

POLK COUNTY Health Equity Profile

Equality



Equity



2022

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HEALTH EQUITY

is the availability of health care while taking in to account the other factors that influence health.

- employment, housing, transportation, education, socioeconomic status, food access, etc.

EQUALITY

is equal treatment and availability of health care services for all people.

Social Determinants of Health

conditions in the environments in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks.



Polk County, Department of Health Health Equity Plan

Health Equity Vision:

- Data, resources & Health Equity priorities
- Guidance from Health Equity Regional Coordinator and Minority Health Liaison
- Health Equity Task force

Identified Health priorities in 2020:

Behavioral Health, Access to Care, Exercise, Nutrition and Weight, and Infant Mortality

For more information, visit [Polk County's Equity Plan](#)

Neighborhood Conditions

Food insecurity is a social determinant of health.

Food Insecurity Rate

13%

Polk County, 2019

FL Food Insecurity Rate: **12%**



Food insecure households typically are low-income and may experience issues like **social isolation, lack of affordable housing, low wages and high medical costs.**



14%

Population Living Within 1/2 Mile of a Healthy Food Source

Public Spaces



23%

Population living within 1/2 mile of a park



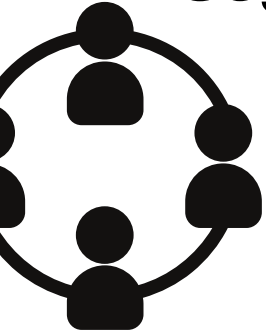
16.7%

Population living in severe housing problems, 2020

- lack of kitchen facilities & plumbing facilities
- more than 1.5 persons per room
- severe cost burden (monthly housing costs including utilities exceed 50% of monthly income)

Neighborhood Conditions

Residential Racial Segregation Index:



0.4
Moderately Segregated

Health impacts of residentially segregated neighborhoods:

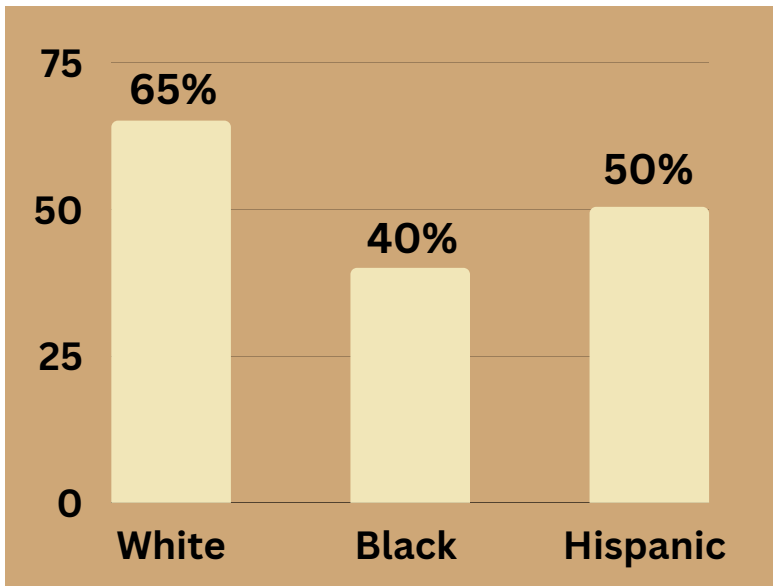
- unequal access to health care
- poorer quality of care
- substandard housing conditions
- higher exposure to toxic pollutants

Owner-occupied housing, 2020.

Measure of well-being that assesses neighborhood stability.

Benefits to becoming a Homeowner:

- More opportunities to save money
- Increase of Social Ties
- Higher Self-Esteem
- Increase in perceived control over your life
- Better child performance in schools

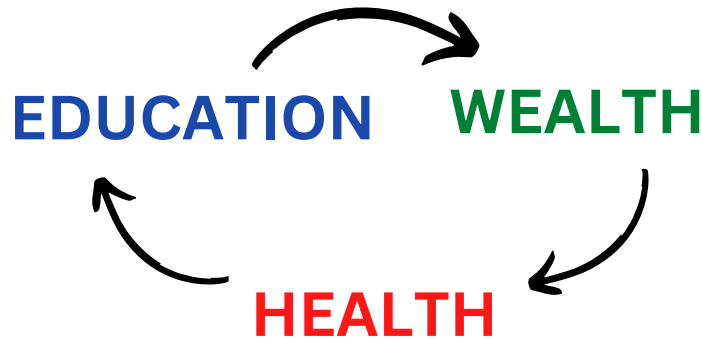


Socioeconomic Status

Education, Income & Occupation

15%

of individuals 25 years and over with no high school diploma



- Education creates opportunities for better health (income/resources, better neighborhoods, etc.)
- Poor health can effect educational attainment
- Conditions throughout life course can affect health and education (stress, access to care, discrimination, etc).

Population Living Below the Federal Poverty Line, by Race

13%	23%	19%
White	Black	Hispanic

Socioeconomic Status

Median Household Income– Racial Differences, 2019



\$53,962

White residents

\$39,255

Black residents

\$45,703

Hispanic residents

Median Household Income in Florida:



\$57,703

Unemployment Rate

10.8%

2020

3.5%

2022

COVID-19 Impact:

- February–April 2020: Florida lost 1.28 million jobs.
- Estimated the state has regained those lost jobs and added 1.65 million more.

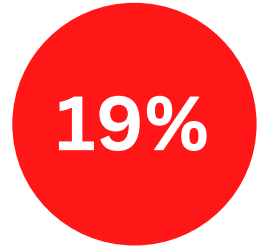
Children's Health



Graduation rate, 2019

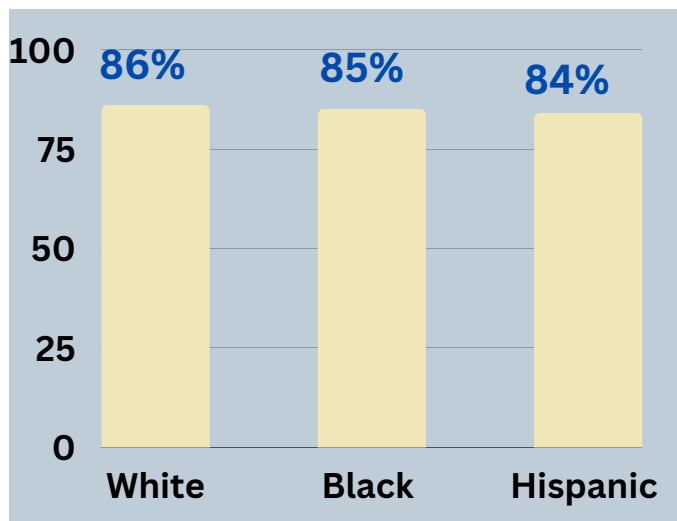
Disadvantaged students are defined as those who are determined to qualify for free or reduced lunch.

Disadvantaged	82%
Not Disadvantaged	90%



Child Food Insecurity Rate, 2020

High School Graduation Rate, 2020–2021



Students who do not graduate high school are more likely to work low wage jobs, live in poverty and report worse health. For more information, visit [Healthy People, 2030](#)

Percent of students who were physically active for at least 60 minutes on all 7 of the past 7 days

18%
Middle School Students

21%
High School Students



Children's Health

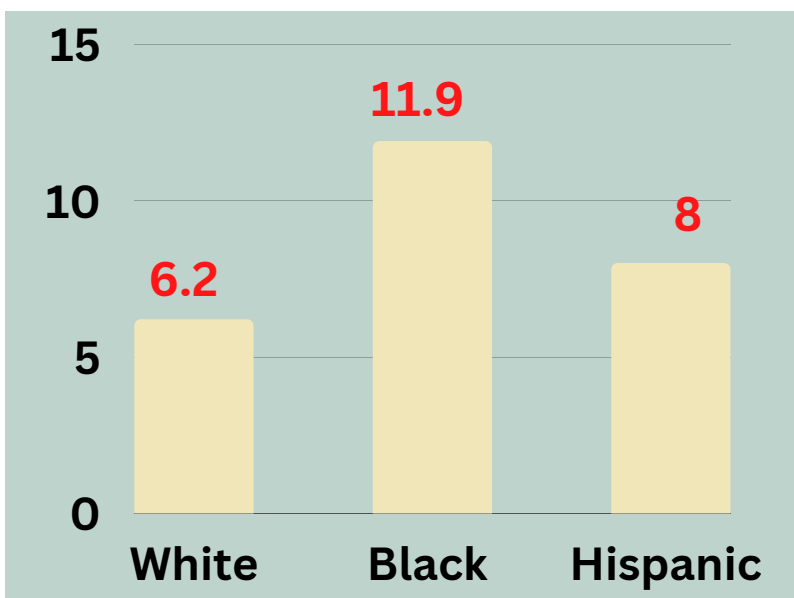


419.2 per 100,000

Preventable Hospitalizations from Asthma (ages 0–4)

Indicates a failure of prevention efforts, a primary care resource shortage, poor performance of primary health care delivery, or other factors that create barriers to timely and effective care.

**Infant deaths (0–364 days old) per 1,000 live births.
By Race, 2020**



POLK HEALTH EQUITY PLAN:

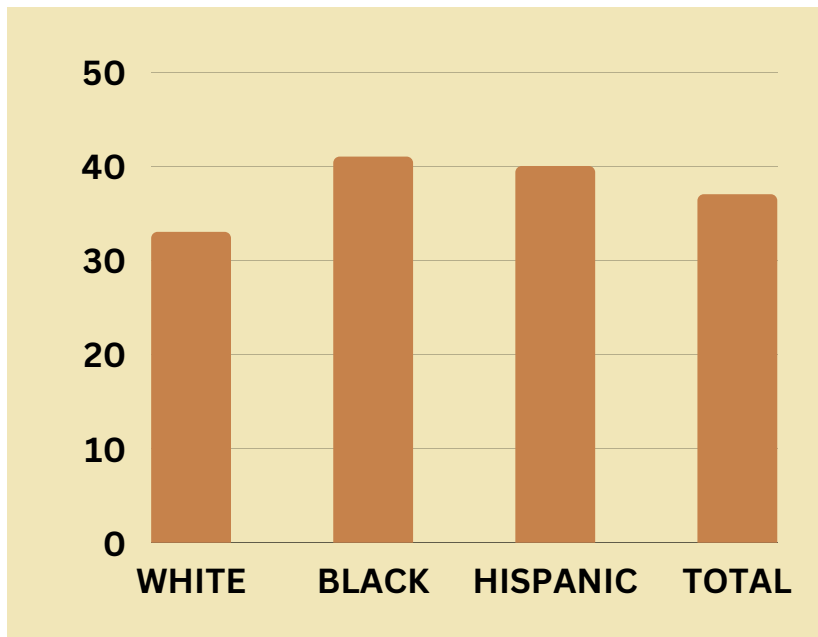
Improve Infant mortality:

- Safe sleep
- Breast feeding
- Community advocacy & cohesion
- Access to health care services

Healthcare Access

Had an unmet (medical, dental or mental) health need during the past 12 months.

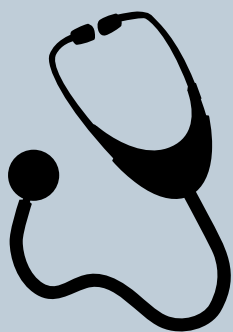
By race, 2020



20%



Adults who could not see a Doctor in the past year due to cost



72%

Adults who have a personal Doctor

Florida: 72%

Some benefits of having a primary care provider:

- Saves costs
- Keep you up-to-date with vaccines and screenings
- Timely care

Healthcare Access

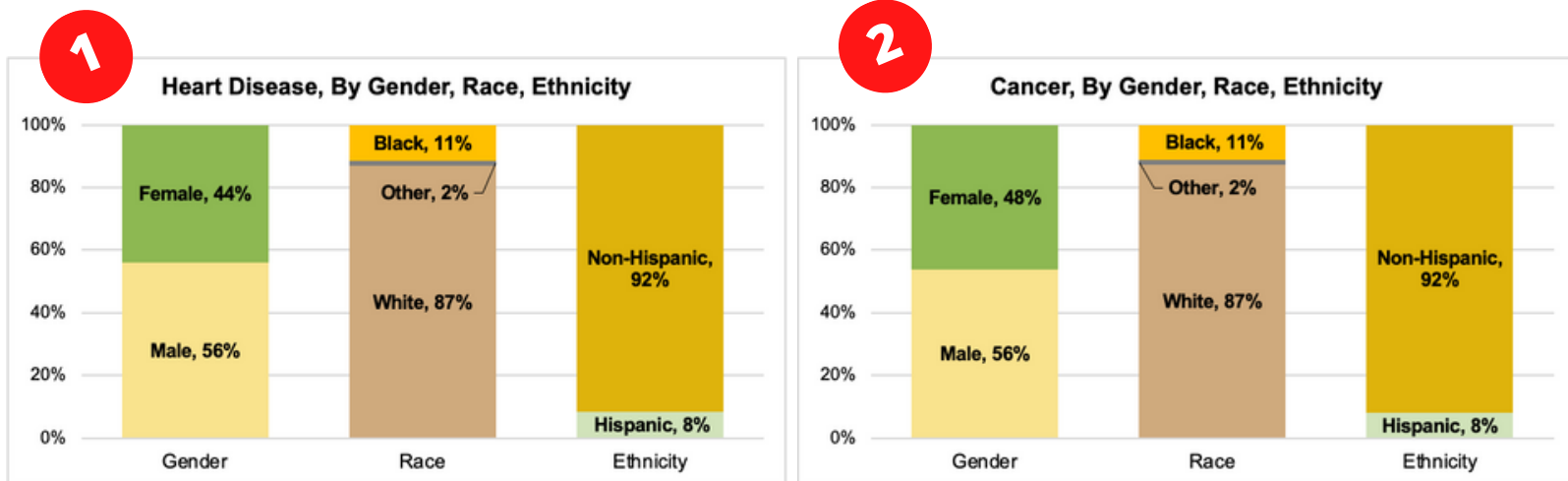
Healthcare Providers & Resources (per 100,000)	County	Florida
Total licensed Providers (Fiscal year 21-22)	155.7	314
Family practice physicians	10.9	19.2
Dentists	24.9	56.7
Pediatricians	9.6	21.9
Internists/Internal Medicine	29.4	47.3
OB/GYN's	4.4	9.2
Licensed Mental Health Counselors	41	57.3
FACILITIES	County	Florida
Total hospital beds	255.4	307.6
Total Acute care beds	225.3	248.9
Specialty Beds	30.1	58.6
Nursing Home beds	457.9	386.5

16.7% **Uninsured Population**
(under 65 years)

Leading Causes of Death, 2020

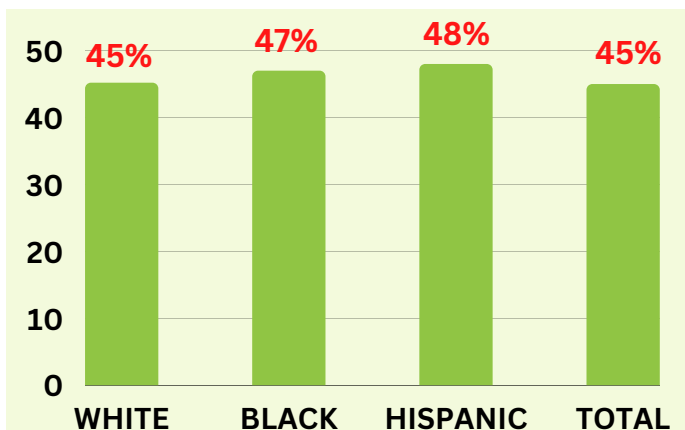
1. Heart Disease
2. Cancer
3. COVID-19
4. Stroke
5. Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease

Top 2 Leading Causes of Death, 2020



EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

Cancer Diagnosed at Advanced Stage, Incidence per 100,000



Individuals that are: **low income, low health literacy, lack health insurance and have to travel long distances** to receive screening sites are less likely to receive timely cancer screenings.

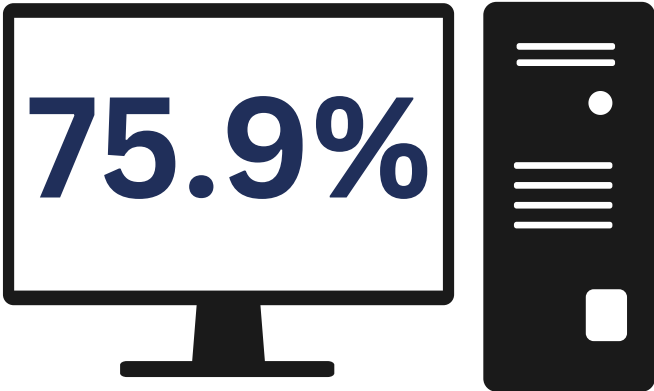
EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS, continued.

Expected Population Growth



Polk county's population is expected to jump from 700,000 to one million by 2045.

- Implications for economic development, housing, health services, schools, etc.



Households with Broadband Internet Subscription, 2016-2020

Digital Divide: growing gap between the underprivileged members of society who do not have access to computers or the internet and those that do.

low-income, elderly, handicapped, those who live in rural areas.

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6. Florida Department of Education, Education Information and Accountability Services (EIAS), 2019 (graduation rate by disadvantage)
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9. Avoidable Asthma Hospitalizations, FL Health Charts. Florida Agency for Health Care Administration, 2020.
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