

## Florida Poverty Rates for 2010

- Since the recession began in 2007, Florida has seen the largest increase in poverty in the nation.
- 3 million Floridians, roughly 1 in 6 people, were living below poverty levels in 2010.
- In 2010, close to 1 in 4 children in the state were living in poverty.

**Poverty Rates for Florida, 2007-2010<sup>i</sup>**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	Increase 2007-2010
<b>Total</b>	12.1%	13.3%	14.9%	16.5%	4.4
<b>Child</b>	16.6%	18.0%	21.0%	23.5%	6.9
<b>Family</b>	8.6%	9.5%	10.7%	12.0%	3.4

Source: American Community Survey

Note: The poverty threshold for a family of 4 in 2010 = \$22,050 in annual income.

Children under 18 years old continue to have the highest poverty rate. 30.3% of all people living in poverty are children under 18 years of age.

**Poverty Rates in Florida by Age, 2007-2010**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	Increase 2007-2010
<b>17 and under</b>	16.6%	18.0%	21.0%	23.5%	6.9
<b>18-64</b>	11.0%	12.2%	16.2%	16.0%	5.0
<b>65+</b>	9.4%	10.4%	10.1%	9.9%	0.5

In Florida, African Americans have a poverty rate 2.5 times that for Whites. African Americans also had the largest increase in poverty since 2007, followed by Hispanics.

**Poverty Rates in Florida by Race and Ethnicity, 2007-2010**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	Increase 2007-2010
<b>African Americans</b>	22.3%	22.0%	26.8%	28.6%	6.3
<b>Hispanics</b>	16.0%	17.8%	19.0%	21.8%	5.8
<b>Non-Hispanic Whites</b>	8.3%	9.5%	10.5%	11.5%	3.2

More women than men live in poverty than Florida, although men have seen a greater increase during the recession due probably to the larger job losses that men have experienced.

**Poverty Rates in Florida by Gender, 2007-2010**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	Increase 2007-2010
<b>Female</b>	13.3%	14.3%	16.0%	17.3%	4.0
<b>Male</b>	10.8%	12.1%	13.8%	15.7%	4.9

Poverty rates reflect the most critical need but are not a good measure of a family's ability to meet their basic needs for food, shelter, health care, education, and transportation. For this reason it is common to use a measure that is twice the poverty line to get a more realistic picture of the share of the population that is able to be self-sufficient. In 2010 twice the poverty line for a family of four was approximately \$44,100 in annual income.

**Ratio to Poverty in Florida, 2007-2010**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	Increase 2007-2010
<b>Below 200% of poverty</b>	31.4%	32.5%	35.8%	37.6%	6.2
<b>Below 150% of poverty</b>	21.5%	22.8%	25.2%	27.2%	5.7
<b>Below poverty line</b>	12.1%	13.2%	14.9%	16.5%	4.4

Florida has seen an increase in poverty well above that of the United States since 2007. Florida's poverty rate was below the U.S. rate in 2007, but is now above the U.S. average of 15.1%.

**Poverty in Florida and U.S., 2007-2010**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	Increase 2007-2010
<b>Florida</b>	12.1%	13.3%	14.9%	16.5%	4.4
<b>U.S.</b>	13.0%	13.3%	14.3%	15.3%	2.3

<sup>i</sup> The poverty rates measured by the American Community Survey and the Current Population Survey may differ because of the period in which the data were collected. The 2010 data shown here were collected from July 2009 to June 2010, while the CPS 2010 data (not reported) were collected during March 2010. The American Community Survey is preferred for state level data because of the larger sample size.