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# AI and the Future of Florida's Economy

*How artificial intelligence is creating jobs, strengthening small businesses, and driving growth in the nation's 4th largest economy.*

Prepared by Build American AI for policymakers, business leaders, the media, and the American public.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

# A foundation already in place.

## Florida's intentionally cultivated pro-business posture, favorable tax structure, and balanced regulatory approach are making it the destination of choice for companies and workers building the AI economy.

As the nation's 4th largest economy, with a GDP of $1.834 trillion,[1] 3.3 million small businesses,[2] 698,000 new business formations in 2025 (#1 nationally),[3] and a population of 23.4 million (the fastest-growing large state from 2023 to 2024),[4] Florida possesses an extraordinary combination of assets to lead in the AI era.

The economic opportunity for Florida families and small businesses is immense. Independent estimates from the International Monetary Fund and the OECD create a middle estimate in the 4–6% range for AI's potential impact on GDP.[5] Applied across major sectors in Florida, this is suggestive of approximately $81.07 billion to $121.6 billion in additional Florida GDP by 2035, with a central estimate near $100 billion — comparable in scale to adding an entirely new major industry to the state's already diversified economic base. For Florida's 3.3 million small businesses, AI is already proving to be a powerful tool for growth: nationally, 58% of small businesses now use AI.[6] Applied to Florida, this implies that roughly 1.9 million Florida small businesses are likely already using AI, with about 1.6 million having grown their workforce and 1.7 million reporting revenue increases since adoption.

FIGURE 1

# How AI Augments Florida's Industries

*Estimated GDP addition by 2035 assuming a 4–6% AI uplift.*

| FLORIDA INDUSTRY | 2025 GDP | 2035 EST. GDP | AI-DRIVEN GDP ADDITION BY 2035 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Real Estate, Rental & Leasing | $374 B | $502.62 B | $20.1 B – $30.16 B |
| Professional & Business Services | $252 B | $338.67 B | $13.55 B – $20.32 B |
| Trade (Wholesale & Retail) | $264 B | $354.79 B | $14.19 B – $21.29 B |
| Health Care, Education & Social Assistance | $163 B | $219.06 B | $8.76 B – $13.14 B |
| Finance & Insurance | $113 B | $151.86 B | $6.07 B – $9.11 B |
| Construction | $99 B | $133.05 B | $5.32 B – $7.98 B |
| Manufacturing | $85 B | $114.23 B | $4.57 B – $6.85 B |
| Information | $63 B | $84.67 B | $3.39 B – $5.08 B |
| Transportation, Utilities & Other | $95 B | $127.67 B | $5.11 B – $7.66 B |
| **Total** | **$1,508 B** | **$2,026.63 B** | **$81.07 B – $121.6 B** |

*Sources: SAGDP2 GDP by industry in current dollars (2025 Florida), Bureau of Economic Analysis, apps.bea.gov/itable. The AI-driven GDP addition for each sector is calculated as 4–6% of that sector's projected 2035 GDP (its 2025 BEA nominal multiplied by a nominal 3% growth per annum), where 4–6% is the overlap zone between the IMF "The Global Impact of AI: Mind the Gap" (WP/25/76, April 2025) and the OECD "Macroeconomic Productivity Gains from AI in G7 Economies" (June 2025). For more on this calculation see note 6.*

Companies are voting with their feet. Palantir Technologies, valued at over $300 billion, relocated its headquarters to Miami in early 2026,[7] joining D-Wave Quantum and Microsoft's LATAM headquarters among the more than 74 company headquarters that have relocated to Florida between 2020 and 2025 (per a September 2025 JLL report).[8] ServiceNow separately announced a new regional innovation hub and AI Institute in West Palm Beach in September 2025.[9] Miami has risen from the 20th to 4th most sought-after destination for tech workers leaving San Francisco,[10] and Florida ranks 5th nationally for AI readiness[11] and is a top-5 state for AI/ML venture capital.[12]

AI is not replacing Florida workers. It is empowering them to do more. Multiple independent studies find no evidence of economy-wide AI-driven job loss through 2025, even as adoption has reached roughly 40% of U.S. adults. Further, despite popularly propounded narratives to the contrary, controlled studies across writing, customer support, software development, and translation report productivity gains of 15% to more than 50%, with the largest benefits flowing to less-experienced workers.[13]

Florida's status as a tech hub, since it is home to the University of Florida's HiPerGator supercomputer ranked #3 on the MLPerf Inference benchmark category,[14] 120 data centers,[15] and a $6 billion aerospace pipeline,[16] is fostering the growth of related jobs. In fact, the average tech salary in Florida reached $116,939 in 2024, a 12.1% year-over-year increase that makes Florida the only state with double-digit tech wage growth, surpassing the $112,521 national average.[17] In South Florida, AI-related skills postings surged 266%.[18] All 27 of Florida's large counties reported weekly wage gains in Q3 2025,[19] and Miami's tech workforce grew 25% to 79,260 workers between 2021 and 2024.[20]

The bottom line is that, as jobs are concerned, in and out of the tech sector, Floridians are already directly benefitting from the growth of AI. Florida's structural advantages, including no state income tax, a business-friendly regulatory environment that aligns with the Trump Administration's National AI Framework,[21] world-class universities, a gateway to Latin American markets, and an unmatched quality of life, position it not merely to participate in the AI economy, but to lead it. This report examines how AI is poised to create more jobs, strengthen small businesses, and drive economic growth across Florida's major industries for decades to come.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

## Florida and the AI Economy

*Three numbers that define the opportunity.*

**2024 GDP**

# $1.727T

Florida is the 4th largest state economy, growing at nearly double the national rate.

**AI UPLIFT BY 2035**

# ~$100B

Central estimate of additional Florida GDP by 2035; full range $81.07–121.06B. Comparable in scale to adding a new major industry.

**SMALL BUSINESSES**

# ~1.9M

Florida small businesses estimated to be using AI today. Of those, roughly 1.6M are growing their workforce with AI tools (national rates extrapolated to FL).

PART I

# The National Context: AI as an Economic Growth Engine

Artificial intelligence represents the most significant economic transformation to the nation's economy since the internet. Leading research institutions and consulting firms project that AI will contribute tremendous amounts new economic value within the next decade, creating millions of new jobs while dramatically increasing productivity across every sector of the economy.

## Projected Economic Impact of AI

McKinsey Global Institute, a think tank associated with the consulting firm, estimates that AI-powered agents and robots working alongside humans could unlock $2.9 trillion in annual U.S. economic value by 2030 under a midpoint adoption scenario.[22] Yet, that top-line number only tells part of the tale of the scale of the growth implicated by AI and can be difficult to extrapolate into direct economic impact. Across an array of related metrics, the story is even more remarkable. Consider the following:

The International Monetary Fund's April 2025 multi-sector DGE projects US output increases of 1.9 to 5.6% over 10 years, while the OECD's June 2025 G7 analysis estimates US annual labor-productivity gains of 0.4 to 1.3 percentage points over the next decade, equating to a cumulative GDP-level effect of approximately 4.1% to 13.9% at constant labor hours. The two papers overlap in the 4–6% range, which this report adopts as the central case.[23] Goldman further estimates U.S. productivity growth of 1.7% through 2029, accelerating to 1.9% in the early 2030s as AI adoption broadens.[24]

PwC estimates AI's global contribution at $15.7 trillion by 2030, encompassing both productivity gains and consumption-side effects.[25] The Stanford HAI 2025 AI Index confirms the United States leads the world in private AI investment, with $109.1 billion invested in 2024 alone.[26]

The bottom-line is that AI adoption means growth.

| SOURCE | PROJECTION | TIMEFRAME |
|---|---|---|
| McKinsey Global Institute | $2.9T annual U.S. economic value | By 2030 |
| IMF / OECD overlap | 4–6% U.S. GDP overlap zone | Over 10 years |
| PwC | $15.7T global contribution | By 2030 |
| Goldman Sachs (productivity) | 1.5 pp productivity growth boost | Over 10 years |
| McKinsey (productivity) | Up to 3.4 pp to annual growth[27] | Near-term |
| U.S. Private AI Investment | $470B+ cumulative (2013–2024) | 12× China |

## AI and the American Workforce: A Complement, Not a Replacement

A central finding across all major research is that AI is augmenting workers rather than displacing them. In the United States, aggregate labor-market data through 2025 show adjustment rather than displacement. Independent studies from Yale's Budget Lab, Stanford's Digital Economy Lab, the Federal Reserve, and Danish administrative records find no evidence of economy-wide AI-driven job loss, even as adoption has reached roughly 40% of U.S. adults. Higher-exposure sectors have seen wage and employment gains, particularly among younger and more educated workers. Where pressure has

appeared, it is concentrated in entry-level segments of highly exposed occupations rather than broad displacement. And the largest productivity gains are flowing to less-experienced workers, narrowing skill gaps within occupations.[28]

BLS projects the U.S. economy will add 5.2 million jobs from 2024 to 2034 (+3.1%). Within that total, AI-driven demand for software developers, quality assurance analysts, and testers are projected to grow 15% (+287,900 jobs, with software developers alone adding 267,700, +16%), and the broader computer and mathematical occupations group is projected to grow 10.1% — more than three times the economy-wide rate.[29] CompTIA's AI Hiring Intent Index, which measures employer demand for AI-skilled hires, rose 94% year-over-year in August 2025, reflecting surging employer demand.[30]

Even Forrester's more cautious analysis, which projects 6.1% of U.S. jobs lost to automation by 2030, notes that AI is strongly influencing an additional 20% of jobs, creating a transformation effect 3.25 times larger than outright replacement.[31] **The historical pattern is clear: major technological transformations create far more jobs than they eliminate, and AI appears to be following this pattern.**

## Small Business AI Adoption

AI is not just for large corporations. According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, 58% of small businesses now use generative AI, more than double the rate from 2023 (23%).[32] Among those using AI, 82% increased their workforce over the past year. Among AI-adopting small businesses, 85% report increased sales and 84% report increased profits.[33]

## A Nationwide Surge

The United States leads the world in private AI investment, with cumulative funding exceeding $470 billion from 2013 to 2024.[34] The nation controls 74% of global high-end AI compute capacity and hosts 4,049 data centers. Every state is participating in this growth: AI-related venture capital of $560 billion has flowed into all 50 states across 27,000 deals since 2019.[35]

AI is not replacing American workers. It is augmenting their capabilities, expanding their opportunities, and creating an entirely new class of jobs that did not exist a decade ago.

PART II

# Florida's AI Opportunity: The Economic Outlook

Florida's $1.727 trillion economy, diversified industrial base, growing population, and pro-business environment create the ideal conditions for AI-driven economic growth. This section quantifies the opportunity and examines what AI adoption means for Florida families, workers, and small businesses.

## The Companies, Capital, and Infrastructure Already Here

Florida is rapidly emerging as one of America's leading AI states. Major corporate relocations, accelerating venture capital flows, and growing digital infrastructure have built a comprehensive foundation for AI leadership.

These conditions are not theoretical. Florida is already the fourth-largest state economy in the United States, with a 2024 nominal GDP of $1.727 trillion, surpassing Spain to rank as the world's 15th largest economy and trailing Australia by only $25.5 billion.[36] Real GDP grew 3.6% in 2024, ranking 8th among all states and well above the 2.8% national average, while the information sector, where AI value disproportionately accrues, has expanded to roughly 1.9 times its 2015 level.[37]

The human and entrepreneurial base is just as deep. Florida's population of 23.4 million is the third-largest in the country and the fastest-growing of any large state, supporting a nonfarm workforce of approximately 10 million.[38] The state's 3.3 million small businesses account for 99.8% of all Florida businesses and 40.9% of private employment, and Florida led all 50 states with 698,000 new business formations in 2025, outpacing California and Texas by wide margins.[39]

These fundamentals sit atop a structural policy environment built for capital formation: no state personal income tax, a business-friendly legal framework, and the highest concentration of corporate headquarters relocations in the country, with more than 74 between 2020 and 2025.[40] Florida currently holds the #1 ranking for Best State for Economy and Best State for Starting a Business, and #3 for Top State for Business overall.[41] The companies, capital, and infrastructure described below have been drawn here by, and continue to extend, that foundation.

### PRO-BUSINESS REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

Florida's appeal to AI companies and tech talent begins with its structural advantages discussed above that correspond directly with the predictability companies need to invest and grow.[42] The results speak for themselves. More than 74 company headquarters have relocated to Florida between 2020 and 2025 per JLL, more than any other state.[43]

Florida is also deploying AI to make government itself more efficient. The Florida DOGE task force, established by Executive Order 25-44 in February 2025, deploys AI to review state agency operations, identify unnecessary spending, and audit local government expenditures, one of the most direct governmental deployments of AI in the nation.[44]

The Government Technology Modernization Council, established in 2024, serves as Florida's central advisory body on emerging technology including AI.[45] The Council is mandated to recommend policies to "promote the development and deployment of artificial intelligence systems" in Florida and reports annually to the Governor and Legislature.[46]

The Florida Senate also unanimously passed (36-0) SB 7026 to create the Agency for State Systems and Enterprise Technology (ASSET) with $177 million in initial funding and nearly 200 dedicated staff, one of the most significant state IT modernization investments enacted in recent years.[47]

Taken together, these efforts align with President Trump's National AI Legislative Framework, which calls for a minimally burdensome standard that removes barriers to innovation and accelerates AI deployment.[48]

## MAJOR CORPORATE AI INVESTMENT

Palantir Technologies, with a market capitalization exceeding $300 billion as of February 2026, $4.5 billion in 2025 revenue, and projected 2026 revenue of $7.2 billion, relocated its global headquarters to Miami in February 2026, making it the largest publicly traded company headquartered in South Florida.[49] The Florida Council of 100 called the move a "watershed moment" that "validates Florida as a hub for national security and AI innovation."[50]

| COMPANY | ACTION | LOCATION | DETAILS |
|---|---|---|---|
| Palantir Technologies | HQ relocation | Miami | $300B+ market cap |
| D-Wave Quantum | HQ relocation | Boca Raton | Quantum computing |
| ServiceNow | AI innovation hub | West Palm Beach | Fortune 500 |
| Microsoft | LATAM HQ | Miami | Brickell district |
| SpaceX | $1.8B Gigabay facility | Cape Canaveral | 600 jobs |
| Amazon (Kuiper) | Satellite processing | Cape Canaveral | $120M + expansion |

## VENTURE CAPITAL AND AI READINESS

Florida ranks among the top 5 states nationally for AI/ML venture capital, alongside California, New York, Massachusetts, and Texas.[51] AI-related VC investment in Florida has reportedly reached $1.5 billion in 2023, a 340% increase from 2019 levels.[52] In the first half of 2025 alone, South Florida attracted $2 billion in VC investment, with $830 million specifically in AI.[53]

The DesignRush 2025 AI Readiness Index ranks Florida #5 nationally with a score of 80.95, ahead of Massachusetts, Maryland, Oregon, and California.[54] AI-related job-skills postings grew 266% in South Florida from January 2024.[55]

## TECHNOLOGY ECOSYSTEM AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Florida is home to more than 38,000 technology companies[56] and 120 data centers across 17 markets, making it the 4th largest data center hub in the U.S.[57] Major expansion proposals are underway, including a 1,100-acre campus in Polk County and an 800-acre project in Citrus County.[58]

Orlando's tech employment reached approximately 77,700 in 2024, a 21% increase over 2019, double the national rate, contributing nearly $15 billion annually to the regional economy.[59] Miami ranks #28 globally for tech startups and is the fastest-growing U.S. city for startup formation.[60] Miami has risen from the 20th to 4th most-searched destination for people leaving San Francisco (per MoveBuddha data reported by Architectural Digest).[61]

### FLORIDA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AI STRATEGY

The Florida Chamber of Commerce has launched a comprehensive three-pillar AI strategy aligned with its goal of making Florida a Top 10 global economy by 2030:[62]

- **Florida AI Readiness Index:** a benchmarking tool assessing AI workforce readiness and infrastructure across Florida's industries.
- **Florida AI Institute:** a collaborative hub connecting business leaders, educators, and policymakers to drive AI adoption.
- **AI Academy:** a practical training platform equipping executives with actionable AI skills and ethical frameworks.

In April 2025, a Chamber CEO delegation signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce for international AI partnerships, trade, and innovation, extending Florida's AI leadership globally.[63]

> *Florida's AI infrastructure is not aspirational. It is operational. Seventy-four-plus company relocations, a top-5 AI readiness ranking, 120 data centers, and a 340% surge in AI venture capital represent a foundation already in place.*

## The $81.07–$121.6 Billion Opportunity

Independent estimates from the IMF and the OECD of AI-driven growth overlap in a 4–6% range.[64] Applied directly to the major Florida industry sector's projected 2035 GDP of approximately $2.03 trillion:

| SCENARIO | GDP UPLIFT | ANNUAL IMPACT |
|---|---|---|
| Lower-Bound (overlap floor) | $81.07 billion | Approaches current manufacturing sector ($85B) |
| Central Case (IMF / OECD overlap) | $101.33 billion | Approaches current Finance & Insurance ($113B) |
| Upper-Range (overlap ceiling) | $121.6 billion | Approaches current Health Care, Education & Social Assistance ($163B) |

These projections are supported by Bank of America, which estimates AI is adding approximately 1.5 percentage points to U.S. productivity growth over the medium term,[65] and the Federal Reserve, which notes the U.S. controls 74% of global high-end AI compute capacity.[66]

Weighting Florida's projected 2030 GDP in three high-value sectors — manufacturing ($98.5B), finance and insurance ($131B), and healthcare, education and social assistance ($189B) — against the same sectors' projected U.S. totals yields a Florida share of approximately 4.4% of the U.S. sector-specific base, implying a Florida-specific value of roughly $77 billion in just these three industries by 2030.[67] This floor approaches the lower end of the Goldman and PwC ranges presented above — and it does not account for cross-cutting AI applications that operate across every industry, nor for the many other AI-exposed sectors driving value across Florida's economy.

## Sector-by-Sector Opportunity

AI-driven productivity gains will compound across Florida's major industries. Drawing on economic impact figures published in industry-specific studies, it is possible to get a view of the uplift we can expect to Florida's industries using this report's projected 4–6% AI GDP uplift range. Because the underlying impact methodologies vary across industries — some include multiplier effects, others reflect only direct activity — these figures are intended to provide a directional sense of impact.

- **Tourism.** According to VISIT FLORIDA, Florida's tourism industry generated $133.6 billion in total economic impact in 2024, welcoming 143 million visitors. Applying the report's central-case 4–6% AI GDP uplift range implies $5.3–$8.0 billion in annual AI-driven value through optimization of visitor experiences, dynamic pricing, demand forecasting, and operational efficiency.[68]
- **Healthcare.** According to the UF/FHA 2023 study, Florida's hospital sector generated $104.7 billion in total added value.[69] Applying the report's central-case 4–6% AI GDP uplift range implies $7.9–$11.9 billion in annual AI-driven value through clinical decision support, administrative automation, and care optimization. Separately, McKinsey and Harvard researchers project $200–$360 billion in annual U.S. healthcare cost savings from AI;[70] applied proportionally to Florida's approximately 5.9% share of national healthcare output, this implies $12–$21 billion in annual savings for the state.[71] Deloitte separately estimates AI saves 75–95% of time on government report drafting and document routing.[72]
- **Defense.** According to the Florida Defense Alliance, Florida's defense sector contributed $102.6 billion to the state economy in 2022 and supported 865,937 jobs, with direct defense expenditures of $65.3 billion. Applying the report's central-case 4–6% AI GDP uplift range implies $4.1–$6.2 billion in annual AI-driven value through simulation, autonomous systems, predictive maintenance, and smart manufacturing applications.[73]
- **Financial Services.** According to BEA, Florida's finance and insurance sector contributed approximately $113 billion in value added in 202, anchored by Miami's emerging financial hub including Citadel ($68 billion AUM). Applying the report's central-case 4–6% AI GDP uplift range implies $4.5–$6.8 billion in annual AI-driven value through fraud detection, algorithmic trading, risk

management, and customer service applications. McKinsey separately estimates AI could save the global banking industry $1 trillion by 2030, with Florida positioned to capture a share.[74]

- **Trade & Logistics.** According to the Miami International Airport Department, the combined economic impact of MIA and PortMiami reached a record $242.8 billion in 2024, supporting nearly 1.2 million jobs. Applying the report's central-case 4–6% AI GDP uplift range implies $9.7–$14.6 billion in annual AI-driven value from these two facilities alone through supply chain optimization, predictive logistics, customs automation, and demand forecasting. Statewide trade and logistics activity is materially larger.
- **Agriculture.** According to USDA and UF/IFAS, Florida's broader agricultural system — including farming, processing, distribution, and retail — generates $387.4 billion in total economic activity.[75] Applying the report's central-case 4–6% AI GDP uplift range implies $15.5–$23.2 billion in annual AI-driven value across the food system, with Florida's 44,400 farms positioned for productivity gains as 68% of large U.S. farms already use precision tech.[76]

## Job Creation Projections

Two years into rapid AI adoption — with roughly 40% of U.S. adults using generative AI by late 2024 — aggregate U.S. labor-market data show adjustment rather than displacement. Higher-exposure sectors have seen wage and employment gains, particularly among younger and more educated workers. Where pressure has appeared, it is concentrated in entry-level segments of highly exposed occupations rather than broad displacement.[77] Florida's labor market — roughly 6.5% of the national workforce — should reflect this broader pattern: meaningful adjustment in career ladders and entry-level pipelines alongside productivity gains, rather than near-term mass displacement.

The BLS projects tech-occupation employment will grow at twice the rate of the overall workforce through 2033,[78] with software developer roles alone increasing by 303,700 (17.9%). Median tech salary nationally: $105,900, more than double the median across all occupations.[79] Bain & Company projects that 1 in 2 AI-related jobs could remain unfilled by 2027, with demand reaching 1.3 million while supply is projected at only 645,000, giving Florida's deep university pipeline a crucial market opportunity.[80]

BLS projects approximately 435,000 new Florida jobs through 2033, including 38,100 new computer occupations and 19,700 new software developer positions, among the highest-paying job categories in the economy. (Based on applying Florida's approximately 6.5% share of national employment to BLS national occupation projections.)

## Small Business AI Opportunity

Florida's 3.3 million small businesses represent an enormous AI adoption opportunity. Nationally, 58% of small businesses already use AI[81] and 82% of AI users increased their workforce, while 85% report sales increases. ITIF estimates a 3.4 percentage point AI productivity boost for small businesses could increase federal tax revenue by more than $6 billion.[82]

Applying national adoption rates to Florida's small business base — and assuming those rates carry over given the state's different industry mix — would imply roughly 1.9 million Florida small businesses using AI, with about 1.6 million growing their workforce and 1.6 million reporting sales increases. Further, even given a different mix of industries, these extrapolations are likely to be good demonstrations of direction and magnitude. Small business payments to technology services grew 6.9% year-over-year in September 2025, with manufacturing up just over 16% and construction up just over 12%.[83] For Florida, the #1 state for new business formations with 698,000 in 2025, the small business AI opportunity is proportionally larger than any other state.

## Accelerating Momentum

The trajectory is accelerating across every indicator. AI-related VC grew 340% from 2019 to 2023,[84] tech hiring surged 30%,[85] and Florida's population growth of 306,000+ net new residents annually creates expanding demand for AI-enabled services. Northeast Florida alone saw 12 project announcements in 2025 representing 2,400 new jobs and nearly $1 billion in capital investment.[86]

Florida's no-income-tax advantage compounds these gains, keeping more investment capital and talent earnings in the state's economy. The Plug and Play Tech Center entered the Florida market specifically citing the no-income-tax environment as a key attraction.[87] As Brookings notes, AI development creates concentration effects: regions that move early lock in decades of competitive advantage.[88] Florida is moving early.

> *Florida is moving early, and in AI development, early movers lock in decades of competitive advantage. The data is unambiguous: Florida's AI economy is not emerging. It is already here.*

PART III

# Policy Recommendations and the Path Forward

Florida's existing strengths in tax environment, regulatory balance, university excellence, and industry diversity provide a powerful foundation for AI-driven growth. The following recommendations are designed to accelerate Florida's leadership while maintaining the pro-business, pro-innovation environment that has driven the state's extraordinary economic success.

01

### Support the Trump Administration's National AI Framework.

President Trump's March 2026 National AI Legislative Framework provides a clear, pro-growth federal approach that prioritizes innovation, protects communities, and creates a consistent national standard for AI governance.[89] The framework's six objectives, which include protecting children from harmful AI content, safeguarding small businesses through economic growth, respecting intellectual property rights, preventing AI censorship of lawful speech, enabling innovation and ensuring American AI dominance, and developing an AI-ready workforce, align directly with Florida's values and economic interests. A December 2025 framework from the White House calls for a "minimally burdensome national standard, not 50 discordant state ones" and emphasizes federal preemption to create consistency for businesses.[90] Florida's business-friendly environment already aligns with the framework's emphasis on removing barriers to innovation, protecting small businesses, and developing an AI-ready workforce. Florida should actively support federal preemption that creates one clear national standard rather than a patchwork of 50 state regulations, providing the regulatory certainty that companies need to invest and hire with confidence. Earlier Trump Administration actions, including EO 14179 removing barriers to AI leadership (January 2025)[91] and America's AI Action Plan (July 2025),[92] have already laid the groundwork for this pro-growth approach.

02

### Expand the AI in Education Task Force recommendations statewide.

Florida's selection as an EDSAFE AI Alliance Policy Lab State validates its national leadership in K-12 AI education. Expanding these recommendations to every school district, expanding CS course access, and investing in teacher professional development will ensure Florida students are the best-prepared AI-era workforce in the nation.[93]

03

### Scale UF's AI University model across the State University System.

The University of Florida's AI Across the Curriculum approach, with 230+ courses across 16 colleges, HiPerGator access, and an NVIDIA partnership, should serve as a blueprint for other SUS institutions. Investments at UCF, USF, FIU, FAU, and FSU demonstrate strong momentum; coordinated expansion can create a state-wide AI education network unmatched anywhere in the country.[94]

04

### Use the no-income-tax advantage to recruit more AI companies and talent.

Florida's structural tax advantages are already driving record corporate relocations: more than 74 company headquarters since 2020, per JLL. A targeted marketing campaign building on the "Ambition Accelerated" initiative can position Florida as the undisputed #1 destination for AI companies leaving high-tax, high-regulation states.[95]

05

### Invest in data center infrastructure to support AI computing needs.

With 120 data centers and major expansion proposals in Polk and Citrus counties, Florida should pursue smart energy policies and streamlined permitting that support data center growth while protecting residential ratepayers. Every $1 billion data center generates up to $200 million in tax revenue over 10 years.[96]

06

### Strengthen the K-12 AI and computer science pipeline.

Florida's mandate for CS course access is a strong foundation. Expanding professional development for CS teachers, increasing dual-enrollment opportunities in AI programs at state colleges, and supporting the Mark Cuban Foundation bootcamps and STEM Explorer programs will build the long-term talent pipeline Florida needs.[97]

07

### Support small business AI adoption through CareerSource programs.

The $500,000 AI Incumbent Worker Training Pilot should be significantly expanded. Florida's 3.3 million small businesses, which generate 40.9% of private-sector employment, represent the state's economic backbone. Targeted AI training, adoption assistance, and success stories will help ensure every Florida business can compete in the AI era.[98]

08

### Deepen public-private AI partnerships.

The Florida Chamber's AI Institute, university-industry collaborations (UCF with Leidos, L3Harris, and Siemens Energy; UF with NVIDIA; MDC with Intel), and international partnerships demonstrate the power of coordination. Florida should continue building these bridges to accelerate AI research commercialization, workforce alignment, and Florida's position as a global AI leader.

APPENDIX A

# Methodology and Sources

## Methodology

This report synthesizes publicly available data from federal agencies (Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Census Bureau, USDA, SBA), state agencies (FloridaCommerce, Space Florida, VISIT FLORIDA, Florida Department of Education), peer-reviewed research, consulting firm analyses (McKinsey, Goldman Sachs, PwC, Deloitte), industry associations (U.S. Chamber of Commerce, CompTIA, Florida Chamber of Commerce), and university publications.

GDP impact estimates draw on two independent institutional analyses: (1) the International Monetary Fund Global Impact of AI working paper (WP/25/76, April 2025), which projects US output increases of 1.9% in a low-TFP-growth scenario and 5.6% in a high-TFP-growth scenario over 10 years (Executive Summary, p. 6, and Table 5); and (2) the OECD Macroeconomic Productivity Gains from AI in G7 Economies (June 2025), which projects US annual labor-productivity gains of 0.4 to 1.3 percentage points per year over the next decade (Executive Summary, p. 6, and Section 4). Converting OECD labor-productivity figures to a cumulative GDP-level effect under constant-labor-hours assumption: (1.004)^10 - 1 = 4.07% (low) to (1.013)^10 - 1 = 13.86% (high). The two papers overlap in the 4–6% band, used here as the applicable range. The 4–6% range is applied directly to each Florida industry sector's projected 2035 GDP, with the per-sector AI-driven addition calculated as 4% to 6% of that sector's 2035 GDP.

Florida's projected 2035 GDP: Florida's 2025 nominal GDP of $1.835 trillion (BEA SAGDP2N) × (1.03)^10 = $2.466 trillion. Aggregate range across the nine visible non-government private sectors (combined 2035 projected GDP of approximately $2.024 trillion): 4% × $2.024T = $80.96B (low); 6% × $2.024T = $121.4B (high); central 5% × $2.024T = $101.2B. Government and Leisure & Hospitality are not included in this aggregation; including them at the same 4–6% range would add approximately $9–13B and $6–9B respectively.

Workforce projections apply ITIF and BLS frameworks proportionally to Florida's approximately 6.5% share of national employment. Sector-specific projections draw on MarketsandMarkets, Deloitte, and World Economic Forum data applied to Florida's industry composition.

All source URLs are provided in endnotes throughout the document. Data represents the most current publicly available figures as of March 2026.

## Disclaimer

This report relies on publicly available data and third-party research. Projections are illustrative and based on national-level estimates applied to state-level economic indicators. Actual economic outcomes will depend on the pace and breadth of AI adoption, policy decisions, global economic conditions, and other factors beyond the scope of this analysis. The authors have made every effort to ensure accuracy and to cite primary sources for all data points.

## About This Report

This report was prepared by Build American AI as a public resource for policymakers, business leaders, the media, and the American public. Build American AI is a 501(c)(4) advocating pro-innovation U.S. AI policy.

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