

2025



**Flagler &
Volusia
Counties**



**Community
Health
Improvement
Plan**



Prepared by the Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida, Inc.



*Trail Photo on Cover Page from the Flagler County Tourism Development Office

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	1
Acknowledgments	2
Using the Community Health Improvement Plan	3
Review of Flagler and Volusia Counties Community Health Needs Assessment	4
The MAPP Process	4
MAPP Assessments	4
Forces of Change Assessment.....	5
Community Themes & Strengths Assessment	6
Focus Groups.....	6
Community Survey	7
Key Stakeholder Interviews	7
Local Public Health System Assessment.....	8
Community Health Status Assessment.....	9
Identifying Priority Health Concerns.....	10
Top Health Concerns Identified by Community Surveys	10
Top Health Concerns Identified by Focus Groups.....	10
Top Health Concerns Identified by Key Stakeholder Interviews	11
Top Health Concerns Identified by Quantitative Data.....	11
Top Health Concerns Identified by the Steering Committee.....	11
Description of Priority Health Concerns	13
Economic Stability & Social and Community Context.....	13
Educational Attainment.....	13
Income & Poverty	15
Public Assistance	17
Transportation	19
Proximity to Hazards and Resources	21
Housing Conditions	22
Healthcare Access and Quality.....	22
Health Insurance Coverage.....	22
Federal Health Professional Shortage Designation.....	23
Federal Medically Underserved Designation	23
Healthcare Providers	24
Health Care Facilities	26

Mental Health & Disorders and Drug & Alcohol Use.....	30
Suicide.....	31
Drug Poisoning Deaths.....	32
Baker Act Referrals/Examinations.....	33
Crime.....	34
Substance Use.....	38
Behavioral Health Medical Professionals.....	41
Overview of CHIP Process.....	42
References.....	43
CHIP Action Plans.....	45
Economic Stability & Social and Community Context.....	46
Health Care Access and Quality.....	51
Mental Health and Disorders & Drug and Alcohol Use.....	56

Data Disclaimer

The information contained in this report reflects qualitative opinion data collected during the assessment process. Comments and discussions are summarized and accurately catalogued from the facilitated discussions. These cannot be attributed to one person; rather, these are summaries of a group discussion in aggregate. Furthermore, the contents are the views of county residents gathered during the community engagement phase of the project and do not represent official views of, nor an endorsement by, the Florida Department of Health and the Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida, Inc. (HPCNEF).

While HPCNEF uses reasonable efforts to provide accurate and up-to-date data, some of the information provided in these assessments and herein is gathered from third-party secondary data sources. Although the information in this report has been produced and processed from sources believed to be reliable, no warranty, expressed or implied, is made regarding the accuracy, adequacy, completeness, legality, reliability, or usefulness of any information. This disclaimer applies to both isolated and aggregate uses of information. HPCNEF is not in any way liable for the accuracy of any information printed and stored or in any way interpreted and used by a user. HPCNEF may make improvements and/or changes in the services and/or the content(s) described herein at any time.

This Community Health Improvement Plan, funded by the Florida Department of Health in Flagler County and the Florida Department of Health in Volusia County, has a publication date of July 31, 2025.

Executive Summary

The Flagler and Volusia Counties Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) group has collaborated to understand and address the community's current and future health needs. The CHIP group, with guidance from the Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida, Inc. (HPCNEF), developed this CHIP as part of ongoing efforts to improve health in Flagler and Volusia counties.

The Florida Department of Health in Flagler County (DOH-Flagler) and the Florida Department of Health in Volusia County (DOH-Volusia), in partnership with HPCNEF, championed a CHIP to identify and prioritize health concerns in Flagler and Volusia counties using a nationally recognized approach called Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP). The CHIP uses information from the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), which includes quantitative (e.g., disease incidence rates and mortality rates) and qualitative data (e.g., community input) to assess the health status of the community and determine which health concerns will be the focus of health planning efforts for the next three years.

Stakeholders in Flagler and Volusia counties decided the 2025 CHIP would focus on the following priority health concerns after reviewing and discussing the data collected through the CHNA process:

- **Economic Stability & Social and Community Context** (income, poverty level, access to affordable housing, access to affordable healthcare, demographic-specific challenges [e.g., seniors aged 65+])
- **Health Care Access and Quality** (provider shortages, cost of care, lack of awareness of available services and proper health education)
- **Mental Health and Disorders & Drug and Alcohol Use** (mental health, substance use/abuse, child abuse/neglect, domestic violence, suicide)

The purpose of the CHIP process is to create goals, objectives, and strategies targeting the priority health concerns identified in the CHNA. To improve the implementation and evaluation of the goals in this plan, the stakeholders decided to utilize a balanced scorecard approach, which identifies goals, objectives, and strategies and sets measurable targets to move the CHIP process forward.

The targets and measures outlined in the CHIP Action Plans at the end of this document were carefully selected through collaborative and inclusive workgroups for each priority health concern. Additionally, many of the targets align with the national Healthy People 2030 initiative and with goals and objectives from the Florida State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP). These national and statewide initiatives provide evidence-based benchmarks to track and monitor health and best practices to guide health promotion and disease prevention efforts, which will ultimately help improve health outcomes in Flagler and Volusia counties.

During the next steps of the MAPP health planning cycle, the CHIP workgroups will continue to work together to address the three priority health concerns outlined above. The CHIP workgroups will plan for action, implement strategies, and evaluate progress. As a living document, the *2025 Flagler and Volusia Counties Community Health Improvement Plan* is flexible and can accommodate changes or updates as needed. The CHIP group will reassess and update the CHIP Action Plans and the CHNA annually to best address the needs of the local community.

Acknowledgments

With valuable input from community stakeholders and leaders in Flagler and Volusia counties, the 2025 Flagler and Volusia CHIP became a decisive community call to action. DOH-Flagler, DOH-Volusia, and HPCNEF would like to extend gratitude to the organizations and individuals who dedicated their valuable time to ensure that the CHIP goals, objectives, and strategies aligned best with the needs of the local community. DOH-Flagler, DOH-Volusia, and HPCNEF would also like to thank the organizations involved with implementing the CHIP action plan. Through cooperation and leadership, Flagler and Volusia counties will make strides toward their desired health outcomes.

CHIP Contributors:

- AdventHealth
- Aza Health
- Early Learning Coalition of Flagler and Volusia
- Easterseals Florida, Inc.
- EPIC Behavioral Healthcare
- Flagler Cares
- Flagler OARS
- Flagler Schools
- Florida Department of Children and Families
- Halifax Health
- The House Next Door
- The Neighborhood Center of West Volusia
- One Voice for Volusia
- SMA Healthcare
- Volusia Recovery Alliance

Using the Community Health Improvement Plan

The creation of the CHIP for Flagler and Volusia counties serves as a reminder of how collaboration between government officials, community leaders, public health professionals, community advocates, and many other participants can build public health infrastructure, aid and guide planning, and, ultimately, improve the health outcomes of Flagler and Volusia counties. The following suggestions provide ways to use this CHIP to improve the well-being and quality of life for the community in Flagler and Volusia counties:

Community Residents

- Use this CHIP to compare individual health with that of Flagler and Volusia counties' community health data
- Be an advocate in the community to support healthy lifestyles and behaviors
- Volunteer! Share your resources, time, and funding with your community
- Understand the top health priorities facing Flagler and Volusia counties

Health Care Professionals

- Understand the top health priorities facing Flagler and Volusia counties
- Inform your patients/clients of available resources in the community listed in the CHIP
- Be a resource for the community, whether it be for your expertise, funding, time, or support

Faith-Based Organizations

- Understand the top health priorities facing Flagler and Volusia counties
- Use this plan to improve the overall health (mind, body, and spirit) of members in your community
- Identify opportunities for your community or members to support and encourage participation in public health projects

Government Officials

- Understand the top health priorities facing Flagler and Volusia counties
- Participate in community efforts as laid out in the CHIP strategies
- Engage with other government officials to inform and promote your community's health

Educators

- Understand the top health priorities facing Flagler and Volusia counties
- Be a resource for the community, whether it be for your expertise, funding, time, or support
- Engage the support of leaders, teachers, students, and parents

Public Health Professionals

- Understand the top health priorities facing Flagler and Volusia counties
- Recognize how the Flagler and Volusia counties community compares with peer counties, Florida, and the U.S. population as a whole
- Be a resource for the community, whether it be for your expertise, funding, time, or support

Employers

- Understand the top health priorities facing Flagler and Volusia counties
- Inform and educate your team/staff on the importance of employee wellness and productivity

Review of Flagler and Volusia Counties Community Health Needs Assessment

DOH-Flagler and DOH-Volusia maintain strong and enduring relationships with multiple health and social services providers throughout the community. The Florida Department of Health in Flagler County, the Florida Department of Health in Volusia County, AdventHealth, Halifax Health, Flagler Cares, and One Voice for Volusia (also known as The Cooperative) invited key stakeholders from the public health sector to act as a platform and steering committee for the Flagler and Volusia Counties Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) process, which began in March 2024.

Community health needs assessments intend to answer questions about community health status and needs, including: “How healthy are our community residents?” and “What does the health status of our community look like?” An underlying goal of the Flagler and Volusia Counties CHNA was to ensure a truly community-driven process by empowering all stakeholders to help facilitate change through collaboration, coordination, and communication.

The MAPP Process

The Cooperative and HPCNEF completed the CHNA using the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) process developed by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC). The MAPP process is a community-driven participatory process intended to bring together not only health care providers but also mental health and social services agencies, public safety agencies, education and youth development organizations, recreation agencies, local governments, neighborhood associations, and civic groups to improve community health (NACCHO, n.d.). By participating in the MAPP process, community stakeholders gain a higher understanding and awareness of their community and local health concerns.

MAPP Assessments

The MAPP process consists of four assessments:

1. The **Forces of Change Assessment** identifies forces such as legislation, technology, and other impending changes that affect the context in which the community and its public health system operate.
2. The **Local Public Health System Assessment** focuses on all of the organizations and entities that contribute to the public’s health. The LPHSA answers the questions, “What are the components, activities, competencies, and capacities of our local public health system?”
3. The **Community Themes and Strengths Assessment** provides an understanding of the health concerns that residents feel are important, including quality of life.
4. The **Community Health Status Assessment** identifies priority community health and quality of life issues. Questions answered in this assessment include “How healthy are our residents?” and “What does the health status of our community look like?”

The *2024 Flagler and Volusia Counties Community Health Needs Assessment* provides detailed information on all of the MAPP assessments. It is available on the DOH-Flagler website at <https://flagler.floridahealth.gov> and the DOH-Volusia website at <https://volusia.floridahealth.gov>. A summary of each assessment is provided below.

EXHIBIT 1: THE MAPP MODEL



Forces of Change Assessment

The Forces of Change Assessment (FOCA) identifies forces such as legislation, technology, and other impending changes that affect the context in which the community and its public health system operate. The assessment answers two primary questions: “What is occurring or might occur that affects the health of our community or the local public health system?” and “What specific threats or opportunities are generated by these occurrences?” Steering Committee members and other community leaders identified the following as forces, trends, or factors in several categories that may significantly impact health in Flagler and Volusia counties:

Social Forces

- Increase in population growth
- Increase in homeless population

Economic Forces

- Inflation of costs for goods and services
- Increase in demand for sustainable jobs

Government/Political Forces

- Changes in public policies and legislation
- Reductions in funding

Community Forces

- Increase in population has led to more people being unaware of available resources
- Increase in difficulties communicating important information to community members

Environmental Forces

- Transportation remains an issue
- Various housing issues due to population growth and hurricanes

Educational Forces

- Increase in teacher burnout
- Limited resources for children with special needs and schools not following IEP requirements

Science/Technology Forces

- Increase in the use of telehealth and virtual care
- Increase in the spread of misinformation

Ethical/Legal Forces

- HIPAA, FERPA restrict access to information between providers
- Increase in individuals who are scared to access help

Health Forces

- Increase in chronic diseases
- Increase in individuals who cannot afford or access healthcare services

For the comprehensive list of the forces of change, please refer to the *2024 Flagler and Volusia Counties CHNA*.

Community Themes & Strengths Assessment

The Community Themes and Strengths Assessment (CTSA) generates direct feedback from community residents regarding observations of their health, community health, and access to healthcare services. Themes and issues identified during this phase often offer insight into information discovered through other MAPP assessments.

Community surveys, focus groups, and key stakeholder interviews provided the information needed to complete the Community Themes and Strengths Assessment. HPCNEF conducted ten focus groups and 22 key stakeholder interviews with the cooperation of the Florida Department of Health in Flagler County, the Florida Department of Health in Volusia County, AdventHealth, Halifax Health, Flagler Cares, and One Voice for Volusia. The Steering Committee asked community members and stakeholders to participate in a survey on community health, healthcare services, and quality of life in Flagler and Volusia counties. A total of 1,355 community surveys from community members and stakeholders in Flagler and Volusia counties were included in the analysis. Surveys and focus groups were designed to ascertain the opinions of community stakeholders who have knowledge of the community or influence in the counties. The findings provided qualitative information, revealing community sentiments regarding healthcare services in Flagler and Volusia counties.

Focus Groups

Focus group participants were asked to fill out a survey with questions about their demographics, insurance status, quality of life, health status, and more. A total of 106 participants in attendance at the focus groups filled out the demographic survey. Most participants were female, aged 40–54, White, and had at least a Technical or Community College education level.

- Of the 106 participants, 79.4% were female and 56.6% were White
- More than half (75.5%) of participants were 40 or older

- Most (71.7%) of the participants had an educational level of Technical or Community College or higher

HPCNEF staff presented discussion questions about community and health needs in Flagler and Volusia counties during the focus groups for participants to answer aloud. The focus group discussion covered topics such as the community's access to care, quality of care, safety networks, health needs and concerns, community closeness, and health education and knowledge. Several themes and issues were discussed more frequently, extensively, and with more intensity than others throughout the focus groups. These themes, which came up in response to more than one question, include limited access to healthcare services and resources, mental and behavioral health, socioeconomic factors, lack of awareness of resources available, and transportation issues. According to focus group participants, some of the most significant health concerns and unhealthy behaviors in Flagler and Volusia counties are mental health problems, substance use problems, chronic diseases, communicable diseases, poor eating habits, and not seeking healthcare.

Community Survey

A total of 1,355 community surveys from community members and stakeholders in Flagler and Volusia counties were included in the analysis. Survey participants were predominantly female (80.2%) and White (71.5%). Of the 1,354 people who responded to the question on age, over half were in the age groups 40–54 (32.3%) and 55–64 (23.9%). Most respondents resided in ZIP Code areas 32164 (12.8%) and 32137 (9.1%) in Flagler County, and 32174 (9.4%) and 32724 (6.8%) in Volusia County.

Respondents were asked to identify the five most important health problems and unhealthy behaviors in Flagler and Volusia counties. Among the top health concerns and unhealthy behaviors were mental health, drug abuse, obesity/overweight, lack of access to healthcare, and child abuse/neglect. A lack of evening and weekend services and long wait times for appointments and services were the most common barriers to receiving healthcare. When asked what the five most important features of a healthy community were, the respondents' top choices were access to healthcare, good jobs and a healthy economy, low crime rates/safe neighborhoods, good education, and affordable and/or available housing options.

Key Stakeholder Interviews

A total of 22 interviews via Microsoft Teams were conducted by HPCNEF staff during the months of April through July 2024. The Cooperative suggested a list of potential key stakeholders and made initial contact with these individuals. Key stakeholders included, but were not limited to, governmental representatives, healthcare providers, healthcare consumers, and representatives of local community organizations. On average, each interview lasted approximately 20 minutes. Topics addressed during the interviews included the interviewee's overall perspective on the most important healthcare needs and issues in Flagler and Volusia counties, opinions of important health concerns that affect community residents, and impressions of specific health services available in the counties and the accessibility of these services.

Key stakeholders identified the following issues:

- **Access to Healthcare Services:** There are significant challenges in accessing healthcare services across both counties, particularly in rural and underserved areas. Transportation

barriers, limited specialty care availability, and difficulties with public transportation contribute to these challenges.

- **Mental Health and Substance Use:** There is a critical need for expanded mental health services and substance use disorder treatment facilities. Issues include a shortage of treatment beds, stigma associated with seeking help, and inadequate resources for younger populations.
- **Social and Economic Factors:** Housing stability is closely linked to health outcomes, yet affordable housing options are limited. Socioeconomic factors like food insecurity and childcare barriers also impact health.
- **Public Health Education and Awareness:** There is a need for enhanced public education and awareness about available healthcare services, preventive measures, and resources. Many residents are unaware of the services they can access.

Local Public Health System Assessment

The Local Public Health System Assessment (LPHSA) is a tool from the National Public Health Performance Standards Program used to answer the question: “What are the components, activities, competencies, and capacities of our local public health system?” Public health systems include “all public, private, and voluntary entities that contribute to the delivery of essential public health services within a jurisdiction” (CDC, 2024). The 10 Essential Public Health Services are key public health activities to be undertaken in all communities and are as follows:

1. **Monitor** health status to identify community health problems.
2. **Diagnose and investigate** health problems and health hazards in the community.
3. **Inform, educate, and empower** people about health concerns.
4. **Mobilize** community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
5. **Develop policies and plans** that support individual and community health efforts.
6. **Enforce** laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
7. **Link** people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
8. **Assure** a competent public and personal health care workforce.
9. **Evaluate** effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.
10. **Research** for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.

Key public health system stakeholders in Flagler and Volusia counties answered questions about the local public health system via two in-person meetings to determine how the local public health system performs in the 10 essential public health services. Participants answered questions about each essential service and scored the top areas using the recommended scoring levels provided in the assessment instrument. Strengths and gaps in the counties’ healthcare safety net and public health system were identified in this way and were subsequently considered during the remainder of the planning process.

Flagler and Volusia counties perform best in Essential Service 1 (Monitor Health Status), 2 (Diagnose and Investigate Health Problems), and 6 (Enforce Laws and Regulations). Flagler and Volusia counties scored lowest in Essential Service 7 (Link People to Needed Health Services), 9 (Evaluate Health Services), and 10 (Research for New Insights and Innovative Solutions).

Community Health Status Assessment

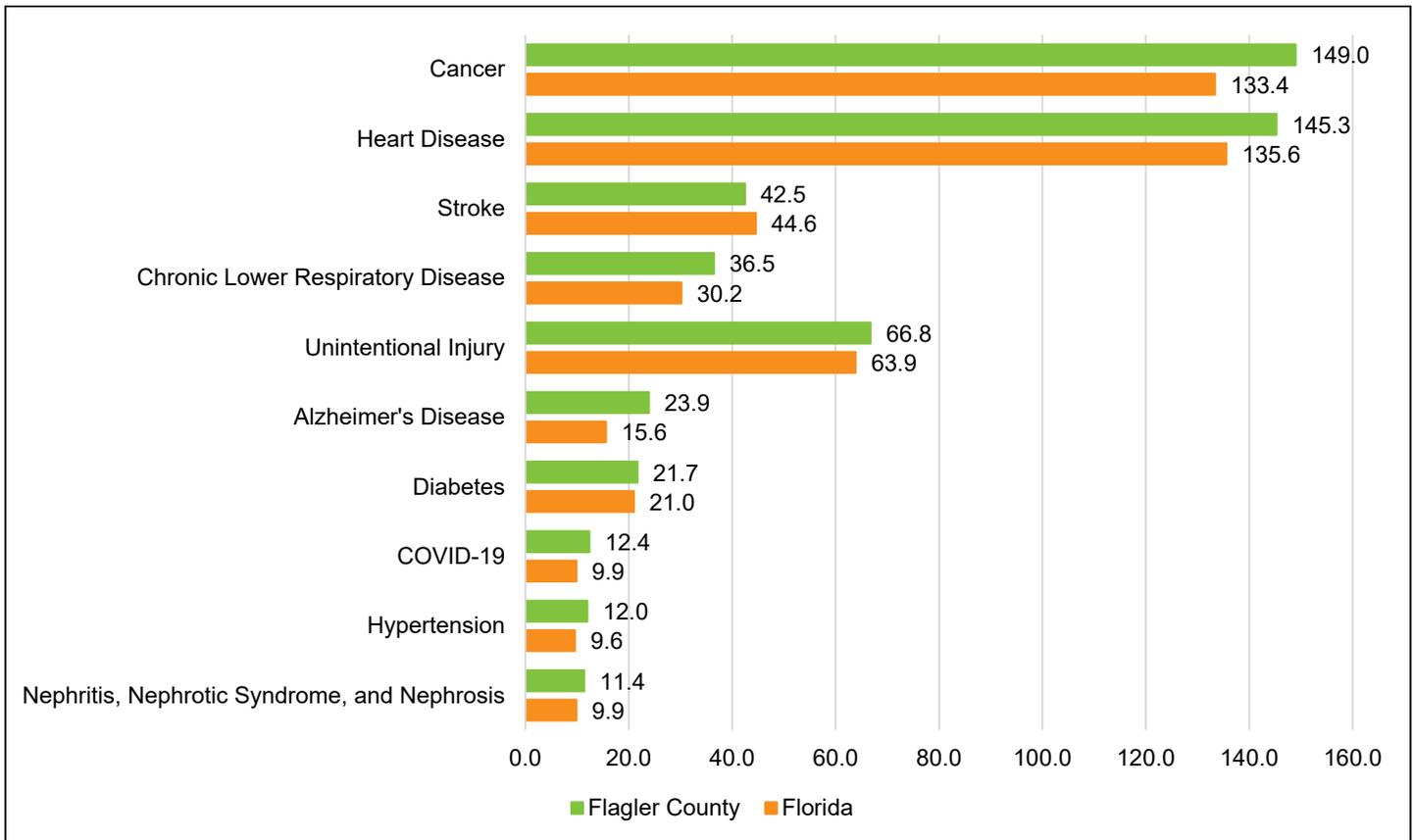
According to the Florida MAPP Field Guide, the Community Health Status Assessment (CHSA) is intended to answer the questions:

- “How healthy are our residents?”
- “What does the health status of our community look like?”
- “What are the strengths and risks in our community that contribute to health?”

To answer these questions, HPCNEF staff collected, analyzed, and reviewed secondary data describing population health in Flagler and Volusia counties and compared that data to other known time periods and/or geographies.

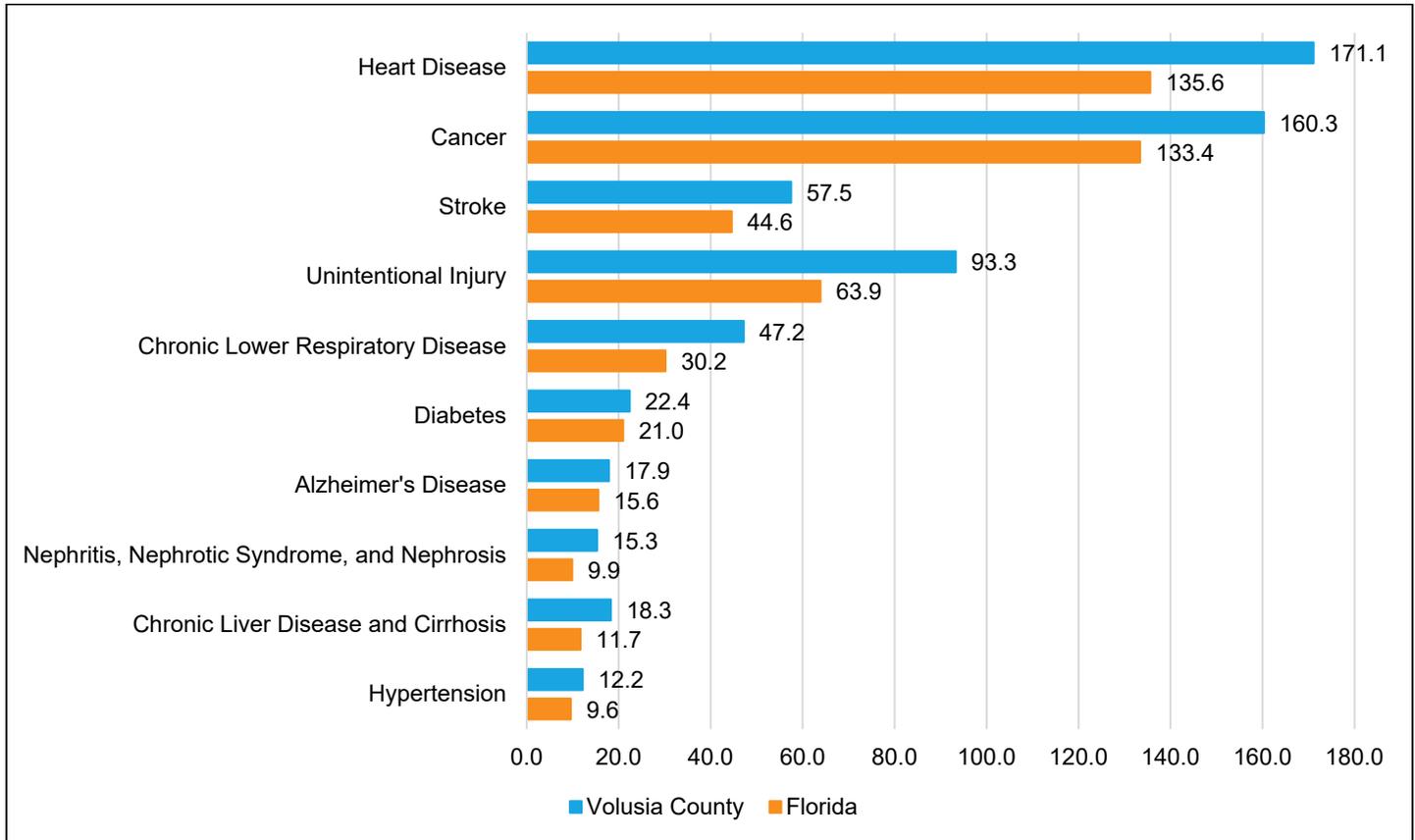
The top 10 leading causes of death in Flagler and Volusia are shown in Exhibit 2 and Exhibit 3 with a comparison to Florida. The top five causes of death in Flagler County, Volusia County, and Florida in 2023 were heart disease, cancer, stroke, unintentional injury, and chronic lower respiratory disease. Cancer was the leading cause of death in Flagler County, while heart disease was the leading cause of death in Volusia County and Florida. Both Flagler and Volusia counties had higher age-adjusted mortality rates than Florida for most of their top leading causes of death.

EXHIBIT 2: LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, FLAGLER COUNTY & FLORIDA, AGE-ADJUSTED RATE PER 100,000, 2023



Source: [Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics](#). Original data sourced: June 5, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 7, 2025.

EXHIBIT 3: LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, AGE-ADJUSTED RATE PER 100,000, 2023



Source: [Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics](#). Original data sourced: June 5, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 7, 2025.

Identifying Priority Health Concerns

Top Health Concerns Identified by Community Surveys

The Cooperative allowed community members to voice their opinions on the health status and health needs of Flagler and Volusia counties residents by distributing a survey throughout the counties. A total of 1,409 people completed the survey. Survey responses qualified for analysis if the participant completed at least 90% of the survey and had a ZIP Code in Flagler County or Volusia County. In the end, 1,355 surveys were included in the analysis. The community survey respondents identified the following as the top health issues in Flagler and Volusia counties:

- Access to Healthcare
- Mental Health & Substance Use
- Specialty Care
- Chronic Diseases
- Housing

Top Health Concerns Identified by Focus Groups

A total of 106 community members and stakeholders attended ten community focus groups. Through a discussion of community health and health needs, focus group participants identified the following as the top health issues or key themes in Flagler and Volusia counties:

- Access to Healthcare

- Mental Health & Substance Use
- Disease Prevention & Lifestyle Behaviors
- Socioeconomic Factors & Disparities
- Vulnerable Populations & Areas

Top Health Concerns Identified by Key Stakeholder Interviews

Twenty-two representatives from governmental offices, healthcare providers, and local community organizations participated in key stakeholder interviews to offer their perspectives on the most pressing local healthcare issues and needs. Key stakeholders identified the following as the top health issues or key themes in Flagler and Volusia counties:

- Mental Health & Substance Use
- Access to Healthcare Services
- Transportation Challenges
- Aging Populations
- Socioeconomic Factors

Top Health Concerns Identified by Quantitative Data

Over 100 secondary data indicators were analyzed in the Community Health Status Assessment. The following were determined as the top health issues or key themes in Flagler and Volusia counties:

- Chronic Diseases
- Communicable Diseases
- Mental Health & Substance Use
- Access to Healthcare
- Socioeconomic Factors

Top Health Concerns Identified by the Steering Committee

On September 11, 2024, stakeholders from Flagler and Volusia counties gathered at AdventHealth Palm Coast to discuss the preliminary results of the Flagler and Volusia Counties Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). A total of 35 individuals attended the meeting. A team from the Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida, Inc. (HPCNEF) presented the CHNA preliminary findings, which consisted of primary (community survey, focus groups, key stakeholder interviews) and secondary data that supported the top five overall themes.

After the CHNA findings were presented, participants were asked to rank their top three health issues from the following:

- **Economic Stability & Social and Community Context** (income, poverty level, access to affordable housing, access to affordable healthcare, demographic-specific challenges [e.g., seniors aged 65+])
- **Health Care Access and Quality** (provider shortages, cost of care, lack of awareness of available services and proper health education)
- **Health Communication & Preventative Care** (health behaviors, obesity/overweight, access to healthy foods, cancer, chronic diseases, communicable diseases, health education)
- **Mental Health and Disorders & Drug and Alcohol Use** (mental health, substance use/abuse, child abuse/neglect, domestic violence, suicide)
- **Neighborhood and Built Environment** (housing, transportation challenges, long travel times)

Participants wrote their rankings on slips of paper to cast their votes. Through voting, participants selected health issues as the top three priorities for Flagler and Volusia counties residents and the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) group for the next three to five years.

The individuals who attended the preliminary results meeting selected the following as the top three priority health issues of focus for the CHIP:

- Mental Health and Disorders & Drug and Alcohol Use
- Health Care Access and Quality
- Economic Stability & Social and Community Context

Description of Priority Health Concerns

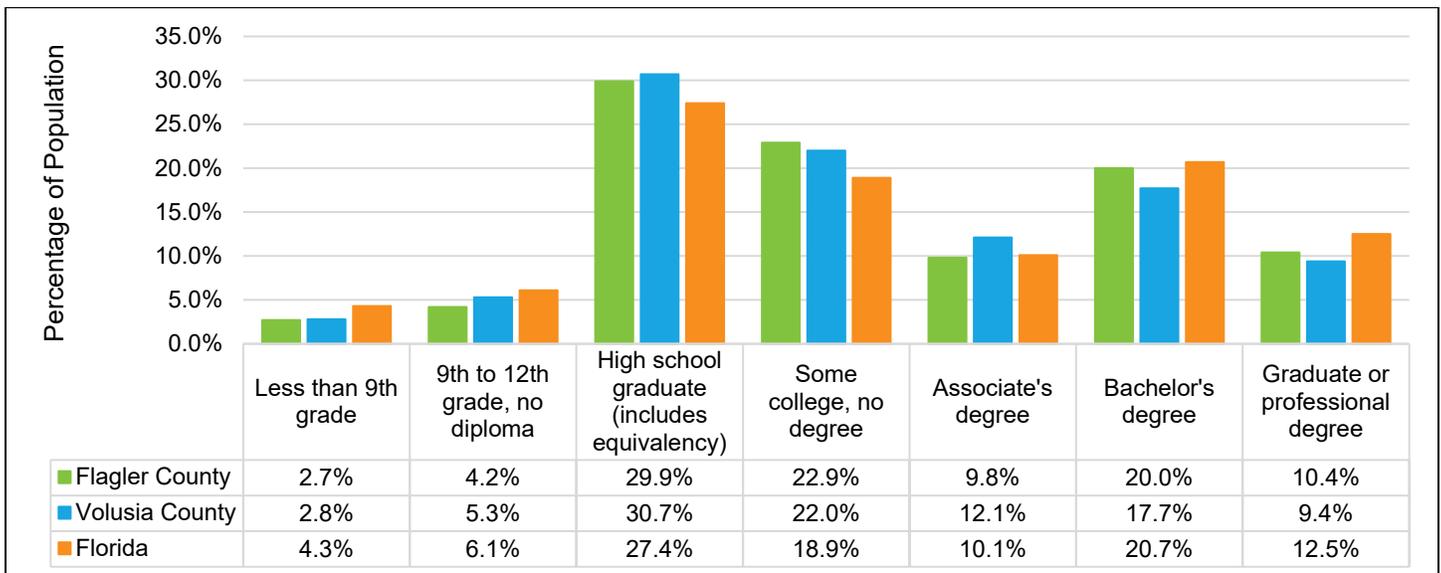
Economic Stability & Social and Community Context

Economic stability means that people have the resources that are essential to living a healthy life. Factors that can affect economic stability are affordable housing, stable employment, and access to reliable transportation. People who experience economic instability are more likely to experience health risk behaviors, chronic health conditions, and premature mortality. Social and community context refers to the impact of relationships and the settings where people live, work, and interact with others. Key data related to economic stability and social and community context in Flagler and Volusia counties is presented below.

Educational Attainment

A higher percentage of Flagler County’s population (29.9%) and Volusia County’s population (30.7%) had a high school diploma or some college compared to Florida (27.4%). However, a greater portion of Volusia County’s population has an Associate’s degree (12.1%) compared to Florida (10.1%) and Flagler County (9.8%). A greater proportion of Florida residents (20.7%) had a Bachelor’s degree or higher compared to Flagler County (20.0%) and Volusia County (17.7%). Almost 7% of Flagler County’s population does not have a high school diploma or equivalent, compared to 8.1% of Volusia County and 10.4% of Florida (Exhibit 4).

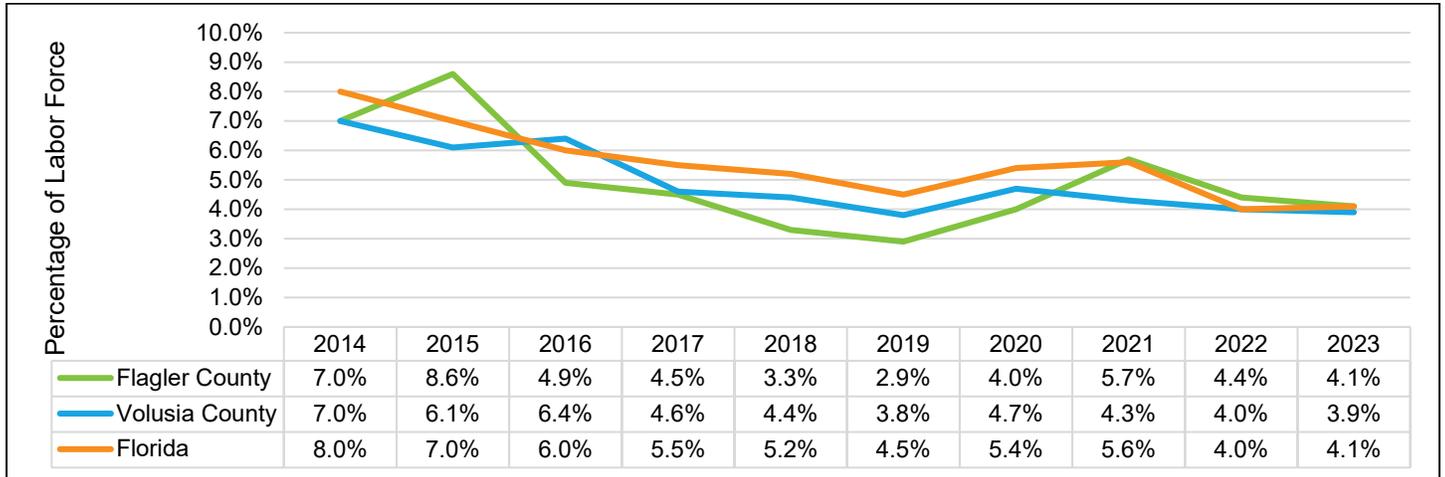
EXHIBIT 4: REPORTED HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION ATTAINED, POPULATION 25 YEARS AND OVER, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019–2023



Source: [2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table DP02, Selected Social Characteristics in the United States](#). Original data sourced: June 26, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 5, 2025.

Volusia County and Florida had similar unemployment rates from 2014 to 2023 for the population aged 16 years and over. Flagler County generally has a lower unemployment rate than Volusia County and Florida, except in 2015 and 2022. (Exhibit 5).

EXHIBIT 5: UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, PERCENTAGE OF LABOR FORCE, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2014–2023



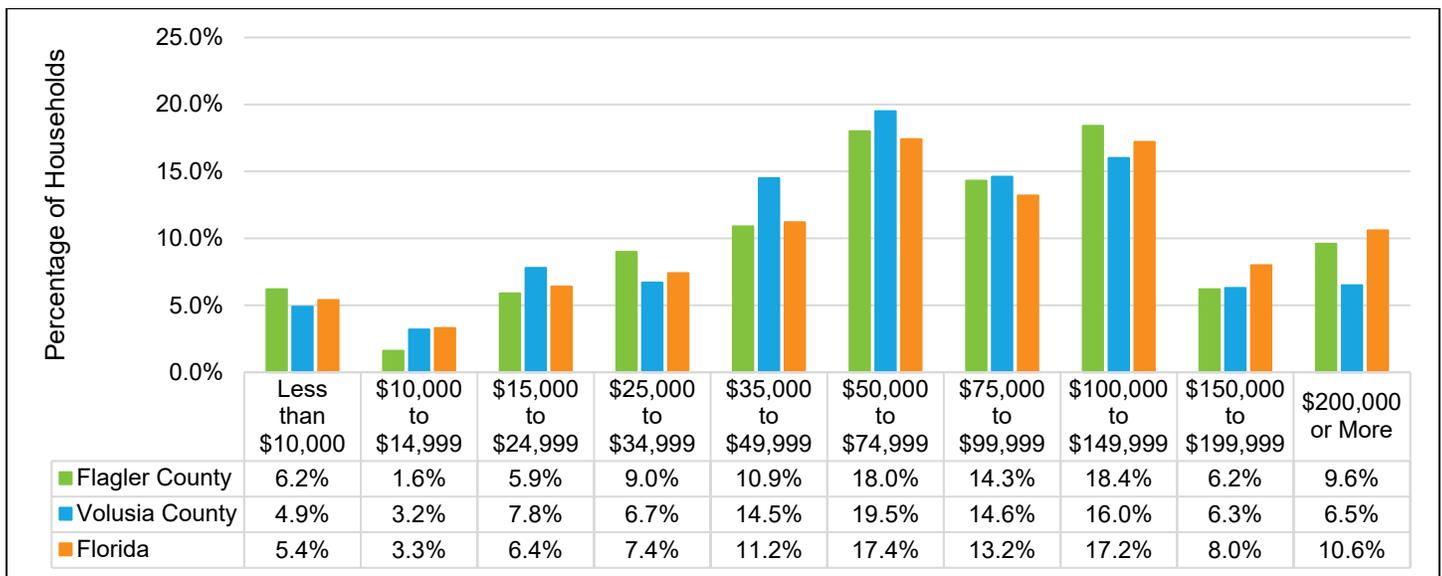
Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates](https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/unemployment/16-24.html). Original data sourced: June 26, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 5, 2025.

Income & Poverty

In 2023, the largest portion of Flagler County (18.4%) earned \$100,000–\$149,999, and Volusia County’s largest portion of households earned \$50,000–\$74,999 (19.5%) in income and benefits. That year, 48.5% of Flagler County and 43.4% of Volusia County households earned \$75,000 or more. In contrast, 17.4% of Florida households earned \$50,000–\$74,999, and 49% of households made \$75,000 or more (Exhibit 6).

The median and mean household incomes in Flagler County were \$71,682 and \$96,686, respectively, and per capita income was \$42,092. Volusia County’s median income was \$66,273, mean income was \$87,323, and per capita income was \$37,071. The median and mean household incomes in Florida were \$73,311 and \$103,634, respectively. Florida’s per capita income was \$41,902, which was \$190 less than Flagler County’s and \$4,831 greater than Volusia County’s. Exhibit 6 shows that Flagler County has a majority of households in the \$100,000–\$149,999 household median income brackets, while Volusia County has a majority of households in the \$50,000–\$74,999 household median income brackets.

EXHIBIT 6: HOUSEHOLD INCOME/BENEFITS (2023 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS), FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019–2023



Source: [2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table DP03, Selected Economic Characteristics](#). Original data sourced: June 26, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 7, 2025.

The U.S. Census Bureau determines poverty thresholds by family size and family members' ages, with 48 possible thresholds. Thresholds do not vary geographically, and the Bureau updates thresholds annually for inflation. The poverty status calculation sums up the incomes of all related family members who live together. If the total family income falls below the poverty threshold, then that family and all of its members are considered to be in poverty. If the total family income equals or exceeds the given threshold, then the family and all its members are not in poverty (U.S. Census Bureau, 2025). Exhibit 7 shows poverty thresholds for 2024.

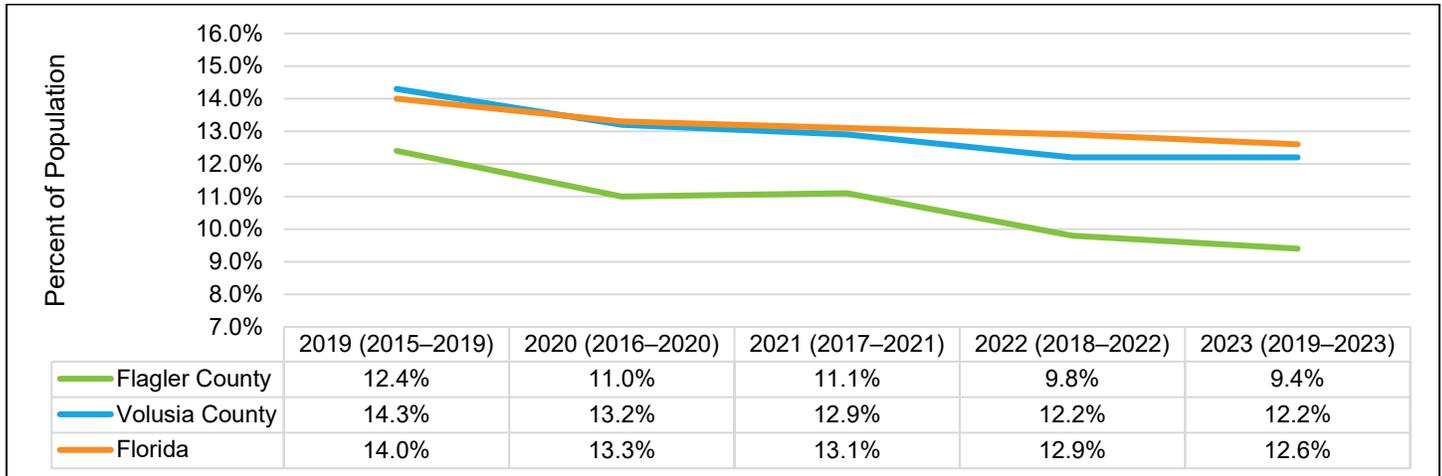
EXHIBIT 7: 2024 POVERTY THRESHOLD (IN DOLLARS) BY SIZE OF FAMILY AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN

Size of Family Unit	Related Children Under 18 Years								
	None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight or more
One person (unrelated individual)									
Under 65 years	16,320								
65 years and over	15,045								
Two people									
Householder under age 65	21,006	21,621							
Householder 65 and older	18,961	21,540							
Three people	24,537	25,249	25,273						
Four people	32,355	32,884	31,812	31,922					
Five people	39,019	39,586	38,374	37,436	36,863				
Six people	44,879	45,057	44,128	43,238	41,915	41,131			
Seven people	51,638	51,961	50,849	50,075	48,631	46,948	45,100		
Eight people	57,753	58,263	57,215	56,296	54,992	53,337	51,614	51,177	
Nine people or more	69,473	69,810	68,882	68,102	66,822	65,062	63,469	63,075	60,645

Source: [U.S. Census Bureau Poverty Thresholds, 2024 Poverty Threshold](#). Original data sourced: June 26, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 7, 2025.

Because poverty status cannot be determined for people in institutional group quarters, such as prisons or nursing homes, college dormitories, military barracks, unconventional housing, or those not in shelters, the Bureau excludes these groups from poverty measurements. Additionally, those under the age of 15 who are not living with a family member are counted as unknown (U.S. Census Bureau, 2025). Thus, the total population from whom poverty status was determined in 2023 was 130,005 for Flagler County, 571,950 for Volusia, and 22,139,460 for Florida. Of the 120,593 people analyzed in Flagler County in 2023, 9.4% were in poverty, and of the 552,500 people analyzed in Volusia County, 12.2% were in poverty, compared to 12.6% in Florida. For the population under age 18, 14.2% of Flagler County youth and 17.3% of Volusia County youth were in poverty, compared to 16.9% of Florida youth.

EXHIBIT 8: POPULATION FOR WHOM POVERTY STATUS IS DETERMINED, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019–2023



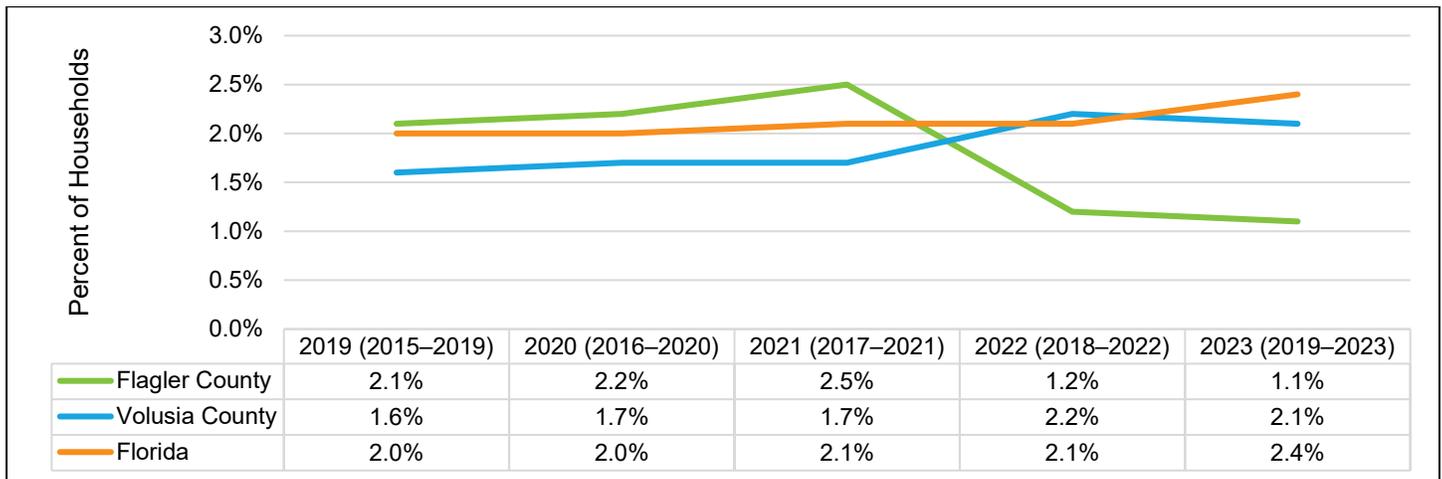
Source: [2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S1701, Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months](#). Original data sourced: June 26, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 7, 2025.

Note: 5-year estimates were used instead of 1-year estimates because no 1-year estimates were calculated in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Public Assistance

From 2019 to 2023, about the same percentage of the population of Flagler and Volusia counties received cash public assistance in comparison to that of Florida. Both Volusia County and Florida saw a slight rise in the percentage of the population receiving cash assistance during this period; in contrast, Flagler County saw a decline in the percentage of the population receiving cash assistance during this period. (Exhibit 9).

EXHIBIT 9: HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING CASH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INCOME, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019–2023

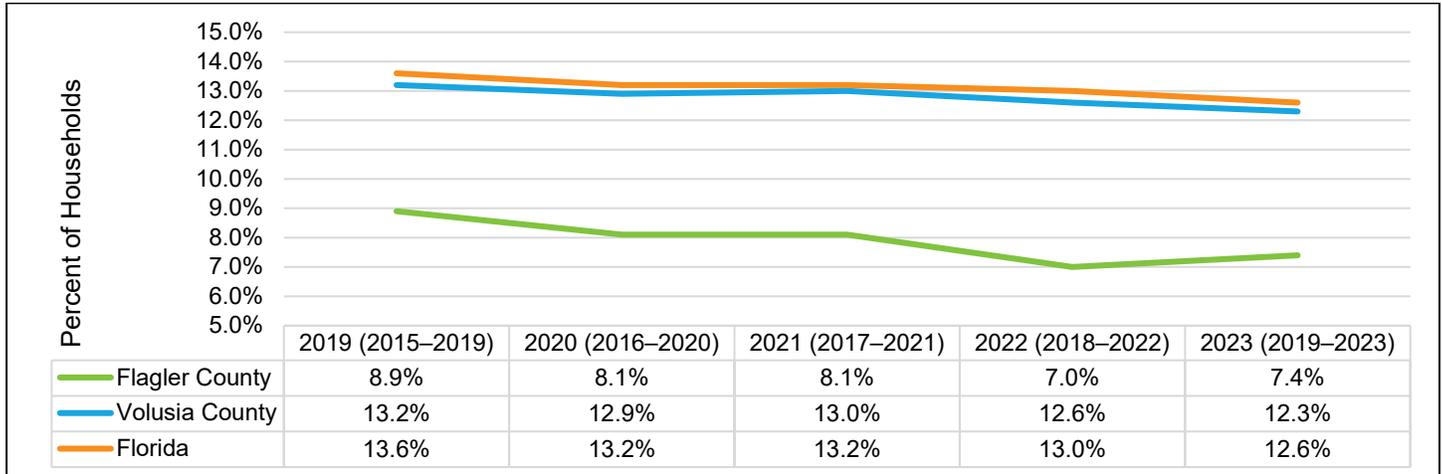


Source: [2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table DP03, Selected Economic Characteristics](#). Original data sourced: June 26, 2024. Updated data sourced: July 2, 2025.

Note: 5-year estimates were used instead of 1-year estimates because no 1-year estimates were calculated in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

From 2019 to 2023, a smaller portion of Flagler County’s population received food assistance benefits in comparison to Florida’s population; Volusia County’s population was similar to Florida’s from 2019 to 2023. Flagler County, Volusia County, and Florida experienced a slight decrease in the receipt of food assistance benefits during this period (Exhibit 10).

EXHIBIT 10: HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD STAMP/SNAP BENEFITS IN PAST 12 MONTHS, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019–2023



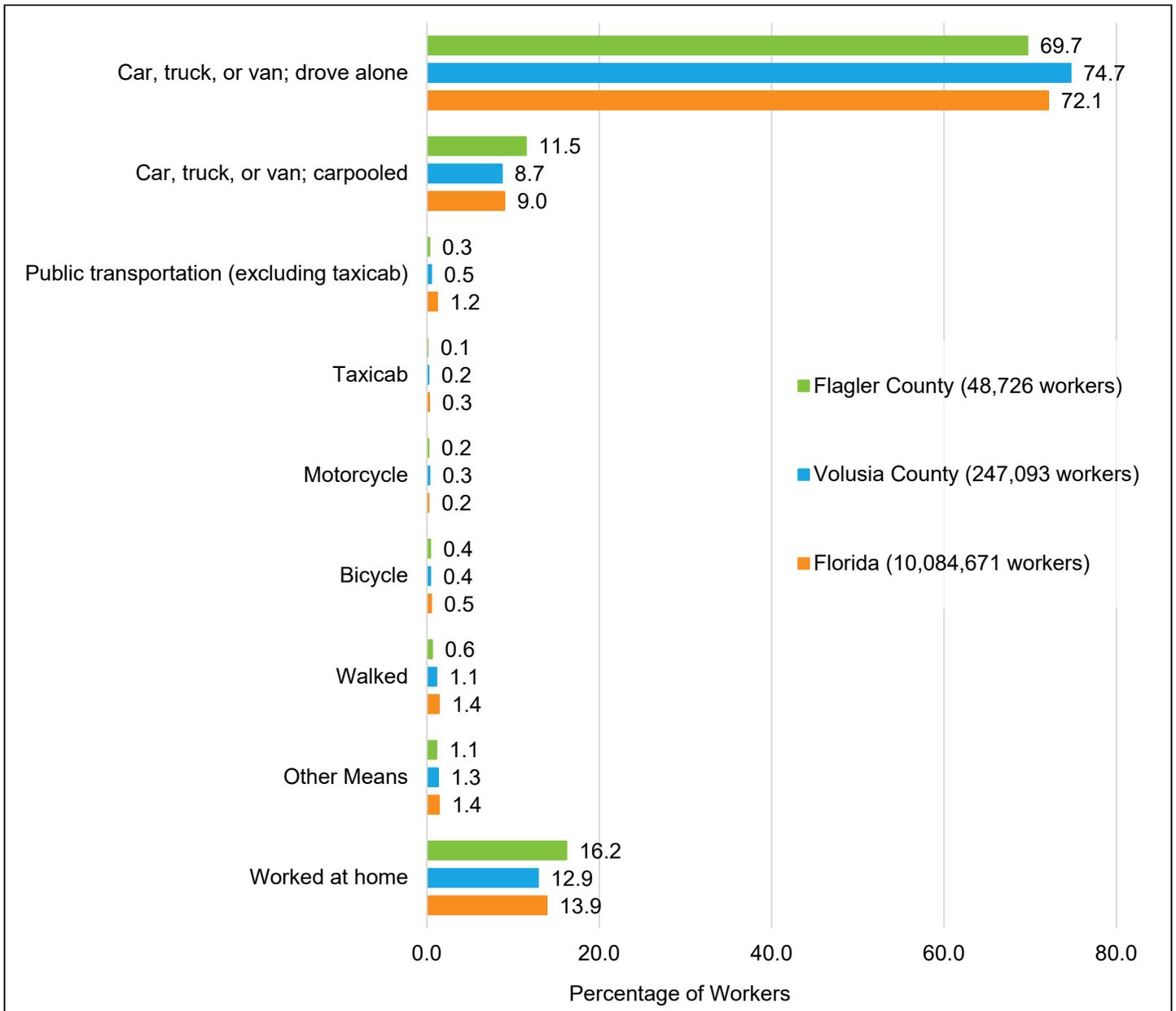
Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates](#). Original data sourced: June 26, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 7, 2025.

Note: 5-year estimates were used instead of 1-year estimates because no 1-year estimates were calculated in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Transportation

Flagler County, Volusia County, and Florida residents used similar means of commuting to work from 2019 to 2023. The majority of residents traveled by car, truck, or van. Of the 48,726 workers in Flagler County, 69.7% drove alone, as did 74.7% of Volusia County’s 247,093 workers and 72.1% of the 10,084,671 workers in Florida. Approximately 11.5% of Flagler County workers, 8.7% of Volusia County workers, and 9.0% of Florida workers carpooled. In Flagler County, 0.6% of workers walked during their commute, compared to 1.1% in Volusia County and 1.4% in Florida. Less than 1% of Flagler and Volusia counties’ workforce used public transportation, compared to 1.2% of Florida’s workforce (Exhibit 11).

EXHIBIT 11: MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019–2023

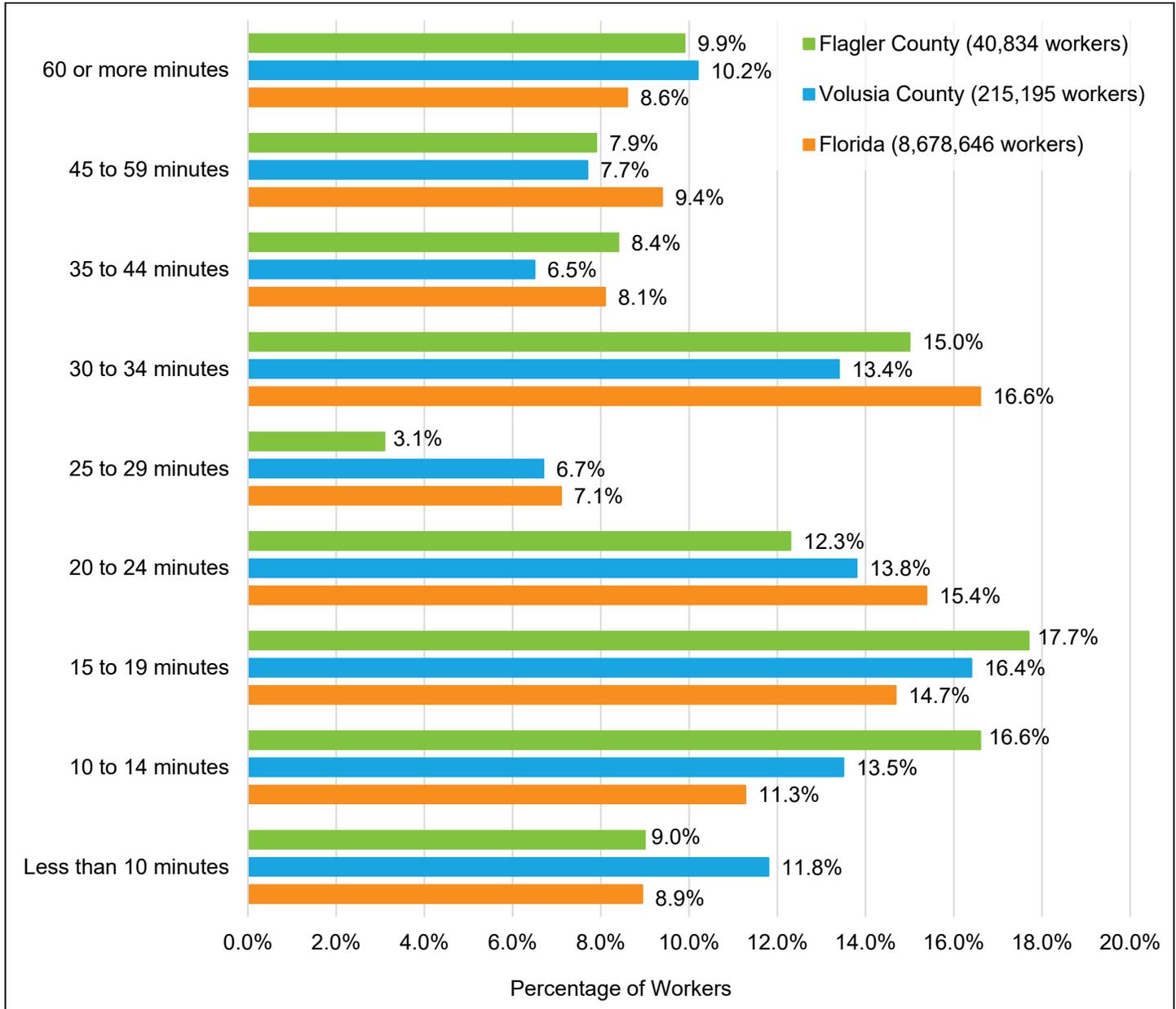


Source: [2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B08301, Means of Transportation to Work](#). Original data sourced: June 26, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 5, 2025.

Note: Data is for workers 16 years and older who did not work at home.

Flagler and Volusia counties workers tended to have similar travel times to work compared to Florida workers from 2019 to 2023. In Flagler County, 25.9% of workers over the age of 16 spent less than 14 minutes commuting, compared to 25.3% in Volusia and 20.2% in Florida. About 26.2% of Flagler workers had commutes of 35+ minutes, Volusia had about 24% in comparison to 26.1% of Floridians (Exhibit 12).

EXHIBIT 12: TRAVEL TIME TO WORK, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019–2023

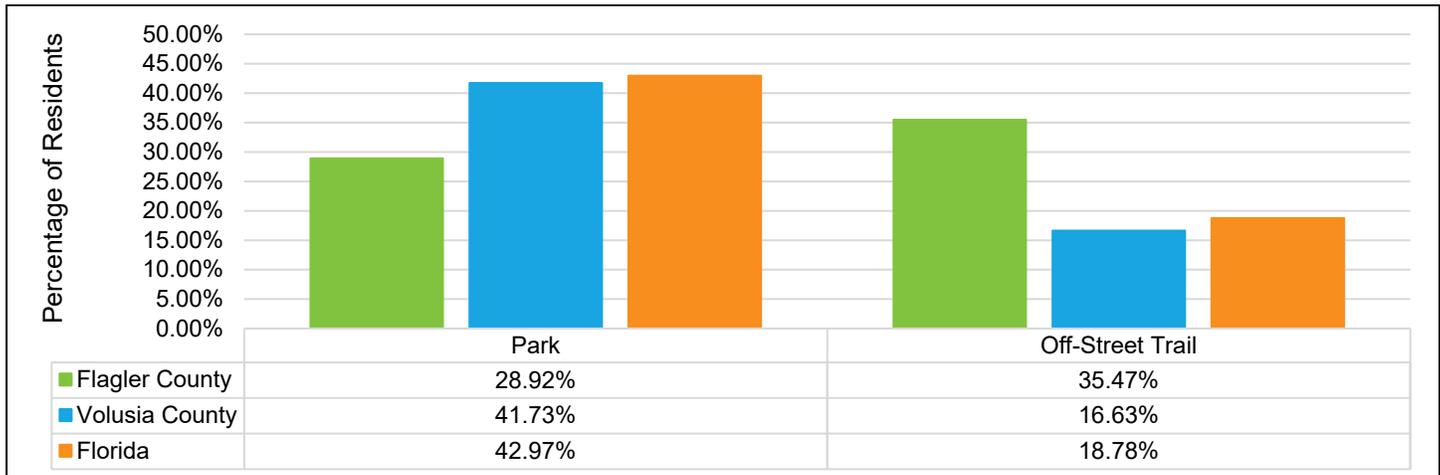


Source: [2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table B08134, Means of Transportation to Work by Travel Time to Work](#). Original data sourced: June 26, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 7, 2025.
 Note: Data is for workers 16 years and older who did not work at home.

Proximity to Hazards and Resources

In 2022, 35.47% of Flagler County residents lived within a half mile of an off-street trail system, compared to 16.63% of Volusia County residents and 18.78% of Floridians. Almost 29% of Flagler residents lived within a half mile of a park, compared to 41.73% of Volusia residents and 42.97% of Florida residents (Exhibit 13).

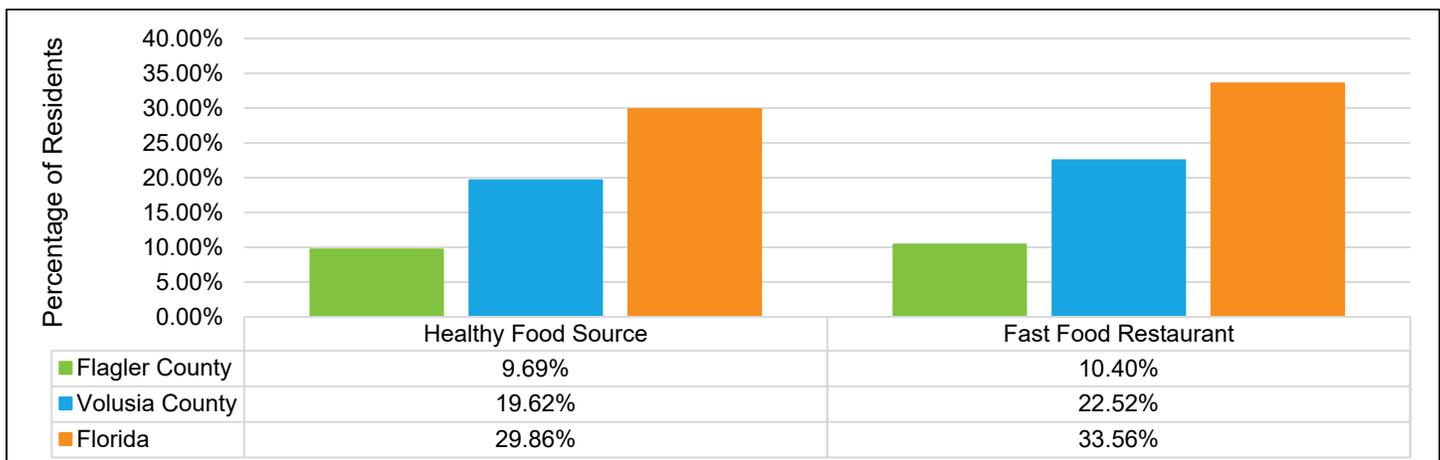
EXHIBIT 13: RESIDENTS LIVING WITHIN A TEN-MINUTE WALK (1/2 MILE) OF AN OFF-STREET TRAIL OR PARK, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2022



Source: [FDOH Environmental Public Health Tracking](#). Original data sourced: June 18, 2024. No data update as of April 30, 2025.

Exhibit 14 shows the percentage of residents living within a ten-minute walk of a healthy food source or a fast-food restaurant. In 2022, only 9.69% of Flagler County residents lived within a half-mile, or a ten-minute walk, of a healthy food source compared to 19.62% of Volusia County residents and 29.86% of Floridians. A healthy food source is defined as grocery stores, supermarkets, and registered produce stands where residents have access to a variety of foods, including fresh fruits and vegetables. In 2022, 10.4% of Flagler residents lived within a half mile of a fast-food restaurant compared to 22.52% of Volusia residents and 33.56% in Florida. Fast food restaurants are defined as inexpensive, convenient food options with high caloric content and are not considered a healthy food source.

EXHIBIT 14: RESIDENTS LIVING WITHIN A TEN-MINUTE WALK (1/2 MILE) OF A HEALTHY FOOD SOURCE OR FAST-FOOD RESTAURANT, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2022



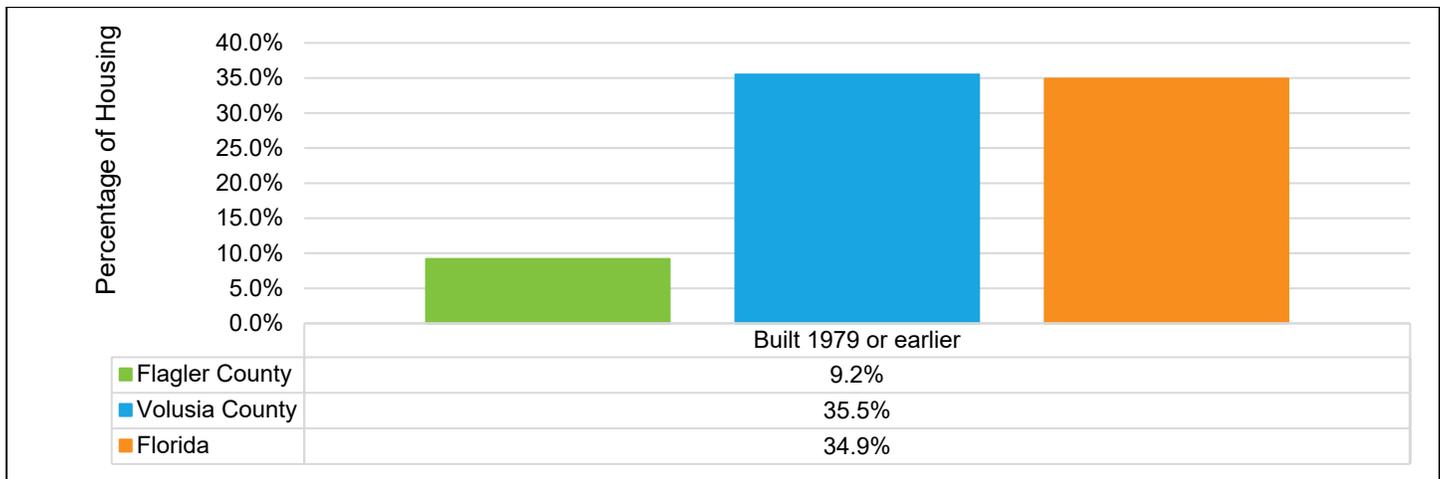
Source: [FDOH Environmental Public Health Tracking](#). Original data sourced: June 18, 2024. No data update as of April 30, 2025.

Housing Conditions

Housing is an important social determinant of health because people spend a great portion of time inside their homes. Homes built before 1978 are more likely to have issues such as lead, mold, and a lack of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, all of which pose serious risks to health.

During 2019–2023, the estimated total housing units were 58,520 in Flagler County, 277,851 in Volusia County, and 10,082,356 in Florida. Of these units, 9.2% (Flagler), 35.5% (Volusia), and 34.9% (Florida) were built in 1979 or earlier (Exhibit 15).

EXHIBIT 15: HOUSING UNITS BUILT 1979 OR EARLIER, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019–2023



Source: [2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table DP04, Selected Housing Characteristics](#). Original data sourced: June 18, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 30, 2025.

Healthcare Access and Quality

Healthcare access refers to the ability to obtain services for preventing, diagnosing, treating, and managing diseases, illnesses, and disorders. For healthcare to be accessible, it must be affordable and convenient. Many access barriers can limit an individual's ability to receive the proper care. Key data related to healthcare access in Flagler and Volusia counties is presented below.

Health Insurance Coverage

Health insurance coverage, whether privately or publicly funded, is a primary factor in determining access to care for many people. Health insurance is obtained privately through an employer (the individual's own or that of an immediate family member), purchased independently, or available to certain individuals through government-subsidized or publicly funded health coverage programs, such as Medicare, Medicaid, or Military and VA benefits (CDC, 2025a).

The uninsured population includes both full- and part-time employees whose employers do not offer health insurance benefits, low-income persons who do not qualify for Medicaid, early retirees, and others who simply cannot afford costly premiums. Evidence shows that uninsured persons experience less positive medical outcomes than their insured counterparts. The uninsured are also less likely to have a regular source of primary care or seek preventive health services (Tolbert et al., 2024).

Flagler County (89.2%) and Volusia County (89.0%) have a higher rate of insured persons compared to Florida (88.1%), but a lower rate than the U.S. (91.4%) (Exhibit 16).

EXHIBIT 16: INSURANCE COVERAGE IN FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA & THE UNITED STATES, 2019–2023

	Flagler County	Volusia County	Florida	United States
Total civilian noninstitutionalized	120,993	560,338	21,591,588	327,425,278
with health insurance coverage	107,940	498,477	19,021,878	299,424,402
with private health insurance	76,260	355,214	13,714,412	220,441,862
with public coverage	54,623	234,273	7,985,837	118,877,986
No health insurance coverage	13,053	61,861	2,569,710	28,000,876
Civilian noninstitutionalized population 19 to 64 years	62,469	315,282	12,500,787	194,798,031
In labor force	45,069	233,692	9,734,911	153,544,252
Employed	43,409	224,695	9,281,561	145,842,157
with health insurance coverage	37,119	189,089	7,826,575	130,534,699
with private health insurance	34,295	174,649	7,328,582	118,259,161
with public coverage	4,041	20,787	764,761	16,603,863
No health insurance coverage	6,290	35,606	1,454,986	15,307,458
Unemployed	1,660	8,997	453,350	7,702,095
with health insurance coverage	1,213	5,656	287,435	5,755,034
with private health insurance	853	3,513	200,146	3,252,673
with public coverage	450	2,571	100,819	2,766,201
No health insurance coverage	447	3,341	165,915	1,947,061
Not in labor force	17,400	81,590	2,765,876	41,253,779
with health insurance coverage	13,920	67,590	2,204,093	35,169,581
with private health insurance	10,655	43,440	1,448,830	20,917,464
with public coverage	5,214	30,735	945,863	17,115,455
No health insurance coverage	3,480	14,000	561,783	6,084,198

Source: [2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table DP03, Selected Economic Characteristics](#). Original data sourced: June 26, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 7, 2025.

Federal Health Professional Shortage Designation

The U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) develops a shortage designation criterion to determine whether an area or population group is experiencing a health professional shortage. Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) can be for primary medical care, dental, or mental health providers and may be geographic (a county or service area), population (low-income or Medicaid eligible), or facilities (e.g., federally qualified health centers or state or federal prisons) (HRSA, n.d.-a). The entirety of Flagler County is designated as a low-income population HPSA due to a lack of primary care, dental care, and mental health services (HRSA, n.d.-a). The entirety of Volusia County is designated as a low-income population HPSA due to a lack of mental health services (HRSA, n.d.-a).

Federal Medically Underserved Designation

The U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) develops a medically underserved designation criterion to determine whether an area or population group is experiencing a lack of access to primary care services. Medically Underserved Areas (MUAs) and Medically Underserved Populations (MUPs) identify geographic areas and populations with a lack of access to primary care

services. These designations help establish health maintenance organizations or community health centers (HRSA, n.d.-b). MUAs may have a shortage of primary care health services within geographic areas such as a whole county, a group of neighboring counties, a group of urban census tracts, and a group of county or civil divisions (HRSA, n.d.-b). MUPs have a shortage of primary care health services for a specific population subset within a geographic area. These groups may face economic, cultural, or language barriers to health care (HRSA, n.d.-b). Some examples are people who experience homelessness and low-income people. The low-income populations of Flagler and Volusia counties are designated as MUPs.

Healthcare Providers

A Primary Care Provider (PCP) is a physician, nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, or physician assistant “who provides, coordinates or helps a patient access a range of health care services” (Primary Care Provider, n.d.). Primary care providers serve as a patient’s first point of entry for health care services and focus on patient care, rather than disease treatment (AAFP, n.d.). The U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) considers general and family practitioners, internists, pediatricians, obstetricians and gynecologists, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners as primary care providers. Additionally, public health nurses and school nurses provide primary care services to designated populations.

Exhibit 17 shows the number of total licensed physicians, various primary care providers, and dentists in Flagler and Volusia counties. In the 2022–2023 FY, Flagler County had 155 licensed medical doctors, 9 licensed family practice physicians, 2 licensed pediatricians, 7 licensed OB/GYNs, 29 licensed internists, and 48 licensed dentists. Volusia County had 1,094 licensed medical doctors, 102 licensed family practice physicians, 35 licensed pediatricians, 38 licensed OB/GYNs, 171 licensed internists, and 241 licensed dentists.

EXHIBIT 17: TOTAL LICENSED PROVIDERS, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, FY 2022–2023

Type of Provider	Flagler County	Volusia County	Florida
Licensed Medical Doctors	155	1,094	59,266
Licensed Family Practice Physician	9	102	4,204
Licensed Pediatrician	2	35	3,746
Licensed OB/GYN	7	38	1,958
Licensed Internist	29	171	10,489
Licensed Dentist	48	241	13,955

Source: [Florida Department of Health, Division of Medical Quality Assurance](#). Original data sourced: June 18, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 7, 2025.

Overall, Flagler and Volusia counties saw an increase in the number of practicing physicians from 2019 to 2024. Exhibit 18 summarizes the change in the number of practicing physicians in the counties in comparison to Florida during this time. Exhibit 19 shows the total number of physicians in Flagler and Volusia counties by specialty groups.

EXHIBIT 18: CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PRACTICING PHYSICIANS IN FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, FYS 2019–2024

Location	2019–2020	2020–2021	2021–2022	2022–2023	2023–2024
Flagler County	142	140	165	161	168
Volusia County	1,158	1,192	1,232	1,180	1,251
Florida	53,002	54,315	56,082	54,471	59,856

Source: [Florida Department of Health, Physician Workforce Annual Report, 2024](#). Original data sourced: June 19, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 29, 2025.

EXHIBIT 19: PHYSICIAN SPECIALTY GROUP COUNT IN FLAGLER COUNTY AND VOLUSIA COUNTY, FY 2023–2024

Type of Specialty Group	Flagler County	Volusia County
Anesthesiology	7	71
Dermatology	2	22
Emergency Medicine	16	97
Family Medicine	39	287
Internal Medicine	52	333
Medical Specialist*	14	97
OB/GYN	4	38
Pediatrics	4	47
Psychiatry	6	38
Radiology	7	65
Surgeons	11	101
Total	168	1,251

Source: [Florida Department of Health, Physician Workforce Annual Report, 2024](#). Original data sourced: June 19, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 29, 2025.

*Note: Medical Specialists include Neurology, Nuclear Medicine, Ophthalmology, Orthopedic Medicine, Otolaryngology, and Pathology.

Exhibit 20 shows indicators related to health care access and quality for Flagler and Volusia counties.

EXHIBIT 20: SELECTED BRFSS DATA, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019

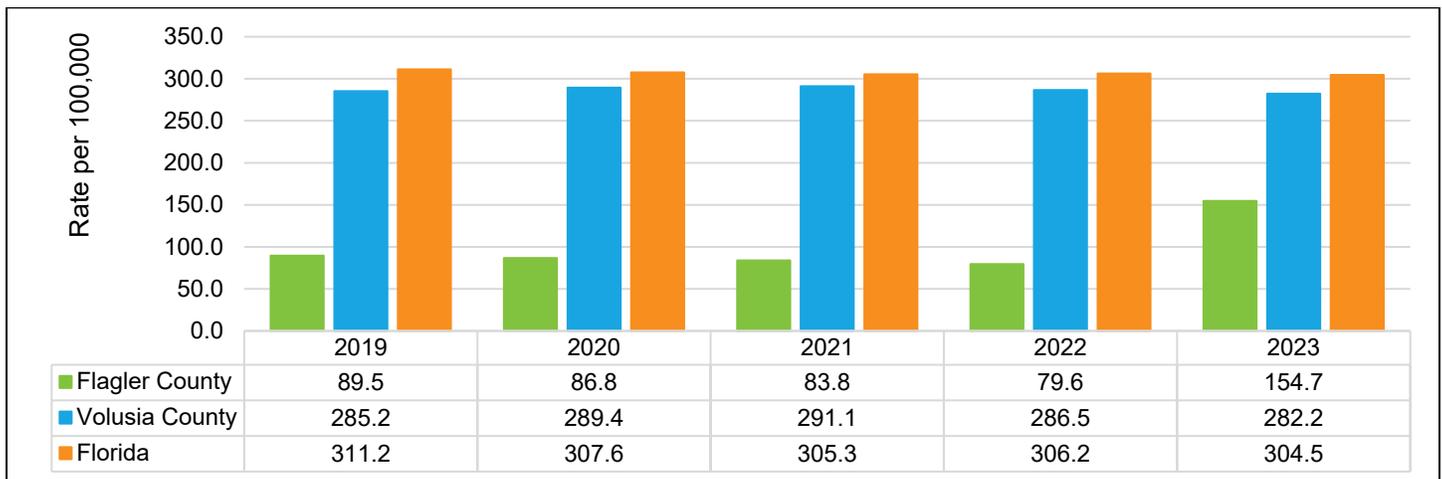
Indicator	Flagler County	Volusia County	Florida
Health Care Access and Coverage			
Adults who could not see a doctor at least once in the past year due to cost	15.9%	17.6%	16.0%
Adults with any type of health care insurance coverage	88.1%	84.9%	84.2%
Adults who have a personal doctor	77.9%	76.3%	72.0%
Adults who had a medical checkup in the past year	81.2%	75.8%	78.8%

Source: [2019 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System](#). Original data sourced: June 24, 2024. No data update as of May 1, 2025.

Health Care Facilities

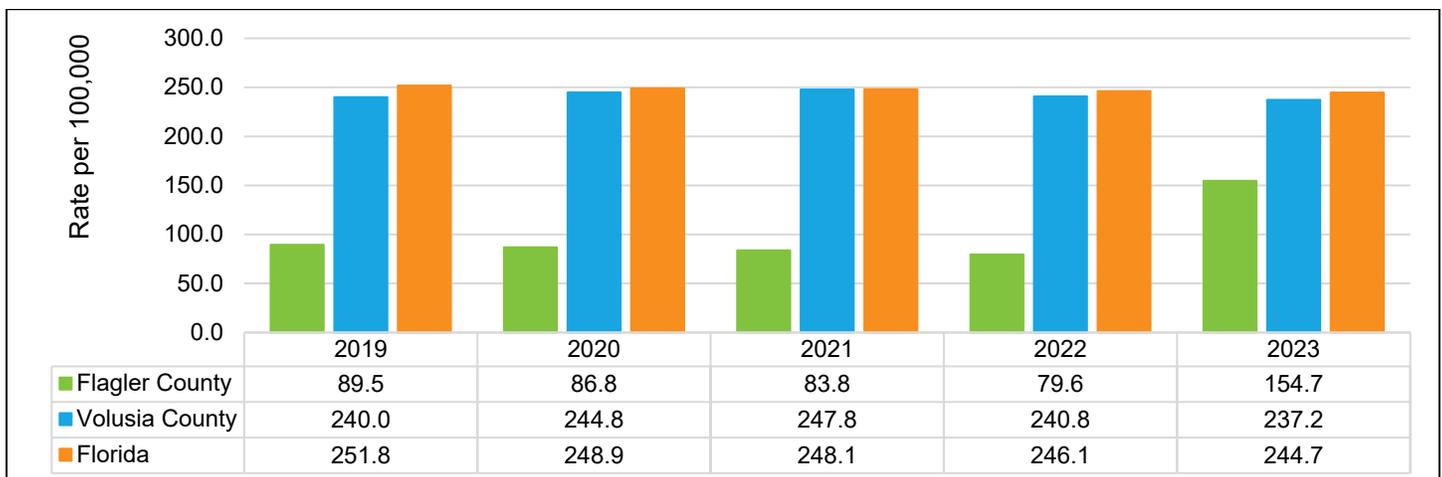
Acute care hospitals play a key role in the delivery of health care services, especially in communities where primary and specialist outpatient care shortages may exist. In addition to traditional inpatient services, hospitals may provide extensive diagnostic and treatment services on an outpatient basis. Flagler County had a significantly lower rate of hospital beds (Exhibit 21) and acute care hospital beds (Exhibit 22) compared to Volusia County and Florida. There were no specialty care hospital beds in Flagler County from 2019 to 2023 (Exhibit 23). Volusia County has similar rates of hospital beds and acute care hospital beds to Florida, but has a lower rate of specialty care beds. Acute care beds provide short-term medical treatment for patients with an acute illness/injury or recovering from surgery or childbirth. Specialty beds include psychiatric, substance abuse, rehabilitation, long-term care, skilled nursing unit, or neonatal intensive care unit beds.

EXHIBIT 21: TOTAL HOSPITAL BEDS, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019–2023



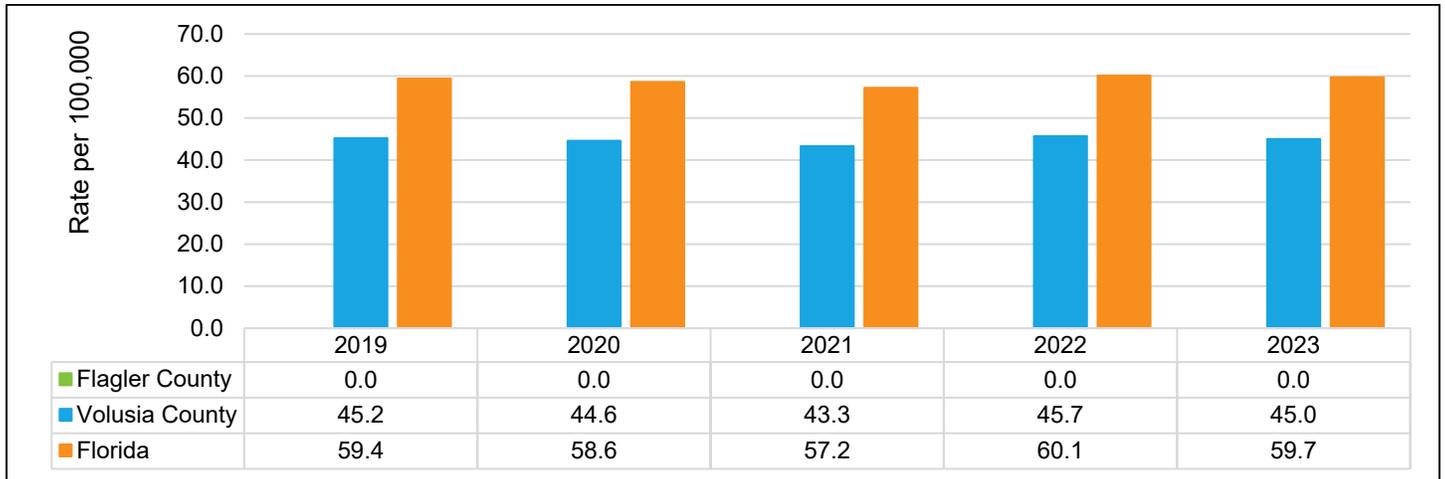
Source: [Florida Agency for Health Care Administration \(AHCA\)](#). Original data sourced: June 19, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 30, 2025.

EXHIBIT 22: ACUTE CARE HOSPITAL BEDS, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019–2023



Source: [Florida Agency for Health Care Administration \(AHCA\)](#). Original data sourced: June 19, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 30, 2025.

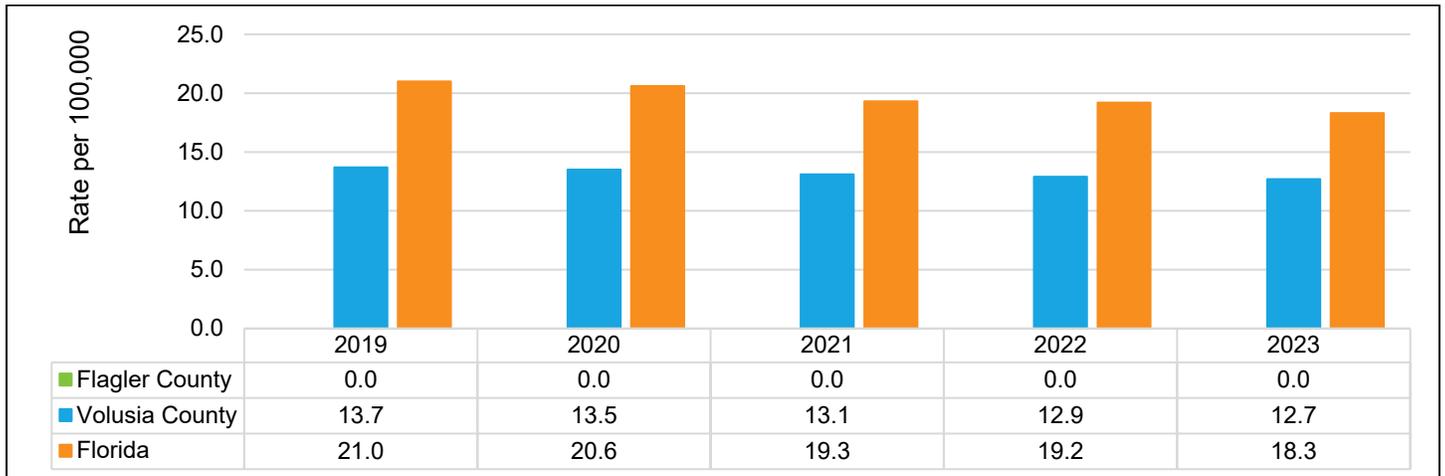
EXHIBIT 23: SPECIALTY CARE HOSPITAL BEDS, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019–2023



Source: [Florida Agency for Health Care Administration \(AHCA\)](#). Original data sourced: June 19, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 30, 2025.

Flagler County has zero adult and child/adolescent psychiatric beds. Volusia County had a declining rate of adult psychiatric beds from 2019 to 2023 and has a lower rate compared to Florida’s rate (Exhibit 24). However, Volusia County has a higher rate of child and adolescent beds compared to Florida’s rate (Exhibit 25).

EXHIBIT 24: ADULT PSYCHIATRIC BEDS, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019–2023



Source: [Florida Agency for Health Care Administration \(AHCA\)](#). Original data sourced: June 24, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 30, 2025.

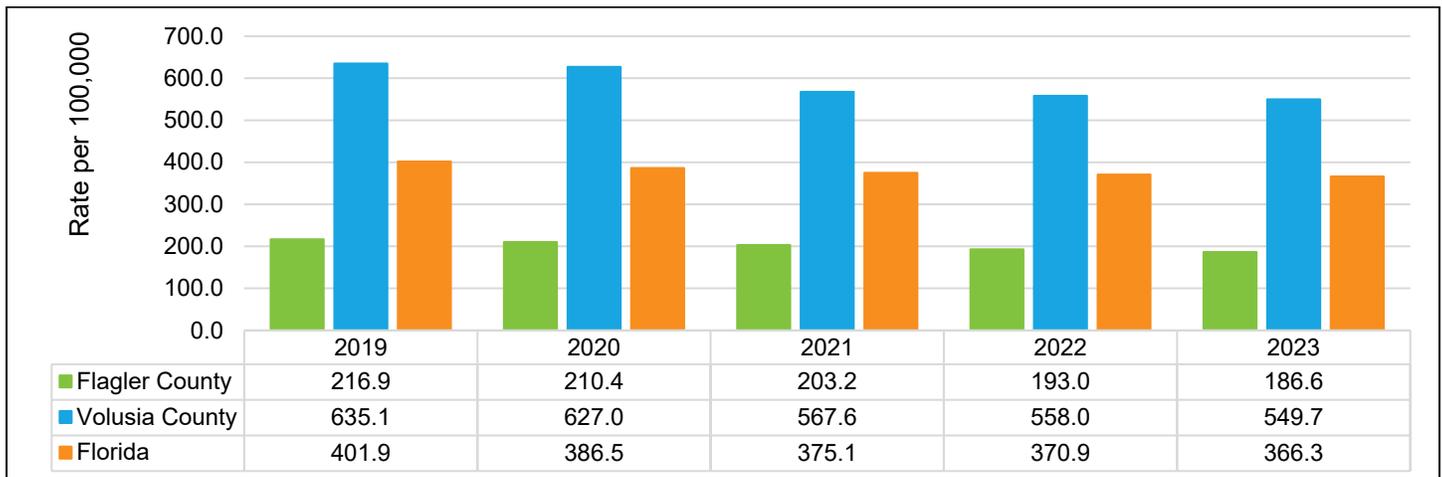
EXHIBIT 25: CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRIC BEDS, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019–2023



Source: [Florida Agency for Health Care Administration \(AHCA\)](#). Original data sourced: June 24, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 30, 2025.

Exhibit 26 summarizes the number of community nursing beds in Flagler and Volusia counties. Flagler County’s rate has declined from 2019 to 2023 and is lower than Florida’s. Volusia County has a higher rate of nursing home beds per 100,000 people than Florida’s rate, with 549.7 beds per 100,000 people in 2023.

EXHIBIT 26: NURSING HOME BEDS, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019–2023



Source: [Florida Agency for Health Care Administration \(AHCA\)](#). Original data sourced: June 24, 2024. No data update as of April 30, 2025.

Flagler County has two free-standing community nursing homes with a total of 240 licensed beds, as shown in Exhibit 27. There is an average occupancy rate of 15.68% for these nursing homes. Volusia County has 29 free-standing community nursing homes with a total of 3,427 licensed beds with an average occupancy rate of 72.55% (Exhibit 28).

EXHIBIT 27: FREE-STANDING COMMUNITY NURSING HOMES IN FLAGLER COUNTY, 2024

2024		Total		Medicaid		Medicare	
Facility Name	Licensed Beds	Pt. Days	Occup. Rate	Pt. Days	Occup. Rate	Pt. Days	Occup. Rate
Aspire at Grand Oaks	120	-	-	-	-	-	-
Flagler Health and Rehabilitation Center	120	39,762	90.78%	20,718	47.30%	13,732	31.35%

Source: HPCNEF Calendar Year Nursing Home Reports, 2024. Original data sourced: June 26, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 7, 2025

Note: Pt. Days = patient days, the number of days during which patients receive medical services at a facility; (-) indicates nursing home did not report data in 2024.

EXHIBIT 28: FREE-STANDING COMMUNITY NURSING HOMES IN VOLUSIA COUNTY, 2024

2024		Total		Medicaid		Medicare	
Facility Name	Licensed Beds	Pt. Days	Occup. Rate	Pt. Days	Occup. Rate	Pt. Days	Occup. Rate
Alliance Health and Rehabilitation Center	130	31,354	66.08%	9,739	20.52%	9,945	20.96%
Aspire at South Daytona	65	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Athens Post Acute	60	18,497	84.46%	13,235	60.43%	2,186	9.98%
Avante at Ormond Beach, Inc	133	37,185	76.60%	22,633	46.62%	10,161	20.93%
Beach Street Health and Rehabilitation Center	99	37,319	103.28%	24,828	68.71%	9,736	26.94%
Beachside Center For Rehabilitation and Nursing	239	56,124	64.34%	28,589	32.77%	21,513	24.66%
Bedrock Rehabilitation and Nursing Center at West Volusia	120	28,850	65.87%	18,021	41.14%	5,150	11.76%
Blue Lake Post Acute	60	17,694	80.79%	12,555	57.33%	2,286	10.44%
Blue Palms Health and Rehabilitation Center of Daytona Beach	100	22,938	62.84%	12,455	34.12%	3,729	10.22%
Blue Palms Health and Rehabilitation Center of Deland	60	20,838	95.15%	6,870	31.37%	7,658	34.97%
Bridgeview Center	139	43,241	85.23%	25,146	49.56%	5,401	10.65%
Carlton Shores Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center	118	10,358	24.05%	9,175	21.30%	318	0.74%
Coastal Health and Rehabilitation Center	120	37,458	85.52%	24,462	55.85%	8,078	18.44%
Coquina Center	120	28,903	65.99%	16,952	38.70%	8,053	18.39%
Daytona Beach Health and Rehabilitation Center	180	39,236	59.72%	27,570	41.96%	3,837	5.84%
Debary Health and Rehabilitation Center	120	39,957	91.23%	16,940	38.68%	16,973	38.75%
Emory L. Bennett Memorial Veterans' Nursing Home	120	42,348	96.68%	9,815	22.41%	402	0.92%
Gardens Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center	108	38,392	97.39%	16,427	41.67%	17,397	44.13%

2024		Total		Medicaid		Medicare	
Facility Name	Licensed Beds	Pt. Days	Occup. Rate	Pt. Days	Occup. Rate	Pt. Days	Occup. Rate
Indigo Manor	173	52,283	82.80%	22,993	36.41%	15,929	25.23%
Majestic Oaks	150	21,827	39.87%	9,458	17.27%	7,259	13.26%
Orange City Nursing and Rehab Center	120	40,334	92.09%	23,293	53.18%	13,664	31.20%
Ormond Rehabilitation and Nursing Center	60	9,875	45.09%	3,105	14.18%	5,445	24.86%
Parkside Health and Rehabilitation Center	122	30,763	69.08%	19,548	43.90%	6,986	15.69%
Port Orange Nursing and Rehab Center	120	38,430	87.74%	16,969	38.74%	15,258	34.84%
Ridgecrest Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center	146	49,308	92.53%	27,576	51.75%	13,221	24.81%
Seaside Health and Rehabilitation Center	192	28,594	40.80%	21,984	31.37%	4,521	6.45%
Solaris Healthcare Daytona	73	25,397	95.32%	7,125	26.74%	13,877	52.08%
Terrace At Bishop's Glen, The	60	18,382	83.94%	7,900	36.07%	3,875	17.69%
Villa Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center	120	41,573	94.92%	21,733	49.62%	11,829	27.01%

Source: HPCNEF Calendar Year Nursing Home Reports, 2024. Original data sourced: June 26, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 7, 2025
Note: Pt. Days = patient days, the number of days during which patients receive medical services at a facility; (-) indicates nursing home did not report data in 2024.

Other Facilities

Flagler County has 18 assisted living facilities, 1 adult day care center, and 7 home health agencies. Volusia County has 87 assisted living facilities, 3 adult day care centers, and 49 home health agencies (Exhibit 29).

EXHIBIT 29: TOTAL NUMBER OF LICENSED FACILITIES IN FLAGLER COUNTY AND VOLUSIA COUNTY, 2025

Facility Type	Total Number of Licensed Facilities in Flagler County	Total Number of Licensed Facilities in Volusia County
Assisted Living Facilities	18	87
Adult Day Care Centers	1	3
Home Health Agencies	7	49

Source: [Agency for Healthcare Administration](#). Original data sourced: June 26, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 7, 2025

Mental Health & Disorders and Drug & Alcohol Use

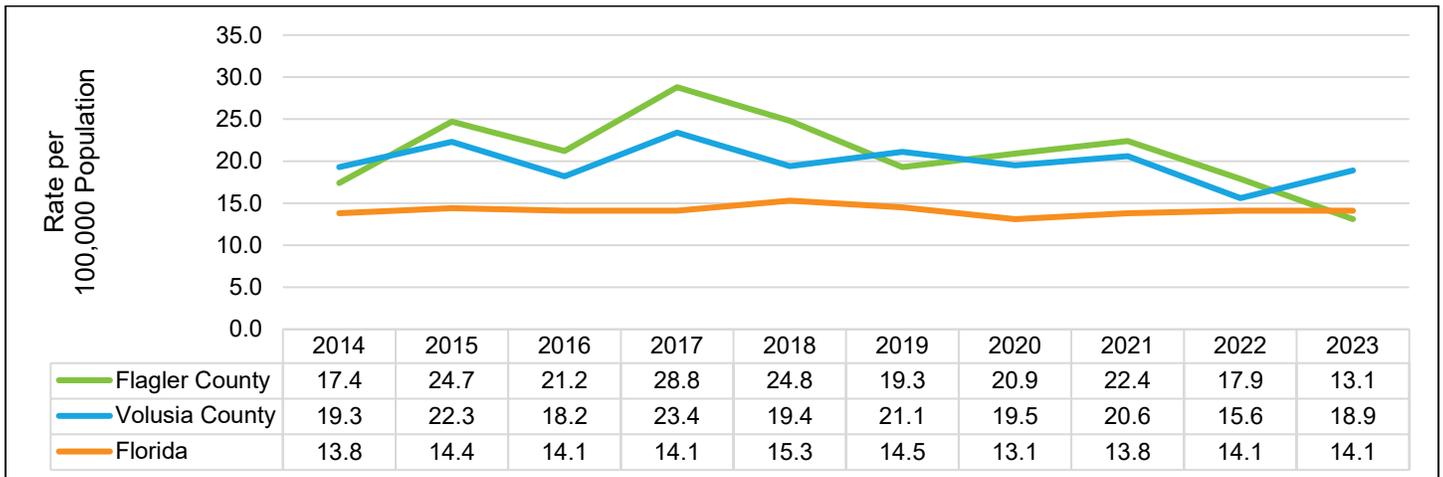
Behavioral healthcare—including mental health, substance abuse, and resources—is an extremely important part of a healthy community. Mental and behavioral healthcare focuses on the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of these conditions. There are many factors that play a role in determining a person’s overall mental health state. Mental disorders (e.g., depression, anxiety, etc.) “can affect people’s ability to take part in healthy behaviors” (US Department of Health and Human Services-Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, 2023). Key data related to mental health and disorders and drug and alcohol use in Flagler and Volusia counties is presented below.

Suicide

Suicide occurs when a person ends their own life and is a leading cause of death in the U.S. (CDC, 2025b). Death is not the only consequence of suicide. More people survive suicide attempts than die, and suicide survivors may have serious injuries, such as broken bones, brain damage, or organ failure (CDC, 2025b). People who have attempted suicide may have experienced violence, including child abuse, bullying, or sexual violence, and may even have depression and other mental health problems (CDC, 2025b).

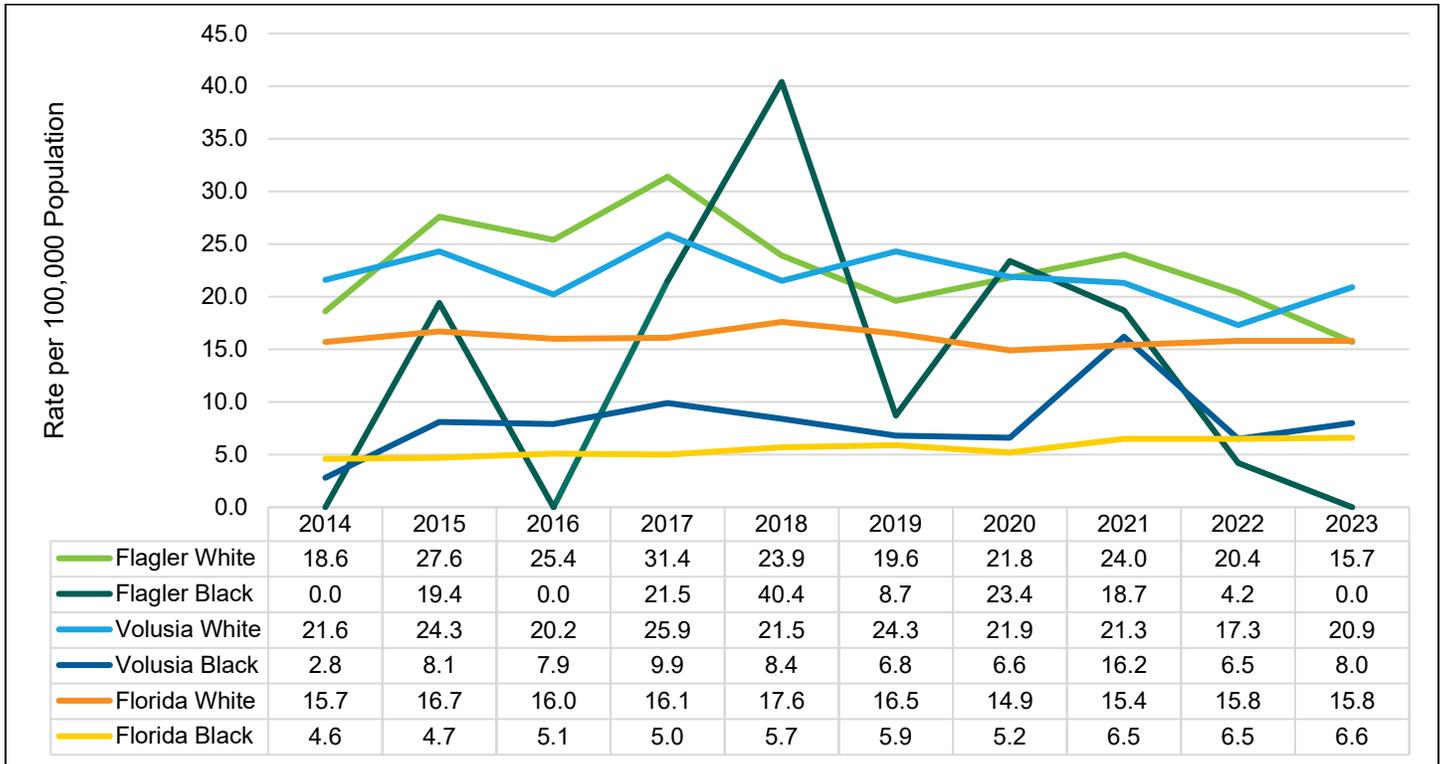
Both Flagler and Volusia counties' suicide death rates have fluctuated over the past decade and most notably had 37.85% and 33.33% decreases, respectively, from 2017 to 2022 (Exhibit 30). Volusia County experienced a slight increase in suicide deaths from 2022 to 2023. In Flagler County, Volusia County, and Florida, suicide tends to occur much more frequently among White populations than Black populations, as shown in Exhibit 31. It is important to note that the suicide rate among the Black population in Flagler County surpassed the rate among the White population in 2018 and 2020.

EXHIBIT 30: SUICIDE MORTALITY, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, AGE-ADJUSTED RATE PER 100,000, 2014–2023



Source: [Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Deaths from Suicide](#). Original data sourced: June 17, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 5, 2025.

EXHIBIT 31: SUICIDE MORTALITY BY RACE, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, AGE-ADJUSTED RATE PER 100,000, 2014–2023

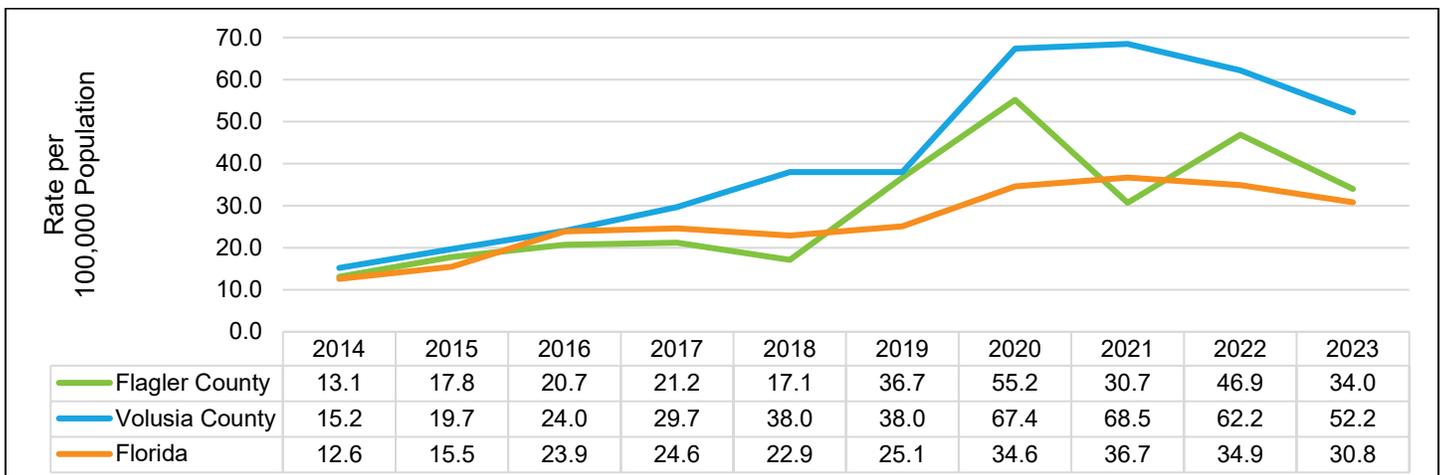


Source: [Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Deaths from Suicide](#). Original data sourced: June 18, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 5, 2025.

Drug Poisoning Deaths

Drug poisoning deaths result from unintentional or intentional overdose of a drug, receiving the wrong drug, taking a drug incorrectly, or taking a drug accidentally (CDC, 2022). The rate of drug poisoning deaths increased in Flagler County from 13.1 in 2014 to 34.0 in 2023 (about 1.6 times higher), whereas Volusia County’s rate went from 15.2 in 2014 to 52.2 in 2023 (about 2.4 times higher). The drug poisoning rate in Florida increased by about 1.4 times during the same period (Exhibit 32).

EXHIBIT 32: INCIDENCE OF DRUG POISONING DEATHS, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, AGE-ADJUSTED RATE PER 100,000, 2014–2023



Source: [Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Deaths from Drug Poisoning](#). Original data sourced: June 19, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 1, 2025.

Baker Act Referrals/Examinations

In 1971, the Florida Legislature enacted the *Florida Mental Health Act*, a comprehensive revision of the state’s mental health commitment laws. The law is widely referred to as the “Baker Act” in honor of Maxine Baker, the former state representative who sponsored the Act. The Baker Act allows for involuntary exam initiation (also referred to as emergency or involuntary commitment). Initiations can be made by judges, law enforcement officials, physicians, or mental health professionals only when there is evidence that a person has a mental illness and is a harm to self, harm to others, or self-neglectful (as defined in the Baker Act). Examinations may last up to 72 hours and can occur in any of over 100 Florida Department of Children and Families-designated receiving facilities statewide (FDCF, n.d.-a).

It is important to note that some individuals for whom forms were received were never actually admitted to the receiving facility because an examination by a physician or psychologist performed prior to admission determined they did not meet criteria. The data does not include information on what occurred after the initial examination, such as how long individuals stayed at the facility or whether they remained on an involuntary or voluntary basis.

Exhibit 33 below lists the total number of reported involuntary exam initiations (i.e., Baker Acts) for Flagler County residents by fiscal year from 2019 to 2024.

EXHIBIT 33: INVOLUNTARY EXAMINATIONS OF FLAGLER COUNTY RESIDENTS, 2019–2024

Fiscal Year	All Ages	% of Total				Change to 2023–2024
		<18	18–24	25–64	65+	
2019–2020	756	26.59%	16.80%	48.15%	7.14%	-1.32%
2020–2021	982	27.19%	14.36%	49.19%	8.35%	-24.03%
2021–2022	880	28.86%	16.48%	45.68%	7.16%	-15.23%
2022–2023	808	25.25%	11.63%	51.86%	10.02%	-7.67%
2023–2024	746	29.62%	9.92%	50.27%	9.12%	N/A

Source: [Baker Act Reporting Center Fiscal Year 2023-24, University of South Florida](#). Original data sourced: June 17, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 7, 2025.

Exhibit 34 below lists the total number of reported involuntary exam initiations (i.e., Baker Acts) for Volusia County residents by fiscal year from 2019 to 2024.

EXHIBIT 34: INVOLUNTARY EXAMINATIONS OF VOLUSIA COUNTY RESIDENTS, 2019–2024

Fiscal Year	All Ages	% of Total				Change to 2023–2024
		<18	18–24	25–64	65+	
2019–2020	4,562	23.10%	10.86%	57.97%	6.87%	-11.51%
2020–2021	5,259	21.62%	12.36%	57.71%	7.09%	-23.24%
2021–2022	4,600	24.41%	12.07%	55.46%	6.93%	-12.24%
2022–2023	5,048	20.80%	10.62%	59.85%	7.88%	-20.03%
2023–2024	4,037	18.98%	12.84%	59.92%	7.37%	N/A

Source: [Baker Act Reporting Center Fiscal Year 2023-24, University of South Florida](#). Original data sourced: June 17, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 7, 2025.

Exhibit 35 summarizes the number of involuntary examinations for Flagler County, Volusia County, and Florida residents by initiator type. Of the total number of involuntary examinations in Flagler County, 28.55% were initiated by health professionals, 69.17% by law enforcement, and 2.28% by judges. Of the total number of involuntary examinations in Volusia County, 31.41% were initiated by health professionals, 65.20% by law enforcement, and 3.52% by judges. In comparison, Florida had 44.53% of involuntary exams initiated by health professionals, 52.36% by law enforcement, and 3.11% by judges. Of the involuntary examinations in Flagler County initiated by health professionals, 30.52% were initiated by a physician who was not a psychiatrist, compared to 52.05% in Volusia County and 64.19% in Florida.

EXHIBIT 35: INVOLUNTARY EXAMINATIONS BY INITIATOR TYPE, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, FY 2023–2024

	Flagler	Volusia	Florida	Flagler	Volusia	Florida	Flagler	Volusia	Florida
	Health Professional			Law Enforcement			Ex-Parte Order of Judge		
Total	28.55%	31.41%	44.53%	69.17%	65.20%	52.36%	2.28%	3.52%	3.11%
Physician (not a psychiatrist)	30.52%	52.05%	64.19%	These percentages are out of the total for involuntary examinations initiated by health professionals (not out of the total number of involuntary examinations).					
Physician (psychiatrist)	14.55%	10.82%	7.73%						
Licensed Clinical Social Worker	14.55%	4.34%	6.75%						
Licensed Mental Health Counselor	23.00%	16.51%	13.46%						
Clinical Psychologist	<1%	1.50%	<1%						
Psychiatric Nurse	5.16%	6.08%	3.57%						
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist	<1%	1.58%	<1%						
Physician's Assistant	11.27%	7.27%	2.93%						

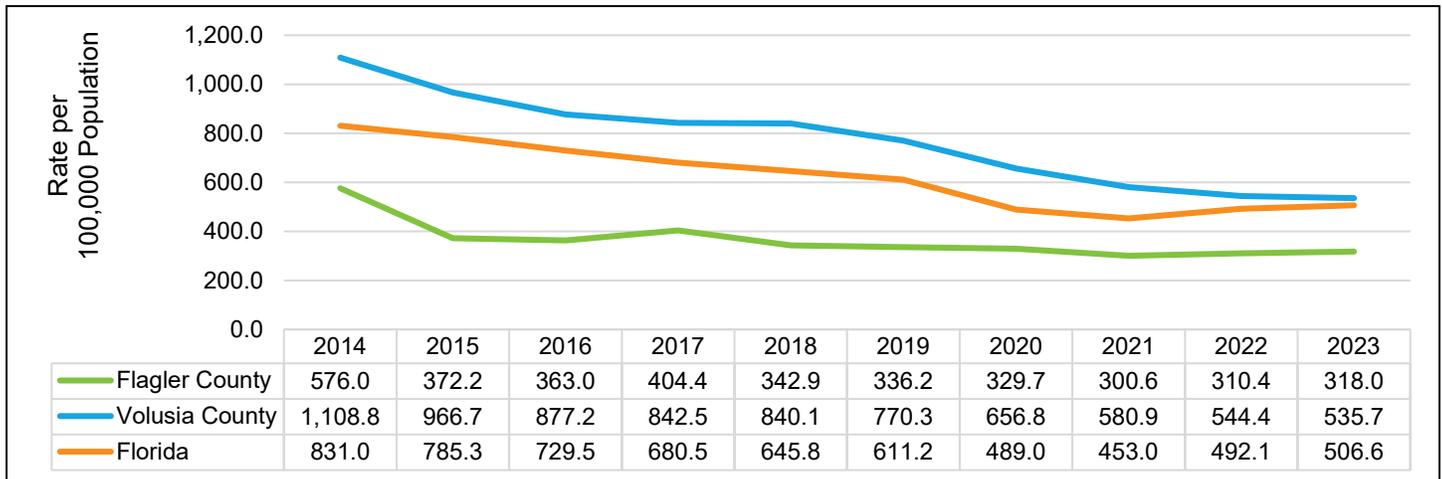
Source: [Baker Act Reporting Center Fiscal Year 2023-24, University of South Florida](#). Original data sourced: June 17, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 7, 2025.

Crime

Index crimes—comprising aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, murder, robbery, and sexual offenses—track the number of offenses reported to law enforcement and not the arrests for the given crimes.

From 2014 to 2023, the rate of index crimes decreased by 44.8% in Flagler County and 51.7% in Volusia County. By comparison, index crimes in Florida decreased by 39.0% during the same period (Exhibit 36).

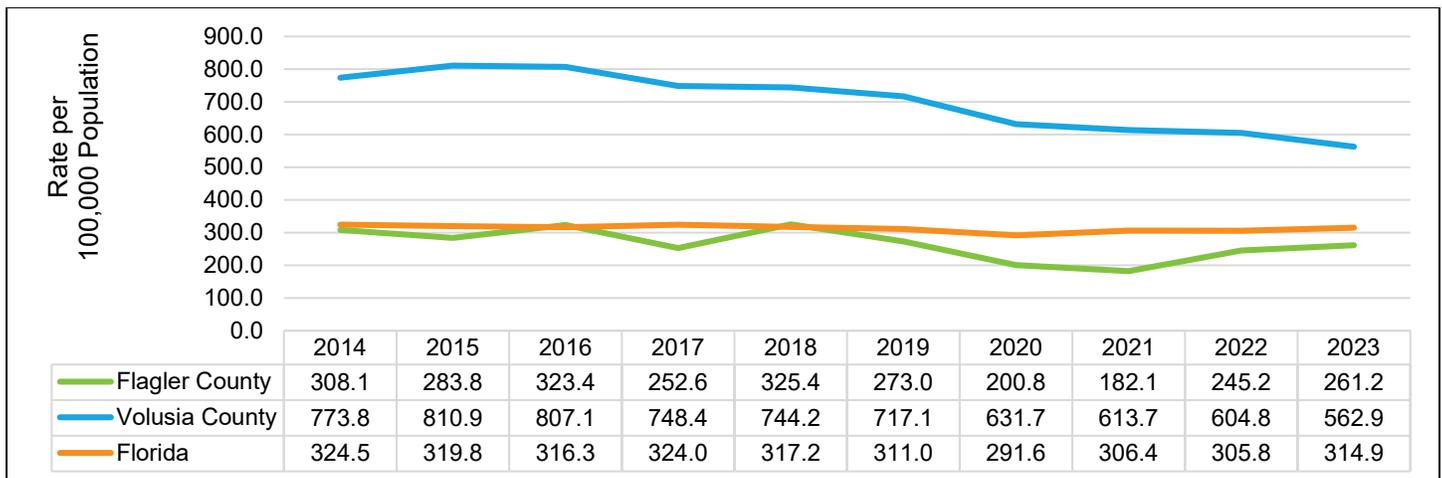
EXHIBIT 36: INCIDENCE OF INDEX CRIMES, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2014–2023



Source: [Florida Department of Health, Division of Disease Control and Health Protection, Incidence of Index Crimes](#). Original data sourced: June 17, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 28, 2025.

Volusia County experienced a 27.3% decrease in the incidence of domestic violence offenses from 2014 to 2023 yet had a much higher rate than Flagler County and Florida. The incidence of domestic violence offenses in Flagler County decreased by 15.2% from 2014 to 2023, compared to a 3.0% decrease in Florida during the same period (Exhibit 37).

EXHIBIT 37: INCIDENCE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2014–2023

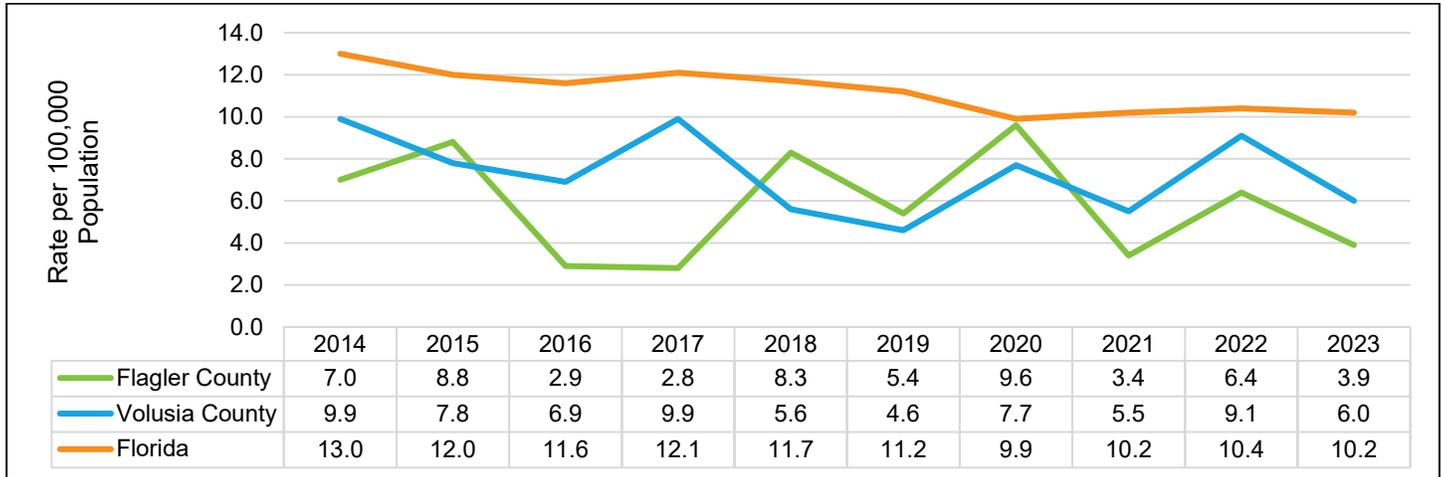


Source: [Florida Department of Health, Division of Disease Control and Health Protection, Incidence of Domestic Violence Offenses](#). Original data sourced: June 17, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 28, 2025.

Forcible sex offenses are any sexual act or attempt involving force, regardless of the age of the victim or the relationship of the victim to the offender.

The incidence of forcible sex offenses fluctuated from 2014 to 2023, but ultimately decreased by 44.3% in Flagler County and 39.4% in Volusia County during that time frame. Florida experienced an overall decrease of about 22% from 2014 to 2023 (Exhibit 38).

EXHIBIT 38: INCIDENCE OF FORCIBLE SEX OFFENSES, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2014–2023

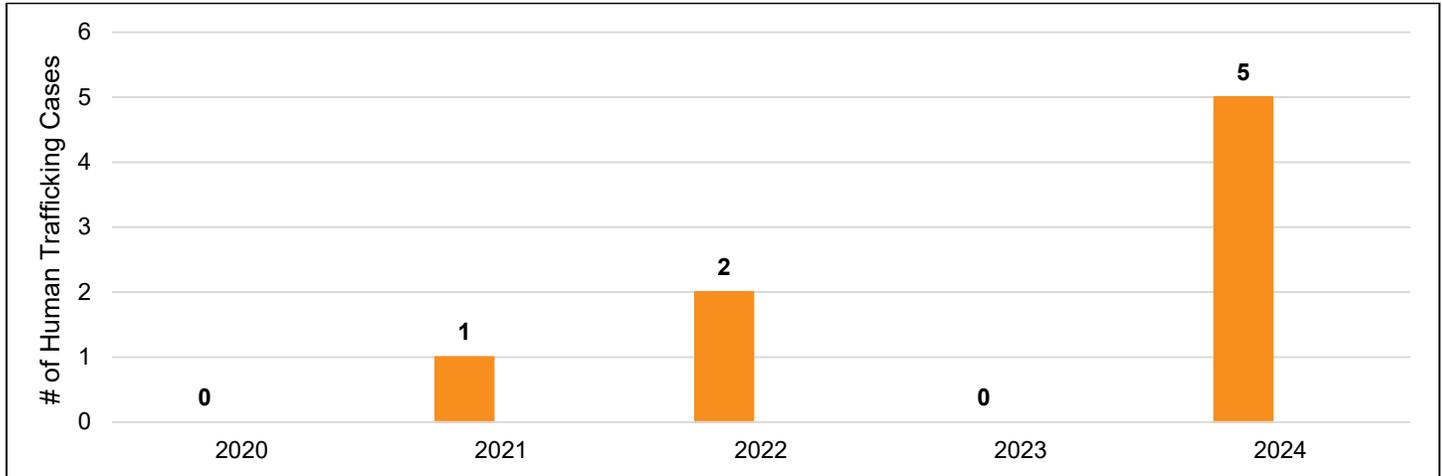


Source: [Florida Department of Health, Division of Disease Control and Health Protection, Incidence of Forcible Sex Offenses](#). Original data sourced: June 17, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 28, 2025.

Human trafficking is defined as “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of people through force, fraud or deception, with the aim of exploiting them for profit” (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, n.d.). Incidences of human trafficking have been on the rise for the last decade across the United States. It occurs in every region of the world, and victims can be of any age, race, or background.

Exhibit 39 provides data on the number of human trafficking cases reported in Flagler and Volusia counties obtained from the Flagler County Sheriff's Office and the Volusia County Sheriff's Office. In 2024, 680 human trafficking hotline cases were identified in Florida (*National Human Trafficking Hotline*, n.d.).

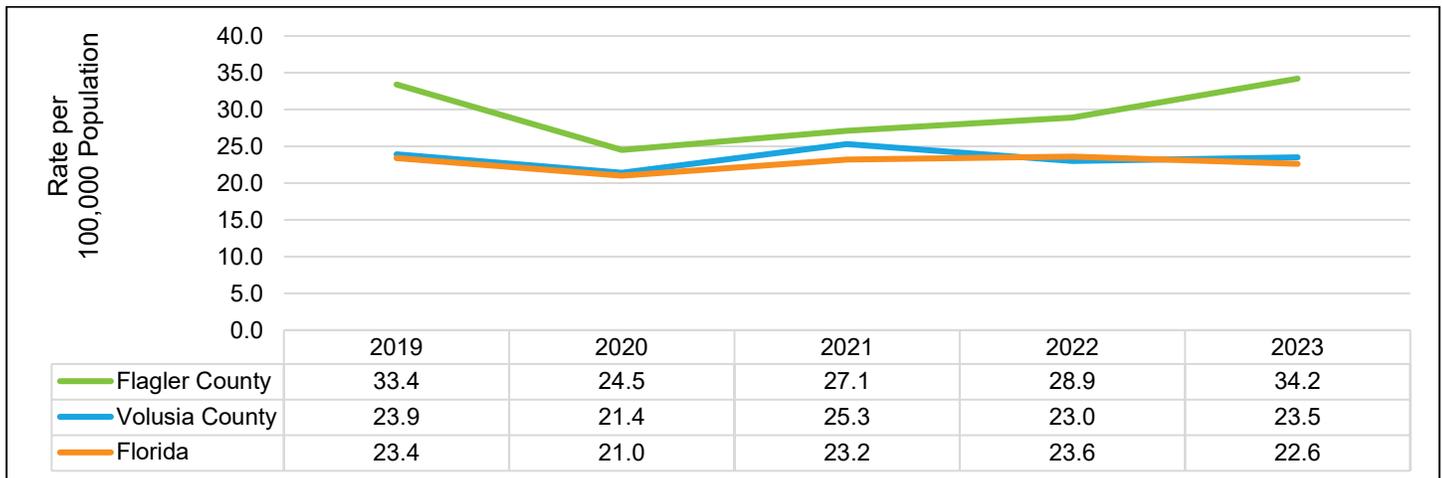
EXHIBIT 39: HUMAN TRAFFICKING REPORT, FLAGLER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE & VOLUSIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, 2020–2024



Source: Flagler County Sheriff's Office. Original data sourced: March 12, 2024. Updated data sourced: May 5, 2025.
 Note: No data was provided from the Volusia County Sheriff's Office.

Alcohol-suspected motor vehicle traffic crashes in Flagler County fluctuated from 2019 to 2023 but ultimately increased by 2.4%, whereas Volusia County's rate remained similar during the same time period. Florida experienced a 3.4% decrease in incidence from 2019 to 2023 (Exhibit 40).

EXHIBIT 40: INCIDENCE OF ALCOHOL-CONFIRMED MOTOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC CRASHES, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019–2023



Source: [Florida Department of Health, Division of Disease Control and Health Protection, Incidence of Alcohol-Confirmed Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes](#). Original data sourced: June 18, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 30, 2025.

Substance Use

Exhibit 41 shows mental and behavioral health indicators and data for Flagler and Volusia counties.

EXHIBIT 41: SELECTED BRFSS DATA, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2019

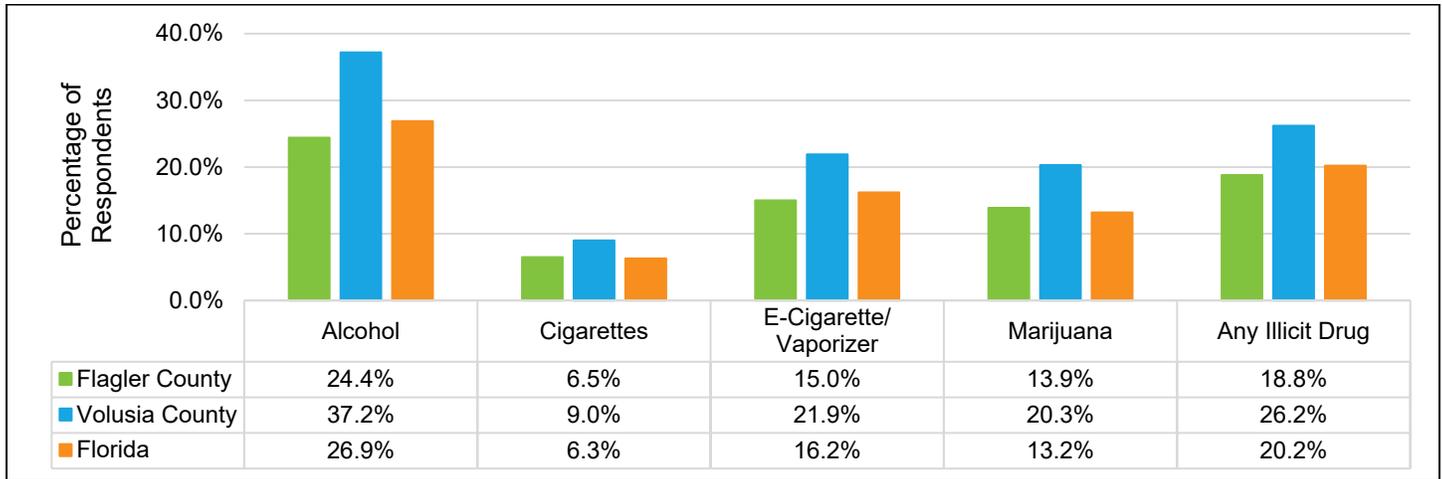
Alcohol Consumption	Flagler County	Volusia County	Florida
Adults who engage in heavy or binge drinking	16.0%	19.6%	18.0%
Tobacco Usage	Flagler County	Volusia County	Florida
Adults who are current smokers	20.0%	18.5%	14.8%
Adult current smokers who tried to quit smoking at least once in the past year	54.5%	52.8%	59.0%
Adults who are former smokers (currently quit smoking)	33.6%	30.0%	26.3%
Adults who have never smoked	46.5%	51.5%	58.9%
Adults who are current e-cigarette users	5.1%	4.6%	7.5%
Adults who are former e-cigarette users	20.3%	19.5%	18.4%
Adults who have never used e-cigarettes	74.4%	76.0%	74.1%

Source: [2019 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System](#). Original data sourced: June 24, 2024. No data update as of May 1, 2025.

The Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey (FYSAS) is an annual, statewide school-based survey effort that measures the prevalence of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use; delinquent behaviors; and the risk and protective factors related to these behaviors (FDCF, n.d.-b).

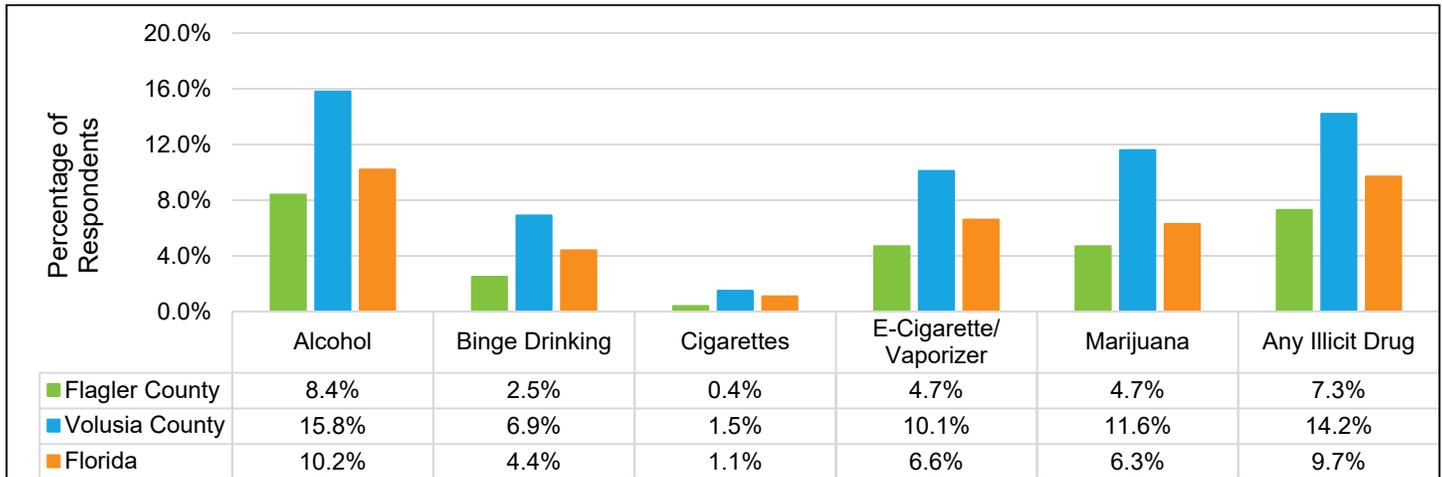
The 2024 FYSAS was answered by 1,026 Flagler County students and 1,077 Volusia County students in grades 6–12. Alcohol was the most commonly used substance among students with a prevalence rate of 24.4% and 37.2% for lifetime use and a prevalence rate of 8.4% and 15.8% for past-30-day use in Flagler and Volusia counties, respectively. Any illicit drugs were the other most used substances among students in Flagler and Volusia counties, with rates of 18.8% and 26.2% for lifetime use and rates of 7.3% and 14.2% for past-30-day use, respectively (Exhibit 42 and Exhibit 43). In the FYSAS, “any illicit drugs” include LSD, cocaine, amphetamines, or other illegal drugs.

EXHIBIT 42: YOUTH WHO REPORTED USING VARIOUS SUBSTANCES IN THEIR LIFETIME, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2024



Source: [Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey, 2024 Flagler County Report](#); [Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey, 2024 Volusia County Report](#). Original data sourced: June 5, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 30, 2025.

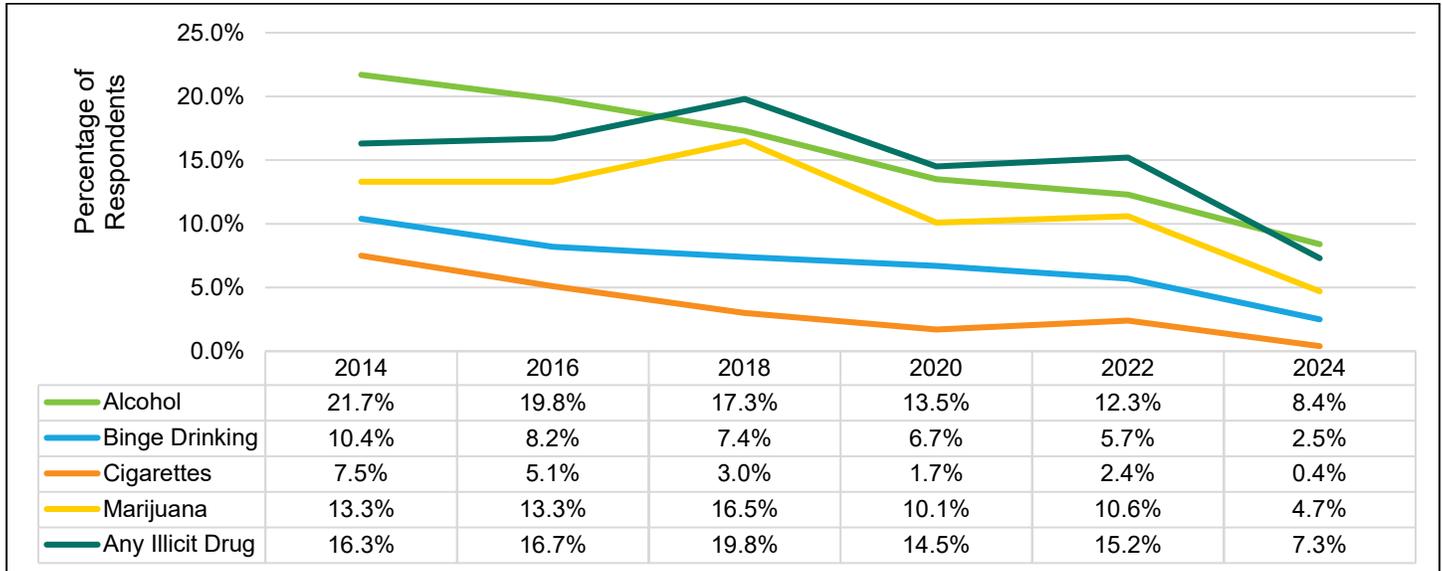
EXHIBIT 43: YOUTH WHO REPORTED USING VARIOUS SUBSTANCES IN THE PAST 30 DAYS, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, 2024



Source: [Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey, 2024 Flagler County Report](#); [Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey, 2024 Volusia County Report](#). Original data sourced: June 5, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 30, 2025.

Flagler County has seen an overall decline in past-30-day youth substance use from 2014 to 2024 for alcohol, binge drinking, cigarettes, marijuana, and illicit drugs. There was an increase in the use of cigarettes, marijuana, and illicit drugs from 2020 to 2022. Alcohol past-30-day substance use decreased from 21.7% in 2014 to 8.4% in 2024 (Exhibit 44).

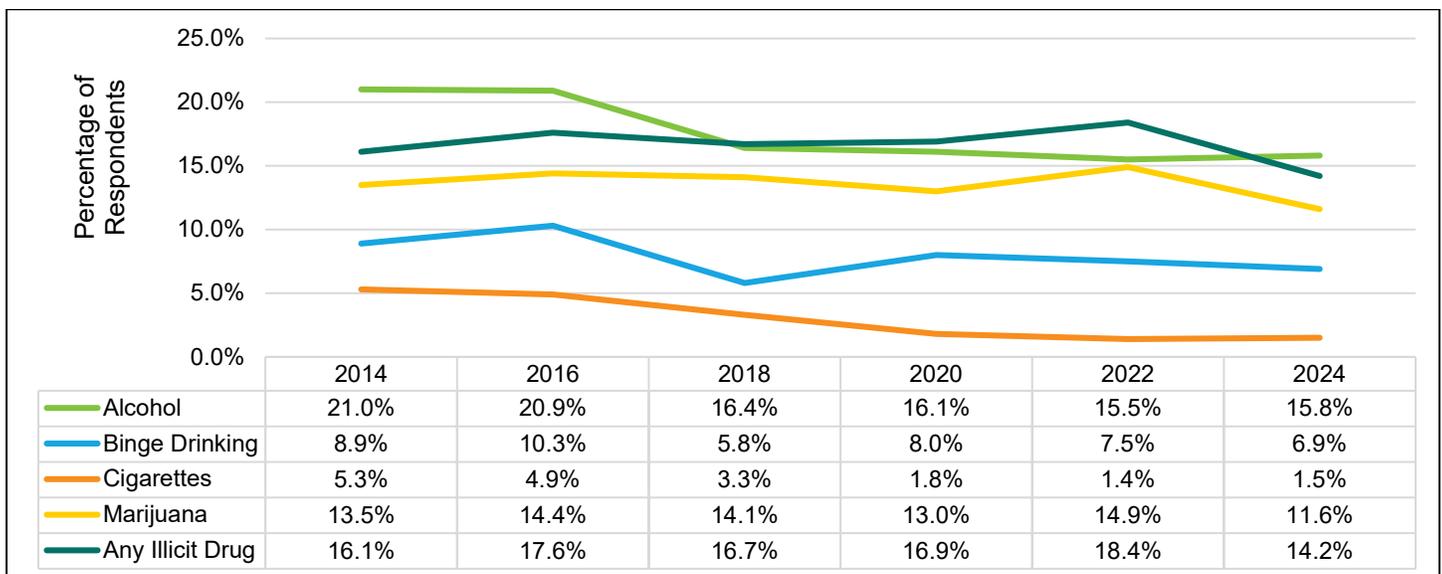
EXHIBIT 44: YOUTH PAST-30-DAY TREND IN VARIOUS SUBSTANCE USE, FLAGLER COUNTY, 2014–2024



Source: [Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey, 2024 Flagler County Report](#). Original data sourced: June 5, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 30, 2025.

Volusia County has seen an overall decline in past-30-day youth substance use from 2014 to 2024 for alcohol, binge drinking, cigarettes, marijuana, and illicit drugs. Past-30-day alcohol use fell from 21.0% in 2014 to 15.8% in 2024 (Exhibit 45).

EXHIBIT 45: YOUTH PAST-30-DAY TREND IN VARIOUS SUBSTANCE USE, VOLUSIA COUNTY, 2014–2024



Source: [Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey, 2024 Volusia County Report](#). Original data sourced: June 5, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 30, 2025.

Behavioral Health Medical Professionals

Mental health is an important part of overall health and well-being. It is crucial at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood. Exhibit 46 shows the number of licensed mental health professionals in Flagler and Volusia counties by type. Flagler County has 61 licensed clinical social workers, 18 licensed marriage and family therapists, 89 mental health counselors, and 11 licensed psychologists. Volusia County has 281 licensed clinical social workers, 92 licensed marriage and family therapists, 388 mental health counselors, and 66 licensed psychologists.

EXHIBIT 46: TOTAL LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, FLAGLER COUNTY, VOLUSIA COUNTY & FLORIDA, FY 2023–2024

Type of Mental Health Professional	Flagler County	Volusia County	Florida
Licensed Clinical Social Workers	61	281	13,935
Licensed Marriage & Family Therapists	18	92	2,791
Mental Health Counselors	89	388	16,187
Licensed Psychologists	11	66	5,433

Source: [FL Charts, Licensed Psychologists](#), [FL Charts, Licensed Mental Health Counselors](#), [FL Charts, Licensed Marriage & Family Therapists](#), [FL Charts, Licensed Clinical Social Workers](#). Original data sourced: June 19, 2024. Updated data sourced: April 30, 2025.

Overview of CHIP Process

Phases 1–4 of the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) process involve visioning, collecting, and analyzing data, and gathering community input to determine which health concerns will become the strategic focus of health planning in the community for the next three years. A Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) is formulated primarily in Phase 5: Goals & Strategies and Phase 6: Action Cycle of the MAPP process. In Phase 5, the community formulates broad goal statements addressing the previously identified health concerns, as well as more specific strategies related to each goal. Phase 6 involves planning, implementation, and evaluation. During Phase 6, the community creates an action plan detailing how goals and strategies will be achieved.

Each CHIP workgroup held meetings from May to July 2025. The workgroups included one for each priority area: **Economic Stability & Social and Community Context**, **Health Care Access and Quality**, and **Mental Health and Disorders & Drug and Alcohol Use**. Workgroup sessions began with a summary of the findings of the CHNA and a recap of the health concern(s) to be addressed in each workgroup. Next, HPCNEF facilitated a brief discussion of goals, objectives, and strategies, provided examples of each priority area, and guided the group through the goal-creation process for each health concern.

After broad, overarching goals were established, the workgroup developed objectives for each goal and strategies for each objective. In addition to generating strategies that could be used to achieve each goal, the workgroup brainstormed and described potential resources, lead persons or organizations, measures for tracking the progress of a strategy, current performance levels, and targets for each strategy, which are all detailed in the CHIP Action Plans included at the end of this document.

The goal of the CHIP is to not only outline health concerns, future action steps, and strategies to improve the health of Flagler and Volusia counties, but also to align with existing state and national objectives and other local programs, projects, and organizations. The CHIP workgroups made efforts to align Flagler and Volusia counties' goals with state and national objectives by referring to the Florida State Health Improvement Plan and the Healthy People 2030 initiative. This alignment is illustrated in the CHIP Action Plans using the symbols below:

- This symbol represents alignment with the National Healthy People 2030 initiative
- ▲ This symbol represents alignment with the Florida State Health Improvement Plan
- This symbol represents a policy-based intervention

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CHIP Action Plans

Economic Stability & Social and Community Context

Health Priority Area: Economic Stability & Social and Community Context					
Goal A: Decrease child maltreatment and abuse in Flagler and Volusia counties ■▲					
Strategy: Increase awareness and education of protective factors for families					
Objective: By December 31, 2028, decrease the rate of child abuse (ages 5–11) from 295.5 to 272.0 per 100,000 population in Flagler County and from 490.0 to 430.0 per 100,000 population in Volusia County.					Anticipated Completion Date: 12/31/2028
Data Source: FLHealthCHARTS, 2024					
Evidence Base:					
1) Children’s Exposure to Violence: A Comprehensive National Survey https://www.ojp.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/227744.pdf					
2) Recommendation: Prevention of Child Maltreatment: Primary Care Interventions United States Preventive Services Taskforce https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation/child-maltreatment-primary-care-interventions					
3) Child Abuse Prevention https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/CAN-Prevention-Resource_508.pdf					
Health Disparity to be Addressed and/or Target Group: Families with Children					
Activities	Direction of Intended Change	Unit of Measurement	Y1 Target (2026)	Y2 Target (2027)	Y3 Target (2028)
1.1. Increase education and knowledge of protective factors for community members	Increase	List of Programs and Initiatives; Educational Sessions; Events/Fairs	1 list of programs and initiatives	4 (educational sessions)	2 (events/fairs)
1.2. Increase collaboration with local agencies	Increase	Collaborative Meetings; Consortium Established; Consortium Meetings	4 (collaborative meetings)	1 (consortium established)	4 (consortium meetings)
Activity 1.1: Increase education and knowledge of protective factors for community members					
Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date		
1.1.1. Identify current programs and initiatives in Flagler County (e.g., parent cafes)	Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF), Community Partnership for Children, local law enforcement, Early Learning Coalition of Flagler and Volusia (ELC), House Next Door				
1.1.2. Identify current programs and initiatives in Volusia County (e.g., parent cafes)	DCF, Community Partnership for Children, local law enforcement				
1.1.3. Expand current programs and initiatives in Flagler County (e.g., parent cafes)	DCF, Community Partnership for Children, local law enforcement, ELC, House Next Door				
1.1.4. Expand current programs and initiatives in Volusia County (e.g., parent cafes)	DCF, Community Partnership for Children, local law enforcement				
1.1.5. Increase parental knowledge and education of protective factors and available resources through educational sessions	ELC				
1.1.6. Hold events and fairs for community members to engage in	CHIP Workgroup, Safe Kids				

Activity 1.2: Increase collaboration with local agencies			
Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.2.1. Collaborate with local agencies (e.g., Life Reins, domestic violence shelters, domestic violence advisory committee, food pantries) to remove silos/duplicated efforts	ELC		
1.2.2. Establish a consortium and create and host events with local agencies	CHIP Workgroup		
1.2.3. Research and apply to funding opportunities for resources (e.g., parental education, transportation, childcare)	ELC, Volusia Recovery Alliance (VRA)		

Health Priority Area: Economic Stability & Social and Community Context

Goal B: Increase community awareness and education on available primary and specialty healthcare providers, social service services, and community resources in Flagler and Volusia counties

Strategy: Engage community organizations and stakeholders to distribute information about local resources and improve collaboration among public health agencies

Objective: By December 31, 2028, improve collaboration and communication between public health organizations to establish an online comprehensive community resource platform. Anticipated Completion Date: 12/31/2028

Data Source: N/A

Evidence Base:
 1) Increase the Proportion of People with Primary Care Provider [Increase the proportion of people with a usual primary care provider — AHS-07 - Healthy People 2030 | health.gov](#)
 2) Enabling Services <https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hlthaff.2018.05228>

Health Disparity to be Addressed and/or Target Group: N/A

Activities	Direction of Intended Change	Unit of Measurement	Y1 Target (2026)	Y2 Target (2027)	Y3 Target (2028)
1.1. Inform community members of all local resources	Increase	Resource Materials Distributed	100	100	100

Activity 1.1: Inform community members of all local resources

Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.1.1. Track the amount of resource materials distributed and spaces used during outreach attempts	DOH-Volusia, DOH-Flagler		

Health Priority Area: Economic Stability & Social and Community Context

Goal C: Decrease transportation barriers preventing access to care and services for Flagler County residents

Strategy: Increase awareness of current transportation services and programs, while simultaneously seeking additional funding opportunities

Objective: By December 31, 2028, decrease the percentage of people that indicated transportation was a barrier to receiving care from 10.6% to 8.6% in Flagler and Volusia counties. Anticipated Completion Date: 12/31/2028

Data Source: Flagler and Volusia CHNA, 2024

Evidence Base:

- 1) Carpool and Rideshare Information [Carpool & rideshare programs | County Health Rankings & Roadmaps](#)
- 2) Rural Transportation Toolkit <https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/toolkits/transportation>

Health Disparity to be Addressed and/or Target Group: N/A

Activities	Direction of Intended Change	Unit of Measurement	Y1 Target (2026)	Y2 Target (2027)	Y3 Target (2028)
1.1 Identify the transportation needs and geographic areas for Flagler County residents	Increase	Volusia-Flagler Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) meetings attended	4	4	4
1.2. Increase/expand transportation options for residents	Increase	Alternative Transportation Options Identified; Number of Grants Identified; Number of Grants Applied to	1 (alternative transportation options identified)	1 (alternative transportation option initiated); 2 grants identified & 1 applied to	1 (alternative transportation option continued); 2 grants identified & 1 applied to

Activity 1.1: Identify the transportation needs and geographic areas for Flagler County residents

Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.1.1. Attend TPO meetings to begin exploring options for Flagler County and learn about the current work being done	DOH-Flagler		
1.1.2. Determine the areas and populations with the most need from the TPO transportation assessment	Volusia-Flagler Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), DOH-Flagler, County Commissioners		

Activity 1.2: Increase/expand transportation options for residents

Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.2.1. Seek alternative transportation options in Flagler County (e.g., rideshare, cab services)	Volusia-Flagler TPO, Transportation Disadvantage Board		
1.2.2. Research and apply for transportation grants	Volusia-Flagler TPO		

Health Priority Area: Economic Stability & Social and Community Context

Goal D: Decrease transportation barriers preventing access to care and services for Volusia County residents

Strategy: Expand current transportation services and programs, while simultaneously seeking additional funding opportunities

Objective: By December 31, 2028, decrease the percentage of people who indicated transportation was a barrier to receiving care from 10.6% to 8.6% in Flagler and Volusia counties. Anticipated Completion Date: 12/31/2028

Data Source: Flagler and Volusia CHNA, 2024

Evidence Base:

- 1) Carpool and Rideshare Information [Carpool & rideshare programs | County Health Rankings & Roadmaps](#)
- 2) Rural Transportation Toolkit <https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/toolkits/transportation>

Health Disparity to be Addressed and/or Target Group: N/A

Activities	Direction of Intended Change	Unit of Measurement	Y1 Target (2026)	Y2 Target (2027)	Y3 Target (2028)
1.1. Increase access to current transportation services in areas of most need in Volusia County	Increase	Identification of Current Initiatives; Expansion of Current Initiatives	1 list of current initiatives	2 expansions of current initiatives	1 (continue/update current initiatives & new programs)
1.2. Seek additional funding opportunities for transportation needs	Increase	Number of Grants Identified; Number of Grants Applied to	2 grants identified & 1 applied to	2 grants identified & 1 applied to	2 grants identified & 1 applied to

Activity 1.1: Increase access to current transportation services in areas of most need in Volusia County

Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.1.1. Expand current initiatives to decrease transportation barriers and identify new programs	Votran, Transportation Disadvantage Board, VoRide, Volusia-Flagler TPO, CareerSource, VRA		
1.1.2. Identify areas with the most transportation needs in Volusia County	Volusia-Flagler TPO, DOH-Volusia		

Activity 1.2: Seek additional funding opportunities for transportation needs

Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.2.1. Seek additional funding opportunities for free and reduced bus fares	VRA		
1.2.2. Research and apply for transportation grants	Volusia-Flagler TPO		

Health Care Access and Quality

Health Priority Area: Health Care Access and Quality					
Goal A: Increase community knowledge on SNAP, Medicaid and KidCare, dental care, WIC, low-cost medical screening resources and services available to children from birth through 12 th grade in Flagler and Volusia counties					
Strategy: Track and provide information on various services and community resources to parents that utilize services at DOH-Flagler and DOH-Volusia					
Objective: By December 31, 2028, increase the number of resource sites available at DOH-Flagler from 0 to 1 and DOH-Volusia from 1 to 2.				Anticipated Completion Date: 12/31/2028	
Data Source: N/A					
Evidence Base: 1) Flagler Schools New Student Enrollment page https://www.flaglerschools.com/about-us/new-student-enrollment					
Health Disparity to be Addressed and/or Target Group: Children from Birth through 12 th Grade					
Activities	Direction of Intended Change	Unit of Measurement	Y1 Target (2026)	Y2 Target (2027)	Y3 Target (2028)
1.1. Expand outreach to new families moving to Flagler and Volusia counties	Increase	Informational Packets	1 informational packet created	1 (continue/update)	1 (continue/update)
1.2. Expand outreach and community engagement to local residents	Increase	Number of Outreach Events	4	4	4
Activity 1.1: Expand outreach to new families moving to the counties					
Description	Organization(s) Responsible		Status	Start Date	
1.1.1. Track the number of families that need the school transfer forms	DOH-Flagler, DOH-Volusia, school districts				
1.1.2. Create information packets of local resources for children and families	DOH-Flagler, DOH-Volusia				
Activity 1.2: Expand outreach and community engagement to local residents					
Description	Organization(s) Responsible		Status	Start Date	
1.2.1. Identify areas to expand outreach (e.g., birthing centers, OB-GYN offices) and populations (e.g., middle-income)	CHIP Workgroup				
1.2.2. Expand current dissemination programs (e.g., Peach Street in Volusia to Flagler County)	Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC), DOH-Flagler, DOH-Volusia, Flagler Cares				
1.2.3. Engage in community events to disseminate resources (e.g., career fairs, re-entry initiatives)	CareerSource, ELC, Easterseals				

Health Priority Area: Health Care Access and Quality

Goal B: Increase access to primary care services in Flagler and Volusia counties ■▲

Strategy: Promote the use of and provide education surrounding preventative care services, primary care services, and telehealth services

Objective: By December 31, 2028, decrease the rate of individuals who have difficulties accessing primary care services from 36.6% to 31.6% in Flagler and Volusia counties. Anticipated Completion Date: 12/31/2028

Data Source: Flagler and Volusia CHNA, 2024

Evidence Base:

- 1) Evidence-Based Strategies for Strengthening Primary Care in the U.S. <https://www.commonwealthfund.org/blog/2022/evidence-based-strategies-strengthening-primary-care-us>
- 2) Increase the Proportion of People with Primary Care Provider [Increase the proportion of people with a usual primary care provider — AHS-07 - Healthy People 2030 | health.gov](#)

Health Disparity to be Addressed and/or Target Group: N/A

Activities	Direction of Intended Change	Unit of Measurement	Y1 Target (2026)	Y2 Target (2027)	Y3 Target (2028)
1.1. Hold educational outreach events on available primary care, preventative care, and telehealth services	Increase	Number of Educational Sessions	6	6	6

Activity 1.1: Holding educational outreach events on available primary care, preventative care, and telehealth services

Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.1.1. Provide educational opportunities on available primary care services in Flagler County	DOH-Flagler, DOH-Volusia, (Hospital(s) and FQHCs in supporting roles)		
1.1.2. Provide educational opportunities on telehealth services available in both counties	CHIP Workgroup		
1.1.3. Provide educational opportunities on preventive services available in both counties	CHIP Workgroup		

Health Priority Area: Health Care Access and Quality

Goal C: Increase the percentage of residents with health insurance in Flagler and Volusia counties ■

Strategy: Educate community members about health insurance options, how to sign up for health insurance, and increase referrals for health insurance

Objective: By December 31, 2028, decrease the percentage of residents without health insurance from 10.8% to 9.8% in Flagler County and from 11.0% to 10.0% in Volusia County. Anticipated Completion Date: 12/31/2028

Data Source: U.S. Census, Table DP03, 2023

Evidence Base:

1) Strategies for Expanding Health Insurance Coverage in Vulnerable Populations <https://odphp.health.gov/healthypeople/tools-action/browse-evidence-based-resources/strategies-expanding-health-insurance-coverage-vulnerable-populations>

Health Disparity to be Addressed and/or Target Group: N/A

Activities	Direction of Intended Change	Unit of Measurement	Y1 Target (2026)	Y2 Target (2027)	Y3 Target (2028)
1.1. Increase community resident awareness of health insurance options and how to sign up	Increase	Insurance Resource Packet; Health Insurance Marketplace Cheat Sheet	1; 1	1 (continue/update); 1 (continue/update)	1 (continue/update); 1 (continue/update)
1.2. Improve educational outreach efforts surrounding health insurance and collaboration amongst health agencies	Increase	Communication Plan Created; Number of Outreach Events	1 (communication plan)	4 (outreach events)	4 (outreach events)

Activity 1.1: Increase awareness of health insurance options and how to sign up

Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.1.1. Create insurance resource packets with information about insurance options and FQHCs	DOH-Flagler, DOH-Volusia		
1.1.2. Create a cheat sheet on how to navigate the health insurance marketplace	CHIP Workgroup		

Activity 1.2: Improve educational outreach efforts surrounding health insurance and collaboration amongst health agencies

Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.2.1. Create a communication plan for best practices on disseminating information	CHIP Workgroup		
1.2.2. Expand outreach in harder to reach areas in both counties to disseminate health insurance information	Flagler Cares, DOH-Flagler, DOH-Volusia		
1.2.3. Identify alternative methods for health insurance navigators (e.g., outreach enrollment workers, mobile outreach units)	Aza Health		

Health Priority Area: Health Care Access and Quality

Goal D: Increase access to healthcare services for older adults aged 65+ in Flagler and Volusia counties ▲

Strategy: Educate older adults aged 65+ on telehealth and provide support services to meet them where they are at (i.e., paramedicine program)

Objective: By December 31, 2028, increase the number of telehealth educational sessions for seniors from 0 to 8.
Objective: By December 31, 2028, increase the number of Flagler County residents served through the paramedicine program from 400 to 450.
Objective: By December 31, 2028, implement a community paramedicine program in Volusia County.

Anticipated Completion Date: 12/31/2028

Data Source: N/A

Evidence Base:

- 1) Actualizing Better Health and Health Care for Older Adults <https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hlthaff.2020.01470>
- 2) Telehealth Delivery of Evidence-Based Intervention within Older Adult Populations: A Scoping Review <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC10602794/>

Health Disparity to be Addressed and/or Target Group: Adults aged 65 and older

Activities	Direction of Intended Change	Unit of Measurement	Y1 Target (2026)	Y2 Target (2027)	Y3 Target (2028)
1.1. Implement educational outreach sessions on using telehealth services for adults aged 65 and older	Increase	Telehealth Educational Sessions	2	4	4
1.2. Expand the current paramedicine program in Flagler County and implement a paramedicine program in Volusia County	Increase	Number of Community Members Served	400	425	450

Activity 1.1: Implement educational outreach sessions on using telehealth services for adults aged 65 and older

Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.1.1. Collaborate with local organizations to disseminate information	Council on Aging (COA), Northeast Florida Area Health Education Center (NEFAHEC), Hospitals, senior centers		
1.1.2. Identify geographical areas in the counties to hold telehealth educational sessions	CHIP Workgroup, Flagler Beach Rotary, other rotary clubs		
1.1.3. Conduct educational sessions in senior centers, libraries, and other locations to provide education about telehealth and practical skills training	CHIP Workgroup, libraries		

Activity 1.2: Expand current paramedicine program in Flagler County and implement a paramedicine program in Volusia County			
Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.2.1. Identify additional senior needs in Flagler County (e.g., partnership with community paramedicine) and identify points of entry in Volusia County	DOH-Flagler, CHIP Workgroup		
1.2.2. Expand the information the community paramedicine program is providing within Flagler County	CHIP Workgroup		
1.2.3. Utilize Flagler County paramedicine statistics to begin the process of developing and implementing a paramedicine program in Volusia County	CHIP Workgroup		

Mental Health and Disorders & Drug and Alcohol Use

Health Priority Area: Mental Health and Disorders & Drug and Alcohol Use					
Goal A: Decrease the rate of suicide in Flagler and Volusia counties ■▲					
Strategy: Increase training opportunities for suicide prevention programs, while simultaneously seeking additional funding opportunities					
Objective: By December 31, 2028, decrease the rate of suicide from 13.1 to 12.1 in Flagler County and from 18.9 to 17.9 in Volusia County. Objective: By December 31, 2028, increase the percentage of students who would call 988 if feeling overwhelmed, upset, or suicidal, from 55.8% to 60% in Flagler County and from 59.6% to 65% in Volusia County.				Anticipated Completion Date: 12/31/2028	
Data Source: FLHealthCHARTS, 2023; Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey, 2024					
Evidence Base:					
1) Suicide Prevention Resource https://www.cdc.gov/suicide/resources/prevention.html 2) Improving Suicide Prevention https://ajp.psychiatryonline.org/doi/10.1176/appi.ajp.2020.20060864					
Health Disparity to be Addressed and/or Target Group: N/A					
Other data sources: Youth Emotional Support (YES)					
Activities	Direction of Intended Change	Unit of Measurement	Y1 Target (2026)	Y2 Target (2027)	Y3 Target (2028)
1.1. Increase the number of educational materials and sessions regarding suicide and mental health to parents and youth	Increase	Number of Educational Sessions for Parents; Number of Educational Sessions for Youth	4; 4	4; 4	4; 4
1.2. Increase collaboration between local agencies to disseminate information	Increase	Number of Collaborative Meetings; Number of Resource Fairs	4 (collaborative meetings)	1 (resource fair)	1 (resource fair – continue/update)
Activity 1.1: Increase the number of educational materials and sessions regarding suicide and mental health to parents and youth					
Description	Organization(s) Responsible		Status	Start Date	
1.1.1. Disseminate flyers for suicide prevention resources and services (e.g., hotlines)	SMA Healthcare				
1.1.2. Address parental knowledge on youth mental health topics through educational materials and sessions	School districts, SMA Healthcare				
1.1.3. Increase youth knowledge on mental health and suicide awareness through educational materials and sessions outside of schools	School districts				

Activity 1.2: Increase collaboration between local agencies to disseminate information			
Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.2.1. Partner with local organizations to develop and disseminate comprehensive health information resources	SMA Healthcare		
1.2.2. Create a youth resource fair similar to the BRAVE Summit in Flagler and Volusia counties	CHIP Workgroup		
1.2.3. Identify gaps in reaching youth, families, and other community members	CHIP Workgroup		

Health Priority Area: Mental Health and Disorders & Drug and Alcohol Use

Goal B: Increase support for individuals and organizations in Flagler and Volusia counties that implement suicide prevention efforts ■▲

Strategy: Educate community members on suicide statistics for the past few years and increase education about ongoing suicide prevention and resources available in the counties

Objective: By December 31, 2028, decrease the rate of suicide from 13.1 to 12.1 in Flagler County and from 18.9 to 17.9 in Volusia County. Anticipated Completion Date: 12/31/2028

Data Source: FLHealthCHARTS, 2023

Evidence Base:

- 1) Crisis Line <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/crisis-lines>
- 2) QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Suicide Prevention Training <http://www.qprinstitute.com/>
- 3) Mental Health First Aid Training <https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/>
- 4) Models to Increase Availability of Mental Health Services <https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/toolkits/mental-health/2/availability>

Health Disparity to be Addressed and/or Target Group: N/A

Activities	Direction of Intended Change	Unit of Measurement	Y1 Target (2026)	Y2 Target (2027)	Y3 Target (2028)
1.1. Increase the number of training opportunities for community members and educational resource materials	Increase	Number of In-Person Trainings Offered to Community Members	4	4	4
1.2. Collaborate with local agencies to disseminate information regarding suicide prevention	Increase	Comprehensive Outreach Materials Created	1	1 (continue/update)	1 (continue/update)

Activity 1.1: Increase the number of training opportunities for community members and educational resource materials

Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.1.1. Evaluate and enhance the behavioral health resource directory used by 988 call takers to ensure callers receive accurate and up-to-date referrals for follow-up care in their communities	One Voice for Volusia		
1.1.2. Increase the awareness of 988 and other mental health resources in Flagler and Volusia counties	CHIP Workgroup		
1.1.3. Increase community members' training (e.g., QPR, Mental Health First Aid)	CHIP Workgroup		

Activity 1.2: Collaborate with local agencies to disseminate information regarding suicide prevention

Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.2.1. Identify agencies that have suicide prevention resources	CHIP Workgroup		
1.2.2. Collaborate on developing comprehensive outreach materials about suicide prevention	CHIP Workgroup		

Health Priority Area: Mental Health and Disorders & Drug and Alcohol Use

Goal C: Increase mental health targeted case management in Flagler and Volusia counties

Strategy: Increase the capacity of targeted case management certified to work with adults and children

Objective: By December 31, 2028, increase the number of mental health targeted case managers by unknown to known in Flagler County and by unknown to known in Volusia County.*

Anticipated Completion Date: 12/31/2028

Data Source: N/A

Evidence Base:

- 1) Stabilizing Young People Transitioning to Adulthood https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/103583/stabilizing-young-people-transitioning-to-adulthood_2.pdf
- 2) Caseload Management <https://www.childwelfare.gov/resources/caseload-and-workload-management/>
- 3) Children’s Home Society of Florida Targeted Case Management <https://chsfl.org/services/targeted-case-management/>
- 4) TCM Benefits Report for Congress (2008) <https://ccf.georgetown.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Medicaid-Targeted-Case-Management-TCM-Benefits.pdf>
- 5) AHCA Mental Health TCM <https://ahca.myflorida.com/medicaid/medicaid-policy-quality-and-operations/medicaid-policy-and-quality/medicaid-policy/medical-and-behavioral-health-coverage-policy/behavioral-health-and-health-facilities/mental-health-targeted-case-management>

Health Disparity to be Addressed and/or Target Group: N/A

Activities	Direction of Intended Change	Unit of Measurement	Y1 Target (2026)	Y2 Target (2027)	Y3 Target (2028)
1.1. Identify targeted case managers in Flagler and Volusia counties to develop baseline numbers	Increase	Number of Collaborative Meetings	4	4	4
1.2. Expand the capacity of case managers to serve more populations/areas within the counties	Increase	Number of Targeted Case Managers Certified to Work with Adults and Children	1 List of Targeted Case Managers & Potential Personnel	1 (continue/update)	1 (continue/update)

Activity 1.1: Identify targeted case managers in Flagler and Volusia counties to develop baseline numbers

Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.1.1. Find a baseline number of mental health targeted case managers in Flagler and Volusia counties	CHIP Workgroup		
1.1.2. Collaborate with local youth mental health counselors to identify youth needs	School districts, Flagler Cares, Volusia County Schools		

Activity 1.2: Expand the capacity of case managers to serve more populations/areas within the counties

Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.2.1. Expand the capacity of case managers to bridge the gap for children transitioning into adulthood through targeting case management certification and better collaboration/coordination between organizations	Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF)		

1.2.2. Increase awareness of telehealth-based mental health services through educational materials	CHIP Workgroup		
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*The objective numbers will be established with the completion of Activity 1.1.

Health Priority Area: Mental Health and Disorders & Drug and Alcohol Use

Goal D: Decrease substance use among middle and high school students in Flagler and Volusia counties ■ ▲

Strategy: Increase youth peer training and prevention efforts focused on substance use in schools

Objective: By December 31, 2028, decrease the rate of youth who reported using the following substances *in their lifetime* in Flagler and Volusia counties:

- Alcohol: 24.4% to 22.4% in Flagler County & 37.2% to 35.2% in Volusia County
- Cigarettes: 6.5% to 5.5% in Flagler County & 9.0% to 8.0% in Volusia County
- E-cigarettes & Vaporizers: 15.0% to 13.0% in Flagler County & 21.9% to 19.9% in Volusia County
- Marijuana: 13.9% to 11.9% in Flagler County & 20.3% to 18.3% in Volusia County
- Any Illicit Drug: 18.8% to 16.8% in Flagler County & 26.2% to 24.2% in Volusia County

Objective: By December 31, 2028, decrease the rate of youth who reported using the following substances *in the past 30 days* in Flagler and Volusia counties:

- Alcohol: 8.4% to 7.4% in Flagler County & 15.8% to 13.8% in Volusia County
- Cigarettes: 0.4% to 0% in Flagler County & 1.5% to 0.5% in Volusia County
- E-cigarettes & Vaporizers: 4.7% to 3.7% in Flagler County & 10.1% to 9.1% in Volusia County
- Marijuana: 4.7% to 3.7% in Flagler County & 11.6% to 9.6% in Volusia County
- Any Illicit Drug: 7.3% to 6.3% in Flagler County & 14.2% to 12.2% in Volusia County

Anticipated Completion Date: 12/31/2028

Data Source: Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey, 2024

Evidence Base:

- 1) SAMHSA Preventing Alcohol Misuse <https://library.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/pep22-06-01-006.pdf>
- 2) SAMHSA Reducing Vaping <https://www.samhsa.gov/resource/ebp/reducing-vaping-among-youth-young-adults>
- 3) SAMHSA Guide for School Administrators <https://library.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/tthy-student-assistance-guide-pep19-03-01-001.pdf>

Health Disparity to be Addressed and/or Target Group: Middle and High School Students

Activities	Direction of Intended Change	Unit of Measurement	Y1 Target (2026)	Y2 Target (2027)	Y3 Target (2028)
1.1. Increase youth peer training opportunities and prevention efforts	Increase	Number of Outreach Events; Number of Peer-to-Peer Programs Implemented	4 (outreach events); 2 (peer-to-peer programs)	4 (outreach events); 2 (peer-to-peer programs sustained)	4 (outreach events); 2 (peer-to-peer programs sustained)

Activity 1.1: Increase youth peer training opportunities and prevention efforts

Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.1.1. Perform outreach in youth-based areas	CHIP Workgroup, VRA Flagler Areas to Target: Community programs Volusia Areas to Target: Community centers, sports programs, arts programs		
1.1.2. Research/Implement peer-to-peer programs in schools with teachers	School districts		

1.1.3. Encourage collaboration among local agencies to assist with the development and implementation of youth peer training and prevention initiatives	VRA		
1.1.4. Create programs and initiatives focused on youth peer training and prevention	VRA, Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT)		
1.1.5. Increase presentations/videos to youth and parents (e.g., parental knowledge/education, parent cafes)	School districts, Sheriff's Office, Boys & Girls Club, SWAT, DCF, CivCom		

Health Priority Area: Mental Health and Disorders & Drug and Alcohol Use

Goal E: Improve mental health among middle and high school students in Flagler and Volusia counties ▲

Strategy: Increase the number of peer-to-peer and SWAT programs offered in schools and after-school programs

Objective: By December 31, 2028, decrease the rate of students who felt sad or hopeless from 31.8% to 26.8% in Flagler County and from 32.9% to 27.9% in Volusia County. Anticipated Completion Date: 12/31/2028

Data Source: Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey, 2024

Evidence Base:

1) SAMHSA Guide for School Administrators <https://library.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/tthy-student-assistance-guide-pep19-03-01-001.pdf>

Health Disparity to be Addressed and/or Target Group: Middle and High School Students

Activities	Direction of Intended Change	Unit of Measurement	Y1 Target (2026)	Y2 Target (2027)	Y3 Target (2028)
1.1. Increase the number of peer-to-peer programs offered in schools	Increase	Evidence-Based Practices Implemented; Number of SWAT Programs	1; 2	1; 2	1; 2
1.2. Increase awareness of mental health resources for youths	Increase	Number of Collaborative Meetings	2	2	2

Activity 1.1: Increase the number of peer-to-peer and youth-based programs offered in schools

Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.1.1. Research evidence-based best practices for youth programs and how to meet students where they are (e.g., peer-to-peer, educational tours, alternative transportation options)	Me In Progress (Easterseals), school districts		
1.1.2. Implement evidence-based best practices identified in the counties	CHIP Workgroup		
1.1.3. Promote the use of SWAT programs in schools	CHIP Workgroup		

Activity 1.2: Increase awareness of mental health resources for youths

Description	Organization(s) Responsible	Status	Start Date
1.2.1. Promote information sharing among local agencies currently providing mental health resources and serving youth	Law enforcement, school districts/School Resource Officer (SRO), faith-based community organizations		