The Coordinating Council of Broward

The CCB: Working Together

The Broward Benchmarks 2008

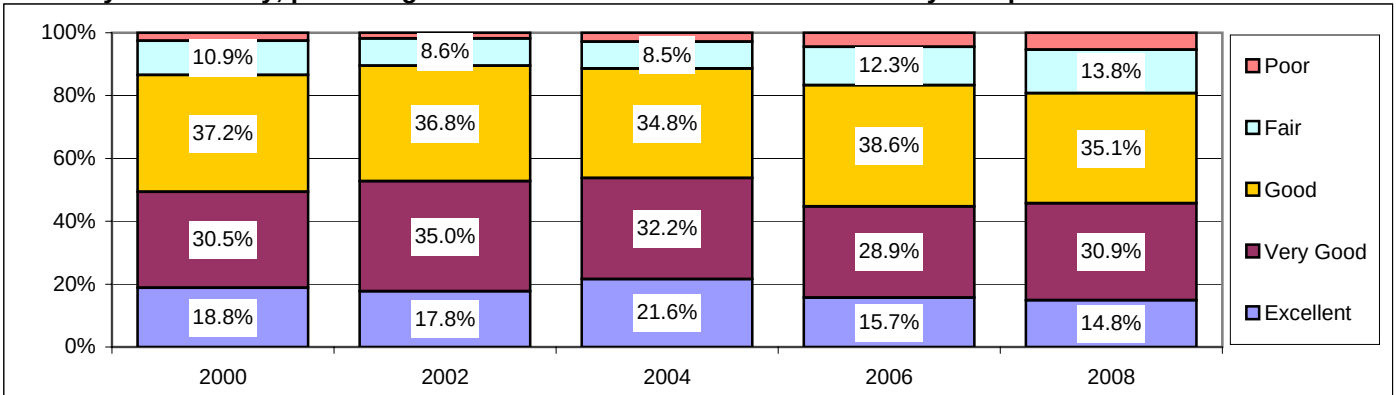
Selected Quality of Life Indicators

Prepared by the South Florida Regional Planning Council

April 2009

Our Families and Communities

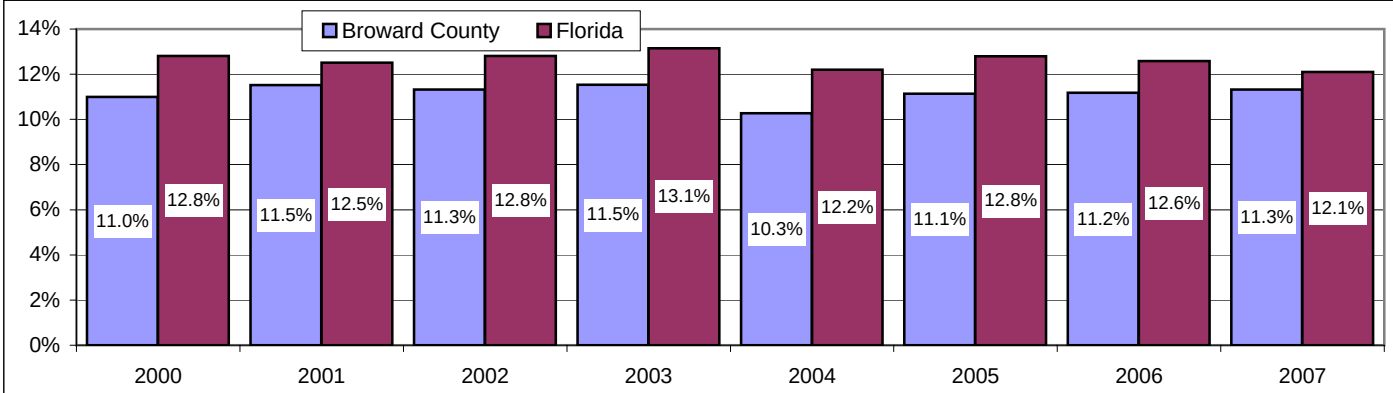
1.1.1 By CCB survey, percentage of adults who describe Broward County as a place to live as …



Source: PRC, Quality of Life Surveys: Broward County, Florida (2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008)

Perception of the quality of life in Broward County remains high - 83.2% of adults describe their quality of life in 2008 as excellent, very good or good. This is lower than the results in 2002 (89.6%) and 2004 (88.6%), possibly affected by recent hurricane activity.

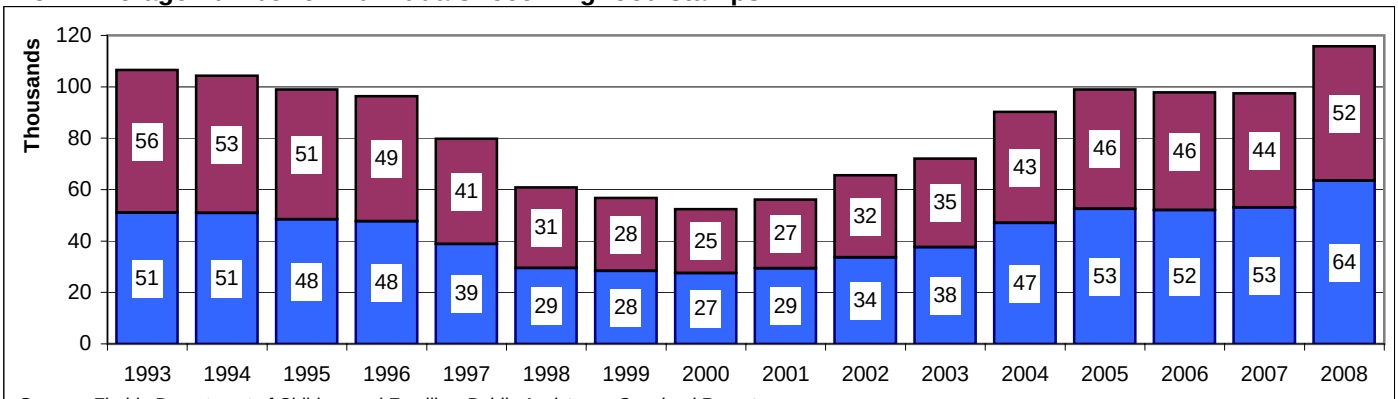
1.3.1 Percentage of people in poverty



Source: Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey (annual).

The proportion of Broward County's population living in poverty has fluctuated between 11.0% and 11.5% since 2000, except in 2004, when it dipped to 10.3%. Broward County's poverty rate is consistently lower than the State's.

1.5.4 Average number of individuals receiving food stamps

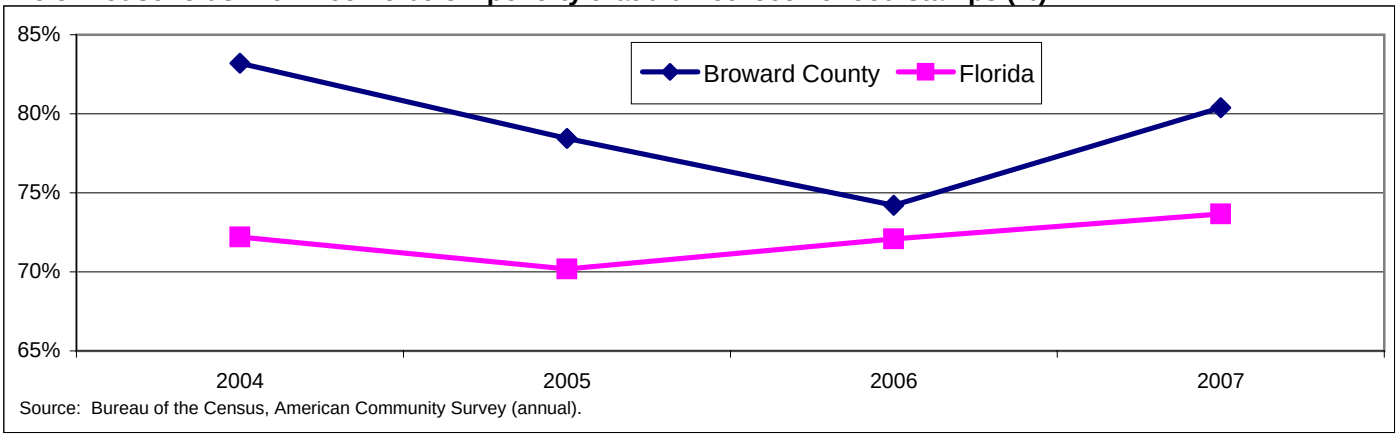


Source: Florida Department of Children and Families, *Public Assistance Caseload Report*.

After reaching a low of 52,414 in 2000, the average annual number of persons receiving food stamps in Broward County rose steadily to 115,720 in 2008. In December 2008, the number had risen to 130,050, and was going up by over 2,500 a month.

Our Families and Communities

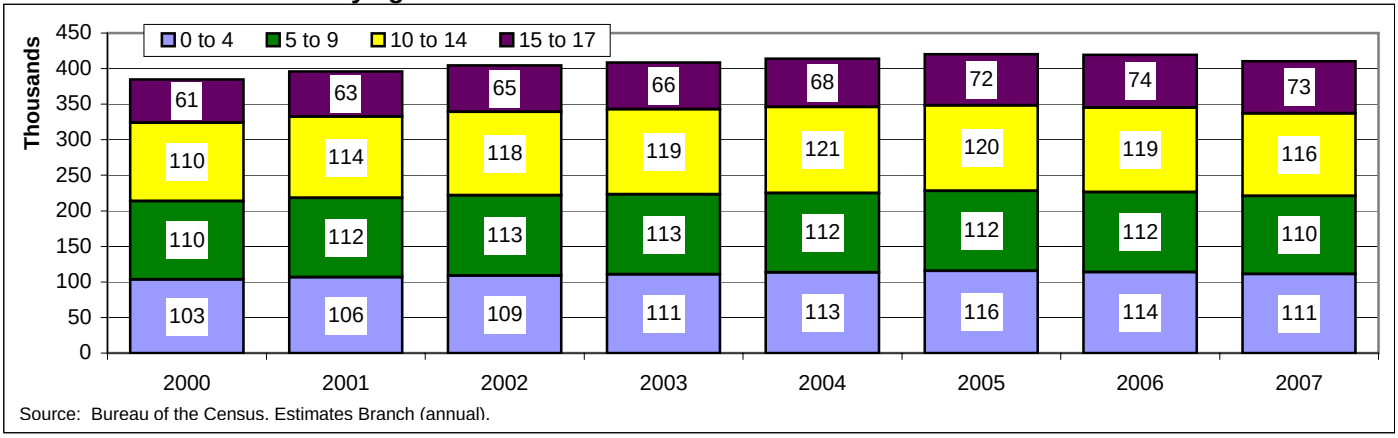
1.5.5 Households with income below poverty that did not receive food stamps (%)



Source: Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey (annual).

Eligibility for food stamps depends on both household income and assets. In 2007, over 55,000 Broward County households (80.4%) with incomes below poverty did not receive food stamps, suggesting a coverage gap. This compared to 73.7% in the State of Florida.

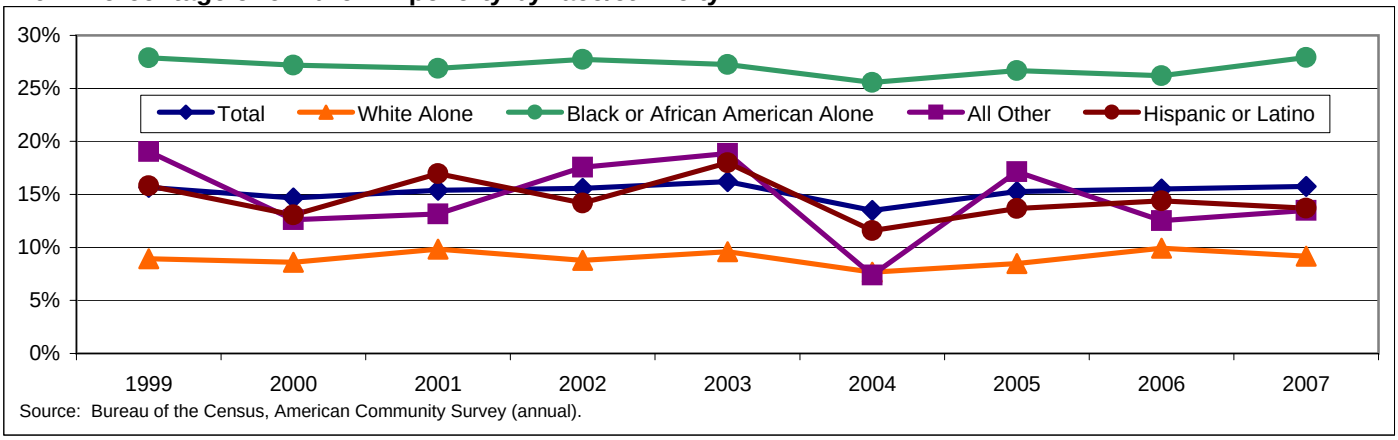
1.6.1 Number of children by age



Source: Bureau of the Census. Estimates Branch (annual).

After years of substantial increases, slowing population growth in Broward County after 2005, and an absolute decline in 2007, have led to a fall in the number of children. Although the 2007 child population decreased, it is almost 8% more than it was in 2000.

1.6.2 Percentage of children in poverty by race/ethnicity

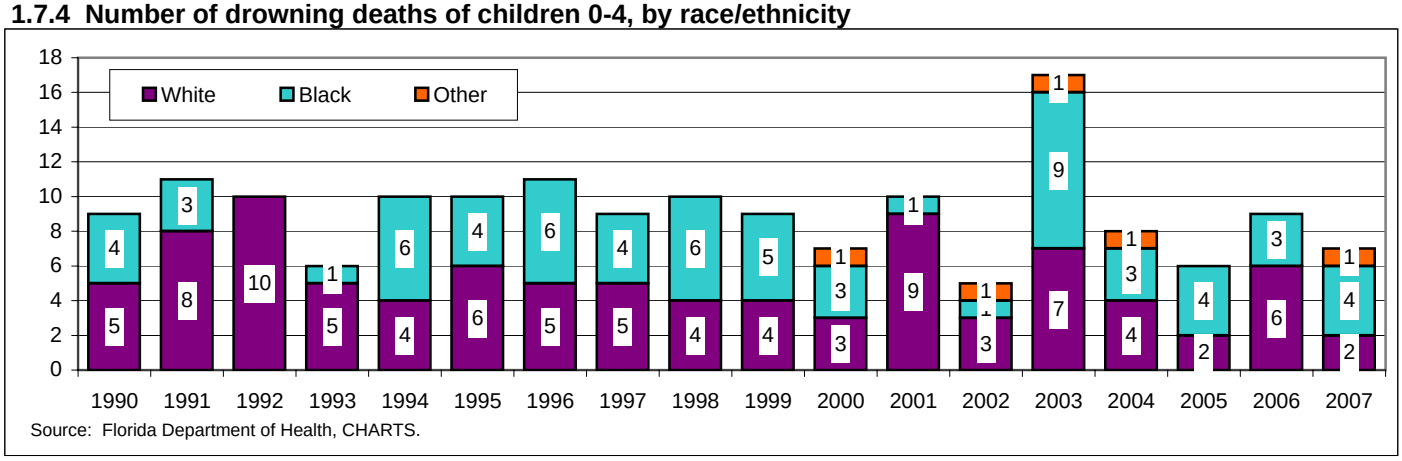


Source: Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey (annual).

In 2007, 15.7% of Broward County's children lived in poverty. Throughout the decade, Black or African American children have been three times as likely as White children to live in poverty. Hispanic children have been slightly below the average.

Our Families and Communities

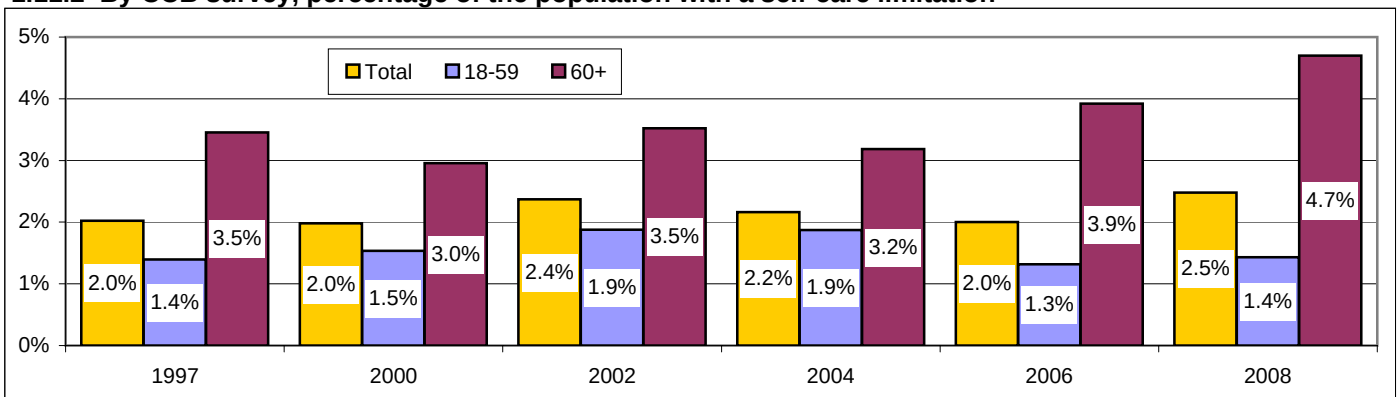
1.7.4 Number of drowning deaths of children 0-4, by race/ethnicity



Source: Florida Department of Health, CHARTS.

The annual number of drowning deaths of children under the age of 5 in Broward County has averaged over 8 since 1990, with a high of 17 in 2003 and a low of 5 in 2002. Young Black children are much more likely to drown than White children.

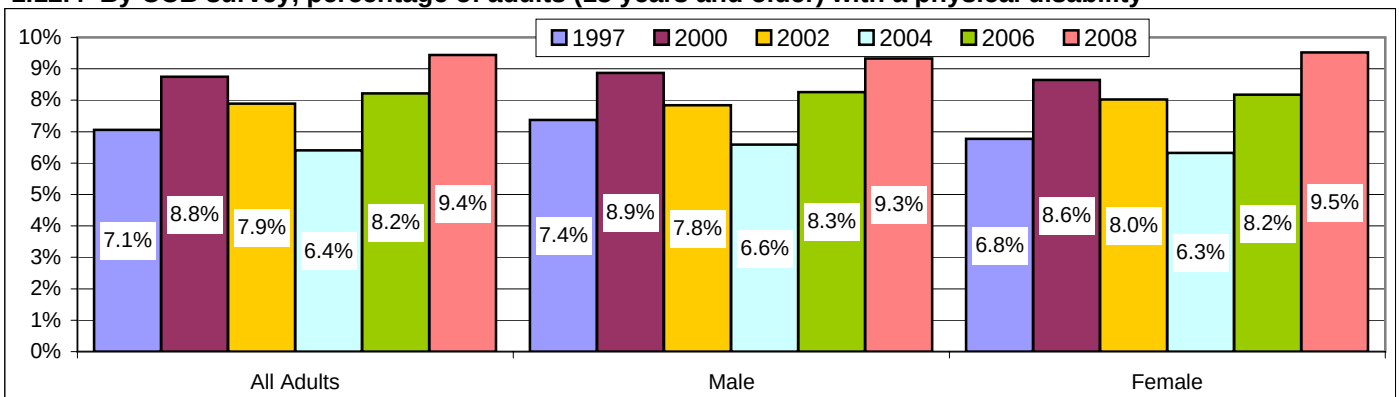
1.11.2 By CCB survey, percentage of the population with a self-care limitation



Source: PRC, Quality of Life Surveys: Broward County, Florida (1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008).

In 2008, 2.5% of Broward County adults had a self-care limitation, up from 2.0% in 2006. The population 60 years and over has had a consistently higher rate, which reached a high of 4.7% in 2008.

1.12.4 By CCB survey, percentage of adults (18 years and older) with a physical disability

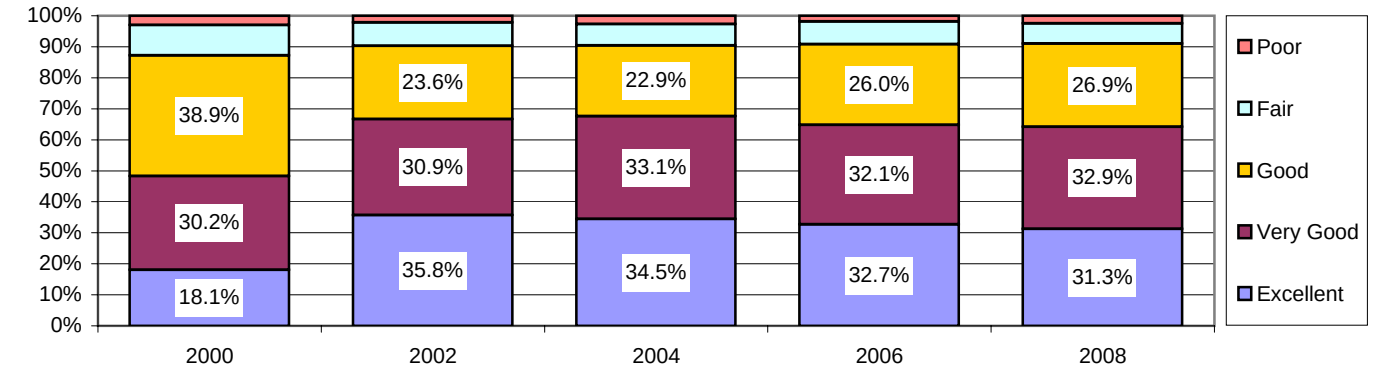


Source: PRC, Quality of Life Surveys: Broward County, Florida (1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008).

Physical disabilities were reported by 9.4% of Broward County adults in 2008, up from a low of 6.4% in 2004. The proportion of males and females with a physical disability does not vary significantly in the different surveys.

Our Families and Communities

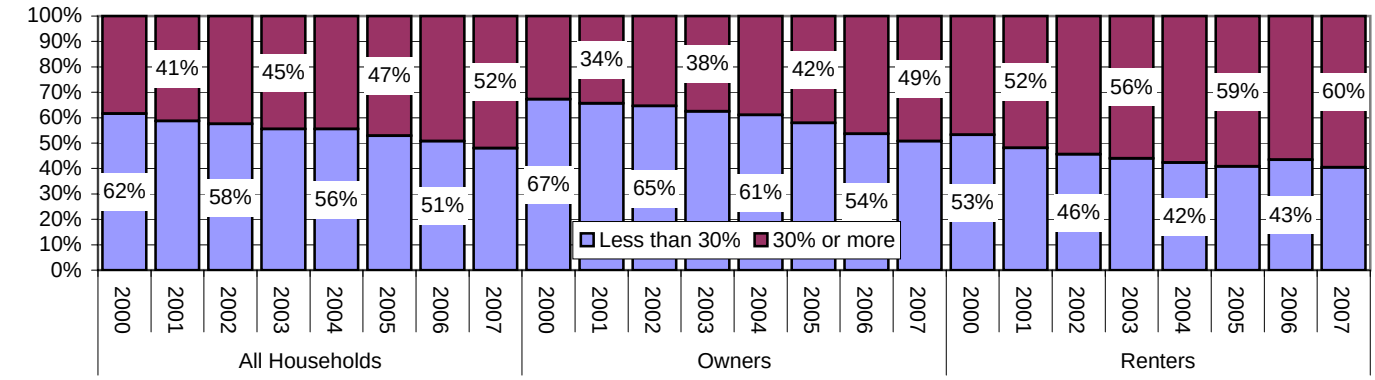
1.13.1 By CCB survey, percentage of adults who describe their neighborhood as a place to live, as …



Source: PRC, Quality of Life Surveys: Broward County, Florida (2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008).

In 2008, nine out of ten Broward County adults described their local community as an excellent, very good or good place to live; almost two-thirds felt their communities were excellent or very good. These results have been more or less consistent since 2002.

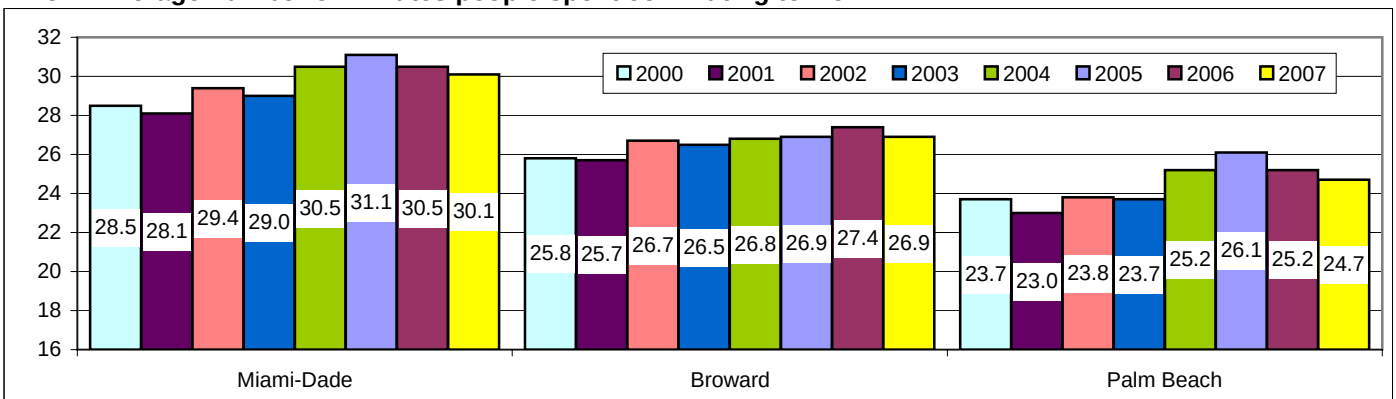
1.14.1 Percentage of Broward County households spending 30% or more of their income on housing



Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey (annual).

As housing prices in Broward County rose dramatically over the past seven years, the proportion of households spending 30% or more of household income on housing also rose. In 2007, 49% of owners and 60% of renters spent 30% or more of their income on housing.

1.15.2 Average number of minutes people spent commuting to work

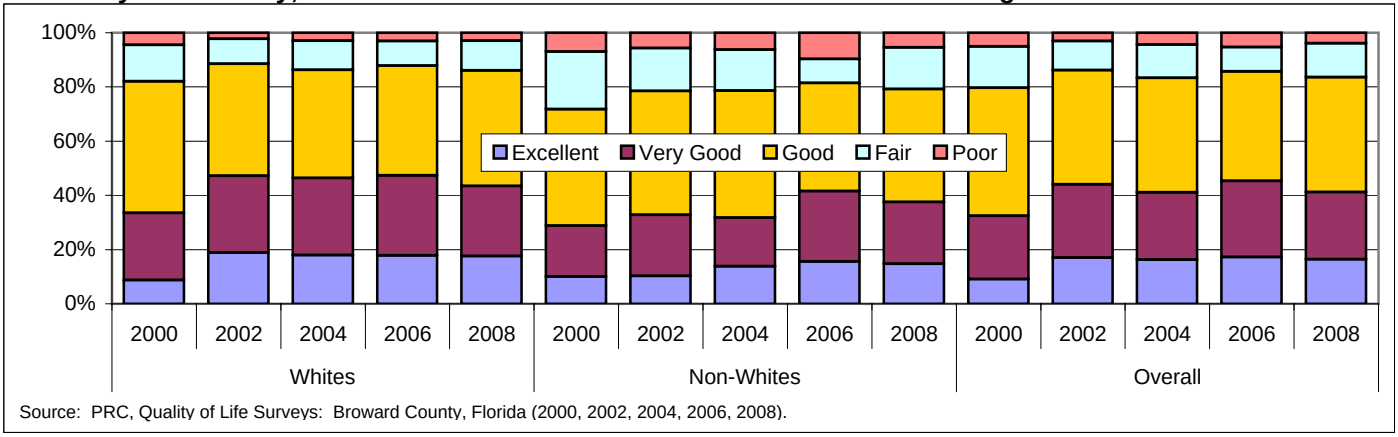


Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey (annual).

Congestion on South Florida's highways continues to worsen, leading to rising commute times. In 2007, the average commute time for Broward County residents was 26.9 minutes, up by 1.1 minutes since 2000, and 1.6 minutes above the national average.

Our Families and Communities

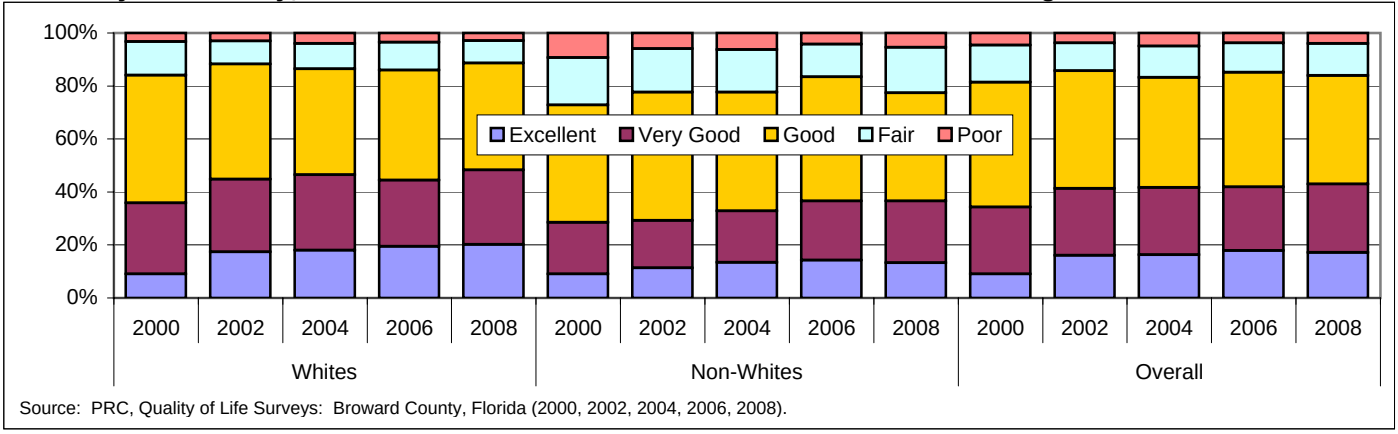
1.16.1 By CCB survey, % of adults who believed that race relations in their neighborhood were …



Source: PRC, Quality of Life Surveys: Broward County, Florida (2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008).

In 2008, 83.6% of adults in Broward County felt that race relations in their neighborhood were excellent, very good or good, up from 79.7% in 2000, but down from 86.2% in 2002. Whites consistently rate race relations better than non-whites.

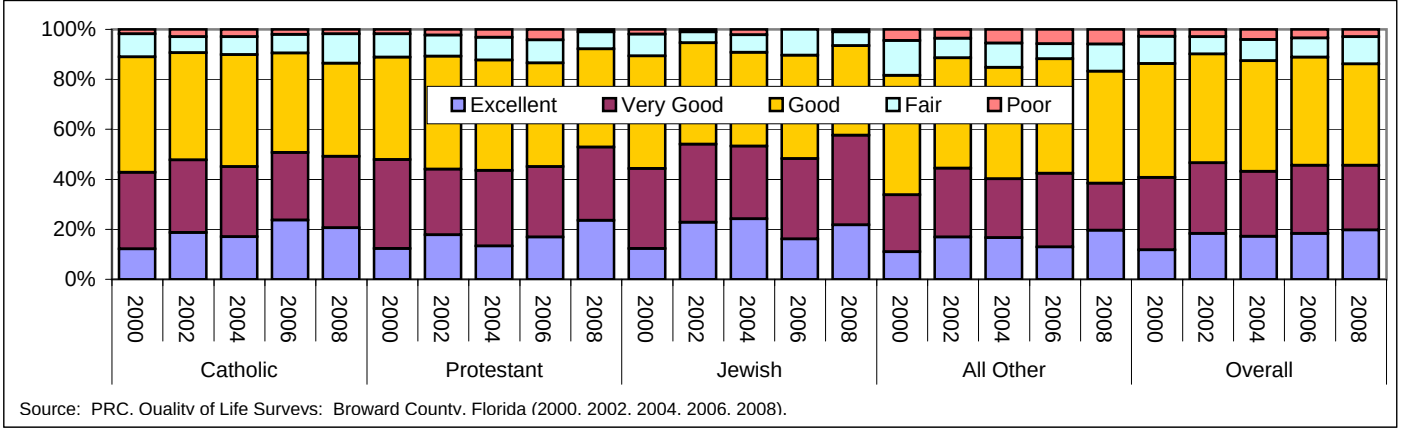
1.17.1 By CCB survey, % of adults who believed that cultural relations in their neighborhood were …



Source: PRC, Quality of Life Surveys: Broward County, Florida (2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008).

In 2008, 83.9% of adults in Broward County felt that cultural relations in their neighborhood were excellent, very good or good, down from a high of 85.8% in 2002, but up from 81.4% in 2000. Whites consistently rate cultural relations better than non-whites.

1.18.1 By CCB survey, % of adults who believed that religious relations in their community were …

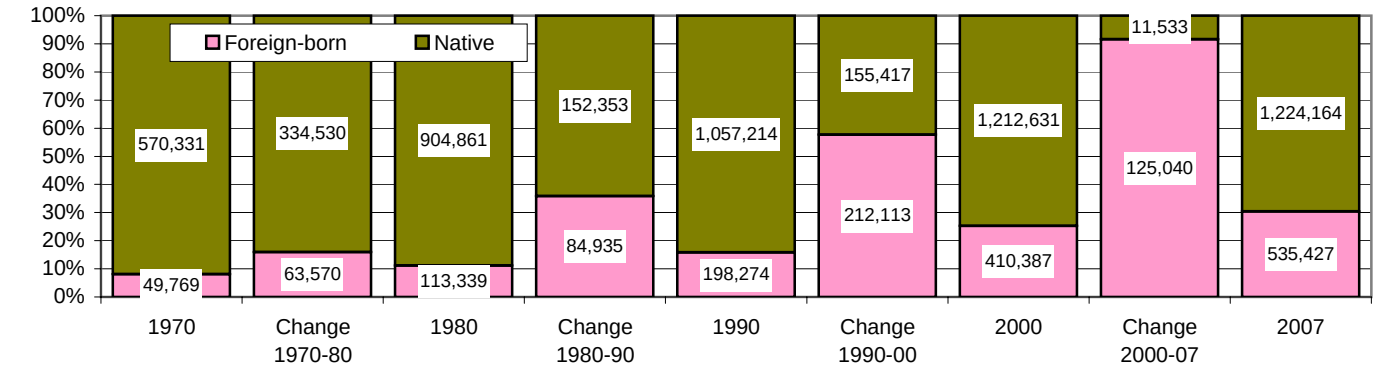


Source: PRC, Quality of Life Surveys: Broward County, Florida (2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008).

In 2008, 86.2% of adults in Broward County felt that religious relations in their neighborhood were excellent, very good or good, down from a high of 90.1% in 2002. People of Protestant and Jewish faith rated religious relations in the neighborhood higher in 2008.

Our Families and Communities

1.22.1 Number of net new residents who were born abroad

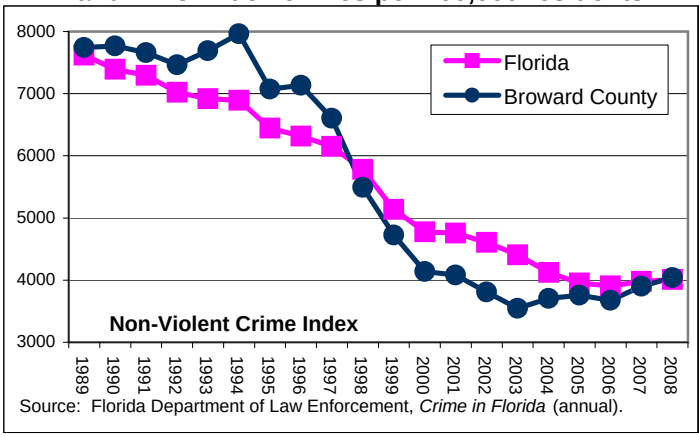


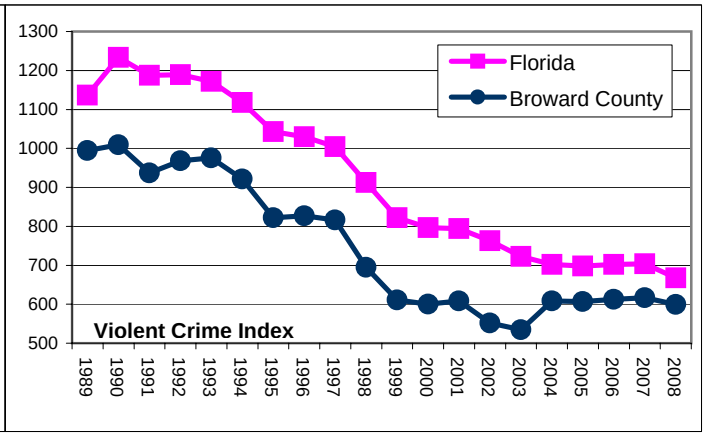
Source: US Bureau of the Census, Decennial Census of Population and Housing (1970, 1980, 1990, 2000), American Community Survey (2007)

Over the three decades between 1970 and 2000, the proportion of Broward County residents who were foreign-born more than tripled from 8.0% to 25.9%. Between 2000 and 2007, nine out of every ten new residents came from abroad.

Our Safety

2.1.2 and 2.1.3 Index crimes per 100,000 residents

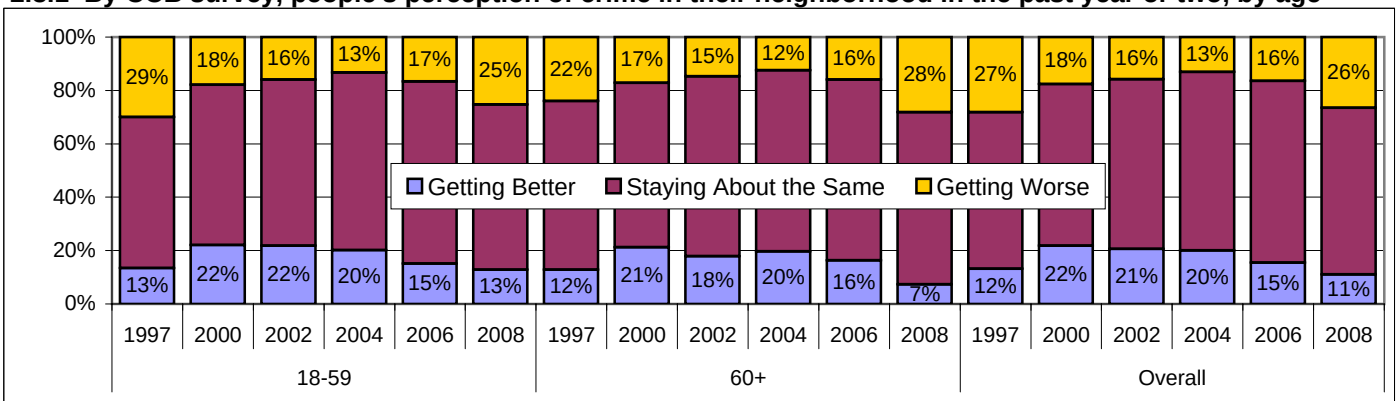




Source: Florida Department of Law Enforcement, *Crime in Florida* (annual).

The non-violent index crime rate in Broward County, which peaked at 7,963 per 100,000 residents in 1994, fell to less than half that in 2002 (3,809), and remained under 4,000 until 2008. Broward's violent crime rate is consistently lower than the state average.

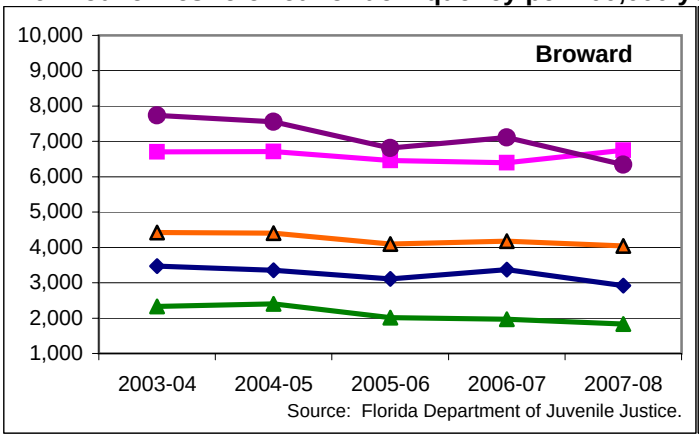
2.3.1 By CCB survey, people's perception of crime in their neighborhood in the past year or two, by age



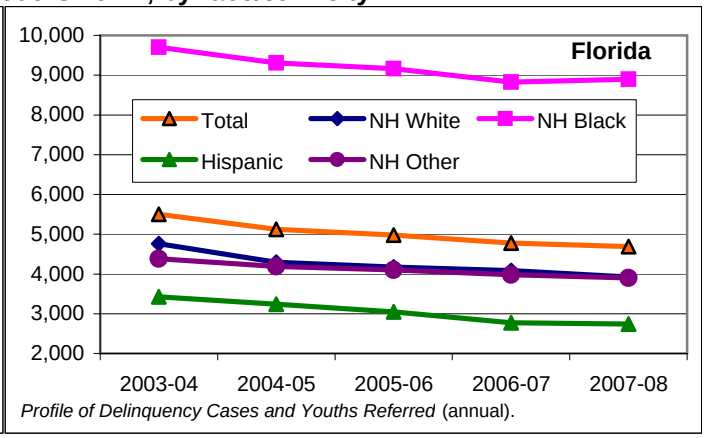
Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys: Broward County, Florida (1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008)

The proportion of Broward County adults who feel that crime in their neighborhoods is getting worse doubled from a low of 13.1% in 2004 to 26.5% in 2008. Those who feel that crime is getting better fell to 11.1% from 20.0% in 2004.

2.6.1 Juveniles referred for delinquency per 100,000 youths 10-17, by race/ethnicity



Source: Florida Department of Juvenile Justice.

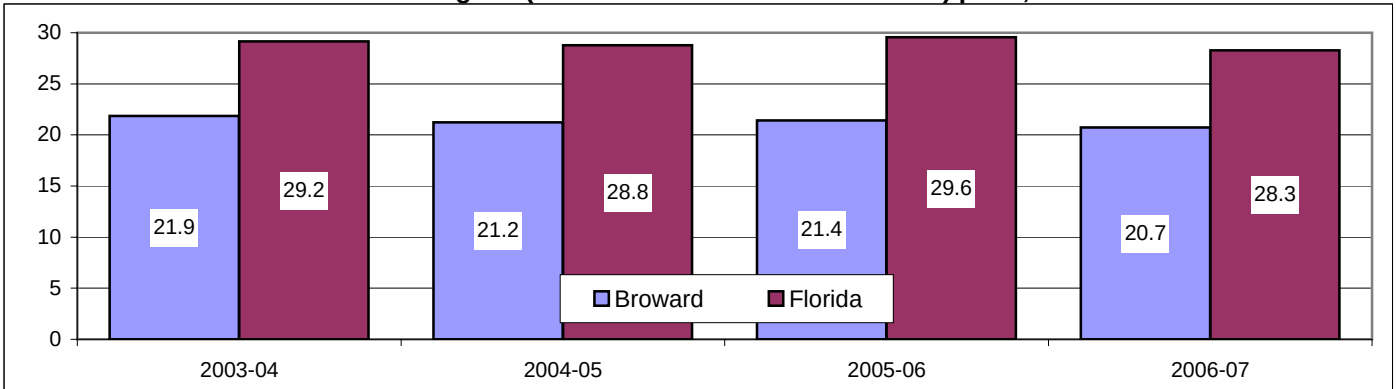


Profile of Delinquency Cases and Youths Referred (annual).

The rate of Broward County juveniles referred for delinquency fell from a high of 4,423 per 100,000 youths in 2003-04 to 4,039 in 2007-08. The referral rate for Black youths in 2007-08 (6,753) was more than twice the rate for White youths (2,923).

Our Safety

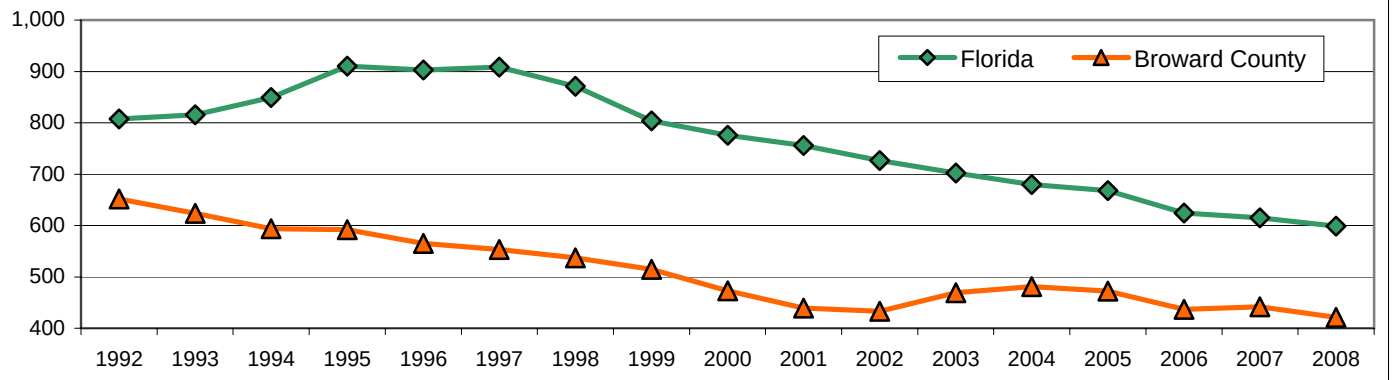
2.8.1 Victims of child abuse and neglect ("verified" and "some indication") per 1,000 children



Source: Florida Department of Children and Families, Family Safety.

The number of victims of child abuse and neglect per 1,000 children has remained substantially lower in Broward County than on average in the rest of the State of Florida since a new tracking system was implemented in 2003-04.

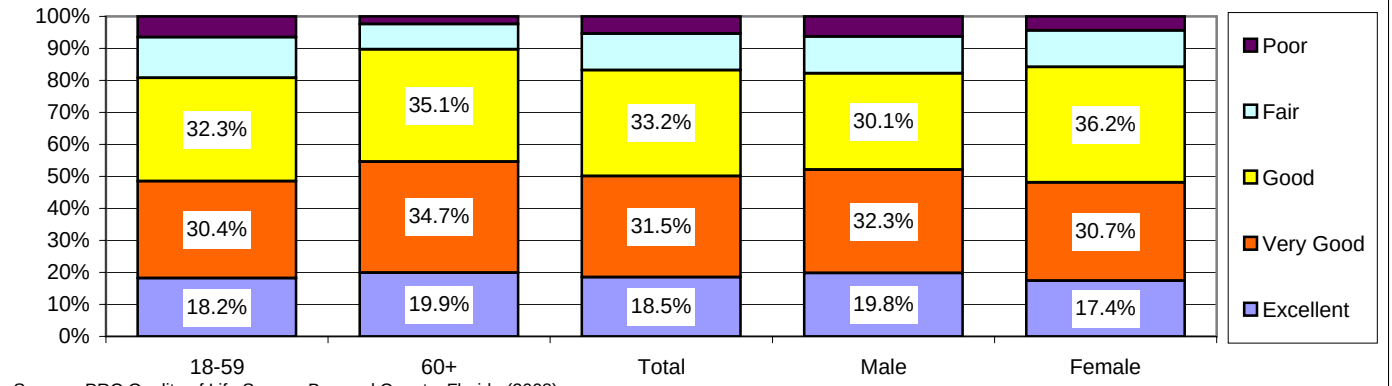
2.9.1 Number of domestic violence incidents reported to law enforcement per 100,000 residents



Source: Florida Department of Law Enforcement, *Crime in Florida* (annual).

Reported incidents of domestic violence in Broward County declined from 652 per 100,000 residents in 1992 to 421 in 2008. The rate in Broward County has remained substantially lower than the state average over the last 16 years.

2.17.1 By CCB survey, perception of the overall performance of local law enforcement agencies (2008)

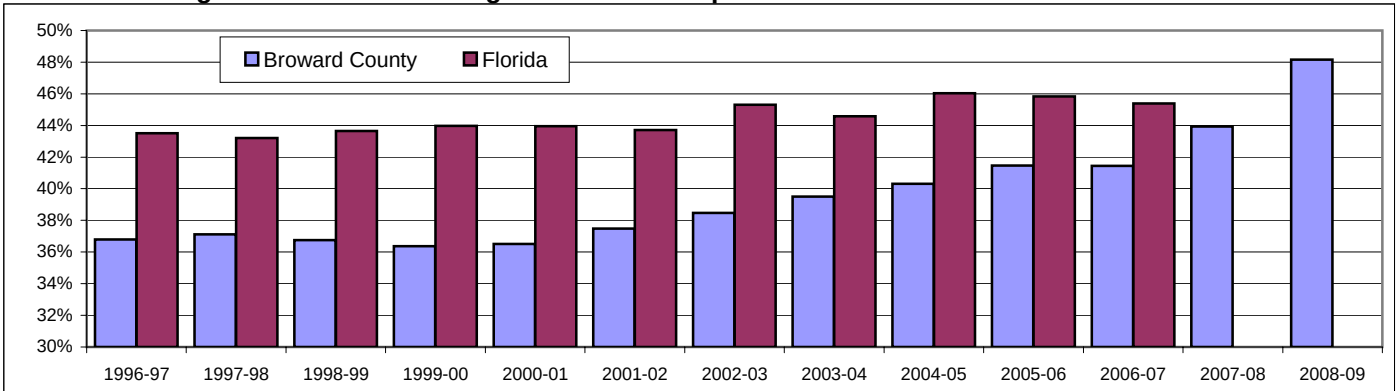


Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey: Broward County, Florida (2008).

In 2008, 83.2% of Broward County residents classified the overall performance of law enforcement agencies as excellent, very good or good. An even higher proportion of older adults (89.7%) gave law enforcement a positive rating.

Our Learning

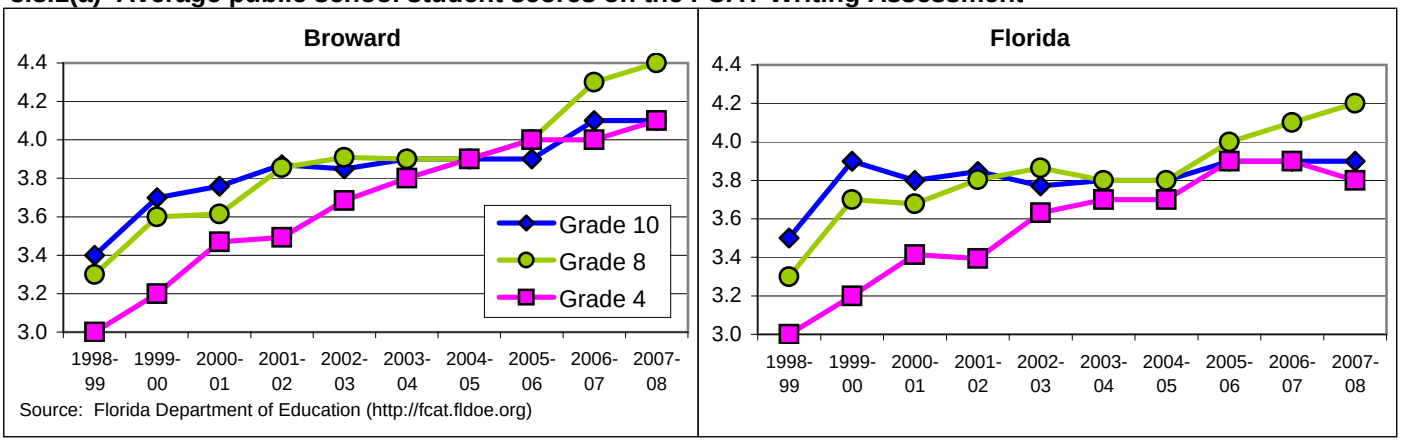
3.1.1 Percentage of students receiving free or reduced-price lunches



Source: Florida Department of Education, *Profiles of Florida School Districts - Student and Staff Data*

The proportion of Broward County students qualifying for free or reduced-price lunches, which remained well below the statewide average through the 1990s, began rising at the beginning of this decade and by 2008-09 reached almost 50%.

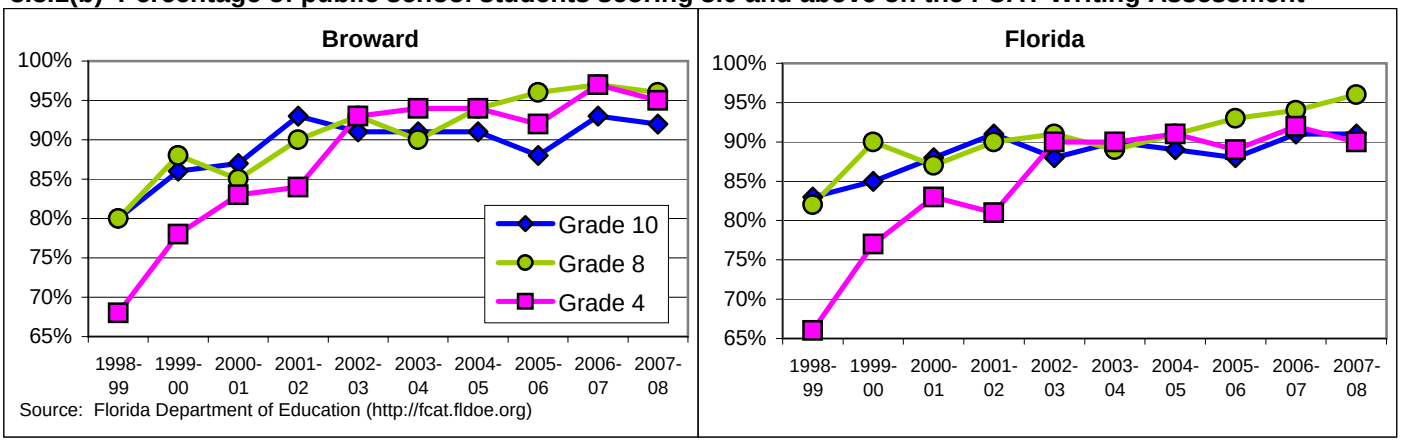
3.3.1(a) Average public school student scores on the FCAT Writing Assessment



Source: Florida Department of Education (http://fcat.fldoe.org)

Average scores on the FCAT Writing Assessment in Broward County rose consistently in all three grades between 1998-99 and 2007-08. Broward results were better than the statewide averages for each grade.

3.3.1(b) Percentage of public school students scoring 3.0 and above on the FCAT Writing Assessment

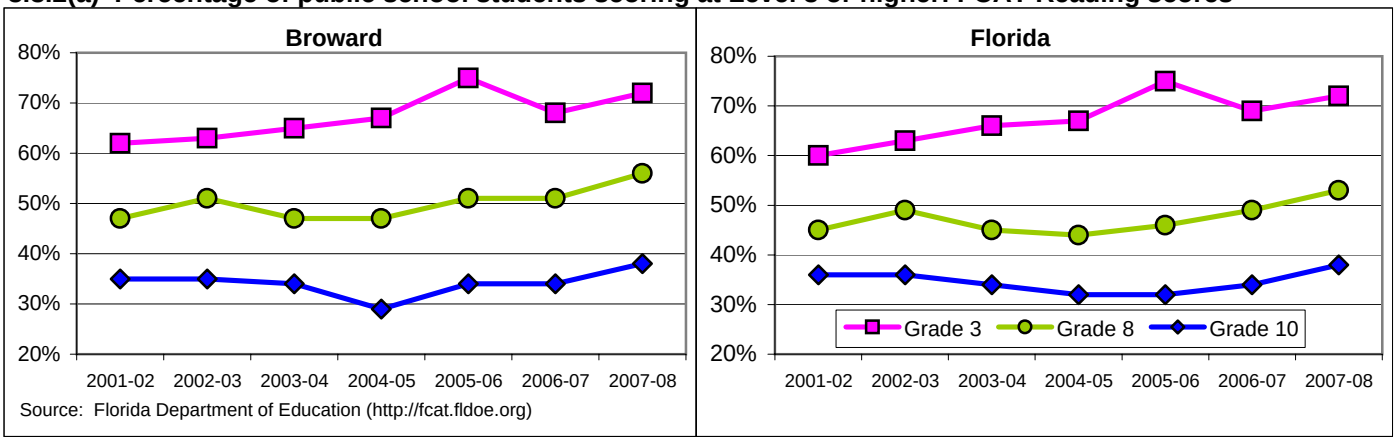


Source: Florida Department of Education (http://fcat.fldoe.org)

The percentage of Broward County students scoring 3.0 or better on the FCAT Writing Assessment rose significantly between 1998-99 and 2006-07, before declining slightly in 2007-08. Broward results were equal to or better than the statewide averages.

Our Learning

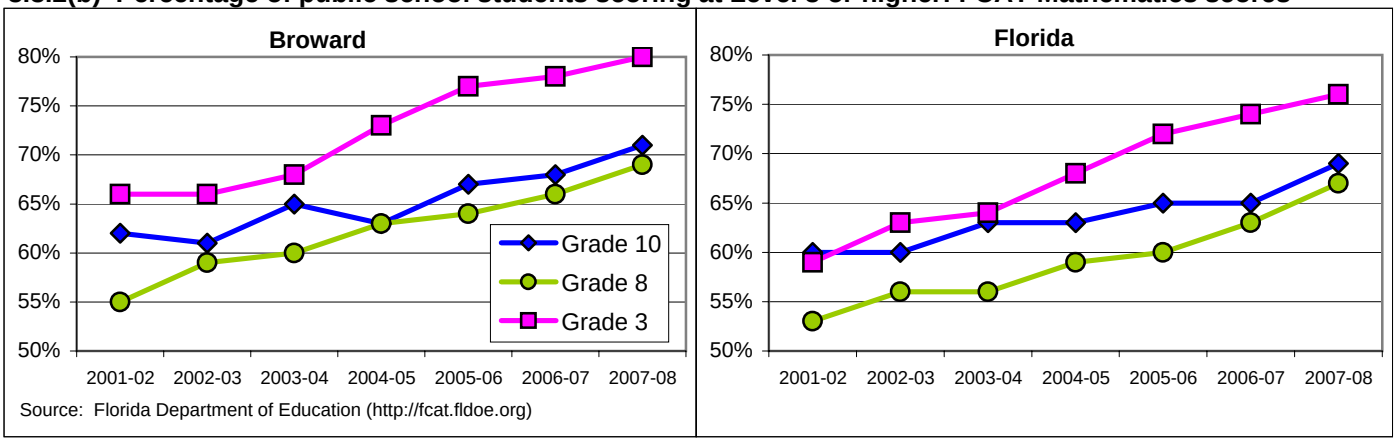
3.3.2(a) Percentage of public school students scoring at Level 3 or higher: FCAT Reading scores



Source: Florida Department of Education (http://fcat.fldoe.org)

The percentage of Broward County students scoring 3.0 or better on the FCAT Reading Assessment, has remained relatively stable in recent years, with small improvements in each grade. Broward results have remained about the same as statewide averages.

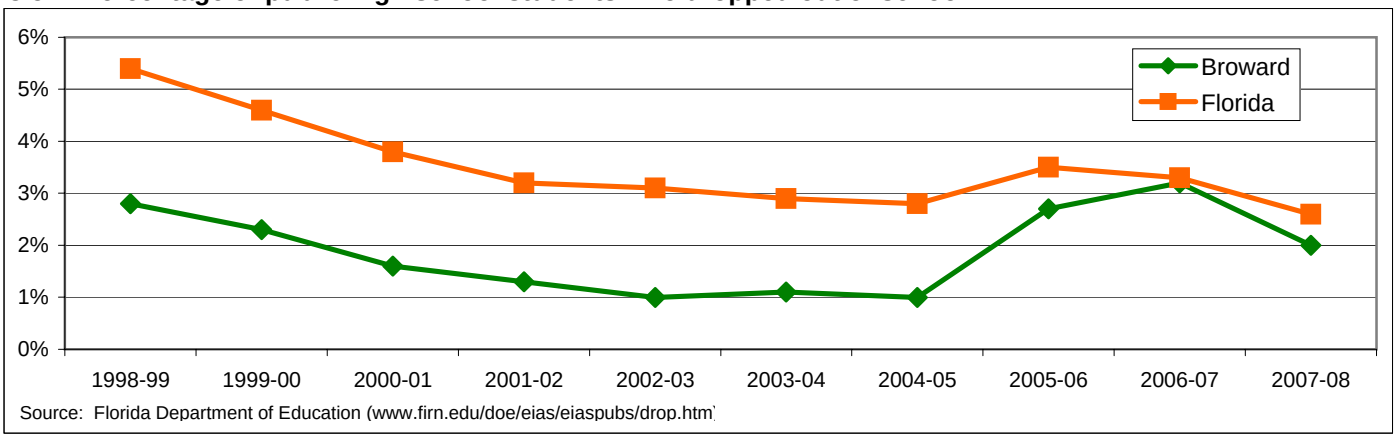
3.3.2(b) Percentage of public school students scoring at Level 3 or higher: FCAT Mathematics scores



Source: Florida Department of Education (http://fcat.fldoe.org)

The percentage of Broward County students scoring 3.0 or better on the FCAT Math Assessment rose significantly between 2001-02 and 2007-08. Broward results were equal to or better than the statewide averages for every grade.

3.5.1 Percentage of public high school students who dropped out of school

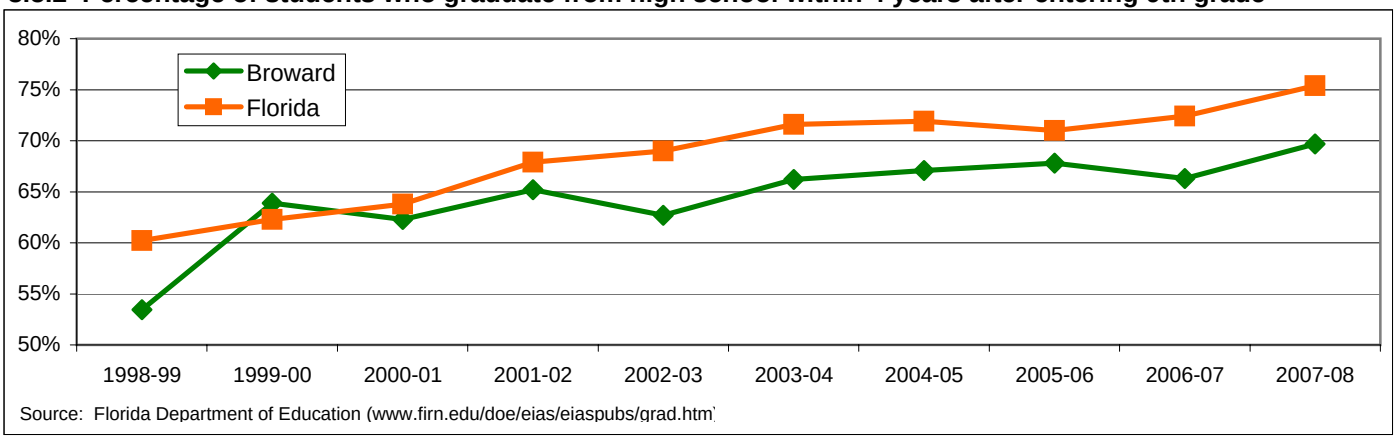


Source: Florida Department of Education (www.firn.edu/doe/eias/eiaspubs/drop.htm)

High school dropout rates declined both in Broward County and statewide in the first half of the decade, but they rose somewhat after reaching a low in school year 2004-05. Broward County rates have remained consistently below the state average.

Our Learning

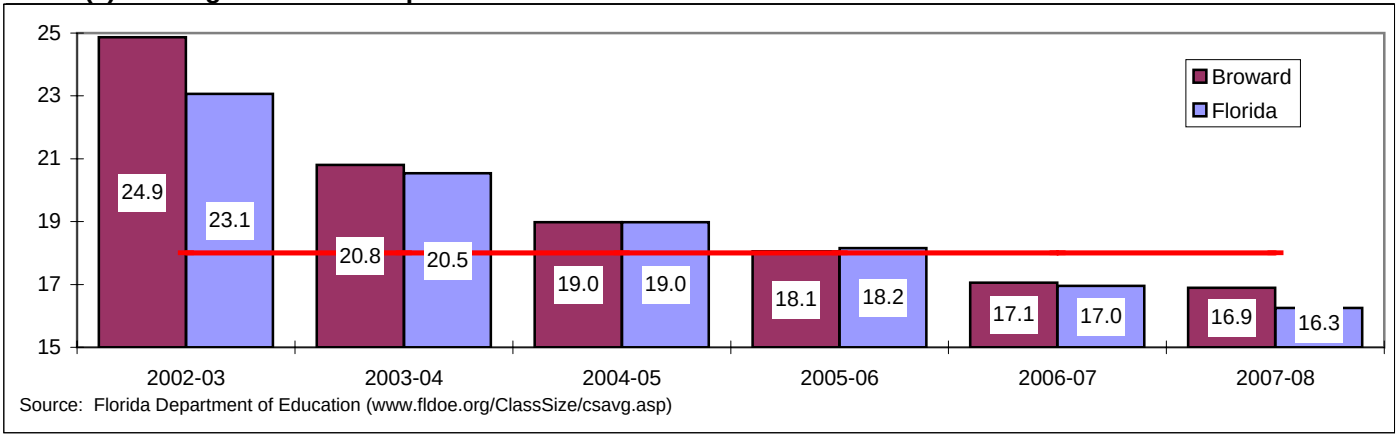
3.5.2 Percentage of students who graduate from high school within 4 years after entering 9th grade



Source: Florida Department of Education (www.firn.edu/doe/eias/eiaspubs/grad.htm)

The graduation rate, which measures the percentage of students entering ninth grade who graduate from high school four years later, has risen from a low of 53.5% in school year 1998-99 to 69.7% in 2007-08. Broward remains below the state average.

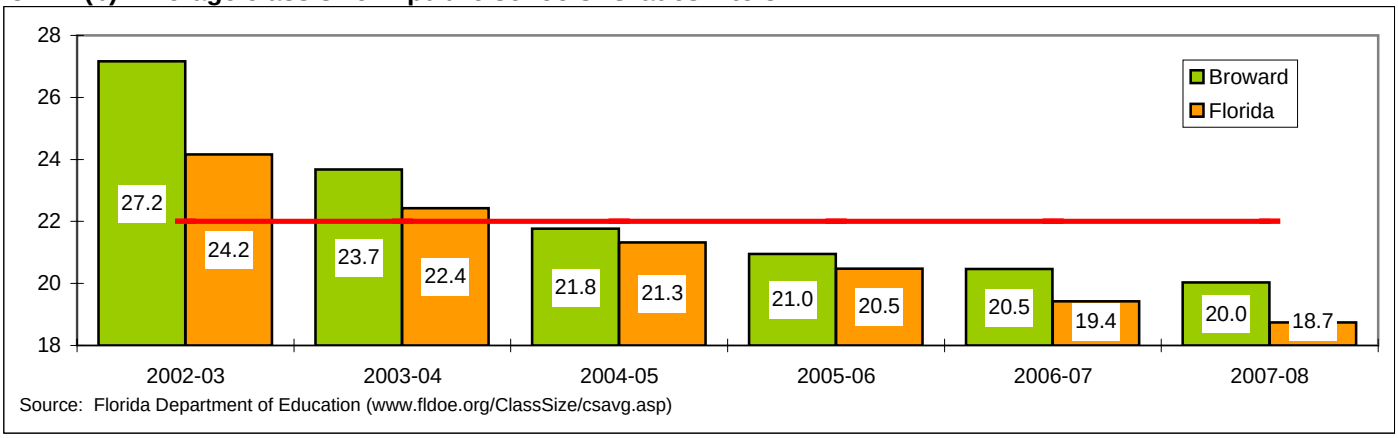
3.17.2(a) Average class size in public schools: Grades Pre-K to 3



Source: Florida Department of Education (www.fldoe.org/ClassSize/csavg.asp)

Broward County Public Schools met the statutory requirements for district-wide class size reduction for Pre-K to Grade 3 schools starting in school year 2006-07, with an average class size of 17.1 students, compared to 24.9 in the baseline year (2002-03).

3.17.2(b) Average class size in public schools: Grades 4 to 8

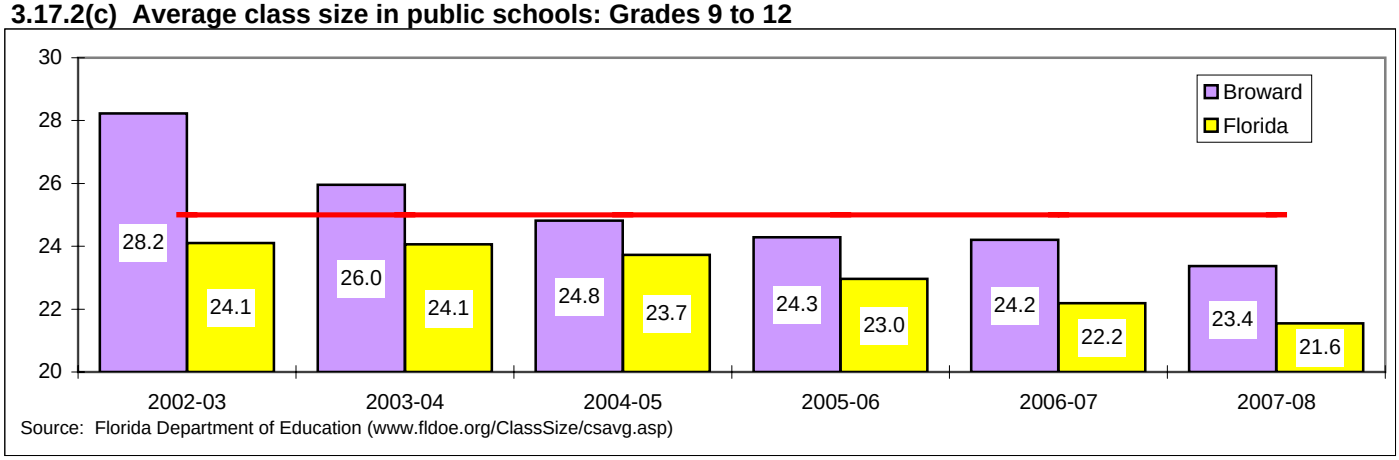


Source: Florida Department of Education (www.fldoe.org/ClassSize/csavg.asp)

Broward County Public Schools met the statutory requirements for district-wide class size reduction for Grade 4 to 8 schools starting in school year 2004-05, with an average class size of 21.8 students, compared to 27.2 in the baseline year (2002-03).

Our Learning

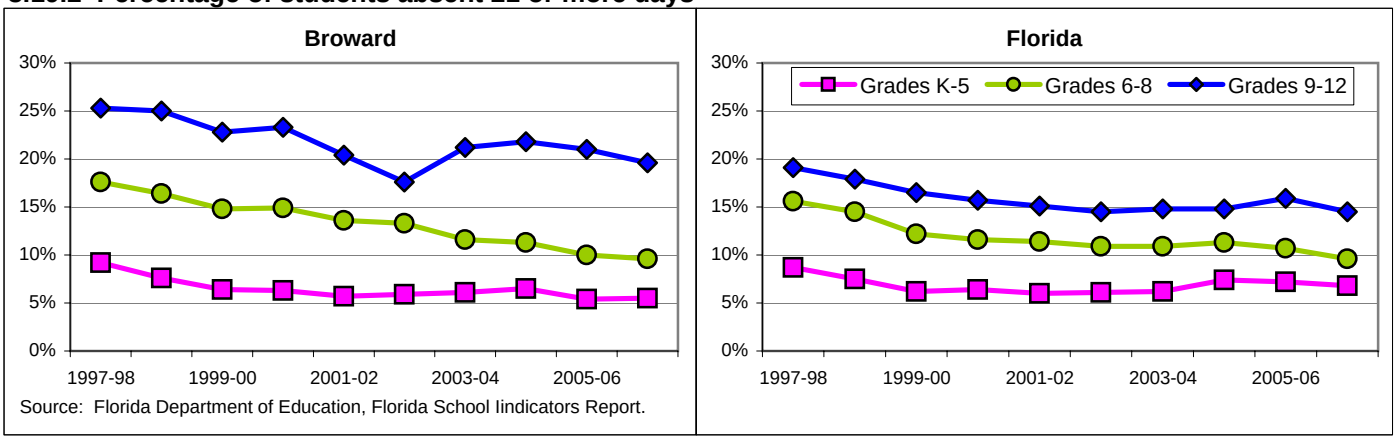
3.17.2(c) Average class size in public schools: Grades 9 to 12



Source: Florida Department of Education (www.fldoe.org/ClassSize/csavg.asp)

Broward County Public Schools met the statutory requirements for district-wide class size reduction for Grade 9 to 12 schools starting in school year 2004-05, with an average class size of 24.8 students, compared to 28.2 in the baseline year (2002-03).

3.19.2 Percentage of students absent 21 or more days

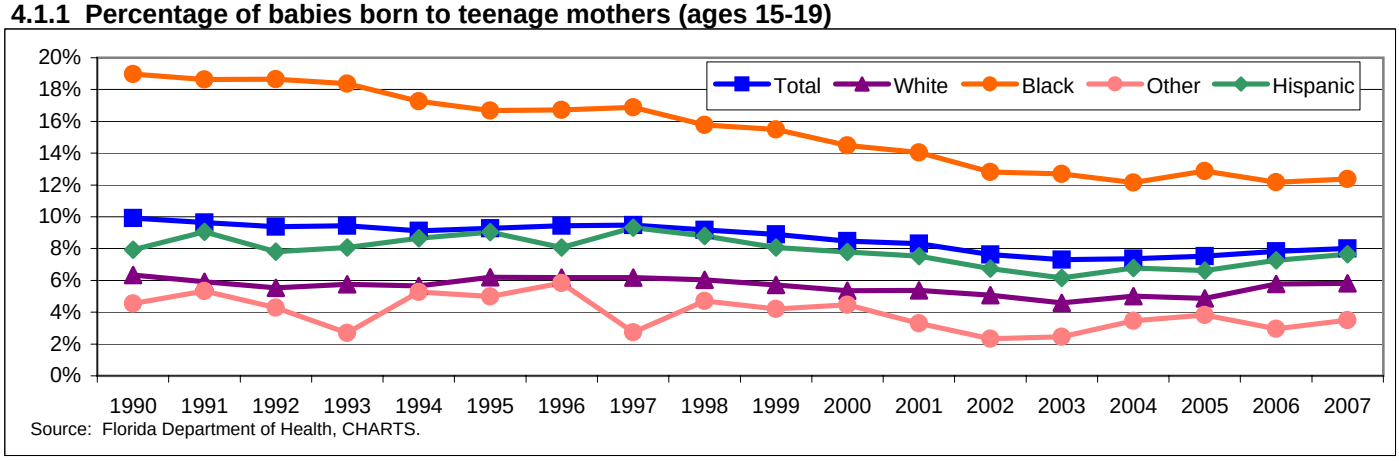


Source: Florida Department of Education, Florida School Iindicators Report.

The percentage of Broward County students who have been absent 21 or more days in the school year has declined consistently for both elementary and middle schools. However, the high school absentee rate remains about 5% above the state average.

Our Health

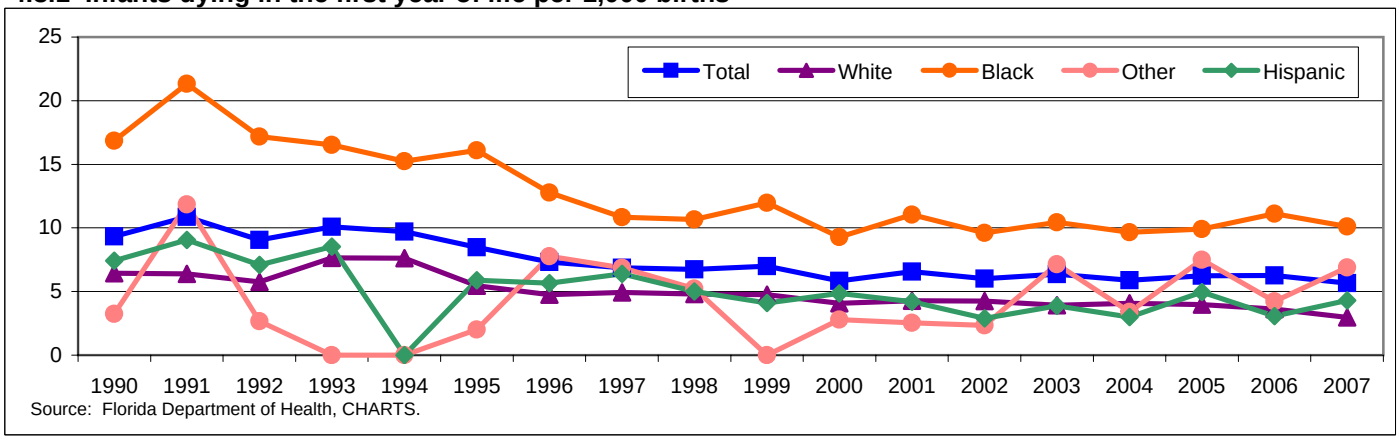
4.1.1 Percentage of babies born to teenage mothers (ages 15-19)



Source: Florida Department of Health, CHARTS.

The percentage of all births to teenage mothers in Broward County fell to a low of 7.3% in 2003, rising to 8.0% in 2007. The proportion of Black teenage mothers fell from a high of 19.0% in 1990 to 12.4% in 2007, still more than twice the rate for White mothers (5.8%).

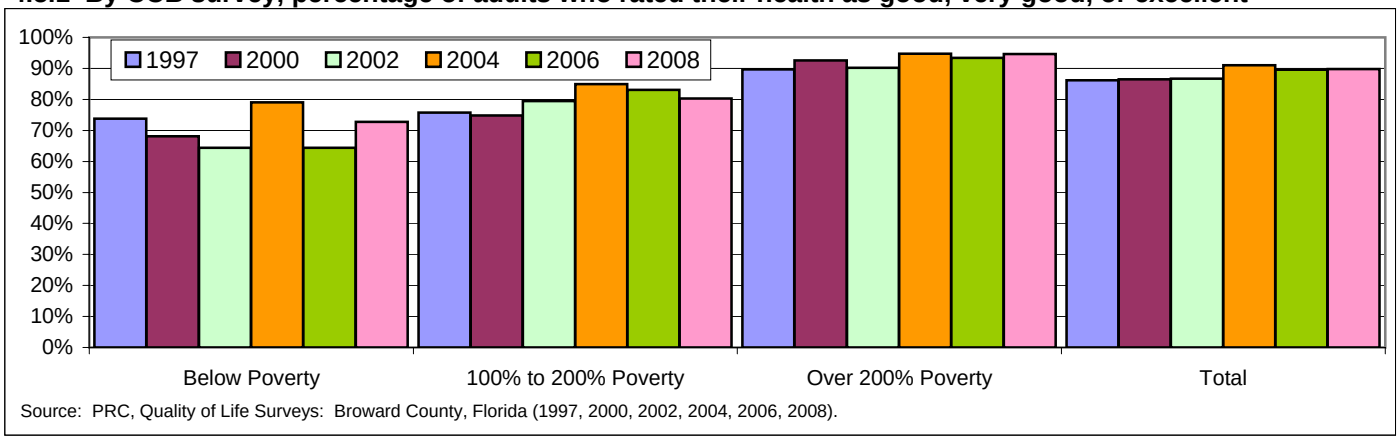
4.3.1 Infants dying in the first year of life per 1,000 births



Source: Florida Department of Health, CHARTS.

The infant mortality rate in Broward County declined from a high of 10.9 per 1,000 live births in 1991 to 5.7 in 2007, which is significantly lower than the Florida average of 7.1. The Black rate (10.1) was more than three times the White rate (3.0) in Broward in 2007.

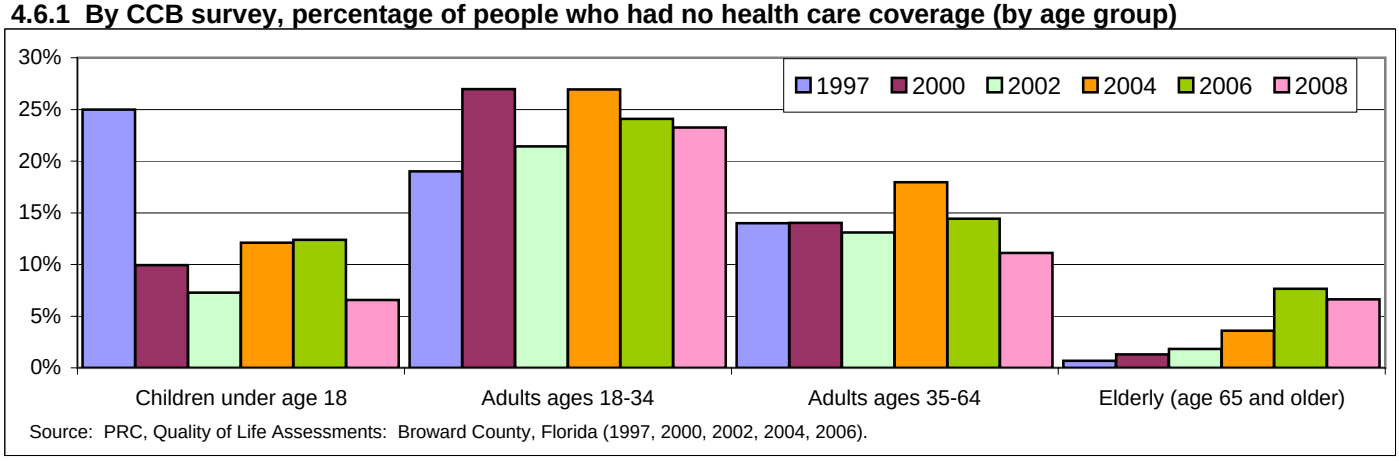
4.5.1 By CCB survey, percentage of adults who rated their health as good, very good, or excellent



Source: PRC, Quality of Life Surveys: Broward County, Florida (1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008).

Health status improves with income - in 2008, 72.7% of adult Broward County residents with income below the poverty level rated their health as excellent, very good or good, well below the rate of 94.6% for those with income above 200% of the poverty level.

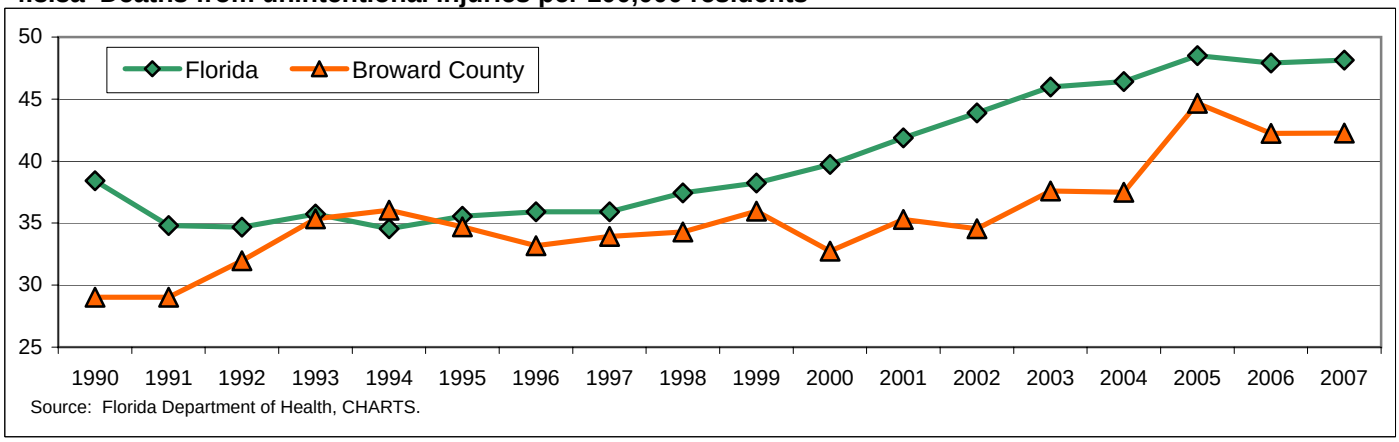
4.6.1 By CCB survey, percentage of people who had no health care coverage (by age group)



Source: PRC, Quality of Life Assessments: Broward County, Florida (1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006).

The share of Broward County population without health insurance is highest among those in the youngest working ages. The rate of uninsured for all adults in 2008 declined to 12.7% from a high of 17.6% in 2004, and the rate for children declined to 6.6%.

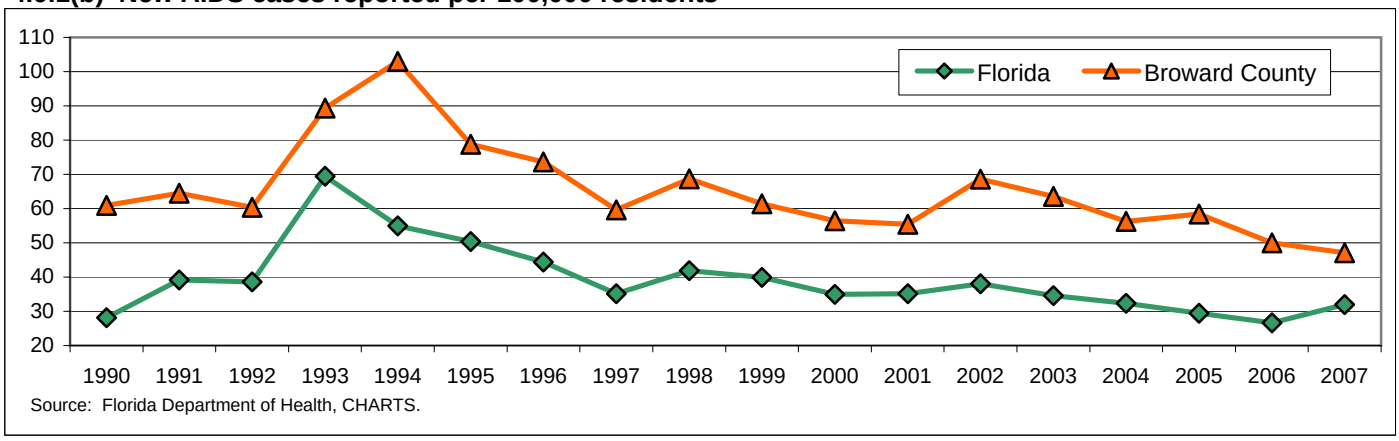
4.8.3a Deaths from unintentional injuries per 100,000 residents



Source: Florida Department of Health, CHARTS.

Broward County deaths from unintended injuries have leveled off after rising significantly in recent years. The rate was 42.3 per 100,000 residents in 2007, down from a high of 44.7 in 2005, and well below the State of Florida average of 48.2 in 2007.

4.9.1(b) New AIDS cases reported per 100,000 residents

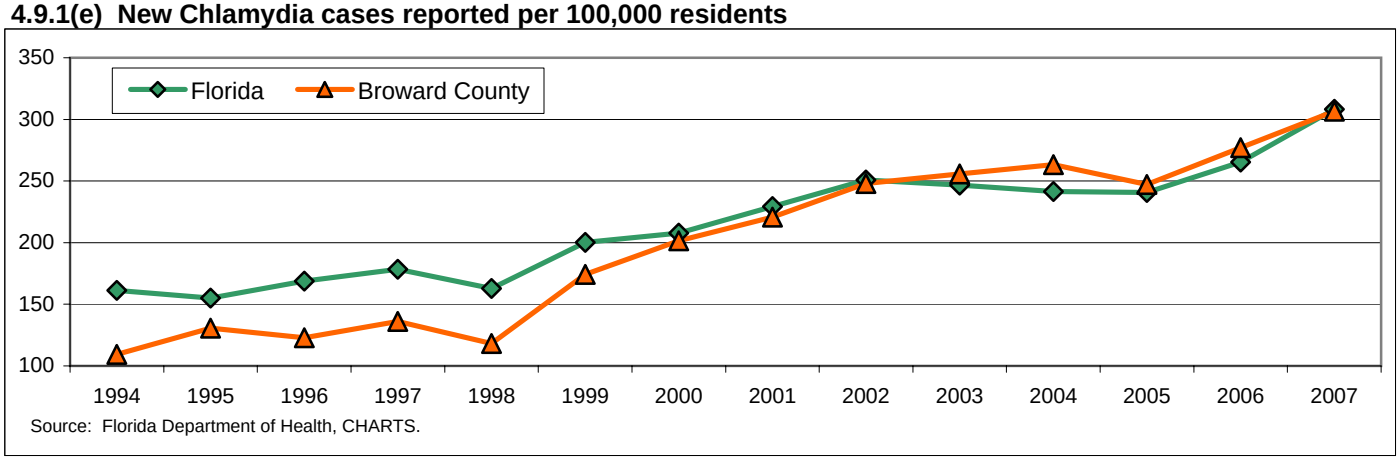


Source: Florida Department of Health, CHARTS.

The rate of new AIDS cases in Broward County in 2007 (47.1 per 100,000 residents) was 48% higher than the average rate for the State of Florida (31.9). The Broward rate in 2007 is less than half of the high reached in 1994 (102.9).

Our Health

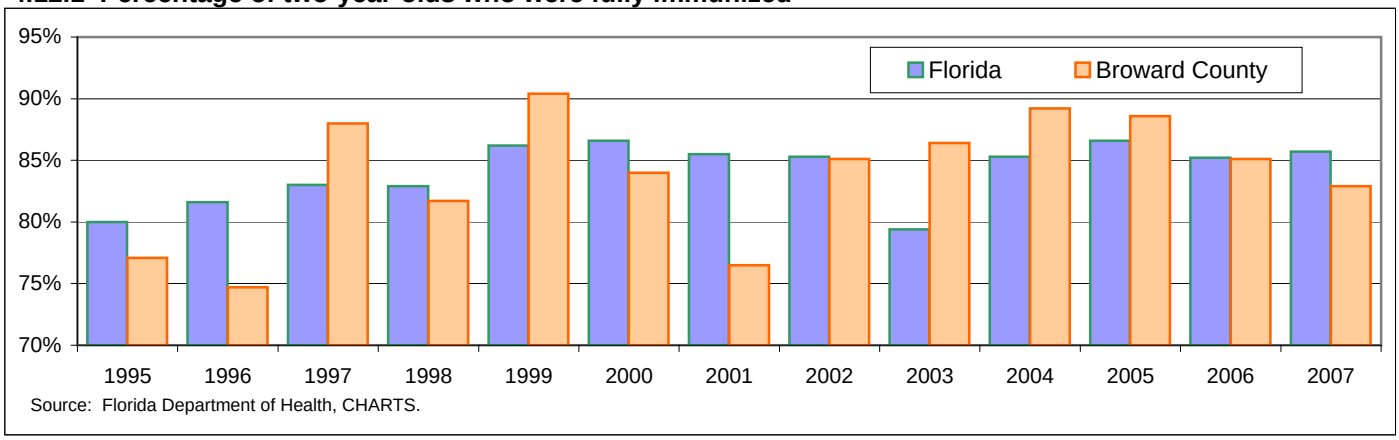
4.9.1(e) New Chlamydia cases reported per 100,000 residents



Source: Florida Department of Health, CHARTS.

New cases of Chlamydia have risen steadily over the last decade in both Broward County and the State of Florida. In 2007, new cases reached a high of 306 per 100,000 residents in Broward County and 308 per 100,000 residents in the State of Florida.

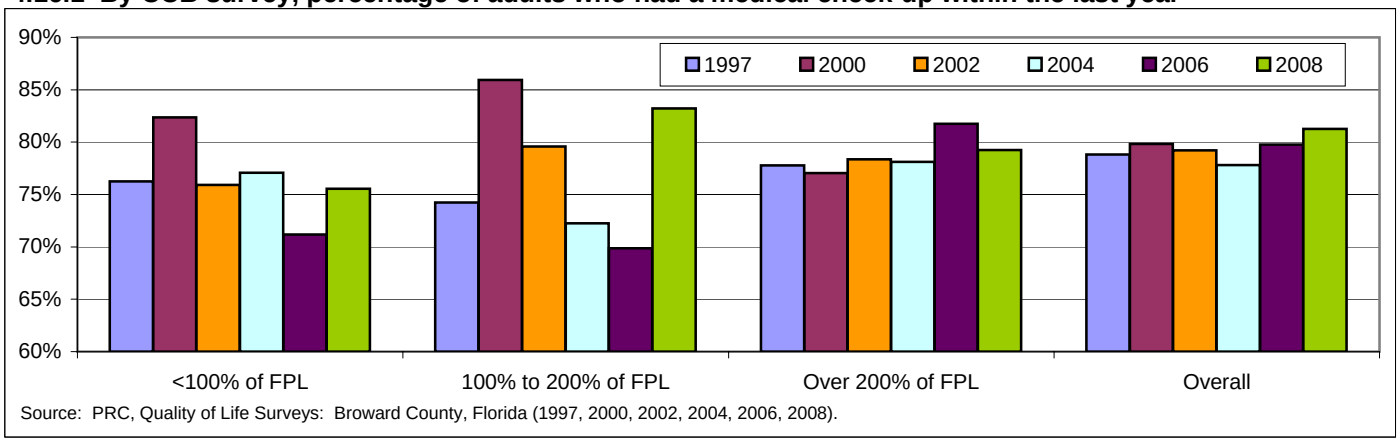
4.12.1 Percentage of two-year-olds who were fully immunized



Source: Florida Department of Health, CHARTS.

The percentage of two-year-olds who were fully immunized in Broward County has oscillated between 74.7% and 90.4% over the last 12 years. The rates for the State of Florida have been between 79.4% and 86.6% over the same period.

4.16.1 By CCB survey, percentage of adults who had a medical check-up within the last year

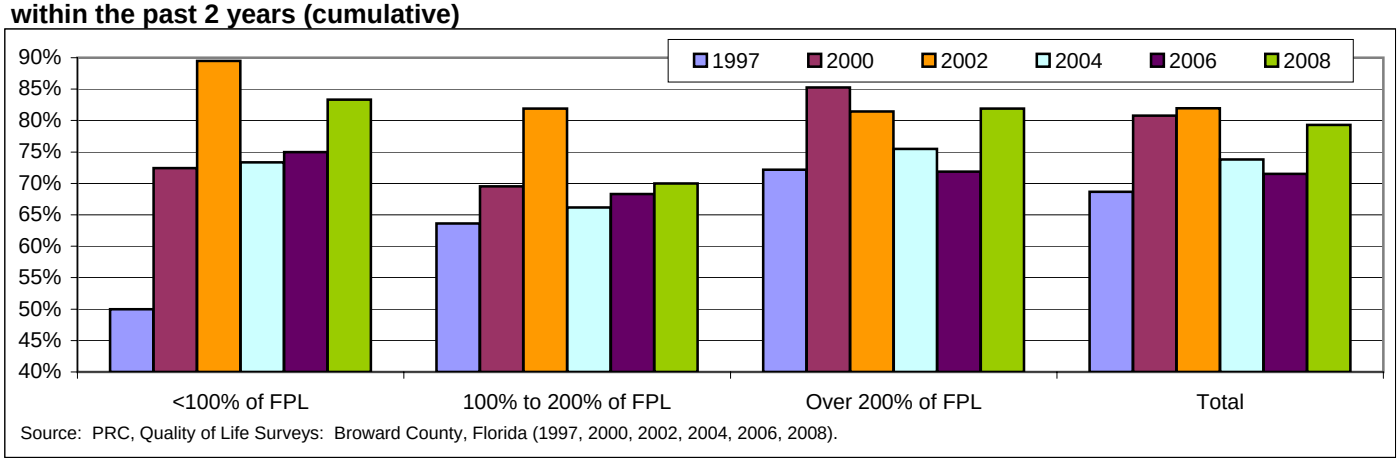


Source: PRC, Quality of Life Surveys: Broward County, Florida (1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008).

The percentage of Broward County residents that had a medical check-up within the last year has remained fairly constant over the last decade, hovering close to 80%. The rates for those below the poverty level have been slightly lower, around 75%.

Our Health

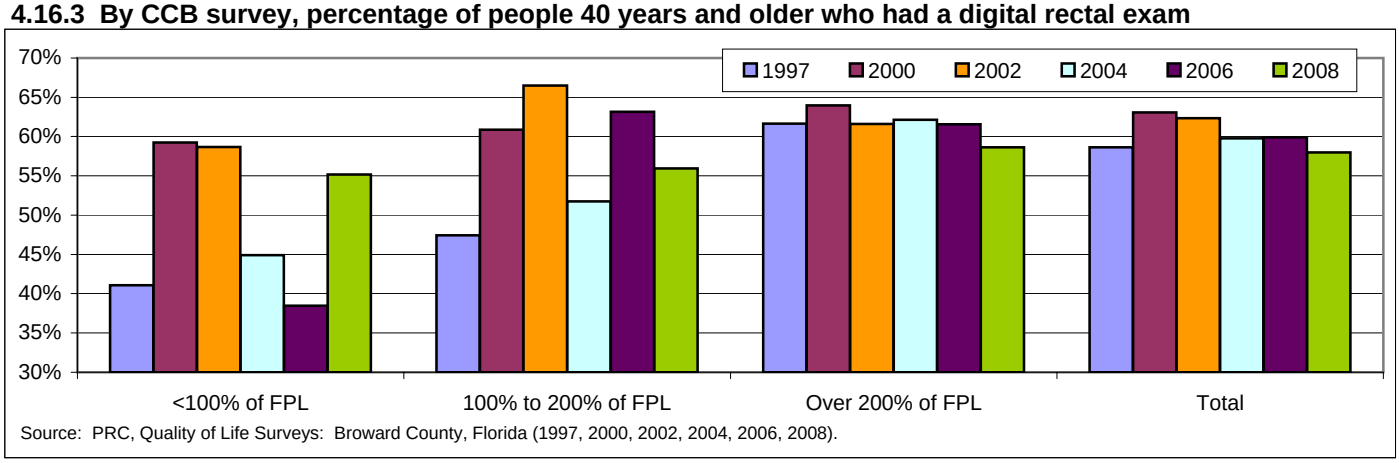
4.16.2 By CCB survey, percentage of women over age 50 who had a mammogram and a clinical breast exam within the past 2 years (cumulative)



Source: PRC, Quality of Life Surveys: Broward County, Florida (1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008).

The percentage of women over the age of 50 who had a mammogram and a clinical breast exam within the past 2 years has fluctuated between a low of 68.7% and a high of 82.0% over the last decade, with little difference across income categories.

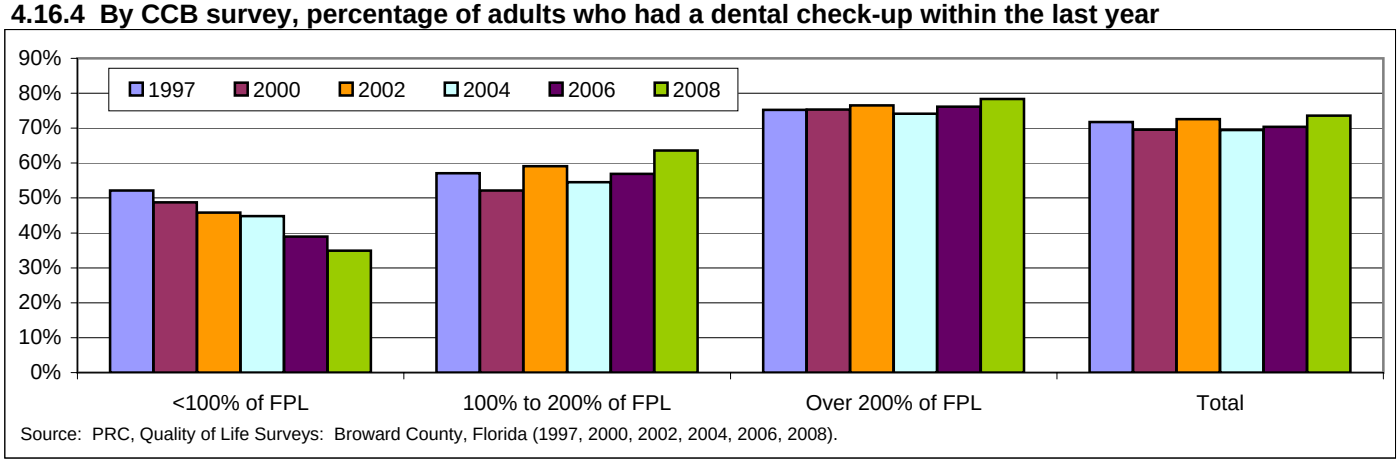
4.16.3 By CCB survey, percentage of people 40 years and older who had a digital rectal exam



Source: PRC, Quality of Life Surveys: Broward County, Florida (1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008).

Roughly six out of every ten Broward County residents 40 years and older have had a digital rectal exam within the last two years in each of the surveys over the last decade. Rates have been lower among those with incomes below the poverty level.

4.16.4 By CCB survey, percentage of adults who had a dental check-up within the last year

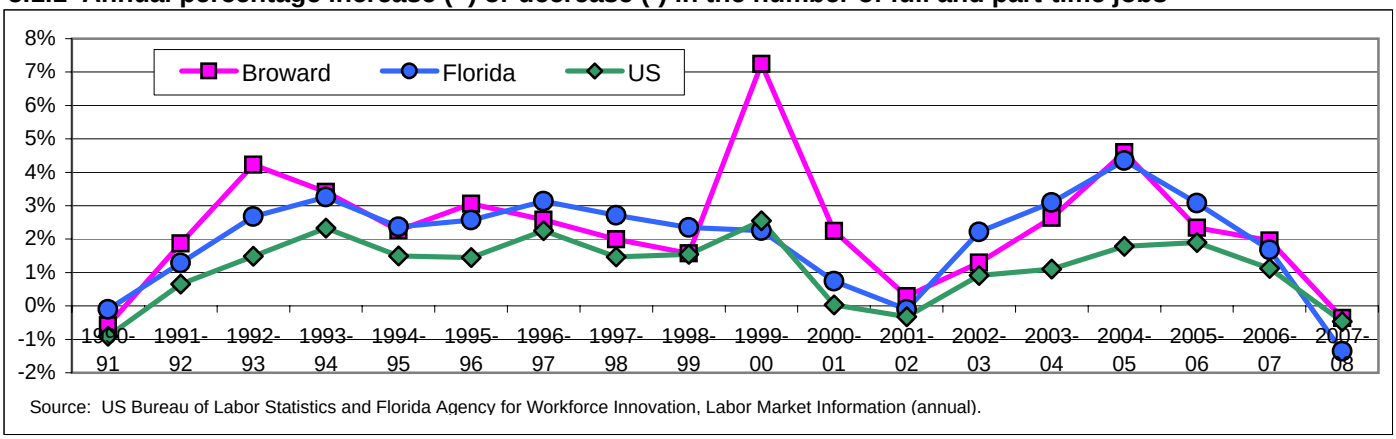


Source: PRC, Quality of Life Surveys: Broward County, Florida (1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008).

Approximately 70% of Broward County adults have had a dental check-up within the last year in each survey over the last decade. The rates for those below the poverty level are lower and have consistently declined in each survey, falling under 35% in 2008.

Our Economy

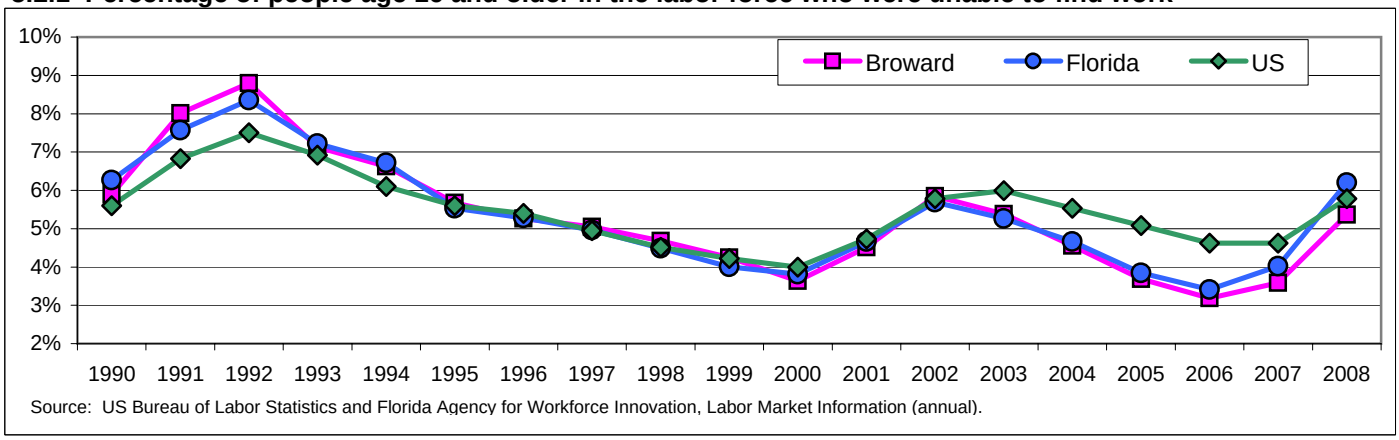
5.1.1 Annual percentage increase (+) or decrease (-) in the number of full and part-time jobs



Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics and Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation, Labor Market Information (annual).

Until 2007, Broward County and the State of Florida maintained higher annual rates of job creation than the US. In 2008, Broward County lost 9,000 jobs, a 1.0% decrease over 2007; this compares to decreases of 0.5% nationally and 0.6% in the State of Florida.

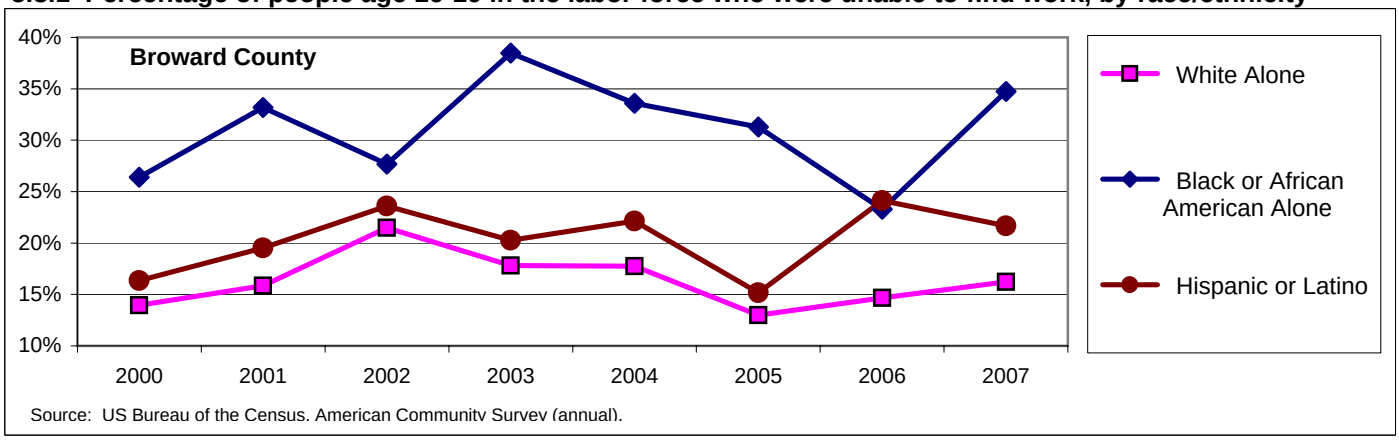
5.2.1 Percentage of people age 16 and older in the labor force who were unable to find work



Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics and Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation, Labor Market Information (annual).

The average annual unemployment rate in Broward County has remained very close to the state average over most of the last decade, falling from a high of 8.8% in 1992 to 3.6% in 2000, rising to 5.8% in 2002, falling again to 3.1% in 2006, and back up to 5.4% in 2008.

5.3.1 Percentage of people age 16-19 in the labor force who were unable to find work, by race/ethnicity

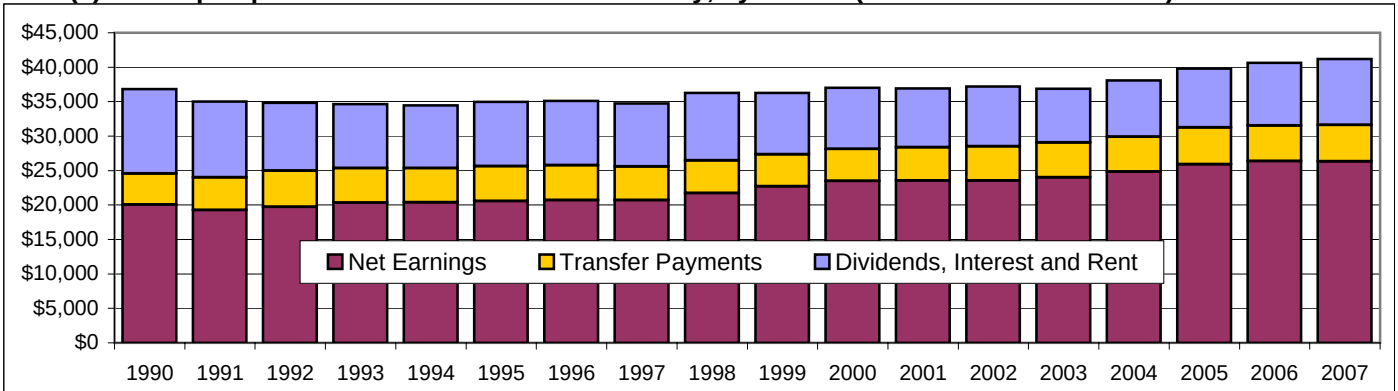


Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey (annual).

The unemployment rate for Black or African American teenagers hit a high of 38% in 2003, more than double the 18% rate for White teenagers. After falling through 2006, it rose sharply again in 2007, to almost 35%.

Our Economy

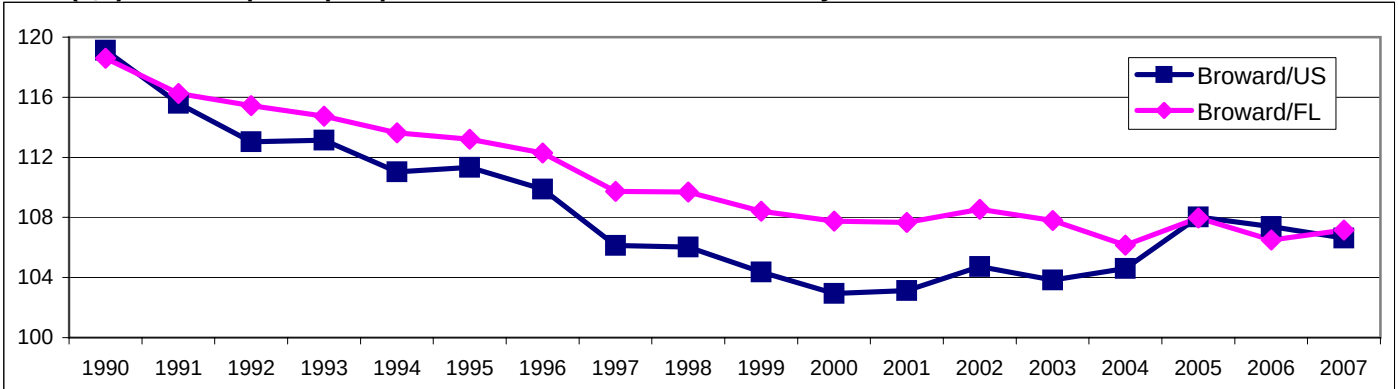
5.5.1(a) Per capita personal income in Broward County, by source (in constant 2007 dollars)



Source: US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System (April 2009).

Personal income from Dividends, Interest and Rent continues to represent a higher proportion of total income in Broward County than in the nation as a whole. Net Earnings per capita (from salaries and wages) rose from $19,294 in 1991 to $26,324 in 2007.

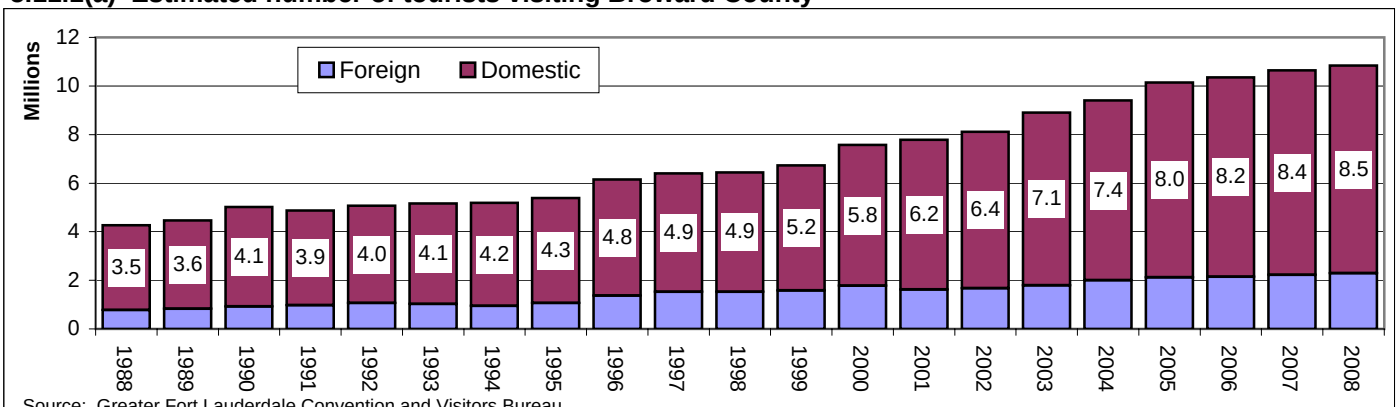
5.5.1(c,d) Ratio of per capita personal income in Broward County to Florida and the US



Source: US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System (April 2009).

In the 1990s, the per capita personal income of Broward County residents fell as a proportion of both the state and national averages, and then stabilized in 2000, showing a gradual increase in recent years to about 7% above those averages in 2007.

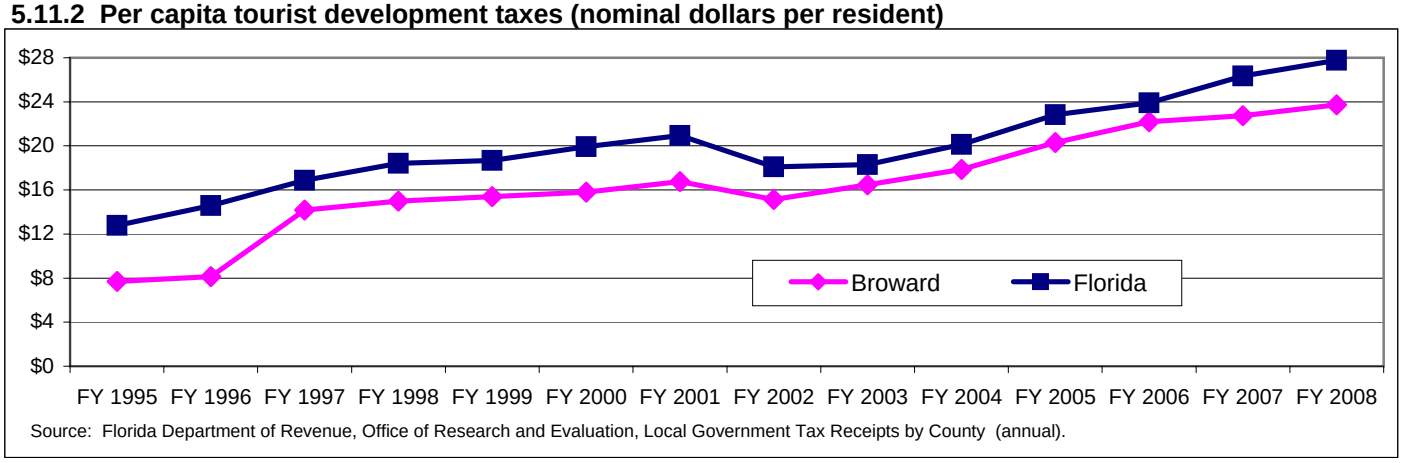
5.11.1(a) Estimated number of tourists visiting Broward County



Source: Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The number of tourists visiting Broward County has risen systematically over the last two decades, reaching a total of 10.8 million in 2008, up from 4.3 million in 1988. Although domestic tourists predominate (8.5 million in 2008), foreign tourists are also increasing.

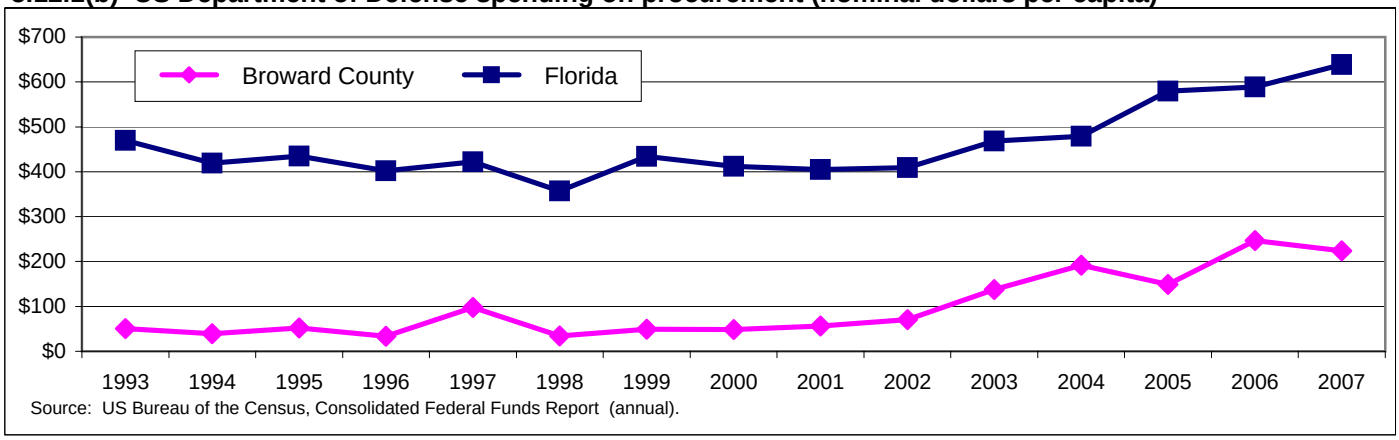
5.11.2 Per capita tourist development taxes (nominal dollars per resident)



Source: Florida Department of Revenue, Office of Research and Evaluation, Local Government Tax Receipts by County (annual).

The per capita value of tourist development taxes collected by Broward County has almost tripled over the last decade, from $7.71 to $23.73. The County average has remained below the state average throughout the decade.

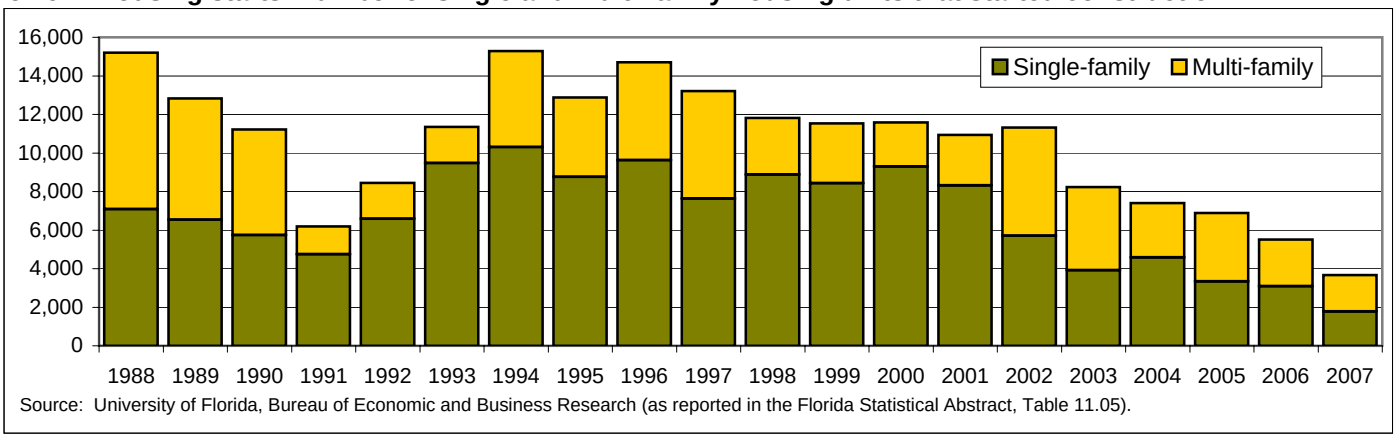
5.12.1(b) US Department of Defense spending on procurement (nominal dollars per capita)



Source: US Bureau of the Census, Consolidated Federal Funds Report (annual).

Defense Department spending on procurement in Broward County remains substantially lower than the State of Florida average. In 2007, per capita expenditures in Broward County were $224, while the State average was almost three times as much ($638).

5.16.1 Housing starts: number of single and multi-family housing units that started construction

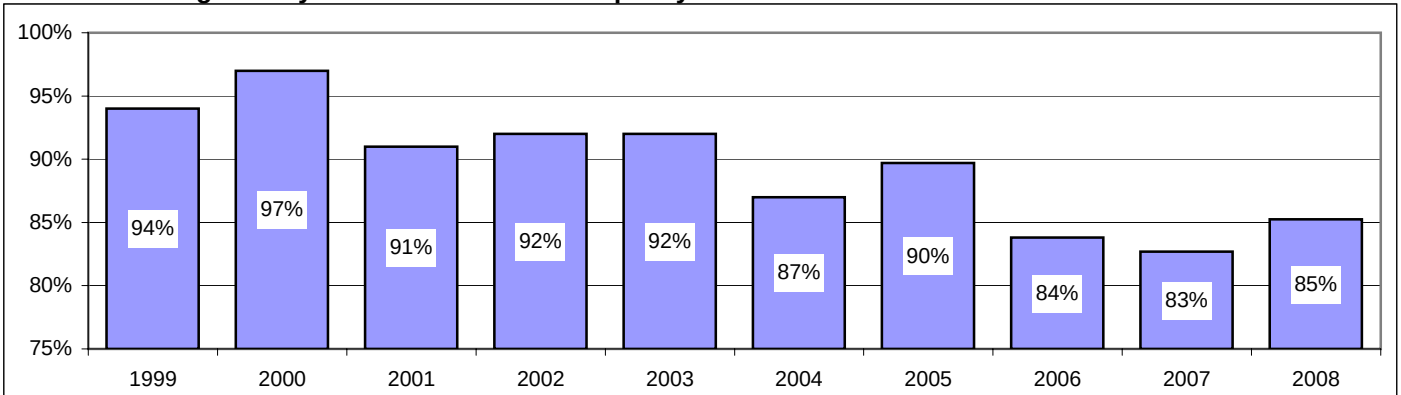


Source: University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research (as reported in the Florida Statistical Abstract, Table 11.05).

The total number of housing starts in Broward County fell in 2007 for the fifth consecutive year, reaching a new low of 3,669, with reductions in the number of both multi-family units and single-family units.

Our Environment

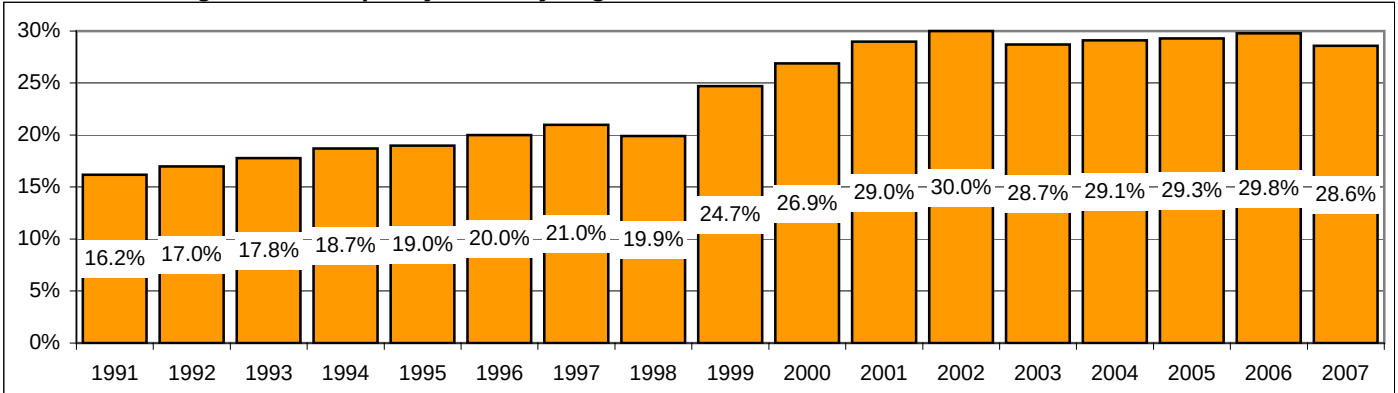
6.1.1 Percentage of days when the outdoor air quality was rated as "Good"



Source: Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department, Pollution Prevention, Remediation and Air Quality Division.

Air Quality improved compared to 2007 but was still lower than previous years, due in part to the stricter ozone compliance standard applied in 2008. Everglades fires and unfavorable winds during the burning of sugar cane fields also affected local air quality in 2008.

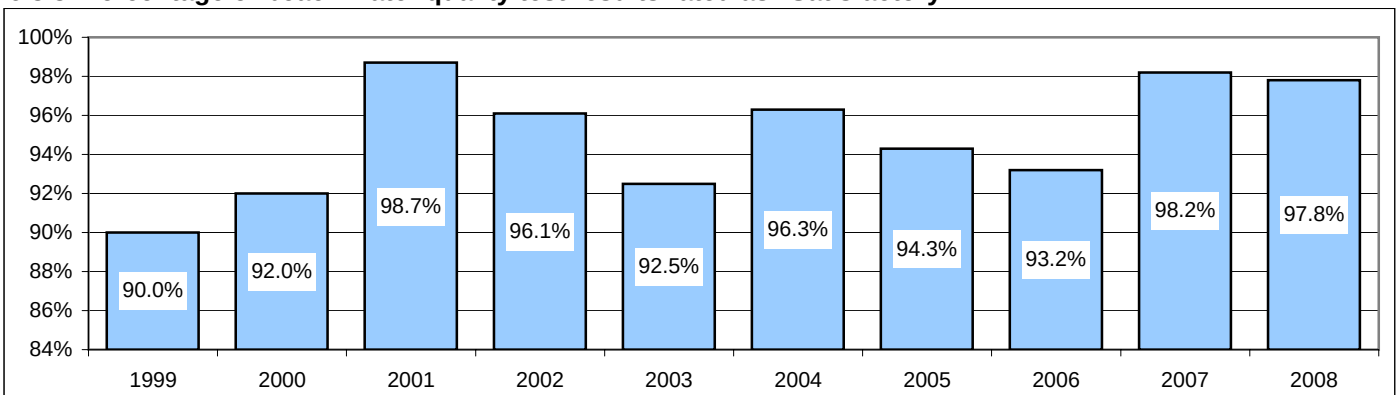
6.1.3 Percentage of over-capacity roadway segments



Source: Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department, Metropolitan Planning Organization Division.

The 2007 figure is 4% lower than the 2006 levels, which is directly attributed to the lower annual growth in population, employment, school enrollment and other socioeconomic variables leading to lower travel demand.

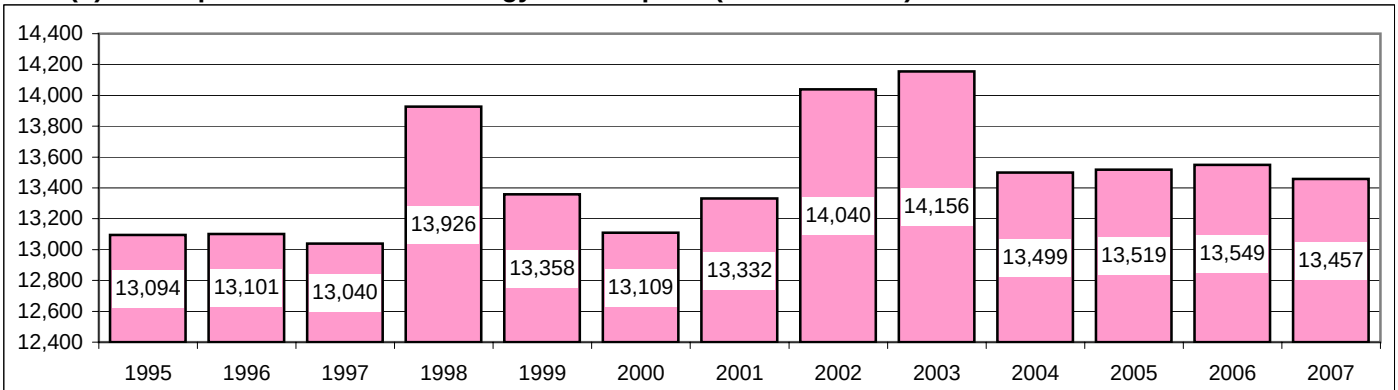
6.3.3 Percentage of beach water quality test results rated as "Satisfactory"



Source: Broward County Health Department.

Over the past 4 years the percentage of satisfactory/good beach water samples averaged 95.9%, with a range from 93.2% to 98.2%. The 2008 result (97.8%), which is 1.9% above the 4-year average, may be the result of a dry year with few major rainfall events.

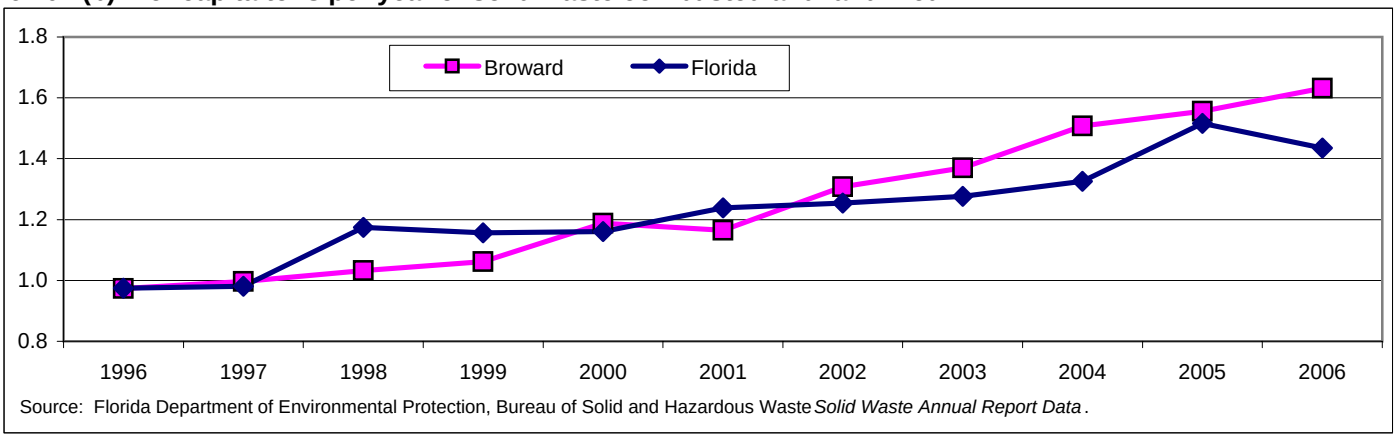
6.9.1(b) Per capita annual electric energy consumption (kilowatt-hours)



Source: Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department, Pollution Prevention, Remediation and Air Quality Division.

Per capita electrical consumption has fluctuated significantly over time. After reaching highs of over 14,000 kwh per year in 2002 and 2003, it dropped in 2004, then rose gradually in 2005 and 2006, before decreasing again to 13,457 in 2007.

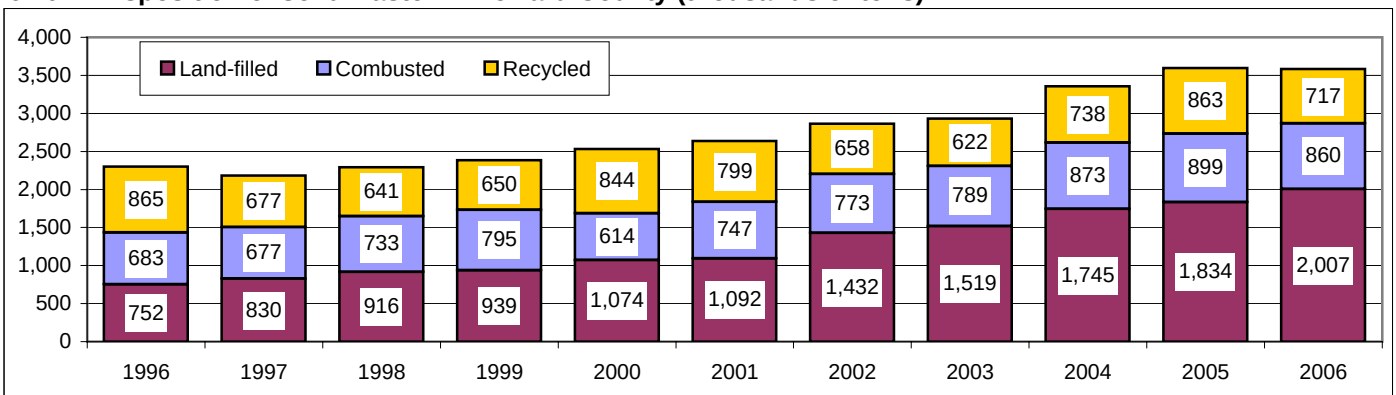
6.10.1(b) Per capita tons per year of solid waste combusted and landfilled



Source: Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Solid and Hazardous Waste *Solid Waste Annual Report Data*.

The annual volume of solid waste combusted and landfilled in Broward County has risen consistently over the last decade, to a high of 1.63 tons per capita in 2006. This compared to a statewide average of 1.43 in the same year.

6.10.2 Disposition of solid waste in Broward County (thousands of tons)

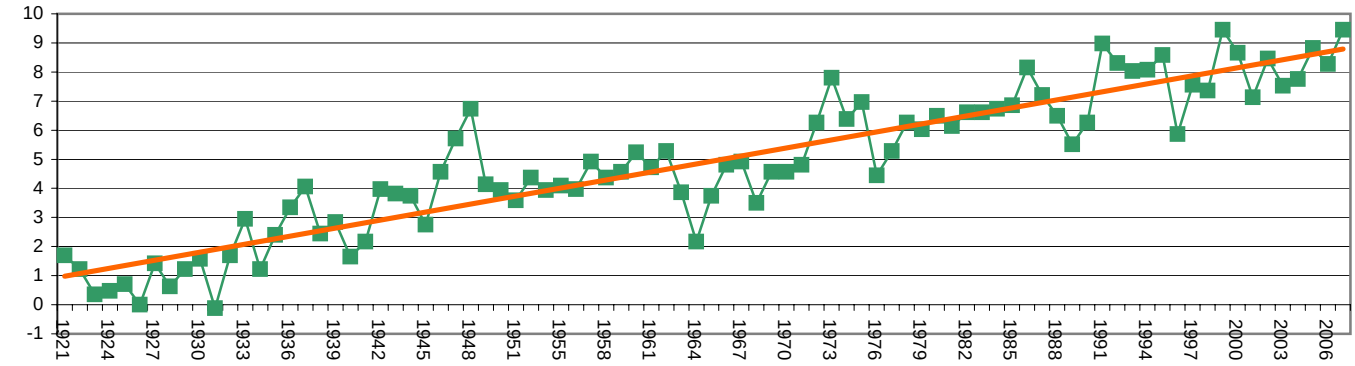


Source: Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department, Pollution Prevention, Remediation and Air Quality Division.

The volume of solid waste landfilled in Broward County has risen steadily in recent years - it more than doubled between 1999 and 2006. In 2006, recycled waste declined both in absolute volume and as a proportion of the overall solid waste stream.

Our Environment

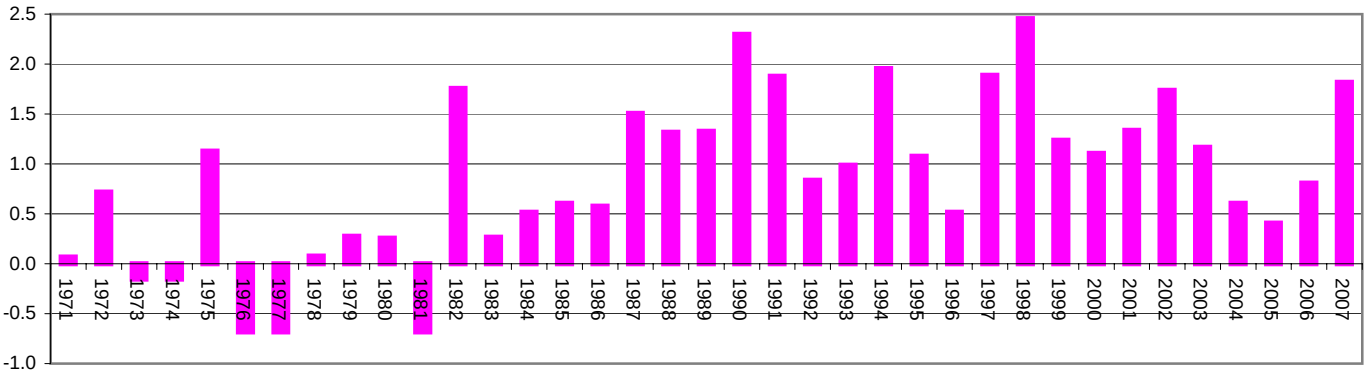
6.11.1 Mean sea level rise, Key West station - deviation from the 1920 baseline (in inches)



Source: Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level (www.pol.ac.uk/psmsl/psmsl_individual_stations.html), with calculations by Broward County.

There has been a steady increase in sea level since 1920. In 2007, the average sea level at the Key West station was 9.45 inches greater than the 1920 baseline, which corresponds to over an inch per decade.

6.11.2 Fort Lauderdale - deviation in annual average temperature from the 1950-70 baseline (Farenheit)

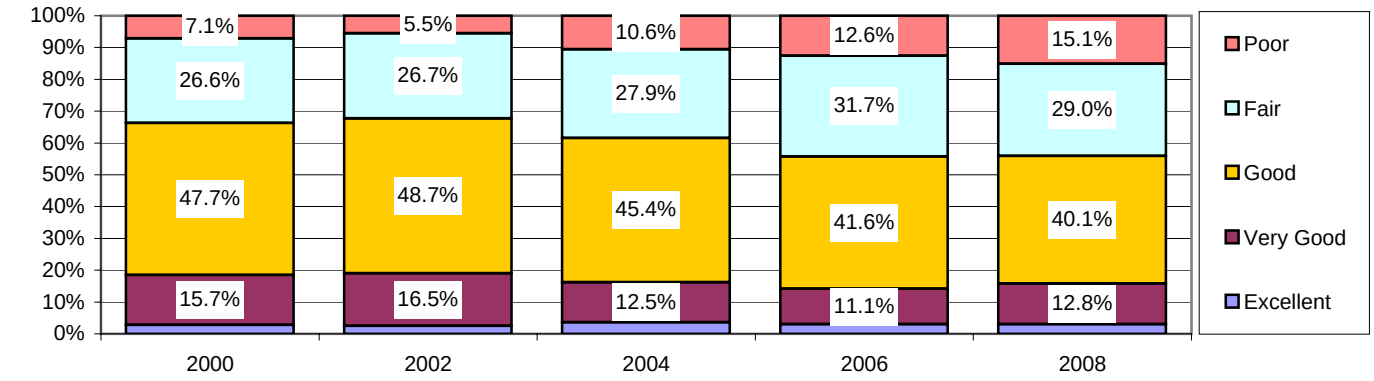


Source: Southeast Regional Climate Center and North Carolina State University, with calculations by Broward County.

Since 1971, only five of the 27 years have shown an average annual temperature below the 1950-1970 baseline. In 2007, the average annual temperature was 1.82° F above the baseline.

Our Government

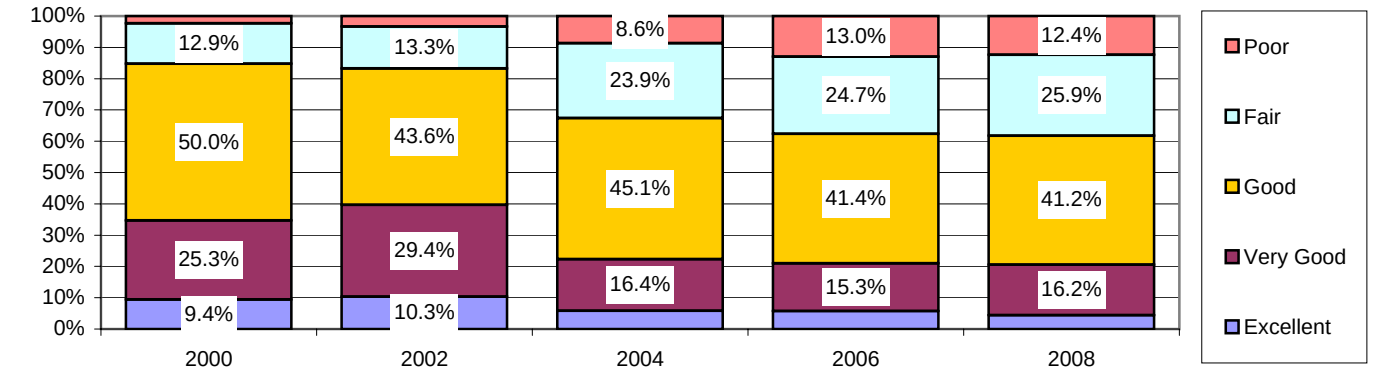
7.1.2 By CCB survey, percentage of adults who rated the job their county government was doing as…



Source: PRC, Quality of Life Surveys: Broward County, Florida (2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008)

In 2008, 55.9% of Broward County adults rated the job their county government is doing as excellent, very good or good, about the same as in 2006 (55.7%). Both were down significantly from the high of 67.8% in 2002.

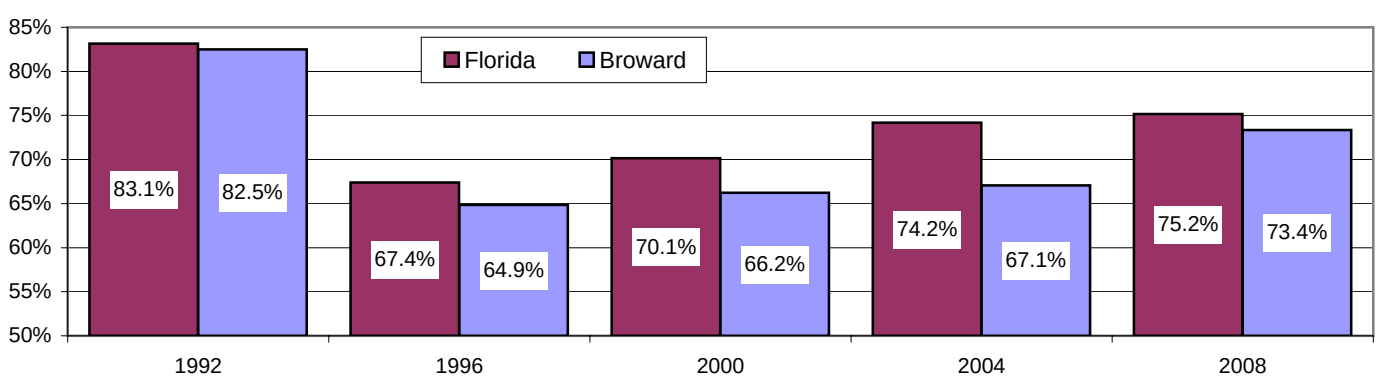
7.2.1 By CCB survey, percentage of adults who rated the job their local government was doing as …



Source: PRC, Quality of Life Surveys: Broward County, Florida (2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008)

In 2008, 61.8% of Broward County adults rated the job their local government is doing as excellent, very good or good, about the same as in 2006 (62.3%). One in eight rated the services where they live as poor in 2006 and 2008.

7.9.2 Percentage of registered voters who voted in presidential election years



Source: Florida Department of State, Division of Elections (http://election.dos.state.fl.us/elections/resultsarchive/Index.asp)

Broward County voters returned to the polls in 2008, after 12 years of lower turnout. In 2008, 73.4% of adults registered to vote actually voted in the presidential election, up from a low of 64.9% in 1996. This was still less than the Florida average of 75.2% in 2008.

End Notes

Selected Quality of Life Indicators from The Broward Benchmarks

General Notes

1. Calculation of Rates. Many indicators in *Selected Quality of Life Indicators from The Broward Benchmarks* are rates, calculated by dividing the number of occurrences of a particular event by the population subject to those events. For example, 2.1.1 reports the number of index crimes per 100,000 residents. Similarly, 2.6.1 reports the number of youths referred for juvenile delinquency per 100,000 children ages 10-17. In some early editions of *The Broward Benchmarks*, both the absolute number of occurrences and the rates were reported exactly as published by the cited sources. The results of the 2000 Census showed that there had been an increase of more than 100,000 residents in Broward County when compared with the estimates made prior to the census, a difference of 6.5%, compared to a difference of only 1.8% for the State of Florida as a whole. This means that throughout the 1990s, Broward County's population was systematically underestimated compared to that of the State and other counties. This, in turn, caused previously published population-based rates such as the crime rate to be reported higher than they were in fact. The Florida Legislature's Office of Economic and Demographic Research – EDR (http://edr.state.fl.us), responsible for official estimates and projections of the population, re-estimated the annual population for the State and each county, for each quarter (January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1) during the previous decade, offering the revised data by age, gender and race (White, Non-White and Total). These revised population estimates, which are updated annually (current edition: August 2008), have been used to calculate the rates throughout this document. In each case, the population estimate used corresponds to the quarter that represents the mid-point of the reporting period. For example, for the State fiscal year, which goes from July to June, the January 1 population estimate is used, whereas the July 1 estimate is used for calendar year data. All rates have been recalculated using the originally published data for the number of occurrences, but dividing by the most current population estimates. Since many agencies have chosen not to publish revised rates from past years, the rates included in this publication may be different from those that are reported elsewhere, including in official documents of the source agencies.

2. Quality of Life Assessments of Broward County, Florida, by Professional Research Consultants, Inc. (PRC), Omaha, Nebraska. Memorial Healthcare System contracted with PRC in 1994 to conduct a telephone survey of a statistically valid sample of Broward County residents, with a focus on health issues. In 1997, The Coordinating Council of Broward (CCB) contracted with PRC to conduct the survey of Broward County adults age 18 and older with questions that cover a broader set of quality of life issues. More questions about quality of life were added to the survey questionnaire in 2000, which has been conducted every two years since. Surveys in 1994, 1997, 2000, 2002 and 2004 had a sample size of 2,400 with a sampling error of ±2.2%; the surveys in 2006 and 2008 had a sample size of 1,000 with a sampling error of ±3.1%. Results of the surveys are presented in reports and slide presentations, as well as a series of cross-tabulations (www.sfrpc.com/ccb/prchome.htm). The results also can be accessed for user-defined cross-tabulations online at www.prceasyview.com.

3. US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey. Starting in 1998, Broward County became a pilot site for development of the methodology for the Census Bureau's annual American Community Survey (ACS), which replaced the long form of the decennial census. Annual summary results similar to those from the 2000 Census are available for Broward County and its 10 largest municipalities for each year beginning in 2000. Full national implementation of the ACS began in 2005, based on a continuous annual sample of approximately 3 million households. Annual data is now available for the nation, and all states, counties and places with a minimum population of 65,000. Starting with the release of results for the 2007 ACS, the Census Bureau will produce annual tabulations based on three-year period estimates for all areas with a minimum population of 20,000. Beginning with the results for the 2009 ACS (to be released in late 2010), the Census Bureau will produce annual tabulations based on five-year period estimates for all areas, including census tracts and block groups (but not blocks).

1.1 Quality of Life

1.1.1 Broward County as a place to live

Measurement: People's perception of Broward County as a place to live is measured by telephone survey of a statistically valid sample of Broward County adults age 18 and older. Specifically, the survey asks, "Overall, how would you rate Broward County as a place to live? Would you say: Excellent, Very Good, Good, Fair or Poor?"

Explanation: It is important to know not only the county's physical, social and economic conditions, but also how people perceive Broward County as a place to live.

Data source: Quality of Life Assessments of Broward County, Florida, by Professional Research Consultants, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska (2000 - Q95, 2002 - Q117, 2004 – Q94, 2006 – Q94, 2008 – Q104), available online at www.sfrpc.com/ccb/prchome.htm.

1.3 People in Poverty

1.3.1 People in poverty

Measurement: People in poverty are those in households with an income below 100% of the federal poverty level. Poverty thresholds are defined annually for families and vary according to the size of the family unit and the number of related children under the age of 18 (www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/threshld.html). For calendar year 2007, the weighted average threshold for a family of four was $21,203 per year or less. The most complete information on poverty is available from the decennial census and applies only to the non-institutionalized, civilian population. Census poverty estimates are available from the *2000 Census* (for calendar year 1999), at all levels of geography down to the census block group (states, counties, cities, census tracts). Estimates are available for the county and its 10 largest municipalities for subsequent years from the *American Community Survey*.

Explanation: Poverty is linked to low educational attainment, health problems, crime, and other conditions that weaken families and communities.

Data sources: US Bureau of the Census, *2000 Census of Population and Housing* (Summary File 3), Tables P087 and P159A-H (for each racial and ethnic group); *American Community Survey* (2000 to 2003), Tables P114 and P115A-K (for each racial and ethnic group); and *American Community Survey* (2004 to 2007), Tables B17001 and B17001A-I (for each racial and ethnic group); available online through American FactFinder (http://factfinder.census.gov).

1.5 Children in Disadvantaged Families

1.5.4 Average number of individuals receiving food stamps

Measurement: The Work and Gain Economic Self-sufficiency (WAGES) legislation passed by the Florida Legislature in 1995, and the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996, which created the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) block grant, led to a dramatic reduction in the number of families enrolled in "welfare" in the late 1990s. Administrative records track the number of families and individuals enrolled in TANF and the federal food stamp program, along with the dollar amounts disbursed. Administrative records also track the number of individuals enrolled in Medicaid. The recent economic downturn has contributed to a rise in the number of people enrolled in both Medicaid and the food stamp program.

Explanation: The number of households receiving food stamps, and the number of adults and children in those households, are indicators of the number of families whose earnings are insufficient to meet their basic needs.

Data source: Florida Department of Children and Families, Public Assistance Caseload (spreadsheet with monthly data since 1993), available online at www.dcf.state.fl.us/ess/agencyforms.shtml.

1.5.5 Households with income below poverty that did not receive food stamps (%)

Measurement: Eligibility for food stamps depends on both household income and assets. Households with incomes below the poverty level generally meet the income requirement for eligibility. Households that are eligible for food stamps but do not receive them indicate the existence of an underserved population, and suggest that some people may be going hungry unnecessarily. For children this can be linked to significant developmental delays.

Explanation: The proportion of households below the poverty level that do not receive food stamps represents an initial measure of the size of the gap between households that are eligible for food stamps and those that actually receive them.

Data source: US Bureau of the Census, *American Community Survey* (2004 to 2007), Table B22003, available online through American FactFinder (http://factfinder.census.gov).

1.6 Children in Poverty

1.6.1 Number of children by age

Measurement: Broward County's population is the number of people who permanently reside in the County. The decennial US Census is the source of this information for 2000. Annual population estimates for non-decennial years are prepared through the Consensus Estimating Conferences, conducted by The Florida Legislature's Office of Economic and Demographic Research, and published by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research at the University of Florida.

Explanation: Population growth has a significant effect on the livability of communities, the health of the environment, and the ability of government to provide schools, roads and other services to its citizens.

Data source: Office of Economic and Demographic Research, http://edr.state.fl.us/population.htm.

1.6.2 Children in poverty by race and ethnicity

Measurement: Children in poverty are defined as children living in families with an income below 100% of the federal poverty level (see 1.3.1). For calendar year 2007, the weighted average threshold for a family of four was $21,203 per year or less. The US Bureau of the Census defines children as people under the age of 18 who are related to the head of household by birth, marriage or adoption. Specifically, these children would include sons and daughters, stepchildren, adopted children and all other children related to the householder, except a spouse. Foster children are excluded. Information is collected by the decennial Census (applies only to the non-institutionalized, civilian population), and by the annual American Community Survey.

Explanation: Poverty is linked to low educational attainment, health problems, crime, and other conditions that weaken families and communities.

Data sources: US Bureau of the Census, *2000 Census of Population and Housing* (Summary File 3), Tables P087 and P159A-H (for each racial and ethnic group); *American Community Survey* (2000 to 2003), Tables P114 and P115A-K (for each racial and ethnic group); and *American Community Survey* (2004 to 2007), Tables B17001 and B17001A-I (for each racial and ethnic group); available online through American FactFinder (http://factfinder.census.gov).

1.7 Child Care

1.7.4 Number of drowning deaths of children under the age of 5, by race

Measurement: The number of drowning deaths is tracked by the Florida Department of Health's Office of Vital Statistics, along with all other causes of death. Administrative records identify gender, age and race/ethnicity.

Explanation: Drowning is the top cause of death for children in Broward age 1 through 4.

Data source: Florida Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics, available online through the Community Health Assessment Resource Tool Set (CHARTS) at www.floridacharts.com/charts/chart.aspx.

1.11 Self-Sufficiency of the Elderly

1.11.2 Percentage of the population with self-care limitations

Measurement: The percentage of people with self-care limitations is measured by telephone survey of a statistically valid sample of Broward County residents age 18 and older. Specifically, the survey asks respondents, "Because of any impairment or health problem, do you need the help of other persons with your personal care needs, such as eating, bathing, dressing or getting around the house?" Possible responses are "yes" and "no." Results are presented separately for respondents under the age of 60 and those age 60 or older.

Explanation: Elders can live a better quality life if they have the ability to take care of themselves and live self-sufficiently.

Data source: Quality of Life Assessments of Broward County, Florida, by Professional Research Consultants, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska (1997 – Q92/Q94, 2000 – Q72/Q74, 2002 - Q71, 2004 – Q62, 2006 – Q62, 2008 – Q72), available online at www.sfrpc.com/ccb/prchome.htm.

1.12 People with Disabilities

1.12.4 Percentage of adults with a physical disability requiring assistance in walking or moving
Measurement: The percentage of people with communication and physical disabilities is measured by telephone survey of a statistically valid sample of Broward County residents age 18 and older. Specifically, the survey asks, "Would you please tell me how many people in this household have a physical disability requiring assistance in walking or moving?" Results are presented separately by gender.
Explanation: Disabilities can limit people's ability to work, socialize, and take care of their daily needs within and outside the home.
Data source: Quality of Life Assessments of Broward County, Florida, by Professional Research Consultants, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska (1997 - Q29, 2000 - Q30, 2002 - Q30, 2004 – Q23, 2006 – Q23, 2008 – Q23), available online at www.sfrpc.com/ccb/prchome.htm.

1.13 Life in Communities

1.13.1 People who are satisfied with their neighborhood
Measurement: People's satisfaction with their community/neighborhood is measured by a telephone survey of a statistically valid sample of Broward County adults age 18 and older. In 2000, the survey asked, "Overall, would you rate the local community in which you live as excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?" Starting in 2002, the survey asked, "Overall, would you rate your neighborhood as a place to live as excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?"
Explanation: It is important to know not only the county's physical, social and economic conditions, but also how people perceive their communities/neighborhoods as places to live.
Data source: Quality of Life Assessments of Broward County, Florida, by Professional Research Consultants, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska (2000 - Q98, 2002 - Q93, 2004 – Q105, 2006 – Q105, 2008 – Q115), available online at www.sfrpc.com/ccb/prchome.htm.

1.14 Housing

1.14.1 Affordability of housing
Measurement: Federal and State housing programs define affordable housing as costing no more than 30% of household income for monthly rent or mortgage payments, insurance, and utilities. Standard census tabulations present estimates of renter and owner households with a "cost burden" (spending more than 30% for housing) for all households and for specified dollar income ranges. Owner-occupied units include those both with and without a mortgage.
Explanation: Affordable, quality housing is a basic necessity of life.
Data source: US Bureau of the Census, *American Community Survey* (2000 to 2003), Tables H071 and H088; *American Community Survey* (2004 to 2007), Tables B25074 and B25091; all tables are available online through American FactFinder (http://factfinder.census.gov).

1.15 Mobility

1.15.2 Commuting time
Measurement: The average travel time from home to work is a self-report measure obtained from responses to the decennial census and the American Community Survey. It includes workers age 16 and older.
Explanation: The more time people spend commuting to their jobs, the less time they have for family, work, and leisure.
Data sources: US Bureau of the Census, *2000 Census of Population and Housing* (Summary File 3), Table DP-3 Profile of Selected Economic Characteristics; *American Community Survey,* Table 3 – Profile of Selected Economic Characteristics, available online through American FactFinder (http://factfinder.census.gov).

1.16 - 1.18 Racial, Cultural and Religious Harmony

1.16.1 Race relations
1.17.1 Cultural relations
1.18.1 Religious relations
Measurement: People's perception of racial, cultural and religious harmony within their communities is measured by telephone survey of a statistically valid sample of Broward County adults age 18 and older. Specifically, the survey asks, "Would you say that [race]/[cultural]/[religious] relations in your community are excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?" The question is asked separately for each: race relations, cultural relations and religious relations. Results are presented separately for white and non-white respondents (for race and cultural relations), and by religion (for religious relations).
Explanation: People's perception of racial, cultural and religious relations reflects how well people of diverse backgrounds are getting along in the community and their ability to work out differences peaceably.
Data source: Quality of Life Assessments of Broward County, Florida, by Professional Research Consultants, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska (2000 - Q115/Q116/Q117; 2002 – Q114/Q115/Q116; 2004 – Q91/Q92/Q93; 2006 – Q91/Q92/Q93; 2008 – Q101/Q102/Q103), available online at www.sfrpc.com/ccb/prchome.htm.

1.22 Immigration

1.22.1 Number of immigrants
Measurement: Immigrants are people born in other countries. The Census Bureau asks for place of birth on the long form (sample portion) of the decennial census and in the American Community Survey. Place of birth includes the city and state and, if born abroad, the country. Tabulations for each survey give the total number of residents that were born in the place where they currently reside, as well as those born elsewhere, including those who are foreign-born. Data presented here count the foreign-born population regardless of citizenship status. Changes in the foreign-born population are calculated by comparing each survey estimate with the estimate from the previous survey.
Explanation: The influx of immigrants into South Florida increases the demand for local services and strains the capacity of some communities to accept and assimilate people from diverse cultural backgrounds.
Data source: US Bureau of the Census, *Census of Population and Housing* (1970 – Tables 143/144 , 1980 – Table 172, 1990 – Table P42, and 2000 – Table P21); and *2007 American Community Survey* (Table B05002), available online through American FactFinder (http://factfinder.census.gov).

2.1 Crime

2.1.2 Violent crime rate
2.1.3 Non-violent crime rate
Measurement: The crime rate reported by states and counties is the number of index crimes per 100,000 resident population. Data is reported for annual periods, from January to December, and rates are calculated with estimates of the resident population as of July 1 (mid-point of the year). Numbers reflect only those crimes reported to law enforcement agencies and, therefore, are an undercount of the number of crimes actually committed. According to a national crime victimization survey conducted by the US Department of Justice, only 40% of crimes committed in the United States are reported. This percentage may vary among states and counties. **Violent index crimes** are murder, forcible sex offenses, robbery and aggravated assault. **Non-violent index crimes** are burglary/breaking and entering, larceny/theft, and motor vehicle theft. Larceny includes grand and petty larceny. Florida has adopted a "Forcible Sex Offense" category that is not used at the Federal level. Florida's Forcible Sex Offenses (FSO) include forcible rape, attempted rape, forcible sodomy, and forcible fondling. Various reports on the FDLE site use either a Forcible Rape or a FSO category in Index Offenses. When Forcible Rape is presented it includes rape and attempted rape only, while forcible sodomy and forcible fondling are included in aggravated assault.
Explanation: Crime violates our sense of right and wrong, imposes grave personal losses, and causes people to fear for their safety in our own communities. Because violent crimes involve personal confrontation between perpetrator and victim, they are considered more serious than other index crimes. Non-violent crimes can impose significant losses in personal property and violate our sense of security in our own homes and communities.
Data source: Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Florida Statistical Analysis Center, *Crime in Florida – Florida Uniform Crime Report* (annual), available online at www.fdle.state.fl.us/Content/FSAC/FSAC-Home.aspx.

2.3 Perception of Crime

2.3.1 Perception of neighborhood crime
Measurement: People's perception of neighborhood crime is measured by a telephone survey of a statistically valid sample of Broward County adults age 18 and older. Specifically the survey asks, "Now I would like to ask you some questions regarding neighborhood and personal safety. Within the past year or two, do you think that the problem of crime in your neighborhood has been getting better, getting worse, or has it stayed about the same?"
Explanation: People's concern about crime often is based on their perception of its frequency rather than on actual crime rates.
Data source: Quality of Life Assessments of Broward County, Florida, by Professional Research Consultants, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska (1997 – Q117, 2000 – Q120, 2002 – Q120, 2004 – Q114, 2006 – Q114, 2008 – Q125), available online at www.sfrpc.com/ccb/prchome.htm.

2.6 Juvenile Delinquents

2.6.1 Juvenile delinquency
Measurement: An adjudicated delinquent is someone under age 18 who, according to the court, has committed an offense that would be considered a crime if committed by an adult. Excluded are cases dismissed by the judge for lack of evidence and cases where judgment is withheld to give the youth another chance before having delinquency entered on his or her record. The delinquency referrals or cases received are those reported and used by the Department of Juvenile Justice to track offenses/referrals from law enforcement. The number of cases is counted by "unduplicating" the number of referrals reported on the client information system by client identifier and date; however, it can represent more than one offense/referral per client per year. Presented here is the number of youths referred, which is determined by counting only the most serious offense for which a youth is charged during any fiscal year, an accurate unduplicated count. Data is provided for the State of Florida fiscal year, beginning in July of a given year and ending in June of the following year. Rates are calculated with estimates of the resident population 10 to 17 years of age as of January 1 (mid-point of the fiscal year).
Explanation: Public safety, family relationships and the future of our youth all suffer when children become criminals.
Data source: Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, Bureau of Data and Research, *Profile of Delinquency Cases and Youths Referred* (annual), available online at www.djj.state.fl.us/Research/Delinquency_Profile/index.html.

2.8 Abuse and Neglect

2.8.1 Child abuse and neglect

Measurement: Child abuse or neglect is defined as harm or threatened harm to a child's physical or mental health by the acts or omissions of a parent or other person responsible for the child's welfare (Section 415.503(1), Florida Statutes). A child is any person under the age of 18 years. Numbers of reports data had been categorized as follows: (a) unfounded report - a report in which the investigation determines that no indication of abuse or neglect exists, (b) an indicated report - a report in which the investigation determines that some indication of abuse or neglect exists, or the protective investigator determines that abuse or neglect has occurred but is not able to identify the perpetrator. No perpetrator is named in reports closed with an indicated classification, or (c) confirmed report - a report in which the investigation determines that abuse or neglect has occurred and the perpetrator is identified. Although there may be more than one report per victim per year, the data reported is here is the "unduplicated count" i.e. each child is counted only once per fiscal year no matter how many different types of abuse is reported. This is important because the benchmark calls for number of victims not the number of types of abuse. It counts the most serious abuse per child which determines whether it gets recorded as "verified" or "some indication". The rate is found by dividing the number of victims by the annual population aged 0 to 17 years.

Explanation: Abuse and neglect threatens the lives, health, and safety of children and teaches violence and poor parenting to future generations.

Data source: Florida Department of Children and Families, Child Protective Services, *Children Identified as Victims Report* (total of "Verified" and "Some Indication" Unduplicated Count). This report is available by special request from DCF/BSO.

2.9 Domestic Violence

2.9.1 Domestic violence incidents

Measurement: Domestic violence is any assault, battery or other criminal offense committed by a household or family member that causes injury or death to another household or family member. Crimes of domestic violence can involve (a) people related by blood or marriage, (b) people who have a child in common, or (c) people who have lived together under the same roof, regardless of whether they were ever married or related (Section 741.30(1)(b), *Florida Statutes*). The crime is defined by the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim, not the place where the crime occurs. The domestic violence crime rate is (1) the number of offenses involving domestic violence that are reported to state or local law enforcement agencies divided by (2) the county population, multiplied by (3) 100,000. Because many domestic violence crimes are unreported, this rate should be considered an underestimate of the actual occurrence of domestic violence in Broward County. Data is reported for annual periods, from January to December, and rates are calculated with estimates of the resident population as of July 1 (mid-point of the year).

Explanation: In Florida, domestic violence accounts for about 25% of murders, manslaughter offenses, forcible sex offenses and aggravated assaults. It also is the single major cause of injury to women – more frequent than auto accidents, rapes and muggings combined.

Data source: Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Florida Statistical Analysis Center, *Crime in Florida – Florida Uniform Crime Report* (annual), available online at www.fdle.state.fl.us/Content/FSAC/FSAC-Home.aspx.

2.17 Perception of Law Enforcement

2.17.1 Perception of the overall performance of law enforcement agencies

Measurement: People's perception of the overall performance of Broward County's law enforcement agencies is measured by a telephone survey of a statistically valid sample of Broward County adults age 18 and older. Specifically the survey asks, "How would you rate the overall performance of your local law enforcement agencies in providing services to the community? Would you say excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?"

Explanation: Perception of overall performance is a critical indicator utilized to determine law enforcement level of performance and community expectations. It is a Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies standard designed to ascertain the ability of law enforcement agencies to prevent and control crime and gauge the impact of citizen satisfaction.

Data source: Quality of Life Assessments of Broward County, Florida, by Professional Research Consultants, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska (2008 – Q127), available online at www.sfrpc.com/ccb/prchome.htm.

3.1 Demographics

3.1.1 Percentage of students receiving free and reduced-price lunches

Measurement: The National School Lunch Program, established in 1946 under the National School Lunch Act, provides free and reduced-price lunches to schoolchildren from economically disadvantaged families. The program operates in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, as well as in Guam, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, and Department of Defense schools. Each year, the US Department of Agriculture (www.fns.usda.gov) publishes income guidelines for program eligibility that factor household income and size in relation to federal poverty guidelines. In 2008-09, for instance, a student from a four-person household in Florida with annual household income less than $27,560 is eligible for free lunches. Current and prior-year income eligibility guidelines are available online at www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/notices/iegs/iegs.htm. Data on the number of eligible students is drawn from the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) automated student and staff databases, which are compiled from district data. The percentage of students receiving free and reduced-price lunches is calculated by dividing the district-wide number of students eligible to receive free or reduced-price lunches by the total number of students enrolled. Data is compiled for school years, and is typically extracted for publication during the second semester of the year. Data for the two most recent years, reported by Broward County Public Schools, is compiled at the beginning of the school year, which may not be the same as the data that is reported by FDOE in its publications.

Explanation: The National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs are federally assisted meal programs operating in public and nonprofit private schools and residential child care institutions. They provide nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free breakfast and lunch to children each school day. Nutrition is essential for learning – children who come to school without adequate meals will be at a disadvantage for learning.

Data sources: 1996/97 to 2006/07 – Florida Department of Education, Office of Education Information and Accountability Services, *Profiles of Florida School Districts – Student and Staff Data* (annual), available online at www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/default.asp; 2007/08 to 2008/09 – Broward County Public Schools, *2008-09 Twentieth Day Enrollment Report Breakdown* (Table 4), available online at www.broward.k12.fl.us/schoolboundaries/Counts/0809/20DayCount0809.htm.

3.3 Achievement Test Results

3.3.1 FCAT Writing Assessment

Measurement: The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) Writing test is an assessment that measures student writing proficiency in Grades 4, 8, and 10. Beginning in 2000, the Florida Writing Assessment Program (FWAP), also known as Florida Writes, was called FCAT Writing, and writing summary scores were reported for all curriculum groups combined. The test required students to write responses to assigned topics in a single testing period of 45 minutes. In 2006, a multiple-choice portion was added to the assessment, and the test was renamed *FCAT Writing+*. The test was administered in two sessions, and student Achievement Levels were calculated by combining performance on the prompt portion and the multiple-choice portion of the test. Beginning with the 2008-09 school year, the assessment will once again have only one session (prompt/essay) and will be called FCAT Writing. Written responses are scored on a 1.0 to 6.0 scale with 6.0 being the highest score. Locally an expectation was set that an average score of 3.0 represented a fixed standard of performance desired for Broward County Public School students. Both average scores (3.3.1(a)) and the percentage of students scoring 3.0 or higher (3.3.1(b)) are presented. Changes over time may reflect changes in the topics, which may not be the same level of difficulty from one year to the next. Students must meet more challenging writing standards in grade 10 than grades 4 or 8.

Explanation: Good writing skills are needed for employment in higher wage occupations and for postsecondary education, which is becoming more important in an increasingly competitive job market.

Data source: Florida Department of Education, Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (http://fcat.fldoe.org).

3.3.2 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)

Measurement: The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) was designed to measure the first four standards of Goal 3 of Florida's System of School Improvement and Accountability, with an emphasis on reading and mathematics as defined by the Sunshine State Standards. The FCAT was administered in Reading and Mathematics for the first time in Grades 3, 8 and 10 in January 1998. The total score that students can achieve ranges from 100 to 500. The FCAT was expanded to other grade levels in the year 2000. Additionally, a norm-referenced test component was added at grades 3-10 to permit comparison of the performance of Florida students with students throughout the nation. Students entering grade 9 beginning in the 1999-2000 school year are required to pass the FCAT as a graduation requirement from 2003 forward.

Explanation: The FCAT will provide a comprehensive listing of what students know and are able to do as they progress through school.
Data source: Florida Department of Education, Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (http://fcat.fldoe.org).

3.5 High School Dropouts and Graduates

3.5.1 High school dropout rate

Measurement: A dropout is "a student over the age of compulsory school attendance who (1) has voluntarily removed him (or herself) from the school system before graduation because of marriage, entrance into the military or failure on the statewide student assessment test required for a certificate of completion; (2) has not met attendance requirements specified by the School Board; (3) did not enter school as expected for unknown reasons; (4) has withdrawn from school without transferring to another school or vocational, adult or alternative education program; (5) has withdrawn from school due to hardship, court action, expulsion, medical reasons, or pregnancy; or (6) has reached the maximum age set by the school district for an exceptional student program" (Section 228.041(29), Florida Statutes). The dropout rate is calculated and reported for all children in grades 9-12 who drop out of school. Florida's dropout rate is a *single-year* indicator that compares the number of dropouts in grades 9-12 to the total 9-12 students enrolled at anytime during a single year. Dropout rates and graduation rates are not directly comparable since the graduation rate is a *four-year*, cohort-based indicator.
Explanation: The lack of a high school diploma can severely limit a person's employability and wage-earning potential.
Data source: Florida Department of Education, Education Information and Accountability Services, available online at www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/drop.asp.

3.5.2 High school graduation rate

Measurement: High school graduates are students who receive a regular diploma, special diploma, regular certificate of completion, special certificate of completion, or general equivalency diploma (GED) awarded to students ages 16-19. Beginning with the 1998-99 school year, Florida implemented a cohort-based method for calculating the rate based on the compilation and tracking of individual student records. Ideally, the graduation rate calculation should account for every student entering and leaving the school population. The calculation is designed to account for students who transfer out of the school population by removing them from the group of students (cohort) for which the school district is held responsible. Likewise, students who transfer into the school population are added to the cohort by being included in the count of the class with which they were initially scheduled to graduate (i.e., upon entry). For example, a 10th grader who transfers into the district will be included with the 4-year cohort of students who entered ninth grade for the first time during the previous year. Determining the denominator for the formula involves determining the cohort of students who enrolled as first-time ninth-graders four years prior to the year for which the graduation rate is to be measured; adding to this group any subsequent incoming transfer students who are on the same schedule to graduate; and subtracting students who transfer out for various reasons or who are deceased. The numerator simply consists of the number of graduates from this group (diploma recipients).
Explanation: As skill demands increase in the workforce, people without a high school diploma will have a more difficult time finding employment or advancing beyond low wage jobs.
Data source: Florida Department of Education, Education Information and Accountability Services, available online at www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/grad.asp.

3.17 Class Size

3.17.2 Average class size

Measurement: Section 1 of Article IX of the State Constitution was amended in November 2002 establishing, by the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year, the maximum number of students in core-curricula courses assigned to a teacher in each of the following three grade groupings: (1) Pre-kindergarten through grade 3, 18 students; (2) grades 4 through 8, 22 students; and (3) grades 9 through 12, 25 students. The Legislature enacted SB-30A specifically implementing the reduction of the average number of students in each classroom by at least two-students-per-year beginning with the 2003-2004 fiscal year until the maximum number of students per classroom does not exceed the 2010-2011 maximum. If a district's class size does not meet the required maximum, the district must reduce to the constitutional maximum in each of the three grade groupings or the average number of students in each of the three grade groupings by at least two-students-per-year as follows:

- 2003-2004, 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 at the district level;
- 2006-2007 - 2008-2009 at the school level (the 2008 Legislature extended the calculation at the school level for an additional year from 2007-08 to 2008-09);
- 2009-2010 at the classroom level.

Explanation: Smaller class sizes allow teachers to give students more individual attention, especially in the early grades.
Data source: Florida Department of Education, District Class Size Averages (Traditional Schools Only), available online at www.fldoe.org/classsize.

3.19 Student Attendance

3.19.2 Percentage of students absent 21 days or more
Measurement: The percentage of students from the total enrollment who were absent 21 or more days during the school year. District- and state-level data is calculated by school type.
Explanation: Frequent or long-term absences from school can interfere with learning and lead to dropping out of school.
Data source: Florida Department of Education, *Florida School Indicators Report*, available online at www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/fsir.asp.

4.1 Births to Teenagers

4.1.1 Percentage of babies born to teenage mothers, by race

Measurement: The percentage of babies born to teenage mothers is the number of births to teenagers ages 15-19, divided by the total number of live births to mothers in Broward County. Separate percentages are given for whites, non-whites, and all newborns regardless of race. Over time, this percentage tells us whether a growing percentage of babies are being born to teenage mothers.

Explanation: Children born to teenage parents are more likely to have health problems, live in poverty, and receive poor parenting. Also, teen parents often lack the education and economic means needed to raise their children.

Data source: Florida Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics, available online through the Community Health Assessment Resource Tool Set (CHARTS), www.floridacharts.com.

4.3 Infant Mortality

4.3.1 Infants dying in the first year of life

Measurement: Infant mortality refers to the death of a baby before his or her first birthday. Stillbirths, miscarriages and abortions are excluded. Infant mortality rates are presented for whites, non-whites and all infants regardless of race. The infant mortality rate is calculated by dividing the total number of infant deaths by the total number of live births and multiplying by 1,000.

Explanation: The infant mortality rate is a worldwide health indicator. In Florida, non-white babies are twice as likely to die in the first year of life as white babies.

Data source: Florida Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics, available online through the Community Health Assessment Resource Tool Set (CHARTS), www.floridacharts.com.

4.5 Adult Health

4.5.1 General health

Measurement: People's perception of their own health status is measured by telephone survey of a statistically valid sample of Broward County residents age 18 and older. Specifically, the survey asks, the following question: "Would you say that in general your physical, mental, and emotional health is excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?" Results are presented separately for all respondents, and for respondents in three income levels, for surveys conducted in 1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2008.

Explanation: How people perceive their health is a strong predictor of hospitalization and death.

Data source: Quality of Life Assessments of Broward County, Florida, by Professional Research Consultants, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska (1997 – Q3, 2000 - Q5, 2002 - Q5, 2004 – Q5, 2006 - Q5, 2008 – Q5), available online at www.sfrpc.com/ccb/prchome.htm.

4.6 Health Insurance

4.6.1 Uninsured

Measurement: In Broward County, the percentage of people without health insurance is measured by telephone survey of a statistically valid sample of county residents age 18 and older. Specifically, the survey asks "Do you have any kind of health care coverage?" Results are presented separately for respondents in four age groups, for surveys conducted in 1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2008.

Explanation: Health insurance allows people to get the treatment and care they need to maintain good health, seek early treatment for medical problems, and reduce the financial hardship of long-term or catastrophic illnesses.

Data source: Quality of Life Assessments of Broward County, Florida, by Professional Research Consultants, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska (1997 – Q7, 2000 - Q9, 2002 - Q9, 2004 – Q7, 2006 – Q7, 2008 – Q7), available online at www.sfrpc.com/ccb/prchome.htm.

4.8 Deaths

4.8.3 Unintentional death rate
Measurement: The total number of deaths due to unintentional injury divided by the total number of residents.
Explanation: Unintentional injuries are a major preventable cause of death.
Data source: Florida Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics, available online through the Community Health Assessment Resource Tool Set (CHARTS), www.floridacharts.com.

4.9 Communicable Diseases

4.9.1(b) Rate of new AIDS cases
Measurement: The rate of new AIDS cases is found by dividing the annual number of new AIDS cases by the resident population and multiplying by 100,000. When the rate goes up, the disease is considered to be spreading, and when it falls the disease is considered to be contracting.
Explanation: AIDS is a preventable communicable disease. Treatment is available but there is no cure. Broward County consistently ranks in the top five nationally in the incidence of reported cases in metropolitan areas with a population greater than 500,000. AIDS ranks in the top ten causes of death in Broward County.
Data source: Florida Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics, available online through the Community Health Assessment Resource Tool Set (CHARTS), www.floridacharts.com.

4.9.1(e) Rate of new Chlamydia cases
Measurement: The rate of new Chlamydia cases is found by dividing the annual number of new Chlamydia cases by the resident population and multiplying by 100,000. When the rate goes up, the disease is considered to be spreading, and when it falls the disease is considered to be contracting.
Explanation: Chlamydia is a sexually transmitted disease caused by the bacterium Chlamydia trachomatis and is the most commonly reported sexually transmitted disease in the United States. It can infect the male and female genital areas, the anus, the urethra, the eyes, or the throat. Chlamydia is known as a "silent" disease because about three quarters of infected women and about half of infected men have no symptoms. More cases of Chlamydia are reported yearly in Broward County than any other communicable disease.
Data source: Florida Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics, available online through the Community Health Assessment Resource Tool Set (CHARTS), www.floridacharts.com.

4.12 Immunizations

4.12.1 Immunizations
Measurement: A two-year-old is fully immunized if he or she has received the required vaccines for the following diseases: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, measles, mumps, rubella, Haemophilus influenzae type b (a major cause of meningitis), hepatitis B, and varicella (chickenpox). The percentage of children who have completed these immunizations is determined from a statistically valid sample of children's medical records.
Explanation: Immunization is one of public health's leading health indicators and a primary defense against some of the most deadly and debilitating diseases known. It is particularly important to vaccinate small children to prevent them from contracting serious diseases that can be prevented by immunizations. Florida is striving to increase the proportion of two-year-old children that are fully immunized to 90% by 2010 (Healthy People 2010 goal). Children under 5 are especially susceptible to disease because their immune systems have not built up the necessary defenses to fight infection. By immunizing on time (by age 2), you can protect your child from disease and also protect others at school or daycare.
Data source: Florida Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics, available online through the Community Health Assessment Resource Tool Set (CHARTS), www.floridacharts.com.

4.16 Check-ups / Preventive Health

4.16.1 Medical check-ups

Measurement: Information on medical check-ups is obtained by telephone survey of a statistically valid sample of Broward County residents age 18 and older. Specifically, the survey asks, "About how long has it been since you last visited a doctor for a routine check-up?" Possible responses are within the past year, within the past 2 years, within the past 5 years, 5 or more years ago, or never. Results are presented for those who have had a routine check-up in the last year, and include separate results for all respondents, and for respondents in three income levels, for surveys conducted in 1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2008.

Explanation: Regular medical check-ups offer prevention and early detection of health problems.

Data source: Quality of Life Assessments of Broward County, Florida, by Professional Research Consultants, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska (1997 – Q, 2000 - Q14, 2002 - Q13, 2004 – Q8, 2006 – Q8, 2008 – Q8), available online at www.sfrpc.com/ccb/prchome.htm.

4.16.2 Mammograms

Measurement: Women over age 50 are questioned by telephone survey about how long it has been since their last mammogram and clinical breast exam. Specifically, the survey asks," A mammogram is an x-ray of the breast to look for cancer. How long has it been since you had your last mammogram?" The survey also asks, "A clinical breast exam is when a doctor, nurse, or other health professional feels the breast for lumps. How long has it been since you had your last breast exam?" Possible responses are within the past year, within the past 2 years, within the past 3 years, within the past 5 years, 5 or more years ago, or never. Results are presented for women who have had both a mammogram and a clinical breast exam within the last two years, and include separate results for all respondents, and for respondents in three income levels, for surveys conducted in 1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2008.

Explanation: An annual mammogram is recommended for all women age 50 and over by the majority of health organizations. Mammograms offer early detection of breast cancer, which can prevent the need for radical surgery and can strengthen chances of survival.

Data source: Quality of Life Assessments of Broward County, Florida, by Professional Research Consultants, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska (1997 – Q141, 2000 – Q172, 2002 – Q172, 2004 – Q166, 2006 – Q166, 2008 – Q173), available online at www.sfrpc.com/ccb/prchome.htm.

4.16.3 Digital rectal exam

Measurement: Whether people have received a digital rectal exam is measured by telephone survey of a statistically valid sample of Broward County residents age 18 and older. Specifically, survey respondents who are at least 40 years of age are asked, "A digital rectal exam is when a doctor, nurse, or other health professional inserts a finger in the rectum to check for cancer and other health problems. When did you have your last digital rectal exam?" Possible responses are within the past year, within the past 2 years, within the past 3 years, within the past 5 years, 5 or more years ago, or never. Results are presented for those who have had an exam within the last 2 years, and include separate results for all respondents, and for respondents in three income levels, for surveys conducted in 1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2008.

Explanation: A malignant tumor around the prostate can result in back pain, painful urination or painful ejaculation. Also, urinating may be difficult and the urine may contain blood or pus. These symptoms, however, need not be present with prostate cancer. Prostate cancer is detected by palpation through digital examination. It occurs in men most often after the age of 40, thus it is essential that after this age digital rectal examinations be performed regularly.

Data source: Quality of Life Assessments of Broward County, Florida, by Professional Research Consultants, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska (1997 – Q81, 2000 - Q63, 2002 - Q63, 2004 – Q53, 2006 – Q53, 2008 – Q59), available online at www.sfrpc.com/ccb/prchome.htm.

4.16.4 Dental check-ups

Measurement: Whether people have received dental checkups is measured by telephone survey of a statistically valid sample of Broward County residents age 18 and older. Specifically, survey respondents are asked, "About how long has it been since you last visited a dentist for a routine check up?" Possible responses are within the past 6 months, within the past year, within the past 2 years, within the past 5 years, 5 or more years ago, or never. Results are presented for adults who have had an exam within the last year, and include separate results for all respondents, and for respondents in three income levels, for surveys conducted in 1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2008.

Explanation: Access to dental care is the most reliable indicator of the population's dental health when information on actual dental health is not available.

Data source: Quality of Life Assessments of Broward County, Florida, by Professional Research Consultants, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska (1997 – Q13, 2000 - 137, 2002 - 137, 2004 – Q132, 2006 – Q132, 2008 – Q132), available online at www.sfrpc.com/ccb/prchome.htm.

5.1 New Jobs Created

5.1.1 Net annual job growth rate

Measurement: The net annual job growth rate is (1) the average number of jobs this year minus (2) the average number of jobs last year divided by (3) the average number of jobs last year, multiplied by (4) 100. For the ranking in job growth, Broward County's growth rate is compared to six other similar counties in Florida (based on the size of their population). Data for both is drawn from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, as reported by Florida's Labor Market Information System, and refer to the civilian labor force.
Explanation: Job growth is needed to keep pace with the county's population growth and to offset job loss in existing industries.
Data sources: Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, available online at www.labormarketinfo.com/Library/LAUS.htm; Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, available online at www.bls.gov/cps.

5.2 Unemployment

5.2.1 Unemployment rate

***Measurement*:** The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed people age 16 and older divided by the number of people in the civilian labor force. Broward County's unemployment rate as a percentage of the Florida (or US) employment rate is (1) the county's unemployment rate divided by (2) the state (or national) unemployment rate, multiplied by (3) 100. If this percentage is above 100%, Broward County is doing worse than Florida (or the nation). If it is less than 100%, Broward County is doing better than Florida (or the nation). The number of unemployed people is estimated from the Current Population Survey, a household survey of the civilian, non-institutional population conducted by the US Bureau of the Census for the US Bureau of Labor Statistics. People are counted as unemployed if they (1) have not worked during the survey week, (2) are available for work, and (3) have looked for work during the preceding four weeks.
Explanation: Job loss can have a devastating impact on people's lives as well as state and local economies.
Data sources: Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, available online at www.labormarketinfo.com/Library/LAUS.htm; Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, available online at www.bls.gov/cps.

5.3 Teenage Unemployment

5.3.1 Teenage unemployment rate

Measurement: Teenage unemployment by race and ethnicity is taken from the US Census Bureau's annual American Community Survey. It covers people 16 to 19 years of age.
Explanation: Job loss and the inability to find work can have a devastating impact on people's lives, as well as state and local economies.
Data source: US Bureau of the Census, *American Community Survey* (2000-03: Tables PCT048 A-K; 2004-07: Tables B23002 A-H), available online through American FactFinder (http://factfinder.census.gov).

5.5 Personal Income

5.5.1 Average personal income

Measurement: Average personal income is the total personal income of Broward County residents divided by the county population. Total personal income is estimated annually by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, US Department of Commerce, from the best available data sources on wages and salaries, interest, dividends, rental income, public pensions, health benefits, transfer payments (e.g., public assistance, Medicare/Medicaid), farm income, and other income sources. Average personal income excludes private pensions and therefore will be underestimated in areas such as Florida and Broward County where there are a large number of retirees. Also, income estimates do not correct for regional differences in the cost of living. Average personal income is expressed in nominal dollars, which are not adjusted for inflation. Broward County's average personal income as a percentage

of the Florida (or US) average personal income is (1) the county's average personal income divided by (2) the state (or national) average personal income, multiplied by (3) 100. If this percentage is above 100%, Broward County is doing better than Florida (or the nation). If it is less than 100%, Broward County is doing worse than Florida (or the nation).
Explanation: Average income generally reflects people's standard of living.
Data source: US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Regional Economic Information System (REIS), 1969-2007* (released April, 2009). This data is available online at www.bea.gov/regional/reis.

5.11 Tourism

5.11.1 Tourist arrivals and expenditures
Measurement: The number of yearly tourist arrivals in Greater Fort Lauderdale.
Explanation: Due to South Florida's weather, beaches, and other attractions, tourists are an important source of revenue for Broward County.
Data source: Broward County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Visitor and Expenditure Estimates (annual), available online at www.sunny.org/partners/market-research.

5.11.2 Tourist development taxes per capita
Measurement: The value of tourist development taxes collected annually by Broward County, in millions of nominal dollars, as reported by the Broward County Tax Collector to the Florida Department of Revenue. Broward County "self-administers" these taxes.
Explanation: Due to South Florida's weather, beaches, and other attractions, tourists are an important source of both direct and indirect revenue for Broward County.
Data source: Florida Department of Revenue, Office of Research and Analysis, *Local Government Tax Receipts by County* (Table f3fy*yyyy*.xls, annual), available online at http://dor.myflorida.com/dor/taxes/distributions.html.

5.12 Defense Industry

5.12.1 Defense spending
Measurement: The dollars spent by the Department of Defense in Florida include payroll outlays to active duty military, civilians working for the military, reservists and members of the National Guard and retired military living in Florida. Prime defense contract dollars are for those that are $25,000 or more and include supply, research and development, service, construction and civil function contracts. Subcontractor information is not available. Military is defined as US Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force. Annual defense spending per capita is expressed in nominal dollars, which are not adjusted for inflation, divided by the total population.
Explanation: Defense industry spending in Florida, as home to major military installations and a destination for military retirees, represents an important element of the State's economy. Although Broward County does not host any major military facilities, it does compete to provide goods and services in response to Defense Department procurement.
Data source: US Bureau of the Census, *Consolidated Federal Funds Report* (annual). Both detailed data and publications are available at www.census.gov/govs/www/cffr.html

5.16 Construction Activity

5.16.1 Housing starts
Measurement: A housing start is defined as the start-up of construction of single or multi-family housing units, excluding mobile homes.
Explanation: Increased construction activity is a sign of economic strength and recovery.
Data source: University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, *Florida Statistical Abstract* (annual), Table 11.05.

6.1 Air Quality

6.1.1 State of the air quality

Measurement: This performance measure shows the percentage of monitored calendar year days when the air quality is rated good based on the highest pollutant concentration measured that day. The Air Quality Program monitors air quality throughout Broward County (site map at www.broward.org/air/monitoring.htm) for a variety of different pollutants used to determine daily air quality.

Explanation: Poor air quality can affect public health, especially the health of children, the elderly, and people with pre-existing respiratory problems, such as asthma. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) has established National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for the criteria pollutants [ozone (O_3), particulate matter (PM), oxides of nitrogen (NO_x), sulfur dioxide (SO_2), carbon monoxide (CO), and lead (Pb)] to ensure adequate public health and environmental protection. The U.S. EPA developed the national Air Quality Index (AQI) to reflect air quality on any given day. An AQI is calculated for each of the criteria pollutants monitored based upon the methods established by the U.S. EPA and the highest AQI value of these for any given day is designated as that day's AQI. Daily AQI information for Broward County is available to the public by dialing (954) 519-1280 or on the web at www.broward.org/air/. NAAQS and AQI are dynamic systems designed to accomplish two objectives: 1) to establish acceptable air quality standards; and 2) to inform the public about the level of air pollution in their community and the associated health risks. The NAAQS and the AQI are routinely scrutinized by the U.S. EPA's Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee to ensure that the latest medical and health related research are considered when the NAAQS are set. Therefore, the concentration ranges associated with the different levels of the AQI may change from year to year. Further complicating trend analysis and comparative studies of air quality are the local and regional variations in meteorological conditions which play a large part in dispersing or retaining air pollutants in our urban area. In Broward, yearly ambient air quality is a measure of the percentage of days in a calendar year that are ranked in the "good" category based upon the current AQI. Recent trends show a period of improvement in yearly ambient air quality (2001-2003) followed by a slight decrease (2004). The improvement was due to control technology implemented to prevent high ozone days. The decrease was due to the addition of $PM_{2.5}$ real-time data to the AQI determination. This better reflected the impact of smoky conditions on the AQI. The ability to monitor $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations in real-time was due to new instrumentation previously not available or approved for real time $PM_{2.5}$ monitoring. Therefore, ambient air quality was not necessarily worsening; rather the new standards made it more challenging for any given day to achieve a rating of "good" on the AQI. Additionally, changes by the US EPA to the NAAQS for ozone may affect future trends. In previous editions of the Environmental Benchmark Report, an "AQI goal" for the year 2010 was included in the graph of this resource. However, it has been removed from this year's report because changes made to the NAAQS have changed the way the US EPA calculates the AQI. These changes have made it difficult to determine an appropriate goal for this resource. The AQI was in the good range for 302 days, in the moderate range for 55 days, in the unhealthy for sensitive groups range for six days, and in the unhealthy range for two days in 2007. There were fewer "good" days in 2007 due to the impact of the North Florida and Georgia fires to the Southeast Florida airshed.

Data source: Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department, Pollution Prevention, Remediation and Air Quality Division, Monica Pognon, (954) 519–1476.

6.1.3 Roadway capacity

Measurement: This performance measure tracks the relative proportion of roadway segments operating below the designated level of service standard in the specified calendar year.

Explanation: The established roadway level of service standard used in the Broward County Comprehensive Plan (www.broward.org/planningservices/upi00112.htm) defines "overcapacity" segments as those operating at levels of service worse than Level of Service "D." This performance measure supplements the information provided by the two "Vehicle miles traveled" performance measures. It provides a more comprehensive picture of how vehicular traffic and the adequacy of the roadway system can affect the environmental quality of life in a county experiencing continuing urbanization. More information is available at www.broward.org/mpo/plansprograms.htm. The 2007 figure is 4.03% lower than the 2006 levels, which is directly attributed to the lower annual growth in population, employment, school enrollment and other socioeconomic variables leading to lower travel demand.

Data source: Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department, Metropolitan Planning Organization Division, Lina Kulikowksi, (954) 357-6610.

6.3 Surface Water Quality

6.3.3 Quality of marine bathing water, from a bacteriological standpoint

Measurement: This performance measure tracks the percentage of beach water quality measurements rated as satisfactory, based upon weekly enterococci and fecal coliform testing at fifteen public beaches in Broward County. The reporting period ends on June 30th of the indicated year, in accordance with the state fiscal year.

Explanation: The Broward County Health Department, with the State Department of Health, initiated a program in 1998 to provide scientific information on the quality of coastal beach bathing waters to the public. The program

involves monitoring of enterococci and fecal coliform bacteria levels at fifteen locations along Broward County's Atlantic coast. The density of enterococci and fecal coliform bacteria as indicator groups in seawater show a relationship to swimming-associated gastroenteritis. The annual goal is to maintain the beach water quality at or above 92% of water sampled in the satisfactory/good range. More information on the Florida Healthy Beach Program may be found at http://esetappsdoh.doh.state.fl.us/irm00beachwater/. Over the past four years the percentage of satisfactory/good beach water samples is averaging 95.87% with a range from 93.2% to 98.2%. This year's result, 97.8%, is 1.93% above the four year average. This positive gain may be the result of a dry year with few major rainfall events.
Data source: Broward County Health Department, Phong Nguyen, (954) 467-4846.

6.9 Energy Use

6.9.1 Energy consumption

Measurement: This is a measure of the total annual electric power consumed in Broward County on a calendar year basis. Total electrical consumption includes residential and nonresidential. The per capita measure includes only residential consumption.
Explanation: The production and consumption of electric energy are significant sources of air pollution. Generating electricity by burning oil and natural gas generates emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide (SO_2) and carbon dioxide (CO_2). VOCs and NO_x are precursors for ozone, whereas CO_2 is a greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change. NO_x and SO_2 are also precursors for acid rain that in turn contribute to poor air and water quality. Poor air quality affects public health, especially of children and the elderly. Total electrical consumption has, generally increased over the last ten years – only calendar year 2004 saw a decrease of 1.46% due in part to outages caused by tropical storms. Calendar year 2007 was no exception as the total electrical consumption increased by 0.82%. This increase correlates with the increase in the 2006 figure. However, it remained lower than the 1.47% to 13.91% increases that have been seen in the past ten years prior to 2006. Unlike the trend for total electrical consumption, which has been increasing steadily over the past ten years, per capita electrical consumption has fluctuated over time. Per capita electrical consumption began to decrease in 2007 by 0.68%. This is opposite of what was observed in 2005 and 2006, which was a slightly increasing trend. Current levels still remain almost 500 kwh/yr more than levels observed 10 years ago.
Data source: Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department, Pollution Prevention, Remediation and Air Quality Division and Florida Power & Light Co., Maria Betancur, (954) 321-2074.

6.10 Waste Management

6.10.1 Waste production

Measurement: This performance measure tracks the quantity of solid waste produced in Broward County for calendar years. Broward County Waste and Recycling Services (WRS) provides data on waste production by Broward County to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). The FDEP, Bureau of Solid and Hazardous Waste, Division of Waste Management, publishes the data in an annual report. The total waste tonnage includes construction and demolition debris. Per capita amounts are calculated for solid waste that is combusted and landfilled, excluding waste that is recycled.
Explanation: Tracking of the handling, management and disposal of solid waste helps to prevent illegal dumping and allows the maintenance of sufficient disposal options for future generations.
Data source: Florida Department of Environmental Protection, *Solid Waste Annual Report Data*, available online at (www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/quick_topics/publications/default.htm).

6.10.2 Waste disposal

Measurement: Data are provided to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) by the Broward County Waste and Recycling Services (WRS) and published by FDEP, Bureau of Solid and Hazardous Waste, Division of Waste Management, in the Solid Waste Management in Florida Annual Report. Landfilled tonnage includes construction and demolition materials.
Explanation: Tracking of the handling, management and disposal of solid waste helps to prevent illegal dumping and allows the maintaining of sufficient disposal options for future generations. The percentage of solid waste recycled decreased 17% between 2005 and 2006, reflecting a general downward trend in this benchmark.
Data source: Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department, Pollution Prevention, Remediation and Air Quality Division, Sermin Unsal, (954) 519-1460.

6.11 Climate Change

6.11.1 Mean sea level rise

Measurement: This is the change in annual average sea level at station 940/071, Lat 24 33 N, Long 81 48 W, located in Key West, using the average annual sea level from 1920 as a baseline.

Explanation: One impact of global climate change is the melting of the polar ice caps. This increases the volume of water in the world's oceans, resulting in a change in sea level. As global temperatures climb, the ocean waters are heated and expand, also contributing to higher sea level.As an oceanic peninsula with relatively flat topography, Florida's coastline is particularly vulnerable to significant deviations in mean sea level. The trend since 1920 has been a variable increase in sea level. In 2007, the average sea level was 9.45 inches higher than the 1920 baseline.

Data source: Raw data is from the Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level (PSMSL) based in Liverpool at the Proudman Oceanographic Laboratory (POL), which is a component of the UK Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) (www.pol.ac.uk/psmsl/psmsl_individual_stations.html). Calculations made by Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department, Natural Resources Planning and Management Division, Nancy J. Gassman, PhD (954) 519–1295.

6.11.2 Deviation in annual average temperature

Measurement: This is the change in annual average temperature as measured against the baseline of average annual temperature for the period of 1950-1970 at the Fort Lauderdale weather station number 083163, located at lat 26 06 N, and between long 80 09W and 80 12 W, since 1948. The data is from the National Climatic Data Center historical listing for National Weather Service Cooperative Network (www.sercc.com/cgi-bin/sercc/cliMAIN.pl?fl3163).

Explanation: Local weather changes from year to year. As cities develop, the physical infrastructure impacts the local weather. In addition, global events such as El Niño or volcanic explosions influence local weather. The change in temperature from a twenty-year period beginning five decades ago demonstrates the influence of local and global changes on local climate. Since 1971, only five of the 17 years have shown an average annual temperature below the 1950-1970 baseline. In 2007, the average annual temperature was 1.82 °F above the baseline.

Data source: Raw data from the Southeast Regional Climate Center and North Carolina State University, sercc@climate.ncsu.edu. Calculations made by Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department, Natural Resources Planning and Management Division, Nancy J. Gassman, PhD (954) 519–1295.

7.1 Citizen Trust in Government

7.1.2 Public rating of county government

Measurement: The general public's rating of local government is measured by telephone survey of a statistically valid sample of Broward County adults age 18 and older. Specifically, the survey asks, "How would you rate the job Broward County government is doing? Would you say excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?"

Explanation: Higher ratings of government performance reflect public confidence that tax dollars are spent wisely with the intended results. As the public perception of government improves, people will be more likely to participate in representative government and to support government-funded services such as public education and transportation improvements.

Data source: Quality of Life Assessments of Broward County, Florida, by Professional Research Consultants, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska (2000 - Q130, 2002 - Q131, 2004 – Q126, 2006 – Q126, 2008 – Q139), available online at www.sfrpc.com/ccb/prchome.htm.

7.2 Public Satisfaction

7.2.1 Public satisfaction with local government services

Measurement: Public satisfaction with local government services is measured by telephone survey of a statistically valid sample of Broward County adults age 18 and older. In 2000 and 2002, the survey asked, "In general, would you say that the city/town services where you live are excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?" In 2004, 2006 and 2008, the survey asked, "Would you rate the job your local government is doing as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?"

Explanation: Citizen satisfaction with government services is an important outcome to consider in judging government performance.

Data source: Quality of Life Assessments of Broward County, Florida, by Professional Research Consultants, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska (2000 - Q131, 2002 - Q132, 2004 - Q127, 2006 – Q127, 2008 – Q140), available online at www.sfrpc.com/ccb/prchome.htm.

7.9 Presidential Elections

7.9.2 Registered voter turnout in presidential election years

Measurement: Registered voters are people who (1) meet age, residency and citizenship requirements, (2) do not have a criminal history, and (3) do not claim the right to vote in another state. In Florida, citizens may register to vote by mail, at county election offices, during official voter registration drives, or at driver license offices. Counts for each year are taken at the close of registration, just prior to each election. Voter turnout is number of registered voters who voted at the polls or by absentee ballot divided by the number of registered voters. In these indicators, turnout is reported only for presidential election years in which the President and Vice President, members of the US House of Representatives, Florida House members, one-half the Florida Senate and a portion of the constitutional county officials are on the ballot. US Senators are elected every six years.

Explanation: Those who register to vote are likely to have a greater interest in their governance than those who do not. The turnout on Election Day indicates the level of interest citizens have in their governance.

Data sources: Florida Department of State, Division of Elections, *Official General Election Returns* (election years), available online at http://election.dos.state.fl.us/elections/resultsarchive/index.asp.