



# Economic Views

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SERVING CHARLOTTE, COLLIER, GLADES, HENDRY, LEE AND SARASOTA COUNTIES SINCE 1973

## FEATURED ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

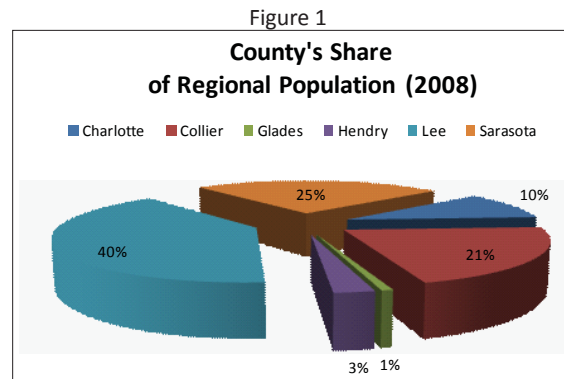


### CHANGES IN THE AREA'S POPULATION

According to the 2008 census population estimates, the region's population has reached 1,481,139. Lee County has the largest proportion of the region's population at 40%, while the two inland Counties, Hendry and Glades, have the lowest population share with 3% and 1%, respectively. Figure 1 shows each county's share of the regional population.

Population Figures			
County	2008 Estimates	2000	% Change
Charlotte	150,060	141,627	5.95%
Collier	315,258	251,377	25.41%
Glades	11,175	10,576	5.66%
Hendry	39,453	36,210	8.96%
Lee	593,136	440,888	34.53%
Sarasota	372,057	325,964	14.14%
Region	1,481,139	1,206,642	22.75%

Source: US Census Bureau.



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October 2009



## FESTIVALS & EVENTS



October 15-24, 2009  
**FRIDAY NIGHTS & BOO BASH**  
 Imaginarium, Fort Myers  
 Contact: (239) 321-7420

October 17-31, 2009  
**HALLOWEEN EXPRESS**  
 Lakes Regional Park, Fort Myers  
 Contact: (239) 267-1905

October 21 – 31, 2009  
**HAUNTED WALK**  
 Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium, Fort Myers  
 Contact: (239) 275-3435

October 23-25, 2009  
**PUMPKIN FESTIVAL**  
 Times Square, Fort Myers Beach  
 Contact: (239) 395-1113

October 23-25, 2009  
**OKTOBERFEST**  
 German-American Social Club, Cape Coral  
 Contact: (239) 283-1400

October 23 - November 1, 2009  
**4TH ANNUAL CALUSA BLUEWAY PADDLING FESTIVAL**  
 Events in various locations, SWFLA  
 Contact: (239) 433-3855

October 23-25, 2009  
**RUN FOR READING**  
 South Seas Island Resort, Captiva Island  
 Contact: (800) Captiva

October 23 – November 1, 2009  
**THE CALUSA BLUEWAY PADDLING FESTIVAL**  
 Pineland  
 Contact: (239) 433-3855

October 24-25, 2009  
**PUMPKIN PATCH EXPRESS**  
 Seminole Gulf Railway, Fort Myers  
 Contact: (239) 275-8487

October 24-25, 2009  
**FRIENDLY FOREST**  
 Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium, Fort Myers  
 Contact: (239) 275-3435

October 30, 2009  
**YMCA BOO-TACULAR HALLOWEEN BASH**  
 Marco Island  
 Contact: STEPHANIE@MARCOISLANDYMCA.ORG

October 31, 2009  
**FRIENDLY FOREST**  
 Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium, Fort Myers  
 Contact: (239) 275-3435

November 3, 2009  
**OPEN HOUSE & EDUCATION EXPO**  
 Art League Marco Island Center for the Arts  
 Contact: (239) 394-4221

November 4, 2009  
**AMERICAN SANDSCULPTING CHAMPIONSHIP FESTIVAL**  
 Fort Myers Beach  
 Contact: (239) 454-7500

November 6, 2009  
**FAMILY POOL BLAST**  
 Bonita Springs Community Pool  
 Contact: (239) 947-1948

November 7, 2009  
**VINTAGE RV SHOW**  
 Koreshan State Historic Site, Estero  
 Contact: (239) 992-0311

November 8, 2009  
**TASTE OF THE TOWN**  
 Centennial Park, Fort Myers  
 Contact: (239) 277-1197

November 14, 2009  
**AVIATION DAY**  
 Page Field, Fort Myers  
 Contact: (239) 590-4504

November 13 – 15, 2009  
**CAPE CORAL COCONUT FESTIVAL**  
 Sun Splash Water Park, Cape Coral  
 Contact: (239) 573-3121

November 15, 2009  
**WINE & FOOD TASTING**  
 Cape Coral  
 Contact: (239) 549-5615

November 6, 2009  
**FAMILY POOL BLAST**  
 Bonita Springs Community Pool  
 Contact: (239) 947-1948

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## Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council



# Economic Views

SERVING CHARLOTTE, COLLIER, GLADES, HENDRY, LEE AND SARASOTA COUNTIES SINCE 1973

## AIRPORT ACTIVITY

Airport passenger activity for the Southwest Florida Region decreased 7.6% in August 2009 from July 2009. Airport passengers visiting and leaving the region totaled 555,104 as compared to 600,957 in the previous month. All three airports reported a decrease in passenger activity from the previous month.

In August 2009, total airport activity for the region increased 1.6% from the previous year. SW Fla. airport was the only one to report an increase in passenger activity from the previous year.

## UNEMPLOYMENT

The regional unemployment rate for August 2009 was 12.7%, which was higher than the revised rate of 12.6% for July 2009. Hendry County at 16.4%, had the highest unemployment rate in the six-county region, with Lee County second at 13.5%. Glades County had the lowest unemployment rate at 10.0%. The August 2009 regional unemployment rate of 12.7% was higher than the state at 10.9%. The regional unemployment rate increased by 40.5% from August 2008 to August 2009, while the state rate increased by 57.3% during the same time period.

### AIRPORT PASSENGERS

AIRPORT		AUG. 09	JUL. 09	AUG. 08	% CHANGE	
					JUL. 09/ AUG. 09	AUG. 08/ AUG. 09
S.W. Fla. Int'l	ARRIVALS	223,578	245,071	221,237	-9.7%	
	DEPARTURES	231,349	246,992	227,430	-7.9%	
Sarasota/ Bradenton	ARRIVALS	45,525	49,690	48,468	-2.5%	
	DEPARTURES	47,000	50,014	49,292	-1.4%	
Naples	ARRIVALS	0	0	77	n/a	
	DEPARTURES	0	0	72	n/a	
Charlotte County	ARRIVALS	3,891	4,556	n/a	-14.6%	
	DEPARTURES	3,761	4,634	n/a	-18.8%	
AIRPORT TOTALS = ARRIVALS + DEPARTURES					%CHANGE	
					JUL. 09/ AUG. 09	AUG. 08/ AUG. 09
S.W. Fla. Int'l		454,927	492,063	448,667	-7.5%	1.4%
Sarasota/Brad.		92,525	99,704	97,760	-7.2%	-5.4%
Naples		0	0	149	n/a	-100.0%
Charlotte County		7,652	9,190	0	-16.7%	n/a
REGION		555,104	600,957	546,576	-7.6%	1.6%

SOURCE: Local Airport Authorities.  
Naples airport currently doesn't have any airlines.

### LABOR FORCE FIGURES

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT	
	AUG. 09 (PRELIM)	JUL. 09 (REVISED)	AUG. 09 (PRELIM)	JUL. 09 (REVISED)	AUG. 09 (PRELIM)	JUL. 09 (REVISED)
CHARLOTTE	69,174	69,462	60,829	61,064	8,345	8,398
COLLIER	145,477	146,411	127,210	128,386	18,267	18,025
GLADES	5,035	4,815	4,532	4,300	503	515
HENDRY	18,116	18,380	15,139	15,303	2,977	3,077
LEE	271,835	275,246	235,271	238,621	36,564	36,625
SARASOTA	165,188	166,483	146,093	147,162	19,095	19,321
REGION	674,825	680,797	589,074	594,836	85,751	85,961
STATE	9,256,000	9,296,000	8,244,000	8,266,000	1,013,000	1,030,000

COUNTY	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE				
	AUG. 09 (PRELIM)	JUL. 09 (REVISED)	AUG. 08 (REVISED)	% CHANGE*	
				AUG. 09	AUG. 08/ AUG. 09
CHARLOTTE	12.1%	12.1%	9.2%	-0.6%	31.3%
COLLIER	12.6%	12.3%	8.5%	1.3%	43.9%
GLADES	10.0%	10.7%	8.5%	-2.3%	21.5%
HENDRY	16.4%	16.7%	14.3%	-3.2%	11.4%
LEE	13.5%	13.3%	9.1%	-0.2%	41.6%
SARASOTA	11.6%	11.6%	7.3%	-1.2%	45.8%
REGION	12.7%	12.6%	8.6%	-0.2%	40.5%
STATE	10.9%	11.1%	6.9%	-1.7%	57.3%

Note: Sum of detail may not equal totals due to rounding.  
\* Calculation of percent change is by actual revised number's.  
Source: Agency for Workforce Innovation.

## Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council



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SERVING CHARLOTTE, COLLIER, GLADES, HENDRY, LEE AND SARASOTA COUNTIES SINCE 1973

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) for all urban consumers measures the cost of items in several specific categories and is used as an indicator of the general rate of inflation through time. The CPI-U during August 2009 increased 0.2 from July 2009. The CPI-U for August 2009 was 215.8, a decrease of 1.5% from August 2008.

### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

GROUP	% CHANGE				
	JUL. 09/ AUG. 08/				
	AUG. 09	JUL. 09	AUG. 08	AUG. 09	AUG. 09
ALL ITEMS	215.8	215.4	219.1	0.2%	-1.5%
FOOD & BEVERAGES	217.7	217.6	216.4	0.0%	0.6%
HOUSING	217.8	218.1	219.1	-0.1%	-0.6%
APPAREL	117.1	115.6	116.4	1.3%	0.6%
TRANSPORTATION	184.4	182.8	206.7	0.9%	-10.8%
MEDICAL CARE	376.5	375.7	364.5	0.2%	3.3%
RECREATION	114.8	114.6	113.8	0.2%	0.9%
EDUCATION/ COMMUN.	128.1	126.9	124.7	0.9%	2.7%
OTHER GOODS/SVCS	372.7	372.9	347.0	-0.1%	7.4%

Purchasing power of the consumer dollar.

1982-1984= \$1.00 AUG. 09 =0.463

1967= \$1.00 AUG. 09 =0.155

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor

## LEPC INFORMATION

NONE AT THIS TIME...

## SWFRPC MEETING SCHEDULE

Regional Planning Council	Third Thursday of each month
Lee County MPO	Monthly
Technical Advisory Committee	Monthly
Citizen Advisory Committee	Monthly
LEPC	Quarterly
Disaster Preparedness	Thursday after LEPC meeting
Lee Trans. Disadvantaged	Quarterly
Glades/Hendry Trans. Disadvantaged	Quarterly

## SALES ACTIVITY

Sales activity in Southwest Florida is measured by gross and taxable sales for each county. For July 2009, gross and taxable sales in the region totaled approximately \$3.2 million and \$1.7 million, respectively. This is a 6.5% increase in gross sales and a 0.1% decrease in taxable sales from June 2009. Hendry County was the only one to report an increase in Gross sales and all counties reported a decrease in Taxable sales this month as compared to the previous year.

Gross sales in the region between July 2008 and July 2009 decreased 9.1%. Taxable sales decreased 7.4% during the same period. By incorporating the change in the cost of living (1.51%) and the average annual population growth rate (4.3%) for the same time period, real gross sales decreased 13.1% per capita. Real taxable sales decreased 11.0%.

### SALES ACTIVITY

\*\*Regional sales data is not yet released for the current month reflected in the views. Sales data will always be one month behind.

#### GROSS SALES (\$000)

COUNTY	% CHANGE				
	JUL. 09	JUN. 09	JUL. 08	JUN. 09/ JUL. 09	JUL. 2008/ JUL. 2009
CHARLOTTE	263,356	244,812	290,930	7.6%	-9.5%
COLLIER	729,076	688,674	783,307	5.9%	-6.9%
GLADES	7,968	8,853	11,126	-10.0%	-28.4%
HENDRY	89,703	129,689	79,950	-30.8%	12.2%
LEE	1,247,624	1,162,757	1,393,167	7.3%	-10.4%
SARASOTA	891,276	797,568	994,964	11.7%	-10.4%
REGION	3,229,003	3,032,353	3,553,444	6.5%	-9.1%

#### TAXABLE SALES (\$000)

COUNTY	% CHANGE				
	JUL. 09	JUN. 09	JUL. 08	JUN. 09/ JUL. 09	JUL. 2008/ JUL. 2009
CHARLOTTE	139,879	139,288	148,380	0.4%	-5.7%
COLLIER	378,782	393,842	403,071	-3.8%	-6.0%
GLADES	1,960	2,308	2,268	-15.1%	-13.6%
HENDRY	20,497	23,096	21,980	-11.3%	-6.7%
LEE	693,286	677,872	760,454	2.3%	-8.8%
SARASOTA	426,369	426,455	457,861	-0.0%	-6.9%
REGION	1,660,774	1,662,861	1,794,013	-0.1%	-7.4%

SOURCE: Florida Department of Tax Research.

## Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council



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SERVING CHARLOTTE, COLLIER, GLADES, HENDRY, LEE AND SARASOTA COUNTIES SINCE 1973

## BUILDING PERMITS

Residential building activity is measured by the number of single-family and multifamily building permits issued during a given month. In August 2009, 216 residential permits were issued in Southwest Florida. This is 28 more permits than were issued in August 2008. The number of units covered by these permits decreased by 26 from 282 in August 2008 to 256 in August 2009. Compared with the figures reported for July 2009, the number of units for August 2009 decreased by 54. From July 2009 to August 2009, permits issued decreased by 47.

The region reported a residential building valuation of \$68,857,814 in August 2009. This is a decrease of 12.1% compared to the valuation of residential permits issued in August 2008, which totaled \$78,349,382.

### BUILDING PERMIT ACTIVITY

COUNTY	AUGUST 2009*				JULY 2009**			
	SINGLE FAMILY PERMITS	MULTI-FAMILY PERMITS	RESIDENTIAL UNITS	RESIDENTIAL VALUE	SINGLE FAMILY PERMITS	MULTI-FAMILY PERMITS	RESIDENTIAL UNITS	RESIDENTIAL VALUE
CHARLOTTE	34	0	0	\$6,169,943	27	0	0	\$5,825,000
COLLIER	51	5	28	\$28,873,900	57	5	46	\$29,354,792
GLADES	3	0	0	\$213,038	1	0	0	\$72,000
HENDRY	3	0	0	\$342,310	9	0	0	\$672,350
LEE	87	9	26	\$26,675,640	120	6	12	\$35,063,302
SARASOTA	24	0	0	\$6,582,983	38	0	0	\$9,002,968
REGION*	202	14	54	\$68,857,814	252	11	58	\$79,990,412
COUNTY	AUGUST 2008***				UNIT CHANGE		% CHANGE OF VALUE	
	SINGLE FAMILY PERMITS	MULTI-FAMILY PERMITS	RESIDENTIAL UNITS	RESIDENTIAL VALUE	JUL. 09/ AUG. 09	AUG. 08/ AUG. 09	JUL. 09/ AUG. 09	AUG. 08/ AUG. 09
CHARLOTTE	24	3	35	\$10,344,275	-39	-25	5.9%	-40.4%
COLLIER	42	6	29	\$26,231,000	22	8	-1.6%	10.1%
GLADES	2	0	0	\$226,397	2	1	195.9%	-5.9%
HENDRY	5	0	0	\$481,721	-18	-2	-49.1%	-28.9%
LEE	75	9	48	\$30,690,832	-7	-10	-23.9%	-13.1%
SARASOTA	22	0	0	\$10,375,157	-14	2	-26.9%	-36.6%
REGION*	170	18	112	\$78,349,382	-54	-26	-13.9%	-12.1%

\* Data does not include Everglades City for August 2009

\*\* Data does not include City of Punta Gorda for July 2009

\*\*\*Data does not include City of Longboat Key for August 2008

## Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council



# Economic Views

SERVING CHARLOTTE, COLLIER, GLADES, HENDRY, LEE AND SARASOTA COUNTIES SINCE 1973

## SUMMARY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

INDICATORS	AUGUST 2009	AUGUST 2008	% CHANGE
	(PRELIM)	(REVISED)	
<b>UNEMPLOYMENT</b>			
State	10.9%	6.9%	57.3%
Region	12.7%	8.6%	40.5%
County			
Charlotte	12.1%	9.2%	31.3%
Collier	12.6%	8.5%	43.9%
Glades	10.0%	8.5%	21.5%
Hendry	16.4%	14.3%	11.4%
Lee	13.5%	9.1%	41.6%
Sarasota	11.6%	7.3%	45.8%
<b>LABOR FORCE</b>			
State	9,256,000	9,389,000	-1.4%
Region	674,825	706,200	-4.4%
<b>EMPLOYED</b>			
State	8,244,000	8,745,000	-5.7%
Region	589,074	645,147	-8.7%
<b>UNEMPLOYED</b>			
State	1,013,000	644,000	57.3%
Region	85,751	61,053	40.5%
<b>AIRPORT PASSENGERS</b>			
Region	555,194	546,576	1.6%
S. W. Int'l Airport	454,927	448,667	1.4%
Sarasota/Bradenton	92,525	97,760	-5.4%
Naples	0	149	-100.0%
Charlotte County	7,742	0	n/a
<b>BUILDING PERMITS</b>			
Regional	216	188	14.9%
Single Family	202	170	18.8%
Multi-Family	14	18	-22.2%
<b>TOTAL VALUE</b>			
Residential	\$68,857,814	\$78,349,382	-12.1%
All Permit Activity	\$181,705,940	\$220,007,290	-17.4%
<b>REGIONAL SALES (\$000)**</b>			
Taxable Sales	\$1,660,774	\$1,794,013	-7.4%
Gross Sales	\$3,229,003	\$3,553,444	-9.1%

\*\*\*Regional sales data is not yet released for the current month reflected in the views. Sales data will always be one month behind.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX	215.8	219.1	-1.5%
PRIME INTEREST RATE	3.3%	5.0%	-35.0%

## ECONOMIC INDICATORS

