

# Highlands County

Florida's 36th most populous county  
with 0.5% of Florida's population



## Population

	Highlands County	Florida
<b>Census Population</b>		
1980 Census	47,526	9,746,961
1990 Census	68,432	12,938,071
2000 Census	87,366	15,982,824
2010 Census	98,786	18,801,332
2020 Census	101,235	21,538,187
% change 2010-2020	2.5%	14.6%
<b>Age</b>		
% Under 18 years of age	17.5%	19.5%
% Aged 65 and over	35.1%	21.2%
% Median age	54.7	43.0
<b>Gender</b>		
% Male	48.3%	48.6%
% Female	51.7%	51.4%
<b>Race (alone) &amp; Ethnicity</b>		
% Not Hispanic-White	64.7%	51.5%
% Not Hispanic-Black or African American	9.4%	14.5%
% Not Hispanic-American Indian and Alaska Native	0.3%	0.2%
% Not Hispanic-Asian	1.6%	2.9%
% Not Hispanic-Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.1%
% Not Hispanic-Some Other Race	0.3%	0.6%
% Not Hispanic-Two or More Races	3.0%	3.7%
% Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	20.7%	26.5%

## Population Estimates

	Highlands County	Florida
2021 Estimate	102,065	21,898,945
% change 2020-2021	0.8%	1.7%
2022 Estimate	103,102	22,276,132
% change 2020-2022	1.8%	3.4%
2023 Estimate	104,385	22,634,867
% change 2020-2023	3.1%	5.1%
<b>Based on 2023 Estimate</b>		
2025	105,698	23,292,200
2030	108,324	24,698,545
2035	110,304	25,814,954
2040	111,994	26,682,030
2045	113,488	27,409,376
2050	114,889	28,065,018

## Population Characteristics

	County	Florida
<b>Language Spoken at home</b> (% of total persons aged 5 and over)		
Speak only English	79.6%	70.1%
Speak a language other than English	20.4%	29.9%
Speak English "very well"	13.6%	18.1%
<b>Place of birth</b>		
Foreign born	11.0%	21.1%
<b>Veteran status</b>		
Civilian population 18 and over	11.2%	7.9%

## Migration

	Highlands County	Florida
<b>Residence 1 Year Ago</b>		
<b>Persons aged 1 and over</b>		
Same house	87.8%	85.6%
Different house in the U.S.	11.7%	13.5%
Same county in Florida	5.5%	7.4%
Different county in Florida	3.4%	3.1%
Different county in another state	2.8%	3.0%
Abroad	0.5%	0.9%

## Real Gross Domestic Product

	Highlands County	Florida
<b>Real GDP</b> (Thousands of Chained 2017 Dollars)		
2017 GDP	2,482,118	1,014,866,863
Percent of the State	0.2%	
2018 GDP	2,420,183	1,050,433,812
Percent of the State	0.2%	
2019 GDP	2,564,490	1,079,271,045
Percent of the State	0.2%	
2020 GDP	2,453,455	1,068,377,540
Percent of the State	0.2%	
2021 GDP	2,513,431	1,164,778,182
Percent of the State	0.2%	
2022 GDP	2,666,455	1,218,430,197
Percent of the State	0.2%	

## Population by Housing Type

	Highlands County	Florida
Household Population	99,826	21,073,604
Household Population per Occupied Housing Unit	2.25	2.47
Group Quarters Population	1,409	464,583

## Housing

	Highlands County	Florida
<b>Housing Counts</b>		
Housing units, 2020 Census	57,486	9,865,350
Occupied	44,376	8,529,067
Vacant	13,110	1,336,283

## Building Permits

	Highlands County	Florida
<b>Units Permitted</b>		
2000	450	155,269
2010	154	38,679
2020	384	164,074
2021	644	213,494
2022	663	211,962
2023	712	193,788

## Density

	Highlands County	Florida
<b>Persons per square mile</b>		
2000	85.0	296.4
2010	97.2	350.6
2020	99.5	401.4
2023	102.6	421.9

## Households and Family Households

	Highlands County	Florida
<b>Households</b>		
Total households, 2000 Census	37,471	6,338,075
Family households, 2000 Census	25,794	4,210,760
% with own children under 18	29.0%	42.3%
Total households, 2010 Census	42,604	7,420,802
Family households, 2010 Census	28,027	4,835,475
% with own children under 18	28.4%	40.0%
Average Household Size, 2010 Census	2.28	2.48
Average Family Size, 2010 Census	2.74	3.01
Total households, 2020 Census	44,376	8,529,067
Family households, 2020 Census	28,256	5,571,482
% with own children under 18	27.1%	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, preliminary	Highlands County	Florida	Establishments % of All Industries, 2023, preliminary	Highlands County	Florida
All industries	2,589	878,638	All industries	2,589	878,638
Natural Resource & Mining	171	5,768	Natural Resource & Mining	6.6%	0.7%
Construction	305	82,713	Construction	11.8%	9.4%
Manufacturing	69	25,594	Manufacturing	2.7%	2.9%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	509	151,461	Trade, Transportation and Utilities	19.7%	17.2%
Information	31	19,747	Information	1.2%	2.2%
Financial Activities	233	95,110	Financial Activities	9.0%	10.8%
Professional & Business Services	389	226,854	Professional & Business Services	15.0%	25.8%
Education & Health Services	366	100,471	Education & Health Services	14.1%	11.4%
Leisure and Hospitality	218	66,292	Leisure and Hospitality	8.4%	7.5%
Other Services	178	59,538	Other Services	6.9%	6.8%
Government	57	5,831	Government	2.2%	0.7%

Average Annual Employment % of All Industries, 2023, preliminary	Highlands County	Florida	Average Annual Wage 2023, preliminary	Highlands County	Florida
All industries	28,796	9,680,249	All industries	\$46,240	\$66,443
Natural Resource & Mining	6.0%	0.7%	Natural Resource & Mining	\$33,924	\$46,399
Construction	6.5%	6.5%	Construction	\$50,581	\$66,905
Manufacturing	2.3%	4.3%	Manufacturing	\$50,666	\$78,331
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	19.8%	20.2%	Trade, Transportation and Utilities	\$42,214	\$59,165
Information	0.6%	1.6%	Information	\$95,194	\$112,706
Financial Activities	3.2%	7.0%	Financial Activities	\$53,249	\$100,986
Professional & Business Services	8.4%	16.7%	Professional & Business Services	\$47,507	\$83,076
Education & Health Services	23.0%	15.1%	Education & Health Services	\$59,228	\$63,872
Leisure and Hospitality	12.7%	13.4%	Leisure and Hospitality	\$23,812	\$35,532
Other Services	2.4%	3.0%	Other Services	\$33,838	\$49,297
Government	14.9%	11.2%	Government	\$50,865	\$67,715

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

Labor Force as Percent of Population Aged 18 and Older	Highlands County	Florida	Unemployment Rate	Highlands County	Florida
2000	47.0%	63.7%	2000	4.8%	3.7%
2010	45.7%	61.8%	2010	12.1%	10.8%
2020	39.8%	58.5%	2020	8.2%	8.1%
2021	41.6%	59.1%	2021	6.0%	4.7%
2022	42.3%	59.8%	2022	4.3%	3.0%
2023	43.3%	60.5%	2023	4.3%	2.9%

Income and Financial Health

Personal Income (\$000s)	Highlands	Florida	Per Capita Personal Income	Highlands County	Florida
2000	\$1,791,095	\$471,588,082	2000	\$20,489	\$29,387
2010	\$2,864,231	\$730,690,145	2010	\$29,075	\$38,778
% change 2000-2010	59.9%	54.9%	% change 2000-2010	41.9%	32.0%
2020	\$3,923,391	\$1,221,121,559	2020	\$38,713	\$56,561
% change 2010-2020	37.0%	67.1%	% change 2010-2020	33.1%	45.9%
2021	\$4,306,675	\$1,376,879,460	2021	\$41,693	\$63,078
% change 2020-2021	9.8%	12.8%	% change 2020-2021	7.7%	11.5%
2022	\$4,419,585	\$1,441,598,918	2022	\$41,845	\$64,808
% change 2021-2022	2.6%	4.7%	% change 2021-2022	0.4%	2.7%

Earnings by Place of Work (\$000s)	Highlands County	Florida	Median Income	Highlands County	Florida
2000	\$806,265	\$308,751,767	Median Household Income	\$53,679	\$67,917
2010	\$1,271,610	\$439,036,383	Median Family Income	\$62,914	\$81,514
% change 2000-2010	57.7%	42.2%			
2020	\$1,590,151	\$683,698,267			
% change 2010-2020	25.1%	55.7%			
2021	\$1,704,381	\$768,399,192			
% change 2020-2021	7.2%	12.4%			
2022	\$1,881,887	\$844,048,879			
% change 2021-2022	10.4%	9.8%			

Workers Aged 16 and Over	Highlands County	Florida	Personal Bankruptcy Filing Rate (per 1,000 population)	Highlands County	Florida
Place of Work in Florida			12-Month Period Ending September 30, 2022	0.84	1.14
Worked outside county of residence	10.8%	17.3%	12-Month Period Ending September 30, 2023	0.98	1.16
Travel Time to Work			State Rank	26	NA
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	22.1	27.9			

NonBusiness Chapter 7 & Chapter 13

Reported County Government Revenues and Expenditures

Revenue 2020-21	Highlands County	Florida*	Expenditures 2020-21	Highlands County	Florida*
Total - All Revenue Account Codes (\$000s)	\$170,676.4	\$81,512,347.2	Total - All Expenditure Account Codes (\$000s)	\$164,589.75	\$77,064,319.71
Per Capita \$	\$1,672.23	\$3,903.45	Per Capita \$	\$1,612.60	\$3,690.44
% of Total	100.0%	100.0%	% of Total	100.0%	100.0%
Taxes (\$000s)	\$62,404.9	\$28,700,395.9	General Government Services** (\$000s)	\$39,822.83	\$30,930,327.83
Per Capita \$	\$611.42	\$1,374.40	Per Capita \$	\$390.17	\$1,481.19
% of Total	36.6%	35.2%	% of Total	24.2%	40.1%
Permits, Fee, and Special Assessments (\$000s)	\$14,407.9	\$3,079,751.7	Public Safety (\$000s)	\$54,627.55	\$13,640,661.35
Per Capita \$	\$141.16	\$147.48	Per Capita \$	\$535.22	\$653.22
% of Total	8.4%	3.8%	% of Total	33.2%	17.7%
Intergovernmental Revenues (\$000s)	\$41,003.9	\$9,164,789.4	Physical Environment (\$000s)	\$12,745.60	\$5,265,524.83
Per Capita \$	\$401.74	\$438.88	Per Capita \$	\$124.88	\$252.15
% of Total	24.0%	11.2%	% of Total	7.7%	6.8%
Charges for Services (\$000s)	\$20,427.8	\$23,760,013.8	Transportation (\$000s)	\$25,576.50	\$5,650,946.87
Per Capita \$	\$200.14	\$1,137.82	Per Capita \$	\$250.59	\$270.61
% of Total	12.0%	29.1%	% of Total	15.5%	7.3%
Judgments, Fines, and Forfeits (\$000s)	\$934.7	\$338,738.4	Economic Environment (\$000s)	\$2,998.44	\$1,975,239.15
Per Capita \$	\$9.16	\$16.22	Per Capita \$	\$29.38	\$94.59
% of Total	0.5%	0.4%	% of Total	1.8%	2.6%
Miscellaneous Revenues (\$000s)	\$29,221.3	\$4,467,076.4	Human Services (\$000s)	\$18,591.57	\$4,694,300.07
Per Capita \$	\$286.30	\$213.92	Per Capita \$	\$182.15	\$224.80
% of Total	17.1%	5.5%	% of Total	11.3%	6.1%
Other Sources (\$000s)	\$2,275.9	\$12,001,581.6	Culture / Recreation (\$000s)	\$2,826.72	\$1,794,823.73
Per Capita \$	\$22.30	\$574.73	Per Capita \$	\$27.70	\$85.95
% of Total	1.3%	14.7%	% of Total	1.7%	2.3%
			Other Uses and Non-Operating (\$000s)	\$2,275.91	\$10,103,703.21
			Per Capita \$	\$22.30	\$483.84
			% of Total	1.4%	13.1%
			Court-Related Expenditures (\$000s)	\$5,124.63	\$3,008,792.67
			Per Capita \$	\$50.21	\$144.08
			% of Total	3.1%	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	County	Florida
Crime rate, 2020 (index crimes per 100,000 population)	2,084.2	2,158.0
Admissions to prison FY 2022-23	164	27,209
Admissions to prison per 100,000 population FY 2022-23	157.1	120.2

State Infrastructure

Transportation	County	Florida
State Highway		
Centerline Miles	132.5	12,123.4
Lane Miles	397.9	45,337.5
State Bridges		
Number	24	7,079

State Facilities

Buildings/Facilities (min. 300 Square Feet)		
Number	82	9,426
Square Footage	144,289	65,539,144

Conservation Land (land acres only)

State-Owned (includes partially-owned)	62,164	5,689,323
% of Total Conservation Land (CL)	35.5%	54.9%
% of Total Area Land	9.6%	16.6%
% of Florida State-Owned CL	1.1%	

Other County Profiles

Criminal Justice County Profiles  
School District Profiles

Health Insurance Status

Percent Insured by Age Group	Highlands County	Florida
Under 65 years	80.9%	86.1%
Under 19 years	90.6%	92.7%
18 to 64 years	77.6%	83.8%

State and Local Taxation

2023	Highlands County	County-Wide	Not County-Wide*
County	7,8500		
School	5,4370		
Municipal			1,2429
Special Districts			0,2085

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

Education

Public Education Schools	Highlands County	Florida
Traditional Setting (2023-24)		
Total (state total includes special districts)	19	3,787
Elementary	11	1,877
Middle	4	565
Senior High	4	729
Combination	0	616

Educational attainment

Persons aged 25 and older	Highlands County	Florida
% HS graduate or higher	86.2%	89.3%
% bachelor's degree or higher	18.3%	32.3%

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