

Charlotte County, Florida

Seasonal Population Estimates

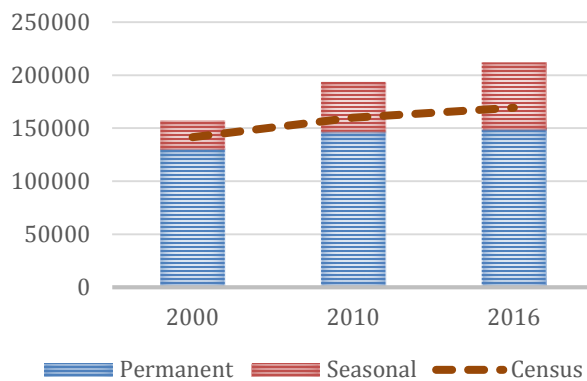
	Census	POPULATION ESTIMATES		
		Permanent	Seasonal	Total
2000	141,627	130,344	27,348	157,693
2010	159,978	146,714	46,765	193,479
2016	169,380	149,264	62,782	212,045

Census estimates are valid for April (Decennial Census) or July (American Community Survey estimates).

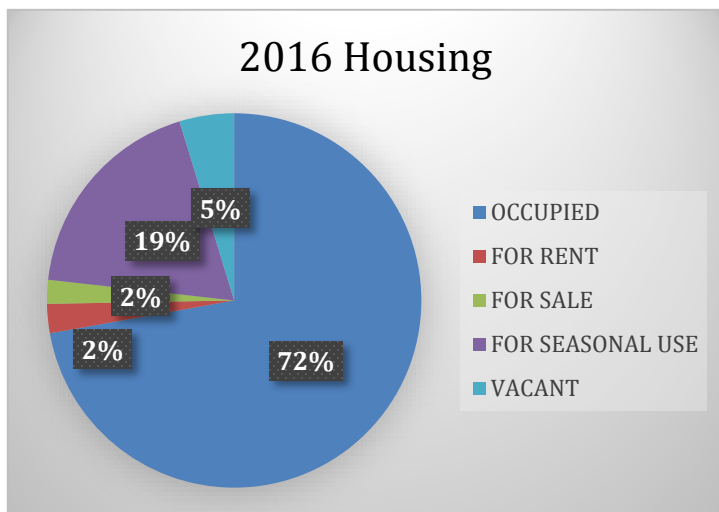
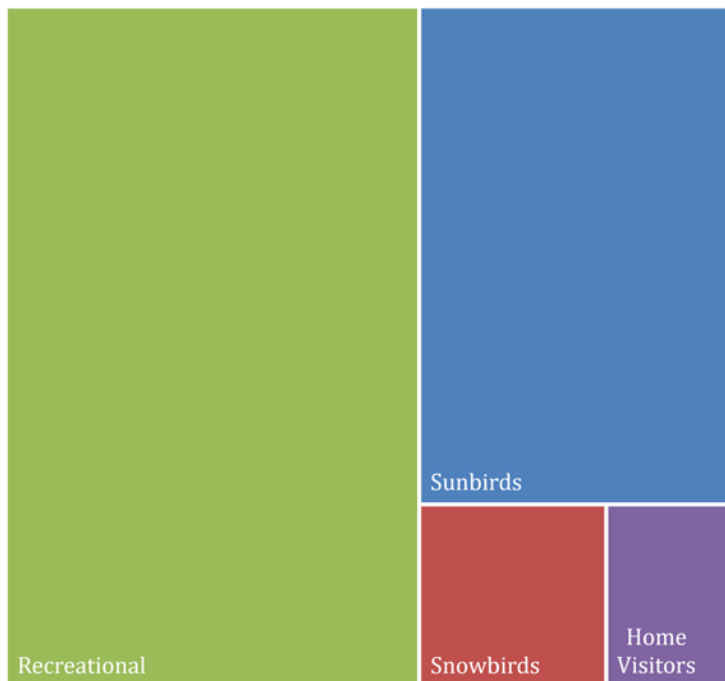
Seasonal populations are highest in Florida in January and lowest in September. Summing the stayer and seasonal populations results in a higher total than census estimates partly because of the timing of census estimates.

In July 2016, nearly 20% of housing units in the county were vacant but designated for seasonal or recreational use. Recreational population is the largest seasonal type by percentage.

Census Population: Comparisons With Permanent + Seasonal



2016 Seasonal Population Types by Percentage





Seasonal Population Estimates

Total Estimates 2000-2016

Overall Method

The total seasonal population for Charlotte County combines:

1. total estimated *sunbirds* claiming the county as their permanent residence,
2. estimated *snowbirds* that reside in the county part of each year,
3. population estimated to live in *housing units* designated for *seasonal and/or recreational use*,
4. *temporary visitors* estimated to stay in homes of permanent residents for 30+ days.

These seasonal estimates do not include hotel/motel guests.

Sunbirds vs Snowbirds

Sunbirds are permanent residents of Charlotte County that are also temporary migrants for 30 days or more to other locations. *Snowbirds* do not claim the county as their primary residence, but do reside in the county for an extended period each year (30+ days).

Sunbirds and Snowbirds

Sunbird Estimates

In April, when the Census data is collected, the sunbird population is approximately 7.7 percent of the Florida resident population aged 55 and over. An additional 4.4% are estimated to be away from their permanent residence in April and, therefore, are uncounted by the census data. Because 93% of sunbirds aged 55+ own their primary residence, these residences would also be uncounted in the vacant or rental property statistics.

Snowbird Estimates

Snowbirds account for about 4.7 percent of the Florida population aged 55 and over. In April, when the Census data is collected, the snowbird population is approximately 63 percent of its total, or at about 4.04 percent of the total population. Because snowbirds are temporary residents, the balance of the population could reside in the homes designated for seasonal and recreational use that are vacant in the April data.

Recreation & Visitors

Recreational Housing

Housing units that are vacant but designated as properties for seasonal/recreational use were assumed to house a population equivalent to the average number of persons per housing unit in the same census block group. This estimate includes the snowbirds who were away from Charlotte County at the Census, as well as other temporary vacationers using a rental in the area.

Home Visitors

Approximately 1.7 percent of households in Florida report having visitors in their home for over one month. The average number of visitors is 2.4 per household.

Considering Dates

When estimating seasonally it is critical to consider the date for which data is valid. Decennial census data is collected in April; American Community Survey estimates are for July.

Percentages as found by Smith, S.K. and M. House. 2006. Snowbirds, Sunbirds, and Stayers: Seasonal Migration of Elderly Adults in Florida. Journal of Gerontology, Vol. 61B, S232-s239.