

# Ocala and Marion County

***Great for Business, Great for Life!***

## Population

Ocala/Marion County is a great place to live! According to US Census data, the community grew almost 40% from 1990 to 2000, placing it in the top 20% of growing communities nationwide. In comparing counties across the State of Florida, Marion County ranks 15th for growth out of the 67 counties. Individuals with diverse skill sets are discovering that Ocala/Marion County is Great for Life! The access to a growing workforce makes Ocala/Marion County Great for the Business!

### 2000 Census

	1980+	1990+	2000+	2004++	2010++
Marion County	122,488	194,835	258,916	293,317	340,300
Ocala*	37,170	42,045	45,943	47,371	N/A
Bellevue	1,913	2,678	3,478	3,692	N/A
Dunnellon	1,427	1,639	1,898	1,931	N/A
McIntosh	404	411	453	448	N/A
Reddick	657	554	571	523	N/A
Un-incorporated	80,917	147,508	206,573	239,352	N/A

\* County Seat +Census Data ++BEBR projections Source: 2000 Census

### 2000 Census Population by Race

Ethnic Diversity	All Ages	
White	217,909	*235,184
African American	29,900	*33,008
Hispanic Origin		*21,465
American Indian/Alaska Native	1,158	
Asian	1,806	
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	57	
Two or More Races	3,723	
Some Other Race	4,363	
Total Population	258,916	*293,317

Source: 2000 Census \*2004 BEBR projections

## Age Comparison

Age	Population
0 - 17	60,609
18 - 34	48,425
35-54	75,456
55-64	36,918
65 and over	71,909
<b>Total</b>	<b>293,317</b>

Source: 2004 BEBR projections

## Sex Breakdown

Male	141,800
Female	151,500

Source: 2004 BEBR projections (rounded)



## Census Population Projections - Marion County

	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
Low	313,700	333,500	350,500	364,000	373,600
Medium	340,300	376,000	411,700	446,200	478,300
High	368,200	424,500	484,000	546,000	609,600

Source: 2005 Florida Statistical Abstract

## Economy

Ocala/Marion County is fortunate to have a diverse and vibrant economy. A manufacturing base is strengthened with commercial and service sectors. The growing population and excellent training programs supply a steady workforce stream for employers. The mild climate, close proximity to universities and international airports and an available workforce blend together to attract new and expanding businesses to our community. This sustained economic growth and strong, stable economy continue to make Ocala/Marion County Great for Business, Great for Life!

## 2004 Effective Buying Income - (EBI) Marion County, Florida

<b>Total EBI</b>	\$4,929,773,000
<b>Median Household EBI</b>	\$31,836
<b>% of Households by EBI Group</b>	
<b>\$20,000 - \$34,999</b>	29.3%
<b>\$35,000 - \$49,999</b>	19.3%
<b>\$50,000 and over</b>	24.4%

*Source: 2005 Survey of Buying Power*

## Building Permit Annual Activity Marion County 2004

<b>Total Residential Value</b>	\$619,339,000
<b>Number of Permits</b>	
<b>Single Family</b>	5,268
<b>Multi-Family</b>	158

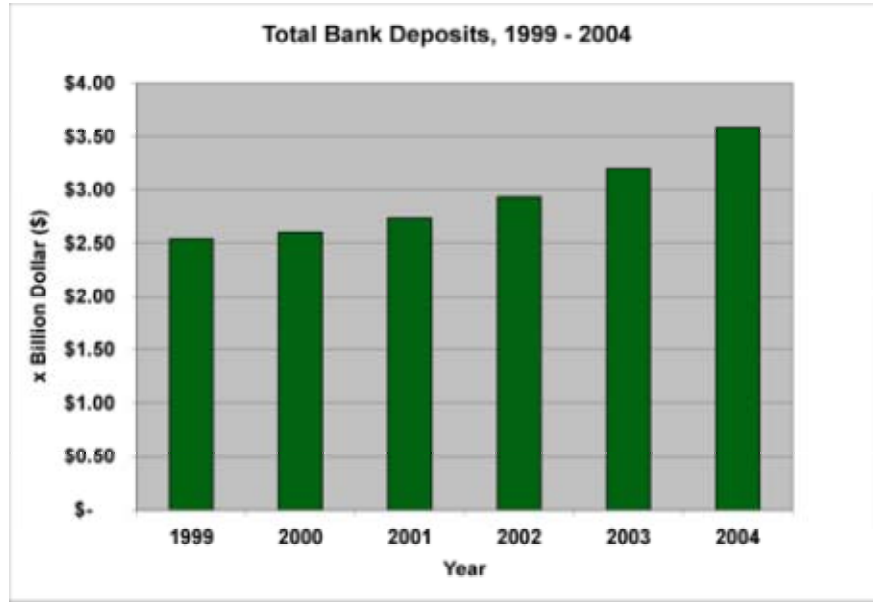
*Source: 2005 FL Statistical Abstract and Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program*

## Residential Income

<b>2004 Average Earnings Per Worker</b>	\$29,009
<b>2004 Median Household Income</b>	\$31,851

*Source: 2005 Florida Statistical Abstract*

Banking Activity - Marion County, Florida



Source: 2005 Florida Statistical Abstract

Total Bank Deposits, 1999-2004

1999	\$2.54 billion
2000	\$2.60 billion
2001	\$2.73 billion
2002	\$2.93 billion
2003	\$3.20 billion
2004	\$3.59 billion

Source: 2005 Florida Statistical Abstract

2004 Retail Sales By Store Group  
Marion County, Florida

Total Retail Sales	\$4,018,410,000
<b>Major Retail Store Groups</b>	<b>Total Amount</b>
Food/Beverage Stores	\$447,343,000
Food Service/Drinking Establishment	\$234,022,000
General Merchandise	\$811,814,000
Furniture, Home Furnishings, Electronic & Appliances	\$114,816,000
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	\$901,954,000

Source: 2005 Survey of Buying Power

Retail Sales - Marion County



*Source: 2005 Florida Statistical Abstract*

Gross and Taxable Retail Sales		
Year	Gross Sales	Taxable Sales
1999	\$6.60 billion	\$2.83 billion
2000	\$6.80 billion	\$2.95 billion
2001	\$7.04 billion	\$3.04 billion
2002	\$7.03 billion	\$3.08 billion
2003	\$7.50 billion	\$3.37 billion
2004	\$8.40 billion	\$3.68 billion

*Source: 2005 Florida Statistical Abstract*

## Housing

Residents of Marion County have discovered a wonderful treasure. The community enjoys a high standard of living at an affordable price. This benefit attracts professional and skilled workers who are eager to obtain “more bang for the buck” when it comes to building or buying a home. Lower housing costs also translate to lower property taxes and more disposable income to stimulate a thriving economy. Those who choose the Sunshine State have found Marion County housing prices to be 30% lower than Jacksonville, Orlando and Tampa.

## 2005 Marion County Public Lodging Facilities

Facilities	Number	Units
Apartment Buildings	130	6911
Rooming Houses	0	0
Rental Condominiums	6	98
Transient Apartment Buildings	8	42

**Source:** 2005 Florida Statistical Abstract

## House Purchase Price - Marion County

2004	\$154,189
2005	\$201,419

**Source:** 2005 Florida Statistical Abstract

## Median Sales Price of Existing Single Family Homes

Metropolitan Area	2004
Gainesville, FL	\$162,100
Jacksonville, FL	\$159,000
Miami/Hialeah, FL	\$273,900
<b>Ocala, FL</b>	\$109,600
Tampa/St. Petersburg/Clearwater, FL	\$159,900

**Source:** 2005 Florida Statistical Abstract

## 2004 Households and Average Household Size

	Marion County	Florida
Housing Units	121,217	6,949,759
Average Household Size	2.35 (Average Persons Per Household)	2.46 (Average Persons Per Household)

**Source:** 2005 Florida Statistical Abstract

## 2000 Census Data

	Marion County	Florida
Home Ownership Rate	79.8%	70.1%
Households w/ Persons Under 18	27.8%	31.3%

## Quality Of Life

Enhancing the current quality of life is one of the four elements in the Ocala/Marion County EDC's Strategic Plan. We all know there is more to life than business. Successful companies understand the importance of a positive community for the lifestyle of their employees away from the office. Team members who enjoy their down time away from work can bring renewed and energized perspectives to the workplace. It's great for business when it's great for life! Ocala and Marion County can meet those needs.



## Culture

Ocala/Marion County is a community rich in cultural and natural resources. The arts flourish through the Appleton Museum, with its outstanding cultural exhibits, and the Ocala Civic Theatre with a wide array of award-winning dramatic and musical productions. Opportunities exist for music appreciation through the Central Florida Symphony Orchestra and the Marion Civic Chorale. West Port High School serves as the Marion County Center for the Arts. In addition, the Marion Cultural Alliance is a community-sponsored agency that encourages art programs and appreciation of all cultural activities in the community.

## 2005 Cost of Living

<b>Marion County Price Level Index Value of Major Items</b>	
<b>Weighted State Average = 100</b>	
<b>Marion County</b>	93.60
<b>Rank - 36th of 67 Counties</b>	
<b>Population Weighted State Average = 100</b>	
<b>Food</b>	99.68
<b>Healthcare</b>	100.37
<b>Housing</b>	86.18
<b>Transportation</b>	95.81
<b>Personal Goods and Services</b>	98.49

*Source: 2005 Florida Statistical Abstract*

## Recreation

The mild climate of Ocala/Marion County is perfect for the best round of golf. Both public and private golf, tennis and recreation facilities populate the picturesque countryside. The area is renowned for its natural beauty with many lakes, rivers, crystal clear springs and nature parks throughout the county. If the beach scene sounds enticing, either coast is within a scenic drive less than 60 miles away.

## Climate Averages

<b>Average Annual Temperature</b>	82.7 °
<b>Average Maximum in July</b>	92.2 °
<b>Average Minimum in December</b>	47.4 °
<b>Days with 90 ° or Higher</b>	113
<b>Days with 32 ° or Lower</b>	10.7
<b>Annual Precipitation (inches)</b>	52.66"
<b>Annual Snow Days</b>	0
<b>Earthquake Zone</b>	0

*Source: 2006 SE Regional Climate Center*

## Healthcare

The reassuring factor of an outstanding medical community is available in Ocala and Marion County. The area attracts world-renowned physicians specializing in cardiology and stroke care. The caliber of physicians and medical support staff is exceptional. Both of Ocala's premier hospitals, Munroe Regional Medical Center and Ocala Regional Medical Center, were nationally recognized by HCIA-Sachs as recipients of the 100 Top Hospitals Award for 2003 and 2004. Additionally, Ocala's close proximity to the University of Florida's Shands Teaching Hospital, has given our community a wealth of expert health care providers.

## Medical Professionals

<b>Chiropractors</b>	61
<b>Dental Hygienists</b>	170
<b>Dentists</b>	105
<b>Medical Doctors</b>	469
<b>Nurses, Practical</b>	887
<b>Nurses, Registered</b>	2,797
<b>Opticians</b>	70
<b>Optometrists</b>	26
<b>Osteopathic Physicians</b>	39
<b>Pharmacists</b>	201
<b>Podiatrists</b>	15
<b>Psychologists</b>	31
<b>Therapists, Massage</b>	259
<b>Therapists, Occupational</b>	75
<b>Therapists, Physical</b>	129

*Source: 2005 Florida Statistical Abstract*

## Religious Diversity

<b>Faith</b>	<b>Houses of Worship</b>
<b>African Methodist/Episcopal</b>	8
<b>Apostolic</b>	4
<b>Assemblies of God</b>	8
<b>Baptist</b>	70
<b>Catholic</b>	12
<b>Christian</b>	9
<b>Christian Science</b>	1
<b>Church of Christ</b>	8

Church of God	17
Episcopal	8
Islamic	1
Jehovah's Witness	12
Latter Day Saints	2
Lutheran	20
Methodist	26
Nazarene	3
Non-Denominational	20
Orthodox	1
Pentecostal	27
Presbyterian	12
Scientology	1
Seventh Day Adventist	8
Synagogues	3
Wesleyan	1
Other	24

Source: Ocala/Marion County EDC

## Child Care

Program	Number of Facilities	Now Serving
Licensed Family Child Care Homes	105	1,010
Registered Family Child Care Homes	7	61
Licensed Child Care Centers	63	4,732
Head Start Programs	31	527
Early Head Start	12	92
Voluntary Pre-K School Year Providers	49	828
Voluntary Pre-K Summer Providers	28	30

Source: Early Learning Coalition of Marion County, Inc.