

## City of Tampa Statistical Information

Initial Incorporation December 15, 1855		Tampa Police Department	
Second Incorporation July 15, 1887		Uniform Employees	992
Adoption of Original Charter December 15, 1855		Civilian Employees	332
Adoption of Present City Charter October 1, 1975		Number of Airplanes	1
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)	6.10
Council members elected - one from each of four districts and three at-large for four-year terms.		Transportation Facilities	
Last Mayoral Election March 6, 2007		Miles of Street	1,708
Registered Voters	179,353	Paved	1,705
Votes Cast	27,989	Unpaved	3
Percentage	15.6%	Traffic Signals	571
Next Mayoral Election March, 2011		Street Lights	37,997
City Boundaries		Traffic Signs	83,206
Miles of Land Area	116.1	Wastewater System	
City Population (April 2006)	334,550	Number of Accounts	119,650
Leisure Services Facilities		Miles of Pipe	1,836
Parks	178	Average Daily Flow (million gallons)	60
Land Area (acres)	3,544	Plant Daily Flow Capacity (million gallons)	96
Baseball and Softball Fields	96	Pumping Stations	223
Multi-purpose Athletic Fields	30	Service Area (square miles)	219
Tennis, Racquetball and Multi-purpose Courts	193	Solid Waste System	
Off-road Multi-use (miles)	20	Number of Accounts	83,024
Swimming Pools	15	Annual Tonnage of Refuse Collection and Disposal	486,960
Beaches	4	Stormwater Management	
Playgrounds	71	Curb miles swept annually	25,000
Community Centers	26	Miles of Pipe	368
Parkways (miles)	212	Miles of Ditches	180
Golf Courses	3	Retention Ponds	104
Picnic Shelters	143	Water System	
Gymnasiums	7	Number of Accounts	128,703
On-road Bike Lanes (miles)	20	Miles of Water Mains	2,300
Hiking / Nature Trails (miles)	4.6	Average Daily Demand (million gallons)	85
Art Studios	5	Domestic Use Per Capita Per Day (gallons)	122
Convention Center		Fire Hydrants	12,742
Number of Event Days	568	Parking Division	
Museum		On-Street Meters / Spaces	3,132
Number of Objects	7,474	Off-Street Spaces	11,425
Number of Exhibitions	14	Garages	9
Annual Attendance	52,000	Cable Communication	
Tampa Fire Rescue		Number of Analog Channels (Bright House)	83
Uniform Employees	585	Number of Analog Channels (Verizon)	33
Civilian Employees	62	Number of Digital Channels (Bright House)	200
Fire Stations	21	Number of Digital Channels (Verizon)	410
Medical Response Time (minutes)	5.83	Marina	
Fire Incident Response Time (minutes)	5.92	Marinas and Boat Docks	3
		Boat Slips	124
		Boat Ramps	6

## City of Tampa Information

### Community

Located along Florida's west coast, Tampa represents 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 2.7 million people, making it the third largest MSA in the Southeast and the 19<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 334,000-plus residents, while Hillsborough County has over 1.1 million residents.

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 (5-time NCAA Division II Baseball Champions, including consecutive titles in 2006 and 2007) provide NCAA sports. The H. B. Plant Panthers High School football team completed their undefeated season and won the Class 4A state title in 2006. The area also includes dozens of golf courses along with boating and other outdoor activities.

### History

In 1824, two months after the arrival of the first non-native 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 19,000 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, agriculture, construction, finance, insurance, healthcare, technology, and education, as well as 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.

Sources: 2006 The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce; US Census Bureau; Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission; Labor Market Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

**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 gained 17,700 jobs in the 12 months through June 2007. Metro Tampa's 1.4% job growth exceeded the nation's 1.2% rate but trailed Florida's 2.3% growth. Tampa metro's job count still stands at a record 1.3 million. In the third quarter of 2006, the largest industry group in the Tampa metro area was the administrative support / waste services industry group, with 13% of the area's employment, followed closely by the health care / social assistance industry group, with 12%. Food service, construction, technology, and finance and insurance industry groups also had strong performance.

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 from 2006 through 2010 will average almost 27,000 persons annually in Hillsborough County.

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 13.2% annually during 1996-2005 tax years. The declining housing market will likely result in slower taxable value growth after 2006.

Sources: Labor Market Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages and Local Area Unemployment Statistics Programs; Hillsborough County Property Appraiser

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

Taxpayer	Type of Business	2005 Taxes Levied	% of Total Taxes Levied
Tampa Electric Company / Peoples Gas	Electric Service	\$ 40,917	2.53%
Verizon Communications Corporation	Telecommunications Service	22,010	1.36%
Hillsborough County Aviation Authority	Governmental Service	11,161	0.69%
Mosaic Phosphates Company	Phosphate Manufacturing	6,876	0.43%
Camden Property Trust	Real Estate Management	5,060	0.31%
Wal-Mart	Retail Service	4,657	0.29%
Post Apartment Homes LP	Real Estate Management	4,597	0.28%
Glimcher LTD Partnership	Real Estate Management	4,280	0.26%
Busch Entertainment Corporation	Tourist Attraction	2,901	0.18%
Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association	Financial Service	2,788	0.17%
Total		<u>\$ 105,247</u>	<u>6.51%</u>

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, 2006**

Firm / Organization	Type of Operation	Employee
Hillsborough County School Board	Public Education	22,650
Hillsborough County Government	Government Service	10,498
University of South Florida	Education Service	7,794
Tampa International Airport	Airport Terminal, Retail Shops, Hotels	7,626
Verizon Communications Corporation	Telecommunications Service	7,000
MacDill Air Force Base	Military Base	5,756
Publix Food Centers	Supermarkets	4,672
City of Tampa	Government Service	4,525
St. Joseph's Hospital	Medical Facility	3,907
Tampa Electric Company / Peoples Gas	Electric Service	3,543

Source: Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission