

ST. LUCIE

COUNTY PROFILE

UNITED STATES CENSUS BUREAU (2000)

Median household income	\$36,363
Family households with related children younger than age 18	22,746
Family households with related children younger than age 5	8,646
Family households below poverty level with related children younger than age 5	1,704
Families below 150% Federal Poverty Level.....	9,197
Families below 185% Federal Poverty Level.....	12,593
Families below 185% Federal Poverty Level with related children younger than age 5	3,643
Families with female householder (<i>no husband present</i>)	7,961
Families with female householder (<i>no husband present</i>) below poverty level with related children younger than age 5.....	1,104
Grandparents responsible for grandchild younger than age 18.....	1,890
Percentage of high school graduates and higher	77.7
Language spoken at home other than English	
Spanish	13,807
Indo-European languages	9,404
Asian and Pacific Island languages	1,288
All other languages	589

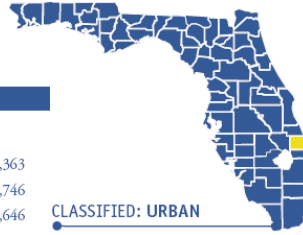
OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH, THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE*

County population	211,898
Number of children in the county population.....	50,966
Number of children in the county population younger than age 5	11,847
Number of minority children in the county population younger than age 5 ...	3,212

	2001	2003	2005
CHILD CARE FOOD PROGRAM			
Number of participating child care centers and homes	45	39	42
GOLD SEAL ACCREDITATION			
Number of child care centers and homes meeting state accrediting standards	16	20	24
DIRECTOR CREDENTIAL			
Number of credentials awarded.....	0	93	21
TITLE XXI CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SERVICES NETWORK			
Number of enrolled children (<i>birth to 18 years</i>) with special health care needs from low-income families	117	212	169
WIC			
Infants (<i>birth to less than 12 months</i>) receiving nutritional services.....	1,514	1,778	1,959
Children (<i>1 to 5 years</i>) receiving nutritional services.....	3,130	3,323	3,235
EARLY STEPS			
Children (<i>birth to 36 months</i>) receiving early intervention infant/toddler services.....	278	352	393
PRE-K DISABILITIES			
Children (<i>37 months to 5 years</i>) receiving early intervention preschool age services.....	230	219	241

*2003 estimates

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CLASSIFIED: URBAN

In 2000, St. Lucie County ranked 195th of the 500 largest public school districts in the United States (Census, 2000). For the number of all persons living in poverty in Florida, the county ranked among the lowest and only second to one other county, the county ranked 66th (7.4%). For those younger than age 5 living in poverty, St. Lucie County ranked 67th in the state with the lowest percentage of all young children living in poverty at 10% (Census, 2000). Interestingly, residents in households earned less than the state median household income in 2000 of \$38,819, approximately \$2,500 less per year.

T.E.A.C.H.

Teacher Education And Compensation Helps

	2001	2003	2005
Number of scholarships awarded	72	69	103

Number of scholarships by training institution

<i>Aposolic "Wee Care" Assistance Assoc.</i>	0	0	4
<i>Central Florida Institute of Training</i>	n/a	0	3
<i>ChildCare Education Institute</i>	n/a	n/a	2
<i>Florida Atlantic University</i>	1	0	0
<i>Indian River Community College</i>	71	69	93
<i>Tallahassee Community College</i>	0	0	1

Number of scholarships by recipient's affiliation

<i>Non-profit</i>	22	19	10
<i>For profit</i>	26	20	62
<i>Head Start</i>	23	30	28
<i>Public</i>	1	0	0
<i>Faith-based</i>	0	0	3

Local Contributors to T.E.A.C.H. Program

The Early Learning Coalition has contributed funding to provide for additional scholarships in this county.

FAMILY REQUESTS FOR SERVICES

	2001	2003	2005
Requests for Child Care Referrals	830	788	542
Requests for Other Information and/or Services	163	533	1,197
Full Time: (more than 30 hours a week)	608	675	443
Part Time: (30 hours or less a week)	78	107	64
Odd Hour Care: (includes evening, weekend and overnight care)	118	160	126
Infant Care: (6 weeks to 12 months)	214	167	129
1-year-olds: (12 months to 24 months)	143	145	119
2-year-olds: (24 months to 36 months)	157	135	100
3-year-olds: (36 months to 48 months)	121	134	90
4-year-olds: (48 months to 60 months)	88	101	87
5-year-olds: (not in Kindergarten)	88	86	41
School-age: (Kindergarten through elementary school)	228	320	151



AFFORDABILITY*

	2001	2003	2005
CHILD CARE CENTERS			
Birth-12 months	\$105	\$120	\$125
1-year-olds	\$104	\$105	\$120
2-year-olds	\$94	\$100	\$110
3-year-olds	\$88	\$91	\$100
4-year-olds	\$88	\$90	\$100
Elementary school-age	\$85	\$90	\$95
LICENSED FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES			
Birth-12 months	\$100	\$120	\$125
1-year-olds	\$90	\$100	\$100
2-year-olds	\$90	\$100	\$100
3-year-olds	\$90	\$100	\$100
4-year-olds	\$90	\$100	\$100
Elementary school-age	\$85	\$80	\$85
REGISTERED FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES			
Birth-12 months	\$100	\$100	\$120
1-year-olds	\$85	\$95	\$110
2-year-olds	\$85	\$95	\$110
3-year-olds	\$85	\$90	\$110
4-year-olds	\$85	\$90	\$100
Elementary school-age	\$85	\$85	\$90

*Cost of child care 75th percentile by age group full time per week

A family of four in St. Lucie County with a gross income of \$38,700 (200% of Federal Poverty Level), would spend 28% of their income on child care for an infant and a 3-year-old in a child care center.

AVAILABILITY

	2001		2003		2005	
	# of Programs	Capacity	# of Programs	Capacity	# of Programs	Capacity
Licensed Programs (total)	111	7,187	106	6,732	103	6,746
Secular Centers	64	5,425	56	4,966	57	4,995
Faith-Based Centers	10	634	10	634	9	615
School-Age Only	11	900	11	900	11	900
Family Child Care Homes (FCCH)	26	228	29	232	26	236
Large FCCH	0	0	0	0	0	0
Exempt Programs (total)	71	3,940	80	4,414	92	4,011
Secular Centers	0	0	3	214	3	450
Faith-Based Centers	7	646	7	727	6	581
School-Age Only	16	2,854	17	2,814	16	2,269
Registered FCCH	33	263	42	345	56	446
Pre-K Early Intervention Only	15	177	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
School-Based Pre-K	n/a	n/a	11	314	11	265
Head Start Programs (total)	25	455	7	586	15	726
Head Start	25	455	7	586	14	686
Early Head Start	0	0	n/a	n/a	1	40
TOTAL	207	11,582	193	11,732	210	11,483