

"In six years and two months, we've added 1.3 million new jobs. It's very important we keep the effort up. We've got to keep marketing our state. If we don't, we're not going to get as many tourists, which will mean less jobs, and 1.4 million jobs are tied to tourism."

— Gov. Rick Scott, in an interview with Site Selection on April 11 in Tampa

Enterprise Florida

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Florida

Pop. (2017): 20,619,313 Median household income: \$50,606 Credit Rating: AAA/Stable **Pop. growth 2017–2022:** 1.36% **Median age:** 42.2

Right-to-work state: Yes

GDP 1th

2012 2013 2014 2015 2016

2016 GDP (in millions of current US\$) \$926.049

Legislative Update

- After a months-long legislative challenge to Florida's business
 recruitment agency, lawmakers settled on cutting state money
 for Enterprise Florida's annual operations from \$23.5 million to
 \$16 million. Lawmakers also imposed new rules on the agency,
 such as increasing financial disclosure requirements and
 banning the use of tax dollars for performance bonuses.
- A new \$85-million Florida Job Growth Grant Fund was
 established within the state Department of Economic
 Opportunity, to be used to promote public infrastructure and
 individual job training with the aim of attracting business
 relocations. DEO and Enterprise Florida are to "identify projects,
 solicit proposals and make funding recommendations to the
 Governor, who is authorized to approve them."
- HB 3a boosts per-student spending for public education by \$100. An earlier version that increased per-student spending by only \$24 was vetoed. HB 15 boosts the size of voucher-like credit scholarships that help parents pay for private school tuition.

