## DEMOGRAPHICS OF POVERTY IN BROWARD COUNTY

Fifteen percent of County residents are poor, including one in five children; family poverty rates continue to increase even though 60 percent of poor families have at least one working adult.

## **COUNTYWIDE POVERTY**

According to 2014 population estimates, 15 % of Broward County residents are under the poverty line. The statewide average is only slightly higher at 17%. In comparison, the rate in Palm Beach County is relatively the same (15 %) and higher in Miami-Dade (21%).

Poverty levels are defined nationally by U.S. Bureau of the Census by family size and composition. In 2014, the poverty threshold for a family of four with two children was an annual income of \$24,008; for a single parent with two children it was \$19,073; and for a single person aged 65 and over it was \$11,354.

Individual, family and child poverty rates has been steadily increasing since 1980 in Broward County. Despite the fact that two thirds of poor families have one adult who has a job, families below poverty level continue to increase.

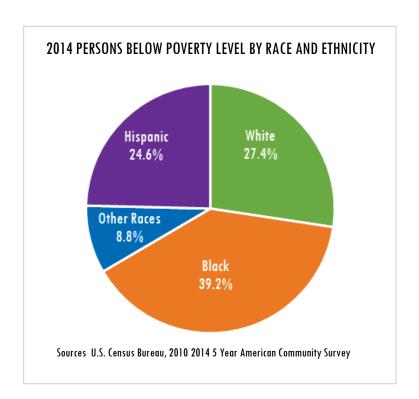
#### POVERTY RATES 1980 TO 2014 25.0% 19.7% 20.0% 15.7% 15.5% 14.6% 14.6% 13.3% 15.0% - 11.7% 11.5% 10.2% 10.0% 11.4% 8.7% 8.5% 5.0% 7.1% 6.3% 0.0% 1980 1990 2000 2009 2014 --- Individual -----Families Children (Aged 0-17) Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 2014 5 Year American Community Survey

#### WHO ARE THE POOR?

A disproportionate number of poor residents are children (29%). According to 2014 estimates, one in 5 county residents is a child under 18 years old (22% of the population) and poverty affects one in 5 children in the County (20% of children). On the other end of the range, 13% of persons living below the poverty level are seniors (aged 65 years and over).

2014 estimates also tell us that 51% of children under 18 years living below the poverty level are Black/African-American children. Hispanic children make up 25% of the children under 18 years living below the poverty level.

Black/African-Americans make up only 26% of Broward County's population, but represent 39% of persons in poverty. The second largest concentration of poverty are White Non-Hispanics who compose 41% percent of Broward County's population, but 27% percent of persons living below the poverty level.

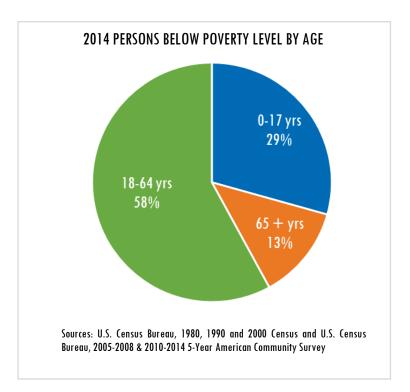


Also, 2014 population estimates indicate that 21% of residents with disabilities live below the poverty level. Approximately, 17% of residents living below the poverty level have a disability, including 1.3% under 18 years of age and 5.6 percent aged 65 and over.

### **FAMILIES IN POVERTY**

Families living in poverty have increased over the past 15 years. Since 2000, the poverty rate for families has increased from 9% to 11% in 2014. In 2000, 35,964 families were below the poverty threshold, this number has increased to 48,081 families.

In 2014, the estimated poverty rate of families with children is 16%. This is reflective of the relatively large number of children living in poverty. The highest poverty rate was among single-mothers with children at 31%.



## THE WORKING POOR

The 2014 estimates indicate that approximately 8% of families with at least one working adult had a family income below the poverty level. Such families are sometimes subjectively described as the "working poor." Countywide in 2014, it is estimated that 61% of families below the poverty level had at least one working adult and 39% did not having any.

Mean and median family income increased 26% and 24% respectively between 2000 and 2009. The "Great Recession" resulted in the stagnation of mean family income and the decrease of median family income for the period between 2009 and 2014. Mean family income increased by just 1.1 percent and median family income decreased by 0.9 percent.

Enmily Type	Poverty Rate			
Family Type	2000	2014		
All Families	8.7%	11.4%		
Families with children(1)	13.8%	15.8%		
Married Couples	6.4%	7.8%		
Single Females	32.3%	30.9%		
Single Males	21.8%	19.5%		
Families without children	4.3%	6.9%		
Notes				

(1) Related children under 18 years.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census

U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 5-Year American Community Survey

# CHARACTERISTICS ASSOCIATED WITH POVERTY

Unemployment, poor housing conditions, and overcrowding are among the characteristics that are often associated with conditions of poverty. The table in the right column includes some of these statistics for all of Broward County, taken from recent 2014 estimates.

## **COST OF HOUSING**

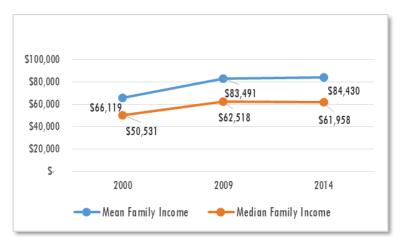
Families who pay more than 30% of their income for housing are considered cost burdened and may have difficulty affording necessities such as food, clothing, transportation and medical care. This index has changed since it was first developed in the 1940's after the creation of the US National Housing Act (1937) when income limits began to be used to determine rent and mortgage rates. In 1940 the index was 20% of income, by 1969 it had increased to 25% of family income. Today the index typically used is 30%. The rate of 35% shown in the table illustrate percentage of families that are well above the typical housing affordability measure.

(census.gov/hhes/www/housing/special-topics/files/who-can-afford.pdf)

## WHAT AREAS OF THE COUNTY HAVE HIGHER CONCENTRATIONS OF POVERTY?

The map below illustrates census block groups with different percentages of poverty levels. The average rate of poor households per block group for Broward County is 13.9%. Block groups with rates below 14% are shown in the green areas. They represent areas with lower rates of poor households. Higher rates of poor households, between 14% and 29% appear in purple. The highest concentrations (above 29%) of poor households are in orange. These block groups are primarily located east of the Interstate 95 corridor, west of Dixie Highway. Natural breaks were used to develop the thresholds used in the map. For more information see the Technical Appendix on pages 5 and 6.

## **FAMILY INCOME 2000 TO 2014**



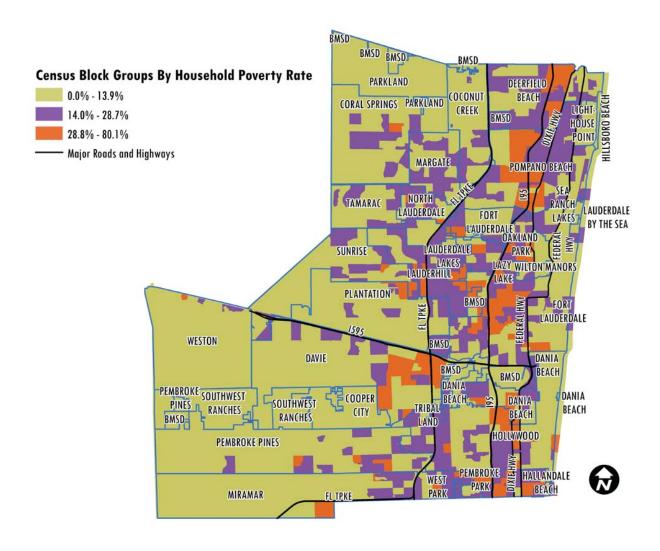
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census; U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 5-Year American Community Survey

Countywide Poverty Characteristics	2014 Estimates
Educational Attainment:	
% Persons that did not graduate high school	12.1%
Linguistic Isolation:	
% Persons who do not speak English very well	15.1%
Labor Force Status:	
% persons unemployed <sup>(1)</sup>	5.8%
Joblessness:	
% Families with no workers	16.8%
Overcrowding:	
% Housing units with > 1.5 persons per room	0.8%
Public Assistance:	
% Households receiving public assistance	1.8%
Costs of Housing:	
% Households paying more than 35 $%$ of income for	
mortgage	39.6%
% Households paying more than 35 % of income for	F1 (6)
rent	51.6%
Notes	

(1) Based on 2014 annual average of unemployment for Broward County.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census; U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 5-Year American Community Survey

## CENSUS BLOCK GROUPS BY HOUSEHOLD POVERTY RATE



Disclaimer: The U.S. Census Bureau data from the American Community Survey are estimates used to provide population characteristics and are not official counts as provided by the decennial censuses.

## **TECHNICAL APPENDIX**

TABLE 1: COMPARATIVE POVERTY RATES

	Inc	Individual Poverty Rate				Family Poverty Rate				
Area	1990	2000	2009	2014	1990	2000	2009	2014		
U.S.	13.1%	12.4%	13.5%	15.6%	10.0%	9.2%	9.9%	11.5%		
Florida	12.7%	12.5%	13.2%	16.7%	9.0%	9.0%	9.5%	12.2%		
Broward	10.2%	11.5%	11.7%	14.6%	7.1%	8.7%	8.5%	11.4%		
Miami-Dade	17.9%	18.0%	16.9%	20.5%	14.2%	14.5%	13.5%	16.9%		
Palm Beach	9.3%	9.9%	11.5%	14.6%	6.2%	6.9%	8.0%	10.5%		

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 5-Year American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 5-Year American Community Survey

TABLE 2: POVERTY LEVEL BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

Race/Ethnicity	Persons Below Poverty Level, 2014
White, Non-Hispanic	27.4%
Black, Non-Hispanic	39.2%
Other Races, Non-Hispanic	8.8%
Hispanic	24.6%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 5-Year American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 5-Year

TABLE 3: FAMILY POVERTY, 2000-2014

Family Type	2000	2014	Change	Growth
All Families	411,403	422,787	11,384	2.8%
with related children < 18 years	191,804	210,972	19,168	10.0%
Families with Female Householder, no husband	81,818	104,226	22,408	27.4%
with related children < 18 years	47,190	65,212	18,022	38.2%
Families Below Poverty Level	35,964	48,081	12,117	33.7%
with related children < 18 years	26,534	33,436	6,902	26.0%
Families with Female Householder, no husband	17,158	24,761	7,603	44.3%
with related children < 18 years	15,243	20,149	4,906	32.2%

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 5-Year American Community Survey

TABLE 4: POVERTY THRESHOLD(S) FOR 2014 BY FAMILY SIZE AND NUMBER OF RELATED CHILDREN

	Related children under 18 years									
Size of Family Unit	Average Thresholds	None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	>Eight
One person (unrelated individual)	12,071									
< 65 years	12,316	12,316								
> 65 years	11,354	11,354								
Two people	15,379									
Householder < 65 years	15,934	15,853	16,317							
Householder > 65 years	14,326	14,309	16,256							
Three people	18,850	18,518	19,055	19,073						
Four people	24,230	24,418	24,817	24,008	24,091					
Five people	28,695	29,447	29,875	28,960	28,252	27,820				
Six people	32,473	33,869	34,004	33,303	32,631	31,633	31,041			
Seven people	36,927	38,971	39,214	38,375	37,791	36,701	35,431	34,036		
Eight people	40,968	43,586	43,970	43,179	42,485	41,501	40,252	38,953	38,622	
Nine people or more	49,021	52,430	52,685	51,984	51,396	50,430	49,101	47,899	47,601	45,768

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 5-Year American Community Survey

TABLE 5: FAMILY POVERTY, 2000-2014

Block Group Count	Household Poverty Rate Ranges	Total Households	Total Households Below Poverty Level	Average Household Poverty Rate				
Block groups with household poverty rates less than Broward County household poverty rate (13.9 %)								
514	0.0 % - 13.8 %	382,968	26,554	6.7%				
Block groups with household poverty rates greater than Broward County household poverty rate (13.9 %)								
325	14.0 % - 28.7 %	225,809	44,544	20.0%				
101	28.8 % - 80.1 %	58,801	21,511	37.7%				

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates