



WOMEN'S GIVING  
A L L I A N C E  
THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

## Demographic Trends

Population characteristics and family structures influence the needs and priorities of women and girls and also the approaches required to serve them effectively.

This section includes:

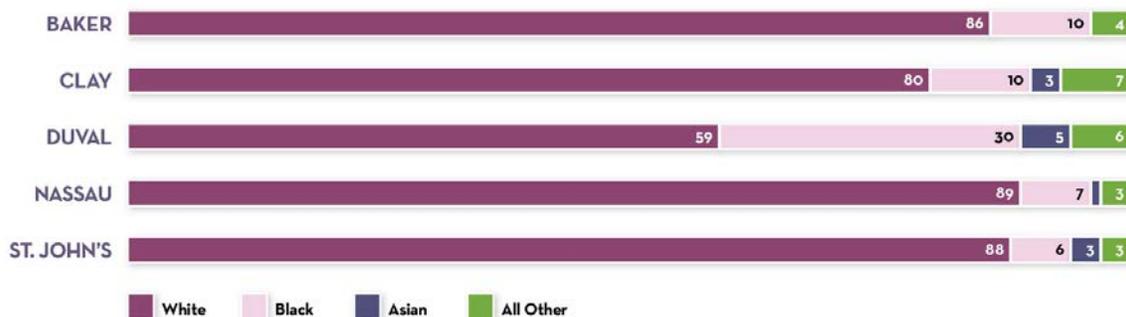
- Population profiles in these categories:
  - Gender, race, ethnicity
  - Age
  - Immigrant and refugee
  - LGBT
  - Family structure
- Addressing the needs of families

## Population Profiles

### Gender/Race/Ethnicity

Females comprise 50 percent of the population of Northeast Florida. The five-county area of Northeast Florida is not as diverse racially and ethnically as Florida and the United States. Duval County is more diverse than the other four counties (Baker, Clay, Nassau, St. Johns).

### Female Population Percentage by Race



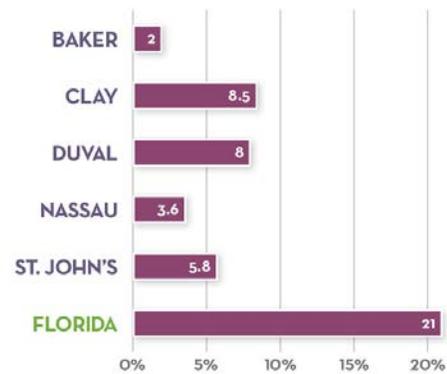
Source: Claritas Data, 2015, provided through Northeast Florida Counts

Some groups are recognized by their cultural heritage or country of origin. People with Latin American heritage are identified in the U.S. Census as Hispanic or Latino.

The chart provides an estimate of females, by county, who identify as Hispanic or Latina. Clay (8.5 percent) and Duval (8 percent) counties have the largest percentage of Hispanic/Latina females.

In Northeast Florida, as elsewhere, on quality of life measures like education, income, health and others, non-white populations place lower.

### Female Population Who Identify as Hispanic/Latina



Source: University of Florida, Bureau of Business and Economic Research

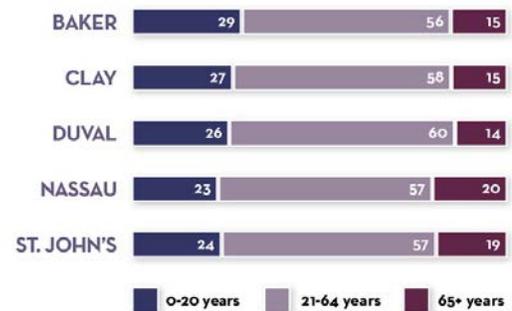
### Age

Since 2010, the only significant shift in the age profile of Northeast Florida is the growth in the percentage of those 65 and over. Every county except Baker increased. The largest increases are in Clay County (from 12 to 15.4 percent) and Nassau County (from 17 to 20.2 percent).

Females 65 and over are 16 percent of the total female population in Northeast Florida. Important considerations:

- Nationally, ALL adults 65 and older are 15 percent of the population; in Northeast Florida, just the female population 65 and older is a greater proportion.
- The proportion of women 65 and over is even greater in Nassau (20 percent) and St. Johns (19 percent) counties.
- This age cohort is expected to continue to grow nationally and locally.

### Age Distribution Percentage of Females in Northeast Florida



Source: Claritas Data, 2015, provided through Northeast Florida Counts

The implications and opportunities related to that growth in the 65 and over population are covered in depth in the most recent Jacksonville Community Council, Inc., (JCCI) report, "[Re-thinking Aging](#)." As stated in the report, "everyone and everything is impacted" by this shift. There are implications for:

- Medical care
- Extended care resources
- Housing
- Transportation
- Neighborhoods
- Families

The report highlights the AARP's "Livability Index" measuring quality of life elements for older adults that shows low scores for Northeast Florida counties, from 46 to 49 points of 100.

Other sections of *Voices of Hope* on the web highlight some additional considerations to address the needs of and enhance the lives of women 65 and over. Of note:

- [Economic Empowerment](#): the growth in the number of older adults returning to the workplace, or starting their own businesses.
- [Safety and Justice](#): the need to address elder abuse.
- [Physical and Mental Health](#): an array of shifting needs and the challenges of care, given the insufficient number of medical professionals who specialize in geriatrics.

## Immigrant and Refugee Populations

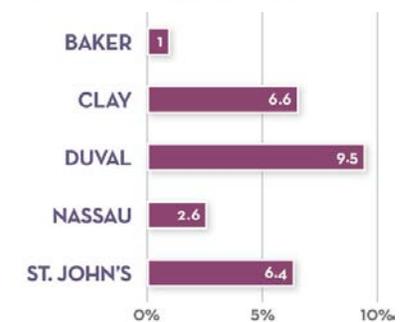
Florida hosts one of the largest immigrant and refugee populations in the United States. While the exact number of immigrants (including documented and undocumented immigrants) is difficult to pinpoint, the Pew Research Center reports [19.5 percent](#) of Florida residents are foreign born.

Foreign-born persons represent from 1 percent to 9.5 percent of those living in Northeast Florida counties.

Refugees are persons who legally enter the country due to conflicts in their home countries. Duval County is host to a significant refugee population, in part because of the long-standing work of Lutheran Social Services and Catholic Charities in effective outreach and procurement of housing, employment and other resources.

Leaders of local girl-serving agencies report challenges in working with refugee girls as they struggle with assimilation and often serve as the cultural "middle-person" to their parents.

### Foreign Born Persons, 2009-2013: Naturalized & Non-naturalized



Source: U.S. Census 2013

## LGBT Population

Information on the size and composition is difficult to determine, but reliable sources provide some perspectives:

- 3.4 percent of Florida adults in a 2012 poll identified as LGBT.
- 10 percent of the respondents in a 2013 survey of Duval County high school students identified as lesbian, gay or bisexual.
- As many as 23,000 LGBT elders live in Northeast Florida.

Additionally, 2009 census information indicated a high number of gay parents in Duval County. As reported in a 2011 *New York Times* [article](#): “About 32 percent of gay couples in Jacksonville are raising children...second only to San Antonio, where the rate is about 34 percent.” The article describes some LGBT families in Jacksonville, and particularly their involvement in LGBT-friendly spiritual communities.

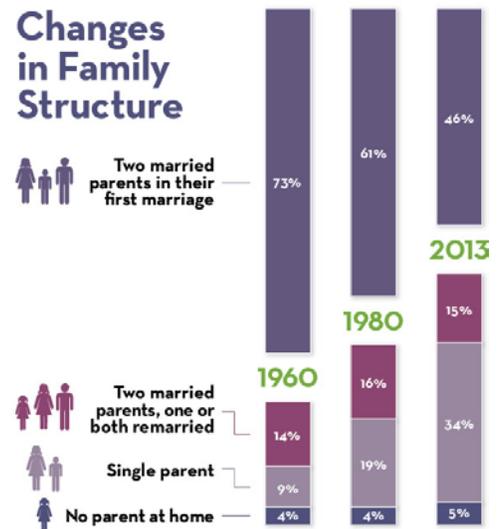
## Family Structure

As noted in a Pew Research Center report: “Rapid changes in American family structure have altered the image of who’s gathering for the holidays. While the old ‘ideal’ involved couples marrying young, then starting a family, and staying married till ‘death do us part,’ the family has become more complex, and less traditional.”

The changes in family structures captured in the chart are consistent with the fact that 41 percent of children in Florida are raised in homes with both of their biological parents.

As noted in a [report](#) from Brookings and the American Enterprise Institute, national data point to a significant decline in marriage for women aged 30-34, from around 82 percent to around 55 percent.

Many women, with and without children, are cohabiting. “Some analysts argue that cohabitation is the new marriage, that it occupies the middle ground between married-couple families and single-parent families, while others argue that it is closer to single-parenthood in its effects, especially in the U.S. because the duration of cohabiting relationships is much shorter than the duration of marriage. Cohabitors are three times as likely to split by the child’s fifth birthday as are married parents (39 percent of cohabitors vs. 13 percent of married couples.)”



Note: Based on children ages 17 and younger. “Married parents” refer to those in a heterosexual marriage only. In 2013, the “single parent” category includes the small share of children living with two parents who are cohabiting or in a same-sex marriage. Data on same sex marriage and cohabitation is not available for earlier years.

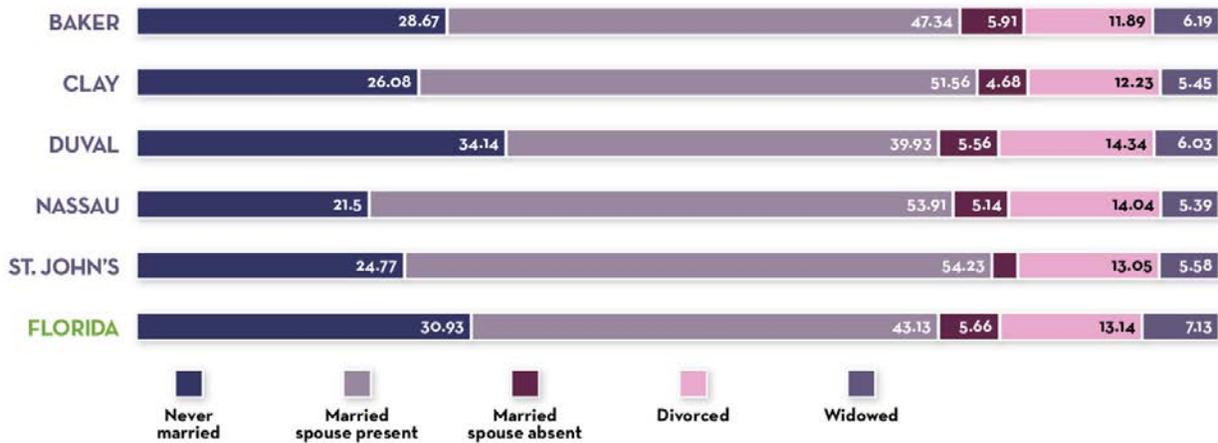
Source: Pew Research Center analysis of 1960 and 1980 Decennial Census and 2013 American Community Survey

## Northeast Florida

### Marital Status

The chart below captures the marital status of the Northeast Florida population.

## Marital Status, Population Ages 15+



Source: Claritas Data, 2015, provided through Northeast Florida Counts

## Single Parent Households

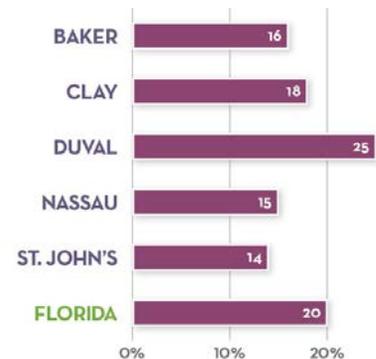
The rate of single parent households in Northeast Florida is a concern because, compared to married couple households, single parent households are more likely to live in poverty.

The *Voices of Hope* [Economic Empowerment](#) section highlights further details about poverty. Studies suggest that children who are raised in single parent families have less education and lower future earnings potential.

## Grandparents as Custodial Parents

According to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#), about 2.7 million grandparents were "grandparent caregivers" (those with primary responsibility for grandchildren under 18 years living with them). The census also indicates that these households are more prevalent in the South and Southwestern United States. Further analysis notes that 22.9 percent of households where grandparents are responsible for their co-resident grandchildren live in poverty.

## Households Headed by a Single Mother, 2013



Source: American Community Survey, 2014; 2013 data

## Foster Care

The foster care system, a part of the child welfare system, exists to provide support and protection for children in vulnerable family situations. Children who are removed from their home of origin are often placed with family members or adults who have a significant relationship with the child. Another subset of children is placed into licensed foster care homes or comparable facilities.

Out-of-home placements are among the risk factors of youth entering the juvenile justice system. Compared to boys, more girls in the juvenile justice system are also in the child welfare system (termed “crossover”). In Northeast Florida one in three girls entering the juvenile justice system was in out-of-home placements. Some [research](#) has noted that trauma and family problems are shared risks of both systems.

## Addressing the Needs of Families

### Childcare

One of the major concerns of those with children is procuring safe, reliable and affordable [childcare](#). For many families, childcare costs rival the cost of housing. While county data on the cost of childcare is not available, here is the annual average cost of childcare in Florida:

Infant	\$8,299
4-year-old	\$6,571
School-aged child	\$3,833

The [Early Learning Coalition](#) notes that childcare financial assistance is available to families who are at or below the poverty line and who are employed 20 or more hours per week.

In addition to the high cost of childcare, women provide a disproportionately high amount of caring for small children, often called the “[second shift](#).” A book, “The Second Shift,” first published 25 years ago, has been revised and republished. The author, Arlie Hochschild, notes good and bad news. The good news includes women making more money and men recognizing their role in child rearing. The bad news is that the workplace is hard to change (for example, flex time arrangements); and there are needs for paid family leave and subsidized childcare.

### Eldercare

Among the many implications of the projected growth of the population 65 and over is the increasing need for caregiver support. Female family members provide the majority of elder care. A large proportion of these caregivers participate in full time paid employment and other family responsibilities. Sociologists refer to these caregivers as the sandwich generation because they provide emotional, physical and financial assistance to two generations of family members.