

# Polk County

Florida's 9th most populous county  
with 3.5% 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%
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
Language Spoken at home (% of total persons aged 5 and over)		
Speak only English	74.9%	70.1%
Speak a language other than English	25.1%	29.9%
Speak English "very well"	15.8%	18.1%
Place of birth		
Foreign born	10.9%	21.1%
Veteran status		
Civilian population 18 and over	7.9%	7.9%

## Migration

Residence 1 Year Ago	Polk County	Florida
Persons aged 1 and over		
Same house	85.1%	85.6%
Different house in the U.S.	14.2%	13.5%
Same county in Florida	7.0%	7.4%
Different county in Florida	3.9%	3.1%
Different county in another state	3.3%	3.0%
Abroad	0.7%	0.9%

## 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	27,402,843	1,079,271,045
Percent of the State	2.5%	
2020 GDP	28,204,116	1,068,377,540
Percent of the State	2.6%	
2021 GDP	29,827,560	1,164,778,182
Percent of the State	2.6%	
2022 GDP	30,523,799	1,218,430,197
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
Housing 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

## Households and Family Households

Households	Polk County	Florida
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 (CCR).

Employment and Labor Force

Establishments

2023, preliminary	Polk County	Florida
All industries	17,654	878,638
Natural Resource & Mining	258	5,768
Construction	2,126	82,713
Manufacturing	629	25,594
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	3,596	151,461
Information	242	19,747
Financial Activities	2,058	95,110
Professional & Business Services	3,418	226,854
Education & Health Services	1,939	100,471
Leisure and Hospitality	1,441	66,292
Other Services	1,210	59,538
Government	154	5,831

Establishments

% of All Industries, 2023, preliminary	Polk County	Florida
All industries	17,654	878,638
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, preliminary	Polk County	Florida
All industries	258,829	9,680,249
Natural Resource & Mining	1.0%	0.7%
Construction	5.8%	6.5%
Manufacturing	7.5%	4.3%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	27.6%	20.2%
Information	0.8%	1.6%
Financial Activities	5.7%	7.0%
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, preliminary	Polk County	Florida
All industries	\$53,330	\$66,443
Natural Resource & Mining	\$58,095	\$46,399
Construction	\$61,614	\$66,905
Manufacturing	\$69,684	\$78,331
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	\$49,339	\$59,165
Information	\$61,242	\$112,706
Financial Activities	\$68,088	\$100,986
Professional & Business Services	\$69,026	\$83,076
Education & Health Services	\$57,262	\$63,872
Leisure and Hospitality	\$36,411	\$35,532
Other Services	\$47,026	\$49,297
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	57.5%	58.5%
2021	56.5%	59.1%
2022	55.9%	59.8%
2023	56.0%	60.5%

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	\$29,793,992	\$1,221,121,559
% change 2010-2020	60.1%	67.1%
2021	\$33,163,312	\$1,376,879,460
% change 2020-2021	11.3%	12.8%
2022	\$34,033,970	\$1,441,598,918
% change 2021-2022	2.6%	4.7%

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	\$40,807	\$56,561
% change 2010-2020	32.2%	45.9%
2021	\$43,915	\$63,078
% change 2020-2021	7.6%	11.5%
2022	\$43,223	\$64,806
% change 2021-2022	-1.6%	2.7%

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	\$16,363,862	\$683,698,267
% change 2010-2020	54.4%	55.7%
2021	\$18,095,013	\$768,399,192
% change 2020-2021	10.6%	12.4%
2022	\$19,852,760	\$844,048,879
% change 2021-2022	9.7%	9.8%

Median Income	Polk County	Florida
Median Household Income	\$60,901	\$67,917
Median Family Income	\$69,667	\$81,514

Percent in Poverty, 2022	Polk County	Florida
All ages in poverty	15.7%	12.7%
Under age 18 in poverty	24.2%	17.3%
Related children age 5-17 in families in poverty	23.2%	16.1%

Workers Aged 16 and Over

Place of Work in Florida	Polk County	Florida
Worked outside county of residence	22.2%	17.3%
Travel Time to Work		
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	29.5	27.9

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 2020-21	Polk County	Florida*	Expenditures 2020-21	Polk County	Florida*
Total - All Revenue Account Codes (\$000s)	\$1,477,744.7	\$81,512,347.2	Total - All Expenditure Account Codes (\$000s)	\$1,273,425.86	\$77,064,319.71
Per Capita \$	\$1,974.63	\$3,903.45	Per Capita \$	\$1,701.61	\$3,690.44
% of Total	100.0%	100.0%	% of Total	100.0%	100.0%
Taxes (\$000s)	\$439,496.4	\$28,700,395.9	General Government Services** (\$000s)	\$530,589.01	\$30,930,327.83
Per Capita \$	\$587.28	\$1,374.40	Per Capita \$	\$709.00	\$1,481.19
% of Total	29.7%	35.2%	% of Total	41.7%	40.1%
Permits, Fee, and Special Assessments (\$000s)	\$103,061.9	\$3,079,751.7	Public Safety (\$000s)	\$379,557.11	\$13,640,661.35
Per Capita \$	\$137.72	\$147.48	Per Capita \$	\$507.18	\$653.22
% of Total	7.0%	3.8%	% of Total	29.8%	17.7%
Intergovernmental Revenues (\$000s)	\$153,151.5	\$9,164,789.4	Physical Environment (\$000s)	\$65,415.65	\$5,265,524.83
Per Capita \$	\$204.65	\$438.88	Per Capita \$	\$87.41	\$252.15
% of Total	10.4%	11.2%	% of Total	5.1%	6.8%
Charges for Services (\$000s)	\$333,367.4	\$23,760,013.8	Transportation (\$000s)	\$82,986.22	\$5,650,946.87
Per Capita \$	\$445.46	\$1,137.82	Per Capita \$	\$110.89	\$270.61
% of Total	22.6%	29.1%	% of Total	6.5%	7.3%
Judgments, Fines, and Forfeits (\$000s)	\$6,711.6	\$338,738.4	Economic Environment (\$000s)	\$29,385.61	\$1,975,239.15
Per Capita \$	\$8.97	\$16.22	Per Capita \$	\$39.27	\$94.59
% of Total	0.5%	0.4%	% of Total	2.3%	2.6%
Miscellaneous Revenues (\$000s)	\$350,351.5	\$4,467,076.4	Human Services (\$000s)	\$69,761.57	\$4,694,300.07
Per Capita \$	\$468.16	\$213.92	Per Capita \$	\$93.22	\$224.80
% of Total	23.7%	5.5%	% of Total	5.5%	6.1%
Other Sources (\$000s)	\$91,604.4	\$12,001,581.6	Culture / Recreation (\$000s)	\$19,923.00	\$1,794,823.73
Per Capita \$	\$122.41	\$574.73	Per Capita \$	\$26.62	\$85.95
% of Total	6.2%	14.7%	% of Total	1.6%	2.3%
			Other Uses and Non-Operating (\$000s)	\$59,429.44	\$10,103,703.21
			Per Capita \$	\$79.41	\$483.84
			% of Total	4.7%	13.1%
			Court-Related Expenditures (\$000s)	\$36,378.25	\$3,008,792.67
			Per Capita \$	\$48.61	\$144.08
			% of Total	2.9%	3.9%

\* 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 2022-23	1,572	27,209
Admissions to prison per 100,000 population FY 2022-23	197.1	120.2

State Infrastructure

Transportation	Polk County	Florida
State Highway		
Centerline Miles	460.8	12,123.4
Lane Miles	1,682.7	45,337.5
State Bridges		
Number	194	7,079

State Facilities

Buildings/Facilities (min. 300 Square Feet)	Polk County	Florida
Number	422	9,426
Square Footage	2,522,148	65,539,144

Conservation Land (land acres only)

State-Owned (includes partially-owned)	Polk County	Florida
Number	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%	

Other County Profiles

Criminal Justice County Profiles  
School District Profiles

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%

State and Local Taxation

2023	Polk County	Polk County
	County-Wide	Not County-Wide*
County	6.6852	0.4788
School	5.4080	
Municipal		2.6105
Special Districts		0.3766

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

Education

Public Education Schools	Polk County	Florida
Traditional Setting (2023-24)		
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	86.9%	89.3%
% bachelor's degree or higher	21.4%	32.3%

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