

## 2000 Census Reports

 POVERTY IN FLORIDAOctober 2002

The overall poverty rate for persons in Florida as measured in the 2000 Census was 12.5 percent. This rate is slightly lower than in 1990 when 12.7 percent of the state's residents lived in poverty.

Despite a decline in the poverty rate, the number of persons living in poverty increased by nearly 22 percent during the decade and totaled just under 2 million persons in 2000. The number living in poverty in 1990 was 1.6 million persons.

Poverty rates varied greatly by age and by family composition. While nearly one out of every five children in Florida lived in poverty in 1999 ( 17.6 percent), less than 1 in 10 of Florida's 65 and older population had income below the poverty threshold ( 9.1 percent). Older children, ages 5 through 17, had a poverty rate of 17.2 percent in 1999--lower than Florida's youngest children but substantially higher than the elderly population.

Close to 400,000 Florida families lived below the poverty threshold in 1999 ( 383,131 families; 9 percent of all families in the state.) This rate is unchanged since the 1990 Census when 319,978 families representing 9 percent of all families were living below poverty.

The poverty rate for families headed by females with no husband present was nearly three times as high as the rate for all families ( 25.3 percent compared to 9 percent) and five times as high as the rate for married couple families ( 4.9 percent).

Nearly half of all female headed families with children under five lived below the poverty level in 1999. The poverty rate for these families was 44.6 percent. While this is down from 53.9 percent in 1989 , the number of female-headed families with children under five living in poverty totaled 75,752 in the 2000 Census.

| POVERTY IN FLORIDA | Poverty Rate |  | Numbers Livng in Poverty |  | Percent Change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1990 | 2000 | 1990 | 2000 |  |
| All persons | 12.7\% | 12.5\% | 1,604,186 | 1,952,629 | 21.7\% |
| Persons under 5 | 20.3\% | 18.8\% | 167,953 | 173,427 | 3.3\% |
| Persons 5-17 | 17.5\% | 17.2\% | 343,642 | 454,570 | 32.3\% |
| Persons 65 and older | 10.8\% | 9.1\% | 247,426 | 246,641 | -0.3\% |
| All families | 9.0\% | 9.0\% | 319,978 | 383,131 | 19.7\% |
| All Families with Children under 18 | 14.7\% | 14.2\% | 229,558 | 281,303 | 22.5\% |
| Married Couple Families | 5.1\% | 4.9\% | 146,151 | 160,336 | 9.7\% |
| Female Headed Families, No Husband Present | 28.4\% | 25.3\% | 151,639 | 187,257 | 23.5\% |
| Female Headed Families with Children under 5 | 53.9\% | 44.6\% | 68,852 | 75,752 | 10.0\% |
| Female Headed Families with Children under 18 | 38.6\% | 32.8\% | 133,078 | 164,596 | 23.7\% |

## COUNTIES WITH HIGHEST AND LOWEST POVERTY RATES FOR SELECTED VARIABLES

| RANK | ALL PERSONS |  |
| :---: | :--- | ---: |
| 1 | Hamilton | $26.0 \%$ |
| 2 | Hardee | $24.6 \%$ |
| 3 | Hendry | $24.1 \%$ |
| 4 | DeSoto | $23.6 \%$ |
| 5 | Madison | $23.1 \%$ |
|  |  |  |
| 63 | Charlotte | $8.2 \%$ |
| 64 | St. Johns | $8.0 \%$ |
| 65 | Sarasota | $7.8 \%$ |
| 66 | Seminole | $7.4 \%$ |
| 67 | Clay | $6.8 \%$ |


| PERSONS UNDER 5 |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| Hamilton | $39.6 \%$ |
| DeSoto | $36.5 \%$ |
| Hendry | $35.0 \%$ |
| Hardee | $34.9 \%$ |
| Putnam | $34.5 \%$ |
|  |  |
| Monroe | $12.7 \%$ |
| Nassau | $10.9 \%$ |
| St. Johns | $10.6 \%$ |
| Clay | $10.5 \%$ |
| Seminole | $10.0 \%$ |


| PERSONS 65 \& OLDER |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| Liberty | $24.3 \%$ |
| Madison | $22.5 \%$ |
| Jackson | $21.0 \%$ |
| Calhoun | $20.4 \%$ |
| Washington | $19.4 \%$ |
|  |  |
| Martin | $5.2 \%$ |
| Charlotte | $5.0 \%$ |
| Sarasota | $4.5 \%$ |
| Flagler | $4.4 \%$ |
| Collier | $4.3 \%$ |


|  |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | ---: |
| RANK | ALL FAMILIES |  |
| 1 | Hamilton | $21.7 \%$ |
| 2 | Madison | $18.9 \%$ |
| 3 | Hardee | $17.0 \%$ |
| 4 | Hendry | $16.9 \%$ |
| 5 | Liberty | $16.8 \%$ |
|  |  |  |
| 63 | Charlotte | $5.3 \%$ |
| 64 | Seminole | $5.1 \%$ |
| 65 | St. Johns | $5.1 \%$ |
| 66 | Clay | $5.1 \%$ |
| 67 | Sarasota | $5.1 \%$ |


|  |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| FEMALE HEADED FAMILIES |  |
| Hamilton | $46.0 \%$ |
| Liberty | $44.8 \%$ |
| Washington | $43.0 \%$ |
| Glades | $42.8 \%$ |
| Madison | $42.7 \%$ |
|  |  |
| Sarasota | $19.4 \%$ |
| Pinellas | $19.4 \%$ |
| Charlotte | $17.8 \%$ |
| Clay | $17.7 \%$ |
| Seminole | $16.1 \%$ |


| FEMALE HEADED FAMILIES WITH <br> CHILDREN UNDER 5  <br> Holmes  <br> Hamilton  <br> Lafayette  |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| Franklin | $72.2 \%$ |
| Putnam | $66.7 \%$ |
|  | $66.3 \%$ |
| Monroe | $65.0 \%$ |
| Seminole | $36.8 \%$ |
| St. Johns | $34.2 \%$ |
| Clay | $34.0 \%$ |
| Nassau | $32.6 \%$ |

Poverty rates in 1999, as measured in the 2000 Census, varied substantially by county. Rates for all persons and selected age groups and family configurations are shown on the following page. Numbers shaded in yellow are the highest and those shaded in green are the lowest for each poverty variable shown.

Although the overall poverty rate for persons in Florida was 12.5 percent, county rates ranged from a low of 6.8 percent in Clay County to a high of 26 percent in Hamilton County.

Similar trends can be observed in each of the poverty measures--county rates range, in most cases, from below ten percent to four or five times that level. There are some notable exceptions. The rates for married couple families range from a low of 2.2 percent in St. Johns County to a high of 13.2 percent in Hardee County which, while still low, is six times the lowest level. Female-headed households faced high levels of poverty even in affluent counties. For example, Seminole County, with the lowest rate statewide in four of the ten poverty variables still had a poverty rate of 16.1 percent for female-headed households, of 21.7 percent for female-headed households with children under 18, and of 34.2 percent for female-headed households with children under 5.

Different counties have the highest poverty rate for many of the variables shown but Hamilton County has the highest rate for seven of the ten different poverty variables. In those cases where Hamilton County's rate is not the highest, it is close to the highest. As noted above, Seminole County has the lowest rates in the state for four of the ten poverty variables.

POVERTY RATES IN FLORIDA--From Census 2000

| County | All <br> Persons | Persons under 5 | Persons <br> 5 to 17 | Persons 65 and older | $\begin{gathered} \text { All } \\ \text { Families } \end{gathered}$ | All Families with Children under 18 | Married <br> Couple <br> Families | Female <br> Headed <br> Families | Female Headed <br> Family with Children under 5 | Female Headed <br> Family with Children under 18 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Alachua | 22.8\% | 22.7\% | 18.9\% | 9.7\% | 12.22\% | 16.90\% | 4.92\% | 33.38\% | 54.27\% | 40.17\% |
| Baker | 14.7\% | 15.8\% | 25.8\% | 8.6\% | 11.36\% | 16.17\% | 5.64\% | 35.78\% | 53.62\% | 45.30\% |
| Bay | 13.0\% | 22.6\% | 17.6\% | 11.0\% | 9.80\% | 15.92\% | 4.77\% | 31.80\% | 51.32\% | 39.55\% |
| Bradford | 14.6\% | 14.7\% | 20.8\% | 17.6\% | 11.12\% | 14.68\% | 6.62\% | 32.03\% | 49.41\% | 38.65\% |
| Brevard | 9.5\% | 15.7\% | 12.8\% | 6.5\% | 6.79\% | 11.23\% | 3.46\% | 23.52\% | 47.82\% | 31.24\% |
| Broward | 11.5\% | 15.8\% | 15.6\% | 10.0\% | 8.69\% | 12.58\% | 4.96\% | 21.54\% | 38.16\% | 28.39\% |
| Calhoun | 20.0\% | 30.2\% | 21.5\% | 20.4\% | 14.85\% | 20.02\% | 8.89\% | 37.91\% | 58.33\% | 49.74\% |
| Charlotte | 8.2\% | 17.4\% | 12.1\% | 5.0\% | 5.27\% | 10.91\% | 3.46\% | 17.79\% | 51.32\% | 25.47\% |
| Citrus | 11.7\% | 19.8\% | 18.5\% | 7.0\% | 8.5\% | 16.4\% | 5.5\% | 26.3\% | 50.7\% | 36.2\% |
| Clay | 6.8\% | 10.5\% | 8.9\% | 7.4\% | 5.1\% | 7.2\% | 2.7\% | 17.7\% | 32.6\% | 22.6\% |
| Collier | 10.3\% | 18.4\% | 16.6\% | 4.3\% | 6.6\% | 13.1\% | 4.5\% | 20.2\% | 40.1\% | 26.3\% |
| Columbia | 15.0\% | 19.4\% | 17.0\% | 13.6\% | 11.4\% | 16.2\% | 7.3\% | 27.2\% | 45.0\% | 33.7\% |
| DeSoto | 23.6\% | 36.5\% | 31.2\% | 7.3\% | 14.2\% | 26.2\% | 9.0\% | 40.0\% | 54.5\% | 49.0\% |
| Dixie | 19.1\% | 18.7\% | 25.8\% | 16.1\% | 14.5\% | 21.9\% | 10.6\% | 35.6\% | 43.6\% | 46.6\% |
| Duval | 11.9\% | 18.1\% | 16.3\% | 11.6\% | 9.2\% | 13.5\% | 3.7\% | 25.8\% | 43.6\% | 31.7\% |
| Escambia | 15.4\% | 27.1\% | 23.0\% | 9.6\% | 12.1\% | 19.4\% | 4.7\% | 34.2\% | 57.1\% | 43.2\% |
| Flagler | 8.7\% | 19.6\% | 15.1\% | 4.4\% | 6.7\% | 13.3\% | 4.2\% | 25.2\% | 53.0\% | 33.6\% |
| Franklin | 17.7\% | 29.2\% | 21.0\% | 13.9\% | 11.8\% | 16.8\% | 7.8\% | 33.0\% | 66.3\% | 38.0\% |
| Gadsden | 19.9\% | 33.3\% | 26.8\% | 16.9\% | 16.4\% | 23.3\% | 8.2\% | 34.5\% | 53.4\% | 43.3\% |
| Gilchrist | 14.1\% | 14.5\% | 19.1\% | 12.9\% | 10.9\% | 15.5\% | 6.5\% | 33.1\% | 56.8\% | 42.1\% |
| Glades | 15.2\% | 19.7\% | 19.6\% | 11.2\% | 10.7\% | 17.3\% | 6.0\% | 42.8\% | 60.6\% | 50.4\% |
| Gulf | 16.7\% | 21.2\% | 21.3\% | 14.1\% | 13.7\% | 19.4\% | 8.0\% | 37.6\% | 61.4\% | 50.0\% |
| Hamilton | 26.0\% | 39.6\% | 34.8\% | 16.1\% | 21.7\% | 33.1\% | 11.7\% | 46.0\% | 71.3\% | 56.5\% |
| Hardee | 24.6\% | 34.9\% | 29.7\% | 16.1\% | 17.0\% | 25.5\% | 13.2\% | 34.0\% | 47.5\% | 42.7\% |
| Hendry | 24.1\% | 35.0\% | 29.5\% | 15.0\% | 16.9\% | 24.3\% | 12.7\% | 37.1\% | 48.2\% | 44.3\% |
| Hernando | 10.3\% | 18.8\% | 15.6\% | 6.2\% | 7.1\% | 13.4\% | 4.4\% | 24.9\% | 48.3\% | 32.4\% |
| Highlands | 15.2\% | 29.2\% | 25.2\% | 7.4\% | 10.2\% | 21.5\% | 6.6\% | 34.3\% | 61.5\% | 45.8\% |
| Hillsborough | 12.5\% | 19.2\% | 17.1\% | 10.0\% | 9.1\% | 13.7\% | 4.5\% | 24.8\% | 43.5\% | 31.9\% |
| Holmes | 19.1\% | 26.2\% | 25.8\% | 17.9\% | 15.4\% | 22.6\% | 10.0\% | 38.0\% | 72.2\% | 48.2\% |
| Indian River | 9.3\% | 17.3\% | 13.3\% | 5.7\% | 6.3\% | 11.8\% | 3.7\% | 21.6\% | 39.5\% | 28.1\% |
| Jackson | 17.2\% | 29.1\% | 22.0\% | 21.0\% | 12.8\% | 18.9\% | 7.2\% | 32.8\% | 55.6\% | 39.3\% |
| Jefferson | 17.1\% | 25.0\% | 21.3\% | 17.0\% | 13.3\% | 18.6\% | 7.3\% | 32.1\% | 49.0\% | 39.7\% |
| Lafayette | 17.5\% | 30.6\% | 23.4\% | 17.3\% | 12.9\% | 21.5\% | 9.6\% | 41.2\% | 66.7\% | 48.3\% |
| Lake | 9.6\% | 16.8\% | 16.1\% | 6.3\% | 6.9\% | 13.0\% | 3.6\% | 28.2\% | 49.9\% | 36.9\% |
| Lee | 9.7\% | 17.6\% | 15.1\% | 5.6\% | 6.7\% | 12.3\% | 4.0\% | 22.4\% | 41.0\% | 29.9\% |
| Leon | 18.2\% | 19.3\% | 15.9\% | 8.2\% | 9.4\% | 13.1\% | 3.2\% | 27.2\% | 45.6\% | 33.0\% |
| Levy | 18.6\% | 28.1\% | 26.6\% | 12.9\% | 15.0\% | 24.9\% | 8.8\% | 40.5\% | 51.5\% | 46.1\% |
| Liberty | 19.9\% | 21.6\% | 27.4\% | 24.3\% | 16.8\% | 21.0\% | 8.9\% | 44.8\% | 57.7\% | 50.4\% |
| Madison | 23.1\% | 34.0\% | 29.0\% | 22.5\% | 18.9\% | 25.2\% | 8.9\% | 42.7\% | 64.6\% | 54.0\% |
| Manatee | 10.1\% | 17.9\% | 15.2\% | 6.2\% | 7.1\% | 12.8\% | 3.9\% | 21.9\% | 40.2\% | 29.9\% |
| Marion | 13.1\% | 22.2\% | 20.2\% | 7.4\% | 9.2\% | 16.6\% | 5.4\% | 27.4\% | 51.0\% | 36.4\% |
| Martin | 8.8\% | 17.0\% | 13.4\% | 5.2\% | 5.6\% | 10.5\% | 3.3\% | 20.7\% | 43.3\% | 25.8\% |
| Miami-Dade | 18.0\% | 23.2\% | 23.2\% | 18.9\% | 14.5\% | 19.3\% | 9.3\% | 28.9\% | 46.7\% | 37.3\% |
| Monroe | 10.2\% | 12.7\% | 12.1\% | 8.8\% | 6.8\% | 9.9\% | 4.6\% | 19.8\% | 36.8\% | 25.4\% |
| Nassau | 9.1\% | 10.9\% | 11.7\% | 8.9\% | 6.4\% | 9.4\% | 3.5\% | 22.6\% | 29.8\% | 27.6\% |
| Okaloosa | 8.8\% | 15.1\% | 12.3\% | 6.5\% | 6.6\% | 10.8\% | 2.9\% | 26.4\% | 46.4\% | 33.1\% |
| Okeechobee | 16.0\% | 23.9\% | 20.4\% | 10.3\% | 11.8\% | 17.2\% | 8.5\% | 28.2\% | 46.3\% | 35.8\% |
| Orange | 12.1\% | 17.9\% | 16.4\% | 9.3\% | 8.8\% | 13.0\% | 4.5\% | 23.8\% | 42.4\% | 30.3\% |
| Osceola | 11.5\% | 16.5\% | 14.8\% | 8.6\% | 9.1\% | 13.2\% | 5.5\% | 24.0\% | 37.6\% | 30.4\% |
| Palm Beach | 9.9\% | 15.8\% | 14.2\% | 6.6\% | 6.9\% | 11.5\% | 3.7\% | 22.1\% | 39.7\% | 28.7\% |
| Pasco | 10.7\% | 16.5\% | 15.6\% | 7.7\% | 7.6\% | 12.8\% | 4.8\% | 23.0\% | 48.0\% | 32.0\% |
| Pinellas | 10.0\% | 15.7\% | 13.9\% | 8.2\% | 6.7\% | 11.2\% | 3.6\% | 19.4\% | 39.3\% | 26.6\% |
| Polk | 12.9\% | 21.3\% | 19.0\% | 8.1\% | 9.4\% | 15.5\% | 5.0\% | 28.6\% | 49.3\% | 37.0\% |
| Putnam | 20.9\% | 34.5\% | 29.5\% | 13.1\% | 15.8\% | 26.6\% | 9.2\% | 41.4\% | 65.0\% | 52.6\% |
| St. Johns | 8.0\% | 10.6\% | 9.6\% | 6.2\% | 5.1\% | 8.4\% | 2.2\% | 21.1\% | 34.0\% | 26.7\% |
| St. Lucie | 13.4\% | 21.0\% | 21.2\% | 7.7\% | 9.6\% | 16.4\% | 5.1\% | 31.7\% | 54.2\% | 40.0\% |
| Santa Rosa | 9.8\% | 13.6\% | 13.3\% | 7.5\% | 7.9\% | 11.6\% | 4.2\% | 30.4\% | 55.3\% | 37.8\% |
| Sarasota | 7.8\% | 15.8\% | 12.3\% | 4.5\% | 5.1\% | 10.3\% | 2.9\% | 19.4\% | 43.5\% | 27.5\% |
| Seminole | 7.4\% | 10.0\% | 8.7\% | 6.6\% | 5.1\% | 7.4\% | 2.7\% | 16.1\% | 34.2\% | 21.7\% |
| Sumter | 13.7\% | 27.6\% | 25.9\% | 7.7\% | 9.6\% | 21.3\% | 5.9\% | 33.7\% | 50.9\% | 43.0\% |
| Suwannee | 18.5\% | 23.5\% | 22.1\% | 12.4\% | 14.8\% | 20.4\% | 9.7\% | 35.0\% | 47.6\% | 41.1\% |
| Taylor | 18.0\% | 24.0\% | 22.1\% | 17.9\% | 14.5\% | 18.5\% | 7.4\% | 39.8\% | 50.0\% | 48.3\% |
| Union | 14.0\% | 16.6\% | 14.7\% | 16.2\% | 10.5\% | 13.0\% | 6.2\% | 29.5\% | 40.2\% | 35.8\% |
| Volusia | 11.6\% | 17.7\% | 16.6\% | 7.1\% | 7.9\% | 14.0\% | 4.2\% | 24.3\% | 46.3\% | 33.0\% |
| Wakulla | 11.3\% | 21.9\% | 13.5\% | 15.1\% | 9.3\% | 13.8\% | 4.9\% | 24.5\% | 53.8\% | 31.1\% |
| Walton | 14.4\% | 28.8\% | 18.5\% | 10.9\% | 11.6\% | 18.9\% | 6.9\% | 33.8\% | 59.6\% | 47.4\% |
| Washington | 19.2\% | 32.8\% | 25.3\% | 19.4\% | 15.4\% | 22.5\% | 8.8\% | 43.0\% | 59.1\% | 51.4\% |
| Florida | 12.5\% | 18.8\% | 17.2\% | 9.1\% | 9.0\% | 14.2\% | 4.9\% | 25.3\% | 44.6\% | 32.8\% |

Source: 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 3.


As shown above, poverty rates vary greatly by race. Individuals who reported that their race was black alone were more likely to be living below the poverty level at all ages. Black rates ranged from 2.3 times the white rate at ages $18-64$ up to 3.6 times the white rate at ages $65-74$. Poverty rates for persons of all other races (including individuals who reported more than one race) fell between the rates for whites and blacks.

| POVERTY STATUS FOR PERSONS IN 1999 BY RACE AND AGE |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Income below poverty level | TOTAL | White Alone | Black Alone | All other races |
| Under 5 years | 173,427 | 80,197 | 69,548 | 23,682 |
| 5 years | 35,320 | 15,866 | 14,971 | 4,483 |
| 6 to 11 years | 222,734 | 104,025 | 92,748 | 25,961 |
| 12 to 17 years | 196,516 | 95,011 | 76,466 | 25,039 |
| 18 to 64 years | 1,077,991 | 670,254 | 276,298 | 131,439 |
| 65 to 74 years | 117,108 | 86,595 | 23,527 | 6,986 |
| 75 years and over | 129,533 | 107,955 | 17,554 | 4,024 |
| ALL AGES | 1,952,629 | 1,159,903 | 571,112 | 221,614 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Poverty Rates | TOTAL | White <br> Alone | Black <br> Alone | All other races |
| Under 5 years | 18.8\% | 12.7\% | 37.1\% | 22.7\% |
| 5 years | 18.3\% | 12.0\% | 36.8\% | 22.2\% |
| 6 to 11 years | 17.9\% | 12.1\% | 34.7\% | 22.0\% |
| 12 to 17 years | 16.3\% | 11.3\% | 30.3\% | 21.5\% |
| 18 to 64 years | 11.6\% | 9.2\% | 21.4\% | 17.2\% |
| 65 to 74 years | 8.1\% | 6.6\% | 23.6\% | 17.6\% |
| 75 years and over | 10.2\% | 9.1\% | 28.0\% | 19.1\% |
| ALL AGES | 12.5\% | 9.5\% | 25.9\% | 18.7\% |

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Poverty rates also vary by ethnic origin. Floridians who are of Hispanic origin were more likely to be living in poverty than persons who were not of Hispanic origin. Poverty rates for Hispanics fall between the rates for whites and blacks and range from 16 percent for persons in the working ages (18-64) up to nearly 23 percent for those under five years of age. The poverty rate for all Hispanics is 1.6 times the rate for non-Hispanics.

| POVERTY STATUS BY AGE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Income below poverty level | TOTAL | Hispanic Origin | Not Hispanic Origin |
| Under 5 years | 173,427 | 42,774 | 130,653 |
| 5 years | 35,320 | 8,317 | 27,003 |
| 6 to 11 years | 222,734 | 51,691 | 171,043 |
| 12 to 17 years | 196,516 | 48,225 | 148,291 |
| 18 to 64 years | 1,077,991 | 268,931 | 809,060 |
| 65 to 74 years | 117,108 | 28,743 | 88,365 |
| 75 years and over | 129,533 | 24,294 | 105,239 |
| ALL AGES | 1,952,629 | 472,975 | 1,479,654 |
| Poverty Rates | TOTAL | Hispanic Origin | Not Hispanic Origin |
| Under 5 years | 18.8\% | 22.9\% | 17.8\% |
| 5 years | 18.3\% | 22.4\% | 17.3\% |
| 6 to 11 years | 17.9\% | 22.2\% | 16.9\% |
| 12 to 17 years | 16.3\% | 21.5\% | 15.1\% |
| 18 to 64 years | 11.6\% | 16.0\% | 10.6\% |
| 65 to 74 years | 8.1\% | 17.8\% | 6.9\% |
| 75 years and over | 10.2\% | 22.2\% | 9.0\% |
| ALL AGES | 12.5\% | 18.0\% | 11.4\% |

Source: 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 3, Tables P-159A-G

## RATIO OF INCOME TO POVERTY

The following table shows the ratio of income in 1999 to the poverty level. Persons with ratios under 1.00 were living below the poverty line and those with ratios of 1.00 or higher were living above the poverty line. The percentage distribution shown in the table from the 2000 Census is very similar to the one obtained in the 1990 Census. Less than six percent of Floridians had an income that was less than half of the poverty threshold (5.7 percent in 2000 and 5.6 percent in 1990). In 2000, 16.9 percent of persons had income that was less than 125 percent of poverty and 21.7 percent had income that was less than 150 percent of poverty. Corresponding numbers for 1990 were 17.4 percent (less than 125 percent of poverty) and 21.0 percent (less than 150 percent of poverty). In 1990, 68 percent of Floridians had income that was at least twice as high as the poverty level. By 2000, this had increased to 68.9 percent.

## RATIO OF INCOME IN 1999 TO POVERTY LEVEL FOR PERSONS

| Ratio | Number | Percent | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Under $\mathbf{. 5 0}$ | 888,104 | $5.7 \%$ | $5.7 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{5 0}$ to $\mathbf{7 4}$ | 478,536 | $3.1 \%$ | $8.8 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{7 5}$ to $\mathbf{. 9 9}$ | 585,989 | $3.8 \%$ | $12.5 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{1 . 0 0}$ to $\mathbf{1 . 2 4}$ | 677,631 | $4.3 \%$ | $16.9 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{1 . 2 5}$ to $\mathbf{1 . 4 9}$ | 754,568 | $4.8 \%$ | $21.7 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{1 . 5 0}$ to $\mathbf{1 . 7 4}$ | 730,574 | $4.7 \%$ | $26.4 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{1 . 7 5}$ to $\mathbf{1 . 8 4}$ | 317,198 | $2.0 \%$ | $28.4 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{1 . 8 5}$ to $\mathbf{1 . 9 9}$ | 427,810 | $2.7 \%$ | $31.1 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{2 . 0 0}$ and over | $10,744,957$ | $68.9 \%$ | $100.0 \%$ |
|  |  |  |  |
| Total | $15,605,367$ | $100.0 \%$ |  |

Source: 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 3, Tables P-88.


## SOURCE OF POVERTY DATA

The data presented in this report were obtained from the 2000 Decennial Census, summary file 3.
One out of every six households surveyed for the 2000 Census was asked detailed questions concerning money income during 1999. Total income figures for families and unrelated individuals were obtained by adding responses given for wage or salary income; net self-employment income; interest, dividend, or net rental or royalty income or income from estates and trusts; social security or railroad retirement income; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); public assistance or welfare payments; retirement, survivor, or disability pensions; and all other income.

The value of in-kind income such as food stamps, public housing subsidies, and medical care was not counted as income.

Poverty status was determined by comparing the person's total family income with a poverty threshold appropriate for that person's family size and composition. For example, the poverty threshold for an unrelated individual under 65 was $\$ 8,667$ and for 65 and older was $\$ 7,990$. The poverty threshold for a four person household with two children under age 18 was $\$ 16,895$. If the total income was less than the threshold appropriate for that family, then the person and every other person in that family was considered poor. For unrelated individuals, poverty status was determined by comparing the person's income to his or her poverty threshold.

Poverty status was not determined for institutionalized persons, persons in military group quarters and in college dormitories, and unrelated individuals under 15 years of age.

For additional information on the definitions of income and poverty used by the Census Bureau, please see Census 2000 technical documentation available at http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf. For other questions related to this report, please email Kathy McCharen at mccharen.kathy@leg.state.fl.us .


[^0]:    Source: 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 3, Tables P-159A-G

