



The Briefing for Thursday – May 25 - 2023

The last Briefing was Wednesday, May 24, 2023

How's your weather – <https://weather.com/>

Budget Watch

The General Appropriation Bill – SB 2500 has not been presented to the Governor's Office.

FDOT Seeking Input on State Resilience Action Plan

Workshop Schedule

Resilience Action Plan Public Comment Webinar

Thursday, May 25, 2023,

9:30-10:30 am EDT.

To register for the webinar:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2149966776444718167>

The Florida Department of Transportation will post the Resilience Action Plan for the State Highway System on Thursday, May 25, 2023, for public comment. The link to the document and comment form will be provided when it is available. To learn more about what is included in the plan and how to provide comments, please join us for our Resilience Action Plan Public Comment Webinar on Thursday, May 25, 2023 from 9:30-10:30 am EDT.

TaxWatch Report – How Counties Compare

TaxWatch Introduces Annual County Comparison Report

Earlier the week, TaxWatch released its annual report – 2023 How Florida Counties Compare. Florida relies heavily on local governments to provide services to its residents. The state's counties, cities, school districts, and special districts raise and spend more money combined than Florida's state government. The levels of taxing and spending in different jurisdictions across the state vary considerably. This report will help you see how your county stacks up against the other 66 counties.

Here's the link - [2023 How Florida Counties Compare](#)

To complement our How Florida Compares series, which compares our state to the rest of the nation, this report looks at the myriad local governments within the state. While property taxes get most of the public attention, they only provide about one-fifth of city and county revenue. The tables, charts, and graphs in this report provide comprehensive information on local tax rates, tax collections, other revenue sources, and government expenditures.

Florida TaxWatch provides this report as a reference tool for Florida's taxpayers, policymakers, and elected officials.

Florida Tax Free Weekends Start in the next few days

Two Sales Tax Holidays Start in the next few days

Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holidays: May 27 – June 9, 2023 AND Aug 26 – Sept 8, 2023

Freedom Summer Sales Tax Holiday: May 29 – September 4, 2023

Here's a link to all you need to know about Florida's Sales Tax Holidays

[Florida's Sales Tax Holidays for 2023 .docx](#)

Upcoming Meetings

June 7–9 - FSBA/FADSS Summer Conference, Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay

June 8 - Small School District Breakfast

June 27-30 - FAC Annual Summer Conference

June 28 - Small County Coalition Annual Meeting

November 29-30 - Just Announced – 2023 Rural Summit -

Headlines Around the State

News4Jax: Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis launches campaign for president to challenge Trump

FlaPol: Ron DeSantis in Twitter launch touts executive strength, promises political victory

Herald: DeSantis finally confirms his presidential ambitions. So, what's the internet saying?

News4Jax: Elon Musk wants to build a digital town square. But his debut for DeSantis had a tech failure.

My News 13: DeSantis launches GOP presidential campaign in Twitter announcement plagued by glitches

Politico: 'It turned out to be a mistake': Botched rollout puts DeSantis on his heels

The Hill: Fox News trolls Elon Musk, DeSantis with banner 'amateur hour' headline

NYTimes: Awkward Silence: Ron DeSantis's Bold Twitter Gambit That Flopped

The Hill: DeSantis says large volumes of listeners caused crash in Musk Twitter conversation

NBC News: With DeSantis event, Twitter solidifies its place in the conservative media world

NYTimes: Five Takeaways From a Rocky 2024 Debut

NBC Miami: Trump, DeSantis' Rivalry Intensifies as Florida Governor Formally Enters 2024 Presidential Race

News4Jax: Friends to foes: How Trump and DeSantis' relationship has deteriorated over the years

FlaPol: Donald Trump takes potshots at Ron DeSantis on launch day

NYTimes: The Policy Fights Where DeSantis Sees His Chance to Hit Trump

Politico: Trump Had an Escalator. DeSantis Had a Meltdown.

NBC News: Ron DeSantis is stuck in the middle and getting punched from above and below

FlaPol: Ron DeSantis faces hard road to White House, but has beat long odds before
Times: Here's how Elon Musk became a Ron DeSantis supporter
NYTimes: Who Is David Sacks? A Fitting Bridge Between DeSantis and Musk
FlaPol: Kevin McCarthy refrains from comment on Ron DeSantis 2024 run
NBC Miami: The Rise of Ron DeSantis: From Little-Known Congressman to Presidential Contender
Times: How Ron DeSantis became a presidential candidate and what could happen next
The Hill: DeSantis, allies prepare major Trump counteroffensive
The Hill: DeSantis says roles to play for federal and state governments on abortion
Post: Trump-DeSantis 2024 ticket a likely no go? Problem isn't their feud. It's U.S. Constitution.
Herald: How a growing Republican field threatens DeSantis' presidential candidacy
FlaPol: Ron DeSantis doesn't expect a federal equivalent of Disney flap
FlaPol: Ron DeSantis wants Ukraine 'settlement'
Herald: Trump welcomes 'Rob' DeSantis to presidential race
Times: How has Florida fared economically under DeSantis watch?
FlaPol: DeSantis administration defends its Medicaid unwinding process
City & State FL: Rick Scott, Marco Rubio to federal workers: Get back to the office
The Hill: White House seizes on Gaetz 'hostage' remark on debt ceiling
FlaPol: Florida NAACP to lead 15-city 'Stay Woke' tour, voter push
NBC News: Inside the Florida group pushing to slash food stamp rolls nationwide
WLRN: 'I see myself in these students': 20,000 immigrant children join Miami-Dade schools
Herald: How hearty corals near Port Miami could help Florida's reefs adapt to climate change
Daily News: These 4 native Florida birds are threatened or facing extinction. Here's what to know
Sun-Sentinel: Yes, that was a Moskowitz for Congress T-shirt for sale at Marshalls. It wasn't supposed to be.
FlaPol: Restoration assessment on the way for Osborne Reef
The Capitolist: Cosentino Group establishes Florida as its new manufacturing hub
PNJ: Florida has 237K cars deemed 'too dangerous to drive.' Ranks No. 3 in US.
CBS Miami: DeSantis' presidential run will test if he has country-wide appeal
Politico: Ron DeSantis Has a Problem. It's Florida.
Politico: In DeSantis' Sunshine State, life is not all sunny
NYTimes: Amassing Power, DeSantis Maximized Might of Governor's Office
My News 13: DeSantis signs election law with resign-to-run exemption

PNJ: Why Florida's 'resign to run' law already allowed DeSantis to run without resigning
Axios: DeSantis' hometown, Dunedin, divided on his presidential aspirations
Post: Trump's campaign accuses DeSantis of threatening veto power for Florida endorsements
NYTimes: Florida's First Lady, and Second in Command
NBC Miami: Who Are DeSantis' Biggest Donors and How Much Money Has Been Raised?
Herald: DeSantis Miami event draws protests and attacks from two rivals: Democrats and Trump
Herald: DeSantis fundraisers convene at Miami hotel as presidential campaign becomes official
FlaPol: Florida pols react to launch of Ron DeSantis' presidential campaign
WUSF: What's on DeSantis' agenda? A look at the laws he passed as Florida governor, from abortion to guns
Politico: Here's a look at the most contentious legislation DeSantis has signed leading up to his presidential bid
Bradenton Herald: Beyond fighting 'wokeism.' Understanding Ron DeSantis' conservative policy agenda
Herald: DeSantis picked Miami for initial campaign gathering, but will Miami pick him in 24?
Post: DeSantis enters presidential race, where does that leave Palm Beach County politicians?
Democrat: Who is Jeannette Nuñez? Florida's lt. governor moves up if DeSantis wins presidential election
Democrat: DeSantis signed a sweeping election bill. Advocacy groups are now suing.
Bloomberg: Florida's New Voting Law Challenged for Making Registration Harder
FlaPol: Black Republicans counter calls for boycott by NAACP, Legislative Black Caucus
Herald: Shocked by 'horrific' stories of kids housed in nursing homes, judge tells Florida: Fix it
Times: New Florida rule requires school districts to track book challenges
Sentinel: Florida book bans could spread under new rule, critics say
FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis signs 'Greyson's Law' safeguarding children at risk of parental harm
WLRN: Top education official defends decision to restrict presidential inauguration poem
NBC Miami: Objection to Amanda Gorman's Iconic Poem Shines Spotlight on Book Removals
Herald: A Miami-Dade school flagged her poem. The county's mayor invited her to read it
FlaPol: Crackdown on catalytic converter crime cruises into law
FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis signs measure expanding sports options for charter school athletes
FlaPol: Snake out: Gov. DeSantis signs bill increasing penalties in venomous reptile crimes
WUSF: Pediatricians battling Florida House's subpoena over trans care standards
WLRN: Advocacy groups propose new 'logical' Miami maps after racial gerrymandering ruling
Herald: Miami mayor cancels appearance as controversy swirls over private work for developer

Herald: Black community wants apology after School Board member tried to block colleague at meeting

Sun-Sentinel: 'It's not for everybody': Python hunters look ahead to this year's annual challenge

FlaPol: Application window slithers open for annual Python Challenge

Times: Shadow groups played heavy role in Tampa council campaign attack mailers

Herald: Hialeah won't annex part of this historic Black neighborhood. Will it look for other areas?

Herald: New billion-dollar water system in Florida Keys sent raw sewage into ocean, state says

WUSF: Red tide appears to be gone from area beaches

WLRN: Health advisory issued on blue-green algae in Lake Okeechobee

On the Docket

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023

- ‘PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY’ - Thursday, 9 a.m. House Speaker Paul Renner, R-Palm Coast, is expected to be among the speakers at the Florida Chamber Foundation’s “Florida Prosperity & Economic Opportunity Solution Summit.” Location: Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront, 225 East Coastline Dr., Jacksonville.
- ARTS AND CULTURE - Thursday, 9 a.m. The Florida Council on Arts & Culture will meet. <https://-.goto.com/CultureBuildsFL/fcac-may-2023>. Call-in number: 1-872-240-3212. Code: 867868077
- INDEPENDENT EDUCATION PANEL - Thursday, 9 a.m. The state Commission for Independent Education will meet. Wyndham Orlando Resort, 8001 International Dr., Orlando.
- VALENCIA COLLEGE TRUSTEES - Thursday, 9:30 a.m. The Valencia College Board of Trustees will meet. Valencia College, East Campus, 701 North Econlockhatchee Trail, Orlando.
- APALACHEE PLANNING COUNCIL - Thursday, 10 a.m. The Apalachee Regional Planning Council will meet. Apalachee Regional Planning Council, 2507 Callaway Road, Suite 100, Tallahassee.
- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINION - Thursday, 11 a.m. The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release opinions.
- NORTH CENTRAL PLANNING COUNCIL - Thursday, 7 p.m. The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council will meet. Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, 213 Southwest Commerce Blvd., Lake City.

FRIDAY, MAY 26, 2023

- INDEPENDENT EDUCATION PANEL - Friday, 9 a.m. The state Commission for Independent Education will meet. Wyndham Orlando Resort, 8001 International Dr., Orlando.

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2023

- DISASTER PREPAREDNESS ‘HOLIDAY’ STARTS - Florida will start a disaster-preparedness tax “holiday” that will allow shoppers to avoid paying sales taxes when they buy a wide range of disaster-preparedness supplies and household

About the Briefing!

The Briefing is prepared almost daily by Chris Doolin

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The Briefing is compiled **2-3 times a week** to provide information to elected officials and staff in counties that are members of the Small County Coalition and the Small School District Council Consortium. It is also sent to Professional Colleagues and Associates. For Questions Email – cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com

If you want to see all of the latest briefings – you can go www.smallcountycoalition.org or www.ssdcc.org and click on the red **Briefing** button.

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