



Quality of Life Report

Tallahassee-Leon County, FL

FAMILIES

Tallahassee-Leon County Florida



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Indicator 1: Children in Single Parent Families

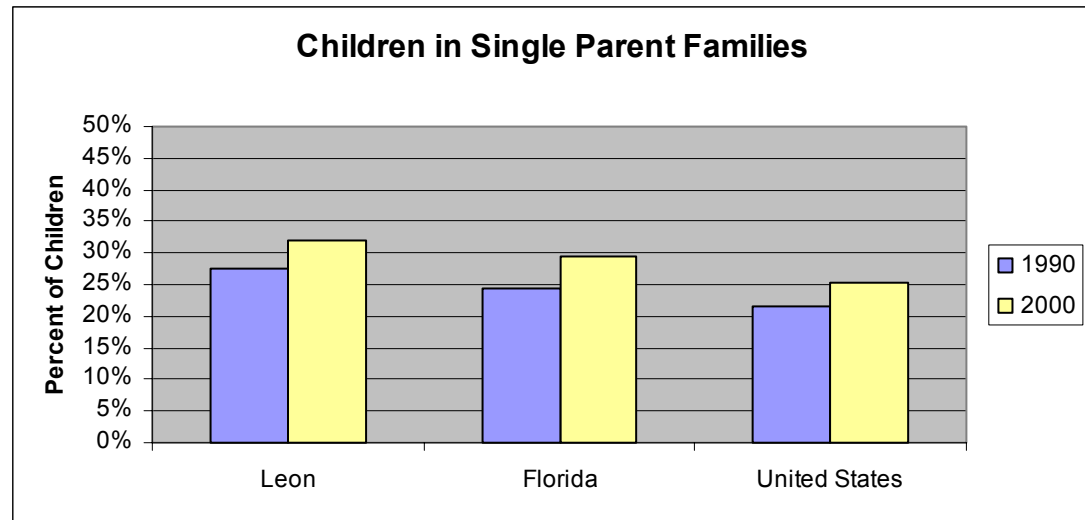
Indicator:

Percentage of children, under age 18, who live in single parent families (rather than in married couple families).

Analysis:

In 2000, nearly one in three children in Leon County lived in a single parent family – a higher percentage than in Florida or the United States.

The percent of children living in single parent families has increased over the past decade in Leon County, the state and the nation. Most of these families are headed by a single female.



Data source:

U.S. Decennial Census

Website:

<http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet>

Children in single parent families	1990	2000	Difference 1990 to 2000
Leon County	27.4%	32.0%	+4.6%
Florida	24.5%	29.4%	+4.9%
United States	21.5%	25.3%	+3.8%

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



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Indicator 2: Births to Unwed Mothers

Updated
2/11/05

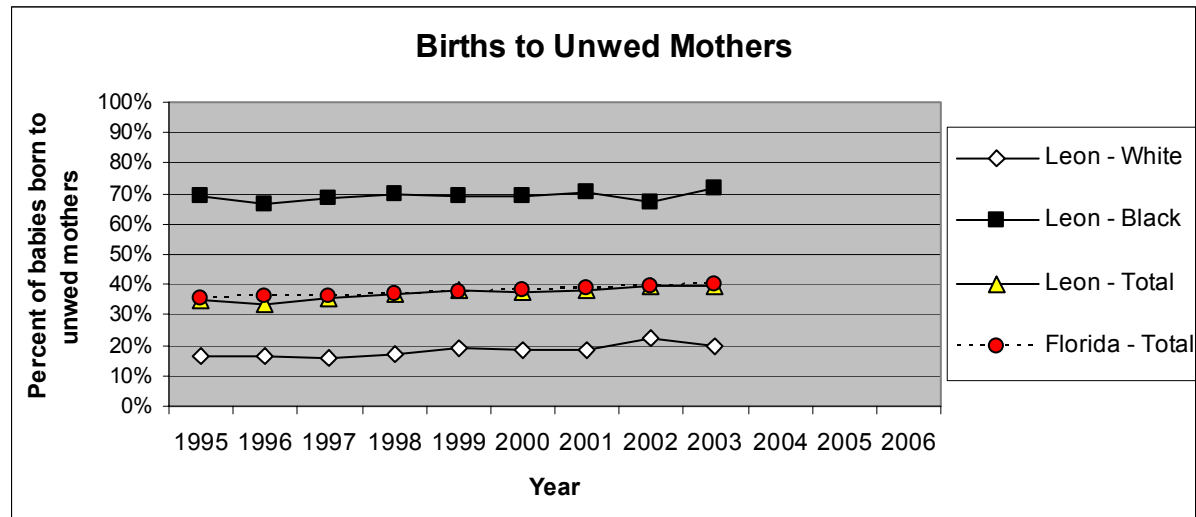
Indicator:
Percent of births to unwed mothers, by race.

Analysis:
The percentage of babies born to unwed mothers continues to slowly increase in Leon County – with a sharp increase in 2003 for Blacks. Black children are nearly 4 times as likely to be born to unwed mothers as White children in Leon County.

Overall, Leon County continues to mirror the state as a whole on this indicator. Two in five babies of all races are born to unwed mothers in Florida.

Data source:
Florida Department of Health
Vital Statistics Annual Reports

Website:
http://www.doh.state.fl.us/planning_eval/vital_statistics/statistical_report.htm



Births to unwed mothers	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Leon - White	17%	16%	17%	19%	18%	19%	22%	19%
Leon - Black	66%	69%	70%	69%	69%	70%	67%	72%
Leon – Total - all races	33%	36%	37%	38%	38%	38%	39%	40%
Florida – Total - all races	36%	36%	37%	37%	38%	39%	39%	40%



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Indicator 3: Births to Teen Mothers

Updated
2/11/05

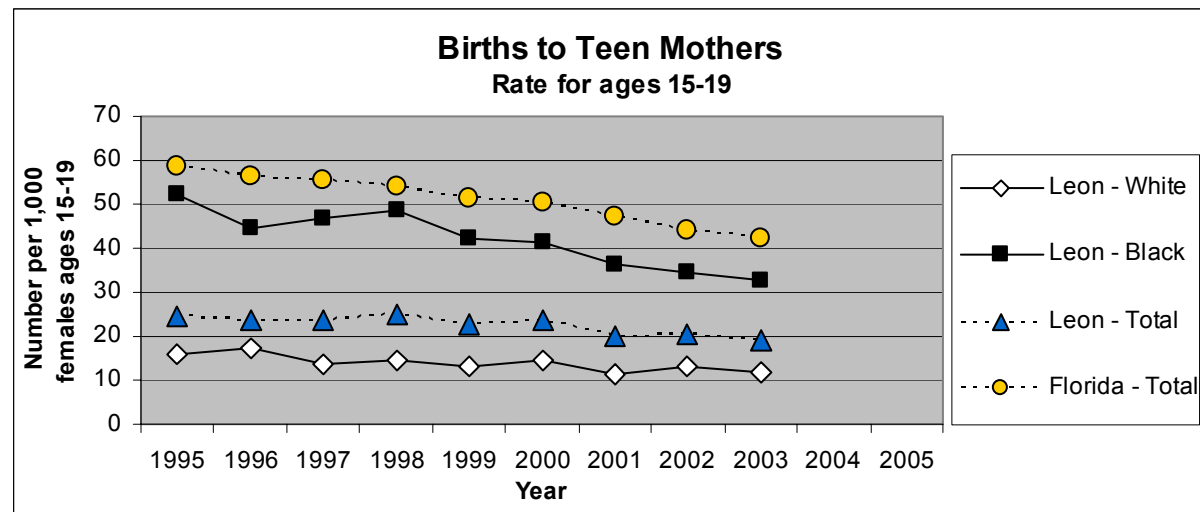
Indicator:

Number of teenage mothers, ages 15-19, who gave birth per 1,000 teenage girls ages 15-19.

Analysis:

The rate of births to teenage mothers has been declining in Leon County and in Florida. A significant racial disparity exists but the gap is closing, primarily because of the decline in the rate of births to black teenagers.

The rate of births to teens in Leon County for all races is less than half the state rate.



Data source:

Florida Department of Health
Vital Statistics Annual Reports

Website:

http://www.doh.state.fl.us/planning_eval/vital_statistics/statistical_report.htm

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Leon - White	17.2	13.9	14.4	13.2	14.5	11.5	13.0	11.6
Leon - Black	44.6	46.7	48.6	42.1	41.5	36.4	34.4	32.8
Leon - Total - all races	23.6	23.7	25.0	22.6	23.7	20.1	20.3	19.2
Florida - Total - all races	56.4	55.5	54.0	51.6	50.4	47.2	44.3	42.4



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Indicator 4: Children in Foster Care

Updated
3/5/05

Indicator:

Number of children under age 18 who are in foster care or residential group care under the custody of the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF).

Analysis:

In this region of Florida, the number of children in foster care and residential group care peaked in 1998 and has remained relatively level since 2001. In Florida, the number decreased considerably in 2004 but not in Leon County.

District 2 includes 14 counties in north Florida, including Leon.

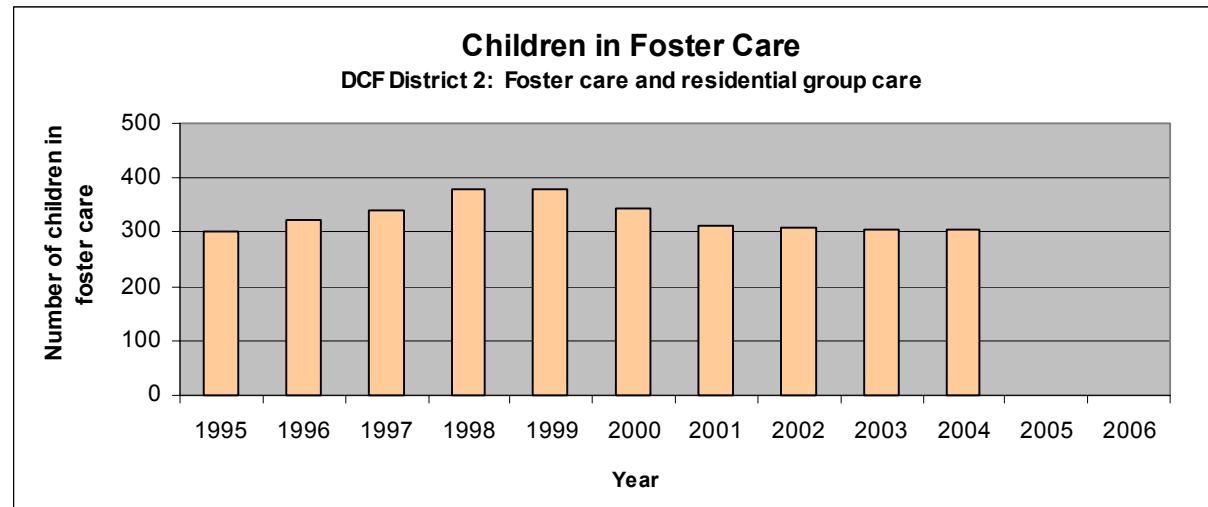
Data source:

Florida Department of Children and Families Homesafenet

Note: Data not available by county

Website:

http://www.state.fl.us/cf_web



	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
DCF District 2 - no. of children	321	342	380	378	345	311	309	304	306
Florida - no. of children*	8,941	8,950	9,875	10,430	10,885	10,657	11,285	11,476	9,162
DCF District 2 - percent change*	+5.9%	+6.5%	+11.1%	-0.5%	-8.7%	-9.9%	-0.6%	-1.6%	0.7%
Florida - percent change*	-0.7%	+0.1%	+10.3%	+5.6%	+4.4%	-2.1%	+5.9%	+1.7%	-20.2%

* Not shown on graph



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Updated
3/5/05

Indicator 5: Child Abuse and Neglect

Indicator:

Number of child abuse and neglect victims (per 100,000 children under age 18) whose maltreatment was verified or found to have some evidence of occurrence.

Analysis:

The rate of child abuse and neglect in Leon County continued to decline in 2003-04 after a period of elevated rates in 1999-00 and 2000-01.

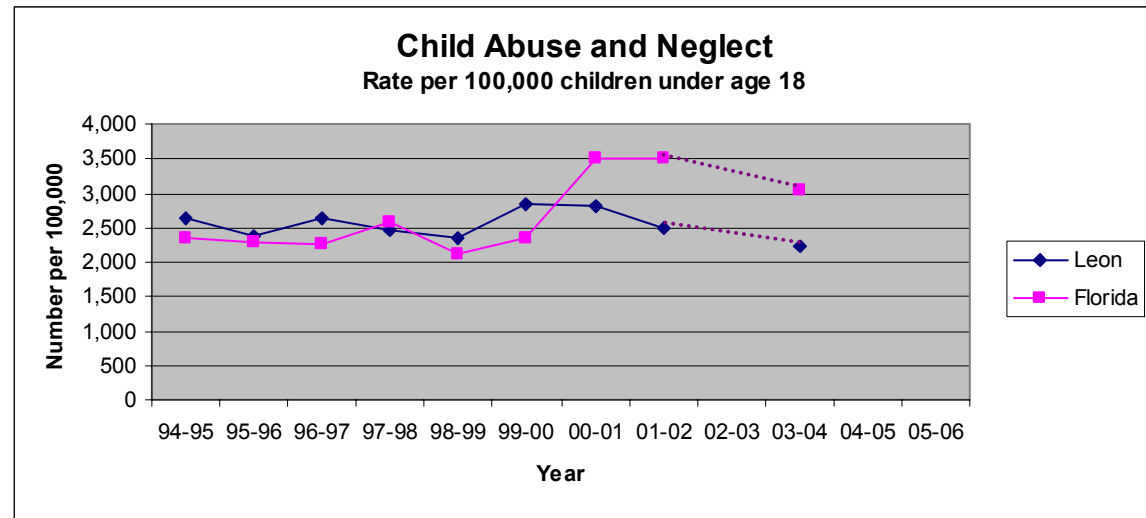
Leon County's rate was the same or higher than the statewide rate until 2000-01, when it dropped below the state rate. The unusually high rates for Florida in 2000-01 and 2001-02 most likely reflect a statewide initiative to investigate backlogged cases.

Data source:

Florida Department of Children and Families

Website:

http://www.state.fl.us/cf_web



	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Leon - rate per 100,000	2,632	2,452	2,353	2,840	2,809	2,490	n/a	2,240
Florida - rate per 100,000	2,257	2,594	2,117	2,338	3,500	3,516	n/a	3,048
Leon - number of victims*	1,295	1,225	1,193	1,456	1,465	1,318	n/a	1,211

* Not shown on graph

Note: The same child may be counted more than once if involved in more than one incident. An unusually high rate in a single year is most likely due to a reduction of backlog (closure of a high number of reports from prior years), while an unusually low rate may be due to growth in backlog. 2002-2003 data are incomplete due to a new reporting system that was phased in across the state.



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Indicator 6: Child Care Affordability

Indicator:

Cost of child care in Leon County as a percentage of family income.

Analysis:

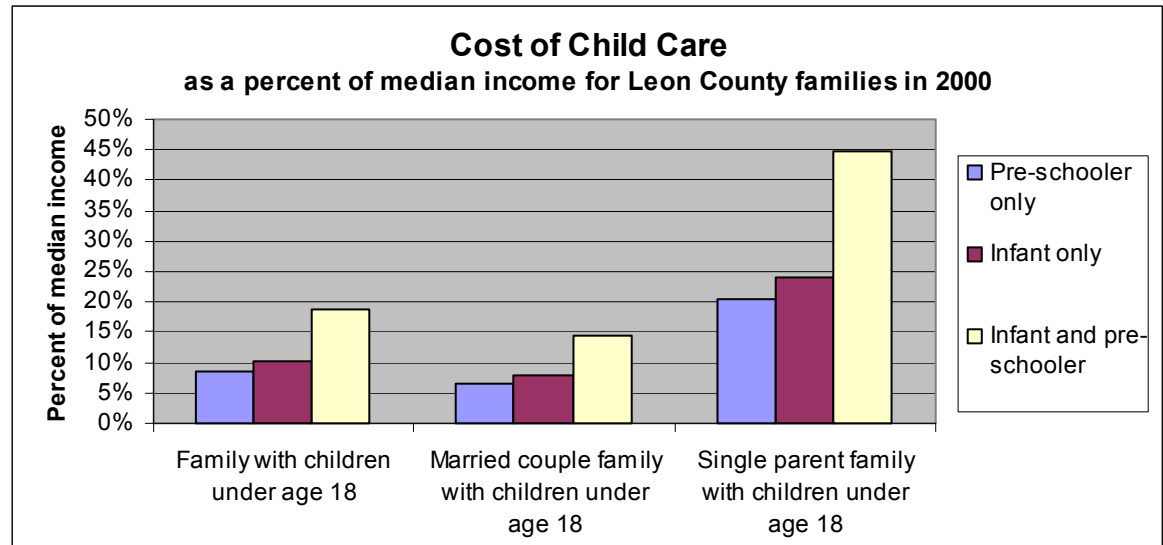
The average family with children pays a substantial portion of their income on child care – especially if they have more than one child in need of care. Single parent families are at a particular disadvantage because their median income is less than one-third of the income of married couples with children.

Data source:

Weekly cost of care: Kids Incorporated of the Big Bend (converted to annual cost)
 Median income in Leon County by family type: U.S. Census 2000

Websites:

- <http://www.fcforum.org/>
- <http://freemans.info/uphs/agencies/KidsInc.htm>
- <http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet>



Families with children under age 18	Median income in 2000	Pre-schooler only (ages 3-5)	Infant only (less than one year old)	Infant and pre-schooler
All families with children	\$50,007	9%	10%	19%
Married couple families	\$65,138	7%	8%	14%
Single parent families headed by a female	\$21,079	20%	24%	45%
Cost per year in 2000 (48 weeks of care)		\$4,320	\$5,088	\$9,408

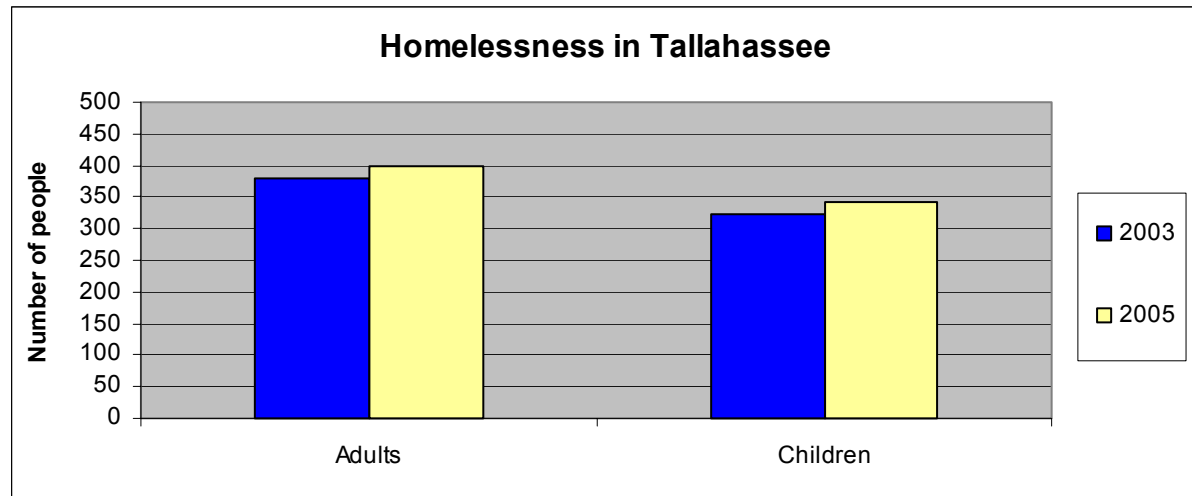


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Indicator 7: Homelessness

Updated
6/6/05

Indicator:
Number of homeless people in Tallahassee.

Analysis:
In 2005, a total of 739 people in Tallahassee reported having no regular place to stay or expected to be forced to leave their home within the next week without another place to go. Almost half (46%) of the city's homeless in both 2003 and 2005 were children, ages 0-18.



	2003	2005
Total homeless people	703	739
Adults	381	398
Children 0-18	322	341
Percent Children 0-18*	46%	46%

Data source:
Tallahassee Coalition for the Homeless

Website:
<http://www.tallahasseech.org/>

*Not shown on graph
Note: (1) Interviews conducted during a 15-hour period on January 24, 2005 at emergency shelters, congregate meal programs, day labor programs, social service agencies, public places and street and wooded locations frequented by homeless individuals, and (2) data from the Leon County School District's family survey and administrative records.