

# Polk County

Florida's 9th most populous county  
with 3.6% of Florida's population



## Population

Census Population	Polk County	Florida
1980 Census	321,652	9,746,961
1990 Census	405,382	12,938,071
2000 Census	483,924	15,982,824
2010 Census	602,095	18,801,332
2020 Census	725,046	21,538,187
% change 2010-2020	20.4%	14.6%
Age		
% Under 18 years of age	21.9%	19.5%
% Aged 65 and over	20.6%	21.2%
% Median age	40.8	43.0
Gender		
% Male	48.6%	48.6%
% Female	51.4%	51.4%
Race (alone) & Ethnicity		
% Not Hispanic-White	54.2%	51.5%
% Not Hispanic-Black or African American	13.9%	14.5%
% Not Hispanic-American Indian and Alaska Native	0.2%	0.2%
% Not Hispanic-Asian	1.8%	2.9%
% Not Hispanic-Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.1%
% Not Hispanic-Some Other Race	0.5%	0.6%
% Not Hispanic-Two or More Races	3.4%	3.7%
% Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	25.9%	26.5%

## Population Estimates

	Polk County	Florida
2021 Estimate	748,365	21,898,945
% change 2020-2021	3.2%	1.7%
2022 Estimate	770,019	22,276,132
% change 2020-2022	6.2%	3.4%
2023 Estimate	797,616	22,634,867
% change 2020-2023	10.0%	5.1%
2024 Estimate	826,090	23,014,551
% change 2020-2024	13.9%	6.9%
Based on 2023 Estimate		
2025	832,384	23,292,200
2030	908,203	24,698,545
2035	972,557	25,814,954
2040	1,022,047	26,682,030
2045	1,064,286	27,409,376
2050	1,103,386	28,065,018

## Population Characteristics

	Polk County	Florida
(% of total persons aged 5 and over)		
Speak only English	73.6%	69.9%
Speak a language other than English	26.4%	30.1%
Speak English "very well"	16.4%	18.0%
Place of birth		
Foreign born	11.5%	21.4%
Veteran status		
Civilian population 18 and over	7.7%	7.7%

## Migration

Residence 1 Year Ago	Polk County	Florida
Persons aged 1 and over		
Same house	85.5%	86.0%
Different house in the U.S.	13.8%	13.0%
Same county in Florida	6.8%	6.9%
Different county in Florida	3.9%	3.1%
Different county in another state	3.0%	3.0%
Abroad	0.7%	1.0%

## Real Gross Domestic Product

Real GDP (Thousands of Chained 2017 Dollars)	Polk County	Florida
2017 GDP	25,742,485	1,014,866,863
Percent of the State	2.5%	
2018 GDP	26,450,032	1,050,433,812
Percent of the State	2.5%	
2019 GDP	27,501,601	1,084,913,903
Percent of the State	2.5%	
2020 GDP	28,191,159	1,069,758,799
Percent of the State	2.6%	
2021 GDP	30,208,901	1,170,526,307
Percent of the State	2.6%	
2022 GDP	31,484,355	1,239,883,625
Percent of the State	2.5%	
2023 GDP	32,161,734	1,292,787,615
Percent of the State	2.5%	

## Population by Housing Type

	Polk County	Florida
Household Population	709,633	21,073,604
Household Population per Occupied Housing Unit	2.60	2.47
Group Quarters Population	15,413	464,583

## Housing

Housing Counts	Polk County	Florida
Household units, 2020 Census	316,381	9,865,350
Occupied	272,418	8,529,067
Vacant	43,963	1,336,283

## Building Permits

Units Permitted	Polk County	Florida
2000	4,746	155,269
2010	1,200	38,679
2020	9,492	164,074
2021	13,071	213,494
2022	12,211	211,962
2023	12,513	193,788

## Density

Persons per square mile	Polk County	Florida
2000	258.2	296.4
2010	334.9	350.6
2020	403.3	401.4
2023	443.7	421.9
2024	459.5	429.0

## Households and Family Households

	Polk County	Florida
Households		
Total households, 2000 Census	187,233	6,338,075
Family households, 2000 Census	132,305	4,210,760
% with own children under 18	41.0%	42.3%
Total households, 2010 Census	227,485	7,420,802
Family households, 2010 Census	159,323	4,835,475
% with own children under 18	39.0%	40.0%
Average Household Size, 2010 Census	2.59	2.48
Average Family Size, 2010 Census	3.05	3.01
Total households, 2020 Census	272,418	8,529,067
Family households, 2020 Census	189,255	5,571,482
% with own children under 18	36.7%	36.0%

According to Census definitions, a household includes all of the people who occupy a housing unit. The occupants may be a single family, one person living alone, two or more families living together, or any other group of related or unrelated people who share living quarters. A family includes a householder and one or more other people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption.  
Census counts may be corrected for Census Count Question Resolution (CQR).

Employment and Labor Force

Establishments

2023	Polk County	Florida
All industries	17,658	878,947
Natural Resource & Mining	258	5,771
Construction	2,126	82,738
Manufacturing	629	25,599
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	3,597	151,500
Information	242	19,752
Financial Activities	2,058	95,132
Professional & Business Services	3,420	226,936
Education & Health Services	1,940	100,498
Leisure and Hospitality	1,441	66,309
Other Services	1,210	59,548
Government	154	5,830

Establishments

% of All Industries	Polk County	Florida
All industries	17,658	878,947
Natural Resource & Mining	1.5%	0.7%
Construction	12.0%	9.4%
Manufacturing	3.6%	2.9%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	20.4%	17.2%
Information	1.4%	2.2%
Financial Activities	11.7%	10.8%
Professional & Business Services	19.4%	25.8%
Education & Health Services	11.0%	11.4%
Leisure and Hospitality	8.2%	7.5%
Other Services	6.9%	6.8%
Government	0.9%	0.7%

Average Annual Employment

% of All Industries, 2023	Polk County	Florida
All industries	258,826	9,678,557
Natural Resource & Mining	1.0%	0.7%
Construction	5.8%	6.5%
Manufacturing	7.5%	4.4%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	27.6%	20.2%
Information	0.8%	1.6%
Financial Activities	5.7%	6.9%
Professional & Business Services	13.2%	16.7%
Education & Health Services	14.7%	15.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	10.3%	13.4%
Other Services	2.4%	3.0%
Government	11.0%	11.2%

Average Annual Wage

2023	Polk County	Florida
All industries	\$53,336	\$66,446
Natural Resource & Mining	\$58,095	\$46,398
Construction	\$61,614	\$66,902
Manufacturing	\$69,684	\$78,331
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	\$49,352	\$59,161
Information	\$61,242	\$112,704
Financial Activities	\$68,084	\$101,130
Professional & Business Services	\$59,022	\$83,076
Education & Health Services	\$57,283	\$63,868
Leisure and Hospitality	\$26,411	\$35,528
Other Services	\$47,026	\$49,293
Government	\$53,989	\$67,715

Industries may not add to the total due to confidentiality and unclassified.

Labor Force as Percent of Population

Aged 18 and Older	Polk County	Florida
2000	63.2%	63.7%
2010	59.9%	61.8%
2020	56.3%	58.1%
2021	56.5%	59.1%
2022	55.9%	59.8%
2023	55.3%	60.4%

Unemployment Rate	Polk County	Florida
2000	4.1%	3.7%
2010	11.8%	10.8%
2020	9.6%	8.1%
2021	5.5%	4.7%
2022	3.6%	3.0%
2023	3.7%	2.9%

Income and Financial Health

Personal Income (\$000s)	Polk County	Florida
2000	\$11,713,269	\$471,588,082
2010	\$18,610,582	\$730,690,145
% change 2000-2010	58.9%	54.9%
2020	\$29,786,188	\$1,220,782,745
% change 2010-2020	60.0%	67.1%
2021	\$33,079,857	\$1,358,786,260
% change 2020-2021	11.1%	11.3%
2022	\$33,981,492	\$1,436,107,237
% change 2021-2022	2.7%	5.7%
2023	\$36,358,199	\$1,553,426,399
% change 2022-2023	7.0%	8.2%

Per Capita Personal Income	Polk County	Florida
2000	\$24,125	\$29,387
2010	\$30,873	\$38,778
% change 2000-2010	28.0%	32.0%
2020	\$40,794	\$56,540
% change 2010-2020	32.1%	45.8%
2021	\$43,780	\$62,242
% change 2020-2021	7.3%	10.1%
2022	\$43,103	\$64,557
% change 2021-2022	-1.5%	3.7%
2023	\$44,430	\$68,703
% change 2022-2023	3.1%	6.4%

Earnings by Place of Work (\$000s)

	Polk County	Florida
2000	\$7,390,851	\$308,751,767
2010	\$10,600,096	\$439,036,383
% change 2000-2010	43.4%	42.2%
2020	\$16,376,198	\$684,270,758
% change 2010-2020	54.5%	55.9%
2021	\$18,183,486	\$771,654,020
% change 2020-2021	11.0%	12.8%
2022	\$19,809,930	\$841,921,275
% change 2021-2022	8.9%	9.1%
2023	\$21,131,611	\$908,440,362
% change 2022-2023	6.7%	7.9%

Median Income	Polk County	Florida
Median Household Income	\$63,644	\$71,711
Median Family Income	\$72,682	\$86,127
<b>Percent in Poverty, 2023</b>		
All ages in poverty	13.0%	12.4%
Under age 18 in poverty	18.1%	16.0%
Related children age 5-17 in families in poverty	18.2%	15.3%

Workers Aged 16 and Over

	Polk County	Florida
Place of Work in Florida		
Worked outside county of residence	22.2%	17.2%
Travel Time to Work		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	30.2	28.0

Personal Bankruptcy Filing Rate (per 1,000 population)	Polk County	Florida
12-Month Period Ending September 30, 2022	1.20	1.14
12-Month Period Ending September 30, 2023	1.25	1.16
State Rank	14	NA

NonBusiness Chapter 7 & Chapter 13

Reported County Government Revenues and Expenditures

Revenue 2021-22	Polk County	Florida*	Expenditures 2021-22	Polk County	Florida*
Total - All Revenue Account Codes (\$000s)	\$1,544,943.5	\$100,987,094.3	Total - All Expenditure Account Codes (\$000s)	\$1,433,237.54	\$87,375,419.16
Per Capita \$	\$2,006.37	\$4,753.99	Per Capita \$	\$1,861.30	\$4,113.22
% of Total	100.0%	100.0%	% of Total	100.0%	100.0%
General Government Taxes (\$000s)	\$492,708.0	\$38,773,224.6	General Government Services** (\$000s)	\$623,340.15	\$36,715,485.34
Per Capita \$	\$639.86	\$1,825.26	Per Capita \$	\$809.51	\$1,728.39
% of Total	31.9%	38.4%	% of Total	43.5%	42.0%
Permits, Fee, and Special Assessments (\$000s)	\$121,612.7	\$4,209,936.0	Public Safety (\$000s)	\$359,498.37	\$13,363,472.90
Per Capita \$	\$157.93	\$198.18	Per Capita \$	\$466.87	\$629.09
% of Total	7.9%	4.2%	% of Total	25.1%	15.3%
Intergovernmental Revenues (\$000s)	\$128,201.6	\$8,275,034.7	Physical Environment (\$000s)	\$125,950.92	\$5,823,076.34
Per Capita \$	\$166.49	\$389.55	Per Capita \$	\$163.57	\$274.12
% of Total	8.3%	8.2%	% of Total	8.8%	6.7%
Charges for Services (\$000s)	\$360,453.3	\$25,774,652.2	Transportation (\$000s)	\$98,016.80	\$6,146,973.86
Per Capita \$	\$468.11	\$1,213.35	Per Capita \$	\$127.29	\$289.37
% of Total	23.3%	25.5%	% of Total	6.8%	7.0%
Judgments, Fines, and Forfeits (\$000s)	\$7,275.2	\$2,289,306.5	Economic Environment (\$000s)	\$29,368.33	\$2,095,127.71
Per Capita \$	\$9.45	\$107.77	Per Capita \$	\$38.14	\$98.63
% of Total	0.5%	2.3%	% of Total	2.0%	2.4%
Miscellaneous Revenues (\$000s)	\$337,118.0	\$8,397,909.0	Human Services (\$000s)	\$60,502.15	\$4,845,695.64
Per Capita \$	\$437.80	\$395.33	Per Capita \$	\$78.57	\$228.11
% of Total	21.8%	8.3%	% of Total	4.2%	5.5%
Other Sources (\$000s)	\$97,574.8	\$13,267,031.3	Culture / Recreation (\$000s)	\$26,462.18	\$2,101,309.57
Per Capita \$	\$126.72	\$624.55	Per Capita \$	\$34.37	\$98.92
% of Total	6.3%	13.1%	% of Total	1.8%	2.4%
			Other Uses and Non-Operating (\$000s)	\$69,661.80	\$12,196,205.02
			Per Capita \$	\$90.47	\$574.14
			% of Total	4.9%	14.0%
			Court-Related Expenditures (\$000s)	\$40,436.86	\$4,088,072.79
			Per Capita \$	\$52.51	\$192.45
			% of Total	2.8%	4.7%

\* All County Governments Except Duval - The consolidated City of Jacksonville / Duval County figures are included in municipal totals rather than county government totals.

\*\* (Not Court-Related)

Quality of Life

Crime	Polk County	Florida
Crime rate, 2020 (index crimes per 100,000 population)	1,694.5	2,158.0
Admissions to prison FY 2023-24	1,564	27,227
Admissions to prison per 100,000 population FY 2023-24	189.3	118.3

Health Insurance Status

Percent Insured by Age Group	Polk County	Florida
Under 65 years	85.3%	86.1%
Under 19 years	93.2%	92.7%
18 to 64 years	82.3%	83.8%

Education

Public Education Schools Traditional Setting (2023-24)	Polk County School District	Florida
Total (state total includes special districts)	154	3,787
Elementary	79	1,877
Middle	25	565
Senior High	28	729
Combination	22	616

  

Educational attainment Persons aged 25 and older	Polk County	Florida
% HS graduate or higher	87.5%	89.6%
% bachelor's degree or higher	22.6%	33.2%

Other County Profiles  
Criminal Justice County Profiles  
School District Profiles

State and Local Taxation

2024	Polk County	County-Wide	Not County-Wide*
County	6.6348	6.6348	0.4779
School	5.2960	5.2960	
Municipal			2.6188
Special Districts			0.3531

\* MSTU included in Not County-Wide "County" category

State Infrastructure

Transportation	Polk County	Florida
State Highway		
Centerline Miles	460.8	12,189.9
Lane Miles	1,692.1	45,742.2

  

Conservation Land (land acres only)	Polk County	Florida
State-Owned (includes partially-owned)	196,051	5,689,323
% of Total Conservation Land (CL)	72.9%	54.9%
% of Total Area Land	17.1%	16.6%
% of Florida State-Owned CL	3.4%	

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