711.pdf
- ²¹ Ibid.
- ²² Ibid.
- ²³ Ibid.

²⁴ “State Higher Education Finance FY 2010,” State Higher Education Executive Officers
http://www.sheeo.org/finance/shef_fy10.pdf

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Ibid.