



Economic Views

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

FEATURED ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

The Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC) offered a full-day event entitled "A State of the Region Address" held on October 15, 2009 at the Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center in Punta Gorda, Florida. On Saturday, October 17, 2009 the SWFRPC offered another "free" full-day program entitled "Creating a Green Region." The Saturday program included a workshop with seven speakers throughout the day as well as thirty one exhibitors and vendors of green products.

The programs were intended to educate organizations, local jurisdictions, and citizens of the region (Sarasota, Charlotte, Glades, Hendry, Lee, Collier and Manatee and DeSoto Counties) about the State of the Region, regional indicators, the Climate Prosperity, Inc. Project and the availability of green business in the region.

The "State of the Region" full-day event featured numerous panelists speaking on various topics, such as: Health Care, Education, Prosperity and Preservation. The "Creating a Green Region" full-day event featured numerous panelists speaking on various topics, such as: Climate Change Vulnerability, Green House Gas Inventories, Renewable Energy, Storm Hardening, Inefficient Construction, Transportation Efficiency, and New Technologies for Water Conservation.

There was an excellent turnout of over 100 people for the "State of the Region" conference and approximately several hundred attended the "Creating a Green Region." Most of all reported that the events were valuable and informative.



FESTIVALS & EVENTS

November 20, 2009
 HOLIDAY MAGIC AT CAPE HARBOUR
 Cape Harbour, Cape Coral
 Contact: (239) 945-6116

November 20- 22, 2009
 HOLIDAY ART MARKET
 Harborside Event Center, Fort Myers
 Contact: (239) 768-3602

November 21, 2009
 FALL ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL
 Art League Marco Island Center for the Arts
 Contact: (239) 394-4221

November 21, 2009
 SOUTHWEST FLORIDA BLUES FESTIVAL
 German-American Social Club, Cape Coral
 Contact: (239) 283-4842

November 21-29, 2009
 17TH ANNUAL BIG "O" HIKE AROUND LAKE OKEECHOBEE
 Glades County
 Contact: (561) 963-9906

November 23, 2009
 FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS
 Third St. South, Naples
 Contact: (239) 434-6533

November 26, 2009
 THANKSGIVING FEAST
 Seminole Gulf Railway, Ft. Myers
 Contact: 239-275-8487

November 26, 2009
 TURKEY TROT
 The Wellness Center, Cape Coral
 Contact: (239) 573-3123

November 27, 2009
 HOLIDAY LIGHTS & JUNGLE NIGHTS
 Sarasota Jungle Gardens, Sarasota
 Contact: (877) 861-6547

November 28-29, 2009
 NAPLES RENAISSANCE FALL ART FESTIVAL
 Naples Art Association, Naples
 Contact: (239) 262-6517

November 28 – December 23, 2009
 HOLIDAY HOUSE
 Fort Myers
 Contact: (239) 321-7430

November 28, 2009
 HOLIDAY STROLL
 Downtown, Ft. Myers
 Contact: (239) 344-1621

December 4-5, 2009
 CHRISTMAS LUMINARY TRAIL & OPEN HOUSE
 Sanibel & Captiva Islands, Sanibel Island
 Contact: (239) 472-1080

December 5, 2009
 HOLIDAY FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS
 Cape Coral Parkway, Cape Coral
 Contact: (239) 549-6900

December 5, 2009
 ART IN THE PARK
 Naples Art Association, Naples
 Contact: (239) 262-6517

December 8, 2009
 NAPLES CHRISTMAS PARADE
 Fifth Avenue South, Naples
 Contact: (239) 213-7120

December 10, 2009
 CHRISTMAS ON THE CALOOSAHATCHEE
 Moore Haven
 Contact: (863) 946-0737

December 11, 2009 – January 3, 2010
 EDISON & FORD HOLIDAY NIGHTS
 Edison & Ford Winter Estates, Ft. Myers
 Contact: (239) 334-7419

December 12, 2009
 NAPLES ARTCRAFTERS FINE ART & CRAFT SHOW
 Cambier Park Naples
 Contact: (239) 352-3036

December 12, 2009
 HOLIDAYLAND
 Imaginarium Hands-On Museum, Ft. Myers
 Contact: (239) 321-7420

December 12, 2009
 BONITA SPRINGS HOLIDAY BOAT PARADE
 Bonita
 Contact: (239) -495-0455



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AIRPORT ACTIVITY

Airport passenger activity for the Southwest Florida Region decreased 20.4% in September 2009 from August 2009. Airport passengers visiting and leaving the region totaled 442,099 as compared to 555,104 in the previous month. All three airports reported a decrease in passenger activity from the previous month.

In September 2009, total airport activity for the region increased 9.2% from the previous year. Naples airport was the only one to report a decrease in passenger activity from the previous year.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The regional unemployment rate for September 2009 was 13.3%, which was higher than the revised rate of 12.8% for August 2009. Hendry County at 16.8%, had the highest unemployment rate in the six-county region, with Lee County second at 13.9%. Glades County had the lowest unemployment rate at 10.0%. The September 2009 regional unemployment rate of 13.3% was higher than the state at 11.2%. The regional unemployment rate increased by 42.7% from September 2008 to September 2009, while the state rate increased by 60.7% during the same time period.

AIRPORT PASSENGERS

AIRPORT				% CHANGE	
		SEPT. 09	AUG. 09	SEPT. 08	SEPT. 09 / AUG. 09/
S.W. Fla. Int'l	ARRIVALS	180,944	223,578	165,274	-26.1%
	DEPARTURES	178,799	231,349	163,004	-29.5%
Sarasota/Bradenton	ARRIVALS	38,395	45,525	38,497	-15.4%
	DEPARTURES	38,414	47,000	37,929	-19.3%
Naples*	ARRIVALS	0	0	24	n/a
	DEPARTURES	0	0	19	n/a
Charlotte County	ARRIVALS	2,769	3,891	n/a	-28.8%
	DEPARTURES	2,778	3,761	n/a	-26.1%
AIRPORT TOTALS = ARRIVALS + DEPARTURES				%CHANGE	
				AUG. 09/	SEPT. 08/
		SEPT. 09	AUG. 09	SEPT. 08	SEPT. 09
S.W. Fla. Int'l		359,743	454,927	328,278	-20.9%
Sarasota/Brad.		76,809	92,525	76,426	-17.0%
Naples*		0	0	43	-100.0%
Charlotte County		5,547	7,652	0	-27.5%
REGION		442,099	555,104	404,747	-20.4%
					9.2%

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

LABOR FORCE FIGURES

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT	
	SEPT. 09	AUG. 09	SEPT. 09	AUG. 09	SEPT. 09	AUG. 09
	<u>(PRELIM)</u>	<u>(REVISED)</u>	<u>(PRELIM)</u>	<u>(REVISED)</u>	<u>(PRELIM)</u>	<u>(REVISED)</u>
CHARLOTTE	69,026	69,262	60,227	60,856	8,799	8,406
COLLIER	143,967	145,580	125,111	127,087	18,856	18,493
GLADES	5,096	5,045	4,584	4,537	512	508
HENDRY	18,302	18,147	15,236	15,150	3,066	2,997
LEE	272,069	273,833	234,280	236,954	37,789	36,879
SARASOTA	165,040	165,589	144,763	146,432	20,277	19,157
REGION	673,500	677,456	584,201	591,016	89,299	86,440
STATE	9,221,000	9,266,000	8,186,000	8,243,000	1,035,000	1,023,000

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

COUNTY	% CHANGE*				
	SEPT. 09	AUG. 09	SEPT. 08	AUG. 09	SEPT. 08/ SEPT. 09
CHARLOTTE	12.7%	12.1%	9.2%	4.7%	32.7%
COLLIER	13.1%	12.7%	8.5%	2.0%	49.2%
GLADES	10.0%	10.1%	8.5%	0.8%	26.4%
HENDRY	16.8%	16.5%	14.3%	2.3%	15.9%
LEE	13.9%	13.5%	9.1%	2.5%	42.6%
SARASOTA	12.3%	11.6%	7.3%	5.8%	47.3%
REGION	13.3%	12.8%	8.6%	3.3%	42.7%
STATE	11.2%	11.0%	6.9%	1.2%	60.7%

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.

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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 September 2009 increased 0.1 from August 2009. The CPI-U for September 2009 was 216.0, a decrease of 1.3% from September 2008.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

GROUP	SEPT. 09	AUG. 09	% CHANGE		
			SEPT. 08	SEPT. 09	SEPT. 09
ALL ITEMS	216.0	215.8	218.8	0.1%	-1.3%
FOOD & BEVERAGES	217.6	217.7	217.7	-0.0%	-0.0%
HOUSING	217.2	217.8	218.2	-0.3%	-0.5%
APPAREL	122.5	117.1	121.2	4.6%	1.1%
TRANSPORTATION	183.9	184.4	203.9	-0.3%	-9.8%
MEDICAL CARE	377.7	376.5	365.0	0.3%	3.5%
RECREATION	114.6	114.8	114.0	-0.2%	0.5%
EDUCATION/ COMMUN.	129.0	128.1	125.5	0.7%	2.8%
OTHER GOODS/SVCS	374.2	372.7	348.2	0.4%	7.5%

Purchasing power of the consumer dollar.

1982-1984= \$1.00 SEPT. 09 = 0.463
1967= \$1.00 SEPT. 09 = 0.155

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor

SALES ACTIVITY

Sales activity in Southwest Florida is measured by gross and taxable sales for each county. For August 2009, gross and taxable sales in the region totaled approximately \$2.9 million and \$1.5 million, respectively. This is a 11.1% decrease in gross sales and a 7.1% decrease in taxable sales from July 2009. Glades County was the only one to report an increase in Gross sales and Taxable sales this month as compared to the previous year.

Gross sales in the region between August 2008 and August 2009 decreased 13.3%. Taxable sales decreased 9.2% during the same period. By incorporating the change in the cost of living (1.28%) and the average annual population growth rate (4.3%) for the same time period, real gross sales decreased 18.9% per capita. Real taxable sales decreased 13.5%.

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.

COUNTY	% CHANGE				
	AUG. 09 (PRELIM)	JUL. 09 (PRELIM)	AUG. 08 (REVISED)	JUL. 09/AUG. 2008/ AUG. 09	AUG. 2009
CHARLOTTE	233,495	263,356	252,348	-11.3%	-7.5%
COLLIER	641,160	729,076	755,848	-12.1%	-15.2%
GLADES	8,312	7,968	9,089	4.3%	-8.6%
HENDRY	87,592	89,703	118,477	-2.4%	-26.1%
LEE	1,119,610	1,247,624	1,314,773	-10.3%	-14.8%
SARASOTA	779,159	891,276	860,818	-12.6%	-9.5%
REGION	2,869,328	3,229,003	3,311,352	-11.1%	-13.3%

COUNTY	% CHANGE				
	AUG. 09 (PRELIM)	JUL. 09 (PRELIM)	AUG. 08 (REVISED)	JUL. 09/AUG. 2008/ AUG. 09	AUG. 2009
CHARLOTTE	129,700	139,879	140,057	-7.3%	-7.4%
COLLIER	353,411	378,782	381,420	-6.7%	-7.3%
GLADES	2,129	1,960	1,859	8.6%	14.5%
HENDRY	18,208	20,497	22,133	-11.2%	-17.7%
LEE	643,200	693,286	717,502	-7.2%	-10.4%
SARASOTA	396,402	426,369	436,953	-7.0%	-9.3%
REGION	1,543,050	1,660,773	1,699,924	-7.1%	-9.2%

SOURCE: Florida Department of Tax Research.

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

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BUILDING PERMITS

Residential building activity is measured by the number of single-family and multifamily building permits issued during a given month. In September 2009, 172 residential permits were issued in Southwest Florida. This is 32 less permits than were issued in September 2008. The number of units covered by these permits decreased by 3 from 240 in September 2008 to 237 in September 2009. Compared with the figures reported for August 2009, the number of units for September 2009 decreased by 19. From August 2009 to September 2009, permits issued decreased by 43.

The region reported a residential building valuation of \$60,902,036 in September 2009. This is a decrease of 22.0% compared to the valuation of residential permits issued in September 2008, which totaled \$78,125,675.

BUILDING PERMIT ACTIVITY

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER 2009*</u>				<u>AUGUST 2009**</u>			
	<u>SINGLE FAMILY</u>	<u>MULTI-FAMILY PERMITS</u>	<u>RESIDENTIAL UNITS</u>	<u>RESIDENTIAL VALUE</u>	<u>SINGLE FAMILY</u>	<u>MULTI-FAMILY PERMITS</u>	<u>RESIDENTIAL UNITS</u>	<u>RESIDENTIAL VALUE</u>
CHARLOTTE	19	0	0	\$3,601,000	34	0	0	\$6,169,943
COLLIER	35	7	70	\$27,483,050	51	5	28	\$28,873,900
GLADES	1	0	0	\$79,000	3	0	0	\$213,038
HENDRY	1	0	0	\$68,340	3	0	0	\$342,310
LEE	82	2	4	\$21,789,911	87	9	26	\$26,675,640
SARASOTA	25	0	0	\$7,880,735	24	0	0	\$6,582,983
REGION*	163	9	74	\$60,902,036	202	14	54	\$68,857,814

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER 2008***</u>				<u>UNIT CHANGE</u>		<u>% CHANGE OF VALUE</u>	
	<u>SINGLE FAMILY</u>	<u>MULTI-FAMILY PERMITS</u>	<u>RESIDENTIAL UNITS</u>	<u>RESIDENTIAL VALUE</u>	<u>AUG. 09/ SEPT. 09</u>	<u>SEPT. 08/ SEPT. 09</u>	<u>SEPT. 08/ SEPT. 09</u>	<u>SEPT. 08/ SEPT. 09</u>
CHARLOTTE	29	0	0	\$5,441,000	-43	-10	-41.6%	-33.8%
COLLIER	64	4	17	\$32,222,000	54	24	-4.8%	-14.7%
GLADES	2	0	0	\$336,136	-2	-1	-62.9%	-76.5%
HENDRY	8	0	0	\$965,880	-28	-7	-80.0%	-92.9%
LEE	54	9	32	\$21,150,084	-1	0	-18.3%	3.0%
SARASOTA	34	0	0	\$18,010,575	1	-9	19.7%	-56.2%
REGION*	191	13	49	\$78,125,675	-19	-3	-11.6%	-22.0%

* Data does not include Punta Gorda or Fort Myers Beach for September 2009

** Data does not include Everglades City for August 2009

***Data does not include City of Longboat Key, Bonita Springs or Fort Myers Beach for September 2008

Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council



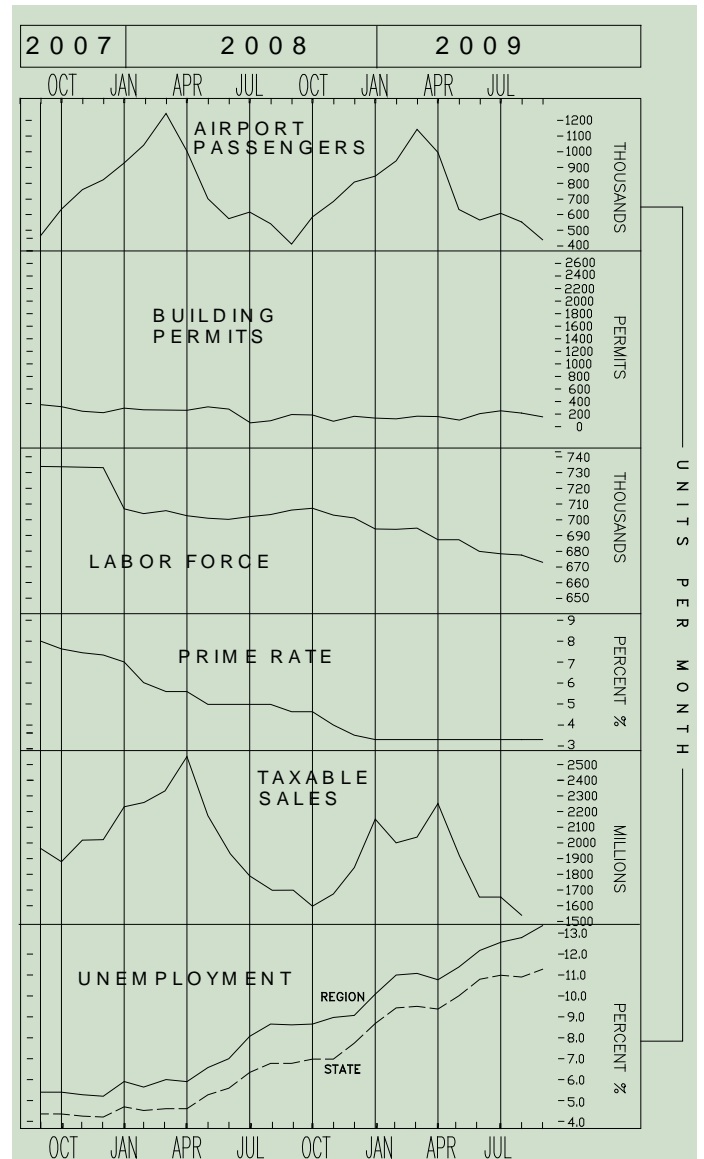
Economic Views

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

SUMMARY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

INDICATORS	SEPTEMBER 2009		% CHANGE
	(PRELIM)	(REVISED)	
UNEMPLOYMENT			
State	11.2%	6.9%	60.7%
Region	13.3%	8.6%	42.7%
County			
Charlotte	12.7%	9.2%	32.7%
Collier	13.1%	8.5%	49.2%
Glades	10.0%	8.5%	26.4%
Hendry	16.8%	14.3%	15.9%
Lee	13.9%	9.1%	42.6%
Sarasota	12.3%	7.3%	47.3%
LABOR FORCE			
State	9,221,000	9,373,000	-1.6%
Region	673,500	707,935	-4.9%
EMPLOYED			
State	8,186,000	8,730,000	-6.2%
Region	584,201	645,345	-9.5%
UNEMPLOYED			
State	1,035,000	644,000	60.7%
Region	89,299	62,590	42.7%
AIRPORT PASSENGERS			
Region	442,099	404,747	9.2%
S. W. Int'l Airport	359,743	328,278	9.6%
Sarasota/Bradenton	76,809	76,426	0.5%
Naples	0	43	-100.0%
Charlotte County	5,547	0	n/a
BUILDING PERMITS			
Regional	172	204	-15.7%
Single Family	163	191	-14.7%
Multi-Family	9	13	-30.8%
TOTAL VALUE			
Residential	\$60,902,036	\$78,125,675	-22.0%
All Permit Activity	\$180,161,817	\$216,370,976	-16.7%
REGIONAL SALES (\$'000)**			
Taxable Sales	\$1,543,050	\$1,699,924	-9.2%
Gross Sales	\$2,869,328	\$3,311,352	-13.3%



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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX	216.0	218.8	-1.3%
PRIME INTEREST RATE	3.3%	4.6%	-29.3%