



Quality of Life Report

Tallahassee-Leon County, FL

ECONOMY

Tallahassee-Leon County Florida



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Indicator 1: Unemployment Rate

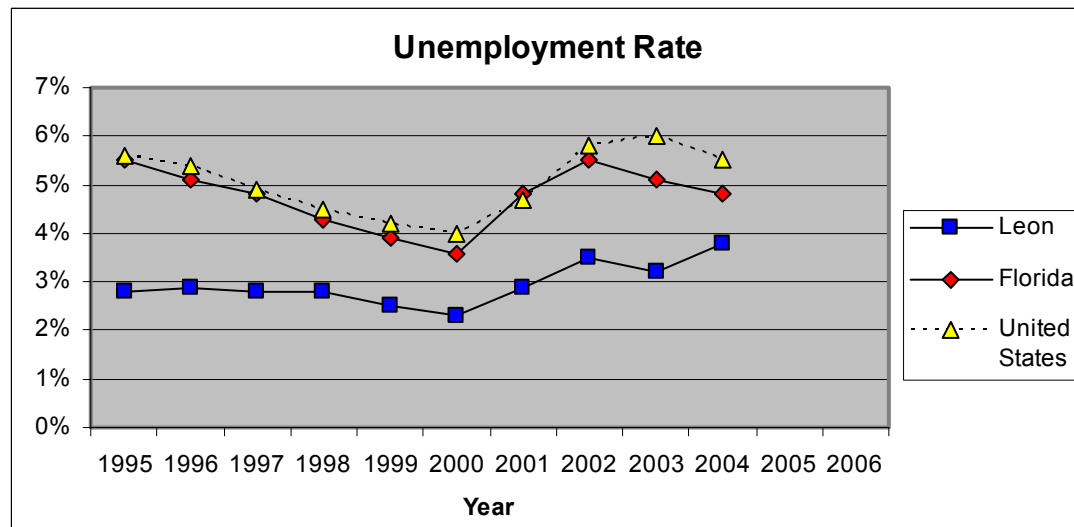
Updated
3/17/05

Indicator:

Percentage of people age 16 and older who were seeking but unable to find work

Analysis:

Leon County's unemployment rate has remained consistently below the state's and the nation's. The unemployment rate rose in Leon County from 3.2% in 2003 to 3.8% in 2004 while the rate for the State and United States both fell.



Data source:

Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation
Labor Market Statistics

Website:

<http://www.labormarketinfo.com/index.htm>

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Leon County	2.9%	2.8%	2.8%	2.5%	2.3%	2.9%	3.5%	3.2%	3.8%
Florida	5.1%	4.8%	4.3%	3.9%	3.6%	4.8%	5.5%	5.1%	4.8%
United States	5.4%	4.9%	4.5%	4.2%	4.0%	4.7%	5.8%	6.0%	5.5%



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Indicator 2: Average Annual Wage

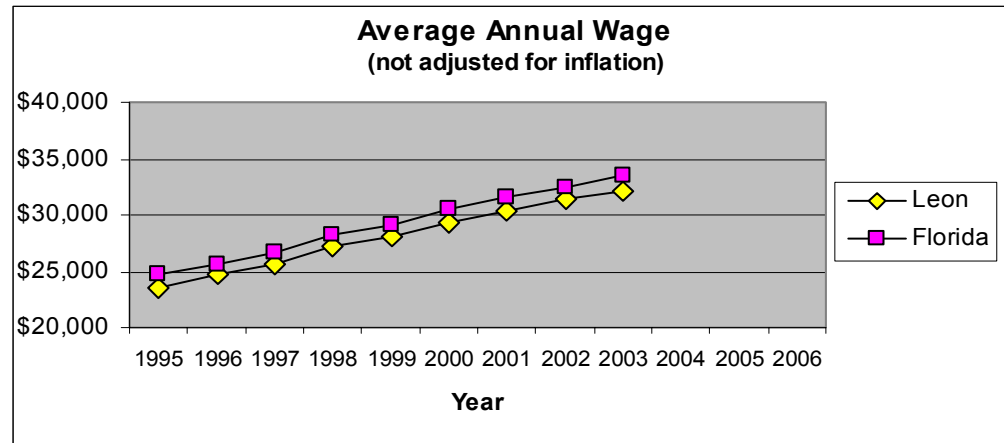
Updated
2/16/05

Indicator:

Average annual wage and salary per full- and part-time job.

Analysis:

In current dollars, Leon County's average wage during the period 1996 to 2003 was between \$881 and \$1,494 below the state average with the greatest gap in the most recent time period for which data is available (2003). In constant (inflation-adjusted) dollars, the average wage in Leon County has grown 8.3% (1.2% per year average) over the time period compared with 9.4% (1.3% per year average) for the State.



Data sources:

Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation, Labor Market Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages (ES-202)

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index (CPI) Program

Websites:

- <http://www.labormarketinfo.com/library/qcew.htm>
- <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/home.htm>

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Leon County	\$24,778	\$25,599	\$27,237	\$28,098	\$29,255	\$30,291	\$31,449	\$32,059
Florida	\$25,659	\$26,707	\$28,189	\$29,041	\$30,566	\$31,551	\$32,428	\$33,553
Leon County – inflation Adjusted*	\$29,533	\$29,732	\$31,057	\$31,255	\$31,356	\$31,520	\$32,189	\$32,059

* Not shown on graph – adjusted in 2003 dollars.



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Indicator 3: Per Capita Income

Updated
2/16/05

Indicator:

Average personal income from wages, public pensions, social security, interest, public assistance, and other sources.

Analysis:

In current dollars, per capita personal income in Leon County has remained slightly below state and national averages since 1996. In constant (inflation-adjusted) dollars, per capita personal income grew 10.0% during the time period 1996-2002 (1.7% per year). In comparison the U.S. growth rate was 8.1% (1.4% per year) for the same time period.

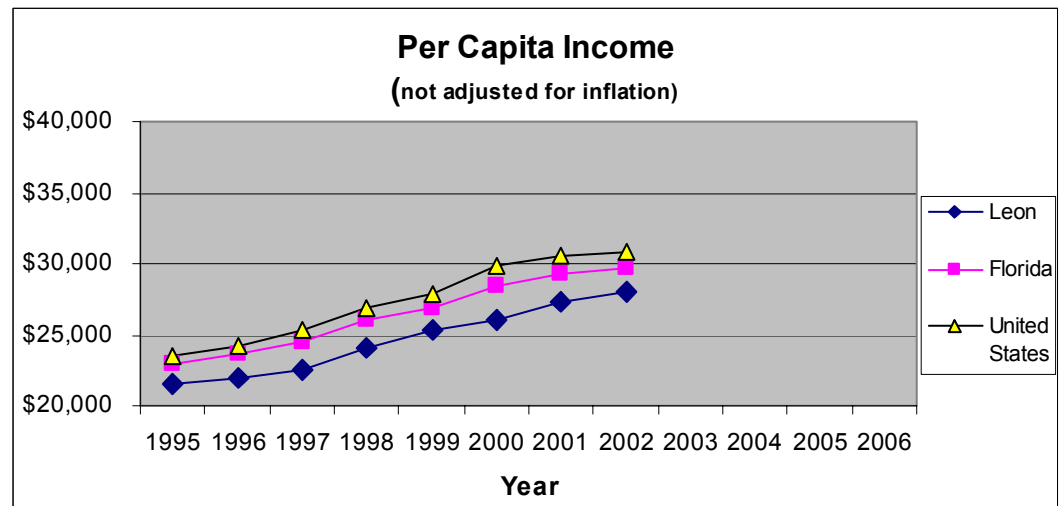
Data sources:

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index (CPI) Program

Websites:

- <http://www.bea.gov/bea/regional/reis/>
- <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/home.htm>



	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Leon County	\$21,909	\$22,536	\$24,513	\$25,345	\$26,061	\$27,327	\$28,056
Florida	\$23,665	\$24,502	\$25,987	\$26,894	\$28,511	\$29,247	\$29,758
United States	\$24,175	\$25,334	\$26,883	\$27,939	\$29,847	\$30,527	\$30,906
Adjusted for inflation (in 2002 dollars)*							
Leon County*	\$25,446	\$25,493	\$26,837	\$27,489	\$27,260	\$27,771	\$28,056
Leon annual rate of change*	+0.2%	+0.2%	+5.3%	+2.4%	-0.8%	+1.9%	+1.0%
FL annual rate of change*	+1.4%	+0.9%	+4.2%	+1.0%	+2.2%	-0.3%	+0.1%

* Not shown on graph



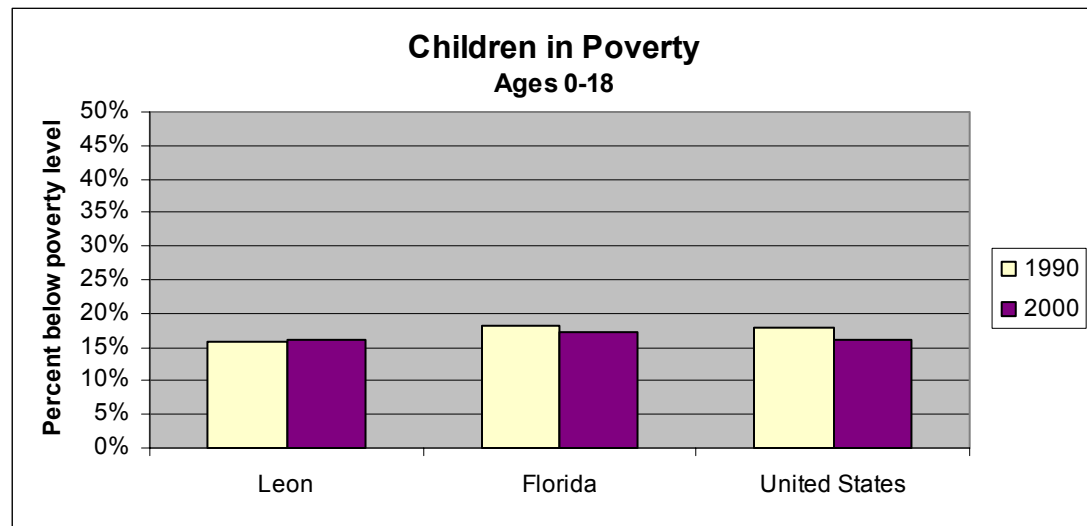
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Indicator 4: Children in Poverty

Indicator:

Percent of children, ages 0-18, living in families below the federal poverty level (e.g., in 2002, \$15,020 for a one-parent family with two children; \$18,100 for a two-parent family with two children).

Analysis:

Unlike Florida and the U.S. where child poverty has declined over the last decade, Leon County has seen a slight increase. In 2000, Leon County's child poverty rate was lower than Florida's but slightly exceeded the nation's.



Data source:

U.S. Decennial Census

Websites:

- <http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet>
- <http://aspe.os.dhhs.gov/poverty/02poverty.htm>

	1990	2000
Leon County	15.7%	16.2%
Florida	18.3%	17.2%
United States	17.9%	16.1%

* The next year of available data will be provided in 2005 by the American Community Survey.



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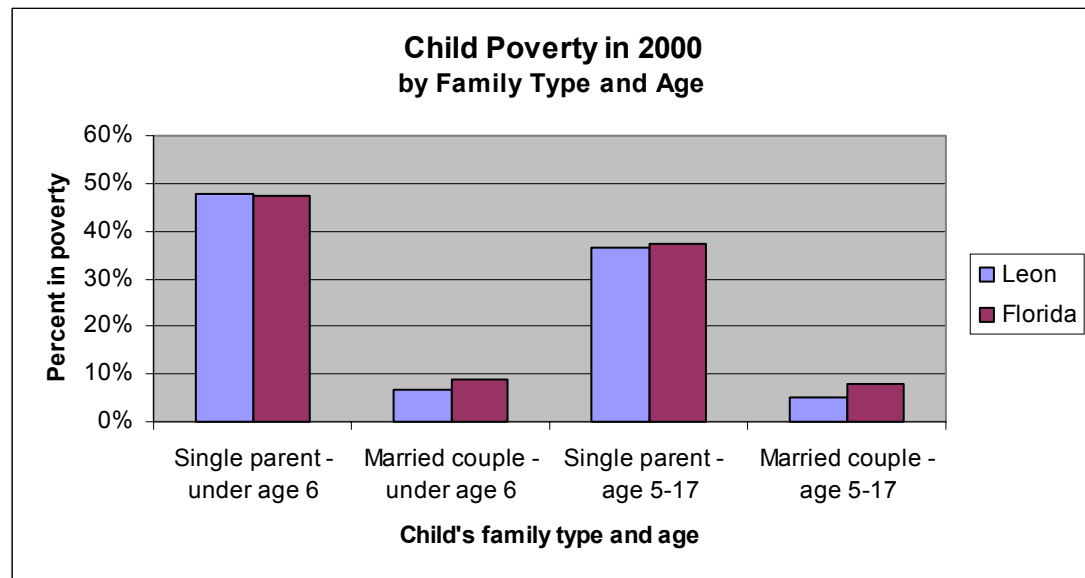
Indicator 5: Child Poverty by Family Type and Age

Indicator:

Percent of children living below the federal poverty level, by age group (under 6 vs. 5-17) and family type (female-headed family, no husband present vs. married couple family), as of 2000.

Analysis:

Children in single, female-headed families are much more likely to be in poverty than children in married couple families. This is particularly true for very young children under age 6. Leon County is comparable to Florida on this measure, except for children in married couple families who are less likely to be in poverty in Leon County.



Data source:

U.S. Decennial Census

Website:

<http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet>
<http://aspe.os.dhhs.gov/poverty/02poverty.htm>

Child Poverty in 2000	Leon	Florida
Single parent - under age 6	47.8%	47.4%
Married couple - under age 6	6.8%	9.0%
Single parent - age 5-17	36.7%	37.2%
Married couple - age 5-17	5.1%	8.1%

* The next year of available data will be provided in 2005 by the American Community Survey.



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Indicator 6: Home Ownership

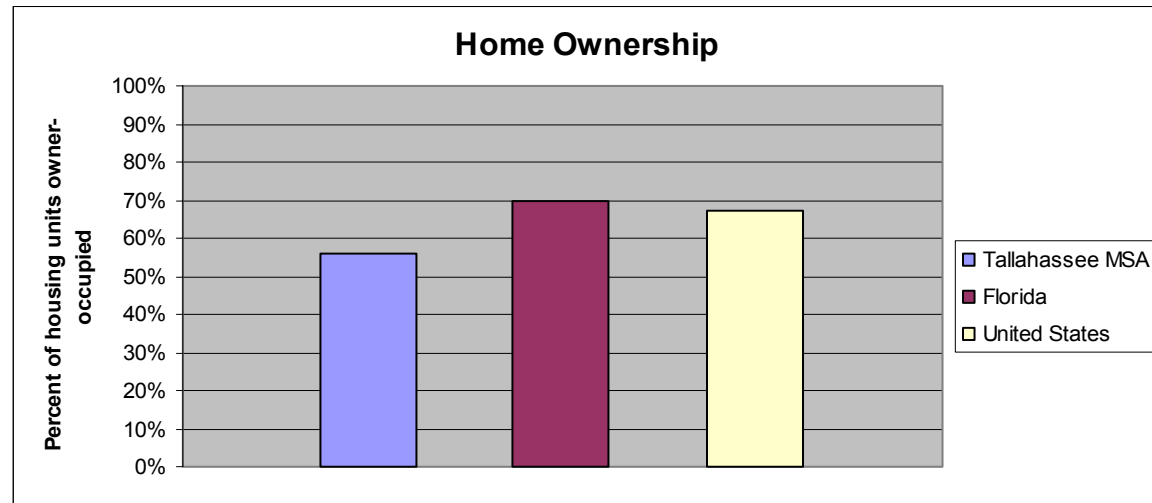
Updated
5/05/05

Indicator:

Percent of housing units that were owner-occupied.

Analysis:

The Tallahassee MSA lags the state and the nation for homeownership rates. The relatively low level of home ownership in the area reflects the large number of college students.



Data source:

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Website:

<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/>

	2003	
	Owner-occupied	Renter-Occupied
Tallahassee MSA	56%	44%
Florida	70%	30%
United States	67%	33%

Note: The American Community Survey is limited to household population and excludes the population living in institutions, college dormitories and other group quarters



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Indicator 7: Affordability of Rental Housing

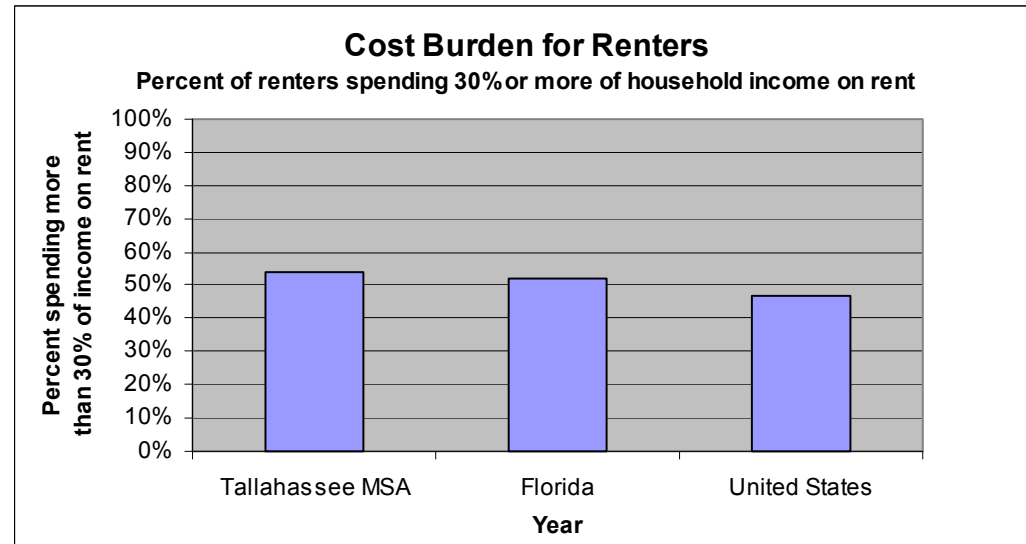
Updated
5/05/05

Indicator:

Percent of rental units for which occupants spent 30% or more of household income on rent.

Analysis:

In the Tallahassee MSA more than half of renters bear a heavy cost burden for housing relative to income. The percentage of renters paying 30% or more of household income on rent is higher in Tallahassee than in Florida or the nation. The data suggests that this difference reflects the large number of college students in Leon County's rental market.



Data source:

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Website:

<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/>

2003	
Tallahassee MSA	53.9%
Florida	51.9%
United States	46.6%

Note: The American Community Survey is limited to household population and excludes the population living in institutions, college dormitories and other group quarters



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ECONOMY Indicator 8: Tourism

Updated
4/08/05

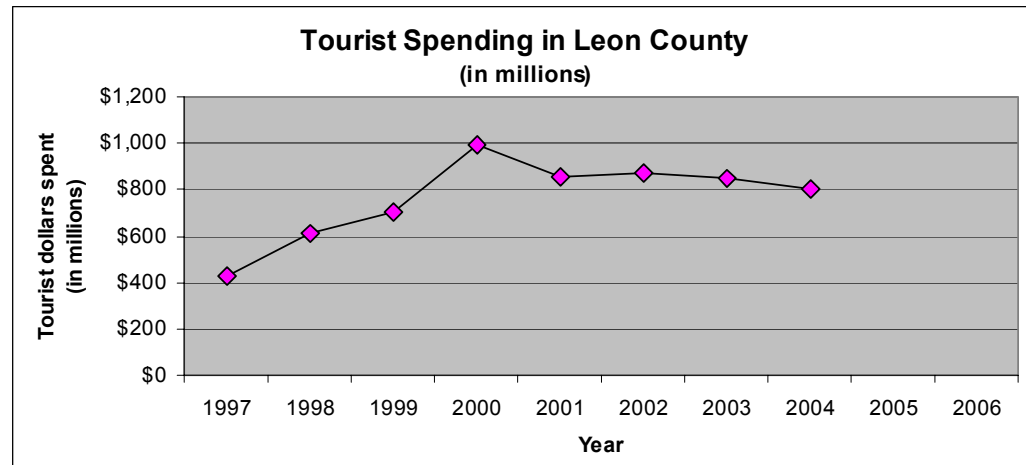
Indicator:

Millions of dollars spent by visitors to Leon County.

Analysis:

The number of visitors and their total spending in Leon County has risen dramatically since 1997.

The decrease in total spending since 2000 reflects the recession and “9/11.” Tourism began to rebound from these events in 2002, but in both 2003 and 2004, total spending declined despite a continued rise in the number of visitors.



Data source:

Leon County Tourist Development Council Visitor Profile Survey conducted by Dr. Mark Bonn, FSU College of Business, for the Tallahassee Area Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Website:

<http://www.co.leon.fl.us/>

LEON COUNTY	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total tourist spending (in millions)	\$429	\$613	\$701	\$990	\$853	\$874	\$845	\$805
Number of tourist visits (in millions)	1.850	1.940	2.133	2.433	2.203	2.352	2.579	2.784



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Indicator 9: Employment by Industry

Updated
3/19/05

Indicator:

Number of people employed in the Tallahassee Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) in higher versus lower wage non-agricultural industries. The Tallahassee MSA includes Leon, Gadsden, Wakulla and Jefferson Counties

Analysis:

Total employment grew in the Tallahassee MSA in the late 1990s, declined slightly in 2001, and rose between 2002 and 2004 (fueled primarily by gains in the lower wage category).

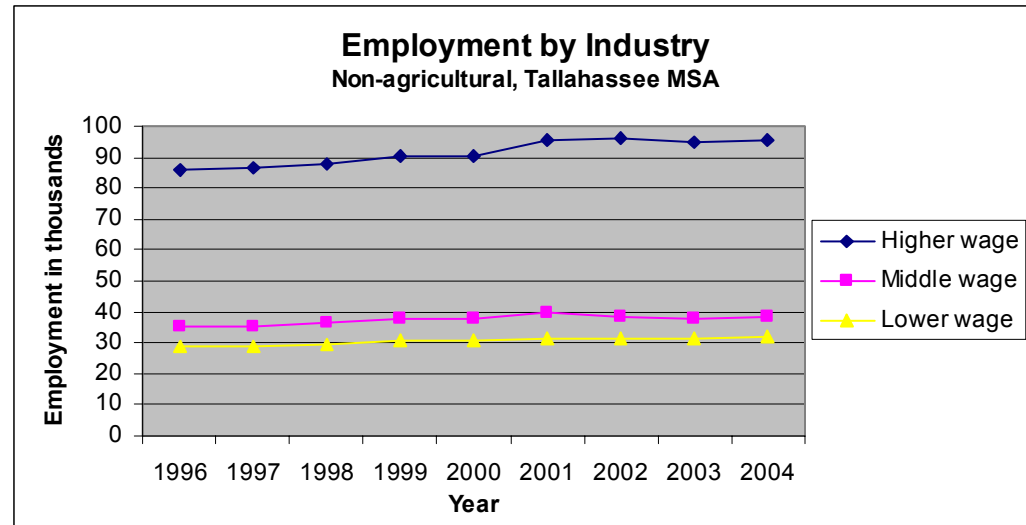
Higher wage jobs account for a relatively high proportion of employment in the Tallahassee area because of the inclusion of federal, state and local government in this category.

Data source:

Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation
Labor Market Statistics

Website:

<http://www.labormarketinfo.com/library/ces.htm>



	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Higher wage	86.6	87.9	90.1	90.1	95.4	96.1	94.9	95.3	96.0
Middle wage	35.5	36.6	37.8	37.8	39.5	38.2	38.1	38.3	38.8
Lower wage	29.0	29.8	30.9	30.9	31.6	31.4	31.5	32.1	33.4

Higher wage industries (average annual wage above \$37,000 in 2002) include: Professional and Business Services, Financial Activities, Information, Wholesale Trade, and Government (federal, state, local). Middle wage industries (average annual wage ranging from \$28,000 to \$35,000 in 2002) include Education and Health, Natural Resources/mining/construction, Transportation/Warehousing/Utilities, and other services. Lower wage industries (average annual wage below \$20,000 in 2002) include: Retail and Leisure and Hospitality. Both full- and part-time employment is included.