



**Quality of Life Report**

**Tallahassee-Leon County, FL**

---

## **ENVIRONMENT**

---

### **Tallahassee-Leon County Florida**

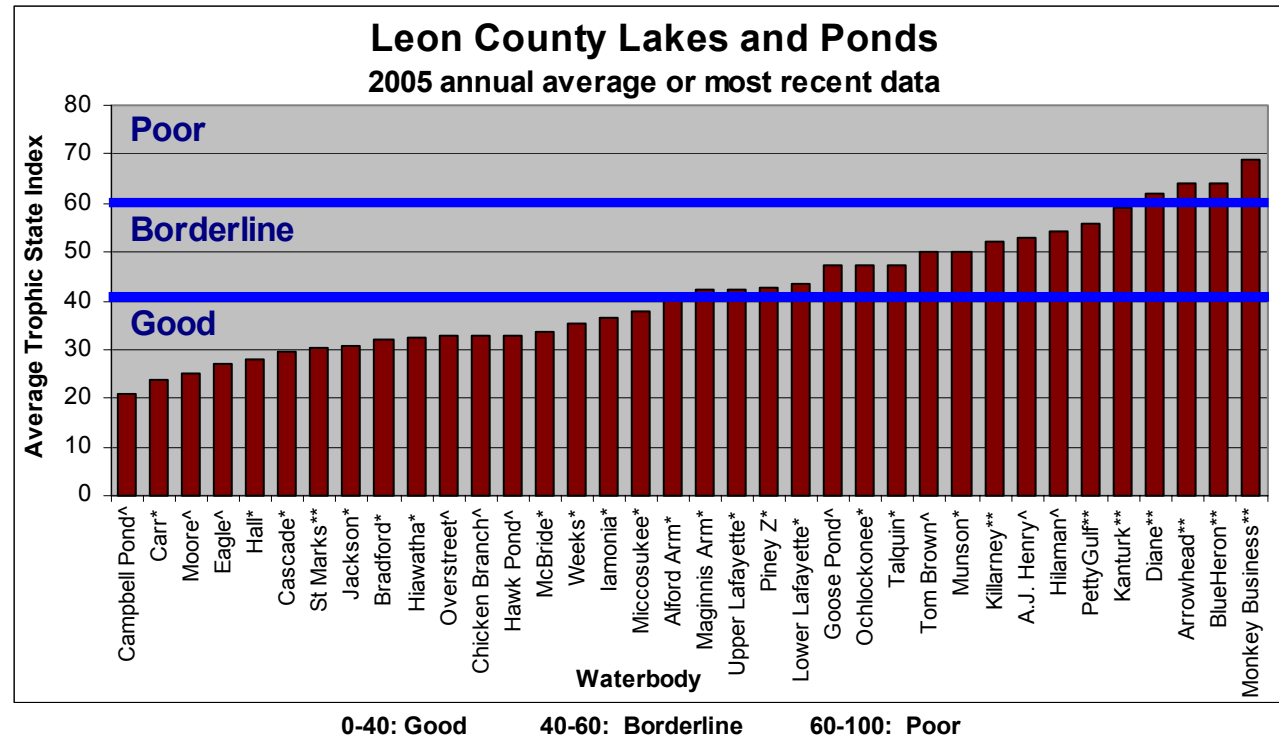


**ENVIRONMENT**  
**Indicator 1: Lake Water Quality**

Updated  
7/26/05

**Indicator:**  
*Average index of water quality for lakes in Leon County, as measured by the Trophic State Index.*

**Analysis:**  
 Stormwater run-off, carrying pollutants into lakes and rivers, is the greatest threat to the natural system of interconnected lakes, rivers, springs and sinkholes in this region of Florida. In Leon County, thirty lakes and six stormwater facilities are monitored for water quality by the City, County or Florida LakeWatch. Generally, Leon County has good surface water quality.





ENVIRONMENT

Updated  
7/26/05

Indicator 1: Lake Water Quality (continued)

**Indicator:**

*Average index of water quality for lakes in Leon County, as measured by the Trophic State Index.*

**Data source:**  
McGlynn Laboratories, Inc.

**Website:**  
<http://www.mcglynnlabs.com/>

Average Trophic State Index (TSI), 2005 annual average (or most recent data)						
<b>Campbell Pond</b>	<b>Carr</b>	<b>Moore</b>	<b>Eagle</b>	<b>Hall</b>	<b>Cascade</b>	<b>St. Marks</b>
21	24	25	27	28	30	30
<b>Jackson</b>	<b>Bradford</b>	<b>Hiawatha</b>	<b>Overstreet</b>	<b>Chicken Branch</b>	<b>Hawks Pond</b>	<b>McBride</b>
31	32	32	33	33	33	34
<b>Weeks</b>	<b>Iamonia</b>	<b>Micosukee</b>	<b>Alford Arm</b>	<b>Maginnis Arm</b>	<b>Upper Lafayette</b>	<b>Piney Z</b>
35	36	38	41	42	42	43
<b>Lower Lafayette</b>	<b>Goose Pond</b>	<b>Ochlocknee</b>	<b>Talquin</b>	<b>Tom Brown</b>	<b>Munson</b>	<b>Killarney</b>
44	47	47	47	50	50	52
<b>A.J. Henry</b>	<b>Hilaman</b>	<b>PettyGulf</b>	<b>Kanturk</b>	<b>Diane</b>	<b>Arrowhead</b>	<b>Blue Herron</b>
53	54	56	59	62	64	64
<b>Monkey Business</b>						
69						

\*Leon County Lakes Ecology Program

\*\*Data from Florida LakeWatch

^City of Tallahassee data

Note: Lakes Monkey Business, Blue Herron, Arrowhead, Diane, Kanturk, Petty Gulf are permitted stormwater facilities

0-40: Good      40-60: Borderline      60-100: Poor



**ENVIRONMENT**

Updated  
7/11/05

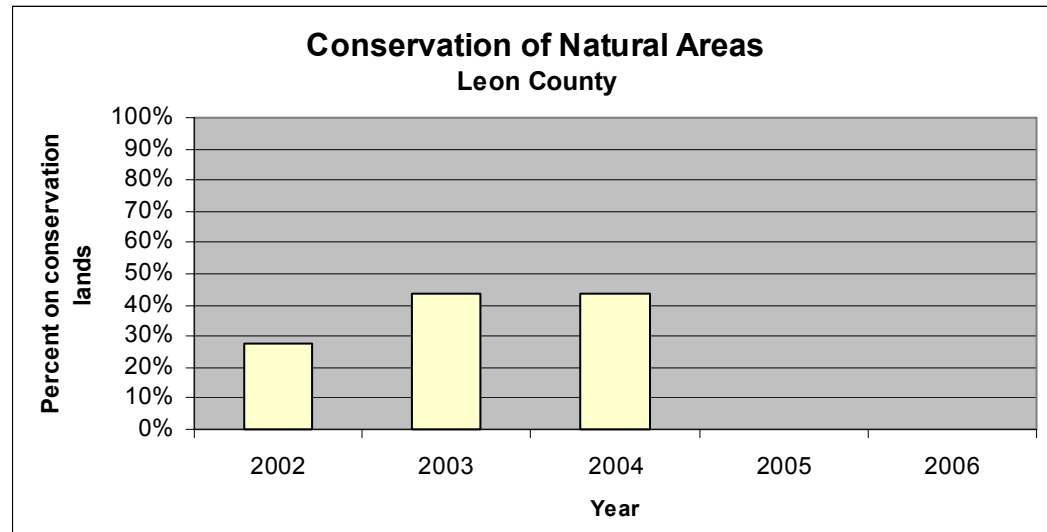
**Indicator 2: Conservation of Natural Areas**

**Indicator:**

*Acres of land in Leon County with high conservation value that are being conserved under public or private ownership.*

**Analysis:**

In 2004, Leon County had 131,400 acres of land considered to have high conservation value because they were in the best condition to sustain rare and disappearing plant and animal species. Of these acres, 44% were on conservation lands under private or public (federal, state, local) ownership.



**Data source:**

Florida Natural Areas Inventory

**Website:**

<http://www.fnai.org/>

Land with high conservation Value in Leon County	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total acres*	136,080	131,751	131,400		
Percent on conservation lands	28%	44%	44%		

\* Not shown on graph



**ENVIRONMENT**

**Indicator 3: Water Consumption**

Updated  
6/7/04

**Indicator:**

*Gallons of water consumed per day per resident served by public suppliers, such as city and county water departments.*

**Analysis:**

Per capita water consumption in Leon County has increased since 1995 and in the Year 2000 exceeded the state average. Also, total freshwater use in Leon County grew 18% from 1995 to 2000 while the population grew 10%.

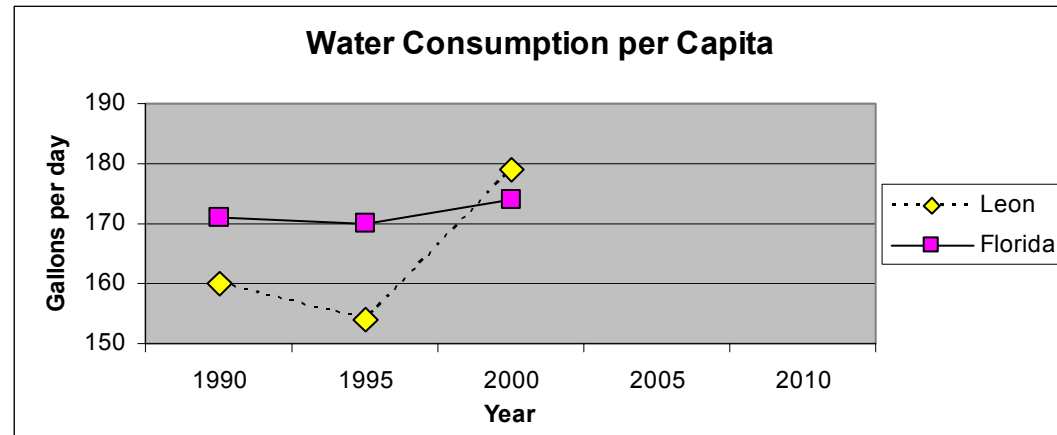
Groundwater is the county’s primary water source. Public supply – to residences, schools and businesses – is the primary use. Agriculture, industry, power generation and recreation comprise a relatively small percentage of total water use in Leon County.

**Data source:**

U.S. Geological Survey

**Website:**

<http://www.usgs.gov/>  
<http://www.co.leon.fl.us/property.asp>



<b>Public Supplied water consumption</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>2000</b>
Leon County - per capita - gallons per day	160	154	179
Florida - per capita - gallons per day	171	170	174
<b>Total groundwater used for public supply, agriculture, recreation, and other purposes</b>			
Leon County - millions of gallons per day*	38.48	38.55	45.36

\* Not shown on graph



**ENVIRONMENT**

**Indicator 4: Electricity Consumption**

Updated  
5/7/05

**Indicator:**

*Number of kilowatt hours of electricity consumed per household served by the City of Tallahassee.*

**Analysis:**

Total consumption of electricity has increased from 1996 to 2004, but the stable consumption per account suggests that the rate of increase has kept pace with population growth.

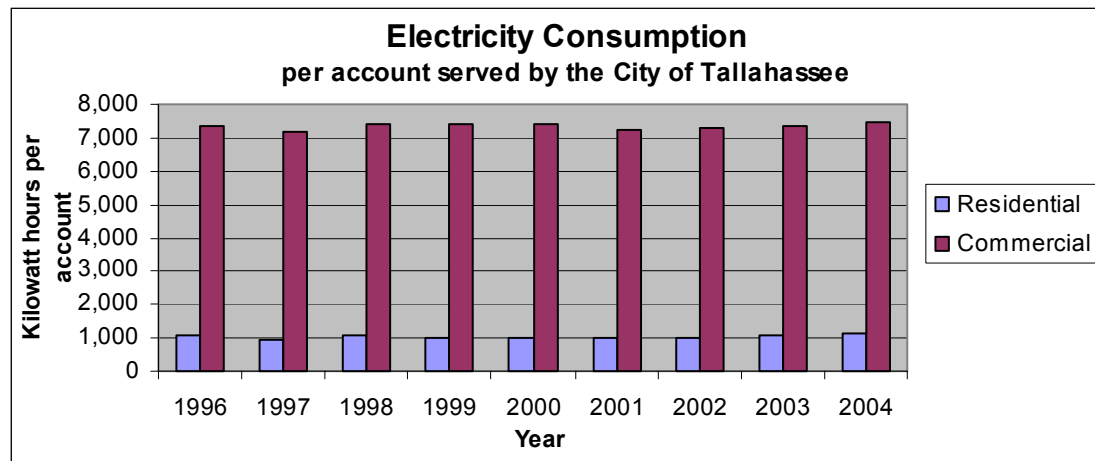
As of 2004, commercial customers consumed the majority (60%) of electricity provided by the City of Tallahassee. Residential households consumed the remaining 40%.

**Data source:**

City of Tallahassee  
Utility Services, Electrical Utility

**Website:**

<http://talgov.com/citytlh/utilities/index.html>



Tallahassee	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
<b>Residential</b>									
Per residential account	1,039	936	1,048	993	1,016	1,016	1,025	1,054	1,098
Tot. residential consumption*	75.5m	69.2m	79.0m	76.4m	80.0m	81.3m	83.4m	87.4m	88.5m
<b>Commercial</b>									
Per commercial account	7,327	7,144	7,379	7,410	7,399	7,243	7,287	7,331	7,488
Total commercial consumption*	110.3m	110.2m	115.9m	119.0m	122.4m	122.4m	126.1m	127.5m	131.7m

\* Not shown on graph. Total consumption is reported in millions of kilowatt hours.

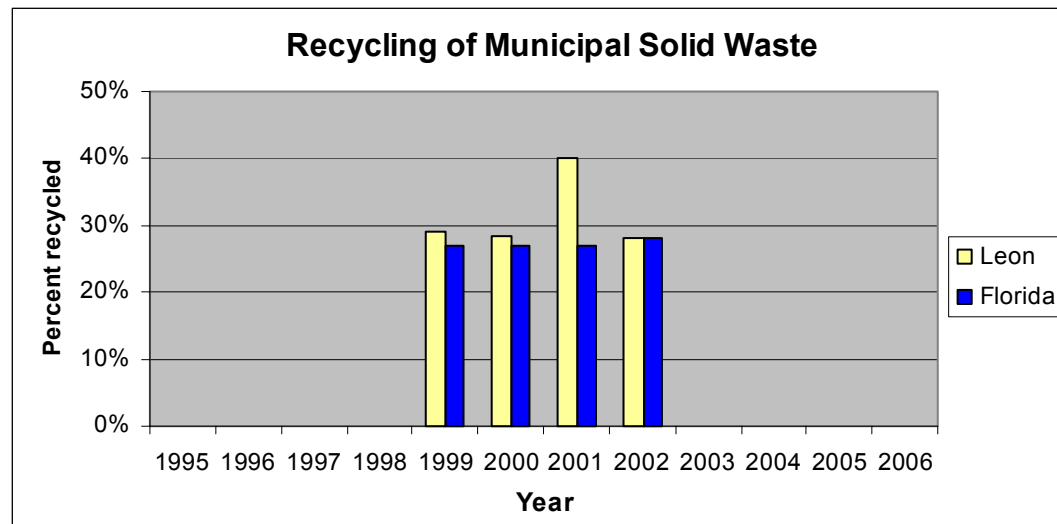


**ENVIRONMENT**  
Indicator 5: Recycling

Updated  
4/22/05

**Indicator:**  
*Percent of municipal solid waste collected that was recycled.*

**Analysis:**  
In 2002, 28% of solid waste collected in Leon County was recycled, the same percentage than in the state as a whole. Recycling efforts clearly peaked in 2001 and returned to similar levels observed in both 1999 and 2000.



**Data source:**  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Solid and Hazardous Waste

**Website:**  
<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/>

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Leon					29%	28%	40%	28%
Florida					24%	26%	27%	28%

\* The method for counting recycled waste changed in 1999.



ENVIRONMENT
Indicator 6: Air Quality

Updated 5/9/05

Indicator:

Number of days with ozone and particle pollution at levels (1) unhealthy for sensitive populations (orange), (2) unhealthy (red), (3) very unhealthy (purple).

Analysis:

Leon County has very clean air, compared to many other counties in Florida and the nation. In 2005, it was one of six counties in Florida (among 29 with reported data) that had zero days indicating hazardous air quality for the population, including sensitive populations (people with asthma, emphysema, cardiovascular disease or similar conditions that make them especially vulnerable to air pollution).

Data source:

American Lung Association, using data obtained from the U.S.

Website:

http://lungaction.org/reports/stateoftheair2005.html

Leon County State of the Air

Table with 4 columns: LEON COUNTY, 2003, 2004, 2005. Rows include Ozone (Orange, Red, Purple days, Grade B) and Particle pollution (Orange, Red, Purple days, Grade A).

Letter grades (A through F) are based on levels of ozone and particle pollutants and the number of days in each category (orange, red, purple).

Particle pollution consists of very small particles in the air, which in the long- or short-term can cause asthma, wheezing, coughing, and respiratory irritation in anyone with sensitive airways - as well as heart attacks, irregular heartbeat, and premature death.

Ozone is the primary ingredient of smog air pollution. It can damage lung tissue as well as crops, trees and other matter. The ozone layer in the upper atmosphere shields us from much of the sun's ultraviolet radiation, but ozone at ground level (where we breathe) causes serious health problems.