

Greetings from

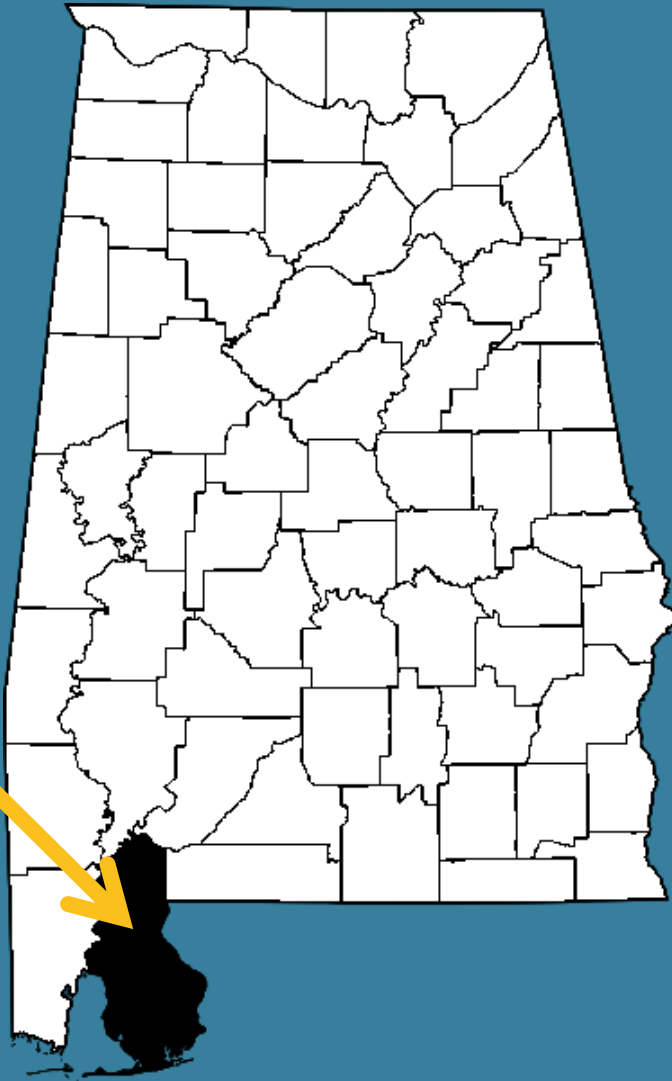
Baldwin County, Alabama



Source: [http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/46/Morning\\_at\\_Gulf\\_State\\_Park.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/46/Morning_at_Gulf_State_Park.jpg)

Casey Spreen

**Baldwin County,  
Alabama**



**Gulf of Mexico**

# Background

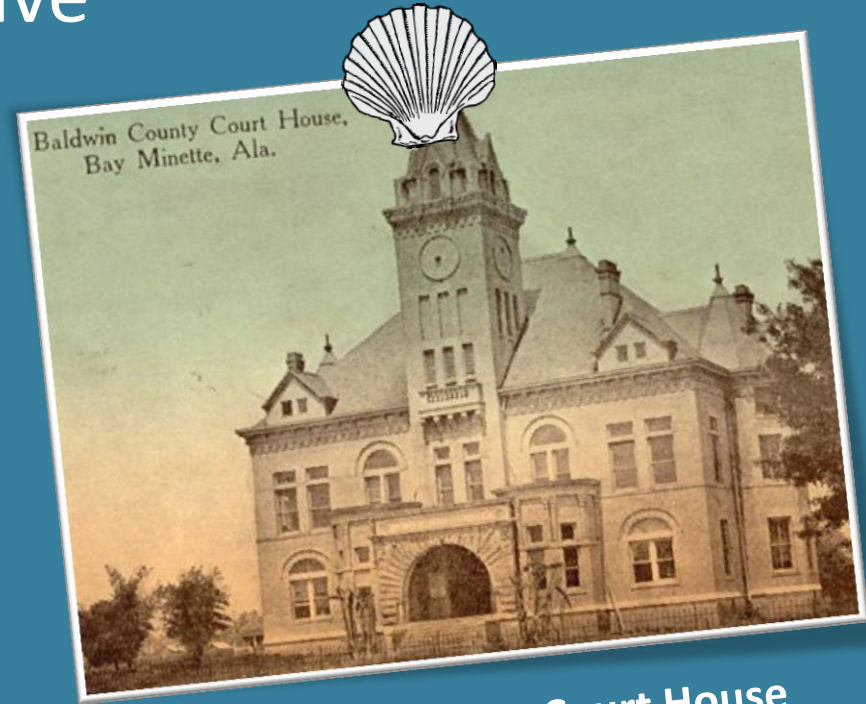
- Population: 190,790 in 2012
- 14 incorporated municipalities
- Majority of population resides in unincorporated, rural areas
- Main industry: Tourism
- Average temperature: 67° F



Image source: [http://www.baldwincountyal.gov/PageView.asp?edit\\_id=481](http://www.baldwincountyal.gov/PageView.asp?edit_id=481)

# Government

- Congressional Representative
  - White, male, & Republican
  - Supports Veterans, pro-life
- County Commissioners
  - White, male, & Republican



**Baldwin County Court House**

Image source: <http://courthousehistory.com/gallery/states/alabama/counties/baldwin>



# Social Activities

- **Celebrations**
  - Mardi Gras
  - Jubilee – Daphne
  - Strawberry Festival
- **Religion**
  - Evangelical Protestants - 57,986 people
  - Black Protestants - 3,130 people
  - Mainline Protestants - 20,075 people
  - Catholics - 14,009 people
  - 1,528 people identified with other religions



**Baldwin County Strawberry Festival**

# Population Growth & Immigration

- **Population Growth**

- **2000** - 140,415

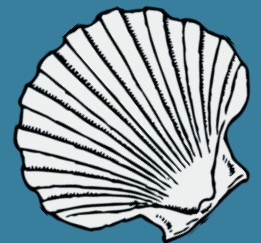
- **2010** - 183,275

- **2011** - 186,830

- **2012** - 190,790

- **2000** - 1.8% of the population, or 2,466 people, was Hispanic

- **2010** - 4.4% of the population, or 7,992 people, was Hispanic



# Education

- Funding issues due to population growth
- Ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> to last in spending per student
- If educational quality decreases, children are not going to be prepared for the next grade level
- More importantly, they will not be prepared for the future
- Need new buildings, expansions
- Slow progress in special education programs

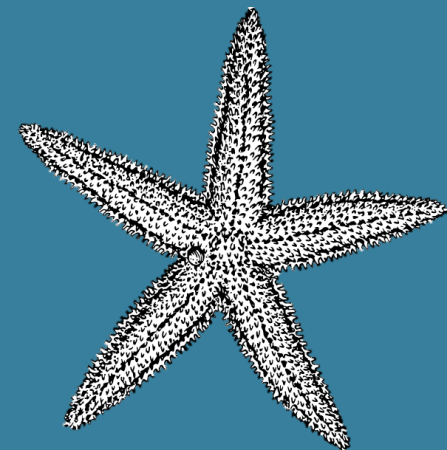


Image source: <http://fox10tv.com/2014/04/29/15304/>



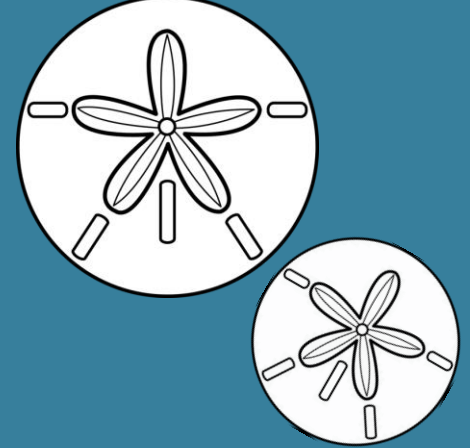
# Medical Services

- Thomas Hospital
- Health professional shortage
  - Primary medical care
  - Dental care
  - Mental health care
  - Need for medical care providers for low-income population
  - Lack of suicide prevention programs





# Economy



- Jobs
  - Government positions, school board
  - Tourism
- Economic growth in Mobile, the closest major city
- Baldwin County Economic Development Alliance (BCEDA)
- Effects of BP Oil Spill



Sales and lodging tax data collected from across the Gulf Coast show a clear pattern of winners and losers resulting from the oil spill.

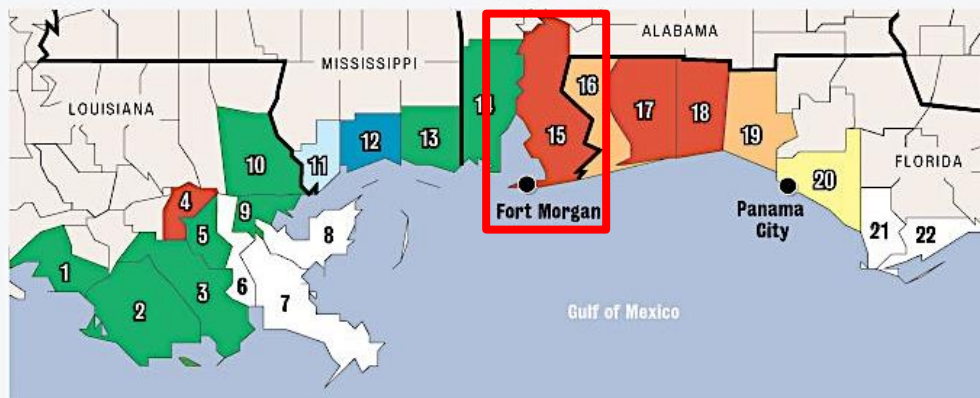


### SALES

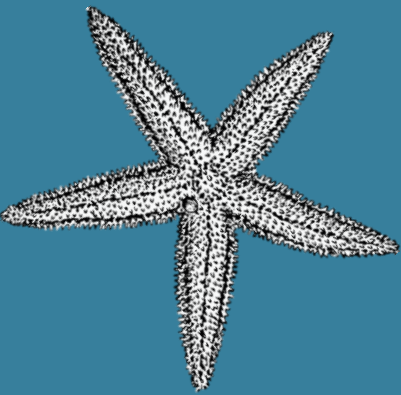


1 St. Mary (+18.91%)	7 Plaquemines (N/A)	13 Jackson (-2.43%)	19 Walton (-7.26%)
2 Terrebonne (+0.42%)	8 St. Bernard (N/A)	14 Mobile (+7.65%)	20 Bay (-3.31%)
3 Lafourche (+3.95%)	9 Orleans (+8.33%)	15 Baldwin (-5.63%)	21 Gulf (+4.65%)
4 St. John (-41.37%)	10 St. Tammany (-2.55%)	16 Escambia (-1.48%)	22 Franklin (+4.69%)
5 St. Charles (-2.71%)	11 Hancock (-12.46%)	17 Santa Rosa (-2.44%)	
6 Jefferson (N/A)	12 Harrison (+0.74%)	18 Okaloosa (-6.34%)	

### LODGING

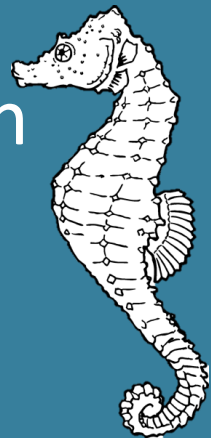


1 St. Mary (+89.85%)	7 Plaquemines (N/A)	13 Jackson (+26.99%)	19 Walton (-12.3%)
2 Terrebonne (+117.5%)	8 St. Bernard (N/A)	14 Mobile (+54%)	20 Bay (-7.4%)
3 Lafourche (+84.77%)	9 Orleans (+30.95%)	15 Baldwin (-33.2%)	21 Gulf (N/A)
4 St. John (-31.93%)	10 St. Tammany (+47.11%)	16 Escambia (-10.4%)	22 Franklin (N/A)
5 St. Charles (+38.53%)	11 Hancock (+3.14%)	17 Santa Rosa (-24.8%)	
6 Jefferson (N/A)	12 Harrison (+13.93%)	18 Okaloosa (-24.1%)	

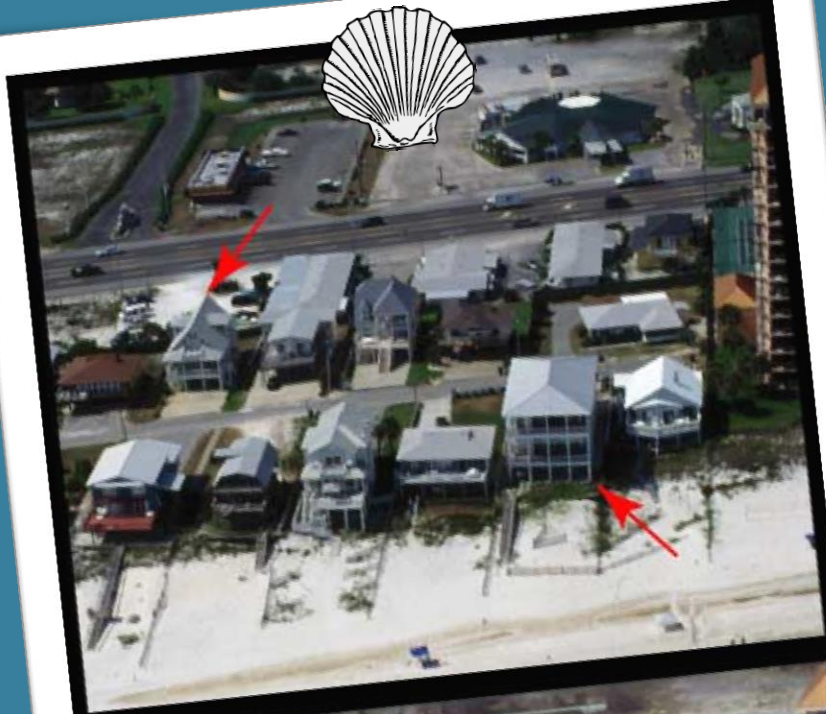


# Environmental Issues

- Hurricanes/Tropical Storms
- BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill
- Contaminates in water supply due to meth waste
- Farmers selling land to developers
- Erosion, sedimentation due to construction







Orange Beach, AL  
Before & After Hurricane Ivan



Orange Beach, AL  
Before & After Hurricane Ivan

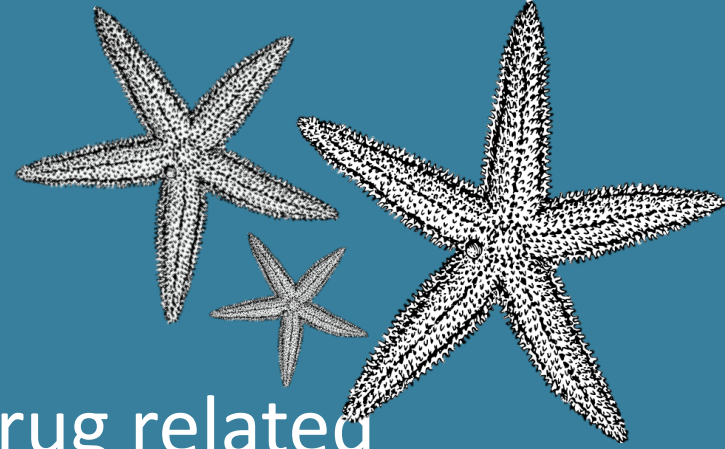


## Gulf Shores Beach Clean Up After BP Oil Spill

Source: <http://www.offshoreenergytoday.com/hurricane-isaac-uncovers-macondo-oil/>



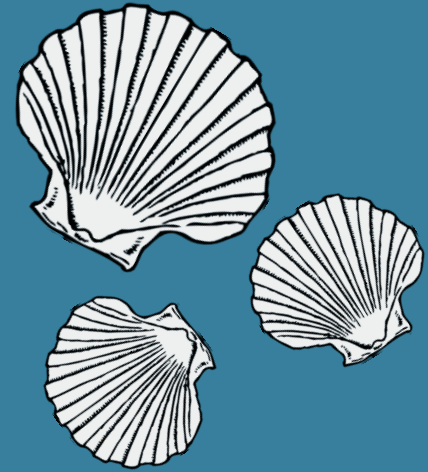
# Crime



- 90% of crimes believed to drug related
- Increase in crime rates in Baldwin County following the BP oil spill
  - Economic desperation
- Number of burglaries increased in 2011, following the return of the tourism industry along the Gulf Coast



# Housing



- **2010**
  - 105,267 housing units
  - 11,742 mobile homes
  - 220 boats, RV, vans, or other vehicles recognized as living structures
  - 449 lacked complete plumbing facilities
  - 905 lacked complete kitchen facilities
  - 2,302 households without telephone service

# Racial Tensions

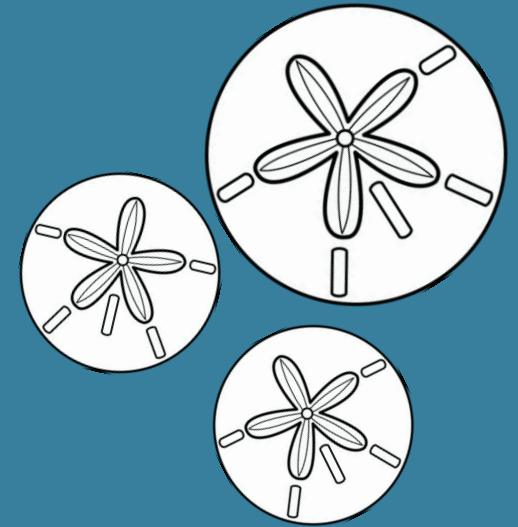
- Culture & social hierarchy
- Poverty disproportionately affects minorities in Baldwin County
- Unemployment
  - 7.7% of white population
  - 12.0% of black population
  - 13.3% of Hispanic population



**Separate housing for blacks in Mobile, AL during segregation.**

Image source: [http://www-tc.pbs.org/thewar/images/inline\\_pics/at-home-cr-min\\_22.jpg](http://www-tc.pbs.org/thewar/images/inline_pics/at-home-cr-min_22.jpg)

# Poverty



- **2000**
  - Population: 140,415
  - Individual poverty rate: 10.1%
  - Family poverty rate: 7.6%
- **2010**
  - Population: 182,265
  - Individual poverty rate: 13.1%
  - Family poverty rate: 9.5%
- **Causes**
  - Increase in minority population, specifically Hispanics
  - Economy
  - Types of jobs

	Baldwin County, Alabama					
	Total		Below poverty level		Percent below poverty level	
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error
<b>Population for whom poverty status is determined</b>	180,970	+/-435	24,002	+/-2,188	13.3%	+/-1.2
One race	178,093	+/-657	22,954	+/-2,139	12.9%	+/-1.2
White	156,783	+/-808	15,427	+/-1,932	9.8%	+/-1.2
Black or African American	16,305	+/-491	5,907	+/-1,083	36.2%	+/-6.4
American Indian and Alaska Native	1,022	+/-257	336	+/-199	32.9%	+/-19.1
Asian	1,334	+/-174	377	+/-139	28.3%	+/-11.1
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	4	+/-8	0	+/-28	0.0%	+/-100.0
Some other race	2,645	+/-805	907	+/-533	34.3%	+/-18.0
Two or more races	2,877	+/-517	1,048	+/-449	36.4%	+/-11.7
Hispanic or Latino origin (of any race)	7,878	+/-33	2,322	+/-613	29.5%	+/-7.8
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	151,729	+/-299	14,047	+/-1,851	9.3%	+/-1.2





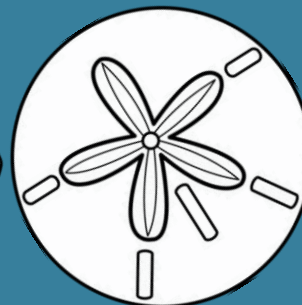
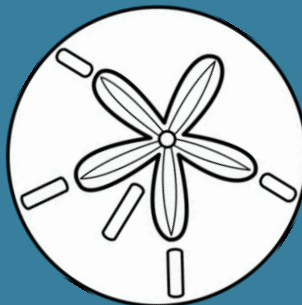
# Summary of Issues



- Extreme population growth
- Education funding
- Bad jobs
- Environmental issues
- Lack of diversity representing county
- Racial tensions heightened by immigration
- Drug problems
- Tourists take precedence over locals

# Future Implications

- Economic development is not the same as poverty policy and programming
- Need more employment positions that offer benefits, living wages, and training
- Education funding
- Must prevent further environmental harm through zoning
- Baldwin County needs to realize the importance of investing in its citizens, which will hopefully be emphasized through further action and discussion within the BCEDA



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