



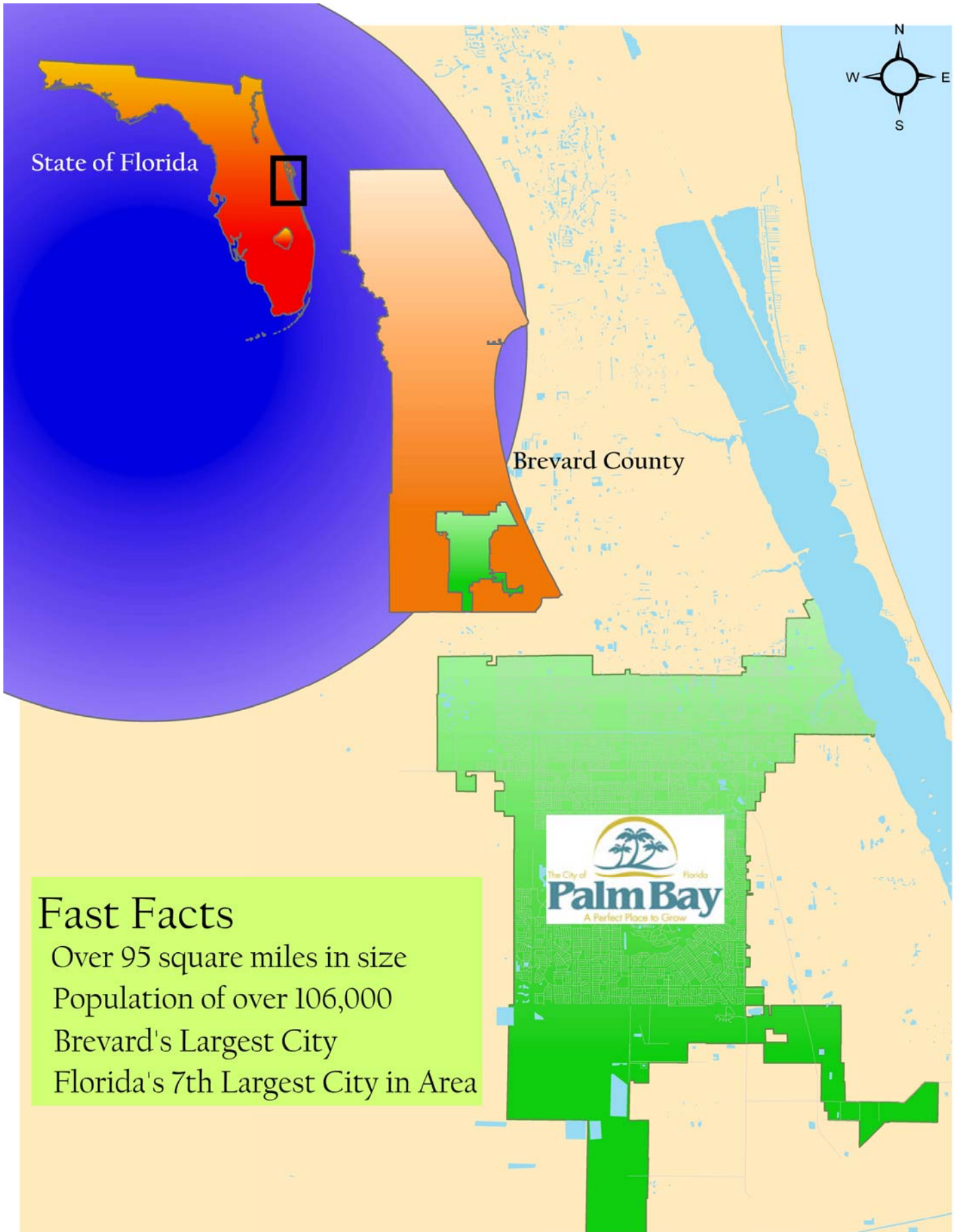
2007

Profile of Palm Bay, Florida

City of Palm Bay

Land Development Division

May 2007



Fast Facts

- Over 95 square miles in size
- Population of over 106,000
- Brevard's Largest City
- Florida's 7th Largest City in Area

Location and Geography

The City of Palm Bay is located in southern Brevard County on the east Central Florida coast, midway between Jacksonville and Miami. The Kennedy Space Center is approximately 50 miles to the north and Disney World is approximately 65 miles to the west.

Palm Bay fronts over 7 miles of the Indian River Lagoon estuary, which is part of the Intracoastal Waterway. The oldest part of the City surrounds Palm Bay, a small cove that connects Turkey Creek to the Indian River lagoon estuary. Some of the recent incorporated areas within western Palm Bay border the headwaters of the St. John's River system, which is the only river system in the United States that flows north.

Area

With over ninety (95) square miles of territory, Palm Bay is the largest incorporated area in Brevard County and the seventh largest incorporated area in the state.

(Source: Palm Bay Growth Management Department)

History

Palm Bay was originally inhabited by the Timucuan Indians, who used the Bay as an abundant source of food and fresh water. By the 1850's, early white settlers began to settle the area- known then as Tillman- and growth accelerated after 1894 with the extension of Henry Flagler's railroad system into the region. The City of Palm Bay incorporated in 1960, and became the home of the Harris Corporation, which brought large scale, modern industry to the City. Today, the City is residentially based, with the majority of the City allocated for residential use.

Government

Palm Bay has a city manager/city council form of government which provides for a mayor and four (4) city council members elected for three-year terms. The present City Manager is Mr. Lee Feldman, and the Mayor is Mr. John Mazziotti. The City also has several Boards consisting of volunteers from the community who actively work with City Council to review various aspects of the City's needs.

Population

General Statistics

Palm Bay's population was estimated to be 106,692 persons as of April 28, 2007. In 1990, Palm Bay became the most populous city in Brevard County with 62,630 persons. The April 1, 2000 Census population count of the City was 79,413 persons.

Of Florida's 100 largest cities, the City is estimated:

- 20th in total population size
- 77th in total population increase from 2000 to 2006

Of the 15 current municipalities (as of April, 2006) within Brevard County, Palm Bay is estimated:

- 1st in total population
- 1st in total population increase from 2000 to 2006

The City's 2000 Census population of 79,413 persons was an increase of 26.79 percent from the City's 1990 Census population of 62,632 persons.

Median Resident Age

Compared to other Florida communities, Palm Bay's population has a relatively low median age of 37.4 years of age.

(Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida, 2007)

Economy

Palm Bay ranks first in Brevard County in basic industrial employment. Harris Corporation, a Fortune 500 company, employs approximately 3,100 people in Palm Bay. The top industrial employers include:

Top Industrial Employers in Palm Bay (as of 7/3/2006)

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Product</i>	<i>Number Employed</i>
1	Harris Corporation	Information Processing/ Communications	3100
2	MC Assembly	Electronics Design and Manufacturing	1200
3	Intersil	Integrated Circuits and Semiconductors	750
4	DRS Tactical	Dept. of Defense Contractor	381
5	DRS Optronics	Dept. of Defense Contractor	350

Additionally, Palm Bay offers diverse employment opportunities in various sectors. The top employers within the City include:

Top Employers in Palm Bay (as of 7/3/2006)

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>Number Employed</i>
1	Harris Corporation	Industrial	3100
2	Brevard County School Board	Public	1317
3	MC Assembly	Industrial	1203
4	City of Palm Bay	Public	830
5	Intersil	Industrial	750
6	Wal-Mart	Retail	630
7	Publix	Retail	420
8	Palm Bay Community Hospital	Medical	417
9	DRS Tactical	Industrial/Governmental Contract	381
10	DRS Optronics	Industrial/Governmental Contract	350

(Source: Palm Bay Economic Development Division)

Palm Bay has led all other cities in the six county East Central Florida region (Brevard, Volusia, Seminole, Osceola, Orange, and Lake) in single family construction since 1977. During the 1980's, the City permitted 18,558 total dwelling units, of which 14,558 units were single family homes. In the 1990's the City of Palm Bay permitted 8,154 dwelling units of which 7,396 were single family homes. From 2000-2006, Palm Bay issued 11,605 single family home permits, with 1,752 single family permits issued in 2006 alone.

As of 2005, Palm Bay had the second largest tax base of all municipalities in Brevard County with a taxable value of \$3.99 billion. Palm Bay's millage rate for 2006 is 18.49 mils.

Infrastructure

Utilities

Water and sewer service is provided in the City by Palm Bay Utilities Department. Two water treatment facilities serve the City: the original Water Treatment facility in the Northeast area of the City, and a new South Regional Water Treatment facility in the Southeast quadrant. The South Regional Water treatment Facility is a 10 million gallons per day reverse osmosis water plant with the capacity to eventually produce 30 million gallons a day.

Roads

More than 900 miles of local streets are contained within Palm Bay. The City is serviced by Interstate 95, U.S. Route 1, State and County Route 514 (Malabar Road), County Route 516 (Palm Bay Road), State and County Route 507 (Babcock Street), and County Route 509 (Minton Road).

Drainage Systems

The Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District controls and maintains over 200 miles of drainage canals throughout most of the City.

Medical Care

Celebrating 15 years of service in 2007, Palm Bay Community Hospital is a full-service, 60-bed, not-for-profit hospital. Part of Brevard-based Health First, the facility offers a full-range of services including emergency care, comprehensive laboratory and high-tech radiology diagnostic testing, including Brevard's first full-digital radiology suite, and the latest in laparoscopic and general surgery. Palm Bay Community Hospital also offers diagnostic cardiac catheterization and testing, Brevard's only hospital-based, AASM accredited sleep disorders laboratory, and an attached physician's office building.

As of Spring 2007, the hospital is currently beginning construction on a 68 million dollar addition that will double the current size of the facility, including 40 new beds, with the ability to add 40 more beds in the future, and an expanded Intensive Care Unit.

Education

Basic Education

Within the City limits, Palm Bay has 11 elementary schools, 1 middle school, and 1 high school operated by the Brevard County School System. The City also offers 7 charter schools, two of which are operated by the City of Palm Bay. Just north of the Palm Bay border is Palm Bay High School within the City of Melbourne.

Post Secondary Education

Brevard Community College operates a full service campus in the City located near I-95 and Malabar Road. This 200 acre campus, situated on Lake Titan, has an enrollment of 3,400 students with facilities that house over 50 classrooms including 7 science labs, 13 computer labs, 16 multimedia classrooms, 437 student computer workstations, a 175-seat auditorium, cybercafé, an eatery, and a videoconferencing center. The new BCC/University of Central Florida Joint Classroom Building includes a Barnes and Noble bookstore, a wellness center, as well as general purpose and multimedia classrooms. Upper division and graduate courses are also offered through University of Central Florida, Webster University, and Barry University.

Additionally, the Florida Institute of Technology, a private university, is located two (2) miles from the City of Palm Bay's northern border in Melbourne, Florida.

Recreational Facilities

Parks

The City currently operates 14 major park sites, and several specialty recreations. These parks and recreations are accessible to the public and provide access to waterways, open space, and/or public facilities. Some of the highlighted parks include:

- **Turkey Creek Sanctuary**
This park offers nature trails and water access to Turkey Creek. Park rangers help guide visitors through this unique preserve showcasing Florida's natural beauty.
- **Castaways Point Park**
This park is situated along the shore of the Indian River Lagoon estuary, providing access to pier fishing, picnic areas, and group shelters.
- **A.J. Goode Park**
Near the mouth of Turkey Creek, this park offers a boat ramp, the Captain's House meeting facility, and an open lawn for recreation.
- **Palm Bay Regional Park**
The largest park within Palm Bay, the Regional Park holds 9 soccer fields, picnic areas, and a basketball and volleyball court.
- **Graffiti Skate Zone**
Located behind the Community Center on Port Malabar Boulevard, this facility provides a skateboarding course for the youth of the community. Additionally, the City also offers a mobile skate park, available at various locations moving around the City.

Golf Courses

- **The Majors**
This course is a privately owned 18 hole, championship style course designed by Arnold Palmer. Public play is permitted by a daily fee, or one may join by membership.
- **Jo-Daddy's**
This privately owned course offers 9 hole, executive style play. The public may play by a daily greens fee.
(Source: City of Palm Bay Parks and Recreation)

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