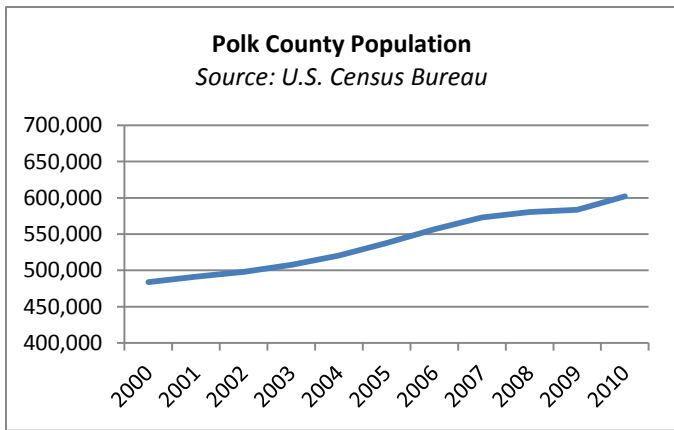


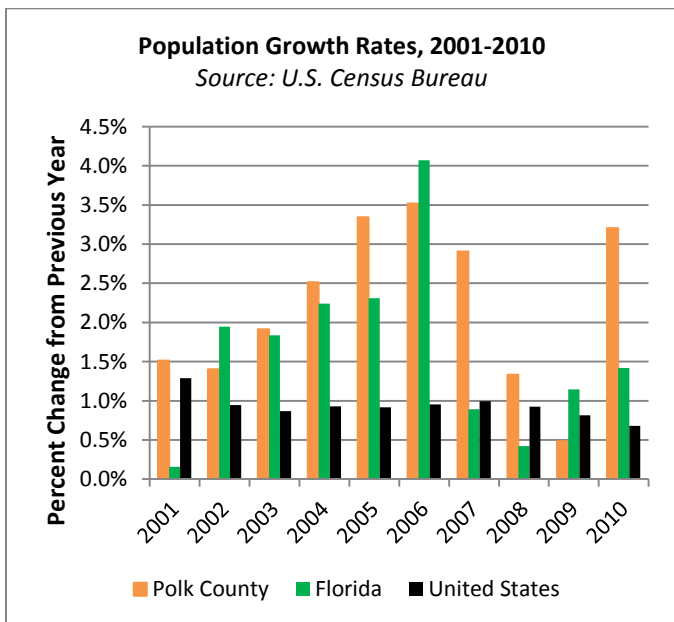
Demographics of Polk County

Population

Like much of Florida, Polk County has experienced considerable population growth in the last few decades. Between 1980 and 2010, the county's population grew by 87 percent. During the same timeframe, Florida's population grew by 93 percent, but the total United States population grew by only 36 percent. Between 2000 and 2010, Polk County's population grew by 24.4 percent.

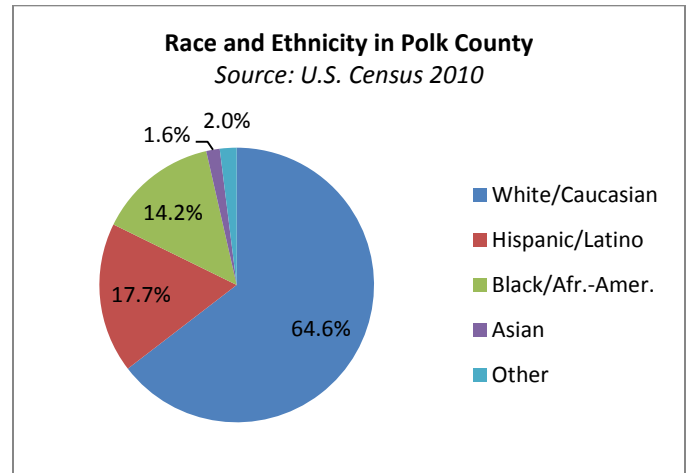


While population growth throughout the United States has been fairly steady over the last decade, growth in Polk County has differed considerably from year to year.



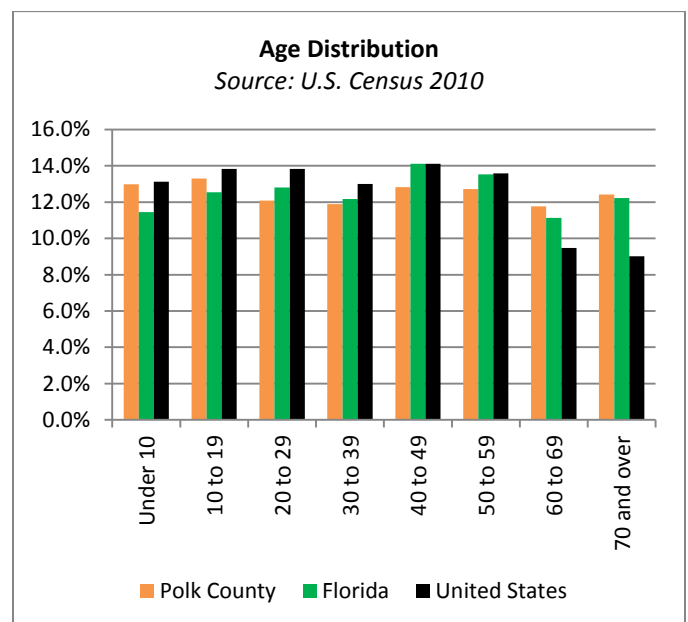
Race and Ethnicity

As of the 2010 Census, Polk County's population was 64.6 percent White, 17.7 percent Hispanic or Latino, 14.2 percent African American, 1.6 percent Asian, and 2 percent from other races or from two or more races.



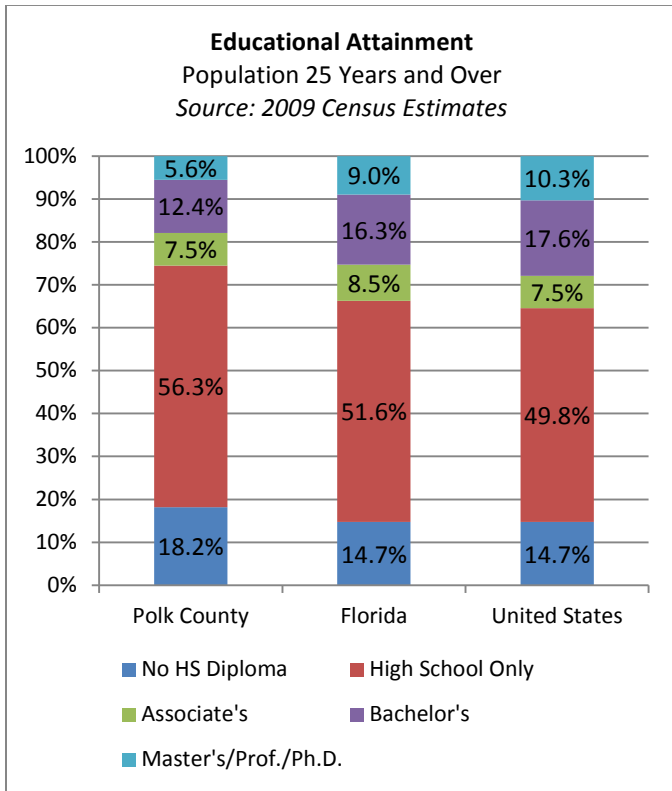
Age Distribution

Compared to Florida as whole, Polk County has a higher percentage of residents below age 20. However, the county has a lower percentage of young adults (aged 20 to 29) than the state or the nation.



Educational Attainment

According to 2009 Census estimates, 18 percent of adults in Polk County aged 25 or older do not have a high school diploma or equivalent, while another 18 percent hold a degree at the bachelor's level or higher. Compared to the state and the nation, Polk County has a lower percentage of residents with post-secondary degrees and a higher percentage who lack a high school diploma.

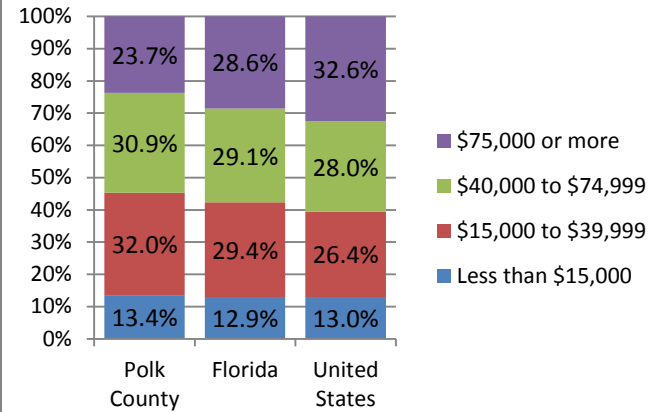


Income and Poverty

The median household income in Polk County was \$44,043 according to 2009 five-year Census estimates. 13.4 percent of households have annual incomes below \$15,000, while 23.7 percent have incomes of \$75,000 or more. 14.4 percent of the population lives in poverty, including 25.9 percent of persons under age 18. (The poverty threshold, defined by the Census Bureau, varies depending on household size and other factors. In 2010, the threshold for a family of four, with two children, was \$22,113.)

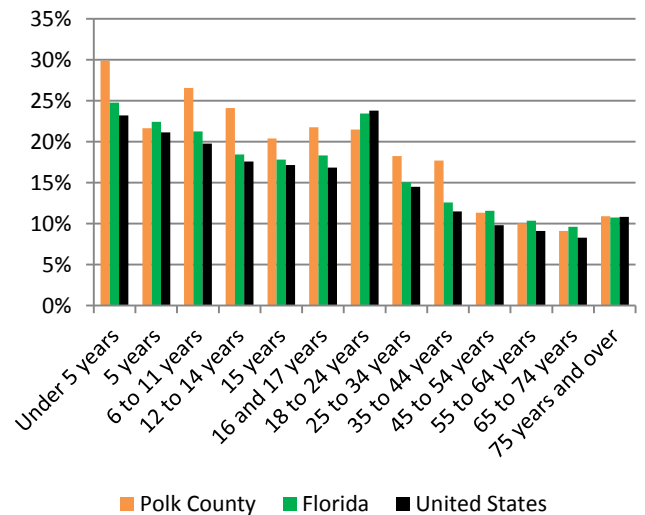
Household Income

Source: 2005-2009 Census Estimates



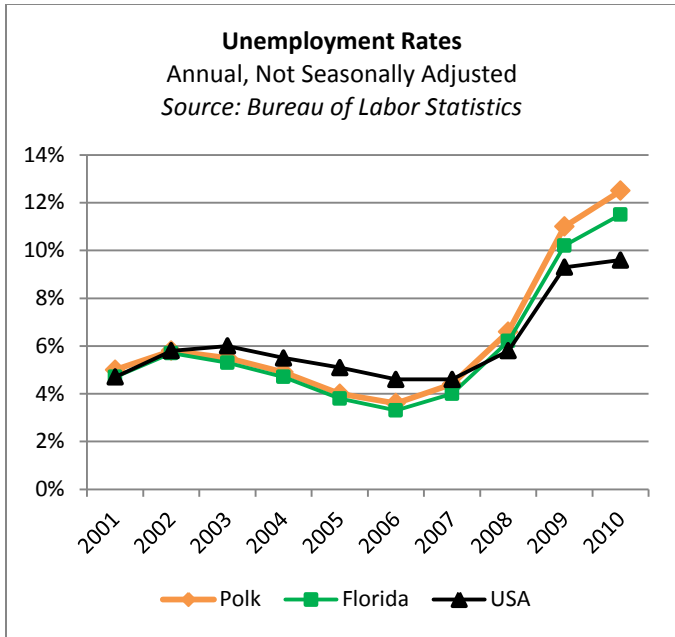
Poverty by Age Group

Source: 2009 Census Estimates

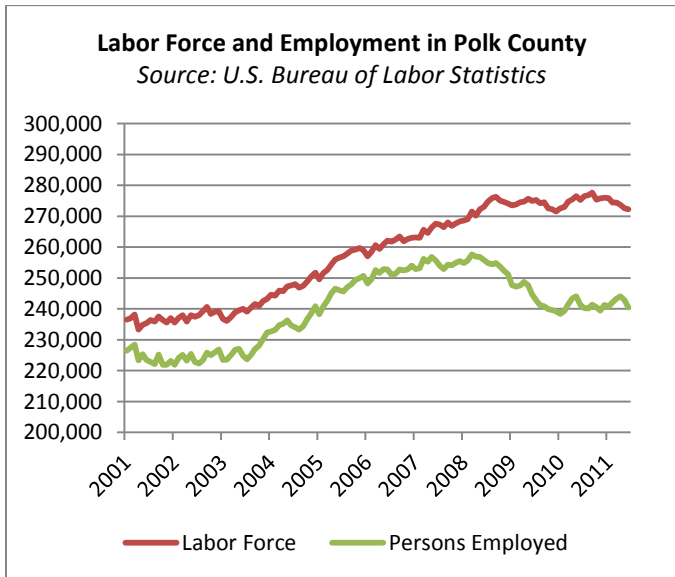


Unemployment

During the last decade, the overall pattern of unemployment in Polk County has been similar to the pattern for Florida and for the United States as a whole; unemployment rates were lowest in 2006 and 2007 and increased sharply in 2008 and 2009. However, in this regard, Polk County was more strongly affected by the economic downturn than either the U.S. or Florida. In 2009 and 2010, the county's unemployment rate was higher than that of Florida, which in turn was higher than the national rate. Annual unemployment for 2010 was 12.5 percent.



Since 2008, there has been a widening gap between the number of people in the labor force (those working or seeking work) and the total number of people employed in Polk County. While the labor force has remained at a fairly constant level since 2008, the employment level (the number of people working) has dropped, resulting in higher unemployment rates. This effect is illustrated in the graph below.



Municipalities in Polk County

There are 17 incorporated municipalities in Polk County. As of the 2010 Census, 226,448 people lived within the municipalities (37.6% of the county's total population).

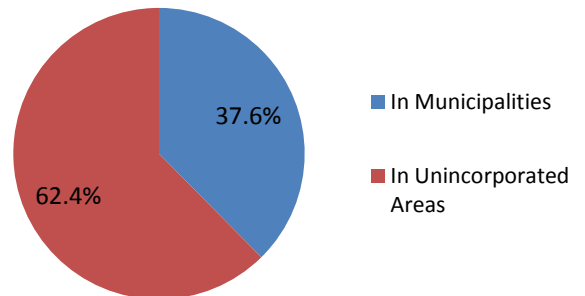
Population of Municipalities in Polk County

Source: U.S. Census 2010

Municipality	2010 Population
Lakeland	97,422
Winter Haven	33,874
Haines City	20,535
Bartow	17,298
Lake Wales	14,225
Auburndale	13,507
Fort Meade	5,626
Lake Alfred	5,015
Mulberry	3,817
Dundee	3,717
Frostproof	2,992
Davenport	2,888
Eagle Lake	2,255
Polk City	1,562
Lake Hamilton	1,231
Hillcrest Heights	254
Highland Park	230

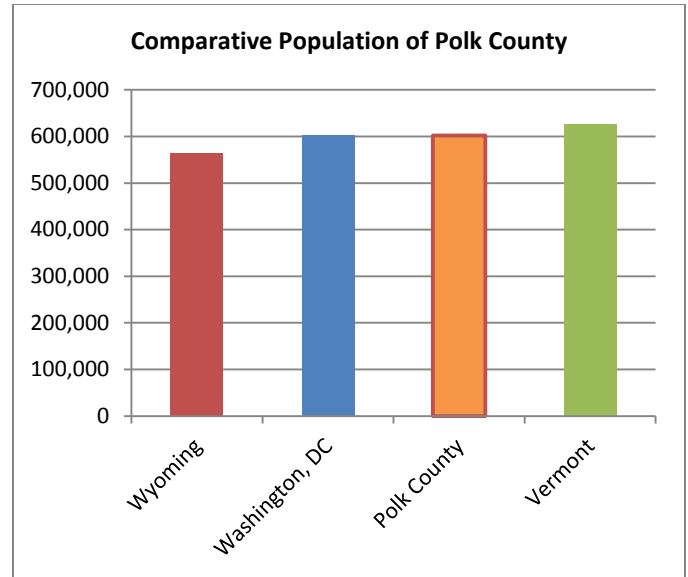
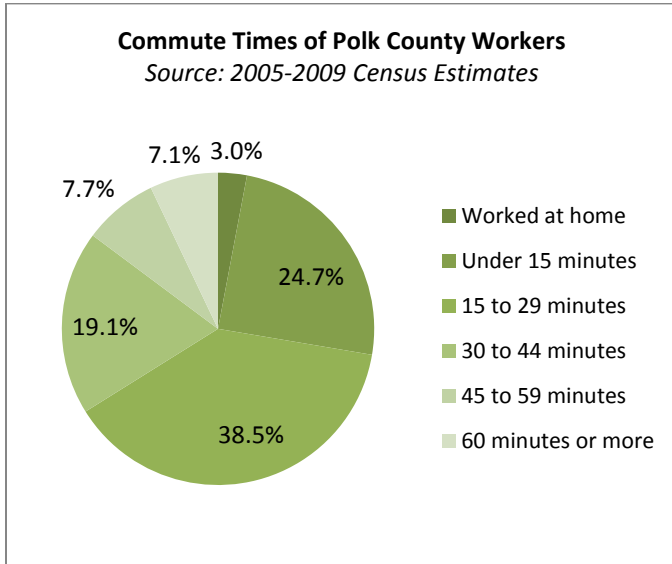
Polk County Population in Incorporated Municipalities

Source: U.S. Census 2010



Commuting

According to 2005-2009 Census estimates, 14.8% of Polk County workers have a daily commute time of 45 minutes or more each way. For some workers in certain sectors, improvement in broadband infrastructure could increase options for telecommuting.



Comparing Polk County to Other Places

- The total area of Polk County is 2,010 square miles, larger than Rhode Island and slightly smaller than Delaware.
- As of the 2010 Census, Polk County had a population of 602,095: More people than Wyoming, almost the same as Washington, D.C., and slightly less than Vermont.
- Polk County is the 104th most populous of the 3,142 counties in the United States. It is the 9th most populous of the 67 counties in Florida. With about 300 people per square mile, it is the 18th most densely populated county in Florida.

