

# What We Know About Our Community

## ▶ Occupational Employment & Wages (Valdosta, 2022)

- ▶ Average Hourly Wage
  - Valdosta MSA – \$21.06
  - U.S. – \$29.76

*“Workers in the Valdosta, GA Metropolitan Statistical Area had an average (mean) hourly wage of \$21.06 in May 2022, 29 percent below the nationwide average of \$29.76...wages in the local area were lower than their respective national averages in 21 of the 22 major occupational groups.*

## ▶ Household Survival Budget (ALICE, 2023)

- ▶ Berrien – 54% (below)
- ▶ Brooks – 63%
- ▶ Clinch – 54%
- ▶ Cook – 59%
- ▶ Echols – 52%
- ▶ Lanier – 66%
- ▶ Lowndes – 53%
- ▶ Georgia – 48%

*When compared to the nationwide distribution, Valdosta area employment was more highly concentrated in 6 of the 22 occupational groups, including transportation and material moving, food preparation and serving related, and sales and related. Fourteen groups had employment shares significantly below their national representation, including computer and mathematical, business and financial operations, and office and administrative support.”*

*- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2022.*