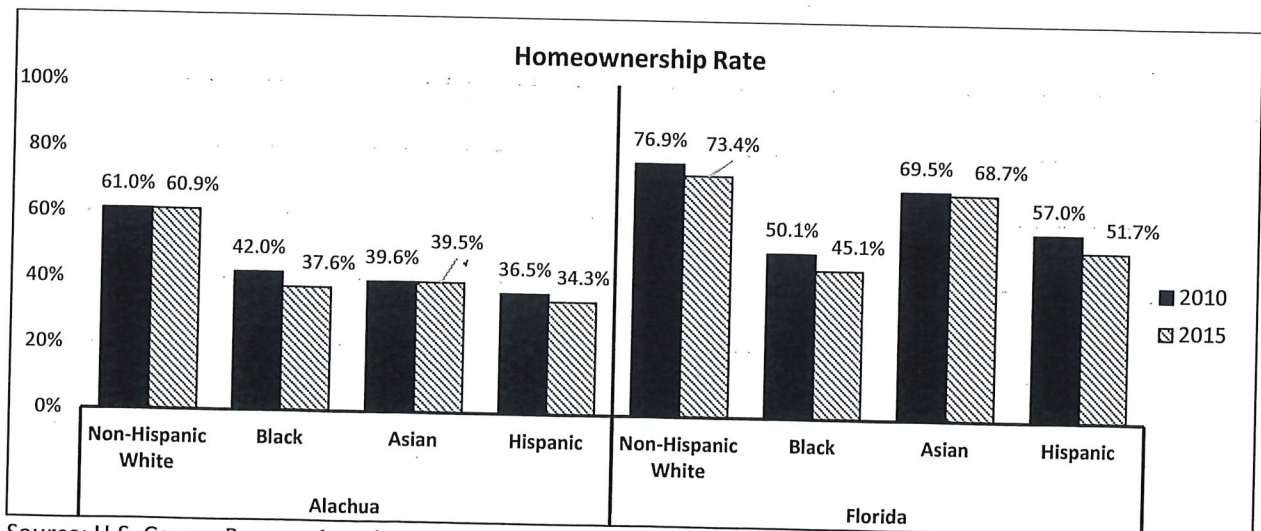


Source: Florida Department of Education.

Fourth, though minority populations have lived in this area for generations; they haven't been able to accumulate wealth to pass on to future generations. Wealth and income are very different issues. Wealth includes assets that a person can draw upon in a time of need. Owning a home or property of any sort allows a person to have collateral for a loan if an emergency were to happen. The homes on the east side of Gainesville, where a large portion of minorities live, are worth far less than those in other areas of the city. This reduces the resources available to minority families in a time of emergency.

As mentioned previously, the lack of wealth also drives development away from the area because businesses want customers who are able to afford their products and who can make purchases on a regular basis. This lack of wealth also reduces the tax base that can be used for schools and other basic needs.

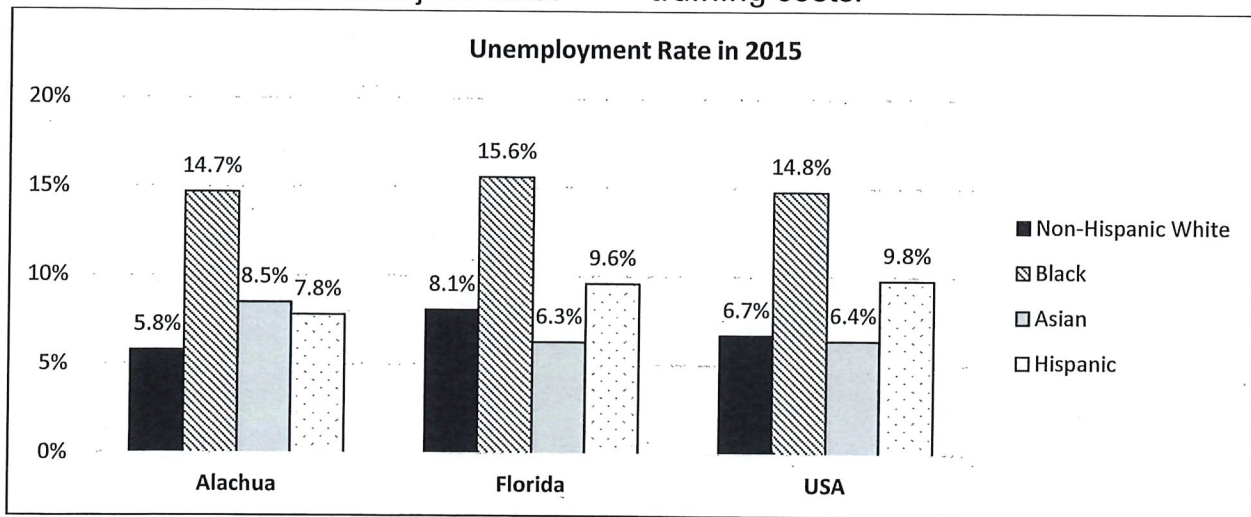
A fifth issue in Alachua County is related to the labor market. A mismatch exists between the skills acquired and the skills needed. On the supply side, there is a disproportionately higher percentage of minorities with lower educational levels



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates.

and skills. This disproportionality is most pronounced among African Americans.²⁷ On the demand side, approximately two-thirds of the jobs require postsecondary vocational training, an associate's or higher college degree.²⁸ Furthermore, the highest paying occupations represent one-third of the jobs in the county and are in occupations such as legal; health diagnosing and treating practitioners and other healthcare technical; management, business, and financial; and computer, engineering, and science and most of these jobs require a fairly high degree of education.²⁹ And while jobs exist

for both higher and lower skill workers, the labor market shows a higher unemployment rate for lower skill workers in the county.³⁰ One possible contributing factor to this disparity is that some of the lower skill jobs in the area could employ residents without a higher level of education, but they are sometimes filled with college students who have some advantages over lower skill minority applicants in the eyes of employers. College students can be highly flexible with their schedule and usually have an advanced knowledge of technology that may reduce training costs.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates.

²⁷ According to the 2011-2015 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates, around 46.2 percent of non-Hispanic Whites have a bachelor's degree or higher and only 5.2 percent have less than high school diploma in Alachua County. In contrast, 16.3 percent of African Americans have a bachelor's degree and 15.4 percent have less than a high school diploma. Around 39.7 percent of Hispanics have a bachelor's degree or higher and only 9.5 percent have less than a high school diploma.

²⁸ According to the estimates of employment by occupation in 2015 from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, around 30.1 percent of jobs require a minimum educational level of postsecondary vocational training to enter the occupation, 37.3 percent require at least an associate's degree, and 30.2 percent require a high school diploma or less.

²⁹ Occupational categories are according to the U.S. Standard Occupational Classification System. According to the 2011-2015 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates,

the estimated median earnings in the past 12 months (in 2015 dollars) for legal occupations was \$62,778, for health diagnosing and treating practitioners and other healthcare technical occupations was \$63,222, for management, business, and financial occupations was \$49,841, and for computer, engineering, and science occupations was \$46,363. These occupations account for 30.9 percent of the total employment in the county. Required educational level data on jobs and occupations are from Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

³⁰ According to the 2011-2015 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates, around 16.9 percent of those with less than a high school diploma were unemployed in Alachua County, while only 8 percent of those with a high school diploma, 7.5 percent of those with some college or an associate's degree, and 2.9 percent of those with a bachelor's degree or more were unemployed.