

FLORIDA 2060: A POPULATION DISTRIBUTION SCENARIO

A Research Project Prepared for 1000 Friends of Florida by the GeoPlan Center at the University of Florida
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TALLAHASSEE/BIG BEND REGION

(Dixie, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette,
Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor, Wakulla Counties)

	Population	Urban Acres	Total Urban Acres as % of Region Acres
Year 2005	493,050	520,223	9
Year 2060	982,700	1,026,947	17
Difference	489,650	506,724	8

- The majority of available vacant land in Leon and Wakulla counties is projected to be developed by 2060 with the exclusion of karst lands in southern Leon and northern Wakulla counties, and the plantation lands of northern Leon County.
- The model shows relatively little new development in Gadsden and Jefferson counties, because their population projections are relatively low. It is quite likely this will change due to the impacts of growth from Tallahassee.
- Significant new population is anticipated in Taylor County near Keaton Beach and Dekle Beach, environmentally sensitive areas susceptible to high storm surges.
- Some areas of the region are predicted to suffer from thin strips of new development along existing roads, which will greatly impact the visual character of the area.
- Even more than Northwest Florida, the region as a whole is expected to retain considerable undeveloped land in 2060, due to low population projections and the region's relatively undeveloped condition in 2005. However, as with Northwest Florida, these projections are subject to change due to the presence of large landholders in the region.

