January 7, 2019

RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

January 7, 2019

Florida,

Serving As Your Governor has been the honor of a lifetime and the best job I have ever had. I will never stop fighting for you.

Rick Scott

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GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Florida Legislators and Fellow Floridians,

When I ran for Governor of Florida in 2010, I promised to fight every single day to make Florida the best state in the nation to find a great job and build a business, live in a safe neighborhood, and receive a world-class education. Over the past eight years, our hard work has paid off.

In the four years before I took office, Florida had lost more than 800,000 jobs, taxes had increased by more than $2 billion and the economy was in complete freefall. I grew up in a family that didn't have a lot of money. I watched my parents struggle to keep a job and provide for me and my siblings. My childhood taught me the value of a good job and just how important it is to invest in what matters to families. When I saw our state struggling I committed to help because turning our economy around is personal to me, and I want every family to have the opportunity to succeed.

Today, thanks to hardworking Florida businesses, and the unyielding support of millions of Florida families and the Florida Legislature, our economy is back and booming. Floridians have succeeded in ways nobody thought possible just eight short years ago. This success coupled with smart fiscal management has allowed for investments in what matters most to families – education, safe communities, protecting the environment and transportation.

I am thankful to have worked with legislators and businesses who understand the priorities of Florida families. This incredible success is a testament to our resolve to keep the promises we made and never stop fighting for every family in this great state. Here are just a few highlights of our accomplishments since 2011.

CUTTING TAXES AND FEES

- ✓ Since taking office, we've cut taxes in Florida nearly 100 times, saving Florida families and businesses more than $10 BILLION.
- ✓ We have cut fees on professional licenses, making it easier to start and grow business in Florida, saving Florida businesses and companies more than $19 million.
- ✓ In the 2018 Florida Legislative Session, we fought for an amendment, which was passed by the people of Florida, to keep taxes low and make it harder for future legislators to raise taxes and fees.

FLORIDA'S BOOMING ECONOMY

- ✓ Since December 2010, Florida businesses have created nearly 1.7 million private-sector jobs.
- ✓ Since 2011, every county in Florida has experienced a drop in its unemployment rate.
- ✓ Florida's unemployment has dropped from 10.8 percent in 2010 to just 3.3 percent today, and every county in Florida has experienced a drop in its unemployment rate.
- ✓ Florida's GDP reached $1 trillion for the first time in the state's history.
- ✓ Over the past eight years, Enterprise Florida and its partners have established more than 1,000 competitive economic development projects, which are projected to create and retain more than 205,000 private-sector jobs and $17 billion in capital investments.
- ✓ Florida's tourism industry has thrived, and the state has experienced seven consecutive years of record visitation and visitor spending, with a record of more than 118.8 million visitors in 2017.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

$85 BILLION TO TRANSFORM FLORIDA'S TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

- ✓ Over the past eight years, annual transportation investments have increased by $4 billion, a more than 67 percent increase, and the FY 2018-19 budget invests a record $10.1 billion in Florida's transportation infrastructure.
- ✓ Florida has invested more than $1.4 billion in seaport infrastructure, leveraging local and private funding to complete nearly $4 billion worth of capital improvement projects.
- ✓ Since 2011, investments in aviation have totaled more than $2.2 billion, supporting Florida's 20 commercial airports and the more than 460,000 passengers that travel in and out of Florida every day.
- ✓ We have invested more than $230 million in spaceport projects, supporting the creation of more than 1,100 high-paying aerospace jobs since the end of the Shuttle program.
- ✓ Thanks to our hard work and investments, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has ranked Florida the best state for infrastructure in the nation.

INVESTING IN EDUCATION FOR FLORIDA'S STUDENTS

- ✓ Since 2011, we've increased total funding for K-12 schools by $4.5 billion, 27 percent.
- ✓ Florida's high school graduation rate has continued to improve, increasing by 17.1 percentage points since the school year before I took office to a 15-year high of 86.1 percent in 2017-18.
- ✓ We've held the line on tuition for the past six years to help provide an affordable higher education to Florida students and families.
- ✓ In both 2017 and 2018, U.S. News and World Report ranked Florida as the best state in the nation for higher education.
- ✓ Since 2011, annual state funding for state colleges and universities has also substantially increased – by nearly $200 million and $1.1 billion, respectively.

EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

- ✓ Our focus on government efficiency has resulted in Florida having the lowest payroll cost per state resident of any state in the nation.
- ✓ Since 2011, Florida has paid down more than $10 BILLION in debt.
- ✓ For the first time in Florida history, all three credit rating agencies rated Florida's GO bond at AAA – saving even more taxpayer dollars on remaining loans and debt.
- ✓ During my time in office, the health of the Florida Retirement System has significantly improved and the FRS Pension Plan is now funded at 83.9 percent.
- ✓ During my time as Governor, we have eliminated nearly 5,400 burdensome regulations.

BETTER PROTECTIONS FOR FLORIDA'S ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Since 2011, Florida's annual investments to preserve the environment and protect our iconic beaches, pristine springs and the Florida Everglades have increased by $1 billion.
- ✓ In addition to securing full federal funding from President Donald Trump, we have fought for and secured $100 million to expedite repairs to the Herbert Hoover Dike.
- ✓ We have invested more than $2 billion to restore the Everglades, resulting in the acceleration of 16 Everglades projects, sending more water south and providing billions of gallons of water storage around Lake Okeechobee.
- ✓ In 2017, I signed SB 10, accelerating the EAA reservoir to store even more water south of Lake Okeechobee, and went to Washington to advocate for the federal approval of this important project until it was signed into law in October 2018.
- ✓ We have invested more money into Florida's springs than any other administration in Florida history – the investments in springs protection over the past eight years total more than $450 million.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

KEEPING FLORIDIANS HEALTHY

- ✓ We have overseen the successful transformation of Florida's Medicaid program away from a traditional fee-for-service model to the statewide implementation of managed care. Now, Florida's Medicaid recipients have better healthcare at a reduced cost.
- ✓ Since 2011, we have invested more than $690 million in cancer research and prevention to ensure that families have access to world-class treatment and can lead healthy lives.
- ✓ We have fought to support Florida communities and families battling the national opioid epidemic, including investing more than $65 million in 2018 and directing the state to immediately draw down more than $27 million in federal grant funding in 2017.
- ✓ We have committed record funding for the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative (ADI), including investing more than $26 million in 2018 – a more than 100 percent increase in funding from 2010.
- ✓ By making record investments in the Agency for Persons with Disabilities and the Floridians it serves, the critical needs waiting list has been completely eliminated. This means that over 5,000 more Floridians with developmental disabilities are able to access the programs and services they need to prosper in Florida.

BRINGING FLORIDA TO A 47-YEAR LOW IN CRIME

- ✓ Thanks to the hard work of Florida's law enforcement officers, the state's crime rate is at a 47-year low.
- ✓ In both 2017 and 2018, we fought for and secured pay raises for our brave law enforcement officers. Since 2011, salaries for state law enforcement have increased by more than 10 percent.
- ✓ Our focus on evidence-driven re-entry and diversionary programs has reduced Florida's recidivism rate to 24.5 percent – an all-time low – and reduced Florida's inmate population by more than 6,000 inmates, saving taxpayers more than $100 million per year.
- ✓ Since 2011, funding for at-risk youth programs and preventative services have increased by nearly 67 percent, causing juvenile arrests to decline to the lowest rate in 42 years.
- ✓ Following the tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School where 17 innocent lives were taken, working with the Florida Legislature, we fought for and secured the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Safety Act, which invests nearly $375 million to keep our students and communities safe.
- ✓ After Florida's Jewish community received hateful threats, we fought for and secured more than $2.65 million in funding for security at Jewish Day Schools.

HONORING AND SUPPORTING MILITARY AND VETERANS

- ✓ Since 2011, we have secured more than $1.3 billion in funding to support Florida's active duty military, veterans and their families.
- ✓ As a Navy veteran and the son of a World War II veteran, thanking Florida's veterans for their service to the state and nation has been one of my top priorities. Since 2013, more than 15,000 veterans have been recognized with the Governor's Veterans Service Medal.
- ✓ In the past eight years, two new veteran nursing homes were made possible – the Ardie R. Copas State Veteran Nursing Home in Port St. Lucie and the Lake Baldwin State Veteran Nursing Home in Orlando – which will accommodate 234 of Florida's veterans.
- ✓ In 2014, we passed the Florida GI Bill, creating the Education Dollars for Duty (EDD) tuition assistance program for Guard soldiers and airmen. Under EDD, Guard members may receive funding to cover up to 100 percent of tuition and fee costs incurred while they are serving the state.

- ✓ In 2014, waived out-of-state tuition fees for veterans, ensuring that they can receive a high-quality education in Florida.
- ✓ In 2017, for the first time, all six state veteran nursing homes achieved a Five-Star Quality Rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.
- ✓ In 2012, we championed legislation creating a fee waiver for military veterans pursuing a professional license as they transition to the civilian workforce, helping these veterans to open businesses and find jobs in Florida.

BUILDING STRONGER FLORIDA COMMUNITIES

- ✓ Since 2011, we have overseen the investment of more than $2 billion to ensure Florida is a leader in disaster preparedness and recovery.
- ✓ Since 2011, Florida has invested more than $1 billion to make Florida's affordable housing program among the best in the nation.
- ✓ More than $113 million has been invested in communities across the state through the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund, preparing Florida for future success.
- ✓ Since 2011, we have directed investments of more than $2 billion for communities to ensure the best workers are available to Florida's job creators.
- ✓ Through the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery program, DEO provided more than $117 million to communities after Hurricanes Matthew and Hermine, and is in the process of providing more than $600 million to communities across Florida that were damaged after Hurricane Irma.

Sincerely,

Rick Scott
Governor

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

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GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
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100 TAX CUTS SAVING FLORIDANS $10 BILLION

When Governor Scott took office, taxes had skyrocketed – increased by more than $2 billion dollars in the four prior years. Governor Scott knows that the key to economic success is ensuring that families keep more of their own hard-earned money he has fought every day as Governor to make Florida's tax burden the lowest in the nation. Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida has shown that cutting taxes, reducing regulations and keeping the cost of living down allows job creators to grow and succeed.

Governor Scott has a proven record of cutting taxes and fees to reduce their burden on Florida families and since he took office in 2011, taxes in Florida have been cut nearly 100 times, saving families and businesses more than $10 BILLION.

Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida has also eliminated nearly 5,400 burdensome regulations and reduced fees on professional licenses, saving Florida businesses more than $19 million.

Governor Scott has shown that he is committed to continuing to cut every possible tax to help Florida now and in the future. In 2018, Governor Scott proposed through legislation and the Constitution Revision Commission, and the Florida voters approved, a constitutional amendment requiring a supermajority vote by future Florida legislatures to raise any taxes or fees. This will make it harder for politicians to unfairly raise taxes on future generations.

Major tax cuts championed by Governor Scott during his time in office include:

- ✓ Cutting the fees for annual vehicle registrations in 2014, saving Florida motorists $400 million every year;
- ✓ Cutting the tax on cell phone and cable bills in 2015, saving Floridians more than $226 million every year;
- ✓ Permanently eliminating the sales tax on manufacturing machinery and equipment in 2016, saving Florida job creators more than $73 million every year;
- ✓ Cutting the tax on commercial leases in 2018, saving Florida job creators more than $60 million every year; and
- ✓ Eliminating the business tax for 75 percent of businesses over the past few years, saving Florida job creators more than $50 million every year.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

JOBS, JOBS, JOBS

FLORIDA'S BOOMING ECONOMY – NEARLY 1.7 MILLION JOBS CREATED

When Governor Scott took office, he made it his number one mission for Florida to be the best place in the world for job creation. Thanks to a relentless focus on cutting taxes, eliminating burdensome regulations, and investing in what matters most to Florida's families and corporations alike, since December 2010, Florida businesses have created more than 1.67 million private-sector jobs. Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida's economy has completely transformed, with diverse job growth across industries, hundreds of thousands of current job openings and record numbers of visitors and new residents to our state. Just a few indicators of the incredible success of Florida's economic turnaround include:

- ✓ Unemployment has fallen dramatically from more than 10.8 percent in 2010 to just 3.3 percent in November 2018 – the lowest unemployment rate in Florida since January 2007;
- ✓ Florida's GDP has grown by more than 26 percent and, in 2018 topped $1 TRILLION for the first time in state history;
- ✓ Florida's Reemployment tax has dropped from more than $120 per employee in 2012 to remaining at the lowest possible rate of just $7 for the past four years;
- ✓ Since 2011, the number of Floridians receiving welfare has decreased by 35 percent, falling from more than 92,000 to just 65,000 in 2018;
- ✓ Net migration to Florida has grown from 67,000 annually in 2011 to more than 310,000 annually in 2018; and
- ✓ Housing starts in Florida have grown from just 27,000 in 2011 to an estimated nearly 85,000 in 2018.

Creating the Department of Economic Opportunity
In the four years before Governor Scott took office, Florida had lost more than 800,000 jobs, taxes were increased by more than $2 billion, and the economy was in freefall. Governor Scott's vision of an economic turnaround for Florida began with the creation of an agency dedicated solely to the mission of making Florida the nation's premiere destination for businesses to succeed. With that in mind, in 2011, Governor Scott proposed the consolidation of fragmented state job creation and economic growth programs into a single, coordinated state agency – the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO). Upon approval by the Legislature, the Scott administration planned, coordinated, and executed the creation and operations of the new agency:

- Eliminated three existing state agencies and combined their programs into a single streamlined organization focused on job creation and economic growth.
- Rebranded and refocused the existing unemployment insurance program, renaming it reemployment assistance and placed an emphasis on connecting individuals laid off due to no fault of their own to the next job in their career.
- Streamlined community development processes, rules, procedures and statutes to give more control to local governments and allow the state to provide expertise and technical assistance when needed.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
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Getting Floridians Back to Work

Since Governor Scott took office, Florida's pro-business climate has resulted in near record low unemployment, new private-sector job opportunities for Floridians, improved consumer confidence in Florida's future, and strong, healthy communities across the state. From day one, Governor Scott has been committed to Florida's growth and prosperity, and thanks to critical investments in economic and community development, Florida's economy is booming. To attract jobs to Florida and turnaround the state's economy, Governor Scott has championed:

Increasing Jobs and Capital Investment in Florida
In partnership with Enterprise Florida, DEO facilitated commitments from companies to create more than 100,000 jobs in Florida through competitive incentives and business development.

Increasing Investment in Florida's Aerospace Industry
In partnership with Space Florida, DEO implemented 63 aerospace industry development projects with 7,616 related jobs.

Increasing the Number of Visitors to Florida
In partnership with VISIT Florida, DEO increased investment in Florida tourism promotion campaigns. Today, with every 76 visitors to the Sunshine State supporting one Florida job, there are more than 1.4 million tourism-related jobs in the Sunshine State and since Governor Scott took office, annual tourism in Florida has grown from XX million in 2010 to a recording-breaking more than 118.8 million in 2017. In fact, Florida has continued to set record-breaking visitation numbers every year since 2011.

2011 – 87.3 Million Visitors

2012 – 91.5 Million Visitors

2013 – 94.1 Million Visitors

2014 – 98.5 Million Visitors

2015 – 106.6 Million Visitors

2016 – 112.4 Million Visitors

2017 – 118.8 Million Visitors

2018 – Estimated 120 Million Visitors

Enhancing Florida's Workforce System
In partnership with CareerSource Florida, DEO provided job placement assistance services to 80,000 businesses and 370,000 job seekers each year. DEO has also reduced the number of unemployed individuals receiving reemployment assistance payments from 730,000 in 2010 to fewer than 60,000.

Implementing the New Job Growth Grant Fund
Governor Scott championed the creation of the Job Growth Grant Fund, which was created by the Florida Legislature in 2017 to identify and fund high quality public infrastructure and workforce training proposals promoting economic opportunity across the state.

Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida has invested $85 million each year to fund Job Growth Grant Fund projects. In its first year, DEO received and evaluated more than 230 proposals requesting funding from the Job Growth Grant Fund. The funding has been provided to 33 communities statewide with an expected $321 million return on investment to Florida taxpayers. Of these proposals, more than $19 million was awarded to 11 rural communities.

Coordinating the Florida Main Street Program

The Florida Main Street Program provides training and technical assistance to local organizations in support of their efforts to revitalize their traditional downtown and neighborhood commercial districts, concentrating on revitalization of a community's historic commercial center, these local programs enhance the economic vitality, quality of life, and civic pride of the whole community. Each year, Florida Main Street accepts applications from communities seeking designation as a local Florida Main Street program. After designation, active Florida Main Street communities receive technical assistance relating to implementation of the Main Street approach:

- 15 new Florida Main Street communities designated.
- 5,877 net jobs gained in Florida Main Street communities.
- $157.8 million in private investment in Florida Main Street communities.

Contributing to the Economic Recovery from Hurricanes Hermine, Matthew, Irma, Maria and Michael

DEO played a major role in the overall recovery efforts from several major storms including Hurricanes Hermine, Matthew, Irma, Maria and Michael. Key DEO activities include the following:

- Through the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery program, DEO provided more than $117 million to communities after Hurricanes Matthew and Hermine, and is in the process of providing more than $600 million to communities across Florida that were damaged after Hurricane Irma;
- DEO developed and implemented the Hurricane Irma Recovery Jobs Portal to highlight opportunities for employment for impacted Floridians. The portal was also expanded to assist in Hurricane Maria recovery efforts, providing job connections to Puerto Rican evacuees;
- Through the State Emergency Response Team (SERT), DEO provided assistance to thousands of businesses before, during, and after the hurricanes, by coordinating local, state and federal agencies and organizations preparedness and response activities. This included identifying the financial, workforce, technical, and local resources that allowed impacted communities to restore business operations as quickly as possible and resume focus on long-term business strategies;
- DEO utilized the National Dislocated Worker Grant to fund cleanup and recovery employment efforts at local workforce boards across the state;
- DEO provided Disaster Unemployment Assistance helped replace lost wages for more than 35,000 Floridians after Hurricane Irma; and
- In partnership with the Florida First Capital Finance Corporation, DEO successfully administered the largest Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program in history; within two months after Hurricane Irma, 889 loans totaling $34.8 million were made to Florida small businesses to help them recover.

Creating and Enhancing Workforce Services Provided to Veterans

Governor Scott is committed to ensuring Florida is the most military and veteran friendly state in the country. DEO has refocused and enhanced employment-related services and information for Florida's veterans:

- Implemented intensive services to veterans (and their spouses) with significant barriers to employment; more than 53,000 such veterans have been identified and assisted.
- Implemented Paychecks for Patriots (P4P) events for employers with current position openings to meet with and interview veterans and spouses; coordinated by the Department and hosted by the Local Workforce Development Boards, five P4Ps events have been held to-date with more than 50 percent of the veterans attending obtaining employment.
- Created the Veterans' Weekly Placement Report, providing a weekly measurement of veteran job placement performance by the Workforce Development regions in the state and the nearly 100 Career Centers they direct.

Increasing Transparency in Employment and Career Information
Ensuring policymakers and partners have access to transparent employment and career information is a priority for DEO under Governor Scott's leadership. To accomplish this goal, DEO created or enhanced access to employment and career information for Floridians through the following tools:

- The Hire Florida Grads Portal enables graduating Florida students and recent graduates to create profiles that serve as lead generators for local Workforce Development Boards to match these students to potential employment opportunities;
- The Abilities Work Portal enables individuals with disabilities to connect with Florida's workforce system, and assists employers and job seekers with disabilities in navigating the disability support system as seamlessly as possible;
- The Fueling Florida Jobs Portal connects individuals affected by the job losses in the petroleum industry around the country with Florida's workforce system;
- Florida's Occupational Supply/ Demand System identifies the best career opportunities for Floridians based on labor market needs;
- The Economic Security Report provides students, parents and others with information that can help with making career decisions;
- Florida's Workforce Integrated Performance Reporting System, an online data repository, is used by stakeholders, policy makers, program operators and others;
- The Governor's Daily, Weekly, and Monthly Job Placement Report provides real-time measurement of job placement performance by the local CareerSource centers; and
- The Hurricane Irma Recovery Jobs Portal was implemented in September 2017, and provided victims of the disaster with direct links to recovery and cleanup job opportunities across the state.

Creating the Economic Development Incentives Portal
DEO transformed its economic incentives oversight system and interactions with businesses and public stakeholders through a new platform, which allows for enhanced management of incentive data (accounts, incentive payments made, jobs created, average annual wages.) This system allows businesses to track economic development incentive agreements, and submit and track performance information online.

This Portal allows all incentive performance information to be instantly available to DEO's external compliance firm to accelerate the review process and allows for more robust reporting and analysis of incentive data.

Most importantly, this tool increases transparency and provides the public with unprecedented access to economic development incentives performance measurements and each company's

progress toward reaching their required goals.

Expanding Reemployment Assistance Contact Center Jobs to the Visually Impaired
Through a partnership with Lighthouse Central Florida and Respect Florida, the Reemployment Assistance Contact Center began providing job training, employment and career opportunities for the advancement of people who are visually impaired, who are subsequently able to assist reemployment assistance claimants in the job search process.

Implementing the Florida Unique Abilities Partner Program
The Florida Unique Abilities Partner Program was established in 2016 as a way to recognize businesses or organizations that employ individuals with disabilities, that contribute to local or national disability organizations, or that contribute to the establishment of a program that advances the independence of individuals with disabilities. DEO developed and launched the website, www.FloridaUniqueAbilities.org. This concerted effort resulted in 135 applications received in 2017 and 125 designations were awarded.

Growing Jobs in Small and Rural Communities

Governor Scott recognizes that Florida is a very diverse melting pot of both large and small communities, urban and rural communities. Under Governor Scott, every part of Florida has seen job growth and every county has had a drop in unemployment rate. In order to ensure we are meeting the needs of all Floridians, DEO worked to improve assistance provided to small and rural communities during Governor Scott's administration.

Empowering Florida's Small and Rural Communities to Achieve Economic Success
DEO is improving and creating tools to assist small and rural communities with job creation and economic growth, including the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG); the Rural Infrastructure Fund; Regional Rural Development Grants; Rural Community Development Revolving Loans; the Competitive Florida Partnership, and Community Planning Technical Assistance Grants.

Each year, Florida's small cities and counties are more economically viable and are able to create employment through Small Cities CDBG financial assistance for specific job creation projects, redeveloping/enhancing commercial areas, updating local infrastructure, and creating affordable housing. Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida's rural communities have received $11.6 million for infrastructure projects, creating 884 jobs and helping communities retain an additional 1,292 jobs. Florida's small and rural communities have received $6.6 million for Community Planning Technical Assistance Grants, designed to help these localities successfully accomplish important community planning and economic development activities.

Since 2013, the Competitive Florida Partnership has helped 18 small or rural communities explore local assets that set them apart and make them competitive, create unique economic development strategies that harness the potential of local assets, identify resources available to help communities accomplish goals, and implement local projects.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

$85 Billion to Transform Florida's Transportation Infrastructure

Florida is proud to be a national leader in transportation infrastructure and Governor Scott knows investments in roads, bridges, seaports, and airports are key to building a great economy. Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida remains on the leading edge of transportation innovations and has been recognized for innovative funding solutions to enhance capacity of Florida's transportation infrastructure. Since taking office, Governor Scott has overseen the investment of $85 billion in funding for critical and innovative transportation initiatives.

Increasing Funding for Transportation Infrastructure Projects
Governor Scott has fought for and secured record budgets to fund more projects within Florida's transportation work program. Top-ranked infrastructure ensures that Florida continues to position itself as an international leader in transportation and economic development and today, Florida benefits from these investments in a variety of ways, from shorter commute times to faster freight movements. In fact, in 2015, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has ranked Florida the best state for infrastructure in the nation.

Since 2011, Florida has created year-after-year record work program budgets, with annual transportation investments increasing by $4 billion in the past eight years, a more than 67 percent increase. The FY 2018-19 budget for FDOT included the largest transportation work program in history at $10.1 billion.

Since Governor Scott took office, FDOT has repaired 842 bridges and replaced 173 bridges. Routine maintenance and operation of Florida's bridges protects travelers and freight movement to ensure the efficient movements of goods and people.

Record funding has allowed FDOT to repair 22,100 lane miles and the addition of 2,581 lane miles since 2011. Continued resurfacing ensures that Florida's roads allow for safe and efficient travel times for the movement of goods and people.

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) is a combination of technology that creates a more connected and efficient transportation system. ITS allows for the mobilization of first responders, an increase in GPS capability, and a more efficient form of congestion management. Since Governor Scott took office, the percent of Florida's freeways managed by ITS has grown from 53 percent in 2011 to more than 90 percent in 2017.

Innovative Financing for Design-Build and Other Complex Transportation Projects
FDOT utilized Public-Private Partnership (P3) project funding to finance and complete multiple transportation projects. Innovative funding approaches like P3 and Design-Build allows FDOT to construct projects more quickly and provide relief to motorists and industry on our highways. Major projects include:

- Construction has been completed on two major P3 projects: I-595, a $1.2 billion investment, and the Port of Miami Tunnel, a $667 million investment.
    - Florida is recognized as a national leader in innovative transportation project financing. The I-595 project received the 2017 P3 Project of the Year award from the American Road and Transportation Builders Association

    - The Port of Miami Tunnel project received the 2015 American Transportation Award Grand Prize from the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, the American Automobile Association, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.
- Construction is underway on Florida's third major P3 project, known as the I-4 Ultimate, an investment of $2.3 billion. This is the largest infrastructure project in Florida history, and the innovative financing used in this project allows for construction to be completed in whole. This will result in the project's completion an estimated 20 years earlier than traditional financing methods.
- Design-Build projects that have been successfully undertaken include the Pensacola Bay Bridge, a $445 million investment, Gateway Express, a $628 million investment, and the First Coast Expressway, a $1.9 billion investment.

Increasing Florida's Seaport Footprint with $1.4 Billion Investment
Governor Scott recognizes that capitalizing on Florida's proximity to Latin America and the Caribbean is critical to maintaining the state's major role in the nation's waterborne exports and imports. Florida is home to 15 seaports and under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida has invested more than $1.4 billion in seaport infrastructure, leveraging local and private funding to complete nearly $4 billion worth of capital improvement projects. These investments helped to support the following:

- Over six years, Florida's seaports experienced 26 percent overall growth in cargo container movements. This includes growth of 31 percent at Port Everglades, 36 percent growth at JAXPORT, 23 percent growth at the Port of Palm Beach and Port of Tampa Bay, and 21 percent growth at PortMiami;
- The support of 900,000 jobs; $40.1 billion in personal income; $117.6 billion in direct business revenue; $2.8 billion in port-sector purchases; and, $4.3 billion in local and state taxes;
- Florida is the world's leader in cruise liner operations and has the top three cruise ports in total passenger counts at PortMiami, Port Canaveral and Port Everglades;
- Over six years, Florida ports experienced an 18.8 percent increase in revenue cruise passengers; and
- The cruise industry annually contributes $7.9 billion dollars to Florida's economy, including direct economic impacts of 138,300 jobs and $2.3 billion in wages and salaries.

In September 2015, the Journal of Commerce named four Florida ports on its Top 10 Fastest Growing Export List; PortMiami and Port of Palm Beach tied for #2, Port Everglades was #7, and JAXPORT ranked #8. PortMiami also made it on the Top 10 Fastest Growing import list, ranking at #4.

Innovative Solutions to Advance Florida's Role in Global Trade
Completed in September 2015, PortMiami's "Deep Dredge" project allows it to be the only port on the Atlantic seaboard south of Virginia able to accommodate the fully laden super-sized container vessels that began passing through the expanded Panama Canal in summer 2016. This project has positioned PortMiami to take advantage of increased trade opportunities with Asian markets and double its container cargo traffic by the end of the decade, enabling South Florida to grow in stature as a world trade hub and logistics center.

The deepening of PortMiami will further strengthen Florida's economy by attracting new

business, creating 30,000 new jobs in the region, and increasing PortMiami's annual economic impact to more than $34 billion. During the first full-year of expanded operations, Florida ports handled more than 135 vessel calls that transited the expanded Panama Canal.

The State of Florida has also identified more than $250 million for investment for JAXPORT and Port Everglades Channel deepening and widening projects through FY 2024. Construction on the JAXPORT channel deepening project began in January 2018.

Strengthening the National Leadership of Florida's Airports and Air Infrastructure
Florida is the only state in the U.S. with four large hub airports - Miami International, Orlando International, Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International and Tampa International. In total, Florida is home to 20 commercial service airports. More than 460,000 passengers travel in and out of Florida every day using commercial air service. Under Governor Scott's leadership, the goals of the Florida Aviation System Plan have been supported by aviation investments totaling more than $2.2 billion since 2011. These investments helped to support the following:

- Over five years, the annual number of passengers passing through Florida's airports increased by more than 26 million (18.3 percent), from 142.6 million to 168.7 million; and
- According to the Florida Airport Council, Florida airports account for more than $116.3 billion in annual economic output and support more than 1 million jobs with $33.4 billion in payroll.

Florida ranks fourth in the nation for total air cargo tonnage, capturing more than 11 percent of the market share of the top 10 air cargo states, and is larger than all other southeastern states combined. Air cargo accounts for more than $10.3 billion in annual economic activity, supporting almost 130,000 jobs and $5 billion in payroll. This includes 36 percent of Florida's international trade dollars. According to the 2016 Florida Air Cargo Study, over the previous four years Florida's statewide air cargo tonnage increased by 8.5 percent, from 2.53 tons to 2.74 tons.

Supporting the Modernization of Florida's Aerospace Industry
Florida is internationally recognized as the epicenter of a thriving American commercial space industry as it continues the transition from being government led to a more private, commercially focused ecosystem. FDOT's Spaceport Improvement Program has worked in partnership with industry to re-capitalize and grow spaceport assets through public and private investments. These investments enhance Florida's leadership in civil, commercial, and military aerospace activity by creating jobs, advancing economic growth, and mitigating the impacts of federal space program realignments. Since Governor Scott took office, more than $230 million has been invested in spaceport projects. These investments have helped to support the following:

- Creating more than 1,100 high-paying aerospace jobs since the end of the Space Shuttle program;
- Construction of Florida's first rocket manufacturing plant and a satellite assembly facility;
- Construction of a crew access tower for transporting America's astronauts to space;
- Enabling commercial heavy-lift launches at the historic Apollo and Shuttle launch pad 39A; and
- Repurposing the Space Shuttle runway to create a space logistics hub for horizontal launch and landing space operations.

Increasing the Commitment to the Safety of Motorists, Cyclists, and Pedestrians
Under Governor Scott's leadership, the safety of Florida's road has remained a top priority and the state has worked to study and implement more safety-oriented elements throughout the transportation project design process, including buffered bicycle lanes and roundabouts that contribute to a reduced number of crashes, fatalities and injuries. Since Governor Scott took office, FDOT has conducted more than 11,400 traffic studies and implemented more than 6,100 safety countermeasures from those studies.

Increased Road Ranger Service Patrols contribute to improved travel times, crash reductions, and increased safety for motorists on Florida roads. Over the last seven years, Road Ranger Service Patrols have assisted motorists in more than 2.5 million traffic events.

FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY IN LATIN AMERICA

Florida is the nation's greatest melting pot and America's gateway to Latin America. With more than 250 languages spoken throughout the state, Florida's communities represent the very best of America's diversity and strength. Florida's diversity, coupled with the state's aggressive investment under Governor Scott's in seaport and airport infrastructure to grow and strengthen trade make the Sunshine State an important and powerful player on the global stage.

Since taking office, Governor Scott has unapologetically fought to support democracy in Latin America. Governor Scott knows that the instability, chaos, and violence in countries like Venezuela, and more recently Nicaragua, stem from the dominant role the Cuban dictatorship continues to exert in the region and he continues to stand against the tyranny, oppression and reckless abuse of dictators these countries.

Fighting for Freedom and Democracy in Cuba
Communities across Florida, most notably in Miami and Tampa, have been shaped by the incredible contributions of Cuban-Americans and the Sunshine State is proud of the rich and vibrant Cuban heritage that thrives here. However, life in Cuba continues to be plagued by oppression and since taking office, Governor Scott's position on Cuba has been clear – the continued brutal and oppressive treatment of the Cuban people by the Castro Regime is disgusting and intolerable and the United States should not do business with Cuba until its people have freedom and democracy. Since 2011, Governor Scott has taken significant action to ensure Florida does not support the Cuban dictatorship, including signing legislation in 2013 to prevent Florida's state and local governments from entering contracts of $1 million or more with businesses operating in Cuba. Governor Scott also intervened to keep Florida's seaports from doing business with Cuban shipping companies, promising to cut funding for any seaport that associates with Cuba out of his annual budget. Governor Scott stood in total opposition to President Obama's failed policies attempting to normalize relations between the United States and Cuba, including his reversal of the long-standing "Wet Foot, Dry Foot" policy for Cuban fleeing prosecution from their tyrannical dictator. Governor Scott welcomed the tightening of restrictions on Cuba by President Trump and continues to stand with the Cuban people and various pro-democracy and human rights advocacy groups including the Ladies in White.

Fighting for Freedom and Democracy in Venezuela
While Cuba has continued to oppress and terrorize its own families, it's wicked tyranny has spread to countries like Venezuela where dictator Nicolas Maduro is bringing total devastation upon the Venezuelan people. In response to Venezuela's corrupt and violent turn away from the interests of its people, Governor Scott proposed and then secured with the Florida Cabinet a direction for the agency charged with the management of the state's pension system to impose a ban on investing with companies that do business with the Maduro regime. To take this action a step further, Governor Scott worked with the Florida Legislature to codify this policy and prohibit any state agency from doing business that benefits the Maduro Regime's brutality. By putting these measures into Florida law, the state prohibited future tax dollars from being spent to prop up a brutal dictatorship.

Governor Scott continues to be an outspoken opponent of the Maduro regime and has met with exiled Venezuelan leaders and pro-democracy and human rights advocacy groups to call on the U.S. federal government and Congress to impose heavier sanctions and take swift action against Maduro and his gang of thugs threatening Venezuelan families.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

STANDING WITH ISRAEL AND FLORIDA'S JEWISH COMMUNITY

Florida has maintained a strong relationship with Israel for many generations and Governor Scott has championed important policies and investments to continue to build on this partnership In May 2018, Governor Scott traveled to Israel for the opening of the new U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem. Governor Scott strongly supported moving the Embassy to Israel's capitol city and advocated for the move before President Trump announced his decision in 2017. Since taking office, Governor Scott has visited Israel three times, including two trade missions he led in 2017 and 2011.

Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida has sent a message across the world that the state has no tolerance for discrimination against Israel or Jewish businesses. In 2016, Governor Scott signed legislation that prohibited Florida's State Board of Administration from investing in companies that boycott Israel and in 2018, he built on that effort by signing a bill that prohibits Florida state agencies and local governments from contracting with companies boycotting Israel.

Since 2011, Governor Scott has also secured important investments to protect students and teachers in Jewish Day Schools across Florida. In 2017, Governor Scott proposed and secured more than $654,000 in security funding for Jewish Day Schools in Florida, and in 2018 he successfully increased that investment to $2 million. This funding will help provide much-needed security and counter-terrorism upgrades such as video cameras, fences, bullet-proof glass, alarm systems and other safety equipment.

Strong Opposition to Appeasement Politics and the Obama-Era Iran Deal
Governor Scott has worked aggressively to demonstrate Florida's unwavering commitment and support for Israel and has always strongly opposed the Iran Deal spearheaded by President Obama. Governor Scott will continue to stand with our ally Israel and advocate for ways to keep these deadly weapons out of the hands of the Iranian regime.

Governor Rick Scott has long opposed the Iran deal, including joining governors across the nation on a letter to the Obama administration in 2015. The Governor also wrote a letter to President Trump in 2018 urging him to scrap the deal after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu presented evidence of Iran's nuclear weapons initiative, including details about Iran's efforts to develop nuclear weapons, despite the agreement being in place.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

INVESTING IN EDUCATION FOR FLORIDA'S STUDENTS

Throughout his administration, Governor Scott has prioritized education by championing historic funding and innovative initiatives that provide the tools necessary for all students to succeed. Both Governor Scott and First Lady Ann Scott attended public school and understand the importance of providing every student with a world-class education. This includes consistently prioritizing record funding for K-12 public schools and implementing performance-based funding and accountability measures at all levels of education. Governor Scott has also been a steadfast champion of expanding school choice and taken decisive action to increase accessibility and flexibility in school options so every Florida family can make the education choice that is right for them.

Historic Funding for Florida's K-12 Students
Nothing is more important to the future success of Florida than ensuring that every child has access to a great school and can receive a world-class education. For the past six years, Governor Scott has recommended and secured record and historic funding for Florida's K-12 public schools in the areas of total funding, state funding and per-student funding. Governor Scott's commitment to Florida's public schools has resulting in an increase in total funding for K-12 public schools of more than $4.5 billion since 2011.

Performance Funding for K-12 Public Schools
Florida continues to provide funding to support and recognize academic and financial accountability through the Florida School Recognition Program under Governor Scott. Since 2011, Governor Scott has included funding for the Florida School Recognition Program in every budget, with more than $950 million awarded to public schools that:

- Sustain high performance by receiving a school grade of "A;"
- Improve at least one letter grade; or
- Improve more than one letter grade and sustain the improvement the following school year.

These performance-based funding incentives reward schools that are making strides to improve the education of Florida's children. Thanks to Governor Scott's commitment to performance funding, Florida's public schools continue to be recognized for the great work they are doing in preparing Florida's students for future education and careers.

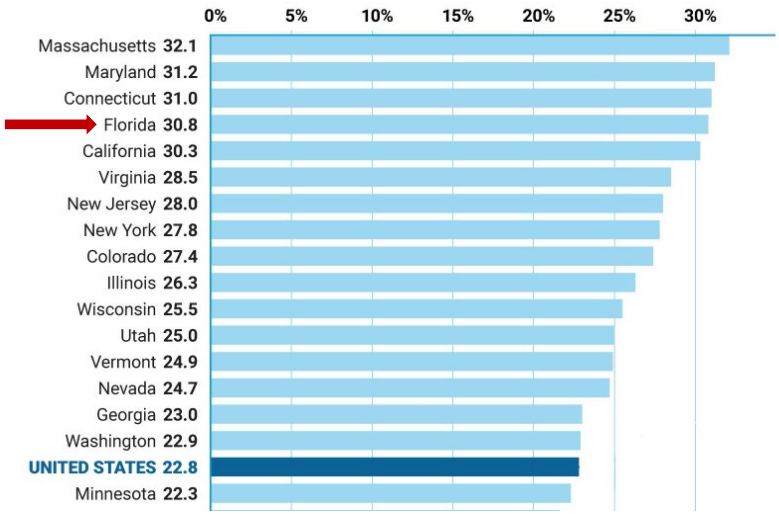
Florida K-12 Public Schools – A Recognized National Leader in Public Education
Governor Scott has been focused on making Florida's education system the best in the nation since taking office in 2011. By funding education at historic levels and implementing key policy initiatives, Florida's K-12 public education system has made tremendous gains. In fact, the most recent National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) results show that Florida is the only state to have improved significantly in grade 4 math, grade 8 reading, and grade 8 math between 2015 and 2017.

Florida's Public-School Students Outpace the Nation
According to Education Week's Quality Counts 2018 report, Florida ranks 4th in the nation for K-12 student achievement. The annual report compares state-by-state data and trends to gauge students' opportunities for success and considers achievement levels, achievement gains, poverty gap, achieving excellence, high school graduation and Advanced Placement.

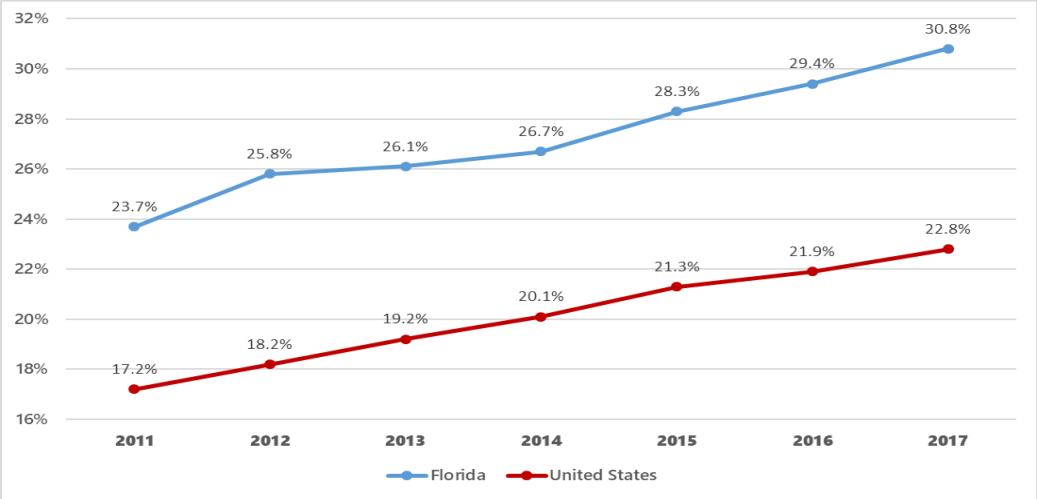
GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida continues to further its commitment to K-12 education with a focus on high standards, and holding all shareholders - students, educators, and leadership - accountable. In 2017, Florida's 4th grade students outperformed the nation in both reading and math, and Florida's 8th grade students outperformed the nation in reading. Compared to other states, Florida had the highest percentage of graduates in the nation who took an AP exam during high school. Florida also ranked 4th in the nation with 30.8 percent of 2017 graduates eligible to receive college credit by scoring a 3 or higher on AP exams.

Percentage of the Class of 2017 Scoring a 3 or Higher on an AP Exam During High School

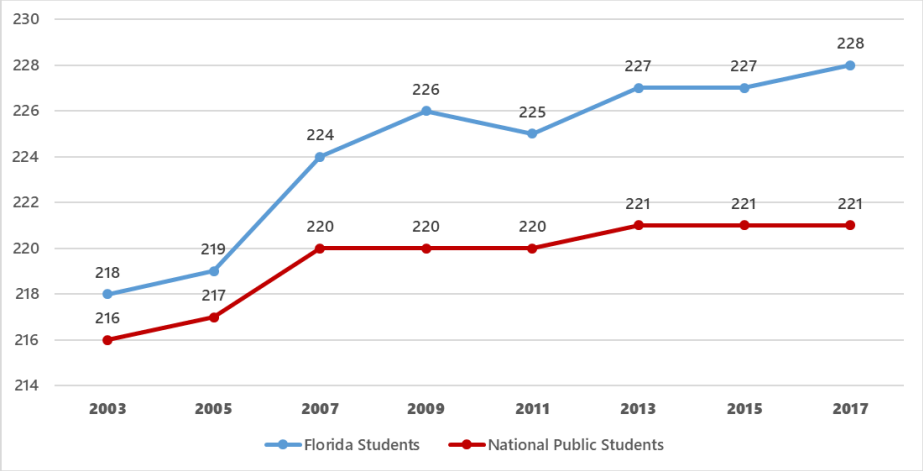


Florida Student Performance on Advanced Placement (AP) Exams

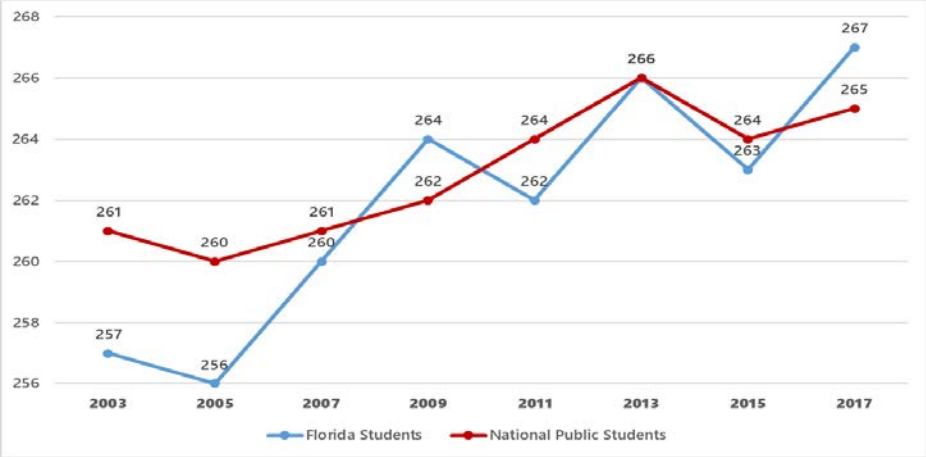


GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

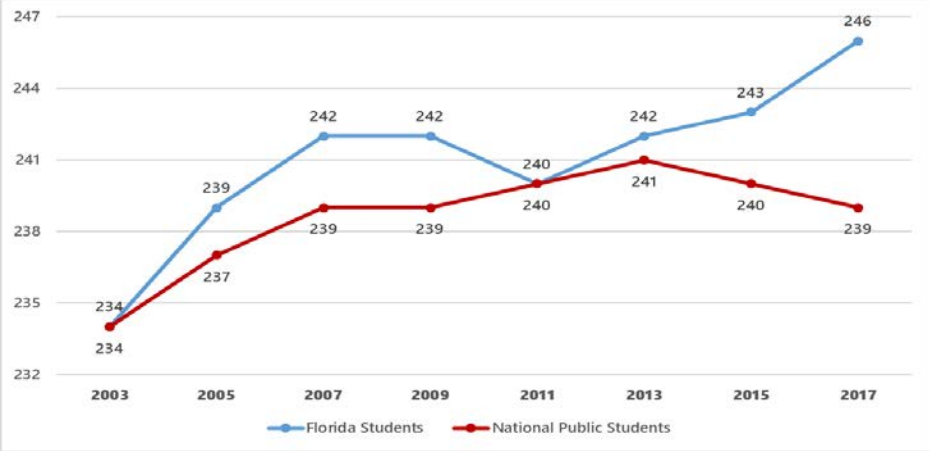
Florida's Fourth Graders Outperform the Nation in Reading



Florida's Eighth Graders Now Outperform the Nation in Reading

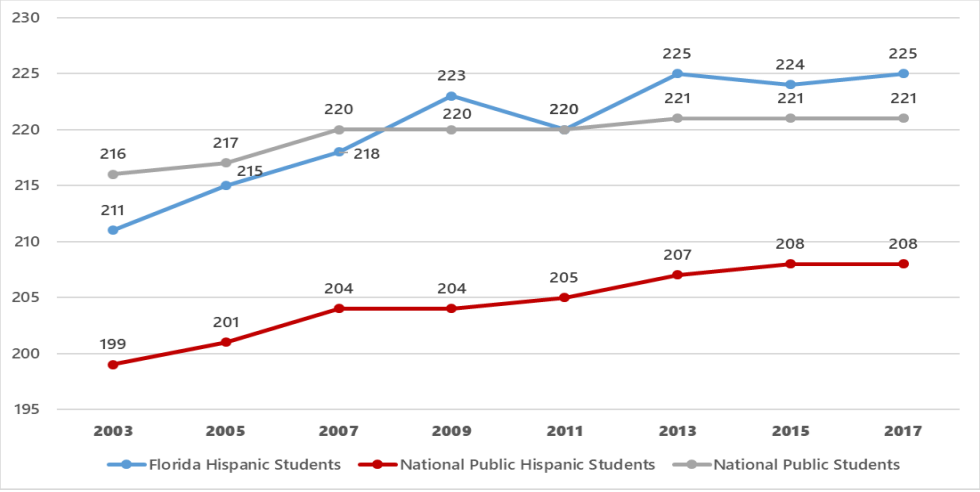


Florida's Fourth Graders Outperform the Nation in Math

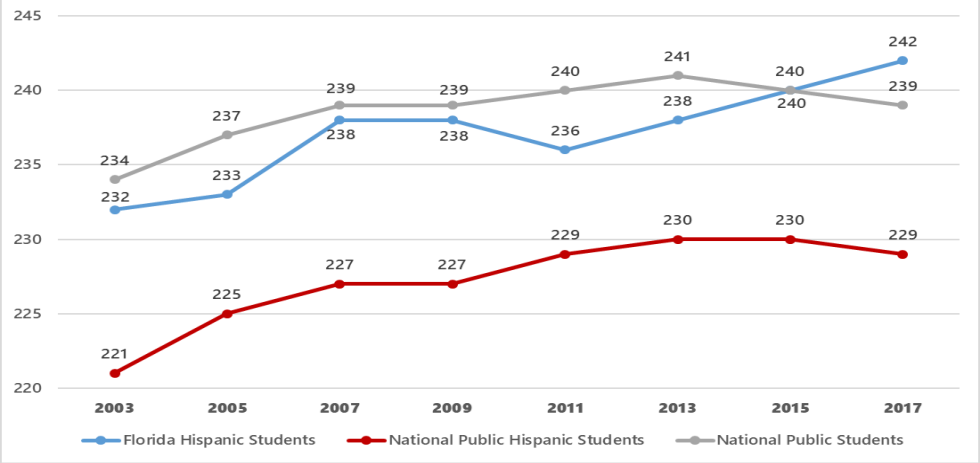


GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

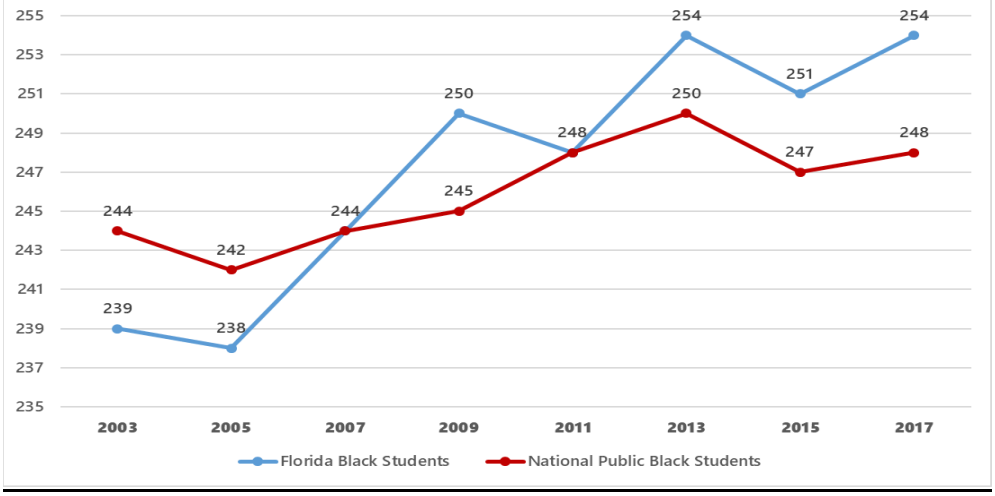
Florida's Hispanic Fourth Graders Outperform the Nation in Reading



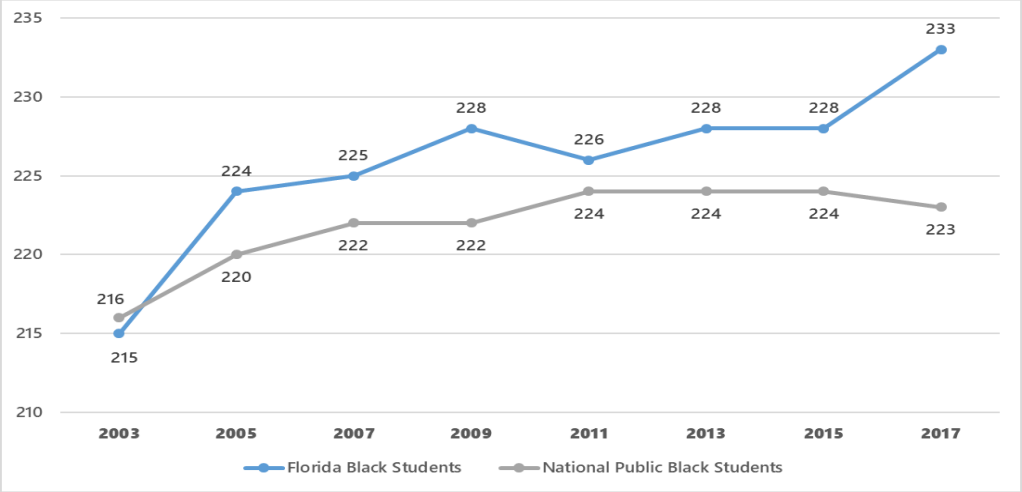
Florida's Hispanic Fourth Graders Now Outperform the Nation in Math



Florida's Black Eighth Graders Outperform Their Black Peers Nationally in Reading



Florida's Black Fourth Graders Outperform Their Black Peers Nationally in Math



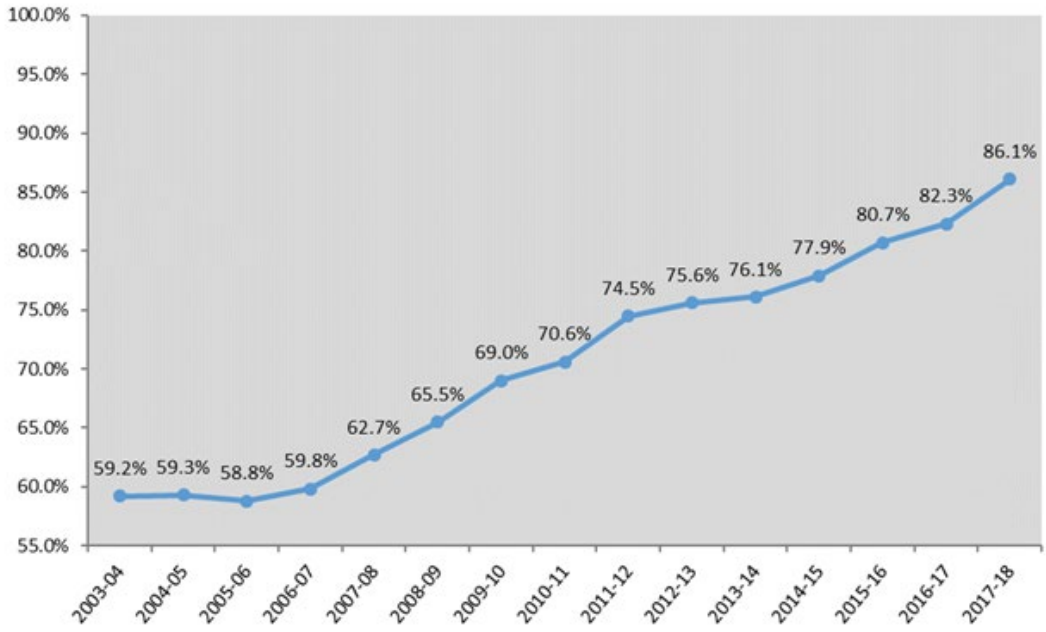
In 2017, Florida's 4th grade Hispanic students led the nation in reading and math, and Florida's black students ranked 1st in the nation in 4th grade math. Also in 2017, Florida's students with disabilities and low-income students' average score ranked 1st in the nation in 4th grade math and 2nd in 4th grade reading.

Additionally, Florida has eliminated the AP participation gap for its Hispanic/Latino students. Hispanic/Latino students made up 30 percent of the 2017 graduating class, however, accounted for 35.5 percent of AP Exam takers and 39.5 percent of graduates with college credit-bearing scores.

Florida's Graduation Rate Continues to Grow at Record Pace

Since 2011, Florida's high school graduation rates have continued to improve for all students, increasing more than 17 percentage points to a 15-year high of 86.1 percent in FY 2017-18.

Florida's Rising High School Graduation Rate



In addition to Florida's overall graduation rate increase, the latest data from FY 2017-18 showed significant improvement for a variety of student subgroups, including:

- The statewide graduation rate among black students increased by 16.2 percentage points over the last five years, rising from 64.7 percent in 2013-14 to 80.9 percent in 2017-18;
- The statewide graduation rate among Hispanic students increased by 10.1 percentage points over the last five years, rising from 75 percent in 2013-14 to 85.1 percent in 2017-18;
- The statewide graduation rate among students with disabilities increased by 21.9 percentage points, rising from 55.1 percent in 2013-14 to 77.0 percent in 2017-18; and
- The statewide graduation rate among economically disadvantaged students increased by 14.3 percentage points, rising from 67.7 percent in 2013-14 to 82 percent in 2017-18.

Governor Scott believes that every student should have the tools they need to succeed and in 2014, he signed legislation to ensure all students, including those with a disability, have access to courses necessary to graduate with a standard high school diploma.

Investing $344 Million in School Safety and Hardening to Keep Students Safe
For the past seven years, Governor Scott has recommended increasing Florida's investment in safe school initiatives for K-12 public schools. Following the horrific loss of 17 lives on February 14, 2018, at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Governor Scott fought again to significantly increase school hardening and safety funding to keep kids safe.

Immediately following the shooting, Governor Scott called emergency meetings with leaders in education, mental health and law enforcement and put forward a major action plan aimed at making massive changes in protecting our schools, providing significantly more resources for school safety and mental health.

On March 9, 2018, Governor Scott signed a law that directed investments of more than $344 million to increase the safety and security of Florida's schools. This bill included more than $200 million in recurring funds and approximately $200 million in non-recurring funds to support youth mental health, fund school resource officer positions, acquire technologies to better identify and respond to potential threats, and enhance the physical security of schools.

The law utilizes this funding to place a law enforcement officer at every school, implement hardening measures on each campus, establish mandatory active shooter drills, and improve access for students to mental health services. Funding details include:

- More than $97 million in new funding for school safety so school districts can hire School Resource Officers. This is in addition to the $64.5 million appropriated for safe school initiatives for public K-12 schools in the FEFP and results in a total $162 million investment in public school safety.
- $69.2 million for students to have greater access to mental health services in our public schools;
- $6.7 million for school personnel to receive professional development on how to identify students with possible mental health issues;
- $99 million for hardening grants for districts to improve the physical security of schools as identified by a security risk assessment; and

- $67.5 million for the Department of Education to allocate to sheriff offices that implement the Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program.

Protecting Florida's Jewish Day Schools
Governor Scott believes every Florida student deserves to have the opportunity to learn in a safe setting. After Florida's Jewish community received hateful threats, Governor Scott saw the need to provide additional security so the children that attend Jewish Day Schools can learn in a safe environment. In FY 2017-18, Governor Scott approved more than $650,000 for security at Jewish Day Schools. The 2018-19 budget invested $2 million in security funding for Jewish Day Schools – an increase of more than $1,345,000. This funding is available to all eligible Florida Jewish Day Schools to help provide security and counter-terrorism upgrades such as video cameras, fences, bullet-proof glass, alarm systems and other safety equipment.

Also, following the tragic shooting at a synagogue in Pittsburg that claimed 11 innocent lives, Governor Scott ordered additional police presence at religious institutions throughout Florida and called on the Florida Legislature to again increase funding to protect students and teachers at Jewish Day Schools.

Supporting Florida's Teachers
Governor Scott recognizes the positive impact great teachers have on today's students and generations of students to come. During his time in office, Governor Scott championed investments to provide teachers with pay raises and invest more funding in programs such as the Teacher Classroom Supply Assistance Program.

In FY 2013-14, Governor Scott invested $480 million to provide a pay raise for Florida's public-school teachers and in his 2018-19 budget, Governor Scott secured an investment of more than $54 million, of more than $22 million, in funding for grants used by educators to purchase classroom supplies needed for the school year.

In addition, the Governor has lead the investment of $770,000 in funding in FY 2018-19 for monetary awards to Florida's highest performing teachers through the Teacher of the Year Program. This investment, combined with any private donation, allows the award amounts to be a minimum of $10,000 for district participants, a minimum of $15,000 for finalists, and a minimum of $20,000 for the Teacher of the Year.

Strong Support for Small and Rural School Districts
Governor Scott has always been an advocate for Florida's students and has invested significant funding to ensure students in rural districts have every opportunity to succeed and live their dreams in the Sunshine State.

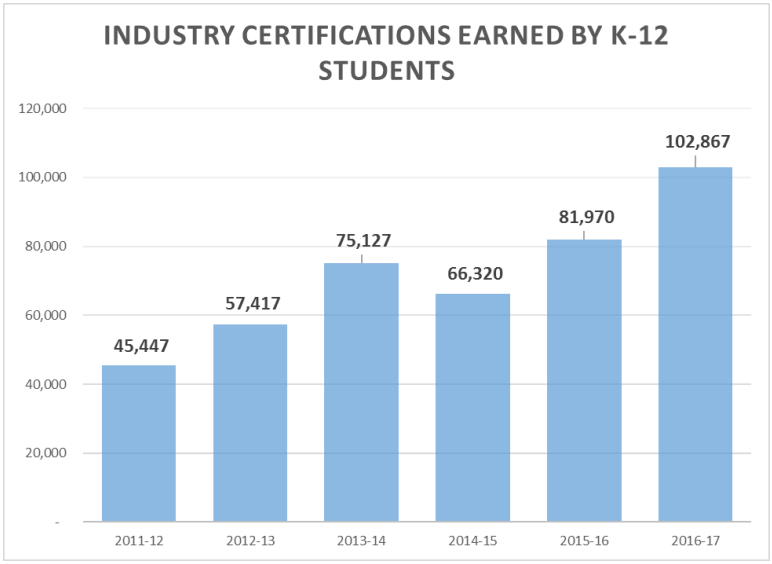
For the past six years, Governor Scott has recommended and approved funding for small, rural school districts that have urgent construction needs but lack the ability to levy sufficient resources to fund these needs. During his administration, Governor Scott has funded 11 school districts' Special Facility projects at a total of $303.2 million. In 2016, Governor Scott signed HB 7029, strengthening the Special Facility Construction Account program.

Governor Scott included $52.8 million for the Sparsity Supplement in his historic 2018 funding for Florida's public K-12 schools, which provides funding to assist rural districts with sparse student populations of 24,000 or fewer students. Since 2011, under Governor Scott's

leadership, funding for the Sparsity Supplement has increased by $17 million. Governor Scott also invested $1.75 million in 2018 to assist rural school districts across the state by providing the three regional educational consortiums funding to create greater equity between larger and smaller districts. These advances to improve Florida's small and rural communities have strengthened these school districts and, most importantly, improved the education for additional Floridians.

Florida Provides Unprecedented Numbers of High Demand Industry Certifications

Governor Scott continues to expand student's access to viable career preparation, providing more opportunities to STEM education (science, technology, engineering, and math) and industry certifications. Florida students that earn an industry certification in K-12 and are enrolled in career and technical education have a higher-grade point average and a lower dropout rate than other students. In 2015-16, high school students earned a total of 81,970 industry certifications, and in 2016-17, that number jumped to 102,044. Career and Technical Education opportunities provide students with a school-to-career connection. More than 400,000 Florida students are enrolled in secondary technical education programs.



In 2016, Governor Scott signed HB 7029 to allow industry certifications earned through dual enrollment to be eligible for weighted funding. In 2018, with the signing of HB 495, Governor Scott expanded access to computer science courses for middle and high school students.

Refining and Increasing Transparency of School Grade Accountability System

Florida has simplified the school grading system, providing parents, educators, and the public access to school grades that more accurately represent a school's performance. Under Governor Scott's leadership, an Education Accountability Summit was held in 2013 to provide stability and clarity with the transition to a new assessment and to ensure Florida's Accountability System maintains fairness, enhances transparency, and promotes improvement in student outcomes. Accountability provisions that over complicated the formula were eliminated and changes were made to ensure that the level of student performance associated with A-F school grades is clear and transparent.

In 2014, Governor Scott signed SB 1642, which officially reformed the school grading system to refocus the measures on achievements, learning gains, graduation rates, and acceleration mechanisms, such as college credits and industry certifications earned. That same year, Governor Scott also signed legislation that revised acceptable means for prospective teachers to demonstrate mastery of subject area knowledge and instructional skills.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Effective Teachers and Principals

Governor Scott recognizes that tomorrow's leaders are in today's classrooms, and to best prepare students for the future we must have effective teachers. Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida has taken steps to ensure that all certified teachers have demonstrated the ability to meet the needs of every student.

In 2011, Governor Scott signed SB 736 creating the educator-led development of Florida's teacher performance framework, a robust evaluation of statistical, results-driven information to improve the outcomes for Florida's students. This framework measures the impact of a teacher on student learning, while also accounting for other factors, such as excessive absences, that may impact the learning process.

Governor Scott signed legislation in 2013 to include additional funding for teacher salaries, recognizing educators as a critical piece in the overall success of Florida's children. In 2016, Governor Scott signed HB 7029 to establish two additional teacher bonus amounts for industry certifications and to increase from $2,000 to $3,000 the bonus award cap for teachers who provided instruction in a course that led to a student earning an industry certification. Governor Scott was the first governor is Florida history to secure statewide teacher pay raises.

Other educator quality initiatives include:

- Holding principal preparation programs accountable for their effectiveness
- Since 2016, annually ranking teacher preparation programs according to performance outcomes
- Awarding $10,000 for each district teacher of the year for past three years
- Continuing to recognize and support effective educators through professional learning opportunities, such as the Dr. Brian Dassler Leadership Academy, the Florida Teacher LEAD Network and the High Impact Teacher Corps
- Identifying 8,000-9,000 high-impact teachers in the state annually and acknowledging their effectiveness as measured by the value-added model

Meaningful Reform to Student Testing

After extensive input from the public regarding Florida's accountability system, Governor Scott issued an Executive Order to suspend the Grade 11 Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) for English language arts, providing the Florida Legislature time to consider legislation to eliminate the mandate. Governor Scott subsequently championed and signed into law legislation that increased transparency in school grading and reduced the amount of time students spend testing.

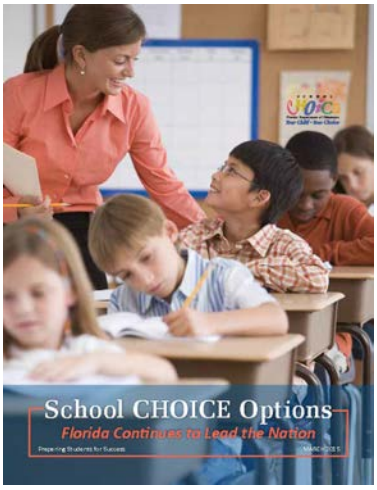
In 2012, Governor Scott signed HB 7127, which included the elimination of double testing for middle school students enrolled in high school courses with end-of-course exams.

Governor Scott signed SB 1642 in 2014, which revised the school grading system by ensuring the accountability system was fair, transparent, and promoted improvements in student outcomes.

In 2015, Governor Scott signed HB 7069, which eliminated the requirement to administer a statewide, standardized grade 11 English language arts assessment and allows districts to use a district-required local assessment. The bill also prohibited duplicative finals for courses for which there is already a statewide end-of-course exam. In 2017, Governor Scott signed HB 7069, eliminating a provision requiring the Algebra II end-of-course assessment.

In 2018, Governor Scott signed HB 495, which allows an Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or Advanced International Certification of Education student to substitute the successful completion of a respective exam for the associated end-of-course exam.

National Leader in School Choice



Governor Scott knows that parents, not the government, know what is best for their children and has been a champion for extensive school choice options. With record funding for scholarships and multiple school choice options, Governor Scott is ensuring that all Florida families are provided opportunities to provide the best education for their children.

Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida has been a national leader in school choice options for all students, with hundreds of thousands of families taking advantage of these opportunities. More than 27 percent of Florida's K-12 public school students have chosen a school other than the one to which they were assigned and thousands more participate in other choice options including virtual education, private schooling, and home education, making Florida a national leader for school choice options.

In 2016, Governor Scott signed HB 837, authorizing school districts to provide exceptional student education related services to home education students with disabilities who are eligible for services and who enroll in a public school solely to receive related services. The bill also required that dual enrollment courses be made available to private school students, including students with disabilities and clarifies that all postsecondary institutions offering dual enrollment courses to make services and resources available to students with disabilities.

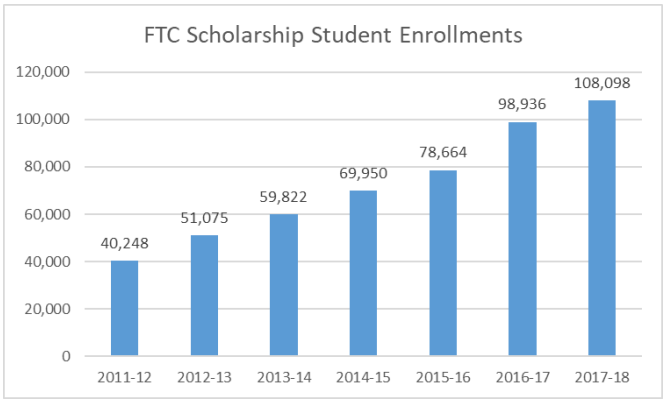
In 2018, Governor Scott signed HB 731 to ensure districts made available industry certifications, national assessments, and statewide, standardized assessments to home education students.

<u>Gardiner Scholarships</u>

Governor Scott signed SB 672 in 2016, appropriating $71.2 million for Gardiner Scholarships to allow eligible students with unique abilities to receive a scholarship. Parents are able to use the scholarship to pay for a variety of educational services, including private school tuition, specialized services such as speech or occupational therapy, instructional materials, contributions to a college prepaid account and more. More than 10,290 students received the scholarship in 2017-18 and more than 11,000 Gardiner Scholars are expected in 2018-19.

Under Governor Scott, funding for the Gardiner Scholarship Program has increased by more than $57 million to $128.3 million in FY 2018-19.

Florida's Tax Credit Scholarship



Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarships provide families the ability to choose the school that best meets their children's needs. The FTC Scholarship Program encourages private, voluntary contributions from corporate donors to non-profit scholarship funding organizations that award scholarships to students from low-income families to attend eligible private schools or assist with transportation costs to attend a public school in another school district. In 2018, Governor Scott signed HB 7055 which includes a new sales tax exemption for contributions to the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship programs. Under Governor Scott's leadership, the number of students served has grown from 40,248 students in 2011-12 to 108,098 students served in the 2017-18 school year.

Florida's McKay Scholarship

The John M. McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program provides scholarships for eligible students with disabilities to attend an authorized public or private school of their choice. Governor Scott expanded the McKay Scholarship in 2011, with the signing of HB 1329. Enrollment has increased by almost 7,000 students since Governor Scott took office, from 24,194 for the 2010-11 school year to 31,044 students for the 2017-18 school year. Florida invested $221.5 million in the program for the 2017-18 school year, which is a more than $70 million increase from the 2010-11 school year.

Hope Scholarship Program

With the signing of HB 7055, Governor Scott enacted the first-of-its-kind scholarship program for K-12 public school students in Florida who are victims of bullying, harassment or violence. The program allows students to transfer to another public school or enroll in a private school.

Reading Scholarships

With the signing of HB 7055 in 2018, Governor Scott enacted the first-ever scholarship for students in grades 3 through 5 who are enrolled in a Florida public school and scored below a Level 3 on the grade 3 or grade 4 statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment in the prior school year. For the 2018-19 school year, each qualifying family will be awarded $500 per student to assist with reading remediation. This includes instructional materials, curriculum, part-time tutoring, and specialized summer education or after-school programs designed to improve reading skills.

Florida Virtual Programs

Virtual Education programs are available to every student in Florida thanks to Governor Scott's leadership and commitment to expand virtual opportunities. Governor Scott signed several pieces of legislation to expand virtual education options for students and parents. HB 7029 increased access to digital blended learning, expansion of class choices and the development of the Florida Online Course Catalog. Additionally, HB 7069 made it possible for all students, including home education and private school students, to participate in any of the virtual instruction options. During the 2017-18 school year, 428,000 students took more than 522,000 online courses with 39,000 students taking all of their courses online. With Governor Scott's commitment to making a great education possible for all families, Florida is leading the way in

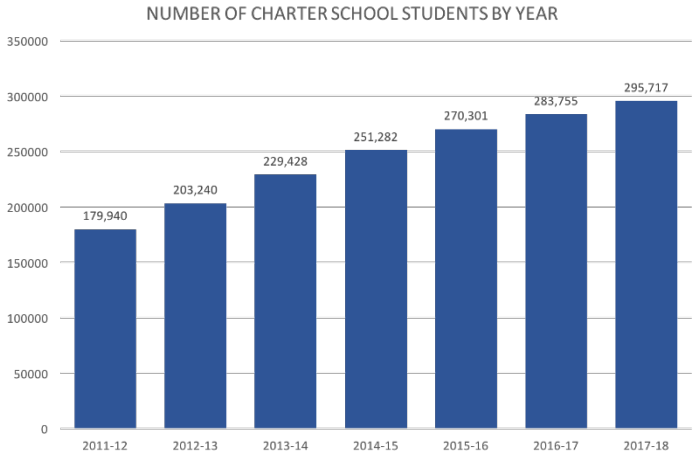
offering parents the options they deserve to make great educational decisions for their children.

Florida Public School Open Enrollment

Governor Scott wants to empower parents to choose the best education for their children. In 2016, Governor Scott signed HB 7029 creating open enrollment in Florida. Through these new provisions, 287,227 students could attend any public school in the state regardless of where they reside, provided that the desired school is not at capacity.

Charter Schools

With 653 charter schools operating during the 2017-2018 school year, Florida ranked third in the nation for both the number of charter schools and students enrolled in charter schools. Charter schools provide another high-quality public-school option to parents. This means that families in Florida have more choices for their child's education.



Schools of Hope

Signed into law in 2017, the Schools of Hope Program is designed to provide high-quality educational options for students attending persistently low performing (PLP) public schools by attracting charter school networks with a proven track record of operating high-performing charter schools in underserved communities. To date, four organizations have been designated as hope operators. Florida's Schools of Hope law offers these high-impact charter school networks increased autonomy and flexibility as well as access to grants and low-interest facility loans for schools that will serve students in Florida's highest need areas.

Supporting K-12 Military Families

As a Navy veteran himself, Governor Scott has strived to ensure Florida remains the most veteran and military friendly state in the nation. The Governor is committed to making sure that active duty military, veterans, and their families are well cared for in Florida. There are many educational opportunities in Florida for children of military families, including measures that make it easier for parents to enroll their children in school.

Governor Scott supports the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children to remove barriers often associated with relocations that make the educational success of military children difficult due to the frequent moves and deployment of their parents. Children of active duty military personnel, who move due to military orders, receive priority placement choice options in Florida, empowering military parents to choose the school with the learning environment that best fits their child's needs. In 2016, Governor Scott signed HB 7029 to expand open enrollment to allow parents greater school choice. The bill provides that preferential treatment be given to dependent children of active duty military personnel whose move resulted from military orders.

In 2018, Governor Scott signed HB 29, which waives the initial educator certification application and examination fees for active duty service members of the U.S. Armed Forces, honorably discharged veterans and spouses of service members and veterans, including the surviving spouse of a service member on active duty at the time of death. Experienced military officers

are also provided an accelerated pathway to becoming certified school leaders and principals for Florida's public schools.

Early Learning

VPK Program

Since the 2011-2012 school year, more than 1,2 million children have attended a Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) program. Children are better prepared to succeed in kindergarten and beyond. The VPK program is free for Florida families.

In 2011, one set of educational standards for 4-year-olds was adopted by the State Board of Education. Teachers now have an easy guide to identify knowledge and skills 4-year-olds should learn prior to kindergarten.

Under Governor Scott's leadership, VPK Specialized Instructional Services (SIS) began development in 2011 and is available for children with individual educational plans (IEPs) whose families feel that the child would be better served outside a traditional VPK classroom setting. Children with special needs receive services consistent with an IEP. SIS offers parents another option to meet their child's unique educational needs.

In 2016, Governor Scott signed HB 7029, which extends VPK eligibility to some five-year-old children. This new law allows more flexibility for parents.

School Readiness

Since 2011, 600,493 children have been part of the School Readiness Program. Low-income parents have been able to receive subsidized child care so they can work or receive training to be able to work. At-risk young children receive early care and education to prepare them for school.

Child Development Screening Requirement for the School Readiness Program

Since 2012, all children from birth to age five in the School Readiness Program receive developmental screenings. The screenings are given regularly and can be used to track the child's developmental progress and spot possible concerns early. The screenings identify any need for early intervention so children with unique abilities receive services and/or resources early. Information is provided through the screenings to the families to help their children grow and develop.

Improving School Readiness

In 2018, Governor Scott signed HB 1091, which establishes a statewide program accountability system for School Readiness (SR) providers. Florida's Office of Early Learning (OEL) will adopt program assessment requirements for providers participating in the SR program to measure the quality of teacher-child interactions using a research based observation tool. The bill requires OEL to identify an observation-based child assessment in which SR providers have the option to participate. The bill also provides $6 million in funding to implement the statewide program assessment.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Keeping Florida's Higher Education Accessible and Affordable

Governor Scott understands the key to a great career is a great education, and as Governor he committed to providing the resources necessary for all students to succeed and find great jobs upon graduation. Governor Scott has made historic investments in higher education, held the line on tuition for the past six years, and improved educational quality.

Governor Scott's commitment to fighting for students seeking higher education in Florida has produced clear results that led to U.S. News and World Report ranking Florida as the best state in the nation for higher education in 2017 and 2018.

Historic Funding for Florida's State Colleges and Universities
Governor Scott has continuously fought to make higher education affordable so more students can get a great education in Florida. Since 2011, state funding for state colleges and universities has also substantially increased by nearly $200 million and $1.1 billion, respectively.

National Recognition of Excellence in Florida's Higher Education Institutions

U.S. News and World Report
Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida's preeminent state research universities have improved their U.S News and World Report National Public University rankings. The University of Florida improved nine spots, from No. 17 to No. 8, Florida State University improved 21 spots, from No. 47 to No. 26, and the University of South Florida improved 43 spots, from No. 101 to No. 58.

Florida's preeminent state research universities have also improved their U.S News and World Report National University rankings. The University of Florida has improved by 18 spots, from the No. 53 to No. 35. Florida State University has improved by 34 spots, from No. 104 to No. 70. The University of South Florida has improved by 59 spots, from No. 183 to No. 124.

Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence Award
The Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence is the premier recognition that honors institutions that strive for and achieve exceptional levels of success for all students, while they are in college and after they graduate. Since Governor Scott took office, the Florida College System has had nine finalists and two institutions win the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence Award.

2019 – *Top 10 Finalists*
- Broward College
- Indian River State College
- Miami Dade College

2017 – *Finalists with Distinction*
- Broward College
- Indian River State College

2015
- Santa Fe College – *Winner*
- Indian River State College - *Finalist*

2013 – *Finalists*
- Broward College
- Santa Fe College

2011
- Valencia College - *Winner*
- Miami Dade College - *Finalist with Distinction*

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

College Affordability

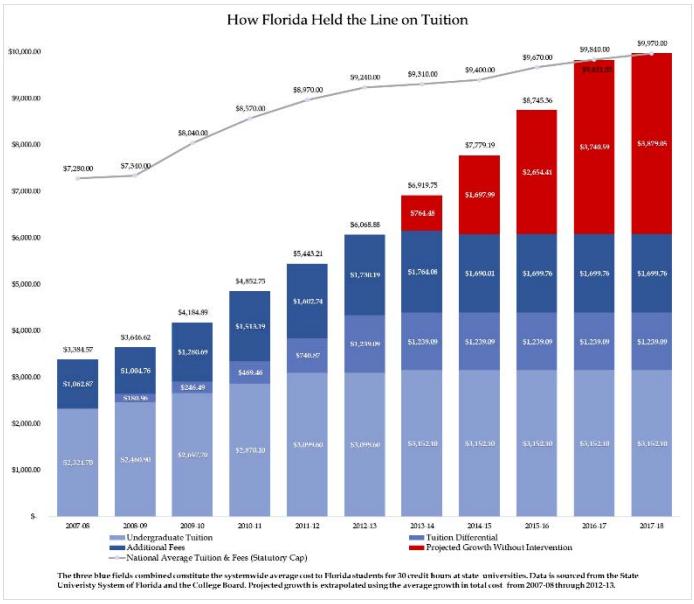
Governor Scott has repeatedly challenged higher education institutions to reduce the cost burden to students with initiatives such as the $10,000 four-year STEM degree at Florida's colleges, holding the line on tuition, and championing college affordability reforms.

In 2014, Governor Scott signed HB 851, which made saving for college with a Florida Prepaid College Plan more affordable for Florida families. The bill lowered the four-year university plan by roughly half, from $53,729 to 27,379, or from $350 to $173 a month and eliminated differential tuition for all but the University of Florida and Florida State University, capping it at 6 percent. The new law resulted in $200 million in refunds to families who had previously paid in full and saved families an additional $700 million in future contracts.

In 2016, Governor Rick Scott signed HB 7019, which created greater transparency and accountability in Florida's higher education system. The law provided for greater clarity for students regarding college costs and continued to hold the line on graduate school tuition. The law also required colleges and universities to adopt policies that make textbooks more affordable and established a requirement for the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education to annually study and make recommendations on college affordability.

In 2018, Governor Scott signed SB 4 which expanded merit-based state aid for high-performing students through the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program. The law also expanded need-based state aid and university or college gift aid for students with demonstrated financial need.

Following Hurricane Maria, the Governor requested all public state colleges and universities allow students displaced from their home in Puerto Rico to be eligible for in-state tuition beginning the Spring 2018 semester. Subsequently, all public state colleges and universities agreed to continue this policy until the Spring 2019 semester.



How Florida Held the Line on Tuition

In the years before Governor Scott took office, due to the Tuition Differential in 2007, its subsequent expansion in 2008 and 2009, and yearly tuition and fee increases, Florida was on a fast track to reach the much higher national average of tuition and fees.

After taking office, Governor Scott held the line on tuition by vetoing tuition increases, eliminating automatic inflationary tuition increases, freezing tuition, greatly limiting tuition differential, and appointing leaders who share his goal of providing an affordable higher education to Florida students and families.

The current cost of attending a state university in Florida is $6,091 per year. **Had the prior trend continued, university students and families would have paid an additional $3,879 this past academic year, for a total of $9,970.** The cost to students and families would have nearly tripled in a single decade. Governor Scott's leadership has saved Florida students and

families millions of dollars over the last six years.

Over the past seven years, Florida has made major investments in our higher education system and challenged colleges and universities to become more affordable while fully preparing students to be ready for a great job upon graduation. A leading higher education system helps strengthen our state as the best place for families, students and job creators to succeed.

Challenging Florida's Higher Education System
Since taking office, Governor Scott has issued several challenges in order to elevate the services provided by Florida's higher education system.

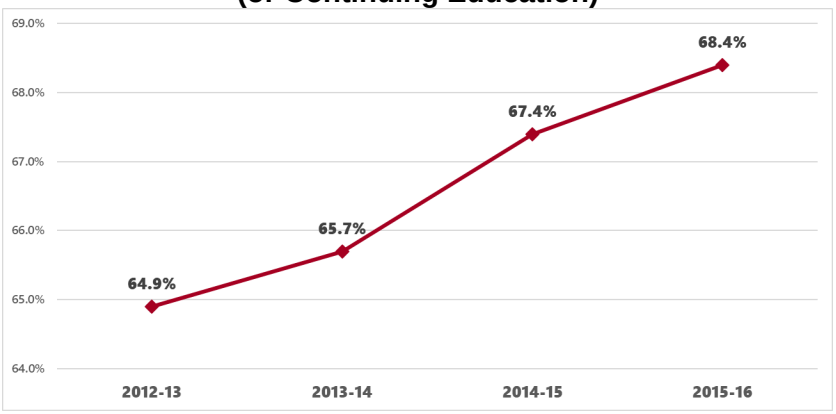
$10,000 Degree Challenge
In 2013, Governor Scott challenged Florida state colleges to implement $10,000 Degree Programs. Today, 42 percent of FCS four-year degrees are $10,000 degrees and all public state colleges that offer baccalaureate degrees also offer at least one $10,000 degree.

"Ready, Set, Work" Technical Center Guarantee Challenge
In 2015, Governor Rick Scott challenged Florida's 48 Technical Colleges and Centers to issue a guarantee to businesses that their workers are ready to work on the very first day on the job, or they will be retrained at no cost to the business or the student. This sets a level of accountability for Florida's Technical Colleges and Centers and strengthens the commitment that Florida has to be the best state in the nation for business. Every technical college and center accepted the challenge.

"Ready, Set, Work" College Challenge
In 2015, Governor Scott challenged all 28 state colleges to participate in the "Ready, Set, Work" College Challenge by committing that 100 percent of their full-time students graduate to a four-year university or get a job that leads to a great career. When Governor Scott issued his challenge, the average state college graduation rate in Florida was 43 percent. All 28 state colleges accepted the challenge and are currently working towards this goal.

"Ready, Set, Work" University Challenge
In 2015, Governor Rick Scott challenged all 12 state universities to commit to 100 percent of their graduates (who were not going on to graduate school) gaining full-time employment within a year for those receiving each university's two most popular degrees. This challenge is helping focus the universities mission on what degrees lead to jobs for Florida's students. All 12 state universities accepted the challenge.

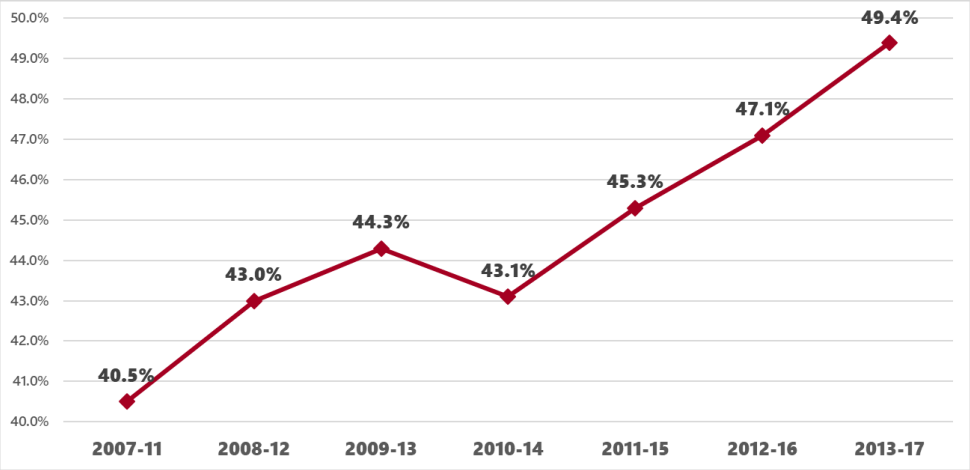
State University System- Percent of Bachelor's Graduates Employed (or Continuing Education)



"Finish in Four, Save More" Challenge

In 2016, Governor Scott issued his "Finish in Four, Save More" challenge at his Degrees to Jobs Summit. He challenged state universities to inform students about the amount of money they will save if they graduate in four years. The challenge also included a request for state universities to remove all additional fees for online classes. These fees can be up to $100 per credit hour at many of Florida's state universities. That means for an average three credit class, students can pay upwards of $300 dollars. Finally, the challenge looked to make sure students get credit for college and AP courses taken during high school, and to make it easier for students to get class credit for internships in their fields, which puts students on the path to getting a good paying job.

State University System- Four-Year Graduation Rate



Performance Funding for Colleges

In 2015, Governor Scott initiated performance funding for the Florida College System (FCS), with $40 million distributed to Florida colleges. Governor Scott increased the investment to $60 million in 2016. Florida provides performance funding to support and advance Florida's strong commitment to postsecondary outcomes. FCS institutions lead the nation in performance and have been recognized in multiple years with awards from the Aspen Institute, an international nonprofit organization, which evaluates educational institutions around the world.

By implementing performance funding, Governor Scott led institutional change across a system

of 28 colleges and nearly 800,000 students. Colleges have used their performance funds towards strategic efforts to build or strengthen student success.

FCS institutions are using the funds to:

- Build or enhance their academic advising efforts;
- Implement additional IT resources targeted at student outcomes; and
- Enhance tutoring services provided to students.

Using the performance based system, FCS institutions have seen many areas of great success, including:

- Nine out of 10 FCS graduates are employed or continuing their education in Florida within one year of graduation;
- The FCS leads the nation in the percentage of students graduating college and last year, the FCS institutions accounted for over 114,000 graduates;
- The FCS increased the number of certificates and degrees awarded from 104,693 to 114,188 (9.06% increase);
- FCS Associates of Science and Baccalaureate enrollments are both up; and
- Workforce degrees that lead to high wage jobs have increased.

The FCS leads the nation in percentage of students graduating college. In 2017-2018, there were 112,536 degrees and certificates awarded, primarily comprised of 57,587 AA degrees, 14,653 AS degrees, and 31,236 vocational and college certificates. In addition, 17 FCS institutions were listed as Top 100 Associate Degree producers nationwide.

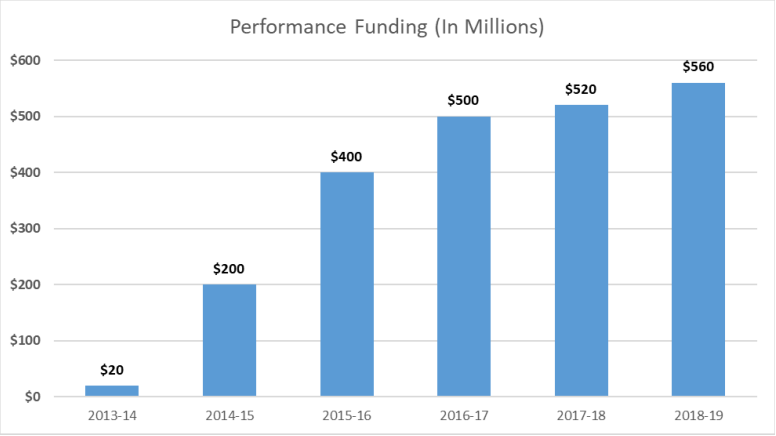
Performance Funding for Universities

Under Governor Scott's leadership, the Florida University System Board of Governors began developing its Performance Based Funding Model with input from university presidents, provosts, boards of trustees, and other stakeholders in 2012. The model was first unveiled in 2014, and championed and signed into law in 2016 by Governor Scott. The model includes ten metrics that evaluate Florida institutions including: graduation rates, median wages of graduates and degrees awarded in areas of strategic emphasis. The results of using this performance based system speak for themselves:

- The percent enrolled or employed full-time has increased from 64.9 percent in 2012-13 to 68.4 percent in 2015-16;
- The State University System of Florida six-year graduation rate has increased from 65.1 percent for the 2005-11 cohort to 72 percent for the 2011-17 cohort; and
- Median Wages of Bachelor's Graduates Employed Full-Time has increased from $34,700 in 2012-13 to $38,100 in 2015-16.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Governor Scott has made record investments in education, and is keenly focused on incentivizing Florida's universities who meet or exceed these newly elevated expectations. Every year under Governor Scott's leadership, the investment in this funding model has increased dramatically. Institutions are evaluated on either excellence or improvement for each metric and rewarded accordingly.



In its first year of funding, the State University System received $20 million in performance based funding. The most recent budget included an investment of $560 million for the 2018-19 school year dedicated to performance based funding. This innovative model for improving higher education has redefined the standards for state universities in Florida.

Preeminent State Research Universities

Governor Scott recognizes that for Florida's universities to remain competitive nationally they must receive the resources they need to invest in Florida's students. With this in mind, Governor Scott signed SB 1076 in 2013 to create a mechanism for designating Preeminent State Research Universities. To be eligible for this designation, a university must meet at least 11 of 12 different metrics, including having a freshman retention rate of 90 percent, a four-year graduation rate above 60 percent, total research expenditures of over $200 million, $500 million or more in endowments, and rank in the top 100 in the nation for research expenditures. Universities that meet these metrics receive additional funding to invest in the university to improve their place amongst the nation's best universities. Since 2013, the University of Florida and Florida State University have qualified for this additional funding, with each receiving $58.5 million in 2018. In 2018, the University of South Florida was designated as a preeminent university. As a result, USF received $14.8 million in 2018 which is comprised of recurring emerging preeminence from previous years and the $1.5 million from 2018.

Emerging Preeminent State Research Universities

In 2016, Governor Scott extended the program by signing legislation to create criteria to invest additional funds into universities that are Emerging Preeminent State Research Universities. To qualify for this designation, the university must meet six of the 12 criteria used to designate Preeminent State Research Universities. These changes allow universities additional funds to expand their research capabilities and other quality metrics to become a designated Preeminent State Research University one day. The University of Central Florida has been designated an Emerging Preeminent State Research University, receiving $10.2 million in 2018.

Higher Education for Military Families

Under Governor Scott, Florida has strived to be the most military friendly state in the nation by expanding offerings and enhancing educational and employment opportunities for military members and their families. With this goal in mind, Governor Scott signed the Florida GI Bill in 2014, creating several programs for employment, education, services, and benefits for our military members, including the Congressman C.W. Bill Young Veteran Tuition Waiver Act. The program waives out-of-state tuition for honorably discharged veterans who pursue higher

education at Florida's many state colleges or universities. For the 2016-17 FY, FCS institutions provided 71 Purple Heart recipients with tuition waivers for 1,087 credit hours of education.

Governor Scott expanded the benefits provided to our armed forces around the nation in 2016 by signing two laws. HB 799 expanded out-of-state tuition waivers to include current military personnel in addition to honorably discharged military veterans, while HB 1157 expanded opportunities for veterans to earn college credit at Florida public postsecondary institutions for college-level training and education acquired while in the military. These changes signed into law by Governor Scott have made the dreams of higher education for so many veterans and active service members a reality. For the 2016-17 FY, FCS institutions waived out of state fees for 3,467 honorably discharged veterans, and 76 active duty members of the armed forces of the U.S., representing a combined savings of over $15.5 million.

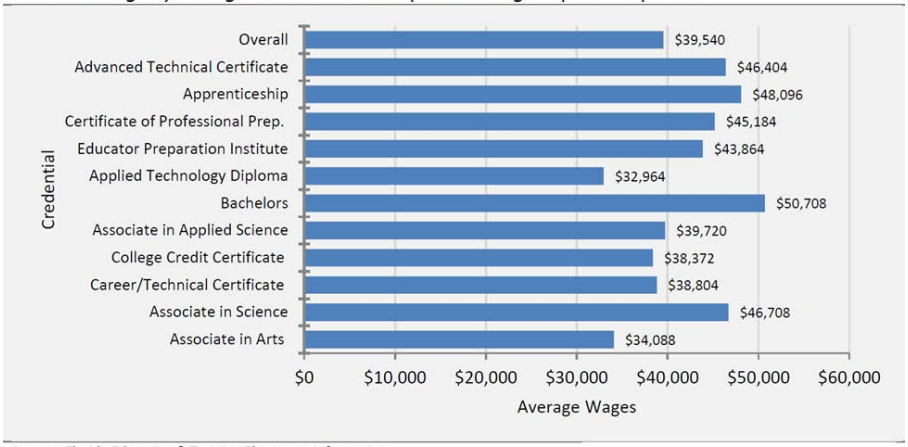
In 2018, Governor Scott signed HB 75 – Postsecondary Fee Waivers – to provide Florida College System institutions with the authority to waive student fees for a person who is an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States receiving military tuition assistance from the United States Department of Defense.

Improving the Relevancy of Degrees

In addition to finding efficiencies, Governor Scott has challenged the Board of Governors to eliminate degree programs that were no longer relevant. Since Governor Scott took office, the Board of Governors has conducted a productivity review of existing programs that resulted in the termination of 239 degree programs. These proactive measures ensure that degree programs maintain relevance for Florida's students while also keeping universities operating efficiently.

Florida College System institutions have a review process that eliminates programs that are no longer viable at meeting workforce needs. Other reasons for eliminations are low enrollments, outdated curriculum or changes in statute or policy. In the past seven years new innovative and workforce programs were established to ensure that the FCS meets local workforce demands.

Florida College System graduates earn competitive wages upon completion.



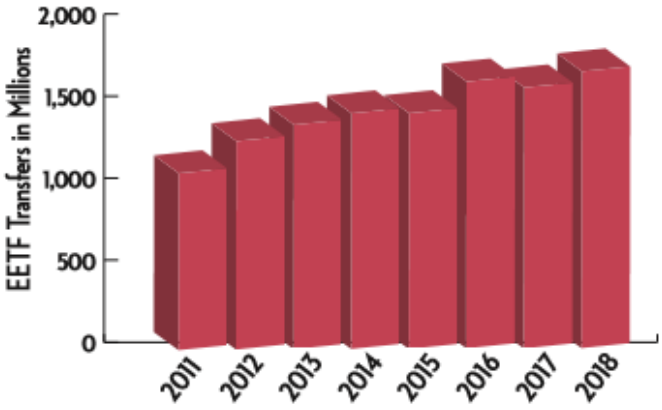
Source: Florida Education & Training Placement Information Program (2015-16). Annualized earnings are an estimation based on Florida full-time employment during the 4th quarter of 2016. FCS Economic Impact Report, Economic Modeling Specialists, Inc., (2013). Georgetown University, Center on Education and the Workforce (2013).

Degrees to Jobs

Connecting Florida's students with good-paying jobs is a critical priority for Governor Scott and he has overseen several initiatives to improve the connection between new graduates and job creators. This focus on ensuring that students get jobs after graduation makes Florida an even better place to live, work and raise a family.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Under Governor Scott's leadership, the Board of Governors has studied how Florida can make informed, strategic choices on how to best increase the state's educational attainment levels and strengthen the state's pipeline of enrollees and graduates in critical workforce areas. These studies have identified high-wage, high-demand areas in the state – known as areas of strategic emphasis – to provide universities with a framework for teaching their students to become competitive graduates in the marketplace.



The Florida Lottery has also seen steady EETF increases since its inception in 1988.

In 2014, the Board of Governors provided $15 million in grant funds to create the Targeted Educational Attainment Grant Initiative. The grant helps expand or build academic program capacity connecting students to the high-demand areas such as computer science and accounting where employers are seeking qualified graduates. The results speak for themselves. Thanks to Governor Scott's support, this initiative resulted in an additional 1,134 degrees in high-demand areas. After one year, over half of the graduates from these programs were making salaries of more than $48,000 per year. Additionally, 62 percent were employed full-time, 25 percent were working and enrolled in further education, and 6 percent were enrolled full-time in further education.

The Florida Lottery: Benefitting Education for Florida Families
Governor Scott recognizes that an affordable, quality education that prepares students for a great job is essential to Florida's families. Education funding is critical to create a highly skilled workforce that will ensure Florida remains a national competitor for top companies. The Florida Lottery focuses its mission on maximizing revenue for education to assist in keeping education costs low and enabling students to achieve future success in the workforce.

Record Contributions to Education
Under Governor Scott's leadership, the Florida Lottery's contributions to the state's Educational Enhancement Trust Fund (EETF) have grown from $1.19 billion in 2011, to $1.76 billion in 2017, representing a 47 percent increase.

More than $2 billion has benefitted public schools, $1.4 billion has gone to Florida colleges, $1.6 billion to Florida universities and over $2 billion in scholarships and grants has enabled more than 265,000 students to receive a Bright Futures Scholarship.

Supporting Florida's Students and Teachers
The Florida Lottery has worked to support students, teachers and administrators across the state by partnering with First Lady Ann Scott, the Department of Education and the Department of Environmental Protection to sponsor educational programs like Just Read, Florida's Summer Literacy Adventure, Celebrate Literacy Week and the Teacher of the Year recognition program.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

As the primary funding source of the Bright Futures Scholarship Program, the Lottery connects with current and former Bright Futures students across the state. In 2018, Governor Scott signed SB 4 which expanded merit-based state aid for high-performing students through the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program. The law also expanded need-based state aid and university or college gift aid for students with demonstrated financial need.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

INCREASING GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY IN FLORIDA

Governor Scott knows that government is first and foremost accountable to the people it serves, and since he took office, the Governor has taken significant action to increase government efficiency and ensure that tax dollars are being used efficiently and effectively to meet the needs and invest in the priorities of Florida families. Since 2011, while services and productivity of government in Florida has increased, the size of state government of dropped by nearly 11 percent.

Since 2011, Florida's annual budget has grown more than 26 percent, from $70.6 billion in FY 2011 to $89.3 billion in FY 2019. Over that same time, the State of Florida has paid down more than $10 billion in debt and reserves have increased by $2.6 billion, totaling more than $6.1 billion in 2018, a 74 percent jump.

By paying down debt, improving the financial positions of Citizens Property Insurance Corporation, the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund and the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund, Florida's balance sheet has improved by $42 billion.

Florida's dedication to paying off state debt and focusing on fiscal responsibility has resulted in all three credit rating agencies having Florida's GO Bond rating at AAA for the first time in Florida history – saving even more taxpayer dollars on remaining loans and debt.

Government Efficiency in Economic Development

Helping Reduce the Reemployment Tax Burden on Florida Employers
Through job creation, economic growth and administrative best practices during Governor's Scott's administration, Florida employers have seen a 94 percent reduction in reemployment taxes, from a $120.80 minimum rate per employee in 2012 to a $7.00 minimum rate per employee from 2016 through 2018.

Helping to Increase the Solvency of the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund
Through the implementation of Governor Scott's business-friendly policies, Florida's Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund has eliminated an existing deficit that was owed to the federal government, and following this repayment of more than $3.5 billion to the federal government, as of 2018, Florida has created a surplus of $3.6 billion, one of the healthiest unemployment trust funds of all large states.

Streamlining and Improving the Economic Development Incentives Process
To accomplish this process improvement, DEO incorporated more extensive due diligence, improved accountability, and made the process easier and more accessible to businesses. By incorporating due diligence efforts far earlier in the application process, DEO made the incentive review process faster. The enhancements to the due diligence review better protect taxpayer dollars.

Improving the Business Incentives Compliance Process
DEO established a process to reduce employer non-compliance with business incentive requirements by 75 percent in just two years, giving businesses the support needed to stay in compliance with incentive requirements and create additional jobs in Florida. Significant improvements to compliance were the result of weekly project review calls between DEO,

Enterprise Florida, and project compliance auditor, as well as regular DEO and Enterprise Florida meetings with companies receiving incentive payments to evaluate progress.

Modernizing the Reemployment Assistance Claims and Benefits Information System
In 2013, DEO implemented the modernized Reemployment Claims and Benefits information System, which replaced an inefficient mainframe computer system originally implemented in 1972. This new system has rapidly surpassed the old system's ability to pay reemployment assistance claimants faster and prevent reemployment assistance fraud. Thanks to the abilities of the new system, claimants receive payment much sooner than previously and fewer claims are overpaid.

Improving the Reemployment Assistance Call Center Experience for Claimants
By analyzing calls and customer feedback, DEO identified areas to improve the Reemployment Assistance Contact Center. Through this customer analysis, along with creating a comprehensive quality and accountability program and implementing a one-call resolution goal, the Reemployment Assistance Contact Center has greatly reduced customer wait times while dramatically reducing overall call volume. Because of these improvements, over a two-year period (Jan. 2016 - Jan. 2018), there has been an 82 percent improvement in customer wait times when calling the Contact Center.

Improving the Black Business Loan Program
In order to expand the number of black business loans across Florida and support small businesses, DEO partnered with the credit union at Florida A&M University (a Historically Black University) as a program loan administrator for the Black Business Loan Program, resulting in the first state-wide administrator in the program's history.

Reducing Burdensome Program Rules and Regulations
DEO underwent a review of all agency rules and repealed those that were unnecessary or obsolete; consolidated other rules to streamline and reduce the overall number; revised existing rules to improve clarity and delete unnecessary procedures or restrictions. Through this concerted effort, DEO achieved a 25 percent reduction in overall agency rules.

Increasing Emphasis on the Recovery of Taxpayer Funds
In line with Governor Scott's mission of holding accountable those who receive taxpayer dollars, DEO initiated legal actions to recoup state funds that have been misused according to statute or contract. Through this effort, DEO has recovered more than $32 million in taxpayer funds since 2011.

Reducing Polices, State Exposure in Citizens Property Insurance Corporation
Citizens Property Insurance Corporation provides insurance to property owners who are unable to find insurance in the private market. Under Governor Scott's leadership, Citizens was able to assist policyholders in reentering the private insurance market and by doing so was able to decrease the number of Citizens policies from nearly 1.5 million to just over 400,000. This reduced the state's exposure frisk from a high of nearly $515 billion to a low of $111 billion.

Improving the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund
Under Governor Scott's leadership, over the past eight years, the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund has significantly improved its balance sheet by adding more than $8.2 billion in reserves and improved its financial position by $10 billion. This helps the state be better prepared for Hurricane recovery.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Government Efficiency in Higher Education

Ensuring a Positive Return for Taxpayers on Higher Education Investments
Governor Scott has made creating a return on investment for taxpayers a priority since taking office. Specifically, Governor Scott has overseen an improved model to measure the return on investment for any new projects being proposed by Florida's higher education institutions. Thanks to Governor Scott's commitment to improving the way by which taxpayer money is spent, Floridians can be assured their money is going to good use.

When Governor Scott took office in 2011, the 2025 Strategic Plan was created to establish goals and performance indicators to increase the number of degrees awarded in programs of strategic emphasis, strengthen the quality of academic programs, increase research activity and commercialization, and increase community and business engagement/workforce by 2025.

Since 2013, the Board of Governors has implemented the Performance Based Funding Data Integrity Certification, a high-level certification process requiring each board of trustees' chair and university president to certify the accuracy of data submissions supporting routine funding decisions in addition to Corrective Action Monitoring to hold universities accountable and provide transparency of university actions to the Board of Governors. Since 2015, the Board of Governors has hosted an Audit Committee Workshop in an effort to refine the powers and duties of the boards of trustees – particularly in the areas of Board of Governors oversight of compliance, audit and investigative matters.

Each year under Governor Scott's leadership, the Board of Governors continues to publish an Annual Accountability Report. Universities are measured on their progress toward meeting the Strategic Plan goals, the performance funding metrics, and other metrics related to degree productivity, program efficiency and enrollment, and resource trends through the annual accountability process.

In addition to the Strategic Plan and the Annual Accountability Reports, the universities present their University Work Plan to the Board of Governors for review every June. The plans cover key initiatives and performance indicators focusing on academic quality, operational efficiency, return on investment, fiscal information, such as estimated net cost by family income, and information on planned enrollment growth and academic program coordination. Since 2014, universities have realized $238.9 million in efficiencies and savings through price reductions.

Government Efficiency in Contract Management

Leading in Contract Savings
When Governor Scott took office, he directed state agencies to review all contracts and identify opportunities to reduce costs while continuing to achieve a high level of services. As the lead contract manager for the State of Florida, the Department of Management Services (DMS) has taken an aggressive role in saving taxpayer dollars and identifying efficiencies throughout

government while ensuring a positive return for taxpayers. Some examples of this work include:

- $15.7 million in savings over four years from MyFloridaMarketPlace (MFMP) eProcurement system contract reduction, which also resulted in enhanced services to include upgraded billing and collection services and additional support for customer training;
- $70 million in costs avoided over 10 years from the People First human resource system contract that includes significant system enhancements and data capabilities. This upgraded system will achieve Governor Scott's goal of recruiting and maintaining a talented and high-performing workforce in Florida;
- $232.9 million in costs avoided over the first three years in prescription drug management services for State Group Insurance health plans. DMS achieved this cost avoidance from the Pharmacy Benefits Services contract negotiations to reduce dispensing fees and achieve aggressive discounts;
- $183.2 million in projected cost avoidance, effective 2018, through renewal negotiations for Pharmacy Benefits Services that targeted lower administrative fees and higher discounts;
- $106.5 million in savings and cost avoidance over three years, starting in 2018, through re-bidding medical management services from Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) for State Group Insurance health plans. Also, $2.8 million in cost savings for medical management services from the Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) through reduced administrative fees;
- $14 million in costs avoided per year and a reduction of 35-49 percent in rates for voice, data, and messaging services from the enterprise contract for telecommunications services;
- $18 million in savings since 2011 through Florida Department of Health (DOH) contract renegotiations while delivering higher quality services. An additional $3 million in cost savings will be realized by the end of the 2017-2018 FY.
- $6.8 million in estimated savings over the initial four-year term of the procured life insurance contract in 2015. This contract resulted in a five percent reduction on optional life insurance rates and a 34.5 percent decrease on retiree life insurance rates and new life insurance coverage for spouses and dependent children;

- $3.6 million in annual savings achieved through the establishment of a new state term contract for building combined maintenance, repair and building operations services, equating to a 10.3 percent savings; and
- $2 million in costs avoided over five years from the state rental vehicle contract.

Ensuring Return on Investment

Governor Scott has implemented responsible business practices in state contracting, including reviewing all state contracts to ensure that measurable deliverables are included for the state to receive the maximum return on investment on taxpayer dollars. Governor Scott also

emphasized that contracts hold contractors accountable by providing a mechanism for the state to recover or withhold funds when contract requirements are not met.

DMS has implemented these responsible business practices throughout its contracts, resulting in improved provision of services and the ability to recover taxpayer dollars when necessary. For example, DMS deducted more than $24.7 million from vendor payments over an eight-year period for private prison contract services not delivered to the state as contracts required. DMS has also received over $1,350,000 in performance credits from the People First contract vendor since January 2011 as a result of Governor Scott's focus on active contract management to ensure that contract deliverables are met.

Driving Value in Government Services

In a continued effort to achieve Governor Scott's goal of increasing government efficiencies and achieving the best value for taxpayer dollars, DMS has implemented reforms for the state's procurement process. DMS has increased the state's negotiating position by having state agencies use the uniform MyFloridaMarketPlace (MFMP). This allows state agencies to leverage buying power and negotiate stronger contracts for goods and services, decrease expenses, increase the visibility of their spending, foster greater competition among vendors and improve accountability related to expenditures.

Since January 2015, DMS has trained 4,800 employees in proper contracting procedures to protect taxpayer money. This course has been so successful in Florida that the National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO) is using it as a model for other states.

Improved Contract Efficiencies and Accountability at the Department of Corrections

Governor Scott recognizes the importance of setting clear performance benchmarks and holding individuals accountable for meeting them. Under Governor Scott's leadership, FDC began the process of ensuring that performance metrics and financial consequences were included in all new and amended contracts. These provisions have improved FDC's ability to hold private sector partners accountable and impose consequences when required benchmarks are not met. For example, FDC's new contract for food and related non-food products procured in 2014 required the new vendor to engage a third-party auditing firm to ensure accurate pricing. Verified accuracy in pricing has saved taxpayer dollars while continuing to provide inmates with healthy food. FDC also began meeting quarterly with vendors to discuss opportunities to increase efficiencies and reduce costs. By creating performance benchmarks, holding contractors accountable and consistently seeking new ideas to reduce costs, FDC has improved its ability to ensure that taxpayer dollars are used efficiently and effectively.

Governor Scott has worked to keep state agency administrative costs low and focus resources on providing services to Floridians. In 2015, FDC restructured many of its administrative functions resulting in increased operational oversight, increased accountability at each level and greater efficiencies to improve administrative operations. The reorganization better aligns FDC services to the field, creates efficiencies and saves taxpayer dollars.

Saving Floridians Money Through Efficiencies at the Florida Lottery

Governor Scott continues to strive to achieve greater government efficiency, thereby reducing the burden of government on Florida's taxpayers. The Florida Lottery remains committed to operating as efficiently and effectively as possible on behalf of all Floridians and will continue to implement cost-saving measures and increase efficiencies wherever possible to maximize education contributions.

Internationally Recognized for Efficiency
Under Governor Scott's leadership, the Florida Lottery operational expenses remain among the most competitive nationwide at just 1.2 percent of revenue generated in 2018. The Florida Lottery was named the third most efficient among all U.S. Lotteries by *LaFleur's 2018 World Lottery Almanac*, an internationally recognized industry publication. By comparison, other U.S. lotteries similar in size, including New York and California, have operating expenses of 15 percent and 5.6 percent respectively.

Reducing Costs
Over the past eight years, the Florida Lottery has leveraged technology and streamlined procedures to maximize the impact and cost effectiveness of its advertising. For example, in 2011, the Florida Lottery introduced Tableau, a measurement, analytics and reporting software system that allows information, including sales and advertising spend data, to run various correlation reports by market. With the advancement of Tableau technology, the Florida Lottery is better able to evaluate and maximize the effectiveness of its advertising dollars, ensuring that state dollars are used as efficiently as possible. As a result, the Florida Lottery reduced advertising production costs by approximately 15 percent in 2012, for a savings of $295,000.

In 2011, the Lottery successfully negotiated a sublease agreement for 1,480 square feet of additional office space that provided an annual cost savings of more than $250,000. The Lottery realized more than $569,000 in cost savings from its District Office lease agreements over the past eight years.

The Lottery saved $660,000 in vendor fees since contracting with its advertising agency, PP+K, in 2016, and saved an additional $275,000 by eliminating a public relations contract that had been in place since start-up.

Finally, an additional $29,000 was saved by transitioning the agency from Halogen to People First for Performance Management.

Government Efficiency in Strengthening Florida's Retirement System

Modernizing the Pension System
When Governor Scott took office, he sought to align the state pension system more closely with private-sector practices to increase the pension system's stability, longevity and equity. In 2011, Governor Scott signed legislation implementing significant reforms to save taxpayers and participating employers $2 billion in the first year of implementation alone.

Before Governor Scott took office, Florida was one of the few states in the nation in which state and local workers did not contribute toward their pensions. Governor Scott's reforms brought Florida in line with nearly every other state and created a more equitable system by requiring state workers and other participants in the FRS to contribute three percent of their salaries toward their pensions. Under Governor Scott's leadership, DMS also implemented an alternative retirement plan that reduces the state's Social Security tax liability by approximately $11 million per year while also allowing non-salaried employees to plan more effectively for their financial future.

Because of Governor Scott's reforms, the health of the FRS has significantly improved and the FRS Pension Plan is now funded at 83.9 percent, making it one of the strongest state retirement

plans in the nation. Governor Scott's modernization of Florida's Retirement System reduced the uncertainty of future benefits for the more than a million plan members and increased the long-term stability of the system in a way that benefits both taxpayers and future retirees.

Leader in Reducing Pension Plan Costs

Governor Scott has continually sought to strengthen the Florida Retirement System (FRS) while reducing the administrative costs necessary for its operation. Under Governor Scott's leadership, the state has leveraged economies of scale and utilized innovative practices to increase productivity, achieving and maintaining exceptionally low costs for the FRS. Because of Governor Scott's efforts, Florida has been named the lowest-cost pension plan in its peer group every year since it began participating in benchmarking in 2013 to compare administrative costs, service levels and overall health. In FY 2017, the FRS' administrative cost was $16 per active member and beneficiary—$81 below the average cost of comparable state plans' administrative costs ($97).

Florida uses electronically delivered retirement documents securely online saving approximately $808,872 by December 2018. Through increased member outreach regarding sign-up for direct deposit, Florida has reduced the number of monthly payroll disbursements being mailed each month by 10,000, or 30 percent, to save approximately $46,800 annually. These operational efficiencies enhance customer service to FRS members while reducing programmatic overhead costs.

Closing Loopholes

A loophole in the retirement system created a mechanism by which employees of agencies that merged or transferred services to an FRS employer could simultaneously participate in their former employer's Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) and the FRS at the same time. Through this loophole, these employees were receiving benefits under both systems for a single service period that should have been eligible under only one system. Under Governor Scott's leadership, DMS closed this loophole by amending a rule to prevent the FRS from paying future benefits to individuals already participating in DROP under their previous retirement system. Closing this loophole ensures that the FRS is operating fairly to all employees and prevents overpayments to individuals receiving benefits under multiple retirement plans. This further exemplifies Governor Scott's commitment to responsible government for Florida's taxpayers.

Reducing Compensatory Leave Liability

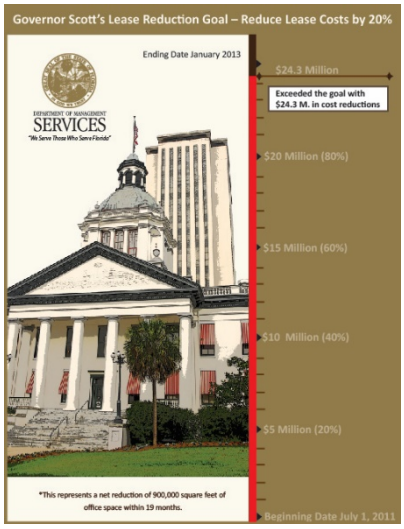
Under Governor Scott's leadership, several changes were collectively bargained with state employee unions or achieved through the legislative process to address the growth of the state's liability for accrued special compensatory leave credits. Special compensatory leave can be accrued for select state employees who work holidays and after office hours. These changes provided additional agency management and oversight by implementing leave accrual controls within the human resource information system (People First). Implementing these various measures resulted in a steady reduction of the state's overall liability of 81 percent as of June 30, 2018.

Special Compensatory Leave	Leave Hours	Leave Liability
Total Payable Balance 06/30/12	4,614,384.97	$91,436,342.10
Total Payable Balance 06/30/18	678,476.24	$17,355,053.72
Total reduction since 06/30/12	3,935,908.73	$74,081,288.38

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Government Efficiency in State Facility Management

Optimizing Facility Use



Governor Scott identified inefficiencies in the state's real estate management and sought to reduce instances in which the state was paying for unutilized space. In 2011, Governor Scott directed DMS to reduce lease costs by 20 percent over two years, setting a target reduction of more than $24 million.

Before Governor Scott took office, the occupancy rate of state facilities was 93 percent. Under Governor Scott's leadership, DMS optimized workspace placement to increase the occupancy rate to 98 percent, which is higher than industry standards of 90-95 percent occupancy. Optimization also reduced the state's leased footprint by more than 900,000 square feet of space. The state also reviewed existing lease contracts and vendor management opportunities for savings and streamlined statewide real estate management. This system-wide optimization of state facility use achieved Governor Scott's goal by realizing more than $24 million in cost reductions within 19 months.

Reducing Mailing Costs

Since Governor Scott took office, DMS has worked to streamline the process of communicating key insurance benefits information to state employees, resulting in reduced costs. In 2013, DMS moved to an electronic communications process when distributing information regarding annual Open Enrollment activities. With this new paperless process, DMS achieved more than $1 million in savings over four years.

Implementing a paperless billing process, DMS eliminated the printing of more than 10,000 invoices per month and switched to an electronic interface accessible by customers, resulting in a savings of $20,000 annually. These increases in efficiencies and savings are a direct result of Governor Scott's initiative to use taxpayer money as efficiently as possible through streamlining agencies' operations and reducing the cost of government.

Improving Customer Service

Governor Scott recognizes that government should provide exemplary customer service to the Floridians who depend on its services. In 2015, DMS created a contact center within its Division of Retirement to improve customer service. The center has reduced the average wait time from over four minutes to just one minute. DMS' Division of Retirement also improved customer service by implementing a retirement seminar for Retirement System pension plan members approaching retirement or Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) termination to assist members as they begin the transition from active employee to retiree. Since October 2014, the Division of Retirement has held 14 seminars, with a total attendance of 1,033 members.

DMS has continued to seek new operational efficiencies throughout its operations statewide. Additional efficiency measures identified and implemented by DMS since Governor Scott took office include the following:

- Eliminated costly manual processes by automating performance-management initiative functions for state employees, resulting in an estimated cost avoidance of more than $2.5 million over five years. The performance and talent management improvement

initiative increases individual and agency effectiveness in the delivery of key operations and services throughout the state.

- As part of the Governor's efficiency initiatives in 2011, DMS reduced its energy budget by 20 percent through a systematic, strategic commissioning process of DMS buildings. DMS worked to improve how building equipment and systems function together to increase the optimization of interior systems and reduce energy costs to achieve $3.5 million in savings on energy costs in DMS-managed facilities.
- Through a multi-year strategic approach, DMS brought efficiencies to ease program administration and reduce costs, incorporated current labor practices and created consistent language to common articles within the state's 10 collective bargaining agreements. Streamlining the collective bargaining process to reduce staff time resulted in an annual cost avoidance of $41,000.

Online Auctions Improved Savings

Governor Scott continues to stress to state agencies the importance of being good fiscal stewards of taxpayer dollars and assets. To align with this directive, DMS oversees the disposition of state-owned mobile equipment and returns the proceeds to state agencies following the auction of antiquated or damaged vehicles. In 2012, DMS implemented an online auction process for the disposition of mobile equipment. This electronic approach has resulted in a cost savings to agencies of $949,823 and the return of $3.3 million in auction proceeds.

Government Efficiency Through Technological Improvements

Governor Scott recognizes that technology is an increasingly important part of improving efficiency and reducing the costs of government. By working to improve state technology, Governor Scott's mission to improve government services and increase accessibility for Florida's citizens and businesses has been realized.

Centralizing IT to Reduce Costs

In 2014, Governor Scott signed legislation creating the Agency for State Technology, establishing a centralized IT agency with an enterprise view of information technology in state government. Governor Scott recognized the importance of having an agency with sufficient authority to oversee statewide IT projects, leveraging economies of scale to achieve efficiencies and savings across state government, and utilizing its expertise to assist state agencies in implementing and managing technology projects. AST manages nearly $65 million per year in IT spending, oversees the State Data Center, develops IT infrastructure and project standards, oversees a portfolio of projects totaling nearly $750 million and has identified multiple opportunities for the standardization of IT services.

Through this central coordinating authority, Florida is able to eliminate duplicative projects, reduce spending, implement best practices, and coordinate across state agencies for better

communication and interagency cooperation. AST has implemented collaborative partnerships with the public and private sectors to maximize IT resources and save taxpayer dollars by delivering more efficient and effective enterprise IT services to Florida.

Modernizing Core Infrastructure
SUNCOM – Florida's consolidated telecommunications – has embarked on an upgrade of MyFloridaNet (MFN). Considered the standard of the modern day enterprise data network, MFN serves as the backbone for information sharing, connecting its clients with seamless communications and data transport across a secure, highly-available, highly-reliable network. From telecommunications to data streaming, internet access to web-hosting, MFN users experience enhancements resulting in higher bandwidth for faster, better handling of daily operations and crisis management. With benefits reaching far and wide, this upgrade results in greater transparency, increased operational efficiency and lowered operating costs. SUNCOM's commitment to deliver quality products and services to agency customers at cost effective pricing was achieved in the resolicitation of the Remote Broadband Solutions (RBS) contract. Through the solicitation process, DMS achieved higher broadband speeds at lower costs, reliable network access options and enhanced service options.

Implementing Statewide Travel Management System
In 2017, DMS was tasked with developing and implementing a statewide automated electronic travel management application to unify travel processing practices and reduce the cost of facilitating a largely paper-driven process throughout state government. The system allows for electronic routing of approvals and reimbursements, seamlessly interfaces with FLAIR (the state's official accounting system) and People First, and provides a public portal through which taxpayers can view travel information. The statewide system was certified for implementation in Fall 2018 and the public portal was launched in November 2018. Agencies will begin transitioning to the new system throughout spring 2019.

Business-Friendly Corporation Filings
One of the Florida Department of State's (DOS) core functions is the registration of corporations in Florida – which is key to Governor Scott's vision of making Florida the most business-friendly state in the nation. Governor Scott has challenged all state agencies to improve customer service and streamline processes to better serve Florida taxpayers.

Better Service Through Technology Improvements
Under Governor Scott's leadership, DOS has made available to Florida businesses the following new and enhanced online applications:

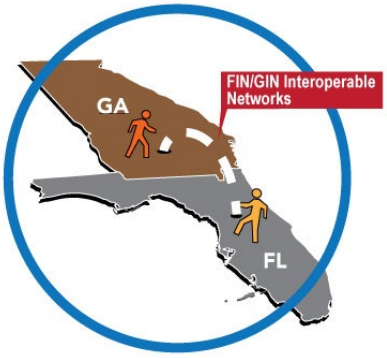
- Online corporate dissolution and withdrawal filings.
- Immediate filing and posting of online Annual Report and Reinstatement filings.
- Online Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) filing applications.
- Launched new Sunbiz.org website. The new and improved content management system provides easier to follow navigation for Sunbiz.org users.
- Developed additional in-house and public "search" options – address, zip code.
- Developed and launched the Sunbiz.org Electronic Notification System.

Processing and Recording of Important Florida Commercial Information
Expedient processing and recording of commercial information ensures accountability to the public and prevents misrepresentation within Florida's business environment. Since Governor Scott took office, DOS has:

- Average Number of New Business Filings/Registrations Processed and Recorded Per Year: 432,333
- Average number of Calls Handled Per Month: 79,598
- Average number of E-mails Handled Per Month: 2,332

Enhancing Public Safety Systems

Technology advances in radio and telephone communications systems have required the Public Safety Bureau within the Division of Telecommunications to actively plan for new versions of Land Mobile Radio Systems, Broadband Data and Cellular Telephone Systems and Next Generation 911 Answering Systems. The infrastructure of existing communications systems has or is nearing end-of-life product support and the public expects modern public safety communications systems to keep pace with technology advances within each of these critical safety areas.



During 2016 and 2017, DMS assumed responsibility for conducting research and providing guidance to Governor Scott to make an informed decision to Opt-In or Opt-out of the FirstNet Public Safety Broadband Network. Ultimately the decision to Opt-In was made in December of 2017 which provided Florida first responders with the most current broadband communication technologies available.

During 2016 and 2017, DMS negotiated the competitive procurement for a next generation public safety land mobile radio system, which will incorporate non-proprietary P-25 interoperability standards and increase the capacity of the existing end-of-life digital radio system. This procurement is awaiting contract execution, which is expected during the 2019 legislative session. The new system has an expected completion date of July 1, 2021.

Throughout the last five years, Public Safety 911 communications systems have been planning for the transition to the Next Generation 911 system. This system will enable emergency call transfer between 911 answering points, better caller location capabilities, Text-to-911 and improved geospatial call routing. This will allow emergency callers to obtain emergency help more quickly while providing first responders additional information while they are enroute to emergency incidents. Currently, 30 Florida counties are Text-to-911 capable and 19 counties plan to operate Text-to-911 services by the end of 2018.

Transforming Florida's Human Resource Management System

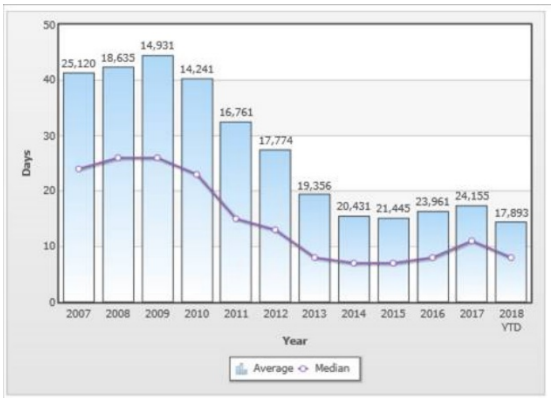
Governor Scott's leadership led to significant system enhancements to the state's enterprise-wide People First Human Resource System. DMS completed a portal upgrade that offers a more modern look and enhanced functionality for completing and approving timesheets and making insurance benefit choices. The new system leverages the latest in password security technology and expands compatibility with the latest internet browsers. This portal upgrade resulted in less administrative time for employees to complete HR transactions so that they could focus more time on their core mission. It was considered a monumental success throughout the state and the industry, so much so, that this project and DMS were finalists for HRO Today's distinguished Services and Technology Association Awards in the Innovation in HR Technology category.

Increasing Information Access

Governor Scott recognizes that taxpayers have the right to know how every taxpayer dollar is spent. Shortly after Governor Scott took office, he directed DMS to create a website including transparent information on state budgeting. In March of 2011, DMS launched Florida Has a Right to Know, a website including detailed information on state payroll, pensions, contracts and regulations. This website enhances public access to government records so that taxpayers can ensure that their tax dollars are being spent wisely.

Government Efficiency in Environmental Permitting and Regulation

More Efficient Permitting Processes



Since Governor Scott took office, DEP has reduced the average time to process a permit by 63 percent through its efforts to streamline processes across the agency. It now takes an average of 15 days to process a permit, compared to 41 days in 2010. Residents and businesses needing environmental permits and authorizations get answers quicker due to more efficient processes while DEP remains focused on protecting Florida's natural beauty and resources.

Streamlined Rules between Water Management Districts

DEP has made permitting processes more consistent, convenient and efficient for more than 24,000 permit applicants in Florida. Under Governor Scott's leadership, DEP implemented the Statewide Environmental Resource Permitting rule in 2013, which replaced five inconsistent rules administered through the water management districts and provided an e-permitting option

for those wishing to apply for permits online. Regardless of where someone does business in the state, these permitting requirements are now the same and the process is more convenient. Consistent regulations mean that Florida businesses can get to work more quickly and create more jobs.

Government Efficiency in Health Care

Self-Insured HMO Health Plan
In 2012, at Governor Scott's direction to reduce health care costs, DMS identified a significant opportunity for savings by shifting from fully insured health plans to self-insured health plans. Through this shift, the state took on the duty of operating its own health plan and paying all claims, shifting risk away from the insurance company in exchange for substantial savings. DMS began self-insuring several of the state's health plans and the pharmacy benefit program, achieving savings of more than $521 million in the first two years following implementation.

Healthcare Plan Premium Renegotiation
After achieving such a substantial amount of savings from renegotiating the state's health maintenance organization (HMO) services contracts ($521 million), DMS continued to work to reduce costs. In 2015, the department renegotiated Florida Health Care Plan premiums for a savings of $2 million and engaged in renegotiating administrative fees with health plan administrators, resulting in a cost savings of approximately $727,000. In 2017, DMS re-bid medical management services with the state's HMOs and achieved $106.5 million in savings and cost avoidance in administrative fees and medical costs over the three years. Simultaneously, DMS re-negotiated with its Preferred Provider Organization to secure $2.8 million in cost savings through reduced administrative fees.

On the prescription drug front, the state re-bid for pharmacy benefit management services and achieved $232.9 million in cost avoidance through reduced dispensing fees and more aggressive discounts. Another $183.2 million in cost avoidance was obtained during renewal negotiations through lower administrative fees and higher discounts.

Dependent Eligibility Verification Audit
Governor Scott signed legislation for a statewide dependent eligibility verification audit to ensure accountability in the $2.6 billion State Group Insurance Program. The statewide audit of 193,226 dependents enrolled in the State Group Health Insurance Program ultimately revealed three percent of dependents were ineligible for coverage. A detailed claims analysis determined that removing ineligible dependents yielded a cost avoidance of $20.5 million.

Fiscal Oversight and Audit of Health and Prescription Drug Program
Governor Scott has prioritized efforts to prevent, reduce and mitigate health care costs through increased oversight to guarantee accuracy of payments. To support Governor Scott's goals, DMS has scrutinized the state employee health plans, particularly in the area of prescription drug coverage, to identify waste and overpayments. DMS clarified plan documents regarding compounded medications to reduce compound prescription drug spending from approximately $8 million to approximately $200,000.

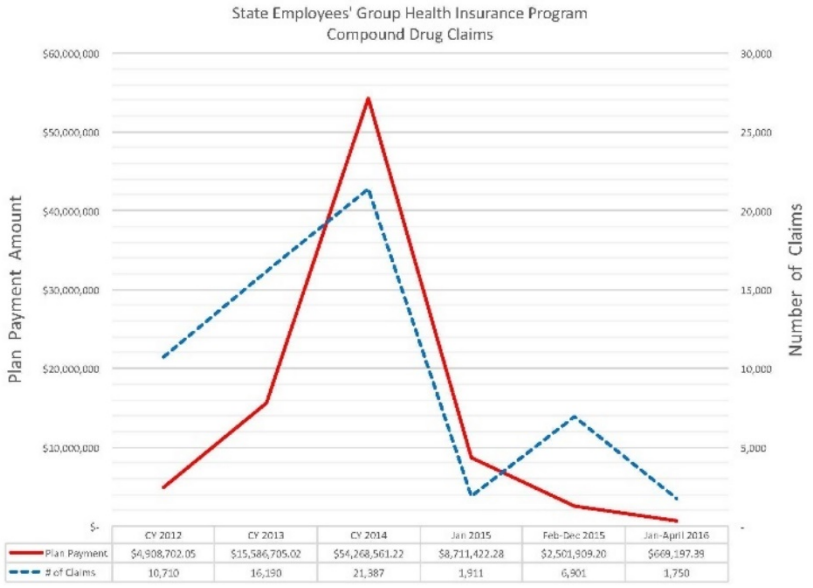
Additionally, the state completed the pharmacy claims annual audit for the period of July 2012 through December 2014 and identified $13.8 million in prescription drug financial errors that resulted in recovery of funds for the state. In 2015, the department also finalized a settlement

agreement with the health care vendor and collected $4.4 million in overpayments that were owed to the state. Governor Scott has aggressively pursued accuracy of payments and fought overbilling to safeguard taxpayer dollars from waste and fraudulent payments.

Pilot Program to Prevent Diabetes and Promote Healthy Employees
In April 2016, under Governor Scott's leadership, DMS, in partnership with Florida Blue and Capital Health Plan, implemented a 2-year Diabetes Prevention Pilot Program, at no cost to the state, to help reduce the risk of diabetes among state employees. Developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the program offers in-person coaching on proper nutrition, weight control and exercise through area providers. Program success was measured by the number of employees who participate in the pilot for six months or more, have a weight loss greater than 5 percent and increase their physical activity by 150 minutes per week. Over the course of the two-year pilot, 324 participants have lost a combined 1,875 pounds. Providing the tools and resources for state employees to invest in their overall wellness and health will result in a healthier population and savings to the State Group Insurance Program.

Government Efficiency Through Reduced Professional Fees and Regulations

Continuing Focus on Fee Reductions
Governor Scott is committed to cutting fees for Florida families wherever possible. Reducing fees lowers the burden for a business or professional to obtain a license and enables them to get to work. Governor Scott recognizes that getting Floridians to work quicker helps create jobs, grows Florida's economy, and keeps licensees' money where it belongs – in their pockets.



Since Governor Scott took office, the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) has cut fees 13 times, saving Florida businesses and professionals more than $19 million. This savings impacted 667,000 licensees, with an average savings of $29 per licensee. Almost half of these fee reductions are permanent, ensuring that licensees will realize additional savings every time they renew their license. In addition to permanent fee reductions, Governor Scott worked to find ways to create temporary fee holidays, reducing the burden of fees for affected businesses and professionals over a limited period of time. Licensees have saved approximately $10 million from these temporary fee holidays since 2011.

In 2016, Governor Scott signed legislation creating temporary fee reductions in a previously mandatory $5 unlicensed activity fee charged to all licensees. This fee supports DBPR's program to combat activity by unlicensed individuals who may cause harm to Floridians. When

sufficient funds already exist to implement DBPR's robust program, the fee is temporarily waived for the next two years. This fee reduction has provided 441,070 Florida licensees over $2.2 million in savings. In the next year, over 390,000 licensees are expected to save up to $1.9 million.

On his first day in office, Governor Scott set a goal of eliminating any unnecessary regulations that hinder job creation. Governor Scott knows firsthand that every administrative rule that is created costs businesses money to ensure they comply. Cutting nearly 5,400 burdensome rules reduces the costs of doing businesses and allows businesses to focus on growing jobs and providing excellent products and services.

Eliminated Burdensome Regulations on Florida's Sportsmen and Women
Governor Scott and FWC have eliminated burdensome, outdated laws and simplified various requirements to make it easier for Floridians to enjoy the great outdoors and the commercial industry to thrive, while still ensuring the preservation of Florida's wildlife. This includes making Florida resident hunting and fishing licenses easier to obtain; the repeal of outdated and duplicative commercial fishing licensing requirements; and providing veterans and our military personnel with better access to certain recreational and commercial licenses. Specifically, in 2015, FWC streamlined rules to make commercial fishing of protected and popular fish in Florida waters efficient. Governor Scott signed HB 7021 in 2015, eliminating a statute restricting species license requirements and FWC replaced the statute with its own rulemaking authority to manage this important process. The rulemaking process allows for easier modification and for more collaboration with all stakeholders, such as the commercial fishing industry.

Increased Efficiency of Food Safety Programs
In 2014, Governor Scott signed legislation implementing a new system of inspecting restaurants to better focus inspectors' time on establishments that present the most risk to the public. This program has lowered the regulatory burden across all restaurants and focused DBPR's resources where they are most needed. This new, streamlined approach is working to better assist businesses to come into compliance, as demonstrated by a 16.3 percent reduction in administrative fines, 19.9 percent reduction in average fine amount per case in FY 2017-18, and an 85 percent reduction in foodborne illness outbreaks over the past 20 years. Better targeting resources and increasing compliance has increased the safety of food establishments across Florida and better protects Floridians.

Less Bureaucracy, Better Service
Since Governor Scott took office, DBPR has successfully eliminated over 200 burdensome rules to make it easier for businesses and professionals to operate in Florida. For example, certain educational requirements for certified public accountants (CPA) were deemed excessive and unnecessary for ensuring the safe and competent business dealings of CPAs.

Governor Scott has focused on reducing excessive regulatory requirements that create unnecessary hurdles for businesses. In 2016, Governor Scott signed legislation removing unnecessary food license requirements for certain public and charitable entities when they hold temporary events. These temporary events did not need regulation and licensure was unnecessarily hindering their operations. As a result of the repeal of this license requirement and the associated burdensome rules, it is estimated that Florida public and charitable organizations have saved up to $218,000 annually in license fees.

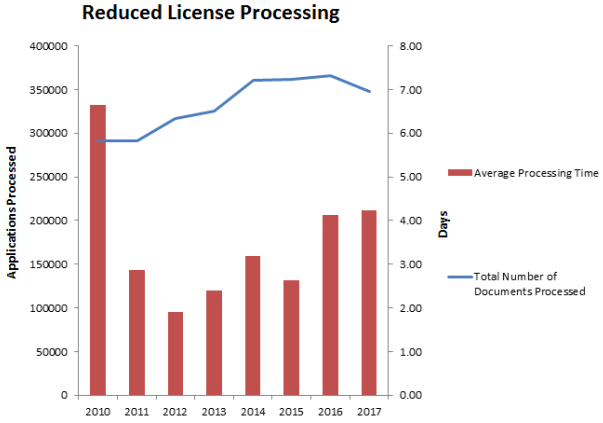
Assisting Businesses, Not Penalizing Them

Under Governor Scott's leadership, DBPR has worked to become a partner with the businesses and professionals it regulates. DBPR has worked to remove the perception of government as an adversary and refocused its efforts towards providing support to businesses and professionals in understanding and meeting regulatory requirements. By going above and beyond in working with licensees as partners, DBPR has improved health and safety while fostering better relationships with its licensees. In one case alone, DBPR's assistance to help a single licensee come into compliance saved that business over $4 million in potential losses, while avoiding penalties for non-compliance.

Government Efficiency in Professional and Recreational Licensing

Governor Scott constantly strives to improve government efficiency and reduce costs to taxpayers. Under Governor Scott's leadership, the State of Florida has found innovative ways to streamline processing procedures and integrating modern technologies to improve customer service. These improvements have made it easier and faster for Floridians to get the license they need to get to work and play.

Getting Licenses More Quickly

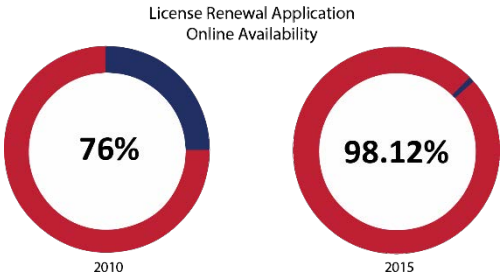


Before Governor Scott came into office, it took DBPR an average of seven days to process a license application. During that time, the potential licensee was forced to wait for paperwork to be completed before they could start their business. By 2016, DBPR had reduced processing time to just four days, allowing licensees to get to work three days sooner. This reduction in processing time was achieved despite significant growth in the number of applications processed as a result of Florida's growing economy. In 2010, DBPR processed 291,283 documents. By 2017 that number had grown to 347,678, an increase of 56,395 documents processed.

Under Governor Scott's leadership, these efficiencies have allowed DBPR to significantly improve the speed of service and get Floridians to work more quickly.

Since Governor Scott took office, other actions have made it easier for licensees to get to work more quickly. For example, DBPR implemented a process allowing certain licensees to print their licenses at their home or business instead of waiting to receive them in the mail. This option enables licensees to get to work 7-10 days sooner, which not only reduces the amount of time it takes for businesses and professionals to get to work, but also reduces printing and mailing costs for DBPR. More than 621,000 licensees are eligible to self-print their licenses, saving the state approximately $369,000 in printing and mailing costs biannually, as well as earning professionals a significant savings by being able to start working sooner.

Making Licensing Processes Easier for Floridians



Governor Scott strives to make it easier for businesses and professionals to navigate the regulatory process. Before Governor Scott took office, only 76 percent of DBPR license renewal applications were even available online. Under Governor Scott's leadership, DBPR worked to increase online accessibility, with over 98 percent of license renewal applications currently available online. This makes it easier for licensees to find and complete paperwork, while also allowing many of the application renewals to be completed and approved in real time. This allows licensees to get their license renewed immediately and removes any potential interruption in their business during the renewal period.

DBPR has leveraged new technological initiatives, such as the *ApplyNow!* and *CustomerSuccess!* programs, to increase understanding of the licensing process and how to complete relevant paperwork. The success of these programs has reduced the number of applications that are sent back to potential licensees for revision and decreased the overall deficiency rate of applications, even with a steady increase in the volume of applications received. This has had a significant impact in professions where potential licensees have historically had higher deficiency rates, such as the construction industry, which achieved a reduction of more than 40 percent in application deficiencies. Under Governor Scott's leadership, qualified individuals and businesses spend less time on paperwork and have their licenses approved more quickly, allowing them to get to work sooner.

Better Services at a Reduced Cost

Governor Scott is committed to making sure that Floridians have access to the best services in the nation and that taxpayers receive the best return on their investments. When Governor Scott took office, the average wait time for healthcare professional licenses to be renewed was almost four days. Under Governor Scott's leadership, DOH looked to see how they could effectively renew licenses more quickly while maintaining the appropriate safeguards to protect Floridians.

DOH streamlined the renewal process by eliminating burdensome regulations that did not serve to protect Floridians. Today, renewal processing time has been reduced to less than one hour. Additional regulatory improvements have helped Florida's veteran's transition to work in civilian life through the VALOR licensing program. Since July 1, 2014, more than 500 health care professionals who are U.S. military veterans or their spouses received expedited licenses through DOH's VALOR program.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Improved Customer Service

Governor Scott recognizes that government should provide great customer service to the Floridians that support it through their tax dollars. DBPR receives over 1 million calls to its consumer hotline annually. Before Governor Scott took office, the average wait time was 2.45 minutes. Implementing Governor Scott's vision to improve customer service, the average wait time has been reduced to just 1 minute 48 seconds. This reduction means that licensees are able to get their questions answered sooner and get back to running their businesses, not waiting on hold.

Improved Filing Efficiency

In FY 2014-15, DBPR received approval to begin a two-year upgrade of the electronic data system (EDS) used by alcoholic beverage and tobacco licensees for the submission of their required monthly tax reports. The new system makes it easier for licensees to file their information electronically, eliminating the costs of paper printouts and postage. EDS enables licensees to see the results of their submissions in real time and provides businesses with comfort that their filing meets the statutory deadline and is accurate with no deficiencies.

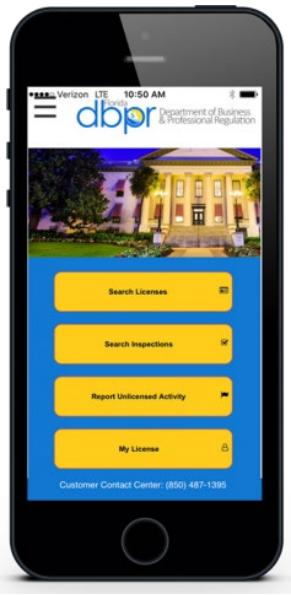
Efficient and Convenient Hunting and Fishing Licensing

FWC has made it more efficient and convenient for Florida families and visitors to obtain hunting and fishing licenses by developing innovative licensing processes to connect Floridians with Florida's outdoor resources. This includes having an option for automatic renewal, an updated online purchasing system and a mobile application. Since the automatic renewal process began in 2015, more than 168,500 Floridians and visitors from all 50 states have signed up. These services make obtaining required licenses and permits more convenient and less time-consuming – meaning Florida families and visitors can focus on getting outdoors and experiencing Florida's great fish and wildlife resources.

Helping Veterans Start Businesses and Enjoy Florida's Outdoors

Under Governor Scott's leadership, FWC has increased recreational opportunities for veterans and additional pathways to employment in civilian life. In 2013, Governor Scott signed HB 333 to create exemptions specifically for veterans to obtain certain commercial fishing licenses. FWC has also continued to support our nation's veterans by authorizing additional recreational hunting and fishing opportunities. Since 2013, FWC has partnered with organizations statewide to host more than 702 hunting and fishing events for veterans. These programs are aimed to assist our nation's heroes as they start a business in Florida or simply to enjoy the great outdoors with friends and family.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011



Protecting Floridians

When Governor Scott took office, DBPR improved transparency and public access to information by developing DBPR Mobile, the first free smartphone app of any state agency in Florida. Launched in 2011, the mobile app promotes consumer protection by allowing the public to view the safety and sanitation of restaurants and hotels before visiting these establishments; verify whether an individual has a business or professional license demonstrating their qualifications before hiring them to provide a service; and report suspected unlicensed activity as it is taking place. To date, the DBPR mobile app has been downloaded more than 53,000 times through the Apple and Google app stores.

DBPR launched a new function for its mobile app in 2014 to provide Floridians better accessibility to report unlicensed activity in real time. The app allows Floridians to take a picture of unlicensed activity and submit the information within seconds directly to DBPR. Since implementation, the app has led to 1,135 cases being investigated, thus allowing vigorous enforcement of unlicensed individuals.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

BETTER PROTECTIONS FOR FLORIDA'S ENVIRONMENT

People from across the world come to Florida because of the state's natural beauty. From the rolling hills of North Florida, to the swaying sawgrass of the Everglades and pristine Florida Keys, Florida's classic landscapes have come to define the Sunshine State around the world as a place of true natural treasure. Since taking office, the budget for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has increased by $300 million to a record $1.78 billion in 2018. Governor Scott has championed record funding and investments in the Everglades, Florida's springs, beaches and state parks while supporting the state's vital produce and agriculture.

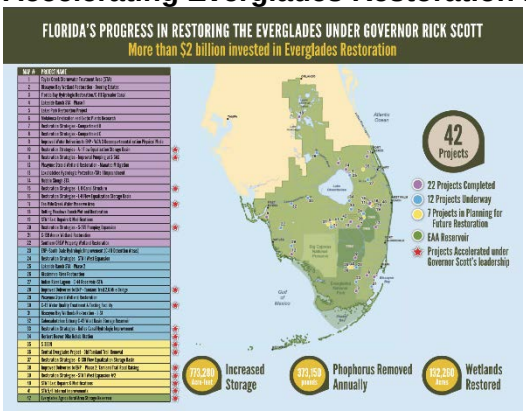
Historic Water Quality Plan

Under Governor Scott's leadership, a landmark $880 million water quality plan was established in 2013, ending years of litigation that had for too long stalled projects, wasted taxpayer dollars, and pushed back improved water quality in the Everglades. This historic step forward in restoring America's Everglades has already resulted in projects that are providing critical water storage and supply, sending clean water south into the Everglades, and relieving the estuaries from damaging Lake Okeechobee releases. When fully implemented, projects completed under this plan will provide a consistent source of clean water, preventing 47 metric tons of phosphorus pollution from entering the Everglades. Clean water not only restores natural habitat, but also increases access for recreational opportunities and provides drinking water for more than 8 million Floridians.

Leading Everglades Restoration

Governor Scott's commitment to funding more than $2 billion for Everglades restoration since he took office has helped accelerate Florida's investment in restoring this iconic resource far beyond that of the federal government. The state has invested nearly $1 billion more than the federal government on implementing the 50/50 cost-share plan in the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). The state's investments under Governor Scott's leadership are working to clean water entering the Everglades and provide relief from the harmful discharges from Lake Okeechobee. Governor Scott has fought for and secured $100 million in state funding to expedite repairs to the Herbert Hoover Dike. The remaining Herbert Hoover Dike repairs have been fully funded as a result of this $100 million appropriation by the state and $514 million in long-term emergency funding appropriated by the federal government.

Accelerating Everglades Restoration Projects



Since Governor Scott took office, the State of Florida has accelerated 16 Everglades projects, sending more water south and providing billions of gallons of water storage around Lake Okeechobee. In 2017, Governor Scott signed Senate Bill 10, accelerating and providing dedicated funding to the EAA reservoir to store even more water south of Lake Okeechobee, and went to Washington to advocate for the federal approval of this important project until it was signed into law in October 2018. Additionally, these six projects are other examples of the commitment Governor Scott and DEP have made to ensuring this natural treasure is restored so that Florida remains the best place to live, work and visit.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
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A-1 Reservoir

- Completed one year early
- 19.6 billion gallons of storage and clean water entering the Everglades

L-8 Reservoir

- Completed in 2017 and is now operational
- 14.7 billion gallons of water storage and clean water entering the Everglades

Tamiami Trail

- Completion time reduced by 50% with a 23% cost reduction
- First bridge segment completed in early 2018
- Second bridge segment complete in early 2019
- Third and final phase jumpstarted in Fall 2018
- Additional 75-80 billion gallons of clean water south

Kissimmee River Restoration

- Accelerated starting in 2015
- 35 billion gallons of storage north of Lake Okeechobee and improved water quality

C-43, C-44, & C-111 Reservoirs

- Construction underway for C-43 and C-44
- Flood protection, phosphorous removal, and a combined 74.9 billion gallons of storage

Herbert Hoover Dike

- Governor Scott approved $100 million for Herbert Hoover Dike rehabilitation and repairs. The project is now fully funded. This will accelerate completion by at least two years

- Crucial for water quality in the Everglades and surrounding estuaries, and for the protection of thousands of Floridians in communities surrounding the Dike.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Protecting Florida's Natural Lands and Resources

Governor Scott has invested more money into Florida's springs than any other Governor in Florida history. Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida is investing in programs to protect and restore Florida's waterbodies to ensure that families across the state can count on a clean water supply and beautiful natural resources that make Florida the best place to live. Governor Scott worked with the legislature to secure up to $264 million in annual funding for the Everglades and up to an additional $50 million for Florida's springs. Florida is full of beautiful natural resources, and Governor Scott fought tirelessly to protect these resources now and for future generations.

First State to Adopt Comprehensive Nutrient Standards
Under Governor Scott, Florida has taken the initiative to set the national standard by becoming the first state in the nation to adopt comprehensive nutrient standards for the protection of lakes, rivers, streams, springs and estuaries. Floridians can count on the state's water quality programs, rather than the federal government, to protect our natural treasures and provide greater regulatory certainty to Florida businesses. These standards allow decisions to be made by local agencies who better understand Florida's waters.

Increased Protections for Waterbodies
Recognizing the importance of protecting Florida's water resources, under Governor Scott's direction, DEP has protected more of Florida's waterbodies than ever before. Florida is committed to ensuring that iconic resources can continue to be enjoyed by residents and visitors for generations to come and that our water supply is clean and sustainable to support healthy communities and economies. Compared to 2011, today:

Pitt Spring Before

Pitt Spring After

- 52 percent more waterbodies are protected by 142 new water quality restoration goals.
- 12.2 million acres in Florida are undergoing restoration through 17 new Basin Management Action Plans, an increase from 2.9 million acres in 2011. These plans provide a roadmap for the state, local partners and stakeholders to achieve water quality restoration goals.
- There has been a 250 percent increase in spring protection with 45 new minimum flows and levels, which protects the quantity of water in springs.

Dedicated Funding for the Everglades and Springs
By signing the Legacy Florida bill (HB 989) in 2016, Governor Scott worked with the legislature and DEP to fulfill his promise to create an annual dedicated source of funding to restore the Everglades and to protect Florida's springs. The investment in springs protection under Governor Scott's leadership totals over $450 million – more than any other governor in Florida's history. Since the signing of the Legacy Florida bill, more than $252 million has been invested in springs protection and $838 million for the restoration of the Everglades. Dedicated funding will ensure that our natural treasures are restored and protected and Florida continues to be the place where people want to live, work and enjoy the outdoors.

Harmful Algal Bloom and Red Tide Response

In the summer of 2016, Governor Scott declared a state of emergency due to the impacts of harmful algal blooms caused by Lake Okeechobee discharges by the Army Corps of Engineers. In 2016, Governor Scott directed state agencies to take specific actions to address the issues caused by the blooms, including deploying teams of additional staff to rapidly survey and sample impacted areas and storing additional water around Lake Okeechobee to help curb the federal discharges. The Governor continued to fight and successfully advanced repairs to the Herbert Hoover Dike, the EAA Reservoir, and other Everglades restoration projects, which will help reduce discharges and the resulting algal blooms in the future.

Additionally, in 2018, the Governor again declared states of emergency due to impacts from naturally-occurring red tide and impacts again from blue-green algal blooms caused by discharges from Lake Okeechobee. More than $32 million across multiple state agencies was provided to help mitigate the effects of harmful algal blooms and red tide on the environment and citizens of Florida. DEP received $19 million to assist local governments, state agencies, and governmental agencies (water management districts), for algal bloom and red tide management services to reduce impact to public health, environmental impacts, transportation and other issues that may arise due to the existence of harmful algal and red tide blooms.

In addition to his commitment to Everglades restoration, Governor Scott took a number of actions specifically to address impacts from blue-green algal blooms, including:

- $1 million through DEP and the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) to support of the Everglades Foundation's George Barley Water Prize, which will award an unprecedented $10 million to the researcher or researchers capable of developing a cost-effective process for removing excess nutrient pollution from natural waterbodies; and
- $3.5 million through the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) to jumpstart the third and final phase of the major Everglades Restoration project to raise Tamiami Trail and send more water south.

In addition to the nearly $20 million invested in red tide research through FWC since Governor Scott took office, the Governor aggressively increased this investment in response to the 2018 state of emergency, including:

- $2.3 million to partner with Mote Marine Laboratory to support efforts to respond to distressed marine animals and to test and implement innovative solutions to red tide. These included field testing of specialized clay and expansion of its Ozone Treatment System;
- $1.2 million to increase production of redfish, a species impacted by red tide, by six times the amount at FWC's Stock Enhancement Research Facility in Southwest Florida, providing a significant boost to the population of this important species;
- $5 million through the Department of Economic Opportunity to activate the Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program to provide short-term interest free loans to affected businesses;
- Nearly $4.8 million allocated through VISIT Florida for the newly created Tourism Recovery Grant Program and targeted marketing to help those communities impacted by red tide; and
- $765,000 for additional personnel and equipment to more rapidly respond to red tide.

The Governor wrote a letter to FWC Commissioners regarding the impacts that naturally-occurring red tide is having on Florida's coast. In his letter, he urged FWC to create the Florida Center for Red Tide Research and to request an increase of funding for red tide research, both of which FWC included in its proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2019-20. Additionally, Governor Scott urged FWC to reconvene the Florida Harmful Algal Bloom Task Force.

Holding Polluters Accountable

After a sewage spill in Pinellas County and a sinkhole at Mosaic's New Wales Facility in the summer of 2016, Governor Scott directed (DEP to issue an emergency rule that established new requirements for public notification of pollution incidents that took effect immediately. The rule ensured the public, local governments and DEP would be notified within 24 hours by all responsible parties following a pollution incident.

Furthermore, Governor Scott proposed legislation during the 2017 legislative session to ensure the public is kept informed of incidents of pollution that may cause a threat to public health and to Florida's air and water resources. On June 14, 2017, Governor Scott signed SB 1018 to require public notification within 24 hours of pollution incidents, and requires DEP to share the reported information on its website. Additionally, DEP created an electronic mailing list for notices which the public, local governments, health departments, news media and other interest parties can subscribe. Floridians deserve to know about these types of events and every resident should enjoy clean water and a healthy environment.

Highest Compliance Rate in History

By working with businesses across the state, DEP has raised its compliance rate from 90 percent in 2011 to 95 percent in 2018, which is among the highest levels in agency history. DEP takes a proactive approach to protecting Florida's environment through education and outreach. DEP's overall high compliance rate demonstrates that its proactive approach to protecting Florida's environment is working. The department's first goal is to prevent environmental harm from occurring by using outreach to ensure facilities understand how to maintain compliance. Compliance means that regulated businesses and facilities are following the law and adhering to permit conditions, which helps to prevent environmental harm. When non-compliance does occur, the department provides compliance assistance to help bring a facility back into compliance as quickly as possible, preventing and reducing any harm to the environmental or public health. However, when enforcement is necessary, action is taken to hold violators accountable.

Keeping Florida's Families Safe from Wildfires

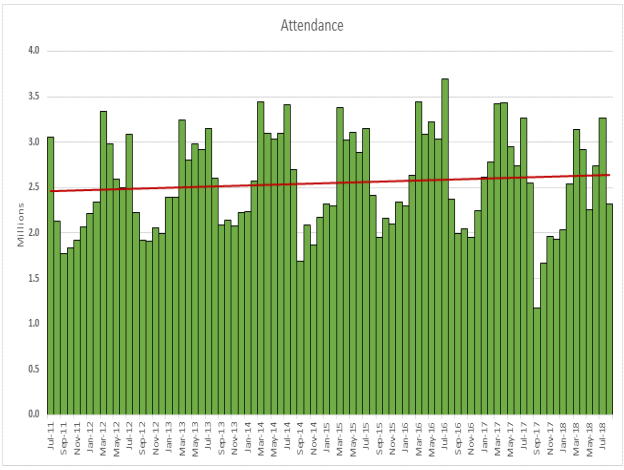
Florida experiences dangerous wildfires annually, but our brave firefighters, first responders and law enforcement work together to help protect Floridians. To recognize the hard work and selfless commitment of Florida's state firefighters, Governor Scott has approved a series of pay raises over the past several years. In 2016, state firefighters received an annual raise of $2,000. As part of a lump sum bonus for all state employees in 2017, firefighters received a $1,000-$1,400 competitive pay adjustment. Finally, in the 2018 budget, another $2,500 raise was included for state firefighters. Further showing his commitment to keeping our first responders and Floridians safe, Governor Scott has invested over $35 million to replace wildfire equipment that are critical to effectively respond to wildfires.

Governor Scott also understands the importance of protecting Florida families and business from the threat of wildfires through community programs. The 2018 budget also invested $250,000 in a new community wildfire mitigation program. This program will be specifically focused on those counties that were threatened by wildfires in the last year and will work to clear brush and other wildfire hazards that could endanger the safety of communities and fuel wildfires.

Protecting Florida's Rural Natural Lands
Governor Scott understands that maintaining Florida's natural beauty means preserving natural lands for families and visitors to enjoy for years to come. Since 2011, Governor Scott has allocated $81 million for the Rural and Family Lands Program, preserving over 50,000 acres of land for agricultural use. This is an agricultural land preservation program designed to protect important agricultural lands through the acquisition of permanent agricultural land conservation easements.

Florida's Record-Breaking State Park System

Only Three-Time Gold Medal Winner for State Parks
Under Governor Scott's leadership, DEP has grown the Florida State Park system from 171 to 175 parks and trails, including the recent opening of the Gilchrist Blue Spring State Park, and welcomed an increased number of visitors. Florida's parks are continuously recognized as America's best state parks, and they support local communities and economies with record use and improved resource conservation.



The Florida Park Service won an unprecedented third National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in 2013 from the National Recreation and Park Association. No other state has won more than a single medal since the program began. Governor Scott has challenged Florida to compete for a fourth gold medal by linking our communities with trails and providing educational opportunities and healthy activities for Florida's families and visitors.

Record Attendance at Florida State Parks
Florida's annual state park attendance increased by 38 percent and revenues increased by 20 percent under Governor Scott. Florida State Parks welcomed more than 28.1 million visitors during the 2017-2018 FY. Increased attendance and contracted services at parks provide a direct economic impact of nearly $3 billion to Florida communities across the state, support more than 48,000 jobs and help support natural resource protection and recreational

opportunities for Florida families and visitors.

Effective Management of Conservation Land

Since Governor Scott took office, DEP has proactively saved taxpayer dollars through the implementation of more effective management of conservation lands in Florida. DEP has also implemented new technology to better assess the status and prioritize management actions on the nearly 800,000 acres of state parks it manages to ensure natural systems are preserved and restored into the future. The Florida State Parks land management program set new records for invasive plant control and prescribed fire, increasing by 16,515 acres the amount of land burned per year. DEP, through the Division of State lands, has sold more than 4,300 acres of defunct facilities and land no longer needed for state use, raising $64 million to ultimately benefit more conservation efforts. Under Governor Scott, DEP has also increased the acreage of conservation land it owns by more than 69,000 acres, of which 13,620 acres provide for increased springs protection. Acquisitions increase opportunities for public recreation, and conservation easements protect watersheds and habitats while still maintaining private sector management and supporting economic opportunities.

Since Governor Scott took office in 2011, more than $1 billion has been invested in the acquisition and management of conservation lands. This includes more than $437 million for Florida Forever programs including acquisition of unique and sensitive lands through the Division of State Lands and the Rural and Family Lands Easements program through the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Acquisition and effective management of the state's conservation lands is vital to the health of Florida's many sensitive ecosystems and to the safety of its citizens and visitors.

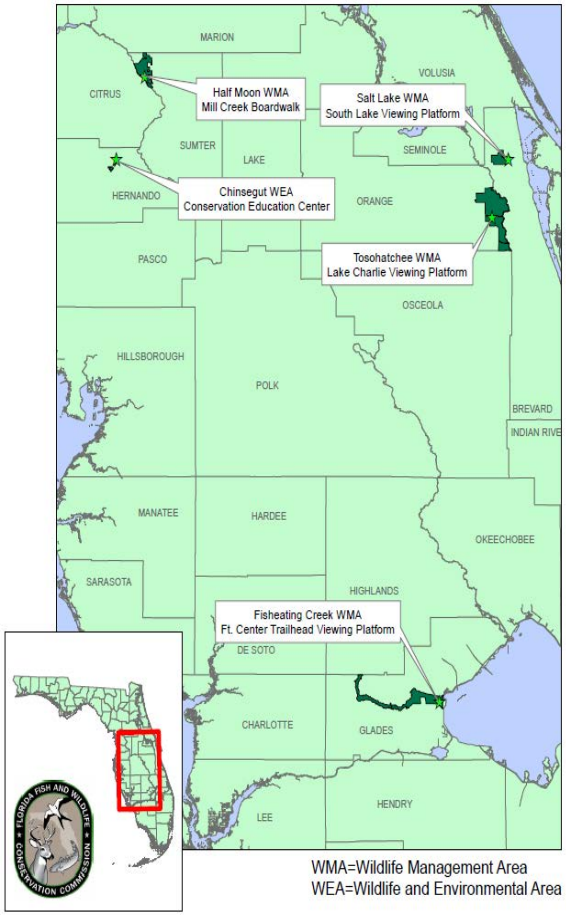
Increasing Access to Florida's Land and Waterways

Thanks to Governor Scott's leadership, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and local communities, public access to Florida's land and waterways has increased, allowing Floridians and visitors to better enjoy Florida's outdoors. Since Governor Scott came into office, more than 201,000 acres of land have been opened to hunting, $33 million has been invested into boating facilities and FWC hatcheries have released more than 20 million fish into freshwater lakes and rivers. Through its investments, FWC continues to ensure that Florida is the best place to enjoy the outdoors.

Commitment to Florida's Wildlife and Outdoors

Governor Scott has demonstrated a consistent dedication to protecting all of Florida's natural resources. This dedication is shared by the FWC Commissioners who work with Governor Scott to ensure that their shared mission of protecting Floridians, visitors, and Florida's fish and wildlife is carried out statewide. Florida lands

Recent Wildlife Viewing Structures on Wildlife Management Areas



WMA=Wildlife Management Area
WEA=Wildlife and Environmental Area

and waterways are safer places for Floridians and visitors because of the commitment of Governor Scott and the FWC Commissioners.

Increased Access to Public Lands
Wildlife viewing contributes nearly $4.9 billion to Florida's economy and supports more than 44,000 jobs each year. Since Governor Scott came into office, FWC has added eight additional facilities, 152 miles of roads and 391 miles of trails to the Wildlife Management Area (WMA) system. FWC also completed seven improvement projects on the WMA's primarily to provide more ADA access to existing facilities. Increasing access to wildlife viewing not only reminds Floridians of their state's beauty but continues to bring visitors and jobs to the state.

Increased Public Access for Hunting
FWC is the landowner or lead managing agency of more than 1.4 million acres in Florida, providing quality wildlife conservation and hunting opportunities. Under Governor Scott, FWC has added over 201,000 acres of lands open to hunting in the Wildlife Management Area system, in addition to building two new shooting parks. Hunting contributes nearly $1.6 billion to Florida's economy and supports 14,600 jobs each year. The new, world-class shooting park in Palm Beach County will hold Olympic qualifier events and is expected to bring more than $13 million into the local economy and add more than 120 jobs. Increasing public access for hunting continues to bring more visitors and jobs to the state.

Increasing Public Access for Recreational Boating
Florida is first in the nation for the number of registered boats. Governor Scott has invested more than $33 million in more than 525 local boat ramps, docks, slips and marinas to ensure Florida's families and visitors have safe and convenient access to facilities to launch and dock their boats. Providing better access to recreational boating and fishing puts more Floridians on the water and brings visitors from all around the world to Florida's waterways. Recreational boating contributes nearly $10.4 billion to Florida's economy and supports more than 82,000 jobs each year.

Increased Opportunities for Fishing
Recreational saltwater and freshwater fishing contributes $9.7 billion to Florida's economy and supports approximately 120,000 jobs. In fact, Florida is first in the nation for the number of anglers, jobs supported by saltwater fishing and fishing world-records. Governor Scott continues to focus on jobs in Florida with FWC working to get more people on the water.

License-free fishing days is an initiative championed by Governor Scott that encourages Floridians and visitors to try fishing and creates increased opportunity for communities around the state. As a result of Governor Scott's commitment to providing better access to fishing, the number of license-free fishing days doubled in 2013 to four license-free freshwater and four license-free saltwater per year. In September 2017, Governor Scott announced that Florida's law enforcement and first responders will be able to enjoy license-free freshwater and saltwater fishing through June 30, 2018 in recognition of their life-saving work preparing and responding to Hurricane Irma. FWC, with the support of Governor Scott, continues to increase opportunities for freshwater

fishing by raising more than 10 million fish at its freshwater hatcheries to stock 100 public lakes and rivers for anglers to catch. Governor Scott is committed to making sure Florida's beautiful resources are accessible to everyone and enjoyed responsibly.

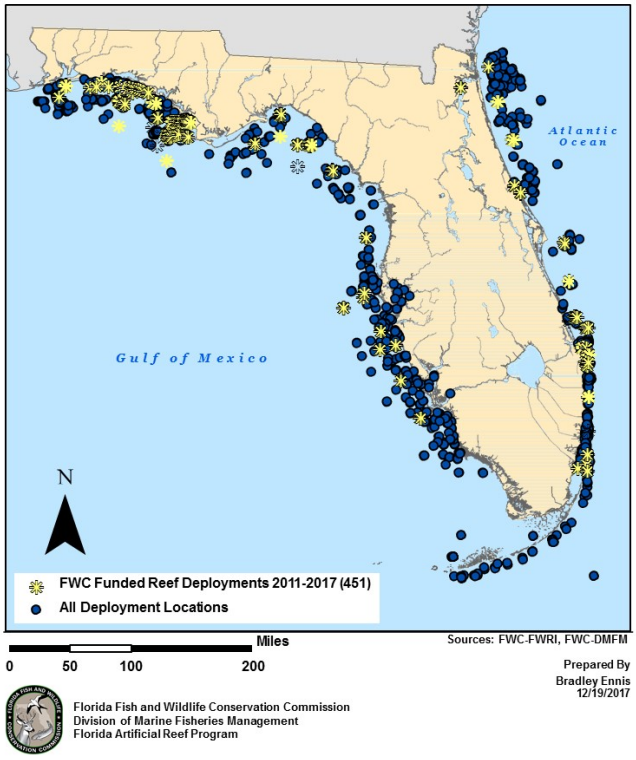
Governor Scott has fought for increased fishing opportunities, including for red snapper. Under Governor Scott's leadership FWC pushed for longer red snapper seasons each year. Through the implementation of new accountability measures, the state assumed management of this species from the U.S. Department of Commerce and better meet the needs of Florida's fish population and anglers and visitors from around the world. In 2017, the major expansion of the federal red snapper season resulted in a greater economic impact throughout Florida's Gulf Coast communities.

Artificial Reefs

Since Governor Scott came into office, FWC has created 469 new artificial reefs for anglers to further enjoy Florida's world-class saltwater fishing and for divers and snorkelers to explore. Artificial reefs support local communities by attracting both divers and anglers to areas that they may not have otherwise visited before. Results from a 2014 statewide socio-economic analysis indicated that fishing and diving activity on Florida artificial reefs provides more than 39,000 jobs for Floridians, generates $3.1 billion of economic output, accrues $1.3 billion in income to Floridians and produces $250 million in state revenues to Florida. Artificial reefs provide new places for fishing and diving, which ensures industry growth for years to come.

FWC Funded Artificial Reef Deployment Activity

January 2011 - September 2017



Protecting Floridians, Visitors and Wildlife

FWC has made significant strides in protecting Florida's wildlife to keep Floridians safe and ensure that future generations can enjoy all that Florida has to offer. Under Governor Scott's leadership, FWC has continued to invest in the protection of Florida's iconic species and fight against non-native invasive species. More than 7,500 acres have been preserved for panther habitat, over 690 manatees have been rescued, and programs to eliminate invasive species like pythons and lionfish have been successful.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Increased Conservation of Florida's Iconic Species
Since Governor Scott came into office, FWC has had a renewed focus on protecting two of Florida's most iconic animals – manatees and panthers. FWC has preserved more than 7,500 acres of panther habitat through conservation easements and partnerships with private landowners. Preservation of the panther's natural corridors help avoid future conflicts between people and panthers by maintaining livable space for both to coexist and removing pressures on panthers to enter more populated areas to find food and space.

Additionally, FWC and its partners have rescued a total of 733 manatees since 2011. This effort helps ensure that future generations can see and enjoy this iconic species.

Progress in Fighting Non-Native Invasive Species
FWC has made progress in reducing the adverse impacts of invasive species in Florida, which are harmful to Florida's fish and wildlife. Invasive species have no natural predators in Florida's environment and are a threat to the outdoors and native wildlife that families and visitors love to enjoy.

Since 2014, nearly 120 lionfish removal and educational events have increased awareness, readiness and participation in protecting Florida waters. In addition to the lionfish removed at sponsored events, FWC has worked with the commercial fishing industry to remove nearly half a million lionfish since 2013. Additionally, FWC has made changes to regulations, making it easier to remove lionfish.

Similarly, FWC has also focused on the removal of pythons. Python Challenge events have provided an opportunity for removal and continued public awareness. The most recent Python Challenge, held in 2016, resulted in the removal of 106 pythons from the Everglades. New innovative programs have also been developed to encourage the removal of invasive pythons in Florida. The Python Pickup Program incentivizes people who remove pythons from the wild with monthly prize drawings for field equipment. Python Pickup participants have removed 104 pythons since the program's inception in April 2017.

Additionally, FWC's python removal contractors are compensated for their survey time and all pythons removed. To date, contractors have removed 249 pythons and 39 python eggs from public lands in south Florida. These programs attract interest from visitors from all around the country and engage Florida's citizens, while also increasing the awareness and health of

Florida's natural resources.

In addition, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) began the Python Elimination Program (Program) in an ongoing effort to eradicate invasive snakes on District-owned land to protect Florida's ecosystems. A team of professional python hunters were selected from more than 1,000 applicants and given access to lands in Miami-Dade County for the pilot phase and later expanded to Palm Beach, Broward and Collier counties. An average of three pythons have been eliminated per day from SFWMD lands since the program began in March 2017, which totals to 1,711 snakes stretching a combined length of more than two miles and weighing a combined 20,864 pounds.

Pet Amnesty Programs

Since Governor Scott took office, FWC has more than tripled the average number of pet amnesty events held annually to provide owners of exotic pets, who no longer wish to keep them, an opportunity to give them to FWC instead of releasing them into the wild, where they can cause adverse impacts to Florida's outdoor resources. Since 2011, FWC has held 34 pet amnesty events. Over 2,700 surrenders of unwanted pets have occurred at these events and through the Exotic Species Hotline. Through the Exotic Pet Amnesty Program, more than 4,900 exotic pets have been given to FWC and found a new, secure home with our over 700 adopters.

Increased Restoration of Critical Fish and Wildlife Habitat

Under Governor Scott's leadership, FWC has invested more than $40 million in aquatic habitat enhancement on over 500,000 acres of lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands. These projects have resulted in higher quality and sustainable fish and wildlife communities and natural resources available for the enjoyment of Florida residents and visitors. Enhancement activities include removing muck and woody plants, revegetation, the improvement of springs for manatee habitat, and the installation of mooring buoys to protect corals for habitat and recreational enjoyment at popular boating and snorkeling destinations. Restoration of Florida's natural waterways improve our state's natural beauty and ensure that future Floridians and visitors will have these special places to enjoy for years to come.

Managing Displaced Vessel Following Natural Disasters

Following Hurricane Irma, it was a priority to clear Florida's public waterways of vessels displaced by the disaster. Therefore, FWC, at the direction of Governor Scott, partnered with federal agencies to respond to more than 2,000 of these displaced vessels. FWC also entered into agreements with state and local officials to secure 22 sites throughout the state to store displaced vessels while their owners were identified and notified to retrieve their property. More than 900 vessels were transported and stored at these sites. More than half of these vessels have been properly disposed of as of this date.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Keeping Agriculture Growing in Florida

Florida accounts for 57 percent of total U.S. citrus production and Florida agriculture supports two million jobs and contributes more than $120 billion annually to the state's economy. Florida has 47,300 commercial farms, occupying a total of 9.45 million acres. Governor Scott has worked tirelessly to ensure Florida's citrus and other agriculture industries continue to lead the nation.

Citrus Greening Prevention

Governor Scott recognizes the importance of continuing to fight citrus greening and protecting this iconic industry at home here in Florida. Since taking office, Governor Scott has invested more than $125 million to support our citrus industry and fight against citrus greening. This investment will help growers continue to combat the serious problem of citrus greening, a bacterial disease that greatly reduces citrus production and kills citrus trees.

Response to Natural Disasters Impact on Agriculture

Hurricane Irma had a devastating impact on an already for the already struggling citrus industry in Florida. To aid citrus growers, Governor Scott activated a $25 million Citrus Emergency Loan Program through the Department of Economic Opportunity. The bridge loan program provided interest-free loans to citrus growers that experienced physical or economic damage.

Governor Scott fought for months to secure $340 million in critical federal funding to aid Florida citrus growers in their recovery from Hurricane Irma. The funding provided by the block grant in the Citrus Tree Recovery Program will help hardworking growers continue to rebuild and ensure that Florida remains synonymous with citrus. Funds will be used to compensate producers for crop losses associated with citrus fruit losses and tree damage, for future fruit productivity losses occurring in the 2019 and 2020 crop years as a result of Hurricane Irma, and for crop insurance purchase requirements. This funding is part of a $2.6 billion package for agriculture disaster recovery approved by the federal government in 2018.

Prioritizing Outdoor Safety and Education

Under Governor Scott's leadership, FWC has increased youth and public safety education by teaching Floridians, their families and visitors how to enjoy Florida's natural resources safely and sustainably. The Florida Youth Conservation Centers Network has provided more than 1 million youth opportunities to experience the outdoors.

Florida Youth Conservation Centers Network (FYCCN)

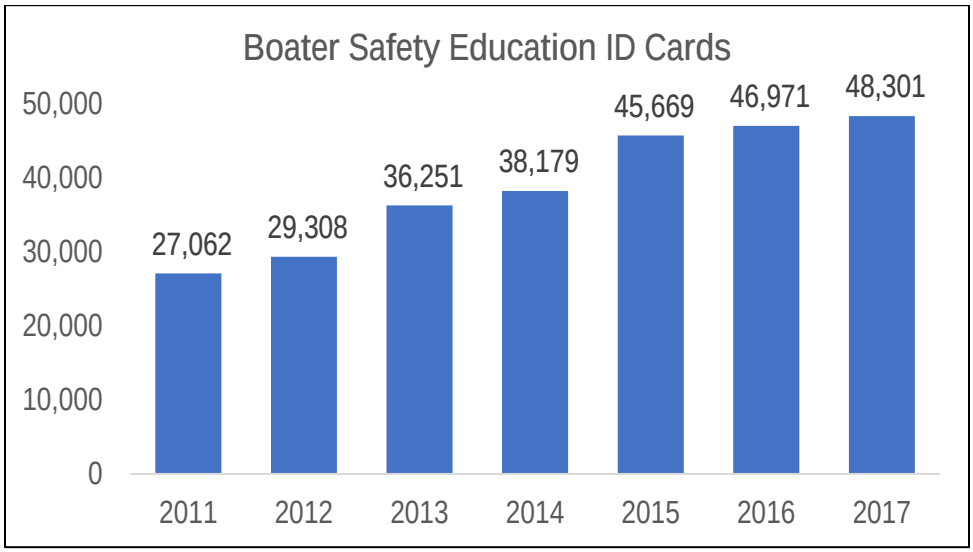
The FYCCN teaches Florida's youth the skills needed to safely enjoy Florida's outdoors. Within the first six years of the program, FWC has grown the network and just recently opening the fifth center in the state. FYCCN has been responsible for providing 1 million youth in Florida an

opportunity to participate in outdoor activities, increasing their understanding of conservation.

Youth Hunting Program
Through FWC's youth hunting programs, a growing number of young people in Florida are learning how to enjoy this activity safely and to appreciate Florida's natural resources. In 2017, the program held the most events ever in one year. Since Governor Scott took office, the number of events have increased from 36 in 2011 to 72 in 2018, with hundreds of youth and their families participating.

Youth Fishing and Boating Camps
FWC has increasingly provided more children in urban communities the opportunity to learn about fishing and boating where they otherwise would not have access to these outdoor activities. FWC has expanded its Fishing and Boating Camp model to 30 locations to reach 5,000 youth. Participants learn how to fish and safely operate a boat, resulting in more families enjoying outdoor activities in Florida and more anglers to ultimately support the outdoor economy.

Increased Boater Safety Education
Since Governor Scott took office, FWC has increased the number of people completing a boater safety course by nearly 78 percent, from 27,000 to more than 48,000. FWC has also nearly tripled the number of temporary boater safety certificates issued to visitors who wish to rent vessels to enjoy Florida's waterways, totaling 230,378 in 2017.



Increased Hunter Safety Education
Safety is a primary focus of Governor Scott, and FWC has led a large team of volunteers to teach more than 4,262 hunter safety classes, increasing the number of hunter safety graduates

by 95,126 under Governor Scott. Hands-on training ensures that hunters are properly educated to be safe and responsible while hunting. This not only protects hunters, but also provides training and education to ensure that Florida hunters are responsibly enjoying the outdoors.

KEEPING FLORIDIANS HEALTHY

Since taking office, Governor Scott has fought relentlessly to ensure the health of Florida families and protect patients against medical price gouging. While in office, Governor Scott directed significant funding and implemented robust policy and legislation to keep Florida families healthy by combatting the national opioid epidemic, bolstering community-based care including mental health services, supporting Floridians with developmental disabilities, strengthening Florida's child welfare system and adoption services to protect children and caring for Florida's seniors. Governor Scott knows that raising a family begins with ensuring good health and his initiative and investments will help keep Florida families healthy for years to come.

Transforming Florida's Medicaid System

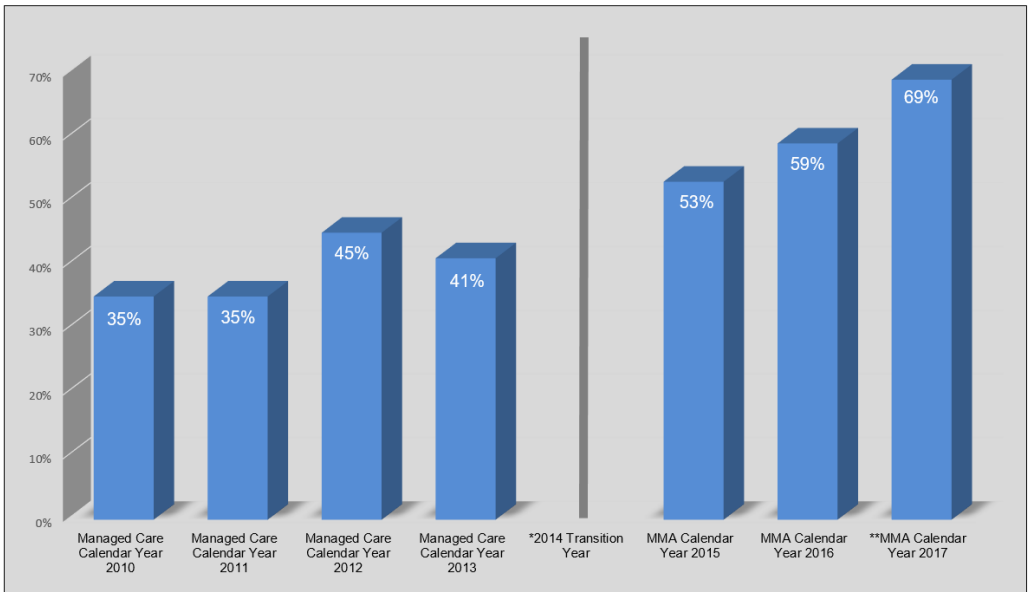
For the first four years Governor Scott was in office, he worked diligently with the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to receive the waiver to improve the quality of care in Florida's Medicaid program. In 2014, Governor Scott announced that the entire state had received the final approval from the federal government to extend an improved model of Medicaid managed care to all counties in Florida and move away from the fee-for-service system. Now, Florida's Medicaid recipients have better healthcare at a reduced cost.

Streamlining and Improving Florida's Medicaid Program
Governor Scott oversaw the successful transformation of Florida's Medicaid program away from a traditional fee-for-service model to the statewide implementation of managed care. The streamlining of Florida's Medicaid program marked the largest successful competitive procurement in the state history. Moving from a fee-for-service system to the Managed Medical Assistance (MMA) program increases consumer protections, quality of care and access.

This system, signed into law by Governor Scott, provides better care by providing Floridians with access to health plans with more providers, additional benefits such as adult preventative dental services, and strong quality and accountability requirements. Floridians' complaints regarding the program are reviewed immediately for resolution as part of the rapid cycle response system and plans are held accountable if they don't meet the high standards that have been set in their contracts. This new system established quality checks to help protect Florida's patients by establishing health plan report cards for recipients to ensure that they will have access to understandable summaries of the performance of each participating managed care plan. Additionally, plan performance improvement projects under this system focus on improving patient care, and population health. Accountability measures are in place now to focus on metrics to improve the quality and access to plans for Florida's Medicaid recipients.

Enhancing the Quality of Medicaid Services for Florida Families
The Statewide Medicaid Managed Care program is providing Florida's low-income families with enhanced access to better coordination of care, robust provider networks, and expanded benefits. Florida's managed care plans scored at or above the national average on almost all nationally recognized quality measures in the first year of the MMA program and have continued to improve. Florida's Medicaid program is at the highest level for quality in the history of the program. This high quality is tied to well-child visits, prenatal, and postpartum care measures that are now above the national average. In addition, nearly 80 percent of enrollees in Medicaid Long-Term Care have experienced an improvement in their quality of life since enrolling in the program. Thanks to Governor Scott's leadership, Florida's patients are enjoying better care.

Florida Medicaid Quality Scores



Protecting Floridians by Combating Fraud, Waste and Abuse
Under Governor Scott's leadership. AHCA established the Care Provider Background Screening Clearinghouse system. This system provides a single data source for criminal background checks of employees caring for children, the elderly and disabled individuals. Seven Health and Human Services state agencies now participate in the program allowing the results of criminal history checks to be shared among specified agencies when a person has applied to volunteer, for employment, for licensing or enter into a contract that requires a state and national fingerprint-based criminal history check. The elimination of duplicative screening has saved employers over $31 million since inception.

From July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017, the Agency for Health Care Administration's Bureau of Medicaid Program Integrity Unit investigated more than 7,500 overbilling and suspected fraud cases. Through detection efforts and coordination with Medicaid, the Agency deploys resources to both prevent further misspent funds and recover past overpayments. During the same period, these efforts have resulted in the collection of more than $178 million in overpayments, returning these funds to the state and preventing future improper payments.

Fair Low-Income Pool Funding for Florida
Under Governor Scott's leadership, in 2017, Florida was able to secure commitment from the federal government to increase the state's share of Low-Income Pool (LIP) funding to $1.5 billion annually. The LIP program is a federal matching program that provides federal funds to Florida hospitals to cover costs for the state's most vulnerable patients. This funding is nearly a billion dollars more than what the Obama Administration provided to Florida. This provides better healthcare for the individuals intended to be served with this funding and greater flexibility for Florida.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Making Healthcare More Transparent

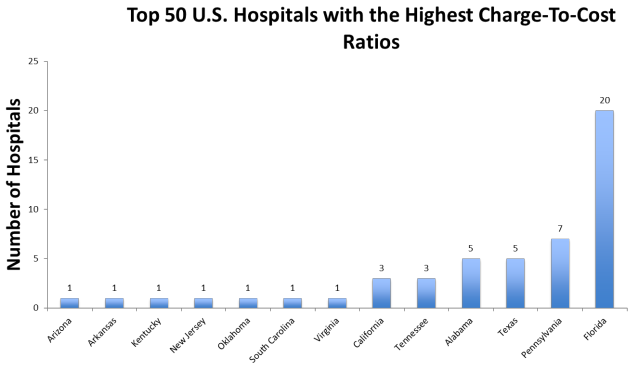
Since taking office, Governor Scott has made empowering Florida's patients a priority. In 2015, he set out to hear directly from Floridians about their experiences with the healthcare system through the creation of the Commission on Healthcare and Hospital Funding. Floridians spoke and Governor Scott listened. In 2016, Governor Scott championed and signed into law legislation that protects Florida's families from the increasing cost of healthcare and required healthcare providers to be transparent so Floridians can know they are receiving the best care, at a fair price.

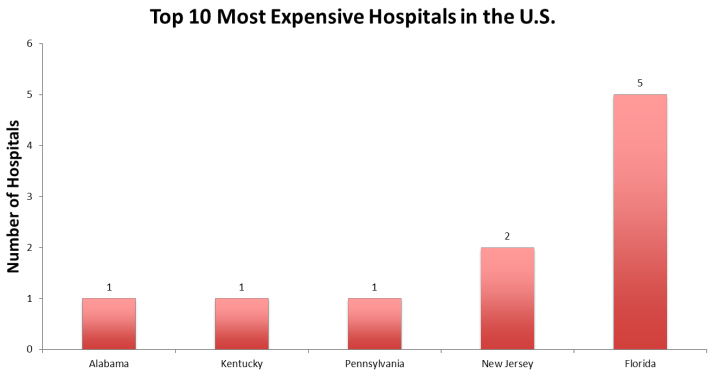
Governor's Commission on Healthcare and Hospital Funding

Governor Scott recognized that Florida hospitals were making record profits while Floridians were paying higher healthcare bills. In 2015, Florida hospitals made a record $4.3 billion in profits – a staggering increase of $1 billion over the previous year. Governor Scott saw the need for improvements in healthcare quality and cost controls for consumers, and in 2015, through Executive Order 15-99, established the Commission on Healthcare and Hospital Funding. The Governor appointed nine commissioners to investigate and advise on the role of taxpayer funds for hospitals, insurers, healthcare professionals, and the affordability, access, and quality of healthcare services they provide to Florida.

The Governor and Commission embarked on a Spotlight on Transparency Tour, making stops in Tampa, Jacksonville and Miami to hear from Floridians about how healthcare quality and costs directly affect their families. Governor Scott's Commission found a lack of transparency and cost controls in the healthcare system – noting that healthcare does not operate as a free market system.

One of the most troubling findings of the Commission was the prevalence of price gouging in Florida hospitals. Price gouging in healthcare occurs when a patient is presented with undisclosed costs after medical treatment. Governor Scott and the Commission heard personal price gouging stories from hundreds of Floridians. Healthcare price gouging is a morally reprehensible practice that victimizes individuals when they are most vulnerable.





The incidence of price gouging occurring in Florida was staggering. According to a 2015 study from Johns Hopkins University, Florida was the number one state for hospital price gouging in the nation. Of the top 50 hospitals that over-charged patients the most, 20 were in Florida. Additionally, according to a 2014 study from National Nurses United, five of the top 10 most expensive

hospitals in the nation were in Florida. In response to the Commission's findings, Governor Scott went to work to empower consumers and create a transparent healthcare system in Florida.

Changes to Protect Floridians

After traveling the state and listening to Floridians, Governor Scott took immediate action to improve the access and transparency of health services in Florida. These new laws require healthcare providers, insurers and the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) to provide more information to Floridians about the real prices of healthcare services and protect patients from healthcare price gouging. The laws help Florida's patients in the following ways:

- Increases the transparency and availability of healthcare pricing and quality of service information to enable consumers to make informed choices regarding healthcare treatment;
- Requires hospitals and surgical centers to notify patients that other healthcare providers may provide services in the facility and bill separately;
- Allows patients to request personalized estimates of charges for nonemergency medical services from healthcare facilities and practitioners;
- Prohibits out-of-network providers from balance billing consumers for covered services;
- Requires hospitals and insurers to maintain contact information for contracting practitioners on their website; and
- Improves the claims resolution process between providers and patients.

Florida's patients are now empowered under Governor Scott's leadership. Today, patients are encouraged to report any incidents of price gouging in Florida by either filling out a report online with AHCA or by calling the agency directly. These transparency measures hold healthcare organizations accountable and limit the economic impact to Florida's families. Thanks to Governor Scott's leadership, Floridians have access to more information to address their health needs and an avenue to report price gouging victimization.

Nursing Home and Assisted Living Facility Generators

In September 2017, following Hurricane Irma and a terrible tragedy at the Hollywood Hills Rehabilitation Center that claimed the lives 12 elderly patients, Governor Scott directed AHCA and the Florida Department of Elder Affairs to issue emergency rules requiring nursing homes and assisted living facilities to have emergency generators with enough fuel to be able to power their air conditioning units. During the 2018 session, Governor Scott fought for and secured legislation in the passage of HB 7099, which ratified the rule and required these facilities to be in compliance by the start of hurricane season 2018.

At Governor Scott's direction, AHCA has continued to take action to hold the Hollywood Hills Rehabilitation Center accountable for this tragic and senseless loss of life, including suspending the facility's license, placing a moratorium on all admissions and terminating the facility's participation in the Medicaid program. Governor Scott's goal is to ensure that every facility in Florida can provide a safe environment for its residents. Florida is one of the first states in the nation to require emergency generators at nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

Investing in Patient-Focused Healthcare

For the first time ever in Florida, Governor Scott's Statewide Residency Program and the Graduate Medical Education Startup Bonus Program addresses physician training needs on a reoccurring, statewide basis. According to the Association of American Medical Colleges, in 2015, Florida ranked 41st in the nation in the number of total residents or fellows per capita. The same study indicated that almost 60 percent of physicians who completed their residency or fellowship training in Florida were practicing medicine within the state, which ranked 4th among all states. This data indicated the need to increase the number of residency opportunities to increase the number of physicians in the state.

Statewide Residency Program
In 2013, Governor Scott signed SB 1520, establishing the Statewide Residency Program, with a goal to create 700 new slots to train physicians. More than 1,600 new slots have been created across Florida, and the total number of teaching hospitals has grown from four to 60. For the first time, hospitals are receiving a supplemental payment specifically for graduate medical education made possible by the $80 million signed into law by Governor Scott in the 2013.

Since its inception, the graduate medical education program has continued to grow each year for a total of more than $100 million. Many physicians build their practices in the very same communities where they received their training. This homegrown workforce is vital to provide quality healthcare in our state for years to come. The creation of the Statewide Residency Program has made an immediate impact around the state.

Graduate Medical Education Startup Bonus Program
In 2015, recognizing a need for specific specialties in the state, Governor Scott invested an additional $100 million annual funding to address physician specialty shortages here in Florida. This additional program, known as the Graduate Medical Education Startup Bonus Program, supplements the first of its kind Statewide Residency Program. These training programs under Governor Scott's leadership provide Floridians with the specialty physicians they need to live and prosper.

Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida has revolutionized the way Medicaid hospital services are paid for by instituting diagnosis related groups (DRG). Controlling costs while delivering high quality services is the cornerstone of this reformed payment system, which has been cited as the single most successful cost control intervention in the history of U.S. healthcare. Governor Scott is making sure that Florida's healthcare system is focused first on the patients.

Cost Controls for Medicaid Hospital Inpatient Services
In 2013, Governor Scott signed SB 1520 into law—legislation that, for the first time in Florida, proactively reformed Medicaid reimbursement practices to meet the patients' conditions and needs, not the providers' costs. This patient-focused approach has created economic incentives for healthcare providers to operate efficiently, while meeting a high standard of care. For the first time in Florida, healthcare providers are rewarded for providing high quality care at a fair price, as opposed to over charging for the same services that are provided at a lower price at another

institution. For example, before DRGs were used, one hospital could bill as much as $11,000 for services to a patient, while another hospital treating a patient with the exact same condition would bill as little as $370. In 2012, Governor Scott fixed the extreme variances paid around the state for the same treatments. This type of reimbursement reform has been recognized as the single most successful cost control intervention ever in the history of U.S. healthcare in national, peer-reviewed medical journals when DRGs were first introduced.

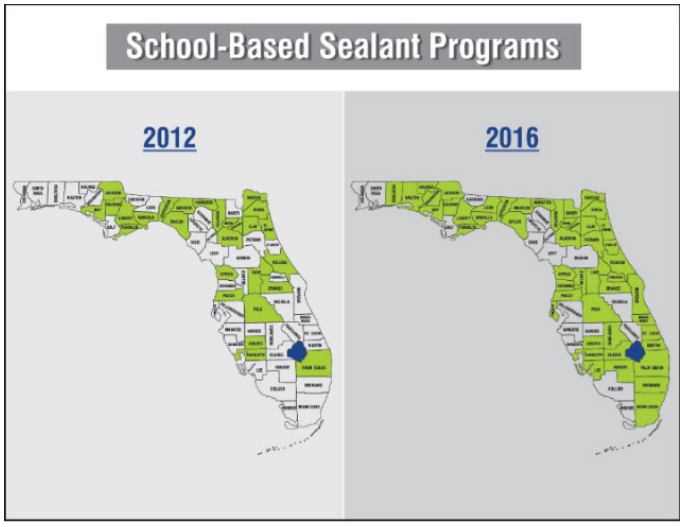
Expansion of Cost Controls

Governor Scott has signed legislation to expand the same successful reimbursement reforms applied for inpatient services to Medicaid outpatient services and nursing homes. Nursing homes make up the second largest area of Medicaid expenditures, and when these reforms will reward quality healthcare. By expanding these reform measures, Florida is leading the nation to address the increasing cost of healthcare to patients under Governor Scott. These measures will further Florida's mission to have one of the most cost effective, patient-centered Medicaid programs in the nation.

Preventative Care for Florida's Families

Governor Scott committed to making Florida the healthiest state in the nation to live, work and raise a family and has focus efforts on providing preventative care and education to Florida's children so they can grow up with healthy habits. Since taking office, Governor Scott has guided Florida to having the lowest rate of youth smoking in Florida's history and has increased the number of dental care sealant programs at the school level by 70 percent - ensuring that all children in Florida can grow up and live a healthy life.

Expanded Dental Services for Children



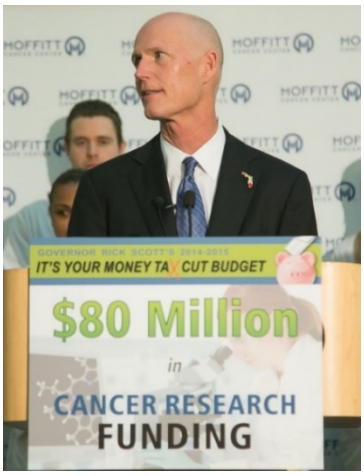
The Public Health Dental Program was established to provide preventative dental services at no cost to Florida families to prevent tooth decay in school-age children. Dental sealants are considered the most effective way to prevent cavities in permanent molars, where more than 89 percent of the decays typically occurs in children. Not only are sealants effective at preventing tooth decay, they are cost effective. For every $1 invested in preventative dental sealants, $1.88 is saved in costs related to treating decaying teeth. The number of school based dental health programs has increased 70 percent from 27 in 2012 to 46.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

All Time Low Youth Smoking

Thanks to programs like "Tobacco Free Florida," conventional cigarette use among Florida high school students has dropped from 13.1 percent, to an all-time low of 4.2 percent in 2017. Florida not only has one of the lowest youth smoking rates of any state in the country, it is well below the national average. Governor Scott has invested more than $60 million every year he has been in office to fully fund programs like "Tobacco Free Florida" to prevent youth smoking.

Record Funding for Cancer Research



Under Governor Scott's leadership, more than $690 million has been invested from the state for cancer research and prevention. In 2014, Governor Scott established the Florida Consortium of National Cancer Institute (NCI) Centers Program, which focuses resources to obtain and maintain the prestigious NCI designation from the National Institutes of Health. NCI-designated cancer centers provide the latest in medical discoveries to patients, serve the educational needs of health professionals, and promote health equity throughout communities. In 2014, Moffitt Cancer Center was Florida's only NCI-designated cancer center. With an annual investment of more than $60 million from Governor Scott, Florida looks to join five other states nationally in having at least three NCI Centers and the only other state in the Southeast other than North Carolina with three NCI Centers. Of the top 50 cancer centers in the nation, 46 are NCI-designated. H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center and the University of Florida Health Cancer Center each received funding from the Governor's Consortium. Governor Scott is committed to making sure that H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center keeps this prestigious honor and is providing the resources for Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center and the University of Florida Health Cancer Center to also achieve NCI-designated status.

Governor Scott is dedicated to expanding treatment options and elevating the quality of care offered to patients in Florida. This funding for NCI-designated centers further enhances Florida's robust system for cancer research and collaboration, which already includes projects funded by the peer-reviewed William G. "Bill" Bankhead, Jr. and David Coley Cancer Research Program and the James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

First in the Nation for Public Health

Florida's public health network is nationally recognized for its quality and efficiency. Under Governor Scott, Florida is the first, and only, state in the nation to have its statewide health department and every county health department pass the rigorous, peer-reviewed accreditation process. Service quality has been dramatically improved under Governor Scott's leadership, all while decreasing costs and passing savings to Florida taxpayers.

Nationally Recognized Public Health System
During Governor Scott's time in office, Florida's public health system has achieved historic accomplishments. In 2014, 125 years of Florida Public Health was recognized statewide with educational and commemorative events. The following year in 2015, Florida's Newborn Screening Program reached 50 years of providing newborn screening. More than 7 million newborn babies have been screened through this program going all the way back to 1965.

Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida's public health system made history yet again by becoming the first state in the nation to have its state health office and all county health departments meet or exceed the national standards for public health performance management and continuous quality improvement in 2016. The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) recognized Florida and all 67 counties for the outstanding job of protecting and improving the health of Florida's families. This accreditation recognizes DOH's commitment to promoting best practices to keep communities ahead of developing public health threats.

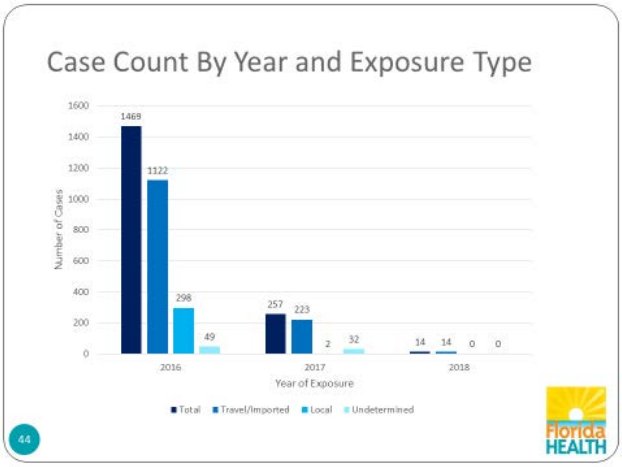
The process of becoming nationally accredited from the PHAB, who works in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, is one that involved over a year of data compilation along with welcoming PHAB representatives across the state to visit on site to see the quality of services offered around the state. To achieve accreditation, DOH passed a rigorous, peer-reviewed assessment ensuring its quality standards and measures. Florida's public health system truly is first in the nation.

National Leader in Infectious Diseases Preparedness and Response

As the world's greatest melting pot, Florida welcomes millions of visitors from around the world, making the Sunshine State potentially vulnerable to infectious disease. Recognizing the critical need to protect Florida families against foreign diseases, Governor Scott's has led coordinated responses at the state and local levels to guard Florida's families from the dangers of infectious disease and helped Florida become a national model for how to prepare and defend against infectious diseases.

Coordinated Response to Zika

The Zika virus is primarily transmitted by mosquitoes and can lead to significant birth defects for children of infected pregnant mothers. In February 2016, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared Zika a "public health emergency of international concern." Governor Scott quickly got out in front on Zika at its emergence internationally recognizing Florida's place as a global destination and the need to be prepared.



Despite the Obama Administration's failure to properly prepare states, Governor Scott made sure Florida's residents and visitors were being proactively cared for by using state emergency funds to fight against Zika. In June 2016, Governor Scott allocated $26.2 million though an executive order for Zika preparedness and response.

Governor Scott organized Zika roundtable discussions with citizens and health officials across the state to inform the public about the virus and how to stay safe. Additionally, Governor Scott held press conferences, meetings and calls with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and CDC leadership and mosquito control districts to ensure Florida and the nation had the resources needed to combat this devastating disease.

Recognizing the need for a long-term solution to Zika, Governor Scott authorized of $25 million in state funds for Zika research and vaccine development in 2016. Grant funding was awarded to ten institutions to help expedite the development of a vaccine to prevent Zika infection, understand and mitigate long-term impacts of Zika virus on children and adults and develop innovative, cost-effective Zika testing methods.

Thanks to the Governor's leadership in coordinating a local, state and federal response to the Zika virus, Miami-Dade was the first jurisdiction in the world to disrupt the cycle of local transmission of the Zika virus. Florida has since seen a dramatic drop in the number of both travel and local cases since the disease emerged in 2016.

DOH continues to work with mosquito control districts, physicians and infants who were exposed to Zika to ensure they have the information and resources needed to protect citizens from the Zika virus and its effects.

Coordinated Response to Ebola

In 2014, with the Ebola epidemic affecting several foreign nations, Governor Scott made sure to Florida would be protected from Ebola. When CDC failed to identify the risk levels of all individuals returning from Ebola-affected areas, Governor Scott ordered DOH to monitor anyone returning from an Ebola-affected area twice daily for 21 days. In response, Florida's county

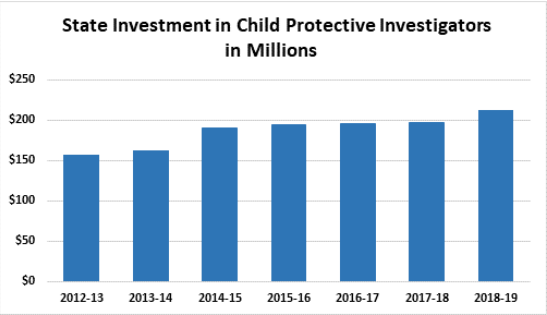
health departments conducted more than 19,000 health observations on close to 800 travelers from Ebola impacted countries. Thankfully, Florida was able to successfully prevent cases of Ebola from impacting the state.

Coordinated Response to Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV)
In May 2014, a patient from Saudi Arabia visiting the United States was found to be infected with MERS-CoV at an Orlando hospital. With limited understanding of the virus, it was imperative that the state respond quickly to control it from potentially infecting others. At the direction of Governor Scott, immediate action was taken by state and county health officials by identifying all potential contacts that may have come in contact with the infected traveler. At the conclusion of the state's response, all 211 potential contacts were identified and ruled out to ensure that there was no additional risk of MERS-CoV infection for the general public.

Protecting Florida's Children Through Investments in Child Welfare

Nothing is more important to securing the future success of Florida than ensuring that its children have every opportunity to grow and succeed. Governor Scott is committed to the safety and welfare of Florida's children and under his leadership, massive reforms, as well as hundreds of millions in funding has been dedicated to protecting Florida's vulnerable children and giving them the nurturing and loving home they deserve.

More State Resources to Prevent Abuse and Neglect
Governor Scott has made protecting Florida's children a top priority and, since taking office, has increased the state's investment in hiring and placing child protective investigators (CPIs) around the state to protect Florida's children each year. This investment went from $148 million in 2011 to more than $212 million in 2018. In 2014, Governor Scott signed legislation to enhance funding and positions for child protection – increasing the number of CPIs by nearly 300 and the number of by Florida Abuse Hotline counselors has increased by nearly 50. These positions help reduce workload and provide greater protection to vulnerable children.



Pay Raises for Child Protective Investigators
In 2012, Governor Scott approved a pay raise for child protective investigators, which boosted pay by more than $3,700 per employee. In 2018, Governor Scott signed HB 1079 into law, which further strengthened the child welfare program and enhanced accountability.

Increased Accountability and Oversight of Child Death Investigations
In 2014, Governor Scott signed legislation requiring that "Critical Incident Rapid Response Team" quickly and thoroughly investigate child abuse deaths. The reports from the "Critical Incident Rapid Response Team" findings are posted on DCF's website for anyone to view.

Increased Attention from Home Visiting Programs
In 2014, Governor Scott signed legislation to increase funding for Healthy Families Florida, a home visiting program to protect children and prevent abuse before it starts. At risk expectant parents and families with newborns are visited by counselors from Healthy Families Florida who educate the family on risk avoidance and proactive measures to prevent abuse and neglect.

Families who are eligible for and voluntarily accept services receive home visits that begin weekly and decrease in frequency as the family makes progress in providing safe, stable and nurturing environments for their children. The home visits focus on improving child and family well-being by increasing parental knowledge of child development, promoting positive parent-child interaction and teaching positive, age-appropriate discipline strategies as well as problem-solving skills and healthy ways to cope with stress.

In 2013, the Healthy Families Florida home visitation program received $21 million. Over the next three years, Governor Scott increased the budget of the program by $7 million to where it is fully funded today at $28 million. Healthy Families Florida was highlighted in a major scholarly journal for the statistical strength of its demonstrated outcomes in preventing abuse and neglect in children from birth to age five. Governor Scott brought the Healthy Families Florida home visiting program back to statewide capacity operating in all 67 counties for the first time in seven years in 2016. This increased support, signed into law by Governor Scott, will have lasting benefits for Florida's families.

Aside from additional counseling for child protection measures from home visits, the program has been shown to be very effective keeping parents employed, with those receiving home visiting services being almost twice as likely to have a job. Governor Scott is committed to making sure all Floridians are able to have a good paying job and provide for their families, and programs like Healthy Families Florida increase the likelihood of parents being able to maintain their employment status. As a result of the increase in funding for this program under Governor Scott's leadership, more than 270 additional children every year will have a more fulfilling childhood without abuse or neglect.

Record Adoptions

Governor Scott has advocated for adoption and adoptive families during his entire time in office. Since taking office, Governor Scott has funded more than $198 million for maintenance adoption subsidies, which provide funding for the families of children who are adopted from foster care to receive the services they need. This funding also provides critical post adoption services for more than 37,000 children.

Since taking office, Governor Scott has championed investments for the adoption of more than 20,000 children from Florida's child welfare system.

Increased Services to Help Floridians with Developmental Disabilities

Governor Scott is committed to providing the best environment for all Floridians to live, work, and prosper. By making record investments in APD and the Floridians they serve, the critical needs waiting list was completely eliminated. This means that over 5,000 more Floridians with developmental disabilities are able to access the programs and services they need to prosper in Florida thanks to Governor Scott's leadership.

Eliminating the Critical Needs Waiting List
With an increased investment from Governor Scott and the elimination of the budget deficit for the first time in eight years, APD was able to bring Floridians off the waiting lists for services for the first time in 2012. Prior to 2012, with APD operating at a deficit, no new enrollments were added for Floridians with developmental disabilities. APD has continued accepting more Floridians into its programs each year since.

More Floridians with developmental disabilities are now able to access the life and personal skill trainings they need to live independently and hold jobs. They are able to be medically treated with behavioral and physical therapies to better cope with their conditions. Governor Scott's commitment to ensuring benefits provided by APD to Floridians with developmental disabilities has propelled the agency to increase enrollments since 2012.

In addition to eliminating the critical needs wait list Florida became the first state in the nation in 2015 to offer reciprocal waiver services that assures military families who have a child with a developmental disability and are being transferred to Florida.

Connecting Developmentally Disabled Floridians with Great Jobs

Governor Scott has transformed Florida's economy so all Floridians are able to get a good job, and he is committed to making sure Floridians with developmental disabilities are afforded the same opportunities. In 2011, one of Governor Scott's first actions was to create the Governor's Commission on Jobs for Floridians with Disabilities. The recommendations from the Commission led to Governor Scott creating the Employment Enhancement Project in 2013, and ultimately to the expansion of the initiatives with the 2016 signing of HB 7003. Governor Scott has made sure that Floridians with developmental disabilities are able to live, work, and prosper in Florida.

Governor's Commission on Jobs for Floridians with Disabilities
With a focus on providing all Floridians an opportunity to get a good job, Governor Scott, through Executive Order 11-161, established the Governor's Commission on Jobs for Floridians with Disabilities in 2011. The Commission's mission is to advance job and employment opportunities and break down barriers for persons with disabilities to help those individuals achieve greater independence.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Supported Employment
Taking in the Commission's recommendations, in 2013, Governor Scott established the Employment Enhancement Project, known as the Supported Employment Program, to further enhance employment opportunities for Floridians with developmental disabilities by coordinating agencies and organizations to better serve individuals seeking jobs. Governor Scott established a funding source to help individuals on APD's waiting list find good jobs, which provides support for job placement services, skill coaching and training such as resume building and mock interviews, in addition to connecting job seekers with opportunities to get involved in the community.

Under Governor Scott's leadership, for the first time in the history of APD, there is a targeted effort to connect young adults with developmental disabilities with competitive job and internship opportunities. Since Governor Scott started Supported Employment five years ago, more than 2,100 more people with disabilities are better able to get a great job and be more self-sufficient.

Legislative Action to Expand Job Opportunities for Developmentally Disabled Floridians
In 2016, Governor Scott worked with the Legislature to expand the scope of the state's commitment connecting Floridians with developmental disabilities with good jobs by signing HB 7003. This was one of the first laws signed by Governor Scott in 2016 furthering his mission of providing all Floridians the opportunity to live, work, and prosper in Florida. This law now ensures that Floridians with developmental disabilities will continue to be connected with employment opportunities for years to come.

Improving Florida's Behavior Health Services

Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida has made dramatic increases in investments in successful mental health and substance abuse services. Since coming into office, Governor Scott has increased funding for mental health and substance abuse by more than $200 million, with funding in 2018 totaling nearly $1.14 billion. These billions in investments go toward

providing appropriate care for Floridians with behavioral health disorders. Most importantly, Governor Scott has not just increased funding to over a billion dollars per year, he has made improving the quality of those services a priority. Today, more than $700 million in community resources are funded per year to better treat Floridians with behavioral health disorders, thanks to legislation signed and championed by Governor Scott.

Combatting the National Opioid Epidemic

Governor Scott has seen firsthand the devastating impact that having a family member struggling with substance abuse can have on a family and when faced with the national opioid epidemic in Florida, he took quick and decisive action to combat this emergency. On May 3, 2017, Governor Scott directed a statewide public health emergency for the opioid epidemic allowing the state to immediately draw down more than $27 million in federal grant funding from the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Opioid State Targeted Response Grant. This critical funding was awarded to Florida on April 21, 2017 to provide prevention, treatment and recovery support services. The order also ensured that first responders have immediate access to lifesaving drugs to respond to opioid overdoses.

Governor Scott is continuing his commitment to do everything possible to support Florida's communities in the fight against the national opioid epidemic. In September 2018, the Governor directed the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to begin utilizing a new federal grant of more than $50 million to increase access to medication-assisted treatment, reduce opioid-related deaths and equip professionals with the necessary tools to combat the national opioid epidemic in Florida. This funding is in addition to $65 million provided in the 2018 budget that is already being used to combat opioid use and addiction.

In 2017, Governor Scott proposed legislation that limits the chance of drug addiction, reduces the ability for dangerous drugs to spread in Florida's communities and gives vulnerable Floridians the support they need. HB 21, modeled after Governor Scott's legislative proposal, was signed on March 19, 2018 and continues Florida's fight against opioids by:

- Placing a three-day limit on prescribed opioids for acute pain, unless strict conditions are met for a seven-day supply;
- Requiring healthcare prescribers or dispensers of opioids to consult the Florida Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, a statewide database that monitors controlled substance prescriptions, to review a patient's medication history prior to prescribing or dispensing a controlled substance;
- Requiring continuing education courses for healthcare practitioners on responsibly prescribing opioids;
- Increasing penalties for healthcare practitioners that provide medically unnecessary controlled substance to a patient by fraud, misrepresentation, or other deception; and
- Implementing additional reforms to fight unlicensed pain management clinics.

Reforming Services to Better Address Mental Health Needs in Florida's Communities

Governor Scott issued two executive orders (Executive Orders 15-134 and 15-175) to create pilot programs in three Florida counties around the state (Alachua, Broward, and Pinellas Counties) to learn more about how to better deliver mental health services to those who need them the most. These programs focused on community resources instead of traditional mental health institutions to help address the fragmented systems of care across the state. The executive order called for better coordination among state agencies like DCF, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Health and the Agency for Health Care Administration to improve behavioral health services in Florida. The response to these pilot programs was very positive in the communities they were located.

New Measures to Improve Coordinated Care and Delivery of Mental Health Services

Finally passed by the Legislature, and then signed into law by Governor Scott in 2016, SB 12 created a coordinated system of care statewide to better help state agencies and local organizations work together to best treat all Floridians affected by mental illness and substance abuse. Described by advocates and legislators, SB 12 is the most significant piece of legislation on mental health and substance abuse since the Baker Act was signed into law more than 40 years ago.

The law also helps to ensure individuals have every opportunity to receive services and support regardless of how they enter the system. These overhauls and reforms of the mental health and substance abuse delivery systems have created a "no wrong door" policy for individuals with behavioral health disorders, meaning that all Floridians now have access to these services.

SB 12 ensured that provider networks have more competition and requires state programs to better coordinate services more effectively, such as Medicaid and correctional programs. Governor Scott has overhauled how Floridians access mental health and substance abuse services by increasing competition among providers, advancing community resources, improving the coordination of programs and services amongst providers, and investing in programs that improve outcomes. Thanks to Governor Scott's relentless efforts, all Floridians can have access to quality mental health and substance abuse services.

In March 2018, Governor Scott signed Executive Order 18-81 directing DCF to enhance collaboration with law enforcement offices in each Florida county to improve the coordination of behavioral health services for individuals in need. Following the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Governor Scott convened emergency meetings with education officials, mental health experts and law enforcement to develop strategies to make our schools safer and improve mental health treatment services in Florida.

The Executive Order took five major steps:

- Directed DCF to convene quarterly meetings in each of DCF's six regions with sheriffs and police chiefs in the region, the behavioral health managing entities and service providers, school officials, and other stakeholders to improve communication, collaboration, and the coordination of services;
- Mandated DCF, the Department of Juvenile Justice, and sheriffs' offices to improve cost sharing and integration of funding;
- Allows DCF to include sheriffs' offices and local law enforcement agencies as eligible recipients of the criminal justice reinvestment grants;
- Directed DCF and the managing entities to ensure sheriffs or their designee have a seat on each managing entities' board of directors; and
- Established enhanced collaboration between DCF, managing entities, and sheriffs' offices to ensure access to mental health and substance abuse treatment services for those released from county jails.

Later in March 2018, Governor Scott signed SB 7026, the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act, into law. The legislation represents a comprehensive approach to addressing the issues presented by the tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, including school safety and community mental health resources. The legislation made significant changes to keep firearms out of the hands of those suffering from mental illness by:

- Authorizing a law enforcement officer who is taking a person into custody for an involuntary examination under the Baker Act to seize and hold a firearm or ammunition from the person for 24 hours after the person is released and does not have a risk protection order against them or is the subject of a firearm disability.
- Prohibiting a person who has been adjudicated mentally defective or who has been committed to a mental institution from owning or possessing a firearm until a court orders otherwise.
- Creating a process for a law enforcement officer or law enforcement agency to petition a court for a risk protection order to temporarily prevent persons who are at high risk of harming themselves or others from accessing firearms when a person poses a significant danger to himself or herself or others, including significant danger as a result of a mental health crisis or violent behavior. The bill also:
    - Allows a court to issue a risk protection order for up to 12 months.
    - Requires the surrender of all firearms and ammunition if a risk protection order is issued.
    - Provides a process for a risk protection order to be vacated or extended.

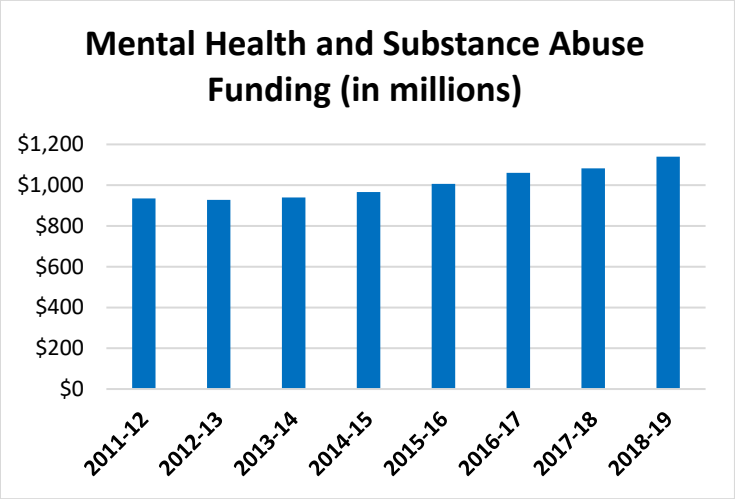
The bill also included funding for mental health services:

- $18.3 million to DCF for additional mobile crisis teams to ensure reasonable access among all counties.
- $9.8 million for additional community action treatment teams to ensure reasonable access among all counties.

Increased Funding for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Service

Governor Scott has increased invested in mental health and substance abuse programs in Florida. When Governor Scott first took office, the total amount of funding for mental health and

substance abuse services was $935 million. In 2018, these services received over $1 billion in state funding, with over $700 million being dedicated to community substance abuse and mental health services that have proven to be effective. In all, under Governor Scott, mental health and substance abuse service funding totals over $8 billion.



Since taking office in 2011, Governor Scott has invested nearly $2.8 billion in Florida's State Mental Health Treatment Facilities. Governor Scott has invested nearly $12 million for 145 additional staff for the care and treatment of those in greatest need who reside at these facilities. Also, an additional, $3.1 million has been invested for safety equipment such as video cameras and personal alarm devices at state operated facilities. This is to ensure the safety of staff and residents at these facilities.

Fighting Human Trafficking and Standing with Victims

Florida is leading the nation in its anti-human trafficking efforts under Governor Scott. For the first time in Florida's history, Governor Scott has started making caring for the victims of human trafficking a statewide priority. These efforts have provided the care needed to victims from across the state. Governor Scott is making sure anyone affected by human trafficking has the support and services necessary to live and prosper in Florida.

Established Funding to Help Victims of Human Trafficking

With human trafficking the third most widespread organized crime worldwide, Governor Scott is making sure that Florida's treatment centers are funded and ready to help victims. Since 2014, DCF has contracted with safe harbor homes, residential campuses with specialized treatment tracks, and specialized therapeutic foster homes to help victims of human trafficking rehabilitate and reintegrate back into society. These resources allow victims of human trafficking to receive the help, protection, and care they need to help them overcome these heartless offenses.

Governor Scott has invested over $47 million in funding to help the victims of human trafficking. Recognizing the need to help victims get back to living their lives without fear of the past, he continues to invest in these programs to help victims of human trafficking and is committed to their long-term well-being and safety.

Fighting Human Trafficking in Partnership with DJJ
Governor Scott is committed to protecting victims of abuse and making communities safer by combating human trafficking. Under Governor Scott's leadership, DJJ and the Department of Children and Families (DCF) launched a human trafficking screening tool in 2015. The tool allows DJJ to more easily identify victims of human trafficking and to connect these youths to appropriate services to get the assistance they need. DJJ works alongside DCF to identify human trafficking victims and ensure they get help from DCF's child welfare professionals instead of being placed in juvenile delinquency. Helping victims succeed ultimately contributes to the safety of communities across Florida.

National Leader in Fighting SNAP Fraud

Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida is first in the nation in payment accuracy for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) program, also known as food stamps. While Governor Scott has been in office, DCF representatives have testified in front of Congress to educate Washington D.C. and the rest of the nation on how Florida successfully operates SNAP. Florida's effective fraud protection measures have saved Floridians millions of dollars each year under Governor Scott.

First in the Nation for SNAP Fraud Protection
Governor Scott is committed to making sure taxpayer dollars are used in the most efficient and effective manner. One of the largest programs in the nation that has the potential for fraud is SNAP. At the direction of Governor Scott, DCF has made preventing and detecting fraud a significant priority. Instead of just looking to find the criminals who abuse the SNAP system after the fact, DCF puts fraud protection at the front end of the process, during the distribution phase and in the follow-up phase.

Thanks to the multifaceted fraud protection approach implemented under Governor Scott, DCF has made Florida the best in the nation at effectively and efficiently executing the SNAP program. The over and underpayment rate in Florida for SNAP is one of the lowest in the nation at 1.55 percent – significantly lower than the national average of 5.37 percent. This focus on detecting and eliminating fraud before it happens has saved Floridians hundreds of millions of dollars. For example, if Florida's error rate was equal to the national average, the state would have misspent nearly $260 million in FY 2017-18. With Florida's integrated fraud protection at every level of the process, using the right technology and effective coordination between state agencies, Florida is proving that government run programs can be operated efficiently to effectively serve those who need the services.

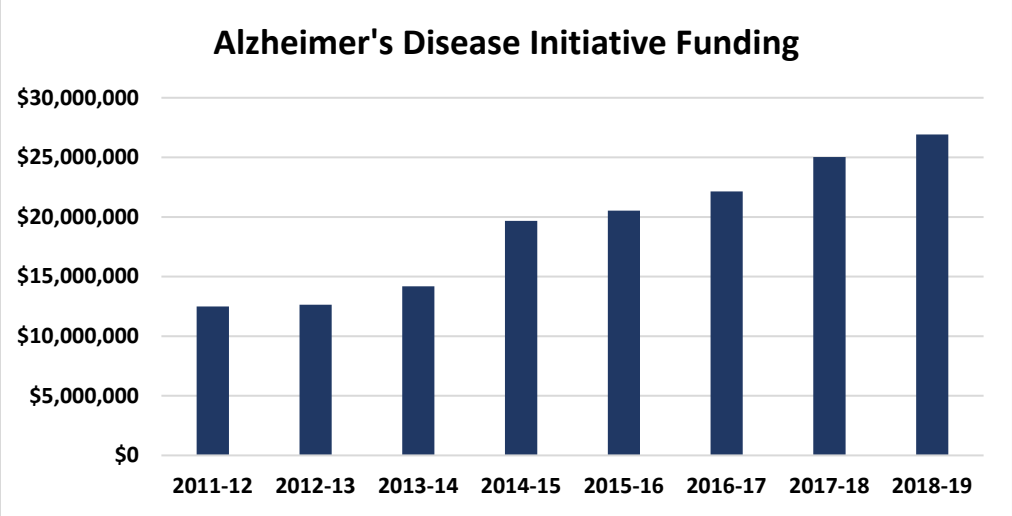
Record Funding for Programs to Help Florida's Seniors

Governor Scott is committed to improving the quality of life for Florida's seniors. With the incidence of Alzheimer's disease increasing nationwide, Governor Scott is making sure that Florida seniors with Alzheimer's disease have the care and resources they deserve. In addition to making Alzheimer's disease care a priority, Governor Scott is leading the way to make sure

Florida's seniors are able to live independently in their own communities.

Alzheimer's Disease Initiative
Governor Scott has committed record funding for the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative (ADI) since taking office. The ADI provides respite services for Floridians with Alzheimer's disease and their families. Respite services offered include in-home, facility-based, emergency and extended care for up to 30 days for caregivers who serve patients with memory disorders. With many Alzheimer's patients requiring 24 hours a day care, these respite services provide caregivers with the opportunities to take a short break to live a more balanced life. In addition to the respite services, ADI funds 16 Memory Disorder Clinics that provide comprehensive assessments, diagnostic services, and treatment for individuals who show symptoms of Alzheimer's disease and related memory disorders.

Since Governor Scott took office, the total funding for ADI has dramatically increased. The year prior to Governor Scott taking office, the state invested $11.8 million. In 2018, Governor Scott invested more than a record $26 million, more than a 100 percent increase in funding. With a dedicated commitment to serving Florida's families affected by Alzheimer's disease, Governor Scott is ensuring that patients and caregivers are well cared for.



Established Alzheimer's Disease Research
In 2014, Governor Scott established the Ed and Ethel Moore Program to annually fund $3 million in research each year dedicated to Alzheimer's disease. The initiative is the first of its kind to award grants each year to promising projects being conducted by Florida researchers relating to Alzheimer's disease. The research grants are awarded through a peer-reviewed, competitive process based on recommendations by the Alzheimer's Disease Research Grant Advisory Board. Governor Scott is making sure Florida stays on the cutting edge of research and focus on the ongoing success of Florida's research community as they work to change the future of Alzheimer's.

Dementia Care and Cure Initiative
Under Governor Scott's leadership, the Department of Elder Affairs established the Dementia Care and Cure Initiative (DCCI) in 2015. This program looks to engage all of Florida's communities to provide better care for those affected by dementia while the medical industry

works on researching a cure. The DCCI increases awareness of dementia services and supports anyone who suffers from dementia, in addition to providing resources and training for their families and caregivers.

DEMENTIA CARE & CURE INITIATIVE
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS
Developing Dementia Caring Communities Across Florida

Through outreach events and public information, this program is educating Florida's communities about how to best respond to someone they encounter with dementia. In addition to educating Florida's communities on best practices for working with Florida's residents with dementia, the DCCI is working with research and medical entities to advocate funding for programs and projects that promote additional care. Thanks to Governor Scott's leadership, Florida is becoming more engaged with the elderly community with to help make all of Florida's communities more dementia-friendly.

Community Care for the Elderly

The Community Care for the Elderly (CCE) program provides home and community-based services to Florida's seniors to help them remain in their communities without the need to move to an assisted living facility or nursing home. Seniors can receive a wide range of goods and services, such as adult day care, companionship, counseling, emergency home repair, home-delivered meals, home health aide, home nursing, legal assistance, medical therapeutic services, personal care, respite, shopping assistance, transportation and other community-based services. By engaging the community in the care of Florida's seniors, Governor Scott is ensuring that Floridians are afforded every opportunity to continue living their lives on their terms.

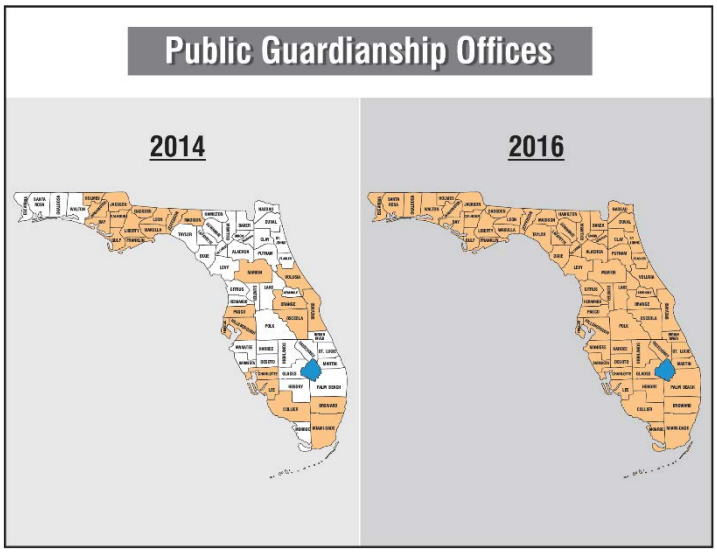
Every year under Governor Scott's leadership, funding for CCE increased – for a total of over $14 million since he has taken office. In 2018 alone, that investment is more than $55 million to help Florida's seniors continue living in their communities. This record investment in CCE and Florida's seniors demonstrates Governor Scott's commitment to make Florida the best state in the nation to live and prosper at any stage of life.

SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Others)

Florida has additionally expanded its help for seniors through volunteer programs such as the SHINE Program. SHINE volunteers help Medicare beneficiaries make choices among a vast array of options that include 20 prescription drug plans, 157 Medicare Advantage plans, as well as 25 insurance companies that offer 11 types of Medigap supplemental insurance policies – this equates to approximately 14,740 plan choices statewide. Client contacts have increased by 245 percent since 2010 – reaching 175,762 client contacts in FY 16-17. Volunteers also educate clients on cost savings programs for prescription drugs that many do not realize they qualify for. In one notable case, the SHINE Counselor saved someone more than $20,000. There are approximately 520 SHINE volunteers currently active or in training – the highest number ever recorded.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Protecting Florida's Seniors



First in the Nation for Public Guardianship
Governor Scott is committed to protecting Florida's most vulnerable population. Guardians are appointed by a court to help manage the affairs of someone who is unable to do so on their own. Public guardians serve at no cost to the individual and provide significant care for Florida's seniors. Guardianship services under Governor Scott's leadership have been dramatically improved. Governor Scott championed an initiative in 2014 to make Florida the first state in the nation to offer public guardianship services on a statewide basis by creating the Statewide Public Guardianship Office. Today, all 67 counties in Florida offer public guardianship services to seniors. Additionally, Governor Scott has made sure that private guardians now have the necessary oversight to ensure the safety and welfare of all Floridians.

Protecting Florida's Most Vulnerable
In 2016, Governor Scott championed SB 232, which created additional protections for Florida's seniors requiring guardianship by creating the Office of Public & Professional Guardians, which replaced the Statewide Public Guardianship Office. This new office assumed the same responsibility of providing public guardianships in all 67 of Florida's counties, but it also regulated for the first time on a statewide basis the profession of private guardians who assume the same duties as public guardians for Florida's seniors.

Prior to Governor Scott signing into law these changes, private guardians were not consistently regulated throughout the state. These inconsistencies resulted in some of Florida's seniors being exploited due to a lack of oversight. Governor Scott made sure Florida's most vulnerable population are being cared for with the utmost respect, dignity and honor. Thanks to Governor Scott's leadership, Floridians using private guardians are protected from potential fraud and exploitation.

Silver Alert Program
Governor Scott signed the Silver Alert Program into Law on June 24, 2011. This helps law enforcement officers rescue persons with Alzheimer's disease, or related disorders, who are lost. Thanks to this new law there is increased awareness and broadcast of information that has helped find missing elders in Florida.

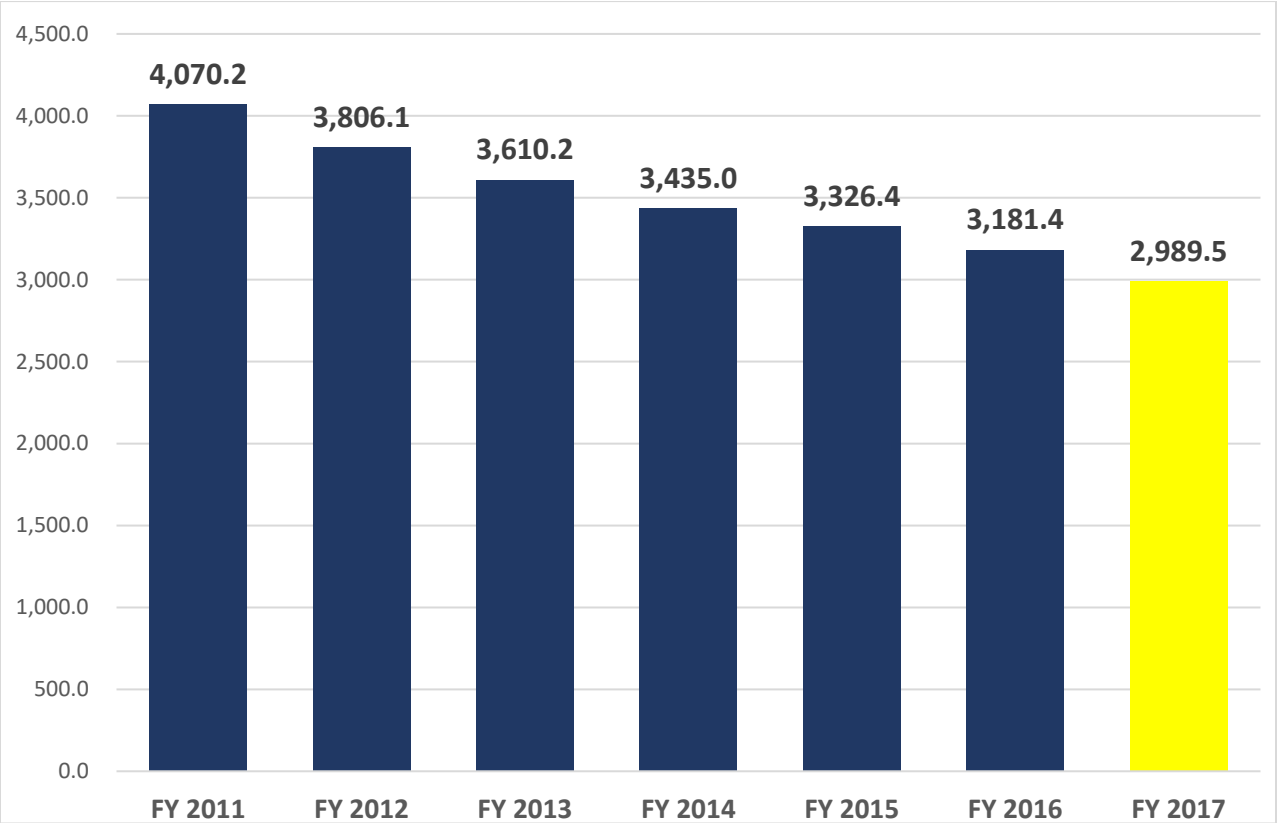
GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

BRINGING FLORIDA TO A 47-YEAR LOW IN CRIME

Governor Scott has consistently worked to ensure Florida's communities are safe for Florida families and visitors through unyielding support for law enforcement. It is because of Florida's brave law enforcement that communities across the Sunshine State are safer today than they were before Governor Scott took office, with Florida's crime rate and recidivism rate at historic lows.

Lowest Crime Rate in 47 Years
Every day since taking office, Governor Scott has fought to make Florida the safest place to live, work, and raise a family. Under Governor Scott's leadership, and with the support and selfless dedication of law enforcement, Florida's crime rate has dropped 27 percent – bringing the state to a 47-year low in crime even as the population continues to grow.

Florida's Steadily Decreasing Statewide Crime Rate

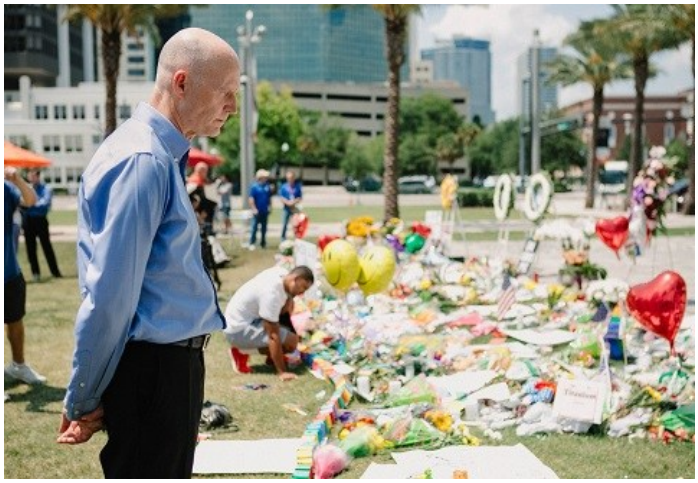


Rewarding State Law Enforcement for Keeping Families Safe

Florida has nearly 4,800 sworn state law enforcement officers that, over the past eight years, in the face of grave danger during terror attacks, tragic shootings, and natural disasters selflessly put their lives on the line to protect Florida's citizens. To reward these officers for their selfless dedication to Florida's communities and continuous sacrifice in the face of danger, Governor Scott, in both 2017 and 2018, fought for and secured pay raises for these brave members of law enforcement. Since Governor Scott took office, salaries for state law enforcement have increased by more than 10 percent.

Fighting Terrorism

On June 12, 2017, Florida came under attack when a terrorist, inspired by ISIS and filled with hate, stormed into Pulse Nightclub and killed 49 innocent people. Floridians will never forget this tragic loss of innocent life and Governor Scott dedicated every available resource to fighting terrorism in Florida by ensuring that Florida's law enforcement officers have the resources they need to curb senseless violence and crime in the Sunshine State. Following the attack at Pulse, Governor Scott approved $5.8 million and 46 counterterrorism agent positions so that Florida would have specialists solely dedicated to identifying terrorists and stopping them before they attack stationed throughout the state. These agents specialize in counterterrorism and intelligence and work closely with local, state, and federal intelligence agencies.



Strengthening Florida's Firearm Laws

Governor Scott is a strong supporter of the Second Amendment, but he also believes that only law-abiding citizens should have access to firearms. Governor Scott demonstrated these beliefs when he signed the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act (SB 7026) into law. This bill created "Risk Protection Orders," which allow a court to prohibit a violent or mentally ill individual from purchasing or possessing a firearm or any other weapon. It also allowed law enforcement officers to seize firearms when a person has been detained under the Baker Act, and prohibits a person who has been "adjudicated mentally defective" or who has been "committed to a mental institution" from owning or possessing a firearm. SB 7026 also raised the age to purchase a firearm in Florida from 18 to 21.

Governor Scott also supported FDLE's Firearm Purchase Program (FPP). This program, which operates 363 days a year, responds to inquiries from firearms dealers to ensure a person meets eligibility criteria prior to purchasing a firearm. Since 2011, the number of inquiries has increased by almost 78 percent. Governor Scott approved $1.1 million for 18 positions to address the increased workload and to ensure that only law-abiding citizens can purchase a firearm.

Improving Florida's Crime-Fighting Databases

Governor Scott has ensured that law enforcement has the tools they need to keep Florida's communities safe. During his tenure, he approved funding to modernize and upgrade a multitude of criminal justice databases that law enforcement relies upon daily. This included:

- $2 million to improve biometric technology. As a result, the number of "hits" provided to local law enforcement agencies from fingerprints left at crime scenes significantly increased;
- Over $4 million to enhance the sexual offender database, which is used by both law enforcement and the public to locate sexual offenders and predators; and
- More than $19 million to modernize the criminal history database that is used for background checks.

Standing Up for Victims of Sexual Harassment

By signing Executive Order 17-319, Governor Scott took decisive action to protect victims of sexual harassment and to prevent mistreatment of employees at executive branch agencies under the Governor's authority. This Executive Order promoted uniformity in the implementation of sexual harassment reporting and investigation practices by state agencies and mandated training addressing sexual harassment for all new employees, with additional training for employees in a management or supervisory position. Governor Scott urged cabinet agencies and other components of state government not under the Governor's control to adopt similar policies to address sexual harassment and misconduct.

Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Reduction

Governor Scott stands with victims of crime and is absolutely dedicated to ensuring criminals are held accountable. The Combined DNA Index system (CODIS) enables federal, state, and local forensic laboratories to exchange and compare DNA profiles; thereby linking crimes to each other and to known offenders.

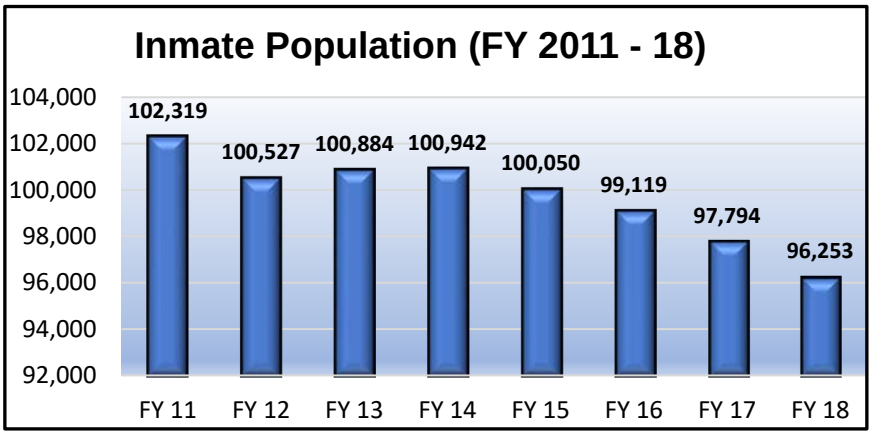
In October 2014, 8,600 sexual assault kits were identified in various counties that had not been submitted to a laboratory for processing. Governor Scott approved more than $10 million to address this backlog and to ensure that every sexual assault kit is processed in a timely manner. Governor Scott also approved legislation requiring law enforcement to submit all newly-collected sexual assault kits to FDLE within 120 days of receipt.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Improved Safety by Reducing Florida's Prison Population

Governor Scott has consistently worked to ensure Florida's communities are safe for families and visitors. Florida's communities are safer than they were before Governor Scott took office, with Florida's crime rate and recidivism rate at historic lows. Governor Scott continues to invest in programs with a proven track record in keeping Florida safe.

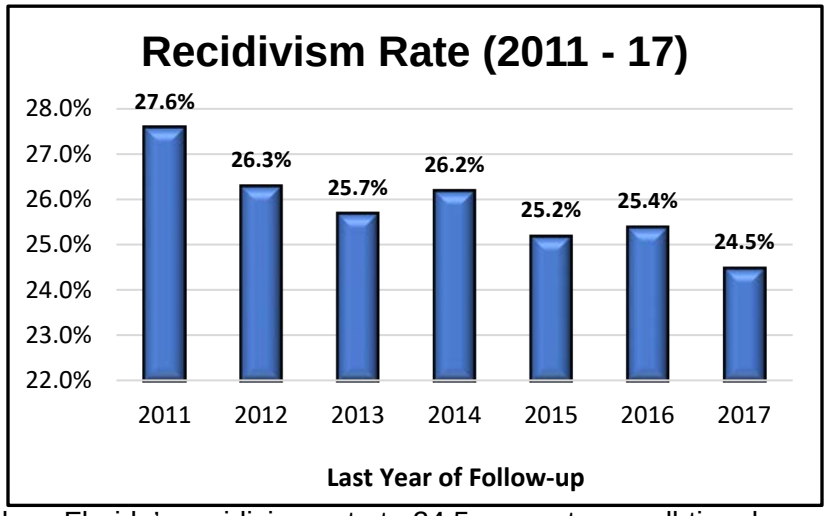
Reduction in Prison Population



Governor Scott made public safety a top priority. Part of this includes holding inmates accountable by requiring them to serve 85 percent of their lawful sentence. Governor Scott understands that investments in evidence-based diversionary programs and correctional programs help offenders transitioning back into society as productive citizens. He has also invested in pay raises for state law enforcement officers and correctional officers who put their lives on the line every day. These investments, along with the hard work of law enforcement officers and others in the criminal justice community, have led to a decrease of more than 6,000 inmates incarcerated within the Florida Department of Corrections (FDC) since 2011. This has occurred even as Florida's overall population has grown by nearly two million people. This reduction in inmate population equates to a cost avoidance of over $122 million.

Reductions in the prison population also provide other important societal benefits such as less victimization and cost avoidances in terms of processing cases through the entire criminal justice system. This allows taxpayer dollars to be spent on other vital needs of the State.

Record Low Recidivism



Governor Scott recognizes that while inmates and offenders must be held accountable by serving their lawful sentence, working to provide the tools for their success upon returning to their communities leads to a safer Florida. Governor Scott has invested in evidence-driven reentry and diversionary programs to reduce the number of inmates who recidivate after they return to their communities. His emphasis on these programs has helped to reduce Florida's recidivism rate to 24.5 percent – an all-time low. This translates into safer communities for Florida's families and visitors, and provides a greater incentive for more families and businesses to move to Florida. With recidivism at an all-time low,

it is clear that Governor Scott's efforts worked to create a safe state full of opportunities.

Success in Community Corrections
The Office of Community Corrections supervises more than 167,000 felony offenders. These offenders are monitored and supervised by community probation officers statewide on various types of court ordered supervision such as probation, drug offender probation, community control and so forth. Correctional probation officers ensure offenders are complying with their conditions of supervision. If a violation occurs, the violation is reported to the Court and the Court determines if a revocation of supervision is justified with greater sanctions. The rate of successful completion of an offender's supervision has increased from 42 percent in 2011 to 60 percent in 2017. Of those who are successful on supervision, 91 percent do not recidivate within three years of completing their sentence.

Increasing Educational Opportunities
Governor Scott recognizes that pursuing education is critical in helping inmates prepare for a career and reduces recidivism. Inmates who complete educational programming while incarcerated are demonstrably less likely to recidivate upon release into the community. For each additional grade level of education attained, an inmate's likelihood of recidivating decreases by nearly 3 percent. Under Governor Scott's leadership, FDC has placed a strong focus on educational services to assist inmates in successfully transitioning into the workforce upon release. Since 2011, FDC has awarded almost 14,000 GED's and high school diplomas.

Increasing Workforce Training
In addition to academic programs, Governor Scott has worked to ensure that inmates learn a career education skill or obtain a certification that will help them enter the workforce and obtain a job upon release. Individuals who complete workforce training programs while incarcerated are demonstrably less likely to recidivate after release. FDC offers workforce educational services and industry-recognized certifications in up to 35 career and technical education programs, including web development, automotive repair, plumbing, and printing and graphics communications. These credentials demonstrate the ability to re-enter the workforce with the skills needed to succeed after release. Individuals who receive workforce training while incarcerated are better equipped to reintegrate into their communities and get a job that leads to a successful career. Since 2011, more than 13,000 inmates have completed workforce programs or have received an industry certificate.

Specializing Work Skills
FDC works to link inmates' career interests, collected through a needs assessment, with labor market projections for each county. This needs assessment is part of project Spectrum, which provides individual re-entry and rehabilitation plans by identifying risk factors for criminal behavior and addresses those factors through evidence-based interventions to reduce re-offending. FDC, partnering with the Department of Economic Opportunity and the Department of Education, use labor statistics and projections and align them to career interests, allowing inmates to know the best types of jobs available to them in their area of release. Additionally, FDC is using this trend information to continue to develop the types of workforce programs available to inmates. By intuitively linking career interests and job training prior to inmates being released, inmates returning to their community will be more likely to find meaningful and lasting employment. FDC is working to ensure that the workforce trades identified are programmatically offered and meet inmates' needs.

Increasing Work Readiness

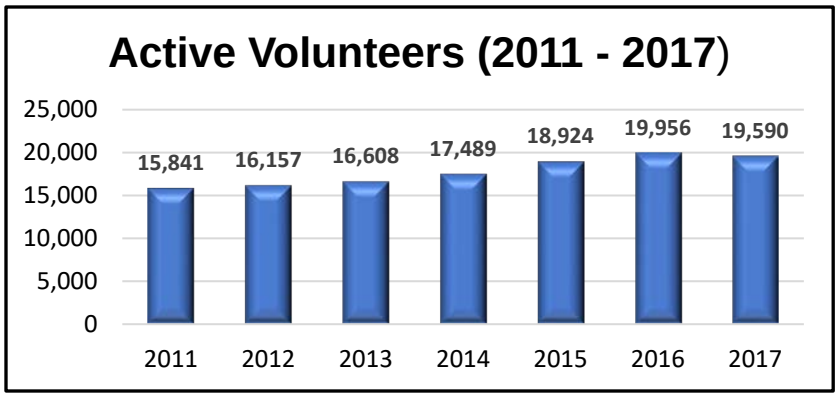
Governor Scott recognizes that having a job is one of the most important factors in ensuring that a person does not recidivate. One of the largest barriers for many individuals to obtain employment after release is their lack of required identification. In 2012, FDC implemented a program to assist inmates in obtaining a state-issued identification card. Governor Scott recognized the success of this program and signed legislation in 2014 making it easier for Florida-born inmates to procure documents needed to obtain an identification card. Since 2014, FDC, in partnership with the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, has helped to facilitate the issuance of 51,866 Florida ID's to inmates through Florida License On Wheels (FLOW) events at Florida prisons. The number of Florida-born inmates who have obtained a state identification card prior to release has increased from 35 percent to 83 percent. Since implementation, the program has helped over 70,000 inmates obtain identification cards. With a Florida ID, released inmates can establish their identity, open a bank account, secure housing, obtain employment, access healthcare, and are better prepared to contribute toward becoming a successful member of the community.

Aligning with Governor Scott's focus on work readiness, the Home Builders Institute (HBI) provides certification, pre-apprenticeship and job placement services to offenders on supervision. In FY 17-18, more than 110 offenders on felony supervision received one or more certifications through this program. The certifications received by the graduates include OSHA 10 & 30, Work Readiness, Safe Staff Food Handler Training, Electric Wiring or Carpentry, Hospitality & Tourism and CPR/First Aid.

To assist individuals on community supervision in obtaining employment, FDC worked with its probation and parole specialists to ensure that every circuit had a dedicated position to assist with job searches. These specialists assist individuals on community supervision in preparing for interviews, researching employment opportunities, and completing applications and resumes. They also establish partnerships with local employers, the Department of Economic Opportunity, and academic and work force training schools to help individuals find jobs and transition back into the workforce.

Volunteerism

More than 19,000 individual volunteers from faith-based and community organizations are providing strong guidance to inmates and are helping to promote pro-social behavior. The volunteers are augmenting the work done by FDC through programs related to life skills, career readiness, public speaking, and finance and budgeting. Inmates with better life skills are more productive and contribute to their



communities. FDC continues to experience an increase in the quality of services provided by volunteers and its number of committed volunteers, logging over 2,389,010 hours since Governor Scott took office in 2011.

Improved Safety and Security of Correctional Facilities

Governor Scott is committed to improving Florida's correctional facilities to ensure that each is a safe, clean and healthy environment for all who live and work there. By working to improve the physical condition of Florida's prisons, Governor Scott is building better environments that transform the lives of those in custody and promote the success of Florida's hardworking correctional employees.

Improved Mental Health Training

Florida's population of inmates experiencing mental health issues has grown more than 160 percent since 1996. Governor Scott recognized that providing high-quality services for these inmates is critical to their successful treatment and stabilization and is central to maintaining the safety of inmates, correctional staff and the community. Under Governor Scott's leadership, FDC has expanded correctional officer training to improve interaction with these inmates and ensure they receive the best possible level of care.

In 2016, Florida became the first state in the nation to have staff certified in the Correctional Behavioral Health Program. This certification is an important tool for improving outcomes for inmates receiving behavioral-health treatment. FDC is working to ensure that correctional officers involved in the provision of behavioral health services for these inmates receive a Correctional Behavioral Health Certification. This training enhances the safety of the correctional officers that interact daily with mentally ill inmates as well as the Floridians who live in communities where these inmates are released.

Improved Prison Infrastructure

FDC maintains nearly 150 facilities across Florida – more than any other state agency. When Governor Scott took office, he realized the importance of improving the condition of these facilities for the safety and security of the inmates and staff. Before Governor Scott took office, FDC only received $4.74 million in funding over four years to address maintenance and repair needs. Under Governor Scott's leadership, since 2011, FDC has received $47 million in funding to address maintenance and repair needs. This funding has allowed FDC to address its most critical infrastructure needs such as roof replacements, outdated electrical systems and obsolete perimeter security systems.

FDC has completed a new infirmary and electrical distribution at Union C.I., a new food service building at Tomoka C.I., and nearly 90 large roof replacements. Additionally, FDC has completed 297 roof replacements resulting from Hurricane Irma and expects to complete and additional 73 roof replacements by February of 2019. FDC has also centralized the oversight of all maintenance and construction projects. Centralization has allowed FDC to thoroughly assess

all of its maintenance and repair needs to develop a strategic long-range maintenance and repair plan, rather than focusing solely on emergency repairs. These significant improvements will help make Florida's correctional facilities a safer environment in which to live and work.

Improved Inmate Phone Systems and Cell Phone Detection
FDC secured funding to upgrade the inmate telephone system with biometric voice detection. This ensures the inmate population is only able to use their assigned pin number to make telephone calls to people on their approved phone list. Additionally, under Governor Scott's leadership, funding was acquired to ensure each main unit, annex, and work camp could procure a magneto static detection unit. These devices assist the agency by detecting illegal cell phones in the possession of inmates. FDC also opened a cell phone forensic lab, which became fully operational in April 2016. This lab enables trained staff to examine confiscated cell phones for evidence and intelligence.

Expanded Security Technology
Video monitoring systems are effective tools in providing security in correctional facilities. Governor Scott recognized the importance of ensuring that all prisons had video monitoring systems installed to increase the safety and security for inmates and staff. As recommended in Governor Scott's 2015 budget, FDC completed installation of video monitoring technology in all 34 remaining prisons that were without such technology.

Correctional Officer Pay Increases
More than $43 million in funding for a three-tier recruitment and retention plan for FDC was proposed by Governor Scott and passed by the Florida Legislature in 2016. The plan provides an increase in the base pay for correctional officers, a ten percent increase in pay for officers who work in inpatient mental health housing units, and a hiring bonus for new officers at facilities with high vacancy rates.

Aggressive Recruitment Campaign
The Department created and implemented an enhanced recruitment campaign, promoting a "Career of Service." This campaign was designed to attract and recruit new correctional officers. It deployed several creative media outlets including a video, movie theater ads, billboards, gas pump toppers and radio advertisements.

Specialized Programs at the Florida Department of Corrections

Governor Scott supports programs and services that work towards successful treatment, transition and reintegration of inmates into Florida's communities. Governor Scott recognizes that these programs are essential in reducing recidivism and enhancing the opportunities available for those being released back into the community.

Faith- and Character-Based Programs
Faith and character-based programs reduce disciplinary infractions by offering programming that promotes cognitive behavioral therapy. These voluntary programs motivate positive

behavioral change through a variety of activities and classes (both religious and secular) focused on personal growth and character development. These programs encourage a sense of community among participants and utilizes citizen volunteers to mentor and teach inmates. Programming is designed to enhance positive reinforcement to help inmates take well-defined steps toward mature and responsible living. Faith-and character-based programs have a positive effect on inmate institutional adjustment and increase institutional security. Since Governor Scott took office, more than 74,500 inmates have participated in these programs.

Dog Obedience Programs

FDC partners with various community rescue groups and animal service agencies to operate 24 dog obedience programs at FDC facilities. These partnerships pair inmates with shelter dogs for an eight- to 10-week training period to increase the adoptability of shelter dogs, expose inmates to patience and discipline and provide inmates with job skills beneficial upon release. Specialized programs train dogs to become therapy or service dogs and can last for up to 18 months. These programs help inmates as well as dogs and have been shown to reduce inmate aggression and anxiety, boost morale and promote increased positive social interaction. Under Governor Scott's leadership, statewide standards and curriculum for dog obedience programs were developed, allowing the program to expand to serve more inmates every year. Since Governor Scott took office, the programs have graduated more than 3,700 dogs which were adopted to forever homes, and approximately 5,000 inmates have been involved as caretakers, handlers, and trainers.

Farm Program

FDC operates farm programs at 32 parent institution farms, seven satellite locations and four University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences facilities. The farm program is, first and foremost, an inmate work program with an intended goal to provide inmates with productive activities and the opportunity to learn agricultural techniques that may be utilized to secure employment in one of the state's largest industries upon release. Work assignments expose inmates to good work habits, valuable skill building, teamwork, and a realistic understanding of employer expectations, all of which contribute to their success upon release.

Inmates perform various agricultural tasks, including land preparation; seeding, planting, tending, and harvesting crops; and grading, packaging, and shipping freshly harvested produce. In addition to the many benefits the farm program provides for inmates, it also produces valuable savings for Floridians by reducing FDC's overall food costs. Since Governor Scott took office, the FDC farm program has planted approximately 6,000 acres of fruit and vegetables, producing about 60 million pounds of fresh produce.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Increased Accountability at FDC

Increasing accountability is a key component to improving the safety and effectiveness of Florida's correctional system. In 2015, Governor Scott issued two executive orders implementing sweeping measures to increase oversight, accountability and efficiency at FDC. Governor Scott's directives enable FDC to better identify what works and where improvements can be made, and apply lessons learned across the state's entire correctional system.

Increased Regional Oversight
Governor Scott recognized opportunities to improve regional oversight of FDC's correctional facilities by reorganizing its regional structure and re-aligning supervisory workloads. By executive order, Governor Scott directed FDC to reorganize the facility regional structure from three regions to four regions to ensure enhanced oversight is in place for all of FDC's correctional facilities. This new regional scheme reduced the number of institutions each director supervises, allowing regional directors more time to monitor and oversee their designated facilities. FDC also assessed its regional directors and modified appointments where necessary to ensure the most appropriate staff is tasked with facility oversight. Requirements were imposed on all regional directors to conduct quarterly institutional monitoring visits and a variety of operational reviews to ensure protocols are followed and inmates are treated fairly. Governor Scott's new four-region model has enhanced accountability and safety throughout Florida's correctional system.

Enhanced Safety and Security Procedures
Governor Scott directed FDC's security review committees to contract with safety and security experts to conduct a thorough review of FDC procedures, including reviewing the usefulness and dependability of existing technology, the need for any new safety and security technology, staffing policies and practices, use-of-force procedures, and policies to protect employees against retaliation.

Improved Investigatory Oversight
Governor Scott also directed FDC to provide additional independent oversight over use-of-force investigations. As part of this initiative, Governor Scott directed FDC to establish a usage and inventory policy to track, by institution, the use and disposal of chemical agents. FDC policies on reporting use-of-force were also strengthened to require that each employee, who either applied physical force or was responsible for the decision to apply physical force, sign an independent report under oath within one working day of the incident. The data gained through this new policy enables investigators to appropriately evaluate use-of-force using data-driven methodology, resulting in further refinement of policies and training procedures to improve inmate and officer safety.

Through his executive orders, Governor Scott also required FDC's investigators in the Office of Inspector General to receive specialized training in conducting sexual abuse investigations. This training ensures that investigators are properly equipped to conduct independent evaluations of alleged incidents, provide a thorough report and recommendations, and to ensure FDC is able to respond swiftly and appropriately for the protection of inmates.

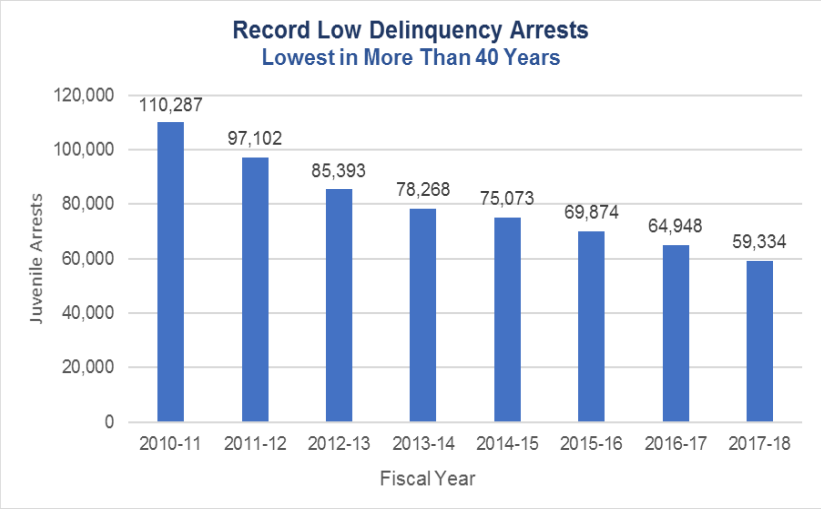
Additionally, Governor Scott implemented an additional review process for in-custody inmate deaths. Under this new process, all non-natural deaths are investigated by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement in addition to FDC's investigators, to increase independent oversight and accountability.

Increase Public Accountability
Under Governor Scott's leadership, FDC has increased the availability of information on its website. In 2014, FDC created the Inmate Mortality Website, which provides detailed mortality information for all in-custody deaths since 2000. Providing online access to such information provides transparency to Floridians and increases accountability for FDC.

Improved Safety by Reducing Juvenile Arrest Rate

Governor Scott recognizes that today's youth are the future workforce and that working to ensure their success will create a successful future for Florida. By preventing juvenile delinquency, Governor Scott is providing Florida's youth with more opportunities to succeed while keeping Florida communities safe. With juvenile arrests at the lowest rate in 42 years, Governor Scott's efforts to create a safe state full of opportunities are working.

Implemented the "Roadmap to System Excellence"
When Governor Scott came into office, he recognized that a comprehensive effort was needed to transform the juvenile justice system to ensure that youth committed less crime, making Florida a safer place to live and work. In 2011, the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) launched the "Roadmap to System Excellence" (Roadmap), a strategic guide to reducing juvenile delinquency, improving Florida's services to at-risk youth, and making Florida the national model for juvenile justice administration. The Roadmap uses evidenced-based prevention and intervention services to decrease the number of youth that enter the delinquency system to begin with, provide appropriate community-based sanctions and services for those that may commit minor crimes, and focus on rehabilitation of youth to reduce recidivism overall. This transformation of the juvenile justice system under Governor Scott's leadership has resulted in a 46 percent decrease in juvenile arrests since FY (FY) 2010-11, contributing to the lowest juvenile arrest record in 42 years. These reforms have led to safer communities for Florida families and visitors, which provides a greater incentive for more families and businesses to move to Florida.

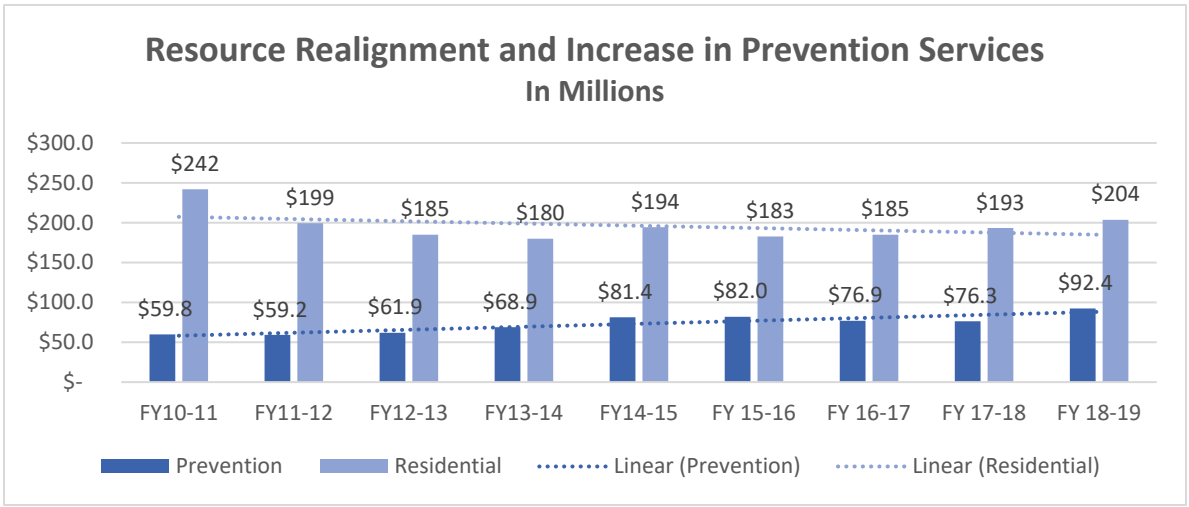


GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Pay Raises for Juvenile Detention and Probation Officers
The Securing Florida's Future budget invests more than $8 million to provide a 10 percent salary increase for Florida's Juvenile Detention and Probation Officers. This critical investment will allow DJJ to better recruit officers and ensure DJJ has an experienced workforce that is committed to reducing juvenile delinquency and turning around the lives of troubled youth.

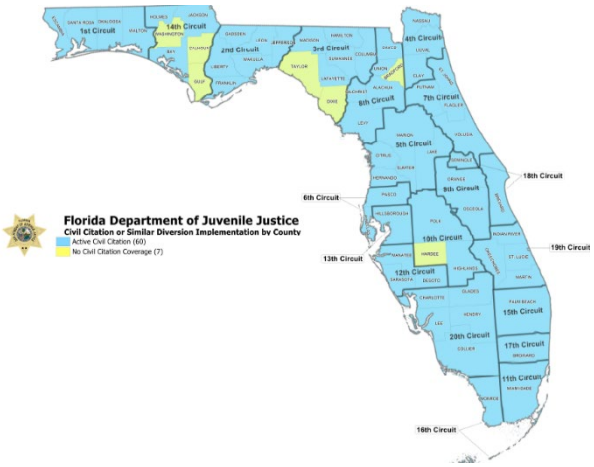
Expanded Programs That Prevent Youth Delinquency
Governor Scott has worked to place a greater emphasis on effective, upstream prevention services that help at-risk youth avoid the criminal justice system. Since Governor Scott took office, prevention funding has increased 54 percent, from $60 million in FY 2010-11 to a record high $92 million in FY 2018-19. Youth served by prevention programs are less likely to ever commit a crime and instead have learned skills that help them find a job and contribute to Florida's workforce.

Realigned Resources to Improve Efficiency
Following Governor Scott's vision to improve government efficiency and reduce use of tax dollars as much as possible, DJJ undertook a major resource realignment that refocused resources where they can most make an impact and reduce overall expenses. Since Governor Scott took office, DJJ has reduced its overall budget by $13.6 million while increasing the effectiveness of its programs. This has been accomplished by better managing its population, reducing juvenile delinquency, and lowering commitments to residential placement. DJJ has been able to strategically reinvest some of these resources to more effective programs, such as front-end prevention services. Since FY 2010-11, DJJ has increased prevention funding 54 percent to increase the availability of these effective, low-cost programs, while higher-cost residential program funding has decreased 16 percent.



GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Expanded Civil Citation Programs
In 2011, Governor Scott signed legislation strengthening and expanding civil citation programs for juveniles. Civil citation programs address a youth's behavior at their first encounter with the juvenile justice system and provide an alternative to arrest. Civil citation programs are vital to Governor Scott's efforts to reform the juvenile justice system by providing youth with intervention services, such as family counseling and substance abuse and mental health treatment, at the earliest stage of delinquency. These programs have proven to be extremely effective – only 4 percent of youth who successfully complete such programs recidivate.



Since Governor Scott took office, DJJ has significantly increased the number of civil citation programs in Florida. Currently, 60 out of 67 counties have implemented civil citation programs, a significant increase from 2011, when only 14 counties had such programs. Since 2011, more than 62,000 juvenile arrests have been avoided by effectively utilizing civil citation programs and keeping youth out of formal involvement with Florida's juvenile justice system. This saves Floridians' tax dollars that would otherwise be spent if youth were arrested and required to go through the formal delinquency process and translates into safer families and communities.

Increased Services for Families in Need
As a result of Governor Scott's leadership, funding for Children in Need of Services (CINS) / Families in Need of Services (FINS) programs have increased by 23 percent. Before Governor Scott took office, these programs were funded at $31 million, but are now funded at $38 million. CINS/FINS programs provide services to at-risk youth who exhibit frequent problem behaviors such as truancy, running away from home, and other behaviors that are strong indicators of risk for future delinquency. The programs provide services that improve the behaviors on the part of the child and help the family to support the child and move beyond crisis. DJJ funds and supports these programs to reduce juvenile crime and prevent children from becoming further involved in the criminal justice system. This front-end investment to prevent crime helps keep Florida's visitors and families safe.

Helping Youth in the Juvenile Justice System Succeed

Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida's juvenile justice has moved to a youth-centered system working to provide the right services to support at-risk youth. By expanding programs that are proven to work and giving youth the tools they need to succeed in education and the workforce, Governor Scott has succeeded in making Florida a national leader in reducing juvenile delinquency and transitioning youth into productive members of the community.

Implemented the Juvenile Justice System Improvement Project
The Juvenile Justice System Improvement Project (JJSIP) is a national initiative to reform juvenile justice systems by translating "what works" into everyday practice. Under Governor Scott's leadership, DJJ became one of only four states selected to participate in the JJSIP.

Since implementation in 2011, DJJ has used JJSIP initiatives such as a graduated sanctions model with interventions to reduce the risk of a youth committing future offenses and the development and implementation of the first statistically validated set of guideline disposition recommendations in the nation. The reforms of the JJSIP have combined with the Roadmap to lead to safer communities for Florida residents and visitors, and have provided a greater incentive for more families and businesses to move to Florida.

Reducing the Number of Youth on Probation
Under Governor Scott's leadership, DJJ has focused on diversionary programming, which uses programs that are alternatives to the formal juvenile justice system, and evidence-based programming proven to reduce the likelihood of youth returning to the juvenile justice system. With the expansion of these programs, there has been a 38 percent decrease in the number of youth placed on probation since Governor Scott took office.

Preparing Youth for Higher Education or a Career
Governor Scott recognizes that having a job or pursuing education to prepare for a career is one of the most important factors in ensuring that youth do not recidivate. One of the largest barriers for many juveniles to getting a job or pursuing education is that they lack required identification. In 2016, Governor Scott signed legislation that authorizes the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to provide free identification cards to youth transitioning out of DJJ system. Identification cards give youth opportunities to seek employment, open a bank account, prepare for college, and apply for financial assistance. Identification cards are a critical component to successfully transitioning a youth into the community, which increases the safety of our communities by reducing the likelihood that youth will recidivate.

Supporting At-Risk Youth for Success

Governor Scott is committed to providing at-risk youth with the support they need to be successful. Throughout Governor Scott's term, several education programs focused on at-risk youth under the Department of Military Affairs have redirected students to a more successful and productive future.

Florida Youth Challenge Academy
The Florida Youth Challenge Academy (FLYCA) is a residential alternative high school located at Camp Blanding. FLYCA develops Florida's at-risk youth through a highly disciplined and motivational environment focused on helping youth who are no longer enrolled in high school get their high school diploma. Under Governor Scott's leadership, the program has consistently increased its success and significantly reduced Florida's dropout population. Since Governor Scott took office, class sizes have increased by more than 20 percent, allowing more cadets than ever to receive services from FLYCA. The program can be a life-changing event for participating cadets, but it also has an impact on the community. Since 2011, graduated cadets have provided over 150,000 hours in community service to help others in their communities.

About Face! Program
About Face! is an after-school program serving economically disadvantaged youth, ages 13-17, who are still in school but at risk of becoming dropouts. The program is designed to help students by improving their academic skills, teaching effective study habits, teaching life coping skills, good citizenship, and providing strong mentor and role model experiences. The program has served more than 27,000 participants since 1997 resulting in improved academic

performance by at least one grade level.

Forward March Program
Governor Scott has placed a high priority on creating jobs and assisting individuals with opportunities to succeed in the workforce. Forward March is a community outreach program designed to assist economically disadvantaged youth and young adults in making a successful transition into the workforce. The program teaches core academics and work readiness skills, as well as assisting with job placement. Since Governor Scott took office, Forward March has provided more than 10,000 Floridians the services they need to seek, secure and succeed in a high-demand profession.

STARBASE
Governor Scott recognizes the importance of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) skills in preparing today's students for the 21st century workforce. The Department of Military Affairs oversees STARBASE, an educational program for students from low-performing elementary schools that focuses on the important STEM fields. This premier educational program immerses at-risk youth in a hands-on STEM curriculum combined with positive role models, to provide early intervention in assuring students are prepared for academic success. The success rate is 99 percent of the more than 1,300 students since 2011 demonstrating better understanding of STEM subjects by graduating the program.

Increased Safety and Security of Juvenile Facilities

Governor Scott has worked to ensure the safety of DJJ facilities for the youth who reside there, the staff who work there, and the surrounding communities. Addressing key needs such as facility repair, vehicle maintenance, and staffing levels improves the safety and security of facilities and keeps Florida's communities safe.

Right-Sizing Staff for Improved Services
Appropriate staffing levels increase the safety of DJJ facilities for both youth and staff. While Governor Scott has been in office, DJJ has continually worked to increase staff and reduce youth in their care, in order to provide the best services in the safest settings. Starting in 2013, DJJ began requiring its residential providers to improve staff-to-youth ratios to 1:8 during waking hours and 1:12 during sleeping hours. The success of this initiative is clear–residential programs with the increased staffing levels have fewer incidents. Governor Scott recognized the success of the facilities where the increased staffing had been implemented and pushed to ensure that this was implemented statewide. As recommended in Governor Scott's 2016 budget, DJJ received an additional $2 million to ensure that these staff-to-youth ratios are implemented in all DJJ residential programs. This funding will help to keep youth and staff who reside and work in these facilities safer, while also ensuring the safety of Florida's communities.

Improved the Safety and Security of Facilities
DJJ maintains over 655 facilities across Florida, many of which require on-going maintenance

and repair. When Governor Scott took office, he recognized the importance of maintaining these facilities for the safety and security of the residents and staff. Before Governor Scott took office, DJJ received only $2.35 million in funding over the previous three FYs to address these ongoing needs. Under Governor Scott's leadership, DJJ has received over $27 million in funding for maintenance and repair since 2011.

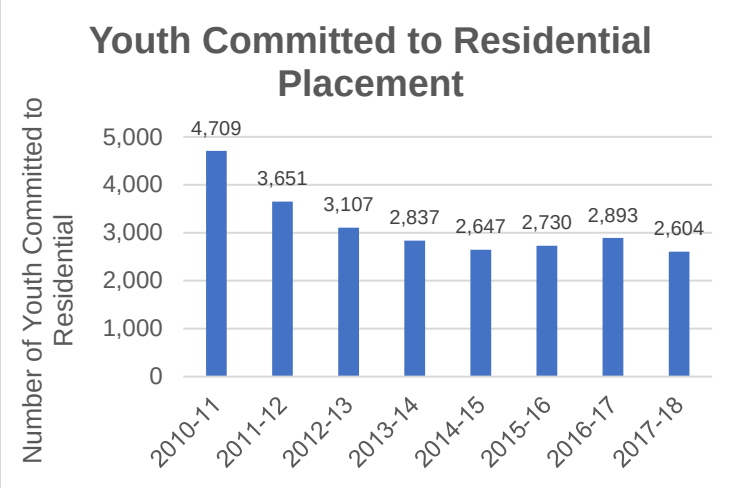
This funding allows DJJ to maintain and improve the physical condition of Florida's juvenile facilities by focusing on major repair efforts, including repairing roofs, addressing life safety issues, and increasing security. By improving the physical condition of the facilities, youth and staff are provided with a clean, healthy, and safe environment in which to live and work.

Improving Residential Services for Youth

Governor Scott has successfully led DJJ in improving residential services for youth most in need of assistance. By placing the emphasis on individualized services and providing tools for success, DJJ has lowered recidivism rates, reduced costs, and improved outcomes for youth when they return to the community.

Reducing Need for High-Risk Residential Services
Under Governor Scott's leadership, DJJ has placed an emphasis on keeping low-risk offenders out of the expensive, "deep-end" juvenile justice system and instead placing them into more appropriate, successful and less-costly community-based services. Since Governor Scott took office, DJJ has reduced the population of youth committed to residential facilities by 44.7 percent. When youth receive more appropriate services, they are less likely to commit new crimes, and Florida's taxpayers stay safe and save money.

Right-Sizing Residential Programs
Under the Governor's direction, DJJ has focused on reducing the size of residential programs, moving away from large 165 bed programs to smaller and more effective specialized programs. Smaller programs are less institutionalized, more youth-centered, and are better able to address the behavioral needs of youth. In 2014, Governor Scott signed legislation capping the size of residential programs at 90 beds to ensure that youth receive the personal attention and rehabilitative services they need to be successful upon their release into the community.



Increased Programs with a Track Record of Success
Under Governor Scott's leadership, DJJ has focused on improving evidence-based services to ensure that youth are receiving effective treatments and services known to meet their specific behavioral, developmental and mental health needs. Since 2011, DJJ has utilized the latest research and data to guide decision making and implement best practices and evidence-based services to improve residential services. As a result, more children are getting the opportunity to

receive services that work and translate to success upon returning to the community. Data shows there were no juveniles whose risk level was so high that they did not respond to effective evidence-based interventions. By continuing to focus on programs that demonstrate consistent results, DJJ is improving the success of the youth who enter its residential programs, preparing them to enter a career or pursue higher education upon release, and making Florida's communities safer.

Increasing Educational Opportunities
Governor Scott recognizes that having a job or pursuing education to prepare for a career is one of the most important factors in ensuring that youth do not recidivate. Under Governor Scott's leadership, DJJ has placed a stronger emphasis on educational services to assist youth in successfully completing their education and transitioning into the workforce. DJJ programs provide a high-quality education to youth designed to meet the unique educational needs of each student. Youth in DJJ programs can continue to pursue their traditional secondary education program or enroll in GED preparation courses. Youth who have earned their diplomas also have opportunities to pursue higher education and earn college credits while in DJJ programs.

In addition to academic programs, DJJ works to ensure that youth learn a career education skill or certification that will help the youth enter the workforce and get a great job upon release. DJJ's vocational educational services and industry-recognized certification programs now offer training leading to 24 vocational certifications. Programs provide the opportunity for youth to earn credentials that demonstrate the ability to enter the workforce with the skills needed to succeed after they are released. Youth that achieve educational gains and that receive vocational training are better equipped to reintegrate into their communities and get a job that leads toward a successful career.

Increased Accountability at DJJ

Governor Scott has worked to ensure that outcomes are measured to track success of programs, focus resources where they are most needed, and provide more efficient services. By setting clear benchmarks and tracking performance, Governor Scott has improved the services government provides for Floridians. Sharing this performance data ensures that the public, stakeholders, and the youth served by DJJ programs can hold the agency accountable.

Increased Online Accessibility
Under Governor Scott's leadership, DJJ has increased public access to juvenile justice information and benchmarks. DJJ is a national leader among juvenile justice agencies in using data and research to measure outcomes and track the progress of reform. In 2012, DJJ launched an online interactive delinquency profile to allow the public easier and faster access to agency data. Building on that success, in 2013 DJJ launched the DJJ Monthly Accountability Scorecard, an online scorecard that tracks key indicators of the agency's performance. Floridians also have web-based access to DJJ's Quality Assurance Reports, which gives Floridians further ability to monitor how DJJ's programs are performing.

Sharing Information for Success
When Governor Scott took office, he recognized that a coordinated effort and sharing of information between DJJ and other state and local entities serving at-risk youth was necessary to ensure successful intervention and treatment. In 2012, DJJ created interactive civil citation

dashboards that give each judicial circuit access to information that allows them to make better-informed decisions about their civil citation programs. In 2015, DJJ launched the DJJ-DCF Profile of Dually-Served Crossover Youth dashboard, an interactive dashboard that helps identify youth who are dually-served by the two agencies and analyze trends to provide better services. This dashboard was heralded as the first release of this scale by a state juvenile justice agency online. Both dashboards were designed to improve data sharing with other government agencies and are accessible to the public to ensure accountability at all levels.

Improved Contract Accountability

Under Governor Scott's leadership, DJJ has worked to improve management and monitoring of its contracts. In 2014, DJJ created and implemented a contract monitoring prioritization tool that assesses its contracts based on the level of risk. This tool enables DJJ to focuses its resources on those programs that present the highest risk, thereby maximizing the effectiveness of agency resources and increasing the efficiency of contract monitoring programs. DJJ also implemented a shared services model that ensures that all relevant stakeholders communicate to more efficiently and appropriately oversee and review contract quality and benchmarks. These initiatives ensure that the best services possible are provided to youth and Florida's communities are kept safe.

Increased Accountability for Detention Costs

In 2016, Governor Scott signed legislation revising the cost-sharing relationship between DJJ and Florida's counties for juvenile detention costs. Governor Scott's successful resolution of cost sharing issues strengthened DJJ's partnership with Florida's counties allowing greater focus on providing high quality services for at-risk youth and making Florida's communities safer. Ending more than a decade of legal action, the legislation streamlined the billing process between counties and DJJ to help save taxpayer dollars and establishes a 50/50 cost sharing process based on actual expenditures and detention days. This improved cost sharing structure reduced Florida's counties costs by $12 million in the first year of implementation alone.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

STRENGTHENING FLORIDA'S JUDICIARY

Reshaping Florida's Judiciary
Governor Scott's judicial appointments will stand as an enduring legacy to his commitment to the rule of law. In selecting judges, Governor Scott sought to appoint men and women of integrity, intellect, and humility who will follow the law, interpret statutes and constitutional provisions according to their plain and ordinary meaning, and who understand the role of the judiciary under the Florida Constitution's strict separation of powers.

During his eight years in office, Governor Scott has appointed or reappointed a total of 406 judges: 61 judges of compensation claims, 112 county court judges, 196 circuit court judges, 36 appellate judges to the District Courts of Appeal, and one Florida Supreme Court Justice. At the conclusion of his second term, more than half of the appellate judges serving on Florida's District Courts of Appeal (35 out of a total of 64 DCA judges) were appointed by Governor Scott.

Diversity in Judicial Appointments
At the same time, Governor Scott's judicial appointees are the most diverse group of judges appointed by any governor in Florida history. More than 46% of Governor Scott's judicial appointments have been either women or members of racial minority groups. In contrast, women and racial minorities constituted only 37% of Governor Crist's judicial appointments and 43% of Governor Bush's judicial appointments.

Governor Scott's record on the appointment of women to the bench is particularly striking. Governor Scott's judicial appointments have included more women—both in total numbers and as a percentage—than any previous governor in Florida history. Women made up only 26% of Governor Chiles's judicial appointees, 27% of Governor Crist's judicial appointees, and 31% of Governor Bush's judicial appointees. **More than 38%** of Governor Scott's appointments to the bench have gone to more than 150 women. And Governor Scott has appointed racial minorities to the bench at a level on par with that of previous governors. **More than 18%** of Governor Scott's judicial appointees have been members of racial minority groups.

Standing Up for Florida's Constitution
Governor Scott has fought in the courts for important constitutional principles. In 2011, the Florida Supreme Court unanimously upheld Governor Scott's authority to reject more than $2 billion in federal funds to construct a wasteful high-speed rail line that would have placed taxpayers at risk. The Florida Supreme Court also upheld Governor Scott's decision to reassign capital homicide cases away from a state attorney who refused to seek the death penalty in any case—even where the victims were children and law enforcement officers. And, in 2018, the Florida Supreme Court upheld Governor Scott's authority to appoint trial court judges to fill vacancies in judicial office and reaffirmed the authority of the Florida Supreme Court Judicial Nominating Commission, appointed by Governor Scott, to nominate the final list of potential successors to Justices Pariente, Lewis, and Quince before Governor Scott left office.

Governor Scott also stood up for Florida before the United States Supreme Court. After decades of lawsuits and endless negotiations over Georgia's wasteful use of water resources in the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River Basin, Governor Scott took the matter to the Supreme Court by directing the filing of *Florida v. Georgia*. The Supreme Court gave Florida an important win in 2018 by reversing a ruling in favor of Georgia and requiring that additional consideration be given to Florida's allegations of harm caused by decreased water flow.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

HONORING AND SUPPORTING MILITARY AND VETERANS

As a Navy veteran and the son of a World War II veteran, Governor Scott has worked every day to make Florida the most military and veteran-friendly state in the nation. Governor Scott believes that those who so bravely serve the United States should be offered resources and support to ensure they are successful and able to provide for their families. Since 2011, Governor Scott has secured more than $1.3 billion in funding to support Florida's active duty military, veterans and their families.

Safeguarding Florida's Citizens

Since 2011, Governor Scott has activated the Florida National Guard (FLANG) for multiple Humanitarian, Security and Aviation Support operations. Working closely with Florida's State Emergency Response Team, the Guard has answered Governor Scott's call by swiftly responding to disasters facing Florida. The Guard has conducted 11 disaster response operations since Governor Scott took office to include Haitian Relief, Deep Water Horizon, Pinellas Jail Support, Swift Suppression, Tropical Storm Debby and Isaac, Spring Floods 2014, Ebola Outbreak, Hurricane Matthew, Irma, and Michael.

Additionally, under Governor Scott's leadership, the Guard supported the Republican National Convention, Presidential Inauguration, and Protect the Force which was in response to Governor Scott Executive Order following the 2015 attacks on our nation's service members in Chattanooga. The Florida National Guard provides a ready force of approximately 6,000 to 8,000 "mission ready" soldiers and Air Force personnel ready to respond at the Governor's request. Governor Scott incorporates the Florida National Guard in his annual State Hurricane Conference and Hurricane Exercise. The Guard maintains F-15C aircraft at Jacksonville International Airport and aircraft on continuous 24-hour alert mission in Homestead, providing air sovereignty over Florida and the entire southeast United States. The FLANG's 601Air Operations Center (AOC) and 101st Air and Space Operations Group, collectively referred to as "America's AOC," provide air defense of the Continental Unites States, to include the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, providing civil authorities with aerial operations support after natural or manmade disasters, and theater security cooperation.

Enhanced the Safety of National Guard Facilities

In response to the 2015 attacks on our nation's service members in Chattanooga, Tennessee, Governor Scott issued an Executive Order 15-137, to increase protection for Florida's Guard members. Through the executive order, Governor Scott emphasized the importance of security at all National Guard facilities and directed the Guard to take steps to increase the security of its recruitment facilities.

These steps included:

- The relocation of all Florida National Guard personnel at the state's six storefront recruitment centers to the nearest Florida National Guard Armory until security improvements could be made;
- Discussions with local law enforcement agencies to arrange regular security checks for Florida National Guard Armories; and
- Ensuring that all qualified fulltime guardsmen are adequately armed for their personal protection.

Governor Scott is leading efforts to continue to improve Guard facilities, and the Department of Military Affairs is in the process of hardening Florida's armories. Each year, Governor Scott has championed funding in his recommended budget to continue the "hardening" of Florida National Guard facilities to protect the force and our citizens.

Engaging Florida's Base Commanders

When Governor Scott took office, he recognized that a coordinated effort and consistent communication between all military bases in Florida was necessary. In 2011, Governor Scott initiated quarterly meetings with all Florida military base commanders and relevant Executive Agency leaders, bringing all stakeholders together to discuss supporting Florida's service members and veterans. Governor Scott has met with Florida's base commanders 11 times since taking office. Through these meetings, the senior military leaders of the state are able to collaborate on ways to improve the security of our state and make it easier for military members, veterans, and their families to get an education or find a job. Also, through the Base Commander Meeting, Governor Scott directed greater collaboration for emergency management planning. Through site visits and capability briefings, the Florida National Guard developed a portfolio of military resources throughout the state to use in emergency response.

Countering Transnational and Domestic Crime

Under Governor Scott's leadership, and through interagency partnerships and education, the Guard strengthens Florida's commitment to combat illicit activities that encompass illegal narcotics and human trafficking by Transnational Criminal Organizations and Domestic Criminal Organizations. This includes partnering with law enforcement agencies and Department of Defense to reduce the supply and demand for illegal drugs through technical support,

reconnaissance and training. Florida National Guard personnel work in three High Intensity Drug Traffic Areas, the Joint Interagency Task Force South and the Florida Fusion Center.

Building Global Relationships to Combat Organized Crime
Through Governor Scott's commitment to public safety and combatting human trafficking, the Guard initiated partnerships with law enforcement agencies, both in the United States and across the globe, to work together to combat transnational organized criminal activities. The Guard is a leading participant in the State Partnership Program, an international program involving 76 nations countering illicit activity abroad. Through the partnership with Guyana and Eastern Caribbean nations in the Regional Support System, as well as partnerships in Central and South America created through the U.S. Southern Command, the Guard shares practices on countering transnational organized crime to help other nation's combat crime within their own borders before those organizations grow internationally. These collaborative efforts identify and stop criminal links before they threaten the security and safety of Floridians.

Serving Florida's Veterans

Education Dollars for Duty
Governor Scott's top priority is to create jobs for Florida families and under his leadership, Florida has implemented several initiatives to make it easier for service members and veterans to get a world-class education in the Sunshine State.

In 2014, Governor Scott signed the Florida GI Bill, creating the Education Dollars for Duty (EDD) tuition assistance program for Guard soldiers and airmen. The EDD program helps make Florida the most military-friendly state in the nation by supporting service members pursuing higher education in Florida. Under EDD, Guard members may receive funding to cover up to 100 percent of tuition and fee costs incurred while they are serving the state. Guard members may use the EDD for courses that lead toward technical certificates, associate's, bachelor's, and master's degrees.

Tuition Waivers for Veterans
Florida's support of service members also extends to veterans seeking higher education in Florida. In 2014, Governor Scott signed legislation that waives out-of-state tuition fees for veterans. Waiving these fees makes it easier for returning veterans to obtain the higher education they need to re-enter Florida's workforce and ensures that they have the education and skills required to obtain a great job in Florida.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Services Provided to Veterans Through Florida's Department of Veteran Affairs

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018 to April 1st	TOTALS
Outreach	665	573	633	692	742	787	602	627	5,321
Veterans	41,523	42,513	42,861	53,095	48,223	33,659	28,882	25,840	316,596
Unique Veterans	103,668	100,712	105,824	110,405	105,839	55,258	113,446	74,676	769,828
Services to Veterans	526,784	578,337	619,509	620,808	696,679	675,133	711,647	524,934	4,953,831
Veterans	29,114	28,360	26,977	28,597	32,816	33,240	35,999	28,647	243,750
Issue resolutions	13,184	13,075	13,921	20,621	21,946	15,397	25,498	23,721	147,363
Hearings held	698	499	338	396	759	1.191	979	881	5,741
School approvals	18,913	8,923	6,282	10,589	11,513	11,087	17,604	14,809	99,918
Federal Benefits payments	$368,154,897	$400,327,677	$356,479,958	$336,335,019	$399,726,753	$269,206,598	$339,279,371	$241,639,634	$2,711,149,908
Retroactive payments	$211,926,471	$216,741,916	$171,354,815	$174,022,538	$135,511,693	$127,084,442	$317,642,636	$96,123,116	$1,450,407,627
Debt waivers	$666,769	$868,704	$462,377	$332,788	$257,493	$331,763	$313,824	$870,229	$4,103,947
Issue resolutions payments	$48,407,864	$57,804,381	$42,075,260	$56,445,394	$62,226,090	$64,096,958	$69,072,422	$57,005,052	$457,133,421

Eliminated Fees for Veterans and Their Families

In 2012, Governor Scott championed legislation creating a fee waiver for military veterans pursuing a professional license as they transition to the civilian workforce. Waiving several DBPR fees significantly lowers the costs for veterans to obtain a professional license as they transition to a new career when concluding their military service. Building on the success of this program, Governor Scott signed legislation in 2014 that expanded the program to include veterans' spouses. Since the fee waiver program was implemented, DBPR has received more than 4,586 applications from military veterans and their spouses, with an overall savings of over $400,036 to military families.

Making It Easier for Military Families to Start a Business and Get to Work

Furthering Governor Scott's mission to make Florida the most military friendly state, DBPR has revised procedures to increase acceptance of relevant military training and education as experience applied toward obtaining a license. This effort recognizes the valuable service of our military and makes it easier for them to get to work as they transition into Florida's growing workforce. In 2013, DBPR also partnered with license exam providers to allow those serving overseas to take licensure exams at 77 active testing sites at military bases, including 36 overseas. This makes it easier for active duty military members to take a license exam as they prepare for discharge, allowing them to have their license in hand and be ready to get to work as soon as they return to Florida.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Recognizing the Service and Sacrifice of Florida's Veterans
Whether participating in a Florida National Guard deployment ceremony, honoring veterans or preparing care packages for deployed service members, Governor and Mrs. Scott always make time for our military. Since 2013, Governor Scott has awarded more than 15,000 veterans with the Governor's Veterans Service Medal.

Securing Legislation to Serve and Honor Florida's Veterans
Governor Scott is committed to honoring Florida's veterans and their families. Below are just a few of the legislative accomplishments regarding veterans that Governor Scott has signed into law:

- **HB 465 -** Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame established; the Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame Council was established in 2011-12 to recommend nominations to the Hall. The first group was inducted in 2013.
- **HB 45 -** Postsecondary Education Course Registration for Veterans: Requires certain Florida College System institutions & state universities to provide priority course registration for veterans; provides eligibility requirements; encourages certain independent postsecondary educational institutions to provide priority course registration for veterans.
- **HB 1219** - Veterans' Employment: Requires state agencies, & authorizes political subdivisions of state, to develop & implement veterans' recruitment plan; requires DMS to collect specified data & include such data in its annual workforce report & on its website; provides applicability.
- **SB 100** - Identification Card and Driver License Fees for Veterans; Deleting fees for adding the word "Veteran" to an identification card or a driver license; revising acceptable forms of identification required to add the word "Veteran" to an identification card or a driver license; prohibiting tax collectors from charging certain driver license service fees to veterans who present specified forms of identification, etc.

Florida's Five-Star, Award Winning Veteran's Nursing Homes
Governor Scott has prioritized millions in funding to both revitalize existing state veterans nursing homes and build new facilities. Under Governor Scott's leadership, two new veteran nursing homes were made possible to accommodate 234 of Florida's veterans – the Ardie R. Copas State Veteran Nursing Home in Port St. Lucie and the Lake Baldwin State Veteran Nursing Home in Orlando. In 2018, for the first time, all six state veteran nursing homes achieved a Five-Star Quality Rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

BUILDING STRONGER FLORIDA COMMUNITIES

Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida's Division of Emergency Management (DEM) has become the gold-standard in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery. The state has a highly-qualified, highly-educated, and highly-trained emergency management and first responder workforce that provides Florida with the expertise to respond to, recover from, and mitigate against all types of disasters.

Since Governor Scott took office, DEM has conducted more than 2,500 disaster preparedness courses, training nearly 65,000 first responders, emergency managers, and civilian personnel. The Division has also successfully conducted five statewide hurricane exercises with approximately 1,500 participants, including representation from all 67 counties. These exercises test plans and procedures and hone skills needed to respond to an actual disaster.

DEM has conducted needs assessments with all 67 counties and state agencies, as well as completed multi-year training and exercise plans for counties and state agencies.

In 2017, DEM was responsible for overseeing 1,146 FEMA and Florida-specific courses training approximately 6,953 Emergency Management Directors, first responders, and other stakeholders.

Facilitating Emergency Management Accreditation
Since 2012, DEM has worked to increase Florida's accredited local emergency management programs from 3 to 23. Florida now has more accredited local programs than the combined totals of the next six closest states – Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Washington, Nevada, Minnesota and Texas. As a direct result, Florida's local emergency management programs now have a level of distinctive continuity.

Florida was the first state emergency management program to earn accreditation and, in 2014, became the first to be accredited for a third consecutive time. Currently there are a total of 58 emergency management programs throughout Florida either accredited or working on becoming accredited.

Under Governor Scott's leadership, local emergency management programs are now better positioned to share best practices and resources and to achieve cost-savings during disaster response and recovery. Most importantly, the improvements will better prepare all levels of emergency management in Florida to save lives and protect property.

Additional Hurricane Shelter Space
DEM is charged with implementing a hurricane shelter retrofit program that is critical to meeting its duty under state law to eliminate the statewide deficit of safe public hurricane shelter space. The program is used to fund improvements of existing facilities so they can serve as public hurricane evacuation shelters. At the direction of Governor Scott, DEM, through the hurricane shelter retrofit program, created 45,000 new hurricane shelter spaces between 2011 and 2018. The retrofitted facilities are available to be used by local emergency mangers to protect Florida residents, families, and visitors during hurricane evacuations.

Enhancing Disaster Preparation Communication

Governor Scott recognizes that during a disaster, communication at all levels of government is essential to a successful response effort. Enhancing the statewide emergency alert notification system has been a priority during the Governor's administration.

Implemented Improved Emergency Notification System
In 2012, DEM implemented the Everbridge emergency notification system, which allows for instantaneous emergency notification by the Florida State Emergency Response Team to emergency response partners. The system allows for notifications in times of State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) activation as well as being the notification system for all nuclear power plant incidents. Notifications can now be sent over a wide variety of devices and communications platforms simultaneously.

DEM has successfully improved public alert and mass notification capabilities so that the state's population can be warned of emergency situations. Florida families are now better informed about hazardous weather and other natural and man-made hazards that have the potential to impact family health and safety. The improved system was fully implemented as of June 30, 2017, and now all 67 counties have the capability to send out emergency alerts and mass notifications to Floridians.

Expanding Emergency Public Education Campaigns
DEM has focused on building a culture of preparedness for disasters by including children, families, businesses, and vulnerable populations, and identifying new partnerships, developing public education materials, and attending numerous outreach events. Communities that mitigate the impacts of a disaster and encourage their citizens to prepare reduce in the cost to respond and recover from a disaster, which allows government to focus on life safety concerns, and contributes to a more successful long-term recovery. Examples include:

- Updating DEM's website to provide valuable preparedness information, timely and up-to-date safety messaging, and information on recovery and mitigation resources for Florida's families, individuals, businesses, and governments;
- Cultivating new partnerships throughout the state to reach targeted audiences, including families, businesses, individuals with special needs, and vulnerable populations;
- Developing specific messaging for children through the Kids Get A Plan Campaign;
- Supporting county and local partners by conceptualizing and providing public education materials, attending local outreach events, and presenting to local elected officials about the importance of preparing communities for all types of disasters; and
- Competitively procuring airtime for statewide public service announcements on radio and television. This airtime is run with a $3 match to every $1 spent by the Division.

Addressing Disaster Costs and Private Sector Disaster Preparation

Improving Statewide Risk Assessment and Gap Analysis
DEM developed an objective, statewide, comprehensive, third-party risk assessment and gap analysis to gain a better understanding of where gaps are in the realm of all-hazards readiness and how future funding should be spent to eliminate these gaps. Because of this effort, the state now has a methodology and a baseline to outline and maintain a more global understanding of Florida's all-hazards readiness.

Enhancing the State Hazard Mitigation Plan
DEM also undertook updating and enhancing the FEMA-required State Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan is a condition of eligibility for FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance and is used by local communities as a template for local mitigation strategies. Earning an "enhanced" status on the state plan allows Florida to receive an additional 20 percent in federal funding awarded to the state following a presidentially declared disaster. To receive "enhanced" status, Florida was required to show:

- Approval of all 67 county local mitigation strategies;
- A history of integration with other agencies and stakeholders to reduce risks from natural hazards;
- Adoption of a broader range of state-supported mitigation initiatives and activities; and
- Documented history of responsible investment of federal grant dollars throughout mitigation programs.

Improving the Florida Building Code
Under Governor Scott's leadership, Florida incorporated National Flood Insurance Program standards into the Florida Building Code and developed a state model local flood ordinance to be coordinated with the Florida Building Code. This produced more streamlined and consistent measures for ensuring flood resistance of new homes built in flood zones. Families and local governments benefit from improved flood resiliency and reduced regulations in local flood ordinances. DEM assisted nearly all of Florida communities in adopting an updated flood ordinance.

World-Leader in Hurricane Preparation and Response

Hurricane Irma
The sheer size and track of Hurricane Irma resulted in the largest activation of emergency personnel and resources in Florida history and represented a significant challenge to the State Emergency Response Team (SERT). A significant challenge was its timing – less than a month after the devastating landfall of Hurricane Harvey in nearby Texas.

Under Governor Scott's leadership, SERT successfully responded to one of the most destructive storms to ever impact Florida. The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was activated for a full month to ensure a strong response from the local, county and state level. This was accomplished by leveraging of strong federal, state, regional, and local relationships that have been established and maintained over the years through planning, training, and exercises.

Major strengths identified in the response included:

- In just 11 days after Hurricane Irma's landfall on Cudjoe Key, 30,000 utility workers restored power to more than 6.71 million homes and businesses, or more than 99.5 percent of the accounts impacted by the storm – the largest power restoration undertaking in history for a single state.
- A strong public-private relationship that fostered an efficient and successful response.
- Pre-staging of resources along the coastline for combating beach erosion resulting from the storm.
- Through coordination of Florida Highway Patrol, local law enforcement, and the Florida Department of Transportation, lead one of the largest mass evacuations in United States history.
- Florida National Guard Logistics Planners stationed in the SEOC and the State Logistics Response Center (SLRC).
- Critical deployment of the six state All-Hazards Incident Management Teams (AHIMT) for the first time in Florida. The teams supported missions ranging from basecamp to recovery operations.
- Planning for potential I-75 closure was effective as there was excellent coordination among Emergency Services, Plans, Infrastructure, and other SERT sections.
- The integration of recovery staff earlier into the response process, which helped collaboratively shape the process.
- All of Florida's 67 counties were included in a Presidential Disaster Declaration. Out of these, 55 counties were approved for all categories of Public Assistance, while 49 counties were approved for Individual Assistance.

- For the first time, Florida executed the Sheltering and Temporary Emergency Power (STEP) program. However, unlike in other states, Florida took the approach of a federally funded, state-administered, locally managed program. STEP was authorized in 10 Florida counties: Monroe, Collier, Lee, Hendry, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Hendry, Charlotte, and St. Johns. Monroe County chose to utilize the program for a current total of 204 eligible households. To date, approximately $1.6 million dollars has been spent on STEP within Monroe County at an average of $8,827 per unit to provide safe, sanitary, and secure survivor housing in the Florida Keys.

Hurricane Maria

Hurricane Maria's devastating landfall in Puerto Rico presented a unique set of challenges for those affected by the storm. However, Florida once again stood ready to help our neighbors. Following Hurricane Maria's landfall, Governor Scott visited the island eight times to meet with local officials and offer guidance and support throughout the recovery process. In preparation and response to the storm's impact, Florida and its partners took several important steps:

Actions Taken by Governor Scott following Hurricane Maria:

In 2017…

- On September 28th, at the request of Puerto Rico Governor Ricardo Rosselló, Governor Scott traveled to San Juan, Puerto Rico to help coordinate response and recovery efforts following Hurricane Maria.
- On October 5th, the Governor entered into a host-state agreement with FEMA – Florida is the only state willing to enter into this type of agreement to help families displaced by Hurricane Maria.
- On October 11th, Governor Scott met with Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen, Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture Congressman Mike Conaway, Chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security Congressman Michael McCaul, and Congresswoman Jenniffer González-Colón.
- On November 3rd, Governor Scott led a delegation of Florida utility providers to Puerto Rico at the invitation of Governor Ricardo Rosselló.
- On November 9th, the Governor activated the State Emergency Response Team to assist families displaced by Hurricane Maria.
- On November 15th, the Governor sent a letter to U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and House Speaker Paul Ryan urging them to support Florida's efforts to support those displaced from Puerto Rico by Hurricane Maria.
- On December 21st, Governor Scott spoke with Congresswoman Jenniffer González-Colón regarding Puerto Rico's recovery from Hurricane Maria.
- On December 22nd, Governor Scott spoke with U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen regarding recovery efforts for Florida and Puerto Rico.

In 2018…

- On January 3rd, Governor Scott sent a letter to the United States Senate Committee on Appropriations urging the Senate to immediately pass a significant Hurricane Irma and Maria disaster relief package.
- On January 11th, Governor Scott spoke with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator Brock Long regarding the FEMA Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA) program and the importance of continued communication between federal, state and local partners as families continue to recover from Hurricane Maria.
- On January 12th, Governor Scott met with Governor Ricardo Rosselló and joined him for a Puerto Rico recovery town hall meeting to discuss ongoing relief efforts.
- On January 24th, Governor Scott, Texas Governor Greg Abbott, California Governor Jerry Brown and Puerto Rico Governor Ricardo Rosselló issued a joint letter urging the U.S. Senate to improve and expeditiously pass supplemental disaster funding, and for Congress to send the bill to the President.
- On February 5th, Governor Scott visited Puerto Rico with Governor Ricardo Rosselló to assist with ongoing Hurricane Maria recovery efforts.

- On February 7th, Governor Scott spoke with FEMA Administrator Brock Long regarding Governor Scott's recent trip to Puerto Rico.
- On February 7th, Governor Scott announced a new partnership to connect families displaced by Hurricane Maria with jobs in Florida.
- On March 5th, Governor Scott traveled to Puerto Rico to meet with Congresswoman Jenniffer González-Colón and attend the Puerto Rico State of the State Address.
- On April 18th, Governor Scott met with Congresswoman Jenniffer González-Colón in Washington D.C. to discuss how Florida is working to help Puerto Rican evacuees in the state.
- On April 18th, Governor Scott also spoke with FEMA Administrator Brock Long to discuss the FEMA Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA) program and the importance of keeping the FEMA case managers the Governor previously requested on the ground across the state.
- On May 18th, Governor Scott announced that Florida Department of Education Commissioner Pam Stewart would travel to Puerto Rico on May 20th to meet with Puerto Rico Department of Education Secretary Dr. Julie Keleher and offer continued guidance and support.
- On May 31st, Governor Scott traveled to Puerto Rico at the invitation of Puerto Rico Governor Ricardo Rosselló to continue to offer guidance, advice and assistance regarding ongoing Hurricane Maria recovery efforts. During his visit, Governor Scott met with Governor Rosselló, Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of State Luis G. Rivera-Marin, and Speaker of the House Carlos Johnny Méndez.
- On June 6th, Governor Scott announced that Florida has donated 25 Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) vehicles to the Puerto Rico Police Department to support law enforcement needs and Hurricane Maria recovery.
- On June 19th, Governor Scott traveled to Puerto Rico at the invitation of Puerto Rico Governor Ricardo Rosselló to continue to offer guidance, advice and assistance regarding ongoing Hurricane Maria recovery efforts. During his visit, Governor Scott participated in the Puerto Rico P3 Summit regarding hurricane recovery.
- On September 20th, Governor Scott traveled to Puerto Rico at the invitation of the Puerto Rican government to join Puerto Rico Governor Ricardo Rosselló, Puerto Rico Lt. Governor Luis Rivera Marín and other officials to pay tribute to those who lost their lives during Hurricane Maria.

Additional actions taken by the state of Florida to aid in Puerto Rico's recovery included:

- DEM fulfilled critical Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) mission requests in support of the response effort. These included:
    - A Florida Department of Transportation crew to evaluate traffic signal installations and transportation systems;
    - An 8-member Florida Department of Law Enforcement Incident Management Team;
    - A 26-airman National Guard sheltering support mission;
    - 50 Florida Highway Patrol officers, along with 12 officers from the Orlando Police Department, providing security and law enforcement support; and
    - A 20-day National Guard rotary wing mission.
- Just as important was our effort to safeguard the hundreds of thousands of Puerto Ricans who evacuated to the State of Florida; Florida was the only state to enter into a Host State Agreement to directly assist Maria survivors. This helped us coordinate the

opening of state Multi Agency Resource Centers (MARC) at Florida airports, and later in other locations, as early as October 2017.

- MARCs were an incredibly helpful resource for many of those who were displaced by the effects of Hurricane Maria, as they brought together state and federal agencies as well as volunteer organizations to provide Maria evacuees in Florida with a one-stop shop of available survivor resources.
    - Participating agencies included FEMA, the Florida Departments of Children and Families, Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, Agriculture and Consumer Services, Health, and Economic Opportunity; the American Red Cross; and Catholic Charities.
    - These partners offered storm victims a wide range of important services, including help with registering for FEMA Individual Assistance, crisis counseling, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) information, assistance with unaccompanied minors and agency social services, assistance with animal services, medical attention and health concerns, employment information and training services, food and water resources, language guidance, and spiritual care.
- DEM also supported Individual Assistance programming for Maria survivors in Florida, such the Transitional Shelter Assistance (TSA) program.
- At the request of Governor Scott, the Disaster Case Management (DCM) program was also approved for Maria evacuees in our state, further demonstrating Florida's long-term commitment to providing every storm survivor with the highest level of recovery services.

Hurricane Michael

On October 10, 2018, catastrophic Hurricane Michael made landfall as an unprecedented high-end Category 4 hurricane in the Florida Panhandle, with maximum sustained wind speeds of 155 miles per hour. Catastrophic storm surge devastated coastal communities, and high winds caused downed trees and power lines, resulting in damage to homes and cars. The widespread catastrophic damage spread well inland as Michael remained at hurricane strength into southwest Georgia.

The storm was the most powerful ever to impact the Florida Panhandle, and the third most intense to make landfall in the mainland United States in recorded history. Widespread power outages affected more than 400,000 electric accounts at its peak, and the storm leveled communication infrastructure throughout the worst impacted counties. However, in the face of total devastation, Governor Scott announced on October 23 that utility providers had set a goal of complete power restoration to all available accounts by early November. On November 1, Governor Scott proudly announced that more than 98 percent of homes and businesses who lost power due to Hurricane Michael and had the ability to receive power have had their power restored. This included full power restoration to Mexico Beach, one of the hardest hit areas in the state, by Duke Energy.

- On October 8, the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was activated to 24/7 operations at Level 1. In the two days leading up to landfall, SERT worked around the clock

to ensure that people evacuated from the areas of projected impact, and that county emergency managers were ready to cope with a catastrophic hurricane with less than 48 hours of preparation. While initial models projected a Category 3 hurricane at landfall, DEM insisted that the state prepare for the possibility of a higher-level Category 4 landfall, which Michael ultimately turned out to be.

- Ultimately, SERT estimates that 375,000 Floridians were ordered to evacuate, with 6,577 taking refuge in 44 shelters that were brought online in the hours before Michael's landfall. Governor Scott worked around the clock in the days leading up to the storm urging people to evacuate and prepare for Hurricane Michael's devastation.
- In the immediate aftermath of the storm, Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) operations were conducted across the region, with tens of thousands of structures searched.

- Federal Individual Assistance (IA) declarations were sought by the state and ultimately received for 12 counties, providing survivors with access to numerous federal programs including Operation Blue Roof, IA Payments for damage to property, Disaster SNAP benefits, and in qualifying counties Transitional Sheltering Assistance and Direct Housing.
- Sixteen counties have also been qualified to receive federal Public Assistance (PA). The PA program funds the debris removal, emergency protective measures, repair, restoration, reconstruction or replacement of a facility or infrastructure that is damaged or destroyed by disaster. The PA program also encourages protection of these damaged facilities and infrastructure from future events, by providing assistance for hazard mitigation measures during the recovery process. The PA program is broken into categories A-G, with A through B representing Emergency Protective Measures, and C through G representing Permanent Work. Of the 16 counties approved for PA, six have been approved for categories A through G, and ten A through B.

Ensuring Free and Fair Elections in Florida

Governor Scott recognizes that the cornerstone of democracy is fair and secure elections, with 100 percent participation and zero fraud. Under Governor Scott's leadership Florida has seen the largest expansion of early voting in state history and the Department of State (DOS) has worked to improve voter education and participation and streamline the voter registration process.

Election Reform

Governor Scott has been focus since day one on making sure that voting in Florida has 100 percent participation and zero percent fraud. At Governor Scott's direction, DOS has overseen significant reforms to promote free and fair elections in Florida, including:

- Traveled throughout the state conducting meetings with individual Supervisor of Elections and other stakeholder groups to receive valuable input on improvements to the elections process;
- Conducted an evaluation and presented election process improvement ideas to the Governor and the Legislature in a report entitled "Recommendations for Increased Accessibility & Efficiency in Florida Elections.";
- Supported related legislation modifying early voting days, hours and sites;
- Revised voter registration for military personnel;
- Revising multi-language ballot and absentee ballot requirements;
- Required Supervisor of Elections to prepare and publish an Election Preparation Report three month before the General Election; and
- Modified election vendor penalties, voting poll solicitation zones, special voting registration, voting system audit requirements, election canvassing boards, the presidential preference primary date, and legislative ballot summaries.

Implementing a Statewide Voter Education Communication Strategy
Under Governor Scott's leadership, DOS developed and launched statewide communications campaigns each election cycle to help educate and prepare Florida voters to exercise their right to vote. These cumulative efforts have evolved into the current branded voter education campaign, "Get Ready. Get Set. Vote!":

- Sent press releases statewide containing information for voters such as ID requirements at the polls, voter registration deadlines, early voting information, and resources at the polls on Election Day;
- Developed and distributed Public Service Announcements (PSAs) through different media platforms to communicate information about voter registration and voter preparation;
- Developed YourVoteFlorida.com webpage, which provides key voting-related information and resources in one central location. The webpage is updated to reflect upcoming voter registration deadlines and voting information throughout election cycles and is also available in Spanish;
- Placed Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the Division of Elections and the Florida Election Watch websites, providing information on items such as voter registration and voting deadlines;
- Developed voter education toolkits for all 67 county Supervisors of Elections, including logos, boilerplate messaging and social media posts;
- Posted on social media to share election resources and key messages using the hashtag #ReadySetVoteFL; and
- Implemented marketing campaign to promote RegistertoVoteFlorida.gov, Florida's online voter registration site, which launched in October 2017.

Cyber Security Experts to Keep Florida's Elections Safe
At Governor Scott's direction, in 2018, DOS hired five cybersecurity specialists in advance of the 2018 elections to serve as a resource for election officials. Governor Scott's top priority during elections is the security and integrity of Florida's elections and voter information.

The cybersecurity specialists provide real-time guidance and expertise on cybersecurity issues and are in addition to the DOS' existing team of knowledgeable and highly capable Information Technology professionals who help ensure Department systems are secure.

Candidate Qualifying and Voter Registration Successes
Under Governor Scott's leadership, DOS has processed qualifying documents for 3,457 candidates and processed documents creating 1,505 new political entities. DOS has also processed 274,831 new and updated voter registration applications into the Florida Voter Registration System (FVRS). Currently, there are over 13 million active voters in the FVRS. By serving as a voter registration office and entering new and updated voter registration applications received for any county voter, the Division of Elections assists the local Supervisors of Elections in their duties to timely register new voters and update records for existing voters.

DOS has verified more than 355,773 personal identification numbers to facilitate the registration of new voters. The Division of Elections works with Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) to confirm information provided by the applicant that cannot otherwise be verified through the automated match process alone.

In 2015, the Florida Legislature directed DOS to develop and implement an online voter registration system in Florida by October 1, 2017. As of October 1, 2017, a Floridian can submit an online voter registration application or make updates to an existing voter registration record using the online system, or use the system to prefill a paper application to print and submit to his or her local supervisor of elections. In the first six months, 53,935 online submittals of voter registration information had been made, and the system had also been used to print out 18,120 paper voter registration applications.

Florida Voter Registration System (FVRS) Upgrade
In 2015, DOS initiated the FVRS computer database hardware upgrade and storage capacity increase. As the number of Florida's registered voters increases and the demand for information grows, the FVRS upgrade provides for real-time voter registration data and the ability to undertake online voter registration.

Processing and Distributing Election-Related Federal Grants
DOS has processed and distributed $14.2 million in Federal Election Administration (FEA) grant funds; $4 million in U.S. Health & Human Services (HHS) VOTE program grant funds; $1.5 million in Voting Systems Assistance Grant funds to small counties; and $19 million in election security grant funds:

- The Florida Legislature appropriates $500,000 annually for voting systems assistance. DOS has made these funds available to 25 small county Supervisors of Elections to assist with the purchase or lease of updated voting systems.
- For FY 2018-19, the federal government awarded Florida $19 million for increasing the security of election systems. These funds were distributed to each of the 67 counties for the 2018 general election cycle to further protect election information systems and increase election security awareness.

Enhancing Cultural Opportunities in Florida

Governor Scott recognizes the importance of Florida's vibrant history and sharing the state's culture with residents and visitors. DOS works to enhance the cultural opportunities in local communities throughout Florida, creating additional tourism sites and jobs.

Administering Major Cultural Grant Programs
Since Governor Scott took office, 160.9 million individuals, including 40.4 million children, attended state-supported cultural activities. From more than 3,600 applications received, 2,278 cultural grants were awarded totaling $167.7 million for:

- Cultural Facilities Grants fund the renovation, construction and acquisition of cultural facilities;
- Cultural Endowment Grants fund endowments that provide programming resources through earned interest, contributing to the sustainability of cultural organizations;
- General Program Support Grants fund annual ongoing cultural programming activities; and
- Specific Cultural Project Grants fund unique cultural projects, exhibits, series and festivals.

Providing Historical and Cultural Resources Online via Florida Memory
Through "Florida Memory," DOS is providing remote access to information that supports individual research, learning and information about Florida local communities and culture. Resources selected for digitization have had high continued usage and include 69,310 audio recordings, documents, films and photographs digitized and made available on the web.

Serving Active Military and Veterans Through Art Therapy
In a partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the U.S. Departments of Defense and Veterans' Affairs, Creative Forces places art therapy at the core of patient-centered care in military medical facilities, provides increased community-based arts opportunities for military and veteran family populations around clinical site locations, and invests in capacity-building efforts, including the development of manuals, training, and research on the impacts and benefits of the treatment methods Florida's telehealth program for patients in rural and remote areas has become a model for other states' initiatives:

DOS presented and coordinated all aspects of Florida's Creative Forces Summit in October 2017, as the Creative Forces initiative expanded to James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital. The two-day summit included sessions and keynotes programmed for the 111 attendees to learn and discuss strategies to increase access to therapeutic arts activities for military personnel and their families in local communities.

Distributing Hurricane Irma Relief Funds
Arts and cultural organizations with documented losses from Hurricane Irma received assistance to help them recover and continue to serve their communities. In partnership with Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, DOS administered a state-wide assessment of damages caused by Hurricane Irma. Through local arts agencies, DOS distributed $158,760 throughout five areas with the largest financial losses due to the hurricane.

Developed and Implemented Viva Florida 500
Viva Florida 500 was a statewide initiative led by the Florida Department of State in 2013. The initiative highlighted 500 years of historic people, places and events in present-day Florida since the arrival of Juan Ponce de León to the land he named La Florida in 1513. DOS promoted Viva Florida 500 tourism, impacting the economy of local communities throughout Florida. Families were exposed to Florida's rich 500-year history through art exhibitions and performances. The Viva Florida 500 commemoration was truly a statewide initiative, with more than 2,000 partners and participation from all 67 counties in Florida and over 900 Viva Florida themed events. Related efforts included:

- Viva Florida 50 signage throughout the state along major interstates and highways through the Florida Department of Transportation;
- Viva Florida 500 marketing and over 326 million media impressions through VISIT Florida;
- Viva Florida 500 lottery ticket, the most successful $3 ticket in Florida Lottery history;
- Viva Florida 500 speakers bureaus, PSAs, magazines, posters and more through the Florida Humanities Council;
- Exhibit held in the Capitol's 22nd Floor Art Gallery commemorating the 500th;
- A three-year Florida Folklife Regional Survey was completed on the St. Johns River Basin and St. Johns County, to help further the goals of the Viva Florida initiative and coincide with the anniversary of St. Augustine's founding; and
- The Florida Department of State's Division of Library and Information Services provided Viva Florida 500 Time Capsules to 81 county and municipal libraries around the state and encouraged local libraries to incorporate Viva Florida 500 programming into their events and activities.

The success of Viva Florida 500 led to subsequent commemoration initiatives in 2014 and 2015, such as the 50th anniversary since the 1964 enactment of the Civil Rights Act and the 450th anniversary of the settlement of St. Augustine.

Enhancing Historic Preservation

Administering the Historic Preservation Grants Program
The Historical Resources Grants program has been used by local governments, state agencies and universities, and private non-profit entities to preserve the state's significant historic and archaeological sites for future generations and to promote knowledge and appreciation of the history of Florida. The Historic Preservation Grants program offers two types of grants: Small Matching grants up to $50,000 and Special Category grants $500,000. Under Governor Scott's leadership, DOS has funded 570 grant projects at just over $79 Million.

Increasing the Number of Recorded Resources Within the Florida Master Site File
The Florida Master Site File is the state's inventory of known historical resources. The Site File is the federally mandated repository for information on historic and archaeological sites in Florida and is a one-stop-shop for researchers. Under Governor Scott's leadership, DOS has added 25,746 new sites to the Florida Master Site File Inventory, updated 10,710 sites, and digitized 7,362 Survey Reports making them more accessible to researchers. As of April 1, 2018, 210,014 resources have been recorded in the Florida Master Site File.

Reviewing and Recommending Historically Significant Sites for Listing in the National Register of Historic Places
The U.S. National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the nation's historic places worthy of preservation. DOS' Division of Historical Resources coordinates the nomination of Florida sites to the NPS for final consideration. National Register Listing honors properties worthy of preservation, helps maintain sense of place, and is an important part of promoting heritage tourism:

- 166 Florida properties and districts have been listed in the National Register, encompassing a total of 2,086 contributing resources included in the historic districts.
- Florida currently has 46 National Historic Landmarks, which are properties with the highest level of historic designation in the United States. Since 2011, four properties were listed as NHLs.

Reviewing Federal Tax Credit Applications for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties
Since Governor Scott took office, 292 total applications have been reviewed; and a total of $318.8 million has been certified for tax credits. A 3-part application process is used to determine if a property is eligible for the National Register and therefore eligible to receive 10 percent or 20 percent federal tax credits for historic building rehabilitation. These projects make historic buildings useful, spur economic growth in communities, and preserve sense of place and uniqueness of Florida's cities and towns for generations to come. These tax credits are sometimes the only thing that makes development economically feasible in the private sector. These developments also often spur additional development in blighted areas.

Consolidating and Curating the State Artifact Collection
The State Artifact Collection, which is comprised of over half a million artifacts that have been recovered from state-owned or state-managed lands, is managed by DOS. Curatorial staff are responsible for acquiring, maintaining, preserving, interpreting, exhibiting and making available for study archaeological objects. These artifacts are acquired through state-sponsored research, permitted projects, and private donations. Under Governor Scott's leadership:

- The State Artifact Collection was relocated from a rental facility to a state property, resulting in a savings to the State of more than $500,000 per year;
- Each year staff catalogs thousands of new artifacts, increasing the number accessible to the public for research;
- In 2017 researched and proposed new artifact database software for enhanced remote use and access to the collection;
- In 2017-18 launched Florida History in 3D website to provide public access to classes of artifacts in lieu of on-site visits; and
- In collaboration with FSU, pursuing grants to utilize augmented reality in interpreting artifacts to the public.

Opening the Grove Museum
After a five-year rehabilitation project, the Grove Museum in Tallahassee opened to the public on March 11, 2017. Traditionally, antebellum historic house museums focus on a few individuals who lived during a specific historical time period. The all-inclusive approach taken at the Museum – which spans two centuries of history and ties together the history of slavery and civil rights – is intended to make the story told at The Grove relevant to Florida families who experience the museum through the lens of their own varied backgrounds:

- Since its opening, more than 10,000 guests have visited the site;
- Group tour attendance ranged from 10 to 100 guests per group who represented K–12 schools, colleges, and universities, affinity groups, religious, community and leadership organizations, and senior citizen centers and programs; and
- Volunteers contributed about 900 hours in support of museum operations, programs, and events during 2017–2018 to date.

Opening the Forever Changed: La Florida 1513-1821 Exhibit
From 2012 to 2015, the Museum of Florida History opened the 6,000-square foot permanent exhibit Forever Changed: La Florida, 1513–1821. Forever Changed explores a dynamic period in history—from the meeting and interaction of native and European cultures to Florida's adoption as a United States territory. The exhibit brings to life the cultures, perspectives, and material evidence of the many diverse groups that forged the state's past and left lasting legacies. The Forever Changed exhibit also addresses the impact of European actions on

native peoples and the resulting physical and cultural changes. Since Forever Changed opened in March 2012, more than 236,000 people have experienced this new permanent exhibit, of whom over 48,000 were K–12 students.

Administering the Florida Historical Marker Program
The Historical Marker Program recognizes Florida's historic resources, people and events through markers placed at sites of historical and visual interest to visitors. Marker applications from the public are accepted throughout the year for review and approval by the Florida Historical Marker Council. Under Governor Scott's leadership, 127 Marker applications reviewed and approved. DOS has also expanded an online interactive map showing almost 1,000 Florida Historical Markers that can be visited throughout the state. (floridahistoricalmarkers.com).

Enhancing Educational Opportunities Through Florida Libraries

Administering the Florida Electronic Library
The Florida Electronic Library (FEL) provides Florida citizens with reliable online information. Items available for research include K-12 homework help, academic research help, career guidance and a job search engine, small business start-up resources, health and wellness information, research eBooks, resources in Spanish and favorite newspapers and magazines:

- From 2014 to 2018, the FEL had 78.9 million sessions, 160.7 million searches, 31.3 million retrievals, and 29.3 million full text downloads.
- A new mobile friendly FEL platform with enhanced access, better authentication, and faster searching was launched in April 2018.

Coordinating Florida's Library Summer Reading Program
Florida's robust Summer Reading Program brings children and families into local public libraries for the enjoyment of reading and other family activities. All 67 counties participate in the program:

- 6.9 million people of all ages have participated at all 550 libraries throughout the state.

Administering Library Grant Programs
Funding that supports services and programs for public libraries and library cooperatives. Florida's families benefit from increased programs and services at all public libraries, including the Summer Reading Program, Ask A Librarian, the Florida Electronic Library, and Florida Memory:

- $201.1 million in total funds supporting Florida library programs and services, including $137.7 million in State Aid to Libraries, $47.9 million in federal funding for library programs and services, $8.5 million to library cooperatives, and $5 million for construction or remodeling of public library facilities.

Producing the Civil Rights in the Sunshine State Exhibit
In 2014, the Museum of Florida History produced the special exhibit Civil Rights in the Sunshine State to commemorate the 50th anniversary of both the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Civil Rights in the Sunshine State examined the deep history of black activism in the state.

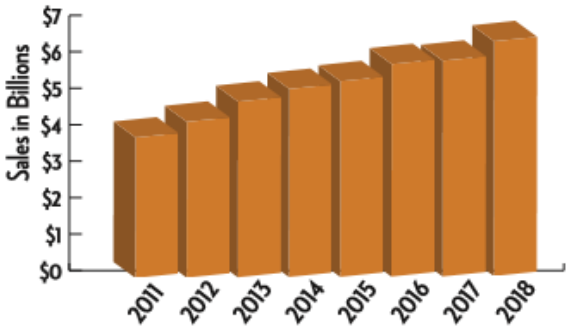
- More than 29,000 people attended the five-month exhibition, including thousands of K-12 students and higher education audiences. Visitation from churches, civic organizations, and heritage tours increased significantly.
- The success of this exhibit has spurred interest across the state; tens of thousands of additional people have viewed the exhibit as it travels to new locations.

Record-Breaking Achievements for the Florida Lottery

Since Governor Scott took office, breaking records has become the expectation for the Florida Lottery. Record sales have a positive impact on Florida's players, retailers, students and schools. With more than $1 billion contributed to education over the last 16 consecutive years, the Florida Lottery continues to demonstrate its commitment to providing Florida's students with the tools they need to succeed.

Record Sales

Under Governor Scott's leadership, over the last eight years, the Lottery has increased annual sales from $4.45 billion to $6.75 billion and is now ranked third in the nation among all U.S. lotteries in gross sales.



The Florida Lottery has seen steady sales increases since its inception in 1988.

The Lottery's Scratch-Off sales have grown by more than 109 percent since Governor Scott took office, an accomplishment unmatched by any other Lottery in the United States. In 2018, Florida set a new lottery industry record for the highest all-time single week of Scratch-Off sales at $123.84 million. Additionally, FLORIDA LOTTO® continues to be one of the strongest single-state lotto games in the nation, ranking number one nationally for three of the last four years.

Leading the Nation

Under Governor Scott's leadership, the Florida Lottery has become first in the nation for retailer success by becoming the first lottery in the country to exceed $1 billion in sales for any single retail account. Publix stores have exceeded $1 billion five years in a row, resulting in transfers to education of approximately $1.64 billion.

Enhancing Business Partnerships for Florida's Future

Governor Scott has focused on ensuring that Florida is a great place for businesses. The Florida Lottery has demonstrated its success as a business leader committed to creating a mutually beneficial partnership with its retailers and vendors. The success of the Florida Lottery and its business partners does more than just help Florida's job creators – it is instrumental in supporting Florida's students.

Business Leader and Valued Partner

By capitalizing on increased business expansion and job creation in Florida, the Lottery has seen consistent success in sales and contributions to education. The Lottery has added new

vendor partners including Walmart, CVS and Wawa. The Florida Lottery has also worked with businesses to expand their offerings and implement more than 165,000 new product facings to help both retailers maximize sales and achieve new levels of success.

Under Governor Scott's leadership, the Florida Lottery has partnered with Florida businesses to assist in their overall growth and performance. Over the past eight years, annual retailer commissions have increased from approximately $16,000 to $28,000 per retailer on average; or approximately 67 percent overall.

The Lottery's partnership with Hess resulted in significant overall growth in sales for Hess, which went from +2 percent to +17 percent within one year upon following Florida Lottery recommendations. This success led to the Florida Lottery being named one of five supplier partners nationally to receive the Hess 2013 Best Practices Award for supporting their business initiatives and long-term growth strategies. No other lottery nationwide has ever been nominated for this award. The Lottery also received the Walmart "Supplier of the Year" award in 2017, and the "Top Dog" award from RaceTrac in 2016.

Assisting Retailers
The Florida Lottery has implemented technology solutions to remove administrative burdens and streamline the retailer application process. Retailer applications processing times have dropped significantly since Governor Scott took office, with applications processed four days sooner than they were in 2010. These efficiencies now allow Florida businesses to begin selling Lottery tickets sooner, benefitting their bottom line and helping generate more money for education.

Protecting Floridians
In 2014, the Lottery launched a comprehensive strategy to ensure retailer integrity and improved player protections at every level. This included enhanced retailer monitoring and stronger protections for consumers at the retail level, a streamlined process for retailer suspensions and terminations, improved data mining and analysis of suspicious claims, and closer working relationships with law enforcement agencies to identify illegal activity.

As of November 2018, Florida is the 15th U.S. Lottery to have completed the Responsible Gaming Verification Program. The Florida Lottery was awarded the top certification for lottery organizations by the North American Association of State and Provincial Lotteries (NASPL), and the National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG).

GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 2011

Enhancing IT Security to Protect Florida's Families

Governor Scott recognizes that cybersecurity is an increasingly important part of maintaining safety for Florida's families and their sensitive information. By working to improve government cybersecurity and partnering with the private sector to collaborate in training and knowledge, AST is furthering Governor Scott's mission to strengthen the security and resilience of Florida's IT infrastructure and protecting Florida's citizens and businesses.

Improving Security

Under Governor Scott's leadership, AST has worked to build a more secure IT climate implementing government IT services that meet or exceed national industry standards. AST works with all state agencies to share knowledge and work together to protect the state's IT systems. For example, AST works with the Florida National Guard to provide government IT security professionals with hands-on training for potential real-world cyberattacks. During these trainings, IT security personnel have learned how to protect against cyber threats, to immediately identify them when they occur, and to quickly work to counter threats and restore security infrastructure. Increasing Florida's cybersecurity is essential to ensuring the safety of Floridians' information.

In addition to the security training, Florida's Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) provides year-round training for state agencies on a variety of topics, including: risk management, security governance and best practices, and malicious code analysis. In March 2018, AST partnered with the University of West Florida (UWF) Center for Cybersecurity to provide cutting-edge cybersecurity education and training for state agency personnel and position Florida as a leader in cybersecurity resiliency and workforce development. The program integrates unique and innovative features and provide hands-on training and educational courses using face-to-face, online, and remote delivery to prepare state personnel to detect and protect against emerging cyber threats and attacks.

Safeguarding Data

In 2016, Governor Scott signed legislation to protect Floridians by ensuring that certain sensitive IT information regarding how a state agency detects, investigates, or responds to IT security threats is not disclosed to the public, as it could be used by unscrupulous individuals to cause harm. This assures that AST will be able to protect the critical data agencies use to safeguard Floridians' valuable information.

Strengthening Infrastructure

Strengthening technology infrastructure is also a crucial part of protecting Florida's IT systems. Since Governor Scott took office, IT security investments have increased nearly $12 million (including over $5 million for risk assessments and IT security training), resulting in additional upgrades in equipment to protect state IT infrastructure from security risks and data loss. AST

coordinates strategic security planning among all state agencies, making certain that resources are focused on the areas of greatest risk and identifying efficiencies that can improve infrastructure while reducing costs.

Along with strengthening the state's technology infrastructure, AST established a website in 2016 that was developed and implemented statewide in collaboration with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Cybercrime Office to track suspected security incidents, events, and breaches.