



# Economic Views

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SERVING CHARLOTTE, COLLIER, GLADES, HENDRY, LEE AND SARASOTA

## CAcce (pronounced like "catchy") Coastal Areas Climate Change Education

The CACCE Partnership is one of fifteen projects funded in 2010 by the National Science Foundation (NSF) as part of their Climate Change Education Partnership program. NSF's goal is to develop a national network of organizations pursuing innovative approaches to teaching and learning about climate change, including developing new strategies to increase the adoption of effective educational resources and practices across a range of stakeholders ([http://cacce.net/About\\_CACCE.html](http://cacce.net/About_CACCE.html)).

The CACCE Partnership is led by the University of South Florida, the Florida Aquarium, the Hillsborough County Public Schools and the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez. During Phase 1, CACCE has been reaching out, creating partnerships in the education, informal science, and planning sectors for development of Phase 2 implementation projects.

Now, beginning the Phase 2 proposal development, CACCE is working with those partners, including the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council, to

- Define the current state of awareness, perceptions and literacy about the impacts of climate change;
- Identify issues with "traction" and information needs through surveys, panel discussions and workshops; and
- Develop a comprehensive educational plan specific to the coastal areas of Florida and the Caribbean to improve climate change literacy and competency in managing its impacts.

SWFRPC will be proposing a project for funding under the CACCE Phase 2 proposal to NSF that will aim to create a climate change curriculum for those in the planning field – professional planners, architects, landscape architects, engineers, and attorneys among others – that will equip them for helping their communities plan for and adapt to climate change. The State of Florida has already defined the "Climate Change Adaptation Action Area" as "an optional comprehensive plan designation for areas that experience coastal flooding and that are vulnerable to the related impacts of rising sea levels for the purpose of prioritizing funding for infrastructure needs and adaptation planning" (<http://www.floridajobs.org/community-planning-and-development/programs/technical-assistance/community-resiliency/adaptation-planning>). If funding for the project is provided, the SWFRPC will reach out to professionals in the planning field for assistance in developing this curriculum.

## FESTIVALS & EVENTS

February 17, 2012  
 2012 SOUTH FLORIDA AG EXPO  
 Clewiston  
 Contact: (853) 983-6007

February 17-25, 2012  
 HENDRY COUNTY FAIR AND LIVESTOCK SHOW  
 Clewiston  
 Contact: (863) 983-9282

February 18, 2012  
 EDISON FESTIVAL OF LIGHT STADIUM SHOW, GRAND PARADE & FIREWORKS  
 Fort Myers  
 Contact: (239) 334-2999

February 18-20, 2012  
 BIG CYPRESS GALLERY ANNUAL PRESIDENTS DAY WEEKEND  
 SWAMP WALKS  
 Ochopee (Everglades)  
 Contact: (239) 695-2428

February 18-19, 2012  
 BIG CAT HABITAT ANIMAL EXTRAVAGANZA FUNDRAISER  
 EVENT  
 Sarasota  
 Contact: (941) 371-6377

February 24-26, 2012  
 HENDRY COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S 3RD ANNUAL RANCH  
 RODEO  
 LaBelle  
 Contact: Marlene at 863-674-4092

February 24-March 4, 2012  
 SOUTHWEST FLORIDA AND LEE COUNTY FAIR  
 Fort Myers  
 Contact: (239) 543-8368

February 24-28, 2012  
 NAPLES INTERNATIONAL ART & ANTIQUE FAIR  
 Naples  
 Contact: (239) 949-5411 or info@ifae.com

February 25-26, 2012  
 BIG CAT HABITAT ANIMAL EXTRAVAGANZA FUNDRAISER  
 EVENT  
 Sarasota  
 Contact: (941) 371-6377

February 25-26, 2012  
 NAPLES NATIONAL ART FESTIVAL  
 Cambier Park, Naples  
 Contact: (239) 262-6517

February 25, 2012  
 CHALO NITKA BASS TOURNAMENT  
 Moore Haven  
 Contact: (863) 946-0300

February 25, 2012  
 10TH ANNUAL BURROWING OWL FESTIVAL AT ROTARY PARK  
 Cape Coral  
 Contact: (239) 549-4606

February 25-27, 2012  
 SWAMP CABBAGE FESTIVAL  
 LaBelle  
 Contact: (863) 675-0125

March 2-4, 2012  
 PUNTA GORDA BBQ & MUSIC FESTIVAL  
 Punta Gorda  
 Contact: jerry@smugglers.com

March 3-4, 2012  
 CHALO NITKA FESTIVAL AND RODEO  
 Moore Haven  
 Contact: (863) 946-0300  
[www.chalonitka.com](http://www.chalonitka.com)

March 3-4, 2012  
 SWAMP BUGGY RACES  
 Florida Sports Park, Naples  
 Contact: (239) 774-2701

March 9, 2012  
 FULL MOON PADDLE  
 Cape Coral  
 Contact: 9239) 549-4606

March 9, 2012  
 NIGHT HIKE AT ECO PRESERVE  
 Cape Coral  
 Contact: (239) 549-4606

March 10, 2012  
 FOURTH ANNUAL CLASSIC CAR SHOW  
 Cape Coral  
 Contact: (239) 574-0806

March 10-11, 2012  
 CENTER FOR THE ARTS OF BONITA SPRINGS FINE ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL  
 Bonita Springs  
 Contact: (239) 495-8989 or cfabs@artinusa.com

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 increased 9.0% in December 2011 from November 2011. Airport passengers visiting and leaving the region totaled 818,721 as compared to 751,332 in the previous month. All three airports reported an increase in passenger activity from the previous month.

In December 2011, total airport activity for the region decreased 3.3% from the previous year. Charlotte County airport was the only one to report an increase in passenger activity from the previous year.

## UNEMPLOYMENT

The regional unemployment rate for December 2011 was 10.0%, which was lower than the revised rate of 10.4% for November 2011. Hendry County at 13.5%, had the highest unemployment rate in the six-county region, with Lee second at 10.2%. Glades County had the lowest unemployment rate at 7.6%. The December 2011 regional unemployment rate of 10.0% was higher than the state at 9.7%. The regional unemployment rate decreased by 18.9% from December 2010 to December 2011, while the state rate decreased by 17.5% during the same time period.

### AIRPORT PASSENGERS

AIRPORT		NOV. 11/		% CHANGE	
		DEC. 11	NOV. 11	DEC. 10	DEC. 11
S.W. Fla. Int'l	ARRIVALS	346,535	300,838	360,137	19.7%
	DEPARTURES	321,254	311,632	334,262	3.1%
Sarasota/Bradenton	ARRIVALS	59,256	55,087	61,510	7.6%
	DEPARTURES	55,998	56,611	59,137	-1.1%
Charlotte County	ARRIVALS	18,290	13,752	16,549	33.0%
	DEPARTURES	17,388	13,412	15,214	29.6%
<b>AIRPORT TOTALS = ARRIVALS + DEPARTURES</b>					
		NOV. 11/		DEC. 10/	
		DEC. 11	NOV. 11	DEC. 10	DEC. 11
S.W. Fla. Int'l		667,789	612,470	694,399	9.0%
Sarasota/Brad.		115,254	111,698	120,647	3.2%
Charlotte County		35,678	27,164	31,763	31.3%
REGION		818,721	751,332	846,809	9.0%

SOURCE: Local Airport Authorities.

### LABOR FORCE FIGURES

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT	
	DEC. 11	NOV. 11	DEC. 11	NOV. 11	DEC. 11	NOV. 11
	(PRELIM)	(REVISED)	(PRELIM)	(REVISED)	(PRELIM)	(REVISED)
CHARLOTTE	69,576	69,358	62,636	62,182	6,940	7,176
COLLIER	143,164	142,802	129,546	128,458	13,618	14,344
GLADES	6,075	6,049	5,614	5,566	461	483
HENDRY	17,266	16,943	14,927	14,403	2,339	2,540
LEE	271,425	272,828	243,805	244,118	27,620	28,710
SARASOTA	159,387	160,300	143,756	144,120	15,631	16,180
REGION	666,893	668,280	600,284	598,847	66,609	69,433
STATE	9,198,000	9,212,000	8,305,000	8,305,000	893,000	907,000

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

COUNTY	NOV. 11/		% CHANGE*		
	DEC. 11	NOV. 11	DEC. 10	NOV. 11/DEC. 10/	
	(PRELIM)	(REVISED)	(REVISED)	DEC. 11	DEC. 11
CHARLOTTE	10.0%	10.3%	12.1%	-3.3%	-18.0%
COLLIER	9.5%	10.0%	11.5%	-5.1%	-19.3%
GLADES	7.6%	8.0%	9.0%	-4.6%	-11.3%
HENDRY	13.5%	15.0%	15.1%	-7.9%	-12.6%
LEE	10.2%	10.5%	12.6%	-3.8%	-20.3%
SARASOTA	9.8%	10.1%	11.8%	-3.4%	-17.4%
REGION	10.0%	10.4%	12.1%	-4.1%	-18.9%
STATE	9.7%	9.8%	11.7%	-1.5%	-17.5%

Note: Sum of detail may not equal totals due to rounding.

\* Calculation of percent change is by actual revised numbers.

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 December 2011 decreased 0.2% from November 2011. The CPI-U for December 2011 was 225.7, an increase of 3.0% from December 2010.

### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

GROUP	% CHANGE				
	DEC. 11	NOV. 11	DEC. 10	NOV. 11/ DEC. 11	DEC. 10/ DEC. 11
ALL ITEMS	225.7	226.2	219.2	-0.2%	3.0%
FOOD & BEVERAGES	231.1	230.7	221.3	0.2%	4.4%
HOUSING	220.2	220.0	216.1	0.1%	1.9%
APPAREL	123.5	127.3	118.1	-3.0%	4.5%
TRANSPORTATION	208.6	211.4	198.3	-1.3%	5.2%
MEDICAL CARE	405.6	404.9	391.9	0.2%	3.5%
RECREATION	113.5	113.2	112.3	0.2%	1.1%
EDUCATION/ COMMUN.	132.7	132.8	130.5	-0.0%	1.7%
OTHER GOODS/SVCS	391.0	390.8	384.5	0.1%	1.7%

Purchasing power of the consumer dollar.

1982-1984= \$1.00    DEC 11= 0.443  
 1967= \$1.00    DEC 11= 0.148

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor

## SALES ACTIVITY

Sales activity in Southwest Florida is measured by gross and taxable sales for each county. For December 2011, gross and taxable sales in the region totaled approximately \$3.5 million and \$2.0 million, respectively. This is a 8.0% increase in gross sales and a 5.7% increase in taxable sales from December 2010. Glades and Hendry Counties reported a decrease in gross sales while all counties reported an increase in taxable sales this month as compared to the previous year.

Gross sales in the region between December 2011 and November 2011 increased 7.9%. Taxable sales increased 13.1% during the same period. By incorporating the change in the cost of living (2.95%) and the average annual population growth rate (2.3%) for the same time period, real gross sales increased 2.6% per capita. Real taxable sales increased 0.4%.

### SALES ACTIVITY

COUNTY	% CHANGE				
	DEC. 11 (PRELIM)	NOV. 11 (PRELIM)	DEC. 10 (REVISED)	NOV. 11/ DEC. 11	DEC. 2010/ DEC. 2011
CHARLOTTE	285,116	258,477	266,797	10.3%	6.9%
COLLIER	882,702	811,409	822,600	8.8%	7.3%
GLADES	5,427	5,954	5,433	-8.9%	-0.1%
HENDRY	101,577	110,861	103,783	-8.4%	-2.1%
LEE	1,379,479	1,275,601	1,255,596	8.1%	9.9%
SARASOTA	895,488	828,354	831,670	8.1%	7.7%
REGION	3,549,789	3,290,656	3,285,879	7.9%	8.0%

COUNTY	% CHANGE				
	DEC. 11 (PRELIM)	NOV. 11 (PRELIM)	DEC. 10 (REVISED)	NOV. 11/ DEC. 11	DEC. 2010/ DEC. 2011
CHARLOTTE	164,535	145,267	161,613	13.3%	1.8%
COLLIER	518,924	452,212	494,652	14.8%	4.9%
GLADES	1,816	2,092	1,801	-13.2%	0.8%
HENDRY	23,734	24,261	20,319	-2.2%	16.8%
LEE	820,619	722,463	771,354	13.6%	6.4%
SARASOTA	475,077	426,461	446,871	11.4%	6.3%
REGION	2,004,705	1,772,756	1,896,609	13.1%	5.7%

SOURCE: Florida Department of Tax Research.

## LEPC INFORMATION

For information on upcoming LEPC Courses and Training, please contact John Gibbons at [jgibbons@swfrpc.org](mailto:jgibbons@swfrpc.org).

## SWFRPC MEETING SCHEDULE

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

# Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council



# Economic Views

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## BUILDING PERMITS

Residential building activity is measured by the number of single-family and multi-family building permits issued during a given month. In December 2011, 184 residential permits were issued in Southwest Florida. This is 12 less permits than were issued in December 2010. The number of units covered by these permits decreased by 25 from 232 in December 2010 to 207 in December 2011. Compared with the figures reported for November 2011, the number of units for December 2011 decreased by 34. From November 2011 to December 2011, permits issued decreased by 35.

The region reported a residential building valuation of \$56,800,062, in December 2011. This is a decrease of 15.7% compared to the valuation of residential permits issued in December 2010, which totaled \$67,368,194.

### BUILDING PERMIT ACTIVITY

COUNTY	DECEMBER 2011*				NOVEMBER 2011**			
	SINGLE FAMILY	MULTI-FAMILY PERMITS	RESIDENTIAL UNITS	RESIDENTIAL VALUE	SINGLE FAMILY	MULTI-FAMILY PERMITS	RESIDENTIAL UNITS	RESIDENTIAL VALUE
CHARLOTTE	27	2	4	\$4,134,051	25	0	0	\$2,997,802
COLLIER	39	1	12	\$17,363,192	62	2	16	\$26,292,176
GLADES	0	0	0	\$0	0	0	0	\$0
HENDRY	2	0	0	\$130,000	0	0	0	\$0
LEE	61	5	10	\$18,212,769	86	2	8	\$18,727,410
SARASOTA	46	1	6	\$16,960,050	42	0	2	\$15,847,569
REGION*	175	9	32	\$56,800,062	215	4	26	\$63,864,957

  

COUNTY	DECEMBER 2010***				UNIT CHANGE		% CHANGE OF VALUE	
	SINGLE FAMILY	MULTI-FAMILY PERMITS	RESIDENTIAL UNITS	RESIDENTIAL VALUE	DEC. 11/ NOV. 11	DEC. 10/ NOV. 11	DEC. 11	DEC. 10/ DEC. 11
CHARLOTTE	28	0	0	\$3,908,757	6	3	37.9%	5.8%
COLLIER	75	3	23	\$38,574,344	-27	-47	-34.0%	-55.0%
GLADES	0	0	0	\$0	0	0	n/a	n/a
HENDRY	0	0	0	\$0	2	2	n/a	n/a
LEE	59	4	20	\$15,918,340	-23	-8	-2.7%	14.4%
SARASOTA	27	0	0	\$8,966,753	8	25	7.0%	89.1%
REGION*	189	7	43	\$67,368,194	-34	-25	-11.1%	-15.7%

\*Data does not include Hendry County, Everglades City, Longboat Key for December 2011.

\*\*Data does not include Fort Myers Beach, Hendry County & Bonita Springs for November 2011

\*\*\*All data is reported for 2010.

Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council



# Economic Views

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## SUMMARY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

INDICATORS	DECEMBER 2011	DECEMBER 2010	% CHANGE
	(PRELIM)	(REVISED)	
<b>UNEMPLOYMENT</b>			
State	9.7%	11.7%	-17.5%
Region	10.0%	12.1%	-18.9%
County			
Charlotte	10.0%	12.1%	-18.0%
Collier	9.5%	11.5%	-19.3%
Glades	7.6%	9.0%	-11.3%
Hendry	13.5%	15.1%	-12.6%
Lee	10.2%	12.6%	-20.3%
Sarasota	9.8%	11.8%	-17.4%
<b>LABOR FORCE</b>			
State	9,198,000	9,253,000	-0.6%
Region	666,893	676,736	-1.5%
<b>EMPLOYED</b>			
State	8,305,000	8,170,000	1.7%
Region	600,284	594,618	1.0%
<b>UNEMPLOYED</b>			
State	893,000	1,082,000	-17.5%
Region	66,609	82,118	-18.9%
<b>AIRPORT PASSENGERS</b>			
Region	818,721	846,809	-3.3%
S. W. Int'l Airport	667,789	694,399	-3.8%
Sarasota/Bradenton	115,254	120,647	-4.5%
Naples	35,678	31,763	12.3%
<b>BUILDING PERMITS</b>			
Regional	184	196	-6.1%
Single Family	175	189	-7.4%
Multi-Family	9	7	28.6%
<b>TOTAL VALUE</b>			
Residential	\$56,800,062	\$67,368,194	-15.7%
All Permit Activity	\$125,831,054	\$200,443,690	-37.2%
<b>REGIONAL SALES (\$'000)</b>			
Taxable Sales	\$2,004,705	\$1,896,609	5.7%
Gross Sales	\$3,549,789	\$3,285,879	8.0%
<b>CONSUMER PRICE INDEX</b>			
	225.7	219.2	3.0%
<b>PRIME INTEREST RATE</b>			
	3.25%	3.25%	0.0%

## ECONOMIC INDICATORS

