



# Florida

## 2012 Green Building Market Activity

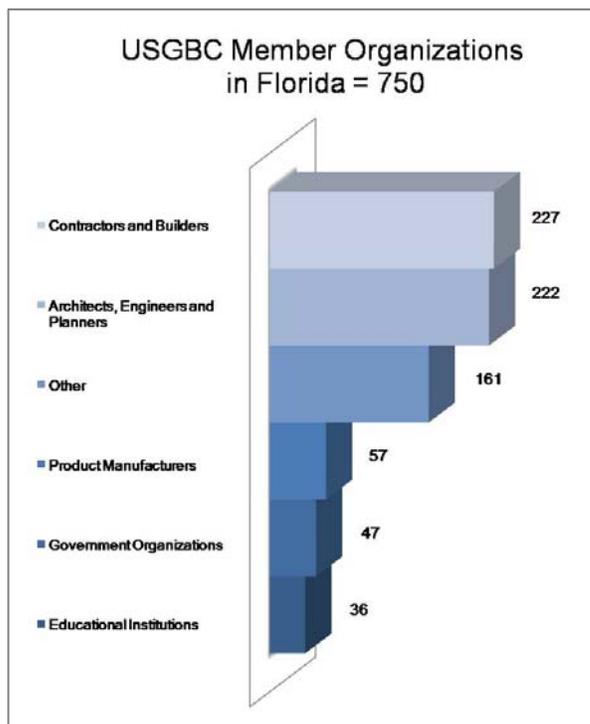
### Market Transformation

The U.S. Green Building Council’s LEED green building program transforms the way buildings and communities are designed, built, maintained and operated. Nearly **48,000 projects** are currently participating in the commercial and institutional LEED rating systems, comprising over **9 billion square feet** of construction space in all 50 states and 120 countries. In addition, more than **24,000 homes** have been certified under the LEED for Homes rating system, with more than **87,000 more homes registered**. LEED projects enable an environmentally and socially responsible, healthy and prosperous environment that improves the quality of life. Green building job growth spurs product and service provider innovation to meet demand for high performance green buildings. In turn, LEED project activity drives green building demand, creates competition, reduces costs and raises consumer expectations and awareness. To access public directories for USGBC members, LEED projects and LEED credentialed professionals, please go to [www.usgbc.org/directories](http://www.usgbc.org/directories).

### Government Leadership

Government leadership plays a critical role in educating communities and creating conditions that spur market activity. The State of Florida has taken the lead on building green and passed legislation requiring all state built, owned and operated buildings meet green building certification levels. In addition, **54** local governments in Florida have enacted LEED-based green building policies and initiatives. Leading by example, the **State of Florida ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> nationally** for the number of LEED registered and certified buildings owned or occupied by state government.

Communities throughout Florida are beginning to invest in schools that create a healthy environment that is conducive to learning while saving energy, resources and money. Manatee County, Florida became **one of the earliest adopters** of a district-wide LEED policy for K-12 public schools in 2007, resolving to certify all future school buildings at a minimum of LEED for Schools Certified level. To date, of the nation’s 20 largest school districts, **80%** have committed to green school construction.



*Florida ranks #2 for the number of state owned and operated LEED building space*

### A Florida Green Building Community

There are currently **750** organizations headquartered in Florida that are members of the U.S. Green Building Council. These organizations represent the diverse segments of the economy that are part of the Florida’s green building industry, employing more than **400,000 people** (100,000 more employees than in 2011) and grossing nearly **\$35 billion** in annual revenue.

The seven Florida chapters of the U.S. Green Building Council (comprising [Central Florida](#), [Florida Capital Region](#), [Florida Gulf Coast](#), [Heart of Florida](#), [North Florida](#), [Northern Florida Gulf Coast](#) and [South Florida](#)) represents thousands of members across the state. Together, these chapters serve as the premier forum for green building in the state, providing leadership, education, advocacy and resources, as well as programs, events and networking opportunities for the green building industry and the community at large.

There are also **8,548** LEED credentialed professionals in Florida, and the number is growing fast. These are individuals in various fields who hold this credential to allow them to compete and perform more effectively in the green building markets



### LEED Certified Buildings, Schools, Homes, and Neighborhoods

Florida ranks 4<sup>th</sup> nationally in total number of commercial buildings that are LEED certified and pursuing LEED certification with a total market of nearly 52 million square feet of certified green building space. Four Florida cities, Miami, Orlando, Jacksonville, and Tampa, rank among the top 50 U.S. cities with the highest total number of LEED commercial projects. In total, Florida has 2,775 LEED registered or certified buildings.

*Nearly 52 million sq ft of LEED certified green building space*

Residents of Florida are beginning to understand the benefits to building and living in green homes. Generally, homes built to LEED standards are more comfortable and durable as well as more energy and water efficient. There are 235 LEED certified homes in Florida, as well as 358 Affordable homes. Seven of those homes were built by the Habitat for Humanity affiliates of Pinellas, Jackson, and Jacksonville counties. Of the 235 LEED certified homes in Florida, 35 achieved LEED Platinum certification.

Saving energy, water and money through high-performance green buildings that are built above and beyond code is increasingly prevalent in Florida. Government leadership and policy initiatives can play an important role in making Florida an even more important state for businesses leading in the emerging green economy.

#### Project Spotlight:

##### *Pine Jog Elementary School, West Palm Beach*

Since its inception in 2008, Pine Jog has been committed to becoming a world leader in developing a culture of sustainability for future generations. The school was honored as being the first LEED Gold Certified school in Florida. The school is one of Florida's most energy-efficient schools; Pine Jog has reduced energy use by 25% annually, which is enough to pay for one teacher's salary each year. 140 acres of this campus, which is shared with Florida Atlantic University, are natural woodlands, featuring multiple outdoor classrooms and three miles of trails. The school also integrates sustainability on an educational level. Students make use of energy and water consumption information available on touch screens in various locations throughout the school. The campus also houses nine themed gardens, including an urban peach orchard, pond, and beehive, a student-managed 4000-plant hydroponic garden, as well as extensive nature trails. Students create artwork and musical instruments from items that would have otherwise gone to the landfill and all teachers are certified in the Florida Fish and Wildlife Federation's Project Wild Curriculum.



*Reduced energy use by 25% annually which is enough to pay for one teacher's salary each year*

Total Commercial LEED Projects Ranking (July 2012)				
Rank	State	Registered	Certified	Total
1	CA	4,142	1,941	6,083
2	TX	2,020	814	2,834
3	NY	2,129	646	2,775
4	FL	1,913	606	2,775
5	PA	1,215	533	1,748
6	IL	1,047	621	1,668
7	VA	1,200	466	1,666
8	MD	1,152	361	1,513
9	GA	1,064	401	1,465
10	WA	821	549	1,370

