

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
JIMMY PATRONIS'

WEEKLY RUNDOWN

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

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Dear Fellow Floridians:

At the start of every new year, there is often a renewed effort to better manage finances. One of the functions of my office is to arm Floridians with resources needed for good money management. The [Your Money Matters](#) initiative is dedicated to connecting you with information on credit and debt, saving and spending, and even small business ownership. I encourage you to take time to review our website and use some of the tools available.

One of the programs included is the [My Money](#) program designed for individuals with developmental disabilities and includes information for family members and caregivers. This coming legislative session, I'll be working to develop and tailor our financial literacy program even more. Education is empowering and it's my goal that every Floridian has access to a solid foundation for financial success.

Sincerely,



Jimmy Patronis
Chief Financial Officer
State of Florida

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News of Interest

WINK News: [Former insurance agent accused of stealing from elderly](#)

Insurance Journal: [Assignment of Benefits Abuse Tops Florida News for 2017](#)

WUWF: [Florida's jobless figures hold steady after rough hurricane season](#)

Tampa Bay Times: [Florida finally joins FirstNet's future first-responder network](#)

Florida Economic Briefs

Florida consumer sentiment falls

The Florida Consumer Sentiment Index fell by 1.4 points in December, reaching 95.9. The biggest component of the drop came from expectations about the performance of the economy over the next 5 years.

Source: **UF Bureau of Economic and Business Research**

Florida's population growing rapidly

Florida was the 5th-fastest growing state in the nation between July 2016 and July 2017. The state gained just over 325,000 during that time period, with a growth rate of 1.6 percent.

Source: **U.S. Census Bureau**