

## City of Tampa Statistical Information

Initial Incorporation December 15, 1855		Tampa Police Department	
Second Incorporation July 15, 1887		Uniform Employees	1,004
Adoption of Original Charter December 15, 1855		Civilian Employees	365
Adoption of Present City Charter October 1, 1975		Number of Airplanes	2
Last Amendment March 4, 2003		Number of Helicopters	5
Form of Government		Number of Boats	6
Mayor – Council		Emergency Response Time (minutes)	4.10
Mayor elected for a four-year term.		Non-Emergency Response Time (minutes)	6.02
Council members elected - one from each of four districts and three at-large for four-year terms.		Transportation Facilities	
Last Mayoral Election March 4, 2003		Miles of Street	1,672
Registered Voters	136,379	Paved	1,669
Votes Cast	33,644	Unpaved	3
Percentage	24.67%	Traffic Signals	566
Next Mayoral Election March, 2007		Street Lights	33,546
City Boundaries		Traffic Signs	83,071
Miles of Land Area	116.1	Wastewater System	
City Population (April 2005)	333,040	Number of Accounts	112,813
Leisure Services Facilities		Miles of Pipe	1,836
Parks	165	Average Daily Flow (million gallons)	60
Land Area (acres)	2,286	Plant Daily Flow Capacity (million gallons)	96
Parking Lots	88	Pumping Stations	223
Baseball and Softball Fields	107	Service Area (square miles)	219
Multi-purpose Athletic Fields	16	Solid Waste System	
Tennis, Racquetball and Multi-purpose Courts	194	Number of Accounts	83,281
Off-road Multi-use (miles)	20	Annual Tonnage of Refuse Collection and Disposal	477,414
Swimming Pools	14	Stormwater Management	
Beaches	4	Curb miles swept annually	29,000
Playgrounds	79	Miles of Pipe	368
Community Centers	26	Miles of Ditches	180
Parkways (miles)	212	Retention Ponds	104
Golf Courses	3	Water System	
Picnic Shelters	139	Number of Accounts	125,993
Gymnasiums	5	Miles of Water Mains	2,300
On-road Bike Lanes (miles)	20	Average Daily Demand (million gallons)	80
Hiking / Nature Trails (miles)	4.6	Domestic Use Per Capita Per Day (gallons)	113
Art Studios	5	Fire Hydrants	12,503
Convention Center		Parking Division	
Number of Event Days	510	On-Street Meters / Spaces	3,921
Museum		Off-Street Spaces	14,485
Number of Objects	7,112	Garages	9
Number of Exhibitions	13	Cable Communication	
Annual Attendance	52,255	Number of Analog Channels (Bright House)	80
Tampa Fire Rescue		Number of Analog Channels (Verizon)	22
Uniform Employees	589	Number of Digital Channels (Bright House)	179
Civilian Employees	72	Number of Digital Channels (Verizon)	135
Fire Stations	22	Marina	
Medical Response Time (minutes)	5.81	Marinas and Boat Docks	4
Fire Incident Response Time (minutes)	5.86	Boat Slips	118
		Boat Ramps	6

## City of Tampa Information

### Community

Located along Florida's west coast, Tampa and Hillsborough County represent one of the fastest growing areas of the United States. The four-county metropolitan statistical area (MSA) of Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco and Hernando counties has about 2.6 million people, making it the second-largest MSA in the Southeast and the 20<sup>th</sup> largest MSA in the United States.

The region covers a physical environment containing miles of blue waterways and white shorelines, brilliant sunlit skies and a perfect average annual temperature of 72 degrees.

In Hillsborough County, downtown Tampa is at the region's center, about 30 minutes from Gulf of Mexico beaches to the west and one hour from Disney and Universal theme parks to the northeast. The City of Tampa is Florida's third largest city with 300,000-plus residents, while Hillsborough County has more than a million residents in all.

Thanks to steady in-migration, the population of Tampa and Hillsborough County is growing younger. Tampa Bay offers year-round cultural events and social activities for people of all ages and interests. From ballet to professional baseball, football and hockey, from golf to jazz, from beaches to art festivals, from the excitement of Ybor City night life to serene strolls along beautiful Bayshore Boulevard, Tampa and surrounding areas offer a multitude of opportunities for residents to live, learn, work and play.

Major attractions in and around Tampa include: Busch Gardens and Adventure Island, The Florida Aquarium, Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center, Lowry Park Zoo, Salvador Dali Museum, Fantasy of Flight, Tampa Museum of Art, Hillsborough River State Park, the downtown Tampa Channelside retail complex and upscale shopping centers such as International Plaza and Westshore Mall.

Traditional events in the area include the Gasparilla Parade – a mock pirate invasion that has taken place in January or February for over a century. Also in February, the area hosts the Florida State Fair and the Sant'Yago Illuminated Night Parade in Ybor City. The Outback Bowl provides NCAA football in January and Plant City's Florida Strawberry Festival in March provides world class entertainment.

Tampa Bay's active professional sports teams include: the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (2003 Super Bowl Champions); Tampa Bay Storm (1991, 1993, 1995, 1996 and 2003 Arena Bowl Champions); Tampa Bay Devil Rays; Tampa Bay Lightning (2004 Stanley Cup Champions); and, the New York Yankees' home for spring training. The University of South Florida Bulls and University of Tampa Spartans (4-time NCAA Division II Baseball Champions, latest being 2006) provide NCAA sports. The area includes dozens of golf courses along with boating and other outdoor activities.

Source: 2006 The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce

### History

In 1824, two months after the arrival of the first settlers, the U.S. Army established Fort Brooke to protect the Tampa Bay harbor. Real development of the region did not begin until after the territory became part of the United States in 1845. Despite the Civil War, the area grew steadily.

The City of Tampa first incorporated in 1855 and again in 1887. Henry B. Plant's 1884 railroad extension to the Hillsborough River provided access to new areas. When phosphates were discovered in the late 1880's the resulting industries prompted a boom of growth and wealth that lasted through the 1890's.

In 1886 Vicente Martinez Ybor established a cigar factory in Tampa, founding Ybor City. By 1900 Ybor City was considered the "cigar capital of the world." Today Hispanic cultural events enliven Ybor City which covers about two square miles.

The military has also had an ongoing role in Tampa's development. The city was the primary port for troops bound for the Spanish-American War. Today, MacDill Air Force Base continues military presence in the Tampa area employing over 5,500 military and civilian personnel.

In 1914 Percival Fansler introduced the world's first scheduled commercial airline service with the St. Petersburg-Tampa Airboat Line. Piloting the "flying boat" was Tony Jannus, the namesake of the annual award given by the Tampa Chamber of Commerce for achievement in commercial aviation.

The automobile was responsible for a large settlement wave that occurred around 1923-1926. This included a man-made island created by D. P. Davis called Davis Islands.

The main Tampa downtown business district has grown phenomenally since the 1960's. Major banks and corporations occupy large buildings high above Tampa Bay. Tampa has evolved into a multi-cultural, diverse business center attracting people of all ages.

The City of Tampa currently enjoys a favorable economic environment and local indicators point to continued stability. The region has a diverse economic base that includes tourism, agricultural, construction, finance, healthcare, technology, and the Port of Tampa. Major industries with headquarters or divisions located within the city's boundaries or in close proximity include telephone and electric service companies, computer hardware and electrical controls manufacturers, fertilizer manufacturers, and major tourist attractions. Institutions of higher learning located within the city include the University of South Florida, the University of Tampa, Hillsborough Community College and Stetson University College of Law.

**Economic Indicators**

The City of Tampa's budget is affected by economic variables that are significant drivers of demand for city services and of major revenues. The following is a brief discussion of past and projected trends for key economic indicators including jobs, employment levels, population, income and construction.

The Tampa metro area (Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco and Hernando counties) gained 30,600 jobs in the 12 months to April 2006. Metro Tampa's 2.4% job growth exceeded the nation's 1.4% rate but trailed Florida's 3.3% growth. Construction, retail, food services and business services employment turned in strong performances. Tampa's job count currently stands at a record 1.3 million. The area gained more than 50,000 jobs in 2005 with further gains expected for 2006 and 2007.

In 2004, service industry jobs accounted for over a third of all existing jobs and self-employment in both Hillsborough County and Florida. Business services which include

advertising, computer services and personnel services experienced particularly strong growth. Wholesale and retail trade accounted for another 14%-15% of all jobs in the county and state. Many of the area's largest non-government employers are retail, services and health companies.

While job growth is the single most important and visible economic indicator for a local area, other indicators play important roles as well. The University of Florida's Bureau of Economic and Business Research forecasts county-wide population growth through 2010 will average more than 25,000 persons annually.

Property taxes on residential and commercial real estate provide the largest source of revenue. Recent growth in taxable real estate values has reflected strong housing markets as well as reassessment activity by the Property Appraiser's Office. County-wide taxable value growth averaged 9.4% annually during 1995-2005. Slowing housing markets will likely result in slower taxable value growth after 2006.

**City of Tampa Principle Taxpayers**  
(Thousands)

Taxpayer	Type of Business	2004 Taxes Levied	% of Total Taxes Levied
Tampa Electric Company	Electric Service	\$ 34,257	2.39%
Verizon	Telephone Service	22,823	1.59%
Hillsborough County Aviation Authority	Governmental Agencies	9,711	0.68%
Mosaic Phosphates Company	Phosphate Manufacturing	7,379	0.52%
Highwoods / Florida Holdings LP	Real Estate Management	6,945	0.48%
Camden Property Trust	Real Estate Management	5,074	0.35%
Post Apartment Homes LP	Real Estate Management	4,826	0.34%
Glimcher LTD Partnership	Real Estate Management	4,579	0.32%
Wal-Mart	Retail Service	4,113	0.29%
Busch Entertainment Corp	Tourist Attraction	2,956	0.21%
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 102,663</b>	<b>7.17%</b>

Source: Office of the Tax Collector, Hillsborough County.  
The data presented above refers to Hillsborough County; such information is not available for the city only.

**Major Employers in Hillsborough County, 2005**

Firm / Organization	Type of Operation	Employees
Hillsborough County School Board	Public Education	24,000
Hillsborough County Government	Government Service	10,214
University of South Florida	Education Service	7,667
Verizon Communications Corporation	Telecommunications	7,200
Tampa International Airport	Airport Terminal, Retail Shops, Hotels	6,500
MacDill Air Force Base	Military Base	5,532
Publix Food Centers	Supermarkets	4,843
City of Tampa	Government Service	4,700
Tampa General Hospital	Medical Facility	4,500
St. Joseph's Hospital	Medical Facility	4,485

Source: Hillsborough County, Florida Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2005