



# PINELLAS HIGHLIGHTS **INCOME**



**Foundation** for a  
**Healthy St. Petersburg**



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Foundation for a  
Healthy St. Petersburg

# ECONOMIC INSTABILITY NEGATIVELY IMPACTS POPULATION HEALTH IN MANY WAYS

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Individuals with low income cannot afford healthcare, needed medical procedures, or healthy food. They are likely to smoke more and have increased stress.

Individuals experiencing poverty are more likely to engage in risky health behaviors such as drinking, smoking, eating unhealthy foods, and being inactive. In addition, those in poverty and who are unemployed are at risk for heavy drinking, thus potentially leading to abuse or dependence of alcohol and other negative consequence for mental, physical, and social health.

# SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS

## Income

According to the World Bank, poverty is a major cause of ill health and a barrier to accessing health care when needed. This relationship is financial (not being able to afford those things that are needed for good health) but is also related to other factors associated with poverty, such as lack of information on appropriate health-promoting practices or lack of voice needed to make social services work for them. <sup>i</sup>

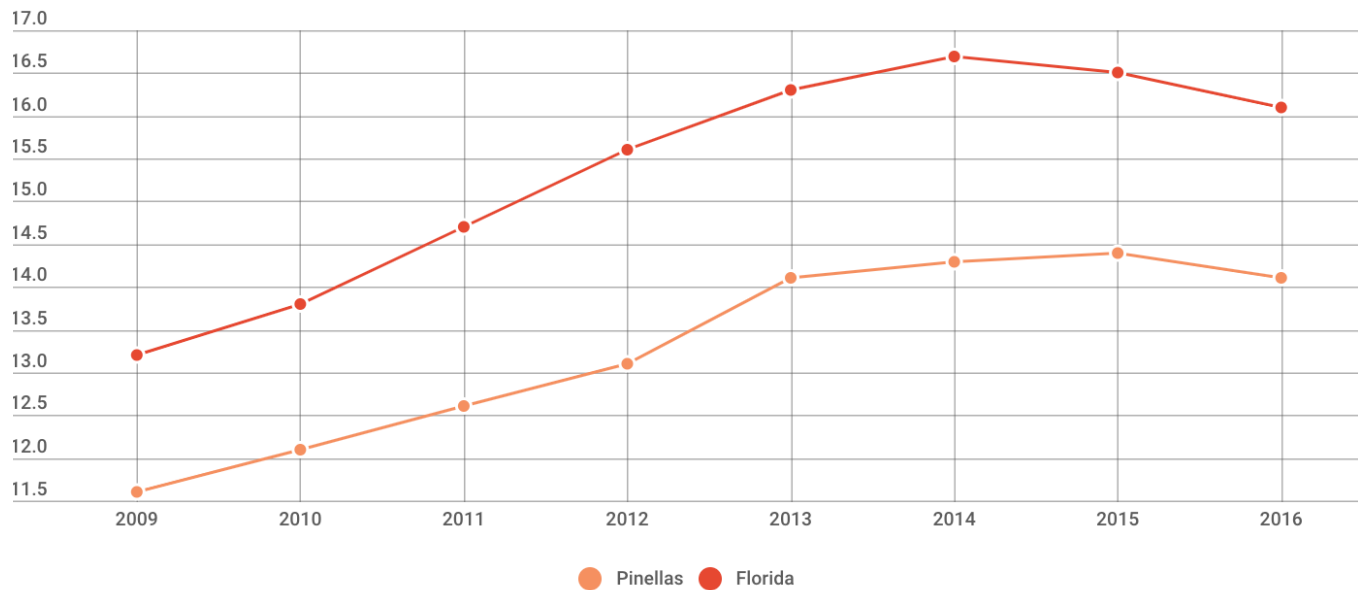
Ill health, in turn, is a major cause of poverty. This is partly due to the costs of seeking health care, which include not only out-of-pocket spending on care (such as consultations, tests and medicine), but also transportation costs and any informal payments to providers. <sup>ii</sup>

Adults who have a low income are more likely than high-income adults to have chronic illness, such as diabetes, coronary health disease, kidney disease, or a chronic illness that limits activity. <sup>iii</sup> Approximately 14.1% of individuals and 9.5% of families<sup>v</sup> in Pinellas County live below poverty level compared to 16.1% (individuals) <sup>vi</sup> and 11.7% (families) <sup>vii</sup> in Florida. Table 1, below, shows the 2017 federal poverty guidelines. Figure 1, below, shows the trend for individuals living below poverty in the state and in the county over time.

2017 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR THE 48 CONTIGUOUS STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	
PERSON IN FAMILY/HOUSEHOLD	POVERTY GUIDELINE
1	\$12,060
2	\$16,240
3	\$20,420
4	\$24,600
5	\$28,780
6	\$32,960
7	\$37,140
8	\$41,320
For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$4,180 for each additional person.	

**Table 1:** 2017 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States and the District of Columbia <sup>viii</sup>

## SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS



**Figure 1: 2016 Individuals Below Poverty Level- County/State Comparison** <sup>xi</sup>

The Pinellas County Economic Development Organization's 2018 Economic Profile presents a snapshot of the economic climate in Pinellas County. Three tables from the report are presented below. <sup>x</sup>

HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME		
Total	434,729	100%
<\$15,000	52,605	12.1%
\$15,000-\$24,999	55,917	12.9%
\$25,000-\$34,999	50,226	11.6%
\$35,000-\$49,999	66,127	15.2%
\$50,000-\$74,999	81,051	18.6%
\$75,000-\$99,999	48,348	11.1%
\$100,000-\$149,999	45,289	10.4%
\$150,000-\$199,999	16,586	3.8%
\$200,000+	18,580	4.3%

**Table 2: Pinellas County Households by Income**



## SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS

2017 NET WORTH BY AGE OF HOUSEHOLDER							
	<25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
Total	11,991	48,292	54,788	73,792	90,393	80,600	74,873
<\$15,000	9,398	29,113	22,996	22,613	22,386	10,683	9,790
\$15,000-\$34,999	1,386	7,089	6,609	6,846	6,416	2,424	2,942
\$35,000-\$49,999	426	2,103	3,569	3,263	3,763	2,640	1,321
\$50,000-\$99,999	422	4,618	7,554	8,857	9,097	7,479	6,867
\$100,000-\$149,999	78	2,001	3,452	5,092	6,860	8,140	6,570
\$150,000-\$249,999	166	1,531	4,108	7,265	10,178	11,177	13,541
\$250,000+	115	1,837	6,500	19,856	31,693	38,057	33,842
Median Net Worth	\$9,569	\$12,441	\$25,774	\$67,887	\$122,290	\$223,153	\$214,487
Average Net Worth	\$26,279	\$65,771	\$278,552	\$508,140	\$806,226	\$1,213,251	\$839,090

**Table 3:** 2017 Net Worth by Age of Householder in Pinellas County

HPOVERTY STATUS-LIVING IN POVERTY						
	2014		2015		2016	
	NUMBER LIVING IN POVERTY	% LIVING IN POVERTY	NUMBER LIVING IN POVERTY	% LIVING IN POVERTY	NUMBER LIVING IN POVERTY	% LIVING IN POVERTY
Overall Population	139,373	15.1%	126,571	13.5%	125,474	13.3%
Children Under 18	34,739	22.0%	31,782	20.2%	30,995	19.7%
Adults 18-64	82,739	14.9%	73,225	13.0%	74,065	13.1%
Adults Over 65	21,895	10.5%	21,564	10.0%	20,414	9.2%
Families	21,322	9.8%	19,251	8.8%	20,011	8.7%

**Table 4:** Poverty Status-Living in Poverty



# SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS

Poverty is not evenly distributed throughout the county. In 2017, approximately 10.9% (105,088) of the Pinellas County population was black or African American; <sup>xi</sup> 9.3% (89,449) was Hispanic; <sup>xii</sup> and 88.3% (797,411) were white. <sup>xiii</sup> Median income in Pinellas County for all races/ethnicities combined is \$47,090; <sup>xiv</sup> median income in Florida is \$48,900. <sup>xv</sup> A breakdown of income and percent poverty level for each race/ethnicity is below. It is evident from the data that a larger percentage of black and Hispanic households in the county experience poverty than do white households.

POVERTY INDICATORS BY RACE/ETHNICITY				
	YEAR(S)	BLACK	WHITE	HISPANIC
Median Household Income	2012-2016	\$31,796	\$49,007	\$39,232
Individuals Below poverty (%)	2012-2016	21.4%	1.8	2.3
Individuals Below poverty (#)	2012-2016	17,528	27,469	91,952

**Table 5: Poverty Indicators by Race/Ethnicity** <sup>xvi xvii</sup>

Within Pinellas County certain census tracts have higher concentration of poverty than others. The table below depicts the census tracts with a higher concentration of those in poverty. <sup>xviii</sup>

% FAMILIES UNDER 100% OF POVERTY			
CENSUS TRACT CODES	PERCENT	CENSUS TRACT CODES	PERCENT
State	27.6	247.01	23.4%
County	9.5%	247.02	20.7%
201.01	27.6	247.03	21.4%
205	40.9%	249.02	23.1%
206	22.1%	249.04	20.6%
207	21.2%	250.18	21.5%
208	35.0%	254.11	22.4%
212	44.6%	255.05	23.3%
216	36.8%	256.02	22.3%
219	21.9%	258	27.3%
220	23.9%	259	23.2%
231	23.4%	262	40.4%
235	21.1%	263	29.7%
245.14	26.4%	267.03	21.1%
246.02	34.2%	268.18	21.0%

**Table 6: % Families under 100% of Poverty**

## SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS

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### Other income-related statistics for Pinellas County are below:

- 12.7% of Pinellas households received cash, public assistance, or food stamps (2014-2016) <sup>xix</sup>
- 8% of Pinellas children ages 0-17 do not have health insurance (2012-2016) <sup>xx</sup>
- 7.3% of the civilian labor force is unemployed (2012-2016) <sup>xxi</sup>
- 2.5% of the population is eligible for WIC — a federal special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children (2016) <sup>xxii</sup>
- The median monthly Medicaid enrollment in Pinellas is 16,063 per 100,000 population (2016) <sup>xxiii</sup>

People who are poor are more likely to engage in risky health behaviors such as drinking, smoking, eating unhealthy foods and being inactive. In addition, the mental stress of being poor is a major reason that low-income people are more likely to have high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and become obese or diabetic. Long-term stress creates hormones that promote weight gain and compromise the immune system. <sup>xxiv</sup>

#### PLEASE NOTE:

*This series of Pinellas Highlights is intended to illustrate the Foundation's definitions of the Social Determinants of Health framework and to provide specific data related to the Foundation's geographic focus area. The data presented is not comprehensive.*

# ABOUT THE FOUNDATION FOR A HEALTHY ST. PETERSBURG

The Foundation for a Healthy St. Petersburg (FHSP) is a private foundation formed in 2013 following the sale of the nonprofit Bayfront Health St. Petersburg. It is the steward of almost \$180 million in assets to support health equity in Pinellas County. Our mission is to end differences in health due to social or structural disadvantages to improve population health. We do this by inspiring and empowering people, ideas, information exchange, organizations and relationships.

Not everyone in Pinellas County is able to attain their highest level of health and well-being. Too often, the place where a person is born, grows, lives, works, learns, or ages contains impediments stemming from entrenched social or demographic factors such as race, gender, personal attribute, income, or geography. This is unacceptable and ultimately unsustainable. The Foundation for a Healthy St. Petersburg seeks to address health disparities, advance population health, and achieve health equity in Pinellas County.

The Foundation is focused on social factors, which directly impact health outcomes, such as housing, income, education, transit, and many others as listed in the Social Determinants of Health Framework below.





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