

## General Information

Population: 17,019,068

Size: 53,927 sq/mi

04 Presidential Results:

Bush: 52.1%

Kerry: 47.1%

Electoral Votes: 27

## State Elections

Lower House: 42D/ 78R

Next Election: 2008

Upper House: 14D/ 26R

Next Election: 2008

Constitutional Offices:

Governor: R

Lt. Governor: R

Secretary of State: R

Attorney General: R

Next Election: 2010

## Federal Elections

House of Rep: 25

Party Makeup: 9(D) 16(R)

Sen. Bill Nelson (D)

Next Election: 2012

Sen. Mel Martinez (R)

Next Election: 2010

## State Overview

The Florida Democratic Party ended the 2006 cycle by successfully leading the re-election of Senator Bill Nelson, winning two U.S. Congressional seats previously held by Republicans, holding on to the open Democratic seat vacated by Rep. Jim Davis, picking up one Cabinet seat and eight State House seats and winning the Hispanic vote, which in Florida has gone Republican for the past 30 years. Unfortunately, Republicans were able to retain the Governor's mansion and the two Congressional seats vacated by Rep. Kathryn Harris and Rep. Gus Bilirakis. While the Party has made immense strides in the last two years, there is still much to do. Over the next cycle the State Party will focus on increasing capacity in the field, developing a strong long-term party-building program, and improving fundraising. Additionally, the Party is determined to organize early to impact the 2008 election in a more positive way for Democrats at every level on the ballot.

### Redistricting Information

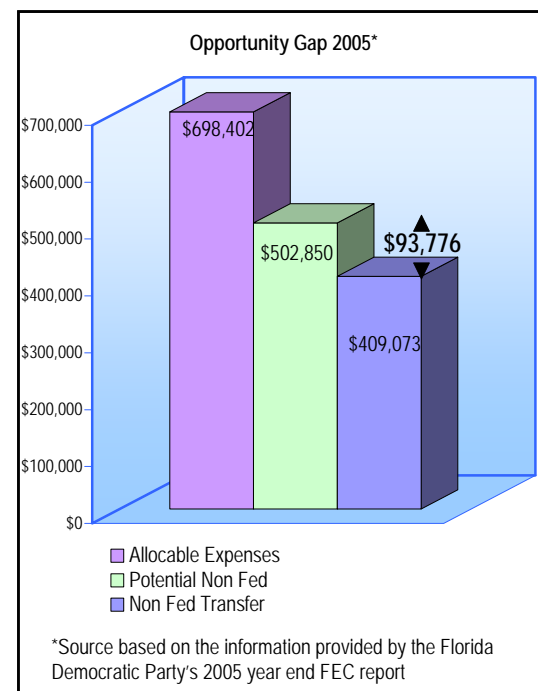
The State Legislature is responsible for creating both plans. The Governor has veto power over the congressional plan but not the state legislative district plan; that plan is adopted by joint resolution of the legislature.

## Going Forward

The Florida Democratic Party has set the following goals for the 2007/2008 cycle:

- Establish a recurring contribution program
- Expand the number of high and low donors
- Upgrade information technology

In 2006 many of the races were won and lost by narrow margins. For the 2008 cycle, the Florida Democratic Party will need to concentrate on defending its incumbents and recruiting new candidates. The spotlight of the national media and political establishment on the presidential race requires that the state party be ready to deliver in the upcoming cycle.



Grassroots Democrats is working with the Florida Democratic Party to help build strong technological capacity. Two FDP staffers spent two days in DC working with Grassroots Democrats staff and leaders of the online political world to learn how to build a more effective online program. We plan to complement this program with much needed IT hardware such as computers, upgraded server and strengthened information security.