



**Quality of Life Report**

**Tallahassee-Leon County, FL**

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# **COMMUNITY**

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## **Tallahassee-Leon County Florida**

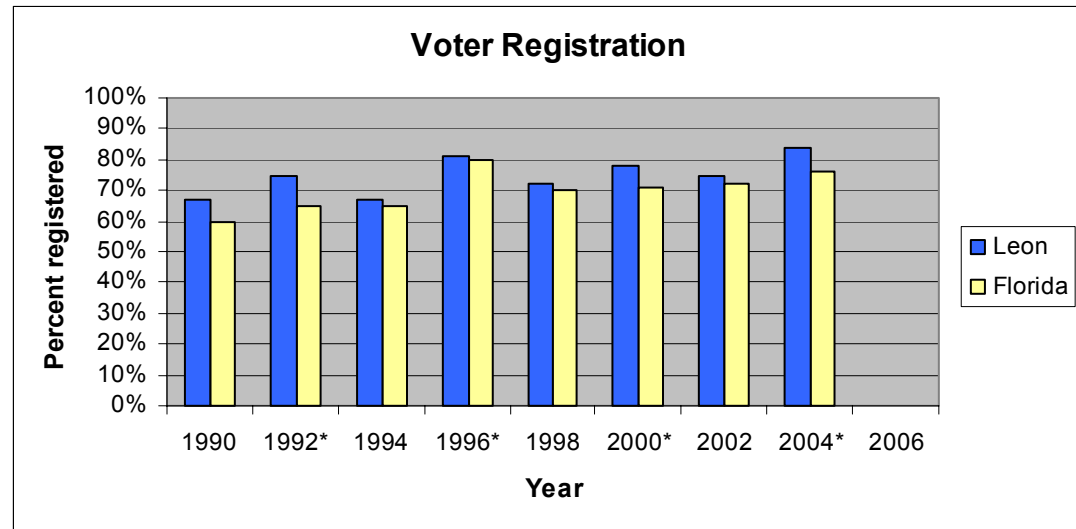


**COMMUNITY**  
**Indicator 1: Voter Registration**

Updated  
2/21/05

**Indicator:**  
*Percent of adults, age 18 and older, registered to vote.*

**Analysis:**  
In both Leon County and Florida, voter registration has generally been higher in Presidential election years than in Gubernatorial election years. Voter registration state and county-wide peaked in the 2004 Presidential election year. Overall, voter registration levels have been consistently higher in Leon County compared to the state.



**Data source:**  
Leon County Supervisor of Elections Office  
Florida Department of State, Division of Elections

**Websites:**  
<http://www.co.leon.fl.us/elect/homepage.htm>  
<http://election.dos.state.fl.us/>

<b>Election year</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1992*</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1996*</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>2000*</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2004*</b>
Leon County	67%	75%	67%	81%	72%	78%	75%	84%
Florida	60%	63%	61%	72%	70%	71%	72%	76%

\* Presidential election years.



**COMMUNITY**  
**Indicator 2: Voter Turnout**

Updated  
2/21/05

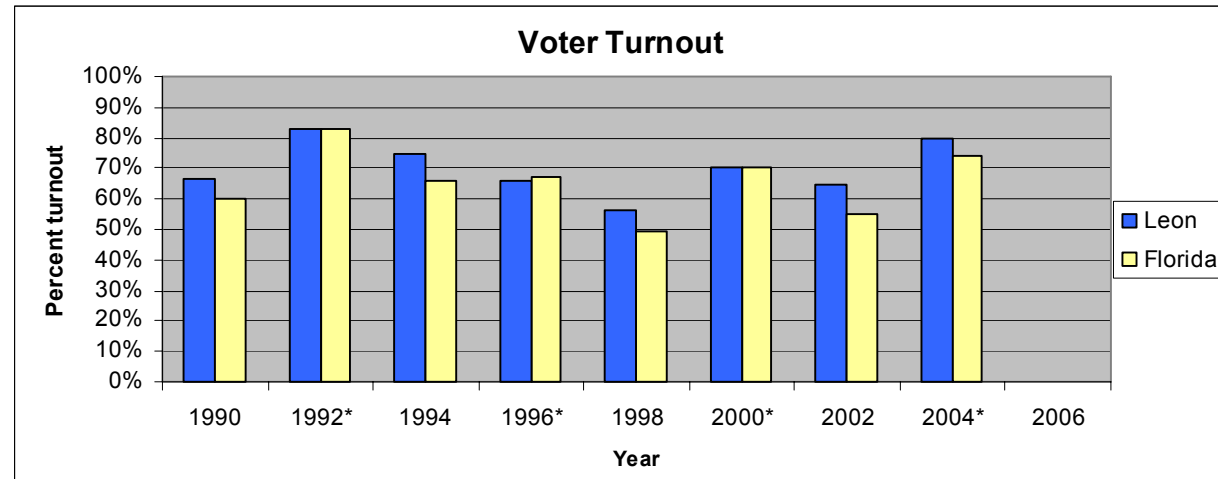
**Indicator:**  
*Percentage of registered voters who voted in general elections.*

**Analysis:**  
Generally, Leon County's voter turnout has been highest in Presidential elections and lowest in municipal elections. It is significantly higher than statewide turnout in Gubernatorial elections.

Leon County's voter turnout in the 2004 Presidential election was the highest turnout in a Presidential election since 1992.

**Data source:**  
Leon County Supervisor of Elections Office  
Florida Department of State, Division of Elections

**Websites:**  
<http://www.co.leon.fl.us/elect/homepage.htm>  
<http://election.dos.state.fl.us/>



<b>Election year</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1992*</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996*</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>2000*</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004*</b>
<b>Presidential</b>													
Leon County		83%				66%			71%				80%
Florida		83%				67%			70%				74%
<b>Gubernatorial</b>													
Leon County	66%			75%				56%			65%		
Florida	60%			66%				50%			55%		
<b>Municipal**</b>													
Tallahassee**	29%	25%	27%	31%		16%	24%	23%	31%			34%	

\* Presidential election years. \*\*Not shown in graph. Data exclude primaries and run-offs.



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Indicator 3: Public Perception of Growth

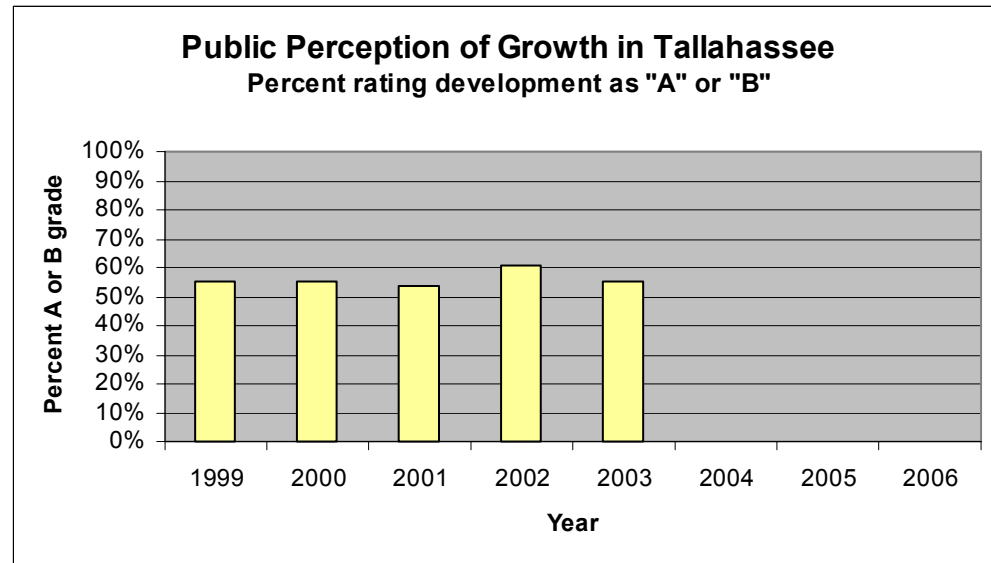
Updated  
06/04/03

**Indicator:**

*Percent of Tallahassee residents who rated development in Tallahassee over the past several years as "A" or "B," on an A-F scale.*

**Analysis:**

A slim majority of Tallahassee residents have rated development over the past several years as "A" or "B." Ratings of "A" and "B" increased to 61% in 2002, then dropped to former levels (55%) in 2003.



**Data source:**

City of Tallahassee  
Office of Budget and Policy  
*Tallahassee Resident Opinion Survey*

**Website:**

<http://www.talgov.com/>

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Percent rating development as "A" or "B."	55%	55%	54%	61%	55%



**COMMUNITY  
Indicator 4: Sprawl**

Updated  
02/03/06

**Indicator:**

*The percentage of new construction permitted in Tallahassee-Leon County that was located inside the Urban Service Area (see definition below).*

**Analysis:**

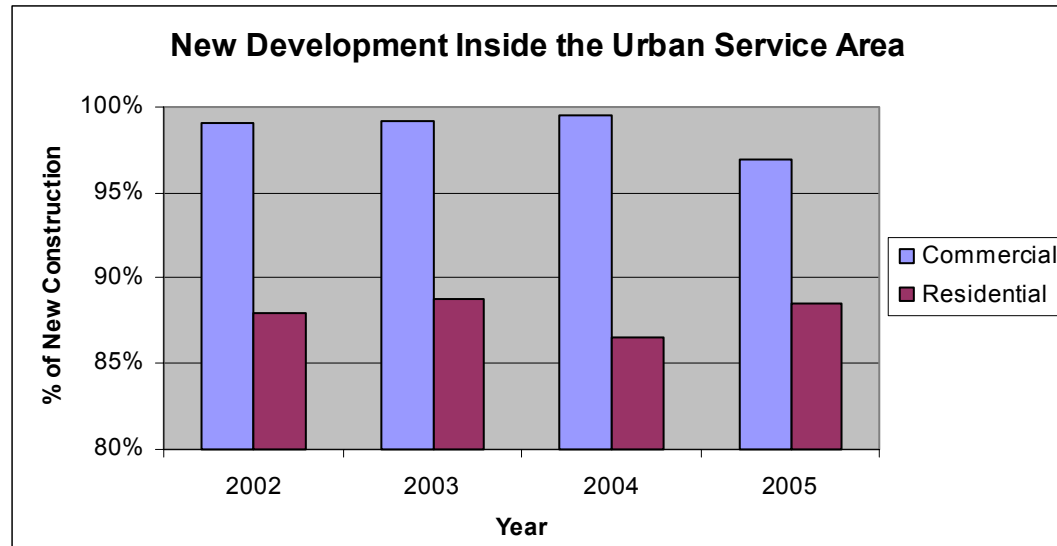
The vast majority of new commercial and residential development in Tallahassee-Leon County has occurred within the Urban Service Area (USA). According to *The Tallahassee-Leon County 2010 Comprehensive Plan*, 90% of new residential growth is planned to occur inside the Urban Service Area through the year 2020. In three of the last four years, residential development inside the USA has averaged nearly 89% while commercial development has exceeded 90% inside the USA all four years reported.

**Data source:**

Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department

**Website:**

<http://talgov.com/planning/>



	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>Commercial</b>	99.1%	99.2%	99.5%	97.0%
<b>Residential</b>	89.0%	88.7%	86.6%	88.5%

**\*Definition:** The Urban Service Area is a compact area surrounding Tallahassee in which urban infrastructure [e.g., sewer, water, roads, mass transit, solid waste, drainage, parks] is presently available or expected to be furnished within Tallahassee-Leon County's planning horizon – currently the year 2020. It consists of those areas which should be allowed to develop to urban levels of intensity either presently or over the period through 2020. (see *Tallahassee-Leon County 2010 Comprehensive Plan*, <http://talgov.com/planning/>).



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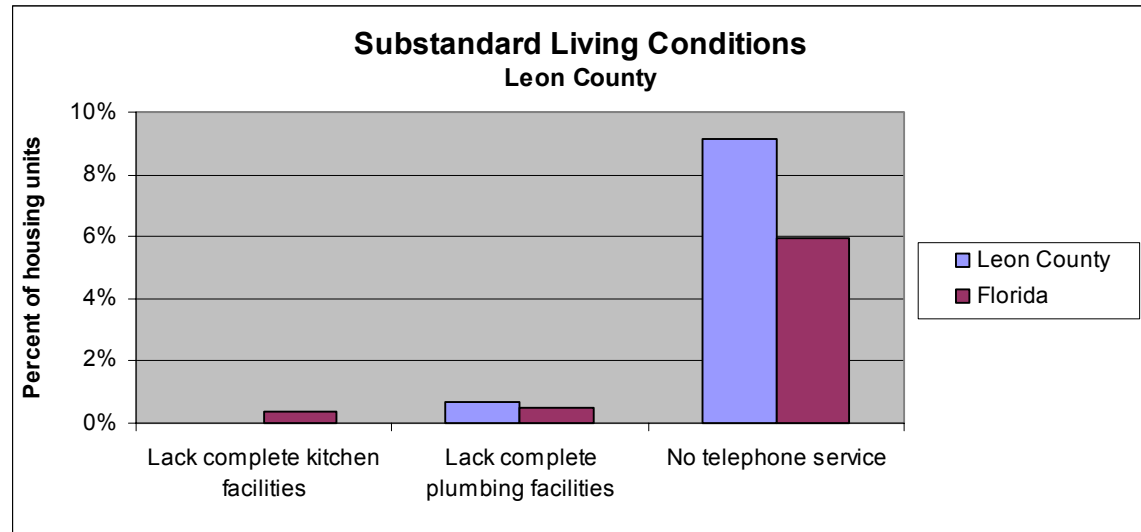
Indicator 5: Substandard Living Conditions

Updated  
10/03/06

**Indicator:** Percentage of occupied housing units that lacked (1) complete kitchen facilities, (2) complete plumbing facilities, (3) telephone service.

**Analysis:**

The percentage of occupied housing units in Leon County in 2005 with below standard living conditions was similar to the state as a whole. The percentage of housing units that lacked complete kitchen facilities was estimated to be close to zero percent while less than one percent of occupied housing units in Leon County did not have complete plumbing facilities.



2005	Leon County	Florida
Lack complete kitchen facilities	0.0%	0.4%
Lack complete plumbing facilities	0.6%	0.5%
No telephone service	9.1%	6.0%

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

**Data source:**

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

**Website:**

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



COMMUNITY

Indicator 6: Use of Public Transportation

Updated  
02/24/06

**Indicator:**

*Number of passenger trips on StarMetro (formerly Taltran).*

**Analysis:**

Use of public transportation, as measured by the total number of passenger trips, increased 28% from 1995 to 2005, slightly more than the growth in Leon County's population during that time period (23%).

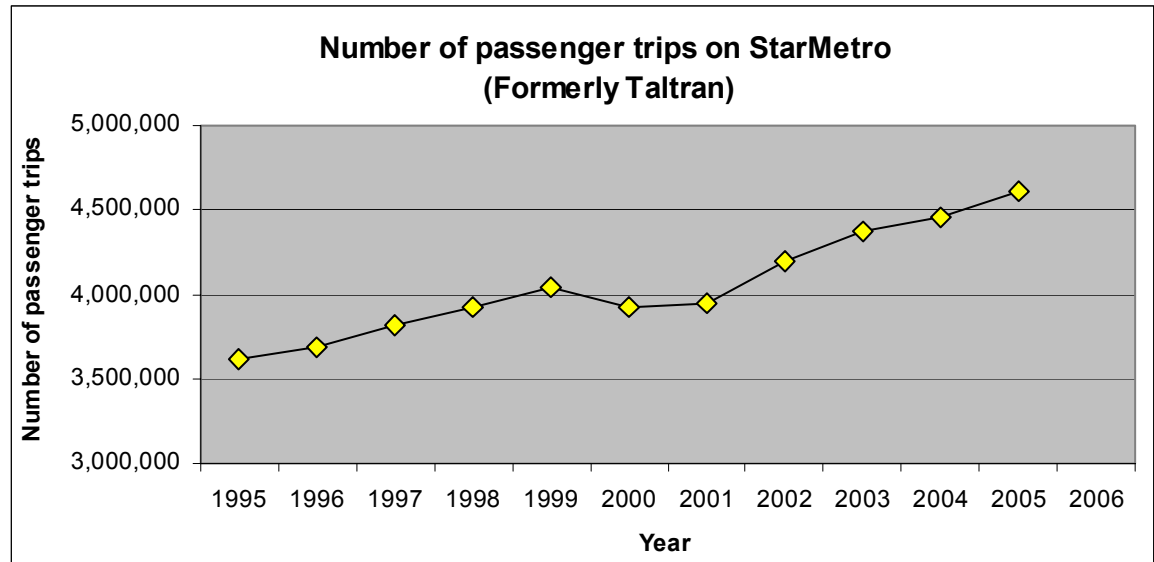
After a plateau from 1999 to 2001, use of public transportation has increased for four straight years (2002-2005), increasing by an average of 3.1% a year.

**Data source:**

Cit of Tallahassee, StarMetro  
*(Data include city buses, trolleys, and campus buses. Dial-a-ride for special needs residents is excluded.)*

**Website:**

<http://www.talgov.com/starmetro/index.cfm>



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Number of passenger trips	3,822,254	3,927,799	4,037,874	3,922,113	3,943,482	4,199,667	4,372,762	4,459,371	4,608,224



**COMMUNITY**  
**Indicator 7: Transportation to Work**

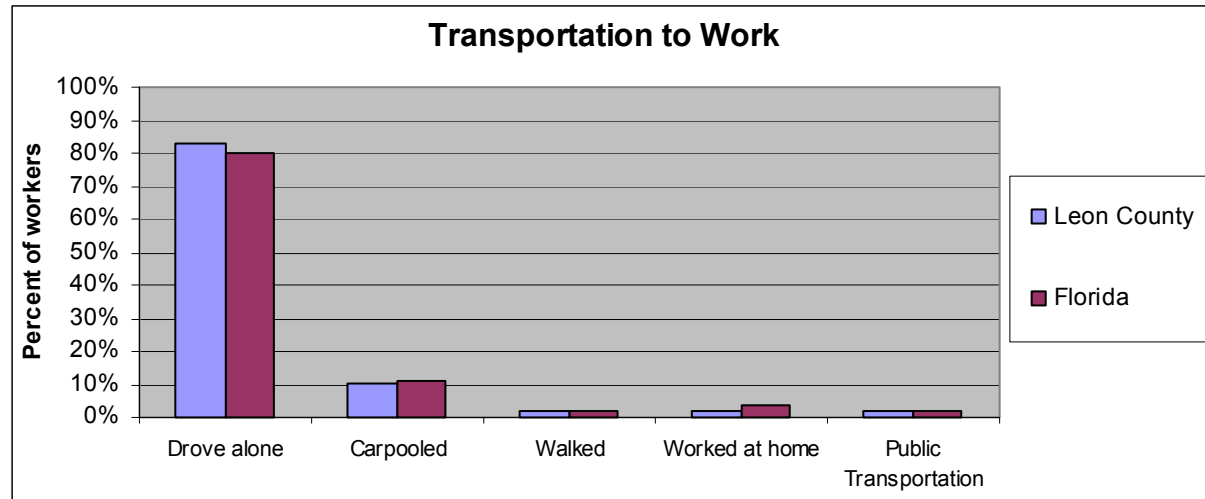
Updated  
 08/29/06

**Indicator:**

*Percent of workers age 16 and older who used various means of transportation to get to work.*

**Analysis:**

Over 93% of workers in Leon County depend on the automobile to get to work. The percentage of workers in Tallahassee who walked to work and those who used public transportation work was the same as the state. A higher percentage of workers in Leon County worked at home compared with the state average.



**Data source:**

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

**Website:**

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

2005	Leon County	Florida
Drove alone	83.0%	80.0%
Carpooled	10.1%	11.1%
Walked	1.6%	1.6%
Worked at home	2.1%	3.6%
Public Transportation	1.8%	1.8%

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



**COMMUNITY**

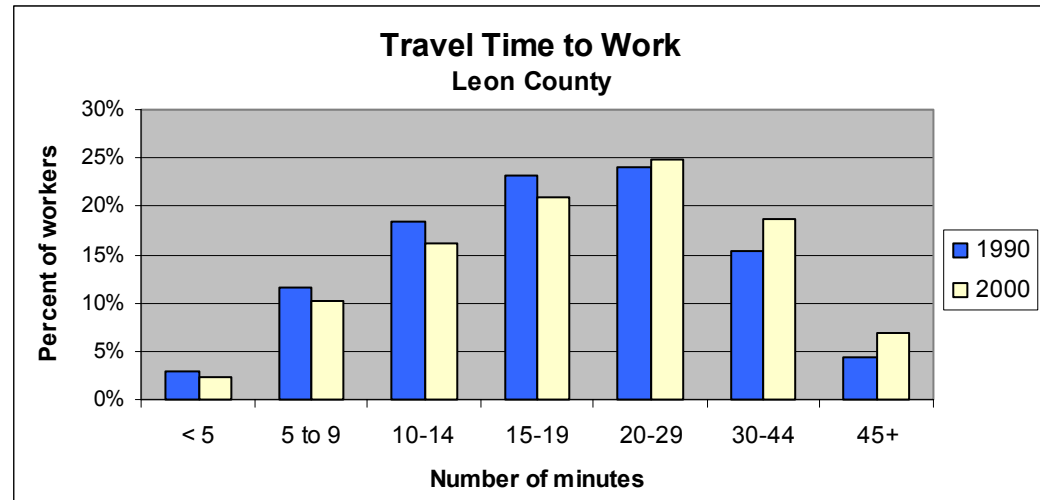
Indicator 8: Travel Time to Work

**Indicator:**

*Percent of workers living in Leon County who reported various commute times.*

**Analysis:**

From 1990 to 2000, there was an increase in the percentage of Leon County workers with commute times over 20 minutes. The increases were particularly notable for commute times of 30-44 and 45 or more minutes.



**Data source:**

U.S. Census Bureau

**Website:**

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

Leon County - minutes to work	<5	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-29	30-44	45+
<b>1990</b>	3%	12%	19%	23%	24%	15%	4%
<b>2000</b>	2%	10%	16%	21%	25%	19%	7%
<b>Difference*</b>	-1%	-2%	-3%	-2%	1%	4%	3%

\* Not shown on graph



# Quality of Life Report

# Tallahassee-Leon County, FL

## COMMUNITY

### Indicator 9: Parks and Recreation Areas

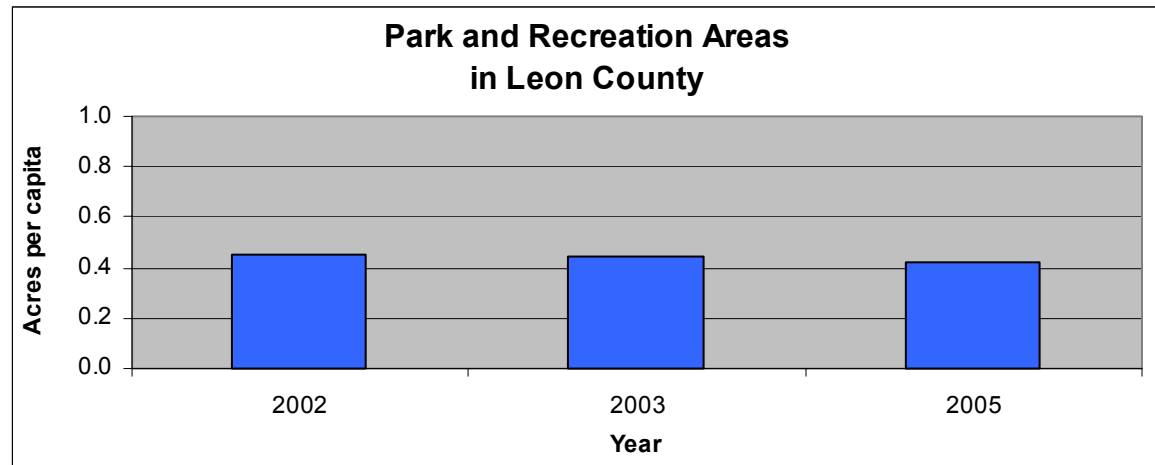
Updated  
8/29/06

**Indicator:**

*Acres per capita of parks and recreation areas in Leon County.*

**Analysis:**

As of 2005, Leon County residents had access to 112,544 acres of parks and recreation areas maintained by city, county, state and federal government. The number of acres per capita has remained about the same over the past few years.



**Data sources:**

City of Tallahassee and Leon County, Departments of Parks and Recreation  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation and Parks (state and federal data)

**Websites:**

<http://www.tal.gov.com/parks/index.cfm>  
<http://www.leoncofl.org/PARKS/recreation.asp>

Areas maintained by:	2002	2003	2005
City of Tallahassee*	3,950	3,575	3,403
Leon County*	2,185	2,286	2,477
State of Florida*	3,303	2,956	2,925
Federal (Apalachicola National Forest)*	103,739	103,739	103,739
<b>TOTAL*</b>	<b>113,177</b>	<b>112,556</b>	<b>112,544</b>
Acres per capita	0.46	0.44	0.42

\* Not shown on graph

Parks and recreation areas include national forest, public parks, gardens, greenways, picnic facilities, campgrounds, boat landings, ballfields, tennis courts, basketball courts, multi-purpose fields, historical/archeological sites and wildlife management areas.



**COMMUNITY**  
Indicator 10: Traffic Congestion

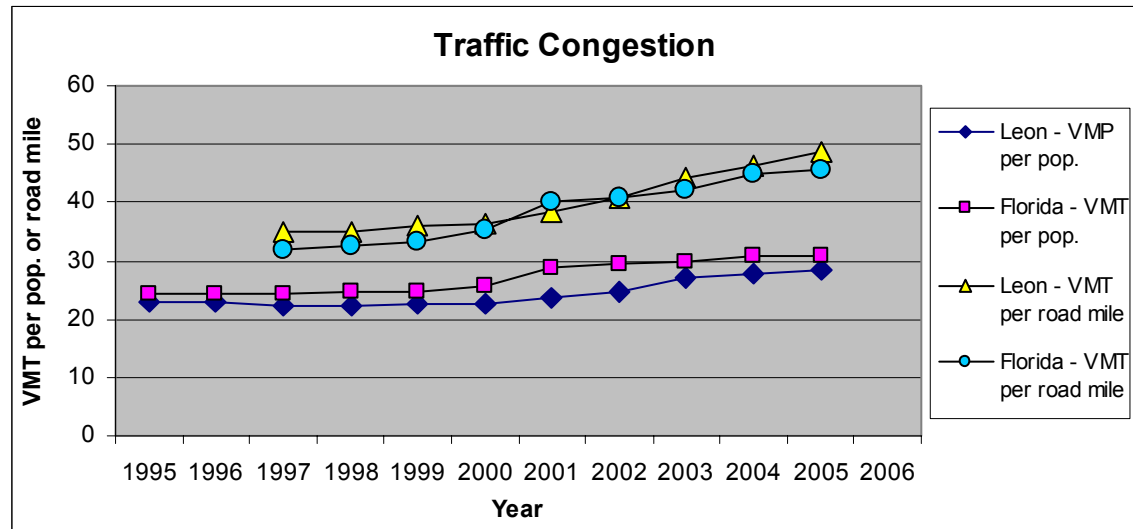
Updated  
11/04/06

**Indicator:**

*Number of vehicle miles traveled per resident and number of vehicle miles traveled per centerline mile of public roads.*

**Analysis:**

Since 1999, miles of travel per resident and per centerline mile of public road have steadily increased in Leon County and in Florida. This trend indicates that people on average are traveling more and that this demand is increasingly exceeding the capacity of our public roads.



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Leon – VMT per pop.	22.4	22.2	22.6	22.6	23.7	24.7	27.1	27.9	28.3
Florida – VMT per pop.	24.4	24.6	24.8	25.7	28.7	29.4	29.8	30.7	30.7
Leon – VMT* per road mile	34.8	35.0	35.9	36.4	38.6	40.8	44.4	46.4	48.8
Florida – VMT* per road mile	31.9	32.4	33.3	35.3	39.9	40.9	42.3	45.0	45.7
Leon: Centerline miles* of public roads	1,455	1,471	1,486	1,491	1,501	1,505	1,558	1,587	1,570

\*Centerline miles measure road length, regardless of the number of lanes. VMT is expressed in hundreds.

**Data source:**

Florida Department of Transportation  
Transportation Statistics Office

**Website:**

<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/planning/statistics/mileagereports/>