

Region G
Community Health Assessment
Missouri

Developed by
Region G Public Health Collaborative

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History of Region G Public Health Collaborative

The Region G Public Health collaborative, formally organized in the fall of 2008, is comprised of nine local public health agencies (LPHA). The service area includes Carter, Douglas, Howell, Oregon, Ozark, Reynolds, Shannon, Texas, and Wright counties in rural Southern Missouri. The group first worked together in 2003 to implement a regional bioterrorism program with federal funding allocated through the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. A regional planner and epidemiologist were employed by the lead agency, Texas County Health Department. The governing boards of each agency signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and developed plans to help neighboring counties in the event of an emergency or disaster. Meetings, trainings, and group exercises allowed the agencies to work together. Friendships developed as the members became acquainted and began to trust and depend on each other. Bonds formed between the members and the group began to view themselves more as a region and less as individual counties.

The federal Delta States Rural Network Development Project, awarded in 2007, provided funding to innovatively raise the Region G collaborative yet another level. Delta project member, Douglas County Health Department (DCHD), worked directly with other local public health agencies in Region G to focus on practice management and provide professional development opportunities in a central location. The classes were presented by Rockhurst University and empowered the participants to become better leaders and managers within their own organizations. Also through the Delta Project, the DCHD administrator developed a Region G intranet system. The system allows members of the Region G Public Health Collaborative to communicate easily, share documents and policies, exchange ideas, and problem solve. The *Region G Team Web Site* was selected as a Model Practice by the National Association of County and City Health Officials' (NACCHO) Model Practice Program. The award was presented at the July 2009 NACCHO Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida.

Missouri Institute for Community Health (MICH) invited the nine Region G LPHAs to explore volunteer accreditation in January 2008. LPHA administrators shared concerns about accreditation standards and recommended changes that could make accreditation achievable for small LPHAs. With guidance from MICH, the Region G LPHAs wrote a proposal and received grant funding from NACCHO as one of 60 demonstration site projects to determine readiness of small rural health departments to pursue national accreditation. The project was completed in November 2008.

The group chose a NACCHO approved consultant from Iowa to bring the group into a "formalized" collaborative through development of a three-year strategic plan and a charter. One of the top priorities of the plan was to collectively complete a regional community health assessment. Missouri Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) requires LPHAs to complete an individual county community health assessment every three years. Region G LPHAs determined that a regional assessment, completed with help from a university school of public health would enable them to compare data collected within the county to regional and state measures. This assessment could assist the collaborative in seeking funding for the group as the data would be compelling coming from a regional viewpoint. The group identified Missouri state Laws and Statutes that allowed LPHAs to contract with each other and developed a legally binding Charter that formalized the Region G Public Health Collaborative.

An initial gap assessment identified the lack of a working relationship with academia and the lack of participation in a research project. The Collaborative contracted with Southeast Missouri State University School of Public Health in 2009 to complete a regional community health assessment.

MICH offered Region G one of the first 3-year Mini Collaborative opportunities to focus on quality improvement (QI) education for each LPHA as a part of the journey toward Missouri voluntary accreditation. Region G worked collaboratively with Region E on a project with John Hopkins University School of Public Health to assess the readiness of the public health workforce to respond to public health emergencies. Together they also wrote a proposal for NACCHO funding to develop Excellence in Responding to Public Health Emergencies. These two projects demonstrate the ability of small rural public health agencies' ability to collaborate and blur demographic county lines and individual agendas.

The Center for Local Public Health Services (CLPHS) at DHSS provided the Collaborative with funding for fiscal year 2010 to attend computer data training and develop a balanced scorecard. This project continues the process of QI and demonstrates leadership by rural LPHAs.

The 2009 H1N1 influenza A outbreak demonstrated the strong collaboration among Region G LPHAs. Wright County Health Department took the lead in acquiring the Strategic National Stockpile and other necessary supplies and distributing them quickly throughout the region. This process saved each LPHA time and money and demonstrated the value of collaboration and partnerships.

Region G is committed to achieving voluntary state accreditation and has reaped the benefits of "stepping out of the box," losing a "silo mentality," and joining hands together across county lines, allowing the group to bring better health opportunities to all citizens.

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Introduction

A Community Health Assessment is a fundamental tool of public health practice utilizing a process of collecting and analyzing data and setting priorities for improving the health of a defined population based on data. Our aim is to describe the health of our communities, by presenting information on health status, community health needs, and available resources.

Local public health agencies in the Region G Public Health Collaborative are proud to present this report. This report is a comprehensive collection and analysis of data regarding health issues and needs in Carter, Douglas, Howell, Oregon, Ozark, Reynolds, Shannon, Texas, and Wright counties. The purpose of this assessment is to identify health issues of primary concern and establish priorities for strategic planning to effectively improve health in our communities and region.

The assessment will be shared with local, regional and state partners (government, social service agencies, businesses, health care providers, foundations, and consumers) who are positioned to partner with us to make an impact on health in our individual communities and our region. We hope utilizing this assessment will improve our collaborative efforts, especially across county lines and between the various sectors that make up the greater public health system.

Feedback from the community is an important tool in conducting a community health assessment. The assessment includes results from a community survey completed by approximately 1,000 residents of our region. Additional public comments or suggestions for community health improvement are welcomed and can be shared with local public health agencies in Region G at any time.

Valerie Reese
Administrator
Douglas County Health Department

Section I

Demographics, Education, and Socioeconomic Indicators

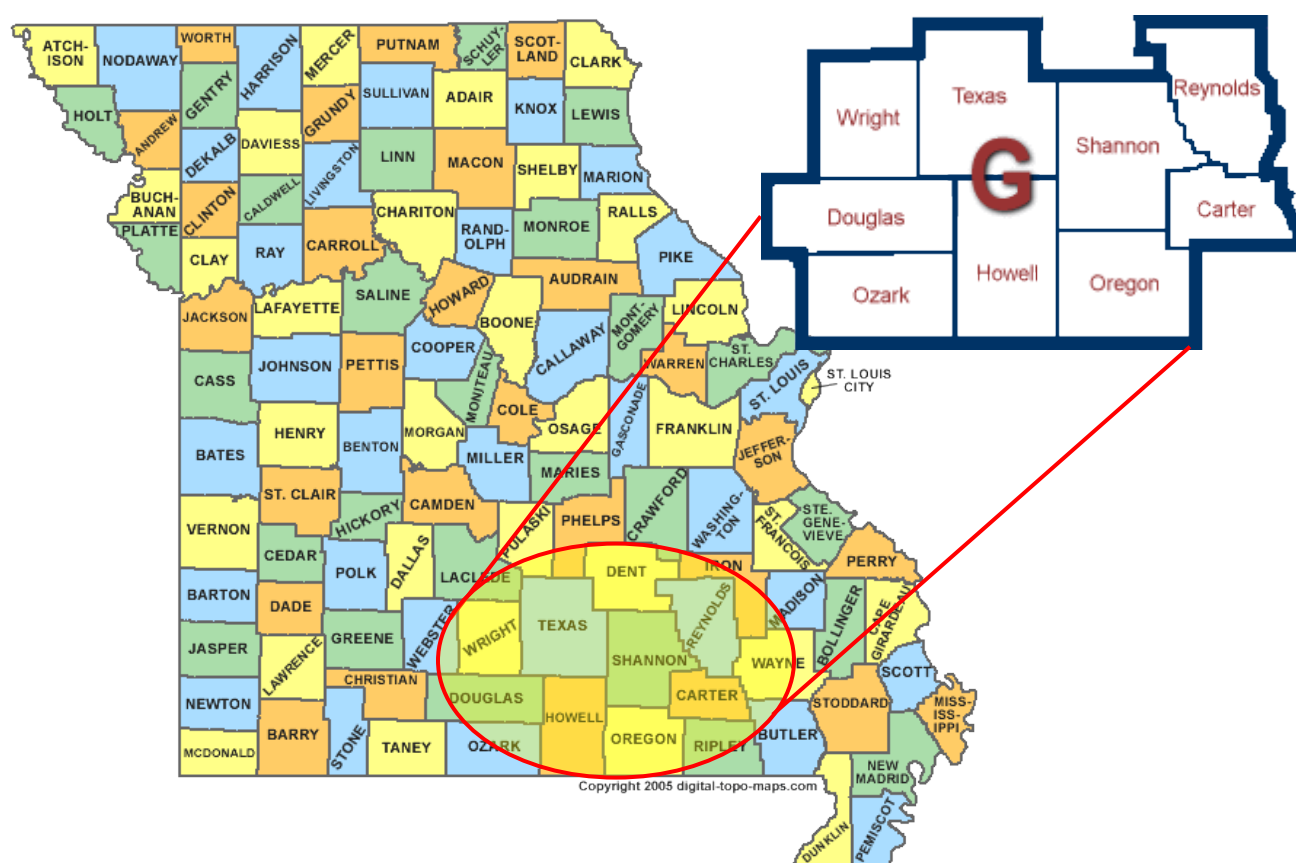
Region G Description

Region G is located in south central Missouri and is classified by the Missouri Highway Patrol regional divisions. It includes nine counties: Carter County, Douglas County, Howell County, Oregon County, Ozark County, Reynolds County, Shannon County, Texas County, and Wright County.

The total population of Region G is approximately 137,000 persons (US Census 2018 estimate), a decrease from 140,000 in 2010. The nine rural counties cover a geographical area of 7,454 square miles. The population per square mile averages 18.44 and ranges from 8.3 in Reynolds County to 43.6 per square mile in Howell County.

Region G has very little racial or ethnic diversity, with an average of 95.6% Caucasian residents. An estimated two percent of residents are Hispanic or Latino. Less than one percent of the population is foreign-born and less than two percent speak a language other than English. The primary challenge for this rural region is poverty, which results in a lack of access to health care, health insurance, healthy foods and opportunities to thrive.

Figure 1.1 Missouri Region G



Carter County

Carter County is located in the southeast corner of the Missouri Ozarks, in the central western portion of the Ozark Foothills Region of Southeast Missouri. Most of the county is within the Mark Twain National Forest. The Current River, part of the Ozark National Scenic Riverway, flows through Carter County. The county was organized on March 20, 1859, from portions of Oregon, Reynolds, Ripley, and Shannon counties. The county was named for Zimri A. Carter, a pioneer settler who came to Missouri from South Carolina in 1812.

According to the U. S. Census Bureau, the county has a total of 507 square miles. Carter County is bordered by Reynolds to the north, Wayne to the northeast, Butler to the southeast; Shannon to the west, Ripley to the south, and Oregon to the southwest.

According to the 2018 Census estimates, Carter County has a total population of 6,054 persons. The population density is 12.3 persons per square mile and 100% of residents live in an area classified as “rural.” Carter County is part of Missouri’s 153rd Legislative District and Missouri’s 3rd Senatorial District that consists of Carter, Iron, Reynolds, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, and Washington counties as well as parts of Jefferson County. In the U. S. House of Representatives, Carter County is part of Missouri’s 8th Congressional District.

Primary sources of employment in Carter County include farming, healthcare and social assistance, construction, manufacturing and retail trade.

Figure 1.2 Carter County Map



Douglas County

Douglas County is located in South Central Missouri. The county was officially organized on October 29, 1857 and is named after Stephen A. Douglas, a U. S. Senator Democratic presidential candidate.

According to the U. S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 814 square miles and a population of 13,373. The population density is 17 persons per square mile. The county has only one incorporated town, Ava, which is also the county seat. The population of Ava is approximately 2,896 (2017 estimate).

Douglas County is bordered on the northwest by Webster County; on the north by Wright County; on the southwest by Texas County; on the east by Howell County; on the south by Ozark County; on the southwest by Taney County; and on the west by Christian County. Major highways include Route 5, Route 14, Route 95, and Route 181.

Douglas County is a part of Missouri's 144th Legislative District and is also part of Missouri's 20th Senatorial District. The 20th Senatorial District consists of Christian, Douglas, and Webster counties and part of Greene County. In the U. S. House of Representatives, Douglas County is part of Missouri's 8th Congressional District.

Primary sources of employment in Douglas County include farming, manufacturing, retail trade, and construction.

Figure 1.3 Douglas County Map



Howell County

Howell County is located in South Central Missouri. Officially organized on March 2, 1851, the county is named after Josiah Howell, a pioneer settler in the Howell Valley.

According to the Census Bureau 2018 estimates, Howell County has a total area of 927 square miles and a population of 40,076. The population density is 44 persons per square mile. The largest city and county seat is West Plains, with a population of approximately 12,248 persons (2017 estimate).

Howell County is bordered on the north by Texas County; on the northeast by Shannon County; on the east by Oregon County; on the South by Fulton County, Arkansas; on the southwest by Ozark County; and on the northeast by Douglas County. Major highways include U. S. Route 160, Route 14, Route 76, and Route 142. Howell County is part of the Mark Twain National Forest.

Howell County is divided into two legislative districts in the Missouri House of Representatives. Some of the northern portion of the county is in District 143 and the remainder of the county is in District 151. Howell County is also a part of Missouri's 33rd Senatorial District that consists of Camden, Howell, Laclede, Oregon, Shannon, Texas, and Wright counties. In the U. S. House of Representatives, Howell County is part of Missouri's 8th Congressional District.

Primary sources of employment in Howell County include farming, healthcare and social assistance, retail trade, manufacturing, and accommodation and food services.

Figure 1.4 Howell County Map



Oregon County

Oregon County is located in South Central Missouri. The county was officially organized on February 14, 1845, and was named for the Oregon Territory in the northwestern United States. Home to a large area of the Mark Twain National Forest, Oregon County contains more National Forest land than any other county in the state. It is also home to the Irish Wilderness, the largest federally protected wilderness area in Missouri. Canoeing and fishing are popular on the Eleven Point River, which is Missouri's only National Wild and Scenic River.

The county seat is Alton, with a population of approximately 839 persons (US Census 2017 estimate). The largest city is Thayer, with a population of 2,148 (US Census 2017 estimate). According to the U. S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 790 square miles and a population of 10,541 (US Census 2018 estimate). The population density is 14 persons per square mile.

Oregon County is bordered on the north by Shannon County; on the northeast by Carter County; on the east by Ripley County; on the Southeast by Randolph County, Arkansas; on the south by Sharp County, Arkansas; on the southwest by Fulton County, Arkansas; and on the west by Howell County. Major highways include U. S. Route 63, U. S. Route 160, Route 19, Route 99, and Route 142.

Oregon County is part of the 153rd Legislative District and Missouri's 33rd Senatorial District that consists of Camden, Howell, Laclede, Oregon, Shannon, Texas, and Wright counties. In the U. S. House of Representatives, Oregon County is part of Missouri's 8th Congressional District.

Primary sources of employment in Oregon County include farming, healthcare and social assistance, retail trade, transportation and warehousing, and manufacturing.

Figure 1.5 Oregon County Map



Ozark County

Ozark County, officially organized on January 29, 1841, is located in South Central Missouri. The county was first called Decatur County after Commodore Stephen Decatur. The county was eventually renamed to Ozark County.

The largest city and county seat is Gainesville, with a population of approximately 732 persons (US Census 2017 estimate). According to the U. S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 745 square miles. The population density is 13 persons per square mile.

Ozark County is bordered on the north by Douglas County; on the east by Howell County; on the southeast by Fulton County, Arkansas; on the south by Baxter County, Arkansas; on the southwest by Marion County, Arkansas; and on the west by Taney County. Major highways include U. S. Route 160, Route 5, Route 95, and Route 181.

Ozark County is a part of Missouri's 143rd Legislative District and Missouri's 29th Senatorial District that consists of Barry, Lawrence, McDonald, Ozark, Stone, and Taney counties. In the U. S. House of Representatives, Ozark County is part of Missouri's 8th Congressional District.

Primary sources of employment in Ozark County include farming, retail trade, accommodation and food service, construction, and manufacturing.

Figure 1.6 Ozark County Map



Reynolds County

Reynolds County is located in the northwestern portion of the Ozark Foothills Region in Southeast Missouri. The county is near the geologic center of the Ozarks Highlands. Officially organized on February 25, 1845, the county was named in honor of Thomas Reynolds, a former governor of Missouri.

Reynolds County is bordered on the northwest by Dent County; to the northeast by Iron County; to the southeast by Wayne County; to the south by Carter County; and to the west by Shannon County. The major thoroughfares are U. S. Route 21, Route 49, Route 72, and Route 106.

Reynolds County has a total area of 808 square miles and a population density of 8 persons per square mile. The county population is approximately 6,254 persons (US Census 2018 estimate). Centerville is the county seat with 181 residents (US Census 2017 estimate). Ellington is the most populated area with 930 residents (US Census 2017 estimate).

Reynolds County is divided into two legislative districts in the Missouri House of Representatives. The extreme northwestern part of the county is in District 150 and the remainder of the county is in District 152. The county is a part of Missouri's 3rd Senatorial District. In the U. S. House of Representatives, Reynolds County is part of Missouri's 8th Congressional District.

Primary sources of employment in Ozark County include farming, healthcare and social assistance, manufacturing, retail trade, and accommodation and food service.

Figure 1.7 Reynolds County Map



Shannon County

Shannon County is located in South Central Missouri. The county was officially organized on January 29, 1841 and was named in honor of George F. “Peg-Leg” Shannon, a member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Shannon County was home to Missouri’s first copper mine that opened in 1846 and Missouri’s only manganese mine that opened during World War II.

Shannon County is the second largest county by land area in Missouri, boasting 1,003 square miles of land. It has a population of 8,189 persons (US Census 2018 estimates), resulting in a population density of just 8 persons per square mile. The county seat is Eminence, with a population of 584 persons (US Census 2017 estimate).

Shannon County is bordered on the north by Dent County; on the east by Reynolds County; on the southeast by Carter County; on the south by Oregon County; on the southwest by Howell County; and on the west by Texas County. The major thoroughfares are U. S. Route 60, Route 19, Route 99, and Route 106. Shannon County is part of the Mark Twain National Forest and the Ozark National Scenic Riverways.

Most of Shannon County is included in the 152nd Legislative District. A small portion of the county is in the 147th Legislative District. Shannon County is part of Missouri’s 33rd senatorial District that also includes Camden, Howell, Laclede, Oregon, Texas, and Wright counties. In the U. S. House of Representatives, Shannon County is part of Missouri’s 8th Congressional District.

Primary sources of employment in Shannon County include farming, manufacturing, retail trade, healthcare and social assistance, transportation and warehousing, and forestry, fishing and related activities.

Figure 1.8 Shannon County Map



Texas County

Texas County is located in South Central Missouri. The county was first named after William H. Ashley, the first lieutenant governor of Missouri. When the county was officially organized on February 14, 1845, it was renamed for the Republic of Texas.

Texas County is the largest of Missouri's 114 counties, with 1,177 square miles of land. In fact, Texas County is larger than the nation's smallest state, Rhode Island.

Texas County is one of the few counties in the United States to border as many as eight counties. The county is bordered on the north by Pulaski County; to the north by Phelps County; to the northeast by Dent County; to the east by Shannon County; to the south by Howell County; to the southwest by Douglas County; to the west by Wright County; and to the northwest by Laclede County. The major thoroughfares through the county are U. S. Route 60, U. S. Route 63, Route 17, Route 32, Route 38, and Route 137.

The county population is 25,571 (US Census 2018 estimate), resulting in a population density of 22 persons per square mile. Houston is the county seat with a population of 2,075 persons (US Census 2017 estimate). Texas County is divided into two legislative districts in the Missouri House of Representatives. Some of the eastern portions of the county are in District 144. The remainder of the county is in District 147. Texas County is also a part of Missouri's 33rd Senatorial District. In the U. S. House of Representatives, Texas County is part of Missouri's 8th Congressional District.

Primary sources of employment in Texas County include farming, retail trade, manufacturing, healthcare and social assistance, construction, and accommodation and food service.

Figure 1.9 Texas County Map



Wright County

Wright County is located in South Central Missouri. The County was officially organized in January 1841 and is named after Silas Wright, a former Congressman, a U. S. Senator and Governor of New York.

According to the U. S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 682 square miles. Wright County is bordered by Laclede County on the north; Texas County on the east; Douglas County on the south; and Webster County on the west. Major highways include U. S. Route 60, Route 5, Route 38, and Route 95. A portion of the county is located in the Mark Twain National Forest. The Gasconade River and its tributaries flow through the county.

The county population is 18,378 persons (US Census 2018 estimate). Only 609 residents live in the county seat, Hartville. Mountain Grove has a population of 4,676 persons. Mansfield has 1,255 residents, and Norwood has 661.

Wright County is a part of Missouri's 144th Legislative District and Missouri's 33rd Senatorial District. In the U. S. House of Representatives, Wright County is part of Missouri's 8th Congressional District.

Primary sources of employment in Wright County include farming, retail trade, construction, and manufacturing.

Figure 1.10 Wright County Map



Region G Demographics

Population

U. S. Census estimates indicate the population of Region G decreased by 2.5% from 140,911 persons in 2010 to 137,453 persons in 2018. This compares to overall population growth of 2.3% for the state of Missouri. Population change is shown in Figure 1.11 and Table 1.1.

Figure 1.11 Population Change, 2010 to 2018

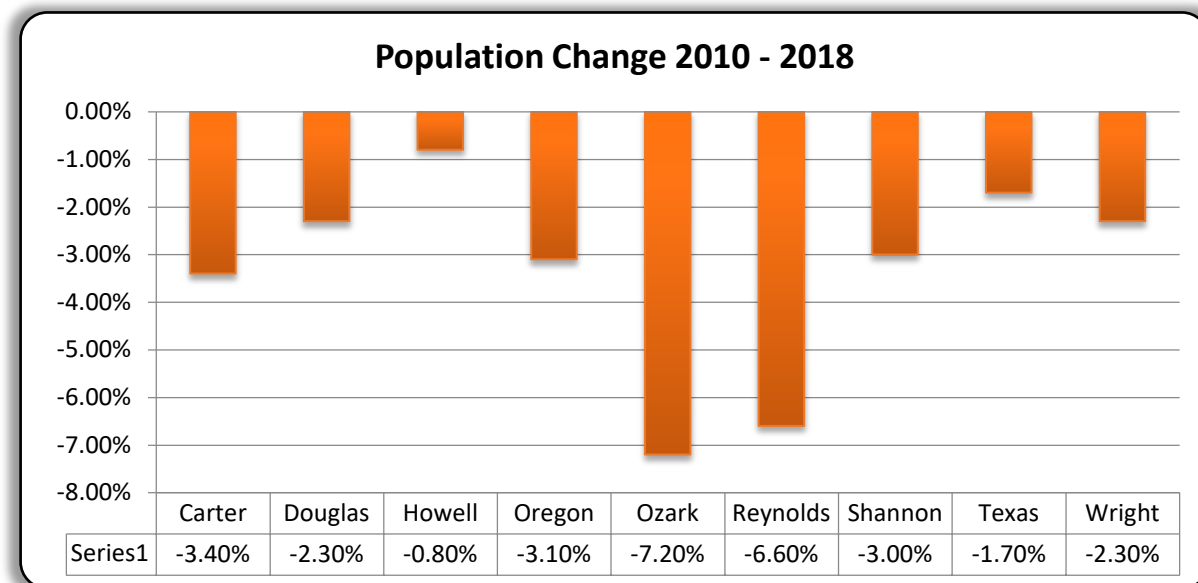


Table 1.1 Population by County, 2010 to 2018 Comparison

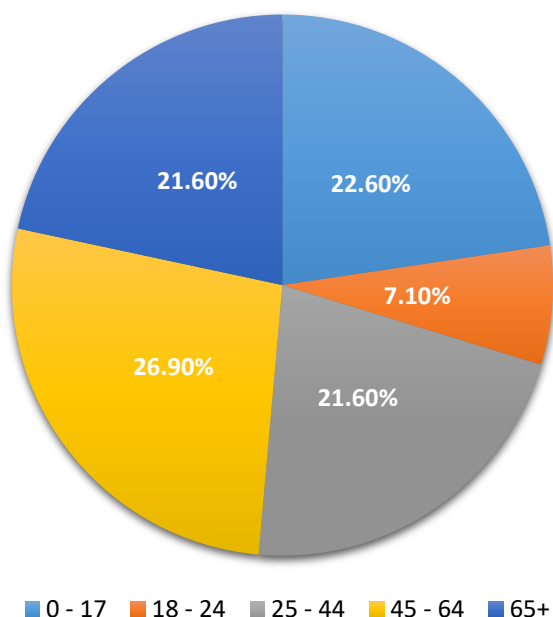
	Census 2010 Population	Estimated 2018 Population	Population Change	% Change
Carter	6,265	6,054	-211	-3.4%
Douglas	13,684	13,373	-311	-2.3%
Howell	40,400	40,076	-324	-0.8%
Oregon	10,881	10,541	-340	-3.1%
Ozark	9,723	9,017	-706	-7.2%
Reynolds	6,696	6,254	-442	-6.6%
Shannon	8,441	8,189	-252	-3.0%
Texas	26,008	25,571	-437	-1.7%
Wright	18,815	18,378	-437	-2.3%
Region G	140,913	137,453	-3,460	-2.5%
Missouri	5,988,927	6,126,452	137,525	2.3%

US Census Quick Facts. 2018 Estimates. Retrieved from www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table

Age and Gender

According to U. S. Census estimates, children under 18 years of age make up 22.6% of the population in Region G. Persons 18 – 24 years old comprise only 7.1% of the population, while those age 25 – 44 make up 21.6% and adults 45 – 64 years old make up 26.9% of the population. Persons 65 and older account for 21.6% of the population in the region. Of the five age divisions, four are fairly consistent, at a range of 21 – 27%, but the age group of 18 – 24 year olds comprises only 7.1% of the population in the region.

Figure 1.12 Comparison of Age as a Percentage of the Population, 2018



Population is fairly evenly split by gender for each age group, except for the group of 65 and older. Among this group, there is a difference of 2,187 more females than males. The smallest difference is among the age group of 45 – 64 year olds, with only 170 more females than males. Differences among the other age groups include 776 more males than females among 25 – 44 year olds, 693 more males than females among 18 – 24 year olds, and 623 more males than females among those less than 18 years old. There are more males than females among those younger than 45 and more females than males among those ages 45 and older.

Table 1.2 Population Estimates by Age and Gender, 2018

	Age 0 - 17		18 – 24		25 – 44		45 – 64		65+	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Carter	689	731	222	217	624	679	844	841	547	660
Douglas	1,496	1,423	428	382	1,359	1,323	1,846	1,862	1,563	1,691
Howell	4,830	4,710	1,618	1,520	4,613	4,707	4,868	5,258	3,571	4,381
Oregon	1,208	1,170	354	341	1,036	1,015	1,450	1,509	1,132	1,326
Ozark	878	815	260	213	783	819	1,306	1,343	1,296	1,304
Reynolds	661	560	235	186	661	643	950	909	714	735
Shannon	912	847	269	278	872	792	1,208	1,201	836	974
Texas	2,791	2,641	1,160	787	3,376	2,549	3,619	3,257	2,484	2,907
Wright	2,379	2,324	694	623	1,952	1,973	2,361	2,442	1,639	1,991
Region G	15,844	15,221	5,240	4,547	15,276	14,500	18,452	18,622	13,782	15,969

Missouri Census Data Center. Population Estimates by Age. Retrieved from <https://census.missouri.edu>

Age Distribution

The age of the population is a demographic characteristic affecting the demand for and delivery of health care services. In a county-by-county comparison, Ozark County has the lowest percentage of persons aged 0 – 44. Howell County has the highest percentage of persons aged 18 – 44, and the lowest percentage of persons aged 45 – 64 years old. Wright County has the highest percentage of children under 18 and the lowest percentage of persons 65 and older. Douglas County has a significantly higher percentage of residents 65 and older, 42.33% compared to the next highest level of 28.83% in Ozark County.

Table 1.3 shows the age distribution for the population in 2018. Table 1.5 compares Region G, state, and national estimates.

Table 1.3 Age Distribution, 2018

	Pop	Age 0 - 17		18 – 24		25 – 44		45 – 64		65+	
		Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
Carter	6,054	1,420	23.46	439	7.25	1,303	21.52	1,685	27.83	1,207	19.94
Douglas	13,373	2,919	21.83	810	6.06	2,682	20.06	3,708	27.73	3,254	42.33
Howell	40,076	9,540	23.80	3,138	7.83	9,320	23.26	10,126	25.27	7,952	19.84
Oregon	10,541	2,378	22.56	695	6.59	2,051	19.46	2,959	28.07	2,458	23.32
Ozark	9,017	1,693	18.78	473	5.25	1,602	17.77	2,649	29.38	2,600	28.83
Reynolds	6,254	1,221	19.52	421	6.73	1,304	20.85	1,859	29.72	1,449	23.17
Shannon	8,189	1,759	21.48	547	6.68	1,664	20.32	2,409	29.42	1,810	22.10
Texas	25,571	5,432	21.24	1,947	7.61	5,925	23.17	6,876	26.89	5,391	21.08
Wright	18,378	4,703	25.59	1,317	7.17	3,925	21.36	4,803	26.13	3,630	19.75

US Census Quick Facts, 2018 Estimates

Table 1.4 Population Estimates by Age Local, State and National Comparisons, 2018

	Region G	Missouri	US
Total Population	137,453	6,126,452	327,167,434
Persons under 5 years old	5.7%	6.1%	6.1%
Persons under 18 years old	22.0%	22.5%	22.4%
Persons 65 and older	22.5%	16.9%	16.0%

US Census Quick Facts, 2018 Estimates

Race and Ethnicity

According to U.S. Census population estimates, Region G's population on average is 95.6% Caucasian. All other races combined make up less than five percent (5%) of the total population in these nine counties. Population by race is shown in Figure 1.13. Population by race and ethnicity is shown in Table 1.5.

Figure 1.13 Region G Population by Race

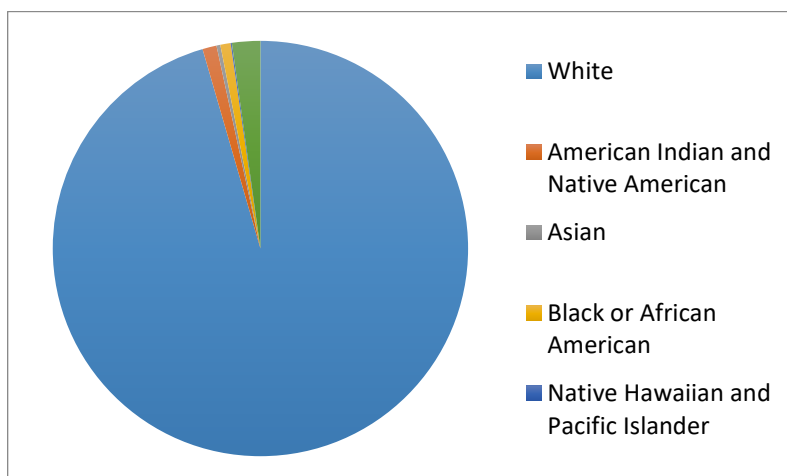


Table 1.5 Population Estimate by Race and Ethnicity, 2018

	White	American Indian and Native American	Asian	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	Two or more races	Hispanic or Latino
Carter	96.1	1.3	0.1	0.3	--	2.2	2.8
Douglas	96.2	0.9	0.3	0.4	--	2.2	1.8
Howell	95.9	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.1	1.9	2.2
Oregon	95.5	1.5	0.3	0.4	0.1	2.2	1.8
Ozark	96.5	1.1	0.2	0.2	0	2.1	1.7
Reynolds	94.8	1.1	0.2	1	--	2.8	1.7
Shannon	95.4	1.3	0.3	0.5	0.1	2.5	2.1
Texas	92.9	0.9	0.4	3.7	0.1	2.1	2.1
Wright	96.7	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.1	1.5	2.0
Region G	95.6	1.1	0.3	0.8	0.1	2.2	2.0
Missouri	83.0	0.6	2.1	11.8	0.2	2.3	4.3
US	76.5	1.3	5.9	13.4	0.2	2.7	18.3

US Census Quick Facts, 2018 Estimates

Table 1.6 Population by Origin and Language, 2010 - 2014

	Percent of Foreign Born Residents 2010 - 2014	Percent of Individuals Who Speak a Language other than English 2010 - 2014	Percent of Individuals Who Speak English "less than very well" 2010 - 2014
Carter	0.21%	1.77%	0.00%
Douglas	0.46%	1.46%	0.69%
Howell	1.85%	3.32%	1.04%
Oregon	1.16%	1.07%	0.24%
Ozark	0.41%	1.56%	0.16%
Reynolds	0.24%	1.03%	0.21%
Shannon	0.16%	2.45%	0.22%
Texas	0.69%	2.61%	0.12%
Wright	1.07%	2.32%	0.59%
Region G	0.69%	1.95%	0.36%
Missouri	3.91%	6.07%	2.24%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (EPHT). 2010 - 2014. Retrieved from https://ephtn.dhss.mo.gov/EPHTN_Data_Portal/

Education

Public School Districts

Region G includes all or part of 45 public school districts. Between 2012 and 2018, 34 districts saw a decrease in enrollment. The dropout rate decreased in 17 districts between 2012 and 2018, but increased in three districts. The largest increase occurred in the Houston R-1 district, with a 336% increase.

Table 1.7 School District Enrollment and Dropout Rate (Grades 9 – 12), 2012 to 2018 Comparison

		2012		2018	
	School District	Enrollment	Dropout Rate	Enrollment	Dropout Rate
Carter	East Carter County R-II	756	0	717	0
	Van Buren R-I	519	0.6	468	0
Dent*	Oak Hill R-I*	112	0	138	0
Douglas	Ava R-I	1,341	0.7	1,299	0.4
	Plainview R-VIII**	101	0	88	0
	Skyline R-II**	91	0	86	0
Howell	Fairview R-XI**	485	0	446	0
	Glenwood R-VIII**	275	0	227	0
	Howell Valley R-I**	195	0	192	0
	Junction Hill C12**	188	0	211	0
	Mountain View-Birch Tree	1,216	1	1,256	0
	Richards R-V**	433	0	389	0
	West Plains R-IV	2,513	1.5	2,518	1.4
	Willow Springs R-IV	1,299	0.6	1,290	0.2
Iron*	South Iron County R-I	343	0	289	1.2
Laclede*	Laclede Co. R-I	835	0.3	739	0
Oregon	Alton R-IV	742	0	647	0
	Couch R-I	229	0	197	0
	Oregon-Howell R-III	232	0	251	1.8
	Thayer R-II	639	0.6	700	0
Ozark	Bakersfield R-IV	359	0	330	0
	Dora R-III	336	2.1	297	0
	Gainesville R-V	609	0.5	626	0
	Lutie R-VI	200	6.2	138	0
	Thornfield R-I**	69	0	53	0
Reynolds	Bunker R-III	253	0	232	0
	Centerville R-1**	64	0	55	0
	Lesterville R-IV	232	0	246	0
	Southern Reynolds Co.	499	0.6	479	0
Shannon	Eminence R-I	284	0	246	0
	Winona R-III	467	0	428	0
Taney*	Bradleyville R-I	218	0	227	0

		2012		2018	
	School District	Enrollment	Dropout Rate	Enrollment	Dropout Rate
Texas	Cabool R-IV	758	2.1	728	0.9
	Houston R-I	1,020	1.4	991	6.1
	Licking R-VIII	844	2.1	839	0
	Plato R-V	621	1	540	0
	Raymondville R-VII**	129	0	128	0
	Success R-VI**	76	0	94	0
	Summersville R-II	393	0	431	0
Wayne*	Clearwater R-I	990	2	954	1.8
Wright	Hartville R-II	736	3	681	0.4
	Manes R-V**	61	0	45	0
	Mansfield R-IV	715	0.5	652	0
	Mountain Grove R-III	1,420	1	1,361	0.3
	Norwood R-I	427	0	359	0

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Annual Reporting of School District Data. Retrieved from https://apps.dese.mo.gov/MCDS/Reports/SSRS_Print.aspx.

*County is not in the report area, but includes a school district overlapping the report area.

**School district offers K-8 only, dropout rate is not reported.

High School Dropout Rates

The high school dropout rate in Region G in 2018 ranged from 0% in Shannon County to 1.3% in Ozark County and Texas County, with the largest increase in Carter County.

Table 1.8 Dropout Rate by County, 2013 to 2018 Comparison

	2013	2018	Percent Change 2011 to 2018
Carter	0.3%	0.8%	166.7%
Douglas	0.0%	0.3%	
Howell	0.9%	0.7%	-22.2%
Oregon	0.3%	0.6%	100.0%
Ozark	0.0%	1.3%	
Reynolds	0.0%	0.6%	
Shannon	0.0%	0.0%	
Texas	1.6%	1.3%	-18.75%
Wright	1.1%	0.3%	-72.7%

University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets. 2013 – 2017 data set. Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>

High School Graduation Rates

Graduation rates increased in four of the nine Region G counties between 2013 and 2017, while the rates decreased in the remaining five counties. The largest increase was 3.25% in Ozark County, and the largest decrease was 6.12% in Douglas County.

Table 1.9 Graduation Rate by County, 2013 to 2017 Comparison

	2013	2017	Percent Change
Carter	94.6	93.5	-1.16%
Douglas	98.0	92.0	-6.12%
Howell	91.5	93.4	2.08%
Oregon	95.8	93.4	-2.50%
Ozark	92.2	95.2	3.25%
Reynolds	97.1	92.5	-4.74%
Shannon	92.2	93.5	1.41%
Texas	91.0	90.7	-0.33%
Wright	94.3	96.9	2.76%
Region G (average)	94.1	93.5	
Missouri	83.90	89.23	6.35%

University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets. 2013 – 2017 data set. Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>

Educational Attainment

On average, 81.7% of Region G residents age 25 or older have a high school diploma or higher, compared to 89.2% of Missourians. An average of 12.6% of residents have a bachelor's degree or higher, compared with the Missouri average of 28.2% persons.

Table 1.10 Percent Attaining Educational Levels (persons 25 years or older), 2013 - 2017

	High School Graduate or Higher	Bachelor's degree or higher
Carter	79.4%	12.3%
Douglas	80.4%	9.4%
Howell	85.7%	15.4%
Oregon	83.9%	12.8%
Ozark	84.6%	13.6%
Reynolds	76.8%	9.8%
Shannon	81.9%	14.2%
Texas	82.3%	13.8%
Wright	80.4%	11.8%
Region G (average)	81.7%	12.6%
Missouri	89.2%	28.2%

US Census. Retrieved from <https://census.missouri.edu/educational-attainment-in-missouri/>

Adult Literacy and Health Literacy

The nine counties in Region G have a higher percentage of residents lacking basic prose literacy skills than the Missouri average, with four counties falling into the highest category in Missouri for residents lacking basic prose literacy skills (Wright 11%, Shannon 12%, Oregon 11%, and Reynolds 11%). Ten percent of residents of Douglas, Ozark, Texas, and Carter County and 8% of Howell County resident are reported to lack basic prose literacy skills.

The term “lacking basic prose literacy skills” is defined by the National Center for Education Statistics as unable to do much more than sign a form or search a simple document to find out what can be eaten before a medical test.

However, when asked in a telephone survey how easy it is for them to get advice or information about health and medical topics, on average, nine in ten of survey participants said it was “easy” or “somewhat easy.” A high percentage also reported it was “easy” to understand information from health professionals and written materials about health. The survey relied on self-assessment of understanding and access to information.

Table 1.11 Adult Literacy and Health Literacy

	Easy or Somewhat Easy to get Advice or Information about Health or Medical Topics ¹	Easy or Somewhat Easy to Understand Information from Doctors or Other Health Professionals ¹	Easy to Understand Written Information about Health ¹	Percent Lacking Basic Prose Literacy Skills ²
Carter	91.88	86.02	88.37	10%
Douglas	93.25	89.85	89.21	10%
Howell	92.71	90.50	87.85	8%
Oregon	92.15	89.60	86.68	11%
Ozark	93.77	90.33	83.59	10%
Reynolds	90.74	89.12	81.27	11%
Shannon	92.58	89.24	89.31	12%
Texas	87.60	89.76	82.19	10%
Wright	90.00	87.91	86.21	11%
Region G	91.63	89.15	86.08	10%
Missouri	93.16	91.53	91.43	7%

¹ Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA). Missouri Resident County-Level Study Profile. 2016.

² U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003 National Assessment of Adult Literacy. Includes those who scored *Below Basic* in prose and those who could not be tested due to language barriers. Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/naal/estimates/StateEstimates.aspx>.

Children with Disabilities Receiving Special Education Services

According to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, 4,704 students with disabilities received special education services during the 2019 school year, with a range from 152 students in Shannon County to 1,441 in Howell County.

Table 1.12 Students with Disabilities Receiving Special Education Services

	Intellectual Disability	Emotional Disturbance	Language Impairment	Speech Impairment	Visual Impairment	Hearing Impairment	Autism
Carter	17			32			17
Douglas	14		35	48			20
Howell	159	61	61	157		11	115
Oregon	51			44			19
Ozark	12			61			19
Reynolds	12	14		29			12
Shannon	12			19			
Texas	93	18	55	159			29
Wright	84	15	35	136			16
Region G	454	108	186	685		11	247

	Specific Learning Disability	Orthopedic Impairment; Deaf and Blindness; Traumatic Brain Injury	Multiple Disabilities	Other health Impairment or Disability	Young Child with a Developmental Delay	Total
Carter	77			62		261
Douglas	77			67	13	304
Howell	384	12		319	100	1,441
Oregon	135			114	13	411
Ozark	196			61		399
Reynolds	50			56		214
Shannon	87			201		152
Texas	230				49	878
Wright	199			70	56	644
Region G	1,435	12		950	231	4,704

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Division of Special Education, Count of Students with Disabilities. 2019 School Year. Retrieved from https://apps.dese.mo.gov/MCDS/FileDownloadWebHandler.ashx?filename=f55dd324-a127ChildCount_by_County.xls.

Notes:

County totals represent the number of children ages 3 – 21 reported by the public school districts in each county. Totals include additional students not listed in a category due to the risk of personal identification due to small numbers.

Children served by state operated programs, including Missouri School for the Blind, Missouri School for the Deaf, and Missouri School for the Severely Disabled; Division of Youth Services and Department of Corrections are not reflected in these totals.

Children are reported by their primary disability category only.

Household Characteristics

Occupancy Characteristics

According to the 2018 U.S. Census, there are 35,744 family households in Region G, of which 28,676 (80.22%) are married couple families.

Household occupancy characteristics are described in Table 1.13.

Table 1.13 Household Occupancy Characteristics, 2013 - 2017

	Carter	Douglas	Howell	Oregon	Ozark	Reynolds	Shannon	Texas	Wright
Family Households	1,510	3,631	10,862	2,905	2,698	1,891	2,041	6,196	5,010
Married-couple family	1,119	3,016	8,563	2,343	2,187	1,578	1542	4,628	3,700
Single male	93	230	642	197	242	118	104	649	356
Single female	298	385	1,657	365	269	195	395	919	954
Non-family households	893	1,542	5,342	1,470	1,377	737	1,117	3,107	2,478
Living alone	753	1,458	4,556	1,232	1,163	639	918	2,669	2,239
Not living alone	140	84	786	238	214	98	199	438	239
With related children under 18 years old	638	1,172	4,727	1,011	1,014	742	789	2,816	2,392
With own children under 18 years old	602	1,085	4,232	912	873	673	692	2,595	2,100
No related children under 18 years old	1,765	4,001	11,477	3,364	3,061	1,886	2,369	6,487	5,096
No own children under 18 years old	36	87	495	99	141	69	97	221	292

US Census. American Fact Finder. Occupancy Characteristics. 2013 – 2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Retrieved from <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=CF>

The median value of owner-occupied housing units in Region G is \$95,589 and the average monthly cost with a mortgage is \$881. Median gross rent is \$556 a month. Average household size is 2.47 persons, and on average, more than eight in ten residents of Region G were living in the same house a year ago.

Housing characteristics are described in Table 1.14.

Table 1.14 Housing Characteristics by Value, Cost, Internet Access and Size, 2013 - 2017

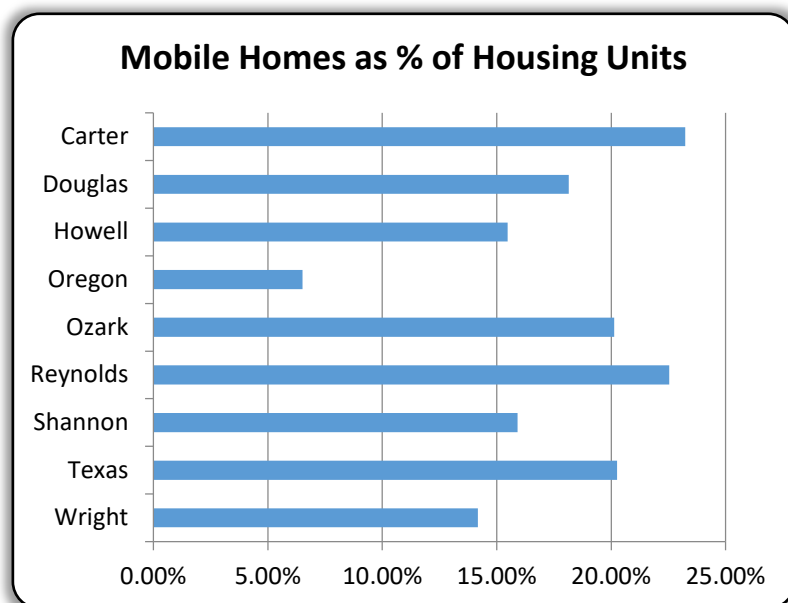
	Carter	Douglas	Howell	Oregon	Ozark	Reynolds	Shannon	Texas	Wright	Region G
Housing units (2018)	3,264	6,527	18,299	5,479	5,700	4,029	4,162	11,727	8,717	*67,904
Owner-occupied housing unit rate	72.7%	76.6%	69.2%	77.3%	78.4%	78.5%	71.7%	74.1%	68.3%	74.09%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units	\$90,400	101,700	102,200	87,200	91,800	90,300	101,400	105,800	89,500	95,589
Median selected monthly owner costs with mortgage	\$890	880	919	841	835	960	836	938	833	881
Median selected monthly owner costs without mortgage	\$305	295	319	285	283	302	273	286	278	292
Median gross rent	\$564	549	603	458	608	562	559	566	531	556
Living in same house 1 year ago	85.5%	85.4%	85.9%	88.3%	87.8%	89.1%	83.6%	85.2%	85.4%	86.24%
Households	2,403	5,173	16,204	4,375	4,075	2,628	3,158	9,303	7,488	*54,807
Persons per household	2.58	2.56	2.44	2.43	2.26	2.34	2.58	2.62	2.42	2.47
Households with a computer	76.9%	72.7%	78.6%	75.8%	71.9%	76.4%	67.8%	76.7%	75.8%	74.73%
Households with a broadband internet subscription	59.9%	54.3%	64.8%	53.5%	55.4%	63.2%	49.4%	57.9%	61.4%	57.76%

US Census Quick Facts. All data sets are 2013 – 2017 unless otherwise indicated. Region G column indicates averages and *totals.

Overcrowded Housing

As many as 23% of the homes in Carter County are mobile homes, compared to the regional average of 17.38% and the Missouri average of 6.52%.

Figure 1.14 Mobile Homes as a Percentage of Housing Units, 2010 – 2014



Six of the counties in Region G have a higher percentage of homes with no bedroom than the state average. Carter County has the highest rate, with nearly one in three homes without a bedroom.

Five of the counties also have a higher percentage of homes that are overcrowded, compared to the state average. Overcrowding rates in Region G range from 1.14% in Texas County to 2.81% in Carter County, compared to the state average of 1.61%.

Table 1.15 Percent of Units that are Mobile Homes, have No Bedroom, and are Overcrowded, 2010 - 2014

	Percent of Housing that are Mobile Homes 2010 - 2014	Percent of Housing with No Bedroom 2010 - 2014	Percent Overcrowded 2010 – 2014
Carter	23.24%	3.27%	2.81%
Douglas	18.15%	1.13%	2.15%
Howell	15.47%	1.93%	1.55%
Oregon	6.52%	1.83%	1.29%
Ozark	20.13%	2.08%	4.11%
Reynolds	22.53%	1.74%	1.38%
Shannon	15.91%	2.44%	2.39%
Texas	20.25%	1.13%	1.14%
Wright	14.18%	0.88%	2.08%
Region G	17.38%	1.83%	2.10%
Missouri	6.52%	1.52%	1.61%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (EPHT). 2005 – 2015 data set. Retrieved from https://ephtn.dhss.mo.gov/EPHTN_Data_Portal/.

Safety and Sanitation: Plumbing Facilities, Heat Source, Telephone Service

In the rural communities of south central Missouri, an average 1% of homes do not have plumbing. This is more than double the Missouri average. More than 4% of homes are without a telephone, compared to state average of 2.6% homes.

Much of Region G is densely wooded area, which likely contributes to wood burning as the main source of heat for nearly one in four homes. This compares to an average of 3.8% of homes in Missouri who burn wood for heat.

Table 1.16 Housing Characteristics by County: Plumbing, Heat and Telephone Service, 2013 - 2017

	Total Housing Units	Percent without Complete Plumbing Facilities	Percent with no Telephone Service	Percent of Units Using Utility Gas to Heat	Percent of Units Using Bottled, Tank or LP Gas to Heat	Percent of Units Using Fuel Oil or Kerosene to Heat	Percent of Units Using Wood to Heat	Percent of Units Using No Fuel to Heat
Carter	3,260	1.1%	5.4%	1.8%	27.8%	0.5%	22.5%	0
Douglas	6,519	1.1%	1.3%	14.3%	35.9%	17.3%	31.8%	0.1%
Howell	18,267	0.9%	5.7%	16%	27.6%	0.3%	14.7%	0.5%
Oregon	5,486	0.3%	7.7%	2.0%	37.0%	1.2%	26.0%	0.3%
Ozark	5,678	1.1%	3.3%	3.4%	41.3%	0.7%	21.1%	0.3%
Reynolds	4,035	0.7%	1.3%	1.4%	29.1%	0.1%	31.3%	0
Shannon	4,164	1.7%	4.2%	2.7%	37.7%	0.3%	29.4%	0
Texas	11,724	1.0%	4.5%	4.9%	32.3%	0.1%	24.7%	0.2%
Wright	8,713	0.5%	4.5%	17.4%	28.8%	0.3%	20.5%	0.6%
Region G (total/*avg)	67,846	0.9%	4.2%	7.1%	33.1%	2.3%	24.7%	0.2%
Missouri	2,763,250	0.4%	2.6%	51%	8.9%	0.2%	3.8%	0.3%

U. S. Census Bureau 2013 – 2017 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates. Selected Housing Characteristics.

<https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=CF>

Safety and Sanitation: Vacancy and Age of Residence

Vacancy rates of housing units in Region G range from 11.3% in Howell County to 34.9% in Reynolds County. Vacancy rates in eight of the nine counties are higher than the state average of 13.6%.

The average vacancy rate for rentals is higher in the region than that of homeowners, at 5.1% to 3.1% respectively. However, rental vacancy rates are actually lower than homeowner vacancy rates in three of the nine counties. The highest rate of rental vacancy is 13.0% in Oregon County, while the highest rate of homeowner vacancy is 4.9% in Carter County.

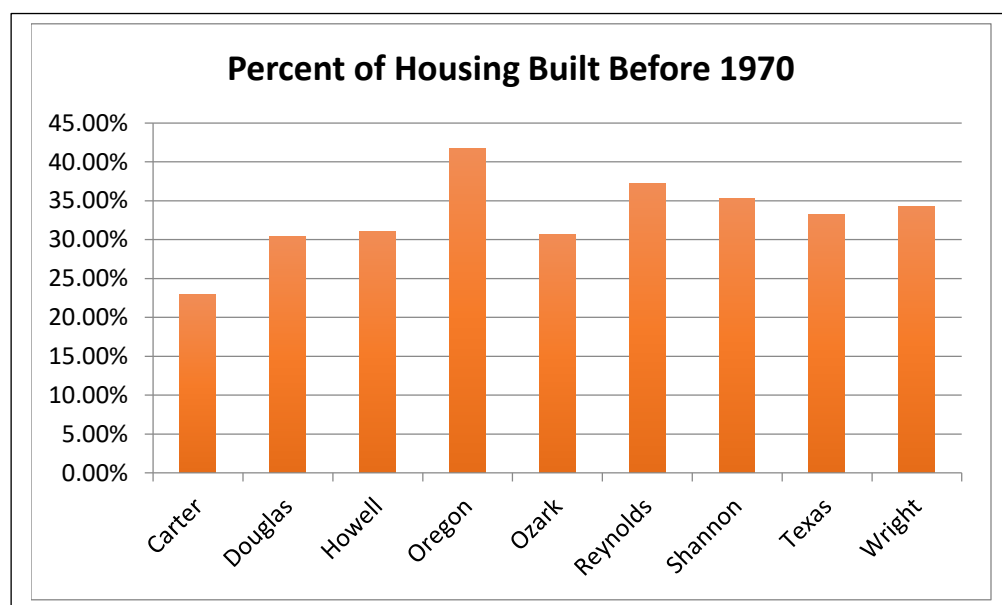
Table 1.17 Housing Characteristics by County: Vacancy and Age of Residence, 2013 - 2017

	Total Housing Units	Vacant Housing Units	Percent of Units Vacant	Homeowner Vacancy Rate	Rental Vacancy Rate	Percent of Homes Built Before 1970
Carter	3,260	857	26.2%	4.9	6.4	22.9%
Douglas	6,519	1,346	20.6%	2.0	0	30.4%
Howell	18,267	2,063	11.3%	1.7	6.7	31.1%
Oregon	5,486	1,111	20.3%	3.1	13.0	41.7%
Ozark	5,678	1,603	28.2%	4.3	3.8	30.7%
Reynolds	4,035	1,407	34.9%	2.0	2.2	37.2%
Shannon	4,164	1,006	24.2%	3.8	2.1	35.3%
Texas	11,724	2,421	20.6%	4.2	8.8	33.2%
Wright	8,713	1,225	14.1%	1.6	3.0	34.3%
Region G	67,846	13,039	22.3%	3.1	5.1	33.0%
Missouri	2,763,250	377,047	13.6%	1.9	6.7	40.8%

U. S. Census Bureau 2013 – 2017 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates. Selected Housing Characteristics.

<https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=CF>

The age of housing units in Region G is lower on average than the Missouri average. The highest rate of homes built before 1970 is found in Oregon County, with 41.7%, while the lowest rate of homes built before 1970 is found in Carter County with only 22.9%.

Figure 1.15 Percent of Housing Units Built Prior to 1970, 2013 - 2017

U. S. Census Bureau 2013 – 2017 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates. Selected Housing Characteristics.

<https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=CF>

Fair Market Rent

According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, the average fair market rent for one bedroom units in Region G was \$490.00 in 2019 compared to a statewide average of \$573.00. Fair market monthly rental rates are shown in Table 1.41.

Table 1.18 Fair Market Rent and Annual Income Needed to Afford Housing by County

	1 Bedroom Fair Market Rent	Annual Income Needed to Afford 1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom Fair Market Rent	Annual Income Needed to Afford 2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom Fair Market Rent	Annual Income Needed to Afford 3 Bedroom
Carter	\$ 494	\$19,760	\$ 653	\$ 26,120	\$ 818	\$ 32,720
Douglas	488	19,520	646	25,840	885	35,400
Howell	494	19,760	653	26,120	912	36,480
Oregon	488	19,520	646	25,840	934	37,360
Ozark	496	19,840	646	25,840	841	33,640
Reynolds	488	19,520	646	25,840	809	32,360
Shannon	488	19,520	646	25,840	809	32,360
Texas	488	19,520	646	25,840	890	35,600
Wright	488	19,520	646	25,840	832	33,280
Region G (average)	490	19,609	648	25,902	859	34,356
Missouri	573	26,239	832	33,284	1,119	44,744

National Low Income Housing Coalition, Out of Reach 2019: Missouri. Retrieved from <https://reports.nlihc.org/oor/missouri>.

Housing Affordability

The National Low Income Housing Coalition reports each year on the amount of money a household must earn in order to afford a rental unit based on Fair Market Rent and an accepted limit of 30% of income for housing costs.

In Region G the affordable rent at estimated mean renter wages is an average of \$407, which is approximately \$80 less than the fair market rent for a one-bedroom housing unit. The affordable rent for a person making minimum wage in Missouri is \$447 a month. The rent affordable for a person receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits in Missouri is \$231 a month. The imbalance of income versus rent makes nearly one in four households in Region G housing cost burdened.

Between 2008 – 2012 and 2013 – 2017, the rate of housing cost burdened households dropped for all but one of the nine Region G counties, leaving only Douglas County and Oregon County with a higher rate of housing cost burdened residents than the Missouri average.

Table 1.19 Renters Wages, Rental Affordability, and Housing Cost Burdened Households

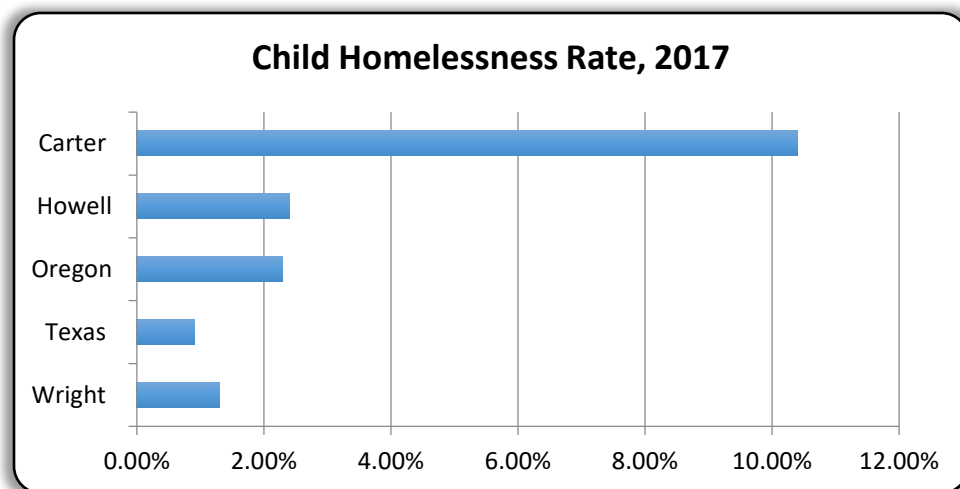
	Percent Renters ¹	Estimated Mean Renter (Hourly) Wage ¹	Rent Affordable at Mean Renter Wage ¹	Estimated Renter Median Household (Annual) Income ¹	Housing Cost Burdened Households ² 2008 – 2012	Housing Cost Burdened Households ² 2013 - 2017	Housing Cost Burdened Households Percent Change
Carter	27%	\$ 7.92	\$ 412	\$ 15,690	28.2%	25.1%	-11%
Douglas	23%	9.26	481	24,588	28.2%	27.8%	-1.418%
Howell	41%	5.94	309	15,588	27.3%	24.8%	-9.16%
Oregon	23%	5.09	265	14,362	30.8%	27.2%	-11.7%
Ozark	22%	6.34	330	18,258	24.5%	23.2%	-5.31%
Reynolds	22%	10.57	549	26,260	21.7%	20.1%	-7.37%
Shannon	28%	7.59	395	20,961	25.2%	19.5%	-22.6%
Texas	26%	8.01	416	21,100	22.7%	24.8%	9.25%
Wright	32%	9.67	503	21,965	29.4%	24.5%	-16.67%
Region G	27%	7.82	407	19,864	26.4%	24.1%	-8.71%
Missouri	33%	14.72	765	33,130	29.8%	26.8%	-10.07

¹ National Low Income Housing Coalition, Out of Reach 2019: Missouri. Retrieved from <https://reports.nlihc.org/oor/missouri>. Note: Based on minimum wage of \$8.60, effective in Missouri January 1, 2019.

² University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets. 2013 – 2017 data set. Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>.

Housing Status for Children

Child homelessness rates in Region G increased between 2013 and 2017, at a rate higher than the state average. Wright County saw a 62.5% increase, and Carter County experienced a 92.6% increase.

Figure 1.16 Child Homelessness, 2017

Nearly seven in ten (69.4%) Region G children lived in married family homes in 2017 (2013 – 2017 data). That compares to the state average of 66.2% of children, and is an increase in Region G from 65.7% in the prior reporting period (2008 – 2012).

Nearly half (48.78%) of all grandparents who live with their grandchildren in Region G are responsible for the child's care. This compares to 44.75% of grandparents across Missouri.

Table 1.20 Housing for Children by Family Marital Unit and Homelessness by County, 2019

	Children in Single-Parent Families ¹ 2008 - 2012	Children in Single-Parent Families ¹ 2013 - 2017	Children in Married Families ¹ 2008 - 2012	Children in Married Families ¹ 2013 - 2017	Percent of Grandparents Responsible for their Grandchildren, of all Grandparents Living with their Grandchildren ² 2010 - 2014	Child Homelessness ¹ 2013	Child Homelessness ¹ 2017	Child Homelessness Change 2013 to 2017
Carter	36.4%	29.5%	63.6%	68.0%	20.0%	5.4%	10.4%	92.6%
Douglas	29.7%	25.9%	69.3%	73.7%	73.21%	0.0%	0.0%	--
Howell	28.7%	29.8%	70.9%	69.7%	45.99%	3.1%	2.4%	-22.6%
Oregon	28.7%	33.8%	69.5%	64.2%	76.78%	0.0%	2.3%	
Ozark	41.8%	24.5%	58.1%	75.5%	42.40%	0.0%	0.0%	--
Reynolds	39.6%	23.2%	54.5%	74.1%	39.01%	1.3%	0.0%	-100%
Shannon	27.5%	34.7%	71.5%	64.3%	58.17%	0.0%	0.0%	--
Texas	33.5%	27.6%	64.5%	68.8%	29.87%	1.4%	0.9%	-35.7%
Wright	26.6%	33.3%	69.2%	66.7%	53.57%	0.8%	1.3%	62.5%
Region G	32.5%	29.1%	65.7%	69.4%	48.78%	1.3%	1.9%	46.2%
Missouri	33.1%	32.9%	66.0%	66.2%	44.75%	2.9%	3.7%	27.6%

¹ University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets. Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>

² Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (EPHT). 2010 – 2014 data set. Retrieved from https://ephtn.dhss.mo.gov/EPHTN_Data_Portal/.

Economic Analysis

Labor Force and Unemployment

The average travel time to work for Region G residents is 25.1 minutes, compared to the Missouri average of 23.5 minutes. There are fewer available jobs in Region G than there are persons 18 – 64 years old. However, on average, only half of Region G residents 16 and older are in the civilian workforce. This compares to 62.8% of Missourians.

In 2017, Region G had a total labor force of 53,900 persons. In 2018, nearly 61,000 jobs were provided in Region G. The average unemployment rate in 2017 for the region was 4.3%, higher than the state average of 3.5%. Oregon County and Reynolds County had unemployment rates equal to or lower than the state average in 2017. The other seven counties had a higher unemployment rate than the state average. The highest unemployment rates in the region were in Ozark County with 5.2%, Carter County with 5.1% and Shannon County with 5.0%.

Figure 1.20 Labor Force, Jobs, Travel Time to Work, and Unemployment, 2018

	Labor Force¹	% of Population in Civilian Labor Force (age 16+)²	Jobs Provided³	Jobs as Percentage of Population 18 – 64 years old²	Mean Travel Time to Work (age 16+) (in minutes)²	Unemployment Rate¹
Carter	2,513	54.3	2,502	0.73	24.6	5.1
Douglas	5,009	49.4	4,913	0.68	31.5	4.6
Howell	16,233	55.0	21,508	0.95	19.3	3.6
Oregon	3,936	50.5	4,462	0.78	20.9	3.5
Ozark	3,461	43.6	3,365	0.71	29.4	5.2
Reynolds	3,039	52.9	2,954	0.82	22.8	3.1
Shannon	3,241	47.6	3,271	0.71	25.5	5.0
Texas	9,043	46.1	9,959	0.68	24.7	4.1
Wright	7,425	50.9	8,043	0.80	27.6	4.1
Region G (total/average*)	53,900	*50.0	60,977	*0.76	*25.1	*4.3
Missouri	3,052,398	62.8	3,738,168		23.5	3.5

¹ US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Labor Force Data by County. 2018 annual averages. Retrieved from <https://www.bls.gov/lau/#cntyaa>

² US Census Quick Facts. 2013 – 2017 data set.

³ Bureau of Economic Analysis, Local Area Personal Income and Employment, Total Full Time and Part Time Employment by Industry (CAEMP25). 2017. <https://apps.bea.gov/itable/iTable.cfm?ReqID=70&step=1>

Types of Labor

In 2017, health care and social assistance was the largest employment sector for Missouri with 450,527 jobs, followed by retail trade with 384,473 jobs. In Region G, farming was the largest sector with 7,143 jobs, followed by retail trade with 6,988.

Farming was the largest employment sector for Douglas, Oregon, Texas and Wright Counties. Health care and social assistance was the largest sector for Carter, Howell and Reynolds Counties, and manufacturing was the largest major sector for Shannon County.

Table 1.21 Full-Time and Part-Time Employment by NAICS Industry, 2017

	Farm	Local Govt	Private Non-Farm	Manufactur	Healthcare and Social Assistance	Construct.	Retail Trade	Accmd. and Food Service	Transport. and Warehouse
Carter	192	325	1,843	237	300	240	218	--	116
Douglas	930	345	3,507	581	--	320	566	--	--
Howell	1,463	1,766	17,637	2,419	3,398	883	2,593	1,288	--
Oregon	737	479	3,150	228	581	158	558	161	405
Ozark	622	390	2,271	205	--	248	379	260	111
Reynolds	352	344	2,602	410	449	--	183	149	--
Shannon	437	274	2,460	590	233	--	268	--	173
Texas	1,218	1,297	6,724	953	658	580	1,151	519	482
Wright	1,192	785	5,874	534	--	584	1,072	--	328
Region G	7,143	6,005	46,068	6,157	5,619	3,013	6,988	2,377	1,615
Region G (as a % of Total Missouri Jobs)	7.4%	2.1%	1.4%	2.1%	1.2%	1.5%	1.8%	0.8%	1.2%

Bureau of Economic Analysis, Local Area Personal Income and Employment, Total Full Time and Part Time Employment by Industry (CAEMP25). 2017. Retrieved from <https://apps.bea.gov/itable/itable.cfm?ReqID=70&step=1>

Note: Table reflects the top industries for Region G. Not all job types are included. Dashes reflect no data for this job type.

Income: Median Household Income and Per Capita Income

In 2017, the median household income for Region G was \$34,258, significantly lower than the state average of \$51,542 and the national average of \$57,862. Between 2011 and 2017, median household income increased for all Region G counties except Howell County and Shannon County.

The average per capita income in Region G in 2017 was \$19,258, compared to the Missouri average of \$28,282 and the US average of \$31,177. Between 2011 and 2017, the per capita income declined in all Region G counties, with Howell County dropping by \$7,033. The US average also declined, but the Missouri average increased by an average of \$1,483.

Figure 1.22 Median Household Income and Per Capita Income, 2017

	Median Household Income			Per Capita Income		
	2011	2017	Change	2011	2017	Change
Carter	\$ 26,689	\$ 37,875	\$ 11,186	\$ 26,696	\$ 21,569	\$ -5,127
Douglas	32,300	33,003	703	24,193	18,095	-6,098
Howell	35,625	34,984	-641	27,307	20,274	-7,033
Oregon	27,885	32,070	4,185	23,270	18,309	-4,961
Ozark	31,992	32,061	69	23,280	17,857	-5,423
Reynolds	33,382	40,265	6,883	25,834	21,593	-4,241
Shannon	31,748	31,202	-546	21,015	17,903	-3,112
Texas	33,128	35,571	2,443	22,891	17,918	-4,973
Wright	29,212	31,290	2,078	22,780	19,805	-2,975
Region G (avg)	31,329	34,258	2,929	21,861	19,258	-2,603
Missouri	47,202	51,542	4,340	26,799	28,282	1,483
US	52,762	57,862	5,100	41,560	31,177	-10,383

US Census Bureau Quick Facts. 2017 data from 2013-2017 data set, in 2017 dollars. Missouri and USA info: <https://www.census.gov/>

Wages

The average hourly wage in Region G increased between 2012 and 2018. The change ranged from an additional \$1.31 in Carter County to \$4.31 in Reynolds County. Missouri saw an average increase of \$3.05.

Table 1.23 Average Hourly and Annual Wages by County, 2012 to 2018 Comparison

	Average Annual Wage 2018	Average Hourly Wage 2012	Average Hourly Wage 2018	Average Hourly Wage Change 2012 to 2018
Carter	\$ 26,854	\$ 11.60	\$ 12.91	\$ 1.31
Douglas	27,721	11.88	13.33	1.45
Howell	33,316	14.19	16.02	1.83
Oregon	25,145	10.73	12.09	1.36
Ozark	25,324	10.44	12.18	1.74
Reynolds	34,262	12.16	16.47	4.31
Shannon	25,622	9.83	12.32	2.49
Texas	30,606	13.27	14.71	1.44
Wright	30,043	12.79	14.44	1.65
Region G	28,766	11.88	13.83	1.95
Missouri	49,050	20.53	23.58	3.05

Missouri Department of Economic Development, Missouri Economic Research and Information Center Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. Private and Public wages. Retrieved from <https://meric.mo.gov/data/county-average-wages>.

Living Wage

The living wage shown is the hourly rate that an individual must earn to support a family, if the sole provider and working full-time (2,080 hours per year). The average living wage in 2019 for a family of four (two adults and two children) in Region G is \$14.61 per hour. The minimum hourly wage is \$8.60.

Table 1.24 Hourly Living Wage by Family Size, 2019

	1 Adult	1 Adult, 1 Child	1 Adult, 2 Children	1 Adult, 3 Children	2 Adults*	2 Adults,* 1 Child	2 Adults,* 2 Children	2 Adults,* 3 Children
Carter	10.26	22.41	26.48	32.22	8.88	12.38	14.62	16.52
Douglas	10.36	22.40	26.47	33.05	8.88	12.38	14.61	16.94
Howell	10.36	22.40	26.47	32.21	8.88	12.38	14.61	16.51
Oregon	10.36	22.40	26.47	32.64	8.88	12.38	14.61	16.73
Ozark	10.36	22.40	26.47	32.70	8.99	12.38	14.61	16.76
Reynolds	10.36	22.40	26.47	32.31	8.88	12.38	14.61	16.51
Shannon	10.25	22.40	26.47	32.31	8.88	12.38	14.61	16.51
Texas	10.25	22.40	26.47	33.04	8.88	12.38	14.61	16.93
Wright	10.36	22.40	26.47	32.40	8.88	12.38	14.61	16.61
Region G (avg)	10.32	22.40	26.47	32.54	8.89	12.38	14.61	16.67
Missouri	11.14	23.44	27.51	34.02	9.35	12.90	15.13	17.42

Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Living Wage Calculator. 2019 data. Retrieved from <https://livingwage.mit.edu/states/29/locations>.

*Per adult when both adults are working.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

In September 2019, a total of 653 persons in 280 families in Region G received TANF benefits. This compares to 971 families who received TANF assistance during the same period five years ago. The number of families receiving TANF has been significantly reduced in all Region G counties since September 2014.

Howell County had the highest number of TANF recipients with 187 persons. Carter County had the lowest number of TANF recipients with 18 persons. Average TANF payments per family decreased between September 2014 and September 2019 in six Region G counties, but increased in Reynolds County, Shannon County and Texas County.

Table 1.24 TANF Benefits, September 2014 and September 2019 Comparison by County

	Total Families Receiving TANF Sep 2019	Total Families Receiving TANF Sep 2014	Persons Receiving TANF Sep 2019	TANF Recipients as % of total population Sep 2019	Total TANF Payments Sep 2019	Total TANF Payments Sep 2014	Average TANF Payments per Family Sep 2019	Average TANF Payments per Family Sep 2014
Carter	8	35	18	0.0030	\$ 1,775	\$ 7,861	\$ 221.88	\$ 224.60
Douglas	16	71	43	0.0032	3,514	17,596	219.63	247.83
Howell	89	331	187	0.0047	19,768	76,696	222.11	231.71
Oregon	31	76	79	0.0075	7,828	18,485	252.52	243.22
Ozark	19	52	43	0.0048	3,978	11,895	209.37	228.75
Reynolds	10	24	28	0.0045	2,316	4,994	231.60	208.08
Shannon	22	44	49	0.0060	4,887	9,098	222.14	206.77
Texas	41	172	96	0.0038	9,519	38,873	232.17	226.01
Wright	44	166	110	0.0060	9,757	39,021	221.75	235.07
Region G (total/avg*)	280	971	653	*0.0048	63,342	224,519	*225.91	*228.00
Missouri								

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Missouri Department of Social Services. Management Report, Family Support Division and MO HealthNet. September 2014, September 2019. Retrieved from https://dss.mo.gov/re/fsd_mhdmr.htm.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

In September 2019, Region G had a total of 23,725 persons receiving SNAP benefits. This is a significant decrease from 2012, when the monthly regional average was 32,966 persons.

The average monthly SNAP benefit per person in the region in September 2019 was \$110, lower than the state monthly average of \$120 per person.

The total monthly dollar value of benefits issued in the region in September 2019 was more than \$2.6 million. Howell County had the highest total monthly benefits issued at \$807,698, while Carter County had the lowest at \$119,488.

Across the region, approximately half of children live in families receiving SNAP. Shannon County had the highest percentage of children living in families receiving SNAP benefits, with 50.4%, and Texas County had the lowest rate with 38.9%. All nine counties have a higher participation rate than the Missouri average of 32.6% of children.

Table 1.25 Households Receiving SNAP Benefits, September 2019

	# of SNAP Monthly Participants 2012 ¹	# of SNAP Monthly Participants, Sept 2019 ²	Children in Families Receiving SNAP 2017 ³	Households Participating Sept 2019 ²	Rate of Food Insecurity for Children ³ 2017	Total Monthly Benefits Issued (\$) Sept 2019 ²	Avg Value of Benefits per Person ²
Carter	1,652	1,107	46.9%	522	21.6%	\$ 119,488	\$ 107.94
Douglas	3,459	2,001	45.8%	895	22.8%	222,459	111.17
Howell	9,452	7,284	47.3%	3,301	23.5%	807,698	110.89
Oregon	2,764	2,088	49.2%	982	26.1%	225,247	107.88
Ozark	1,795	1,432	43.6%	684	24.5%	160,031	111.75
Reynolds	1,641	1,288	44.2%	599	20.5%	140,931	109.42
Shannon	2,130	1,617	50.4%	764	23.0%	171,838	106.27
Texas	4,965	3,411	38.8%	1,537	24.4%	387,232	113.52
Wright	5,108	3,497	46.4%	1,555	23.3%	389,740	111.45
Region G	32,966	23,725	45.8%	10,839	23.3%	2,624,664	110.03
Missouri	950,345	678,716	32.6%	318,316	17.4%	81,602,513	120.23

¹ University of Missouri Extension, Interdisciplinary Center for Food Service, Missouri Hunger Atlas, 2016. Retrieved from http://foodsecurity.missouri.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/20160708_New-Missouri-Hunger-Atlas-2016-text-final_3_full-doc-w-county-profiles.pdf

² Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Family Support Division, MO HealthNet Division. Monthly Management Report. Food Stamp Program Participation, pg 154-159. September 2019. Retrieved from https://dss.mo.gov/re/pdf/fsd_mhdmr/1909-family-support-mohealthnet-report.pdf.

³ University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets. Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>

National School Lunch Program

According to information provided by the Interdisciplinary Center for Food Security at University of Missouri Extension, 81% of all Region G students participated in the National School Lunch Program in 2016. This was a decrease from 82.5% in 2013.

Between 2013 and 2016, all but two of Region G counties saw a decrease in the number of children participating in the School Lunch Program. Shannon County saw an increase of 3.8%, and Reynolds County had an increase of 16.7%.

Percentages of participation in Region G are higher than statewide average participation at 81.0% and 78.4% respectively in 2016.

Table 1.26 National School Lunch Program, 2013 to 2016 Comparison

	% Students Eligible and Participating 2013	% Students Eligible and Participating 2016	Percent Change 2013 to 2016
Carter	78.7	71.4	-7.3
Douglas	85.0	74.6	-10.4
Howell	78.8	75.5	-3.3
Oregon	80.9	78.4	-2.5
Ozark	80.0	76.6	-3.4
Reynolds	85.8	102.5	16.7
Shannon	84.7	88.5	3.8
Texas	80.2	79.9	-0.3
Wright	88.2	81.2	-7.0
Region G	82.5	81.0	-1.5
Missouri	82.5	78.4	-4.1

University of Missouri Extension, Interdisciplinary Center for Food Service, Missouri Hunger Atlas, 2016. Retrieved from http://foodsecurity.missouri.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/20160708_New-Missouri-Hunger-Atlas-2016-text-final_3_full-doc-w-county-profiles.pdf

Tax Credits

According to information provided by the Brookings Institute, only 80 – 85% of tax filers who are eligible for Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC) claim the credit. The Institute states the participation gap is largest in communities that have working families earning less than \$10,000 and among families with more than two children.

Brookings Institute also explains the Additional Child Tax Credit (ACTC), the refundable version of the Child Tax Credit (CTC), increases the refund amounts available to many Earned Income Tax Credit eligible filers.

In 2014, Region G residents filed nearly 14,000 tax returns claiming EITC and just over 3,000 claiming CTC. Together, these tax credits brought over \$37 million federal dollars back to families in Region G.

Filers received an average of \$2,500 each in EITC and \$750 each in CTC. The highest average EITC reimbursement was received in Shannon County at an estimated \$2,708 per filer. Ozark County filers received the highest CTC reimbursements at an estimated average of \$878 per filer.

Table 1.27 Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit Returns, 2014

	Total Returns Claiming Earned Income Tax Credit	Total EITC Received	Average EITC Received per Filer	Total Returns Claiming Child Tax Credit	Total CTC Received	Average CTC Received per Filer
Carter	793	\$ 2,127,713	\$ 2,683.12	185	\$ 129,865	\$ 701.97
Douglas	1,116	2,773,097	2,484.85	250	183,044	732.18
Howell	4,424	11,159,296	2,522.44	1,048	760,151	725.33
Oregon	1,130	2,990,417	2,646.39	224	173,468	774.41
Ozark	784	1,989,069	2,537.08	128	112,440	878.44
Reynolds	622	1,602,225	2,575.92	104	76,566	736.21
Shannon	823	2,229,026	2,708.42	130	89,999	692.30
Texas	2,323	5,751,933	2,476.08	527	405,950	770.30
Wright	1,909	4,832,834	2,531.61	464	341,974	737.01
Region G	13,924	35,455,610	2,573.99	3,060	2,273,457	749.79

Brookings Institute, Earned Income Tax Credit Series. 2014. Retrieved from <https://www.brookings.edu/interactives/earned-income-tax-credit-eitc-interactive-and-resources/>

Social Security Administration Benefits

The Social Security Administration reported that a total of 5,412 persons in Region G received SSA benefits in 2017. This is a decrease from 5,808 in 2012. A total of \$2.7 million were issued to persons in Region G in 2017, at an approximate value of \$513 per person. This compares to the state average of \$558 per person.

Table 1.28 SSA Recipients and Payments by County, 2012 to 2017 Comparison

	Persons Receiving SSA Benefits 2012	Persons Receiving SSA Benefits 2017	Average SSA Payment per Person 2012	Average SSA Payment per Person 2017	Total SSA Payments 2012	Total SSA Payments 2017	Total SSA Payments Change 2012 - 2017
Carter	369	336	495.93	\$ 517.86	\$ 183,000	\$ 174,000	-9,000
Douglas	473	365	511.63	495.89	242,000	181,000	-61,000
Howell	1,668	1653	486.81	513.61	812,000	849,000	37,000
Oregon	653	579	503.83	500.86	329,000	290,000	-39,000
Ozark	301	284	471.76	545.77	142,000	155,000	13,000
Reynolds	278	248	474.82	491.94	132,000	122,000	-10,000
Shannon	382	355	507.85	478.87	194,000	170,000	-24,000
Texas	804	760	488.81	527.63	393,000	401,000	8,000
Wright	880	832	487.50	522.84	429,000	435,000	6,000
Region G	5,808	5,412	491.74	513.12	2,856,000	2,777,000	-79,000

Social Security Administration, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Recipients by State and County, December 2012 and December 2017. Retrieved from https://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/ssi_sc/2017/mo.html

Poverty

The US Census estimates that just under one in four (23.5%) Region G residents lived below the poverty level in 2018. This is nearly double the Missouri average of 13.2% for the same period. Shannon County had the highest rate of poverty rate in the region in 2018 at 35.9% of the total population, an increase from 28.8% in 2011.

Children living in poverty decreased between 2013 and 2017 for every county in Region G except for Shannon County. Their child poverty rate increased by 6%. The statewide average rate of children in poverty decreased from 22.2% in 2013 to 18.5% in 2017.

Table 1.29 Poverty Rate by Total Population and Children in Poverty

	Persons in Poverty (% of total population) ¹ 2011	Persons in Poverty (% of total population) ¹ 2018	% Rate Change 2011 to 2018	% of Children under 18 in Poverty ² 2013	% of Children under 18 in Poverty ² 2017	% Rate Change 2013 to 2017
Carter	24.7	20.9	-15.4%	36.9	35.0	-5.2%
Douglas	23.7	20.4	-13.9%	35.8	30.8	-14.0%
Howell	22.9	22.3	-2.6%	38.5	29.9	-22.3%
Oregon	27.2	24.3	-10.7%	39.7	37.1	-6.6%
Ozark	24.0	21.5	-10.4%	41.7	35.4	-15.1%
Reynolds	26.9	20.4	-24.2%	37.0	33.4	-9.7%
Shannon	28.8	35.9	24.6%	50.1	53.1	6.0%
Texas	21.9	21.2	-3.2%	37.6	31.2	-17.0%
Wright	28.7	24.3	-15.3%	41.2	36.0	-12.6%
Region G (total/*average)	25.4	23.5	-7.5%	*39.8	*35.8	-10.2%
Missouri	15.8	13.2	-16.5%	22.2	18.5	-16.7%

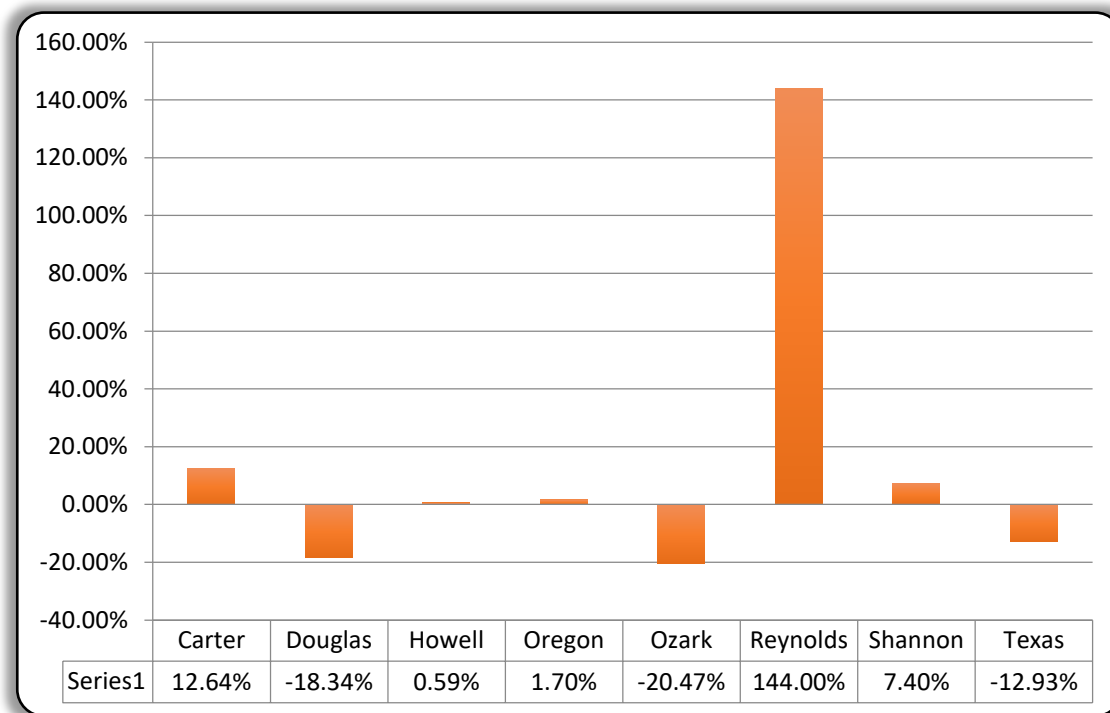
¹ US Census Bureau, Quick Facts. 2018 American Community Survey. 1-year estimates.

² University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets (2017 data set). Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>

Seniors in Poverty

In 2013, the senior poverty rate was highest in Region G in Oregon County at 23.6% and lowest in Reynolds County at 5.7%. This compares to a statewide poverty rate among seniors of 11.8%.

Between 2013 and 2016 the poverty rate among seniors decreased Douglas, Ozark and Texas Counties, remained level in Wright County, and increased in the five other counties. The most significant changes were a 20.47% drop in Ozark County and a 144% increase in Reynolds County.

Figure 1.17 Seniors in Poverty, 2013 to 2016 Comparison

Missouri Hunger Atlas. 2013 and 2016.

Table 1.30 Seniors in Poverty, 2013 to 2016 Comparison

	Senior Population >64 Years Old 2013	% of Population below Poverty Level >64 years old 2013	Senior Population >65 Years Old 2016	% of >65 Year Old below Poverty Level 2016	% Rate Change 2013 to 2016
Carter	6,365	17.4%	1,035	19.6%	12.64%
Douglas	2,723	16.9%	2,795	13.8%	-18.34%
Howell	7,076	17.0%	6,894	17.1%	0.59%
Oregon	2,170	23.6%	2,255	24.0%	1.70%
Ozark	2,293	12.7%	2,354	10.1%	-20.47%
Reynolds	1,357	5.7%	1,418	13.9%	144.00%
Shannon	1,501	13.5%	1,498	14.5%	7.40%
Texas	4,720	14.7%	4,611	12.8%	-12.93%
Wright	3,350	12.9%	3,211	12.9%	NC
Region G	31,555	14.9%	26,071	13.3%	-10.74%
Missouri	854,701	11.8%	854,701	9.0%	-23.73%

Missouri Hunger Atlas. 2013 and 2016. Retrieved from http://foodsecurity.missouri.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/20160708_New-Missouri-Hunger-Atlas-2016-text-final_3_full-doc-w-county-profiles.pdf

Note: Age difference in the definition of “senior” from 64 and older in 2013 to 65 and older in 2016.

Child Care

Region G has 61 licensed and 5 license-exempt child care facilities, with a total capacity of 2,101 children. This is a decrease from 71 licensed facilities in 2012 with a capacity of 1,784 children. The 2019 average daytime costs for full-time child care range from \$10.73 to \$19.66. This is an increase from \$9.94 in 2013.

Table 1.31 Child Care Capacity and Cost by Type of Facility, 2019

	Number of Facilities ¹	Total Capacity ¹	Type of Care	Infant Daily Cost ²	Pre-School Daily Cost ²	School Age Daily Cost ²
Carter	3	105	Center	\$ 17.15	\$ 12.25	\$ 11.31
			Group	14.71	11.60	10.77
			Family Home	12.25	11.60	10.77
Douglas	4	169	Center	17.15	12.25	11.31
			Group	14.71	11.60	10.77
			Family Home	12.25	11.60	10.77
	1	16	License Exempt			
Howell	10	530	Center	19.66	14.50	14.50
	1	20	Group	14.71	11.60	10.73
	5	50	Family Home	13.92	11.60	11.60
	1	70	License Exempt			
Oregon	3	85	Center	17.15	12.25	11.31
	2	40	Group	14.71	11.60	10.77
			Family Home	12.25	11.60	10.77
Ozark	4	79	Center	17.15	12.25	11.31
			Group	14.71	11.60	10.77
			Family Home	12.25	11.60	10.77
Reynolds	2	28	Center	17.15	12.25	11.31
			Group	14.71	11.60	10.77
			Family Home	12.25	11.60	10.77
Shannon	3	148	Center	17.15	12.25	11.31
			Group	14.71	11.60	10.77
			Family Home	12.25	11.60	10.77
Texas	7	208	Center	17.15	12.25	11.31
	2	40	Group	14.71	11.60	10.77
	1	10	Family Home	12.25	11.60	10.77
	3	143	License Exempt			
Wright	10	320	Center	17.15	12.25	11.31
			Group	14.71	11.60	10.77
	4	40	Family Home	12.25	11.60	10.77
Region G (total/*avg)	66	2,101		*\$ 14.86	*\$ 11.90	*\$ 11.10

¹ Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Parent Information. Find Child Care. Regulated Child Care Provider Listing. Retrieved from <https://health.mo.gov/safety/childcare/parentinfo.php>

² Missouri Department of Social Services, Child Care Rates, Licensed and Regulated Faith Based Facilities. Full day work week daytime rates, effective 8/1/2019. Retrieved from <https://apps.dss.mo.gov/childcarerates/report.aspx>.

Section II

Environmental Health Risk Factors

Childhood Lead Poisoning

Lead poisoning is one of the most common and preventable environmental health problems in Missouri. Lead exposure in children can cause learning and behavioral problems, lower IQ levels and interfere with growth and hearing. According to the CDC, lead blood levels of 5 mcg/dL are considered higher than a normal or safe level in children. If a child's blood lead level is 45 mcg/dL or higher, the child will need treatment to bring the level down. Any elevated test result means a child has been exposed to lead.

The rate of children in Region G with confirmed blood lead levels above normal or safe increased between 2012 and 2017 at a rate of 0.5%. The rate of 19.3% now exceeds the state rate of 18.9%.

Counties with the highest rate of change in high blood levels among children between 2012 and 2017 include Wright County with a 70.9% increase, Carter County with a 15.9% increase, and Texas County with a 12.7% increase. The other six counties in Region G showed a decrease in rate between 2012 and 2017.

Table 2.1 Elevated Blood Lead Level Tests among Children <72 Months Old, 2012 to 2017 Comparison

	Number of Confirmed Tests with outcomes of >5 ug per dL Test Level 2012	Percent of Population	Number of Confirmed Tests with outcomes of >5 ug per dL Test Level 2017	Percent of Population	Percent Change 2012 to 2017
Carter	93	19.5%	102	22.6%	15.9%
Douglas	287	30.4%	228	25.6%	-15.8%
Howell	553	16.5%	363	11.8%	-28.5%
Oregon	235	30.0%	178	23.2%	-22.7%
Ozark	105	18.3%	91	18.0%	-1.6%
Reynolds	95	22.5%	82	23.3%	-3.6%
Shannon	74	12.5%	49	9.7%	-22.4%
Texas	201	11.0%	214	12.4%	12.7%
Wright	230	15.8%	411	27.0%	70.9%
Region G (total/*avg)	1,873	*19.6%	1,718	*19.3%	0.5%
Missouri	90,894	19.8%	84,834	18.9%	-4.5%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (EPHT). Note: Results include confirmed test outcomes of >5 ug per dL Test Level. <https://healthapps.dhss.mo.gov/MoPhims/MOPHIMSHome>

Housing Age

Studies indicate childhood lead poisoning can be directly related to availability of safe, affordable housing. According to the National Center for Healthy Housing, the major remaining cause of lead poisoning is lead-based paint in housing, especially housing built before 1950, when lead paint was commonly used. The lack of affordable housing can result in families living in older dwellings with deteriorating lead paint, placing children at increased risk for lead poisoning.

Most commonly, children are poisoned by lead dust from deteriorated paint in poorly maintained older houses. Prior to about 1940, leaded paints typically contained high amounts of lead, ranging from 10% to as much as 50%. In the early 1950s, the paint industry began reducing lead content, although many paints still contained harmful amounts of lead. Federal regulations limited lead content in 1972 and effectively banned lead in residential paints in 1978.

On average, more than half of the housing units in Region G were built before 1980, increasing the likelihood that lead from old paint will be present.

Table 2.2 Housing Units by Age, 2013 - 2017

	Total Housing Units	Percent Occupied Housing Units	Percent Built before 1950	Percent Built between 1950 – 1979	Total Percent of Housing Built Before 1980
Carter	3,260	73.8%	9.3%	32.9%	42.2%
Douglas	6,519	79.4%	17.0%	35.6%	52.6%
Howell	18,267	88.7%	13.7%	34.8%	48.5%
Oregon	5,486	79.7%	22.2%	35.3%	57.5%
Ozark	5,678	71.8%	14.6%	32.7%	47.3%
Reynolds	4,035	65.1%	13.5%	47.0%	60.5%
Shannon	4,164	75.8%	15.1%	40.8%	55.9%
Texas	11,724	79.4%	15.0%	51.8%	66.8%
Wright	8,713	85.9%	16.9%	35.4%	52.3%
Region G (total/*average)	67,846	77.7%	*15.3%	*38.5%	*53.7%

U.S. Census Bureau 2013 – 2017 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates. Selected Housing Characteristics.

<https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=CF>

Indoor Air Quality

Good health depends on clean indoor air, yet research shows that air pollution levels are higher indoors than outside. Since Missourians spend an average of 90 percent of their time indoors, according to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, the quality of indoor air is a significant concern. Indoor air pollutants can contribute to asthma and allergic reactions, chemical poisoning and some types of cancer.

Radon is a colorless, odorless and tasteless gas that poses a health risk to humans primarily when it is found inside homes and other buildings. Exposure to radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Homes can be tested for radon, and steps can be taken to reduce the level of radon in indoor air.

The number of housing units tested for radon and the percent that had elevated levels of radon are shown in Table 2.3.

Table 2.3 Radon Testing of Housing Units, 2005 – 2015

	Percent of Housing Units Tested for Radon 2005 - 2015	Percent of Tested Housing Units that are Elevated for Radon 2005 - 2015
Carter	0.12%	25.00%
Douglas	0.15%	30.00%
Howell	0.88%	37.97%
Oregon	0.27%	66.67%
Ozark	0.30%	23.53%
Reynolds	0.12%	0.00%
Shannon	0.46%	10.53%
Texas	0.41%	12.50%
Wright	0.17%	0.00%
Region G	0.32%	22.91%
Missouri	0.76%	31.82%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (EPHT). 2005 – 2015 data set. Retrieved from https://ephtn.dhss.mo.gov/EPHTN_Data_Portal/.

Outdoor Air Quality

Exposure to air pollution, even for a short amount of time can have a wide range of health effects including difficulty breathing, impact on heart and lung disease, even premature death. Some people may have a greater impact from pollution. For example, children are often more vulnerable to pollutants.

Table 2.4 Outdoor Air Quality, 2011

	Annual Average Ambient Concentrations of PM _{2.5} in mg/m ³ 2011	Number of Days with Maximum 8- hour Average Ozone Concentration over the National Ambient Air Quality Standard 2011	Number of Person- Days with Maximum 8-hour Average Ozone Concentration over the National Ambient Air Quality Standard 2011	Percent of Days with PM _{2.5} over the National Ambient Air Quality Standard 2011	Number of Person-Days with PM _{2.5} Levels over the National Ambient Air Quality Standard 2011
Carter	9.5	0	0	0%	0
Douglas	9.8	0	0	0%	0
Howell	10.0	0	0	0%	0
Oregon	9.8	0	0	0%	0
Ozark	9.9	0	0	0%	0
Reynolds	9.3	0	0	0%	0
Shannon	9.4	0	0	0%	0
Texas	9.6	0	0	0%	0
Wright	9.7	0	0	0%	0

	Annual Average Ambient Concentrations of PM _{2.5} in mg/m ³ 2011	Number of Days with Maximum 8-hour Average Ozone Concentration over the National Ambient Air Quality Standard 2011	Number of Person-Days with Maximum 8-hour Average Ozone Concentration over the National Ambient Air Quality Standard 2011	Percent of Days with PM _{2.5} over the National Ambient Air Quality Standard 2011	Number of Person-Days with PM _{2.5} Levels over the National Ambient Air Quality Standard 2011
Region G	9.7	0	0	0%	0
Missouri (range)	9 – 13.5	0 – 15	0 – 8,992,539	0 – 0.5%	0 – 999,171

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (EPHT). 2011 data set. Retrieved from https://ephtn.dhss.mo.gov/EPHTN_Data_Portal/.

Emissions

Motor vehicle emissions contribute to climate change and air pollution. Vehicles emit carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, particulate matter, and volatile organic compounds. Carpooling, walking or bicycling can reduce harmful emissions, but rural communities may not have supportive infrastructure in place.

Table 2.5 Travel Mechanism to Work, 2010 – 2014

	Drove Alone to Work ¹ 2010 – 2014	Carpooled to Work ¹ 2010 - 2014	Used Public Transportation to Work ¹ (excluding taxis) 2010 - 2014	Walked or Rode a Bicycle to Work ¹ 2010 - 2014	Have Sidewalks in Their Neighborhood ² 2016	Have Roads and Streets with Shoulders or Marked Lanes for Bicycling in Their Community ² 2016
Carter	78.74%	11.53%	0.00%	2.46%	18.01	9.29
Douglas	78.00%	13.45%	0.33%	3.42%	19.60	8.51
Howell	84.86%	8.25%	0.06%	1.78%	21.98	13.80
Oregon	80.66%	10.40%	1.13%	2.44%	22.68	8.12
Ozark	80.97%	12.29%	0.13%	1.65%	10.05	6.35
Reynolds	75.32%	18.07%	0.62%	1.54%	16.53	17.43
Shannon	80.24%	11.25%	0.22%	1.79%	13.44	11.74
Texas	81.46%	13.58%	0.24%	1.78%	26.30	22.80
Wright	75.53%	15.09%	0.00%	3.04%	22.79	12.19
Region G	79.53%	12.66%	0.30%	2.21%	19.04	12.25
Missouri	81.59%	9.42%	1.48%	2.23%	54.04	34.14

¹ Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (EPHT). 2010 – 2014 data set. Retrieved from https://ephtn.dhss.mo.gov/EPHTN_Data_Portal/.

² Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA). Missouri Resident County-Level Study Profile. 2016.

Carbon Monoxide

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas that can be deadly. It is found in fumes produced any by burning fuel in cars or trucks, small engines, stoves, lanterns, grills, fireplaces, gas ranges, or furnaces. Carbon monoxide can build up indoors and poison people and animals who breathe it. People often describe the symptoms of carbon monoxide as “flu-like.” Breathing in too much carbon monoxide can make a person pass out and can be fatal. People who are sleeping or are drunk can die from carbon monoxide poisoning before they even realize they have symptoms. Everyone is at risk, but infants, the elderly, and people with chronic heart disease, anemia, or breathing problems are more likely to get sick from carbon monoxide.

Table 2.6 ER Visits and Hospitalizations due to Carbon Monoxide, 1999 – 2013

	ER Visits Due to Carbon Monoxide (CO) (per 100,000) 1999 - 2013	Average age-adjusted rate of hospitalizations (per 100,000) 1999 - 2013
Carter	6.43	3.32
Douglas	6.96	1.10
Howell	6.15	0.67
Oregon	3.92	2.27
Ozark	2.85	0.84
Reynolds	8.98	2.38
Shannon	3.93	0.00
Texas	8.02	0.73
Wright	4.57	2.03
Region G	5.76	1.48
Missouri	7.82	4.65

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (EPHT). 1999 – 2013 data set. Retrieved from https://ephtn.dhss.mo.gov/EPHTN_Data_Portal/.

Agriculture

Hazardous substances have been released into the environment from multiple sources. Releases may come from agricultural and industrial activities, mining operations, landfills, leaking underground storage tanks, or transportation-related accidents.

Treating the land to control pests, weeds, brush, or grass or to fertilize cropland can have a negative impact on the environment and public health. Lime is used to alter the soil pH if it is too acidic for crops, but it can irritate the eyes, nose and throat and can burn the skin.

Fertilizer can also irritate the eyes, nose, and mouth and can upset the stomach if accidentally swallowed. It may also contain weed killer and insecticides that can be dangerous to health.

Herbicides and insecticides contain a number of ingredients that are likely to irritate the eyes and skin. They can also irritate the lungs if breathed in and are dangerous if swallowed. Poisoning can lead to a mild stomach ache or seizures.

Table 2.7 Percent of Land Treated, 2012

	Percent of land area treated to control insects (in square miles)	Percent of land area treated to control weeds, grass, or brush (in square miles)	Percent of land area treated with commercial fertilizer, lime, and soil conditioners (in square miles)	Percent of land area treated as fertilized cropland (in square miles)	Percent of land area treated as fertilized pastureland and rangeland (in square miles)
Carter	0.00%	0.48%	3.30%	0.84%	2.47%
Douglas	0.37%	2.84%	7.88%	2.37%	5.51%
Howell	1.60%	4.03%	14.16%	3.15%	11.01%
Oregon	2.02%	3.68%	9.61%	1.75%	7.86%
Ozark	1.68%	4.47%	9.61%	1.92%	7.70%
Reynolds	0.02%	0.16%	2.13%	0.76%	1.37%
Shannon	0.04%	0.54%	3.31%	0.80%	2.51%
Texas	0.12%	2.68%	9.89%	2.77%	7.12%
Wright	0.44%	4.05%	15.81%	5.45%	10.36%
Region G	0.70%	2.55%	8.41%	2.20%	6.21%
Missouri	7.82%	22.54%	22.21%	16.79%	4.84%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (EPHT). 2012 data set. Retrieved from https://ephtn.dhss.mo.gov/EPHTN_Data_Portal/.

Section III

Public Safety and Domestic Violence

Crime

In 2018, the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Uniform Crime Reporting Program identified a total of 9 murders, 324 assaults, and 2,087 robberies, burglaries, larceny thefts and motor vehicle thefts. Region G also had 26 rape or rape attempts, 32 cases of arson, 2,108 property crimes, and 370 violent crimes.

These numbers compare to 2012 reports of 9 murders, 334 assaults, and 831 burglaries, 2,186 larceny thefts, 146 vehicle thefts, and 14 forcible rapes.

The 2014 average rate of violent crime in Region G is 20.74%, lower than the state rate of 44.93%. Shannon County had the highest rate of violent crime in 2014 at 29.06%, followed by Wright County at 27.64% and Carter County at 27.13%.

Table 3.1 Crime Reported, 2018

	Homicide and Negligent Manslaughter ¹	Rape and Attempted Rape ¹	Aggravated Assault ¹	Robbery, Burglary, Larceny Theft, and Motor Vehicle Theft ¹	Arson ¹	Property Crimes ¹	Violent Crimes ¹	Rate of Violent Crime ² 2014
Carter	1	1	26	104	0	104	28	27.13
Douglas	1	2	22	108	2	109	26	17.54
Howell	1	9	118	1,055	4	1,054	133	21.78
Oregon	1	2	36	87	1	86	41	14.70
Ozark	1	2	10	63	9	72	13	13.37
Reynolds	1	2	7	34	1	35	10	22.40
Shannon	1	0	18	42	4	46	19	29.06
Texas	1	6	46	322	8	328	55	13.07
Wright	1	2	41	272	3	274	45	27.64
Region G	9	26	324	2,087	32	2,108	370	20.74
Missouri	618	2,915	21,854	166,738	1,076	162,615	30,586	44.93

¹ Missouri State Highway Patrol, Criminal Justice Information Services, Uniform Crime Reporting, 2018. Retrieved from http://www.mshp.dps.missouri.gov/MSHPWeb/SAC/data_and_statistics/ucr_query_backup.html

² Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (EPHT). 2014. Retrieved from https://ephtn.dhss.mo.gov/EPHTN_Data_Portal/.

Domestic Violence

Domestic violence incidents include any dispute arising between spouses, persons with children in common whether or not they live together, and non-married persons who have lived together in the past.

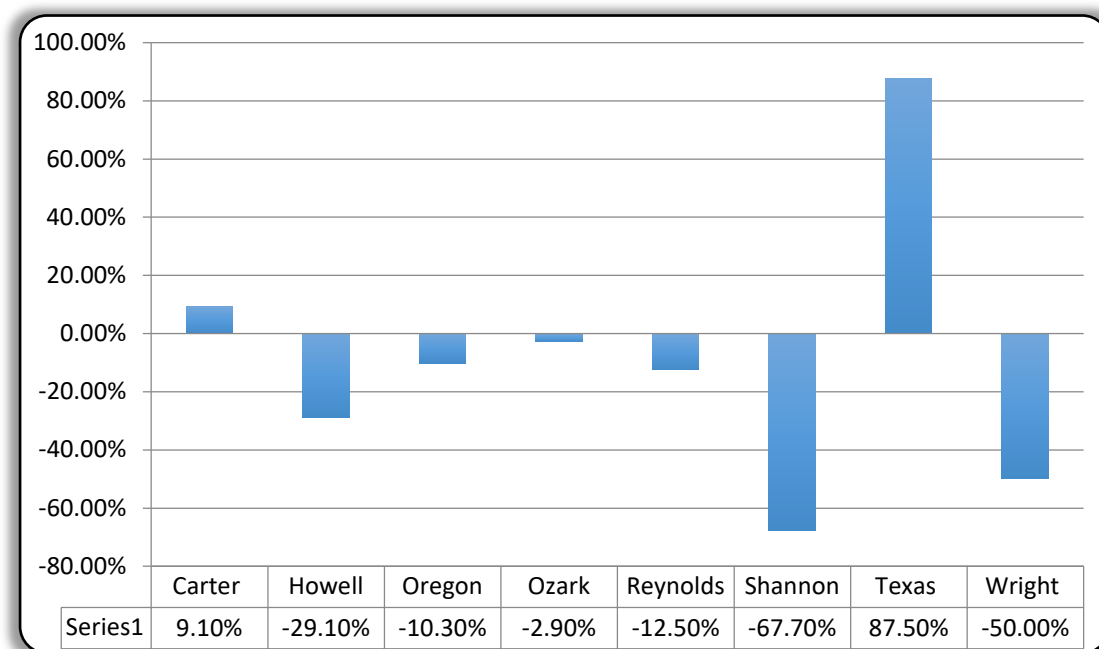
Reported incidents ranged from a total of 2 in Wright County to 255 in Texas County, compared to 0 in Douglas County to 330 in Howell County in 2012.

Table 3.2 Domestic Violence Incidents, 2012 to 2018 Comparison

	Total Reported Incidents 2012	Incidents between Persons who have a Child in Common 2012	Total Reported Incidents 2018	Incidents between Persons who have a Child in Common 2018	Percent Change Total Reported Incidents 2012 to 2018
Carter	11	3	12	2	9.1%
Douglas	0	0	10	2	
Howell	330	25	234	22	-29.1%
Oregon	29	0	26	1	-10.3%
Ozark	35	0	34	7	-2.9%
Reynolds	8	0	7	1	-12.5%
Shannon	31	5	10	0	-67.7%
Texas	136	21	255	20	87.5%
Wright	4	0	2	0	-50.0%
Region G	584	54	590	55	1.0%
Missouri	42,966	5,109	45,545	5,396	6.0%

Missouri State Highway Patrol, Criminal Justice Information Services, Uniform Crime Reporting, 2018. Retrieved from http://www.mshp.dps.missouri.gov/MSHPWeb/SAC/data_and_statistics_ucr_query_backup.html

Texas County saw the highest increase in cases between 2012 and 2018, with a rate change of 87.5%. Carter County also saw an increase in reported incidents, with change of 9.1%. The other seven counties in Region G had a decrease in the number of incidents between 2012 and 2018. Missouri saw an increase of 6.0%.

Figure 3.1 Change in Domestic Violence Incidents, 2012 to 2018

Child Abuse and Neglect

There were 183 substantiated child abuse and neglect incidents in Region G in 2018, down from 193 in 2016. The rate of change showed an increase of 92.3% in Texas County, 50% in Reynolds County, and approximately 35% in both Oregon and Wright Counties. Neglect accounted for a total of 89 substantiated cases in the region in 2018, while physical abuse accounted for 67 cases and sexual abuse 54 cases.

Table 3.3 Substantiated Child Abuse or Neglect by Category of Abuse by County, 2018

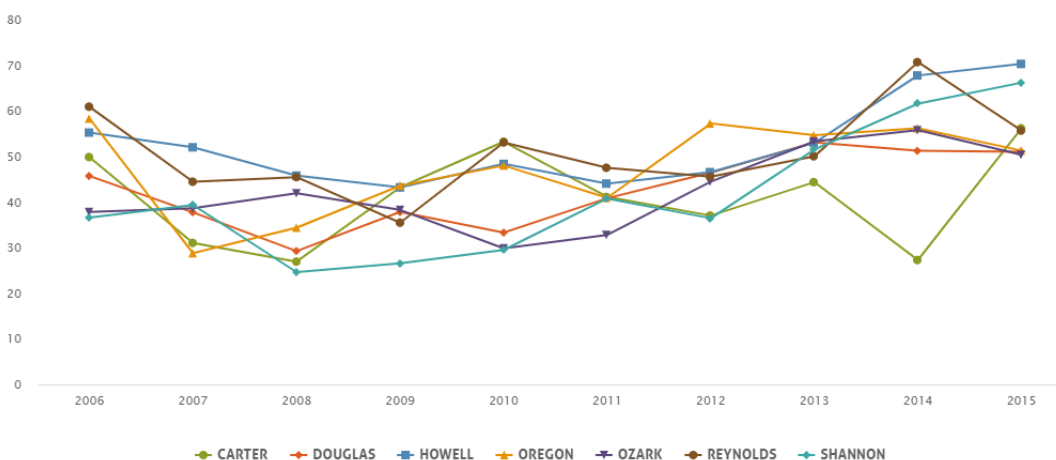
	Substantiated Incidents by Category of Abuse 2018						Substantiated Child Abuse or Neglect Incidents		Percent Change
	Physical Abuse	Neglect	Emotional Abuse	Medical Neglect	Educational Neglect	Sexual Abuse	2018	2016	2016 to 2018
Carter	3	3	2	1	0	4	8	11	37.5%
Douglas	1	8	0	0	0	4	12	12	0%
Howell	35	31	10	8	1	21	74	64	-13.5%
Oregon	8	9	5	2	0	4	18	24	33.3%
Ozark	4	7	1	1	1	4	13	11	-15.38
Reynolds	0	3	0	0	0	2	4	6	50.0%
Shannon	7	8	0	2	0	3	16	6	-62.5%
Texas	3	3	0	0	0	8	13	25	92.3%
Wright	6	17	1	1	1	4	25	34	36.0%
Region G	67	89	19	15	3	54	183	193	5.5%

Missouri Department of Social Services, Children's Division, Annual Report, 2018. Retrieved from <https://dss.mo.gov/re/pdf/can/2018-missouri-child-abuse-neglect-annual-report.pdf>.

Family Assessments

Substantiated child abuse/neglect and family assessments show an increasing trend from 2009 to 2015.

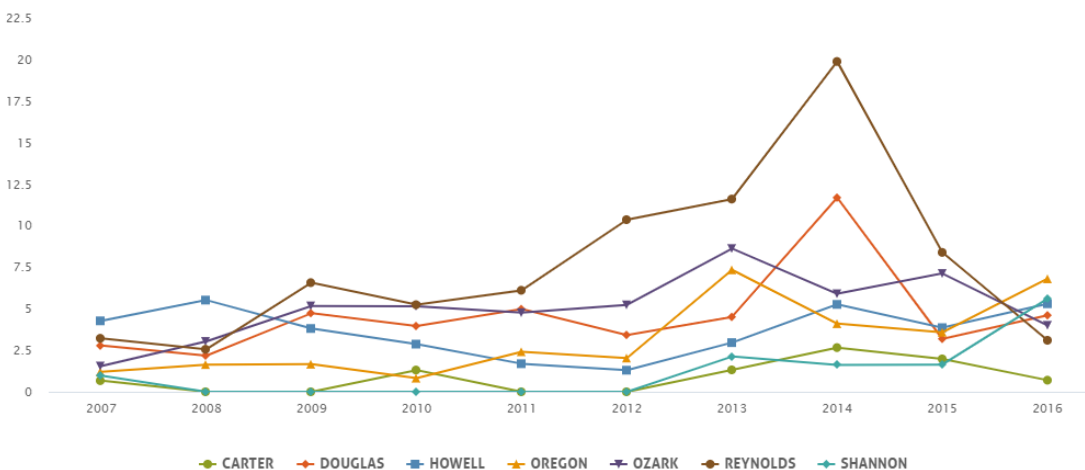
Figure 3.2 Substantiated Child Abuse/Neglect and Family Assessments, 2006 – 2015



Children Entering/Re-entering State Custody

Children entering and re-entering state custody showed a dramatic spike in Reynolds and Douglas County in 2014, but have since declined in these two counties. Rates also decreased in Carter County between 2015 and 2016, but increased in the other six counties in Region G.

Figure 3.3 Children Entering/Re-entering State Custody, 2007 – 2016



University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets (2017 data set). Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/browser.php>

Table 3.4 Children Entering/Re-Entering State Custody, 2013 to 2017 Comparison

	Children Entering/Re-Entering State Custody (rate per 1,000) 2013	Children Entering/Re-Entering State Custody (rate per 1,100) 2017	Percent Change 2013 to 2017
Carter	1.3	7.5	477.0%
Douglas	4.5	7.3	62.2%
Howell	3.0	4.9	63.3%
Oregon	7.3	7.6	4.1%
Ozark	8.6	5.7	-33.7%
Reynolds	11.6	24.6	112.0%
Shannon	2.1	9.0	328.6%
Texas	4.5	8.1	80.0%
Wright	12.0	8.8	-26.7%
Region G (average)	6.1	9.3	52.5%
Missouri	4.8	5.0	4.2%

University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets. 2013 – 2017 data set. Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>.

Juvenile Court Referrals

Region G had an average rate of 15.1 juvenile law violation referrals per 1,000 persons in 2017, compared to the Missouri average of 27.1. Missouri saw an average decrease of 15.84% between 2013 and 2017, while Region G experienced a decrease of 24.9%. Reynolds County saw a 420% increase in referrals.

Table 3.5 Juvenile Law Violation Referrals (per 1,000), 2013 to 2017 Comparison

	Juvenile Law Violation Referrals (per 1,000) 2013	Juvenile Law Violation Referrals (per 1,000) 2017	Juvenile Law Violation Referrals Percent Change 2013 to 2017
Carter	18.8	12.9	-31.4%
Douglas	22.6	21.0	-7.1%
Howell	22.2	20.1	-9.5%
Oregon	18.0	7.4	-58.9%
Ozark	21.4	16.2	-24.3%
Reynolds	1.5	7.8	420.0%
Shannon	19.6	9.5	-51.5%
Texas	35.9	19.9	-44.6%
Wright	21.2	21.4	0.9%
Region G	20.1	15.1	-24.9%
Missouri	32.2	27.1	-15.84

University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets. 2013 – 2017 data set. Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>

Illegal Drug Use and Alcohol Abuse

The Missouri Highway Patrol reports 519 DWI arrests and 1,298 drug-related arrests in 2018, a decrease from 759 DWI arrests in 2010, but an increase from 1,048 drug-related arrests in 2010. In 2010, 76 methamphetamine labs were seized by the Highway Patrol in Region G, but none were seized in 2018.

Table 3.6 Drug and Alcohol Related Arrests and Meth Lab Seizures, 2018

	DWI Arrests	Liquor Law Violations	Drug-Related Arrests	Meth Lab Seizures
Carter	20	11	52	0
Douglas	32	18	150	0
Howell	175	11	325	0
Oregon	28	0	36	0
Ozark	43	8	66	0
Reynolds	33	15	17	0
Shannon	23	21	83	0
Texas	83	21	169	0
Wright	82	11	400	0
Region G	519	116	1,298	0

Missouri Department of Mental Health, Community Profile 2019.

Alcohol and Tobacco Access and Abuse

In Region G, Reynolds County had the highest rate of establishments selling alcohol at 29.87 per 100,000 population. This exceeds the state average of 17.42. Douglas County had the lowest rate at 7.31.

Excessive drinking rates in Region G averaged 15%, compared to the state average of 19%. Excessive drinking rates showed an increase in Howell County and Texas County, the only two counties to which data exist for 2014.

Table 3.7 Alcohol and Tobacco Access and Excessive Drinking

	Rate of Establishments Selling Tobacco ¹ (per 100,000 population) 2014	Rate of Establishments Selling Alcohol ¹ (per 100,000 population) 2014	Excessive Drinking ² 2014	Excessive Drinking ² 2019
Carter	0	15.96		16%
Douglas	0	7.31		14%
Howell	7.43	12.38	13%	16%
Oregon	0	27.57		16%
Ozark	0	10.28		14%
Reynolds	0	29.87		16%
Shannon	0	23.69		16%
Texas	0	11.53	11%	16%
Wright	0	10.63		15%
Region G	0.83	16.58	12%	15%
Missouri	4.06	17.42	17%	19%

¹ Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (EPHT). 2005 – 2015 data set. Retrieved from https://ephtn.dhss.mo.gov/EPHTN_Data_Portal/.

² Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, County Health Rankings and Roadmaps. 2019.

Alcohol and Substance Abuse: Treatment

According to the Missouri Department of Mental Health, 736 Region G residents were admitted to alcohol and substance abuse treatment programs in 2018. Of those 208 were admitted for alcohol abuse and 101 were admitted for marijuana abuse. An estimated 50 were treated for prescription drug abuse.

Table 3.8 Substance Abuse Treatment Program Admissions by County, 2018

	Total Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment Program Admissions 2018	Admission for Alcohol	Admission for Marijuana	Admission for Prescription Drugs
Carter	35	13		<5
Douglas	63	13	10	<5
Howell	271	71	45	<5
Oregon	40	10	9	<5
Ozark	39	12		<5
Reynolds	26	7		6
Shannon	34	5	6	<5
Texas	130	47	17	12
Wright	98	30	14	<5
Region G	736	208	101	<53

Missouri Department of Mental Health, Community Profile 2019. Retrieved from <https://dmh.mo.gov/media/pdf/community-profile-2019-howell-county>.

Alcohol and Substance Abuse: Related Hospitalizations

Howell County led Region G in alcohol and drug-related related hospitalizations in 2016 with 82 and 73 respectively.

Table 3.9 Alcohol and Substance Abuse Related Hospitalizations, 2016

	Substance Abuse Hospitalizations¹ (Ages 1 – 19) (per 100,000) 2007 - 2011	Substance Abuse Hospitalizations¹ (Ages 1 – 19) (per 100,000) 2007 - 2011	Alcohol-Related Hospitalizations² 2016	Drug-Related Hospitalizations² 2016	Alcohol-Related ER Visits not Requiring Hospitalization² 2016	Drug-Related ER Visits not Requiring Hospitalization² 2016
Carter	**11.2	**24.2	6	7	10	6
Douglas	0	**6.3	13	7	15	11
Howell	*31.0	52.8	82	73	76	69
Oregon	**7.3	*37.2	5	12	10	9
Ozark	**19.1	**10.3	9	6	8	5
Reynolds	**12.1	**26.6	2	0	6	1
Shannon	**18.4	**29.5	4	11	8	5
Texas	**6.1	*18.3	43	34	53	34
Wright	*26.2	*20.1	22	24	19	20
Region G (total/avg)	14.6	25.0	186	174	205	160

¹ University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets. 2013 – 2017 data. Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>. *Unstable rate (<20 cases). **Very unstable (<5 cases).

² Missouri Department of Mental Health, Community Profile 2019. Retrieved from <https://dmh.mo.gov/media/pdf/community-profile-2019-howell-county>.

Alcohol and Substance Abuse: Crashes and Fatalities

Howell County ranked highest in the region for alcohol and drug-related crashes in 2017. Between 2016 and 2017, Oregon County saw an increase of 75.0% in alcohol-related crashes, and Wright County saw an increase of 66.7%. Reynolds County saw the largest decrease in alcohol-related crashes with 75.0% change.

Table 3.10 Alcohol and Drug-Related Crashes, 2016 to 2017 Comparison

	Total Alcohol-Related Crashes 2016	Total Alcohol-Related Crashes 2017	Change in Alcohol-Related Crashes 2016 to 2017	Fatal Crashes due to Alcohol 2017	Fatal Crashes due to Drugs 2017
Carter	7	4	-42.9%	0	0
Douglas	14	11	-21.4%	0	0
Howell	32	36	12.5%	1	0
Oregon	4	7	75.0%	0	0
Ozark	16	11	-31.3%	0	0
Reynolds	16	4	-75.0%	0	1
Shannon	14	8	-42.9%	0	0
Texas	31	19	-38.7%	0	0
Wright	15	25	66.7%	0	0
Region G	149	125	10.9%	1	1

Missouri Department of Mental Health, Community Profile 2019.

HIV and Hepatitis C Outbreak Risk Due to Opioid Use

The CDC has identified 220 counties (top 5% nationwide) at risk of outbreaks of HIV and/or hepatitis C as a result of opioid use. Three Region G counties fall into this list: Reynolds County (national rank: 55), Ozark County (national rank: 185), and Wright County (national rank: 194.)

Table 3.11 HIV and HCV Incidence in Region G, 2016 and 2017 (rates per 100,000)

	Number of People Living with Diagnosed HIV 2016	New HIV Diagnoses 2017	Number of People Living with Diagnosed HIV 2016	Estimated Acute Hepatitis C Cases 2017
Carter	*	*	*	Not reported
Douglas	18	*	159	Not reported
Howell	14	*	42	Not reported
Oregon	9	*	101	Not reported
Ozark	*	*	*	Not reported
Reynolds	*	*	*	Not reported
Shannon	*	*	*	Not reported
Texas	10	*	46	Not reported
Wright	5	*	33	Not reported
Region G				
Missouri	12,104	10	237	11.12

amfAR Opioid and Health Indicators Database. Retrieved from <https://opioid.amfar.org/MO>. **Note:** *Small values suppressed to preserve confidentiality.

Adult Tobacco Use

In 2018, an average of one in four Region G adults smoked. This rate is significantly lower than 42.5% in 2007 and 40.5% in 2011. However, it still exceeds the state average of 22% in 2018. Half of smokers in the region made an attempt to quit in 2016. Texas County had the highest rate of smokers attempting to quit, with 60.22 of adult smokers. Ozark County had the lowest rate of smokers attempting to quit in 2016, with only 31.85%. This compares to the state average of 57.05%.

Table 3.12 Adult Smoking and Secondhand Smoke Exposure

	Prevalence (%) ¹ 2007	Prevalence (%) ¹ 2011	Rate ² 2018	Percent Current Smokers Who Made a Quit Attempt in Past Year ³ 2016	Percent Exposed to Secondhand Smoke at Work ³ (during past week among indoor workers) 2016
Carter	42.0%	35.4%	23%	47.70	29.90
Douglas	40.0%	31.2%	23%	49.57	8.76
Howell	35.0%	41.4%	23%	54.39	16.80
Oregon	45.8%	34.0%	24%	45.63	12.96
Ozark	39.5%	45.8%	24%	31.85	7.55
Reynolds	47.4%	43.4%	23%	58.76	25.06
Shannon	46.2%	53.7%	24%	53.67	13.56
Texas	48.2%	41.4%	24%	60.22	25.90
Wright	38.5%	39.0%	26%	49.86	9.24
Region G	42.5%	40.5%	24%	50.18	16.64
Missouri	35.5%	32.5%	22%	57.05	13.41

¹ Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, County Level Study on Tobacco Use

² County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2019 Rankings

³ Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Resident County-Level Study Profile. 2016.

Youth Tobacco Use

The 2019 rate of high school students who smoke in Missouri is 9.2%, compared to the US rate of 5.8%. More than one in ten (11.4%) high school males in Missouri smoke cigars, compared to 9.0% nationwide, and 10.9% of Missouri high school students use e-cigarettes, compared to the national average of 27.5%. County-level data are not available for youth tobacco use.

Table 3.13 Missouri Youth Tobacco Use to U.S. Comparison, 2019

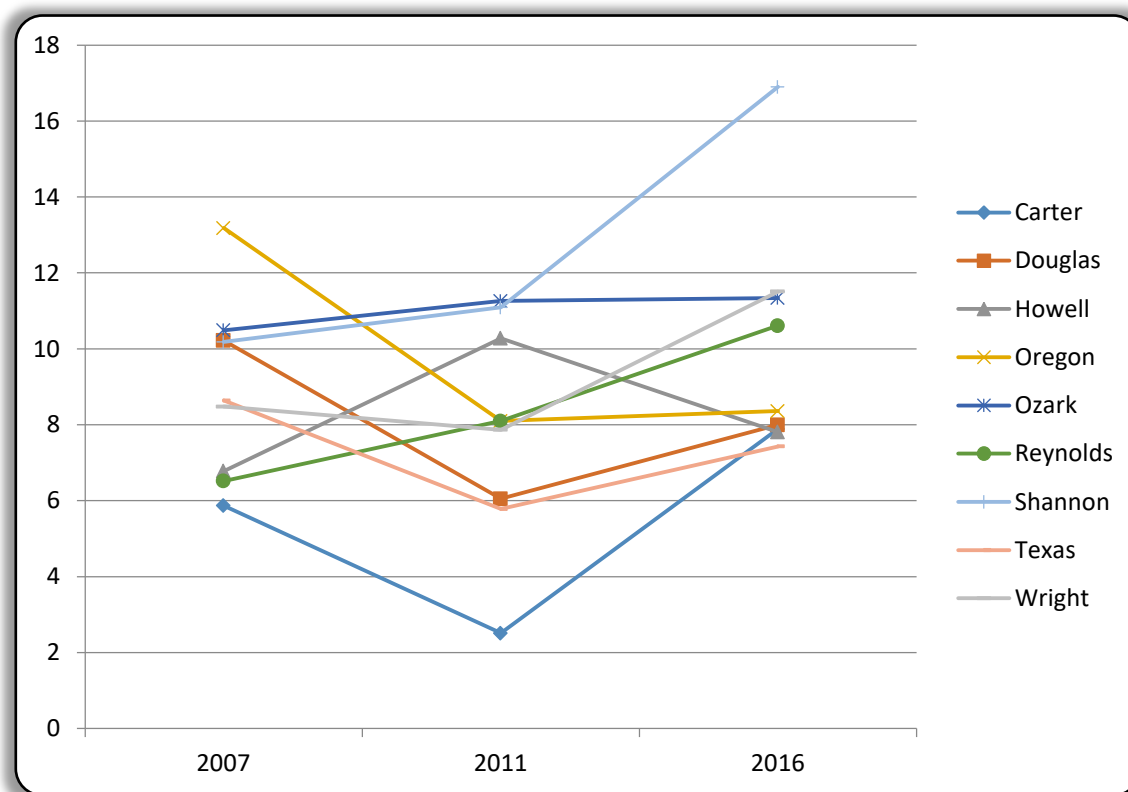
	Smoking	Males Smoking Cigars	Using E-Cigarettes
Missouri	9.2%	11.4%	10.9%
U.S.	5.8%	9.0%	27.5%

Tobacco Free Kids. The Toll of Tobacco in Missouri. 2019. Retrieved from <https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/problem/toll-us/missouri>

E-Cigarette and Smokeless Tobacco Use

Smokeless tobacco use in Ozark County, Reynolds County, and Shannon County increased from 2007 to 2016. In the other six counties in Region G, smokeless tobacco use dropped between 2007 and 2011, but then climbed again between 2011 and 2016.

Figure 3.4 Trends in Smokeless Tobacco Use, 2007 – 2016



Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Resident County-Level Study Profile. 2016

E-cigarettes were introduced in the U.S. in the mid-2000s, and sales have increased rapidly since 2007. In 2011, the prevalence of e-cigarette use (defined as used during at least one day in the past 30 days) among high school students was 1.5%. By 2015, it had climbed to 16%, passing use of regular cigarettes among high school students. Young adults (age 18 – 24) used e-cigarettes at a rate of 13.6% in 2013 – 2014, and adults age 25 and older used e-cigarettes at a rate of 5.7% in the same period.

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services reports findings from its 2017 Missouri Youth Tobacco Survey and Youth Risk Behavior Survey (2007 – 2017) that suggest youth smoking rates are declining overall. However, they report the introduction of e-cigarettes caused an increase in rates of high school students who use vaping products, with one in four high school students trying a vaping product (2013 – 2015).

Table 3.14 E-Cigarette and Smokeless Tobacco Use

	Smokeless Tobacco Use 2007	Smokeless Tobacco Use 2011	Smokeless Tobacco Use 2016	E-Cigarette Use 2016
Carter	5.87	2.51	7.89	4.81
Douglas	10.22	6.05	8.00	3.83
Howell	6.78	10.28	7.81	2.70
Oregon	13.18	8.10	8.36	5.27
Ozark	10.49	11.26	11.34	5.24
Reynolds	6.52	8.10	10.61	4.08
Shannon	10.18	11.09	16.9	3.68
Texas	8.64	5.78	7.43	4.41
Wright	8.48	7.87	11.51	1.73
Region G	8.93	7.89	9.98	3.97
Missouri	4.06	4.42	5.03	5.29

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Resident County-Level Study Profile. 2016

Tobacco Related Hospitalizations and Deaths

Region G had a total of 3,547 estimated deaths attributable to smoking between 2007 and 2017, for a rate of 163.29. Carter County had the highest rate of smoking attributable deaths in the region at 210.35, and Oregon had the lowest rate at 140.0. Rates in all nine counties exceeded the state rate of 138.93.

Table 3.15 Smoking Attributable Deaths, 2007 – 2017

	Total Smoking Attributable Deaths (estimated) 2007 – 2017	Rate of Smoking Attributable Deaths (estimated) 2007 - 2017
Carter	188	210.95
Douglas	339	145.86
Howell	1,020	170.57
Oregon	255	140.00
Ozark	274	151.34
Reynolds	191	172.11
Shannon	205	160.37
Texas	601	148.62
Wright	474	169.75
Region G	3,547	163.29
Missouri	109,109	138.93

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Resident Death – Leading Causes Profile. 2007 – 2017.

Section IV

Injury

Unintentional Injuries

Between 2005 and 2015 the rate of emergency room visits and hospitalizations in Region G due to unintentional injuries was slightly higher than the state average. Region G had an average rate of deaths from unintentional injuries of 60.51, exceeding the state rate of 49.98.

The highest rate of deaths in the region came from motor vehicle accidents, at 26.36, followed by poisoning from drugs and alcohol at an average rate of 10.61. Reynolds County had the highest rate of death at 103.35, with 46.54 caused by motor vehicle accidents. Wright County had the lowest rate of deaths at 45.35, just under the state average of 49.98.

Table 4.1 Death Rates: Total Unintentional Injuries by Type, 2005 – 2015 and 2007 – 2017

	Hospitalizations	ER Visits	Deaths (rate)	Motor Vehicle Deaths	Firearm Deaths	Poisoning: Drugs/Alcohol	Falls	Drowning (non- boating)
	2005 - 2015		2007 - 2017					
Carter	66.46	94.65	81.83	33.09	*2.31	*16.85	*6.93	*3.21
Douglas	46.15	45.77	50.86	22.91	*2.22	*6.01	*5.55	*2.21
Howell	60.38	97.82	59.44	25.31	*0.79	12.94	5.38	*1.74
Oregon	49.50	72.68	58.66	29.62	*1.01	*8.75	*3.02	*2.30
Ozark	48.50	39.28	62.57	23.23	*1.56	*16.98	*3.92	0.00
Reynolds	72.3	110.72	103.35	46.54	*0.82	*15.05	*10.12	*4.43
Shannon	48.45	95.55	73.21	39.11	*3.49	*7.81	*5.19	*1.24
Texas	47.57	99.97	58.72	26.34	*2.21	8.69	6.86	*1.77
Wright	61.17	82.03	45.35	16.8	*1.21	*7.33	*5.5	*1.54
Region G	54.84	85.74	60.51	26.36	1.55	10.61	5.65	1.87
Missouri	51.23	83.27	49.98	14.05	0.32	15.12	10.02	1.19

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Resident Unintentional Injury Profile. Retrieved from <https://healthapps.dhss.mo.gov/MoPhims/ProfileBuilder?pc=13>

Note: *Indicates rate is unreliable with <20 events in numerator.

Teen Unintentional Injuries

The rate of teen unintentional injuries, homicides and suicides in Region G exceeded the state average in the 2008 – 2012 reporting period, with 62.7 and 53.8 respectively. Missouri's rate climbed in the next reporting period (2013 – 2017) to 76.2, continuing to exceed the state average of 49.6.

Reynolds County experienced the sharpest increase in teen unintentional injuries, with growth of 450% between reporting periods. Wright County saw a 333.0% increase in teen injuries, and Douglas County saw a 205.7% increase between reporting periods.

Table 4.2 Teen Unintentional Injuries, 2008 – 2012 and 2013 – 2017 Comparison

	Teen Unintentional Injury/homicide/suicide (per 100,00) 2008 – 2012	Teen Unintentional Injury/homicide/suicide (per 100,00) 2013 – 2017	Percent Change Teen Unintentional Injuries 2008 – 2012 to 2013 - 2017
Carter	45.8	0.0	100.0%
Douglas	45.7	139.7	205.7%
Howell	60.4	72.8	20.5%
Oregon	78.3	57.9	-26.1%
Ozark	109.0	0.0	-100.0%
Reynolds	45.1	248.1	450.0%
Shannon	104.4	35.2	-66.3%
Texas	59.8	65.6	9.7%
Wright	15.4	66.7	333.0%
Region G	62.7	76.2	21.5%
Missouri	53.8	49.6	-7.8%

University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets.
Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>

Children and Youth Hospitalizations for Substance Abuse and Mental/Behavioral Health

Seven of nine Region G counties saw an increase in substance abuse hospitalizations for children and teens.
Five of the nine counties also saw an increase in mental and behavioral health hospitalizations.

Table 4.3 Children and Youth Hospitalization for Substance Abuse and Mental/Behavioral Health

	Substance Abuse Hospitalization (ages 1 – 19) (per 100,000) 2007 - 2011	Substance Abuse Hospitalization (ages 1 – 19) (per 100,000) 2007 - 2011	Percent Change Substance Abuse Hospitalization	Mental/Behavioral Hospitalization (not substance abuse) (ages 1 – 19) (per 10,000) 2007 - 2011	Mental/behavioral Hospitalization (not substance abuse) (ages 1 – 19) (per 10,000) 2012 - 2016	Percent Change Mental/Behavioral Health Hospitalizations
Carter	**11.2	**24.2	116.0%	127.2	103.0	-19.0%
Douglas	0	**6.3		44.8	61.3	36.8%
Howell	*31.0	52.8	70.3%	95.9	105.4	9.9%
Oregon	**7.3	*37.2	409.6%	121.5	98.3	-19.1%
Ozark	**19.1	**10.3	-46.1%	52.7	44.2	-16.1%
Reynolds	**12.1	**26.6	119.8%	112.7	136.9	21.5%
Shannon	**18.4	**29.5	60.3%	49.4	74.7	51.2%
Texas	**6.1	*18.3	200.0%	94.9	85.2	-10.2%
Wright	*26.2	*20.1	-23.3%	88.4	105.4	19.2%
Region G	14.6	9.0	-38.4%	87.5	90.5	3.4%
Missouri	19.7	22.2	12.7%	92.0	103.0	12.0%

University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets.
Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>. Note: *Unstable rate (<20 cases). **Very unstable (<5 cases).

Child Preventable Hospitalizations

Between 2013 and 2017, the rate of preventable child hospitalizations dropped for every county in Region G, from an average of 11.3 in 2013 to a rate of 7.5 in 2017. The region slightly exceeds the state rate of 8.4 in 2013 and 7.1 in 2017.

Table 4.4 Preventable Hospitalizations for All Causes for Children under Age 18

	Preventable Hospitalizations for All Causes for Children under Age 18 (rate per 1,000) 2013	Preventable Hospitalizations for All Causes for Children under Age 18 (rate per 1,000) 2017	Percent Change Preventable Hospitalizations for All Causes for Children under Age 18 (rate per 1,000) 2013 to 2017
Carter	36.4	21.4	-41.2%
Douglas	3.1	2.8	-9.7%
Howell	7.8	7.2	-7.7%
Oregon	9.7	8.0	-17.5%
Ozark	5.8	4.0	-31.0%
Reynolds	11.7	6.2	-47.0%
Shannon	7.9	3.9	-50.6%
Texas	9.8	8.2	-16.3%
Wright	9.5	5.8	-39.0%
Region G	11.3	7.5	-33.6%
Missouri	8.4	7.1	-15.5%

University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets. Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>

Motor Vehicle Fatalities and Seat Belt Use

Between 2007 and 2017, Region G reported motor vehicle deaths at a rate of 26.36, nearly double the state rate of 14.05. Reynolds County had the highest rate of motor vehicle deaths, with 46.54, and Wright County had the lowest rate, at 16.8.

On average, the region had an alcohol-impaired driving death rate of 30%, compared to the state average of 29%. A total of 60 Region G residents who died in motor vehicle accidents were not wearing a seat belt. Six of those deaths were unbelted teens.

A Missouri Department of Transportation survey conducted in selected counties that included Howell and Wright Counties showed that the majority of people wear a seat belt. Howell County observations reported an estimated 75.7% of vehicle occupants buckled up, while observations in Wright County resulted in an estimation that 86.2% of residents wear a seat belt when in the car.

Table 4.5 Motor Vehicle Fatalities and Seat Belt Use

	Motor Vehicle Deaths ¹ 2007-2017	Alcohol-impaired Driving Deaths ² 2018	Unbelted Occupant Fatalities ³ 2015 - 2017	Teen Unbelted Occupant Fatalities ³ 2015 - 2017	Seat Belt Use ⁴ Observations	Weighted Percent Seat Belt Use ⁴
Carter	33.09	64%	7	0		
Douglas	22.91	22%	2	0		
Howell	25.31	21%	13	3	2,856	75.7%
Oregon	29.62	25%	3	0		
Ozark	23.23	31%	6	1		
Reynolds	46.54	24%	9	2		
Shannon	39.11	36%	4	0		
Texas	26.34	33%	13	0		
Wright	16.8	13%	3	0	2,376	86.2%
Region G	26.36	30%	60	6		
Missouri	14.05	29%				

¹ Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Resident Unintentional Injury Profile. Retrieved from <https://healthapps.dhss.mo.gov/MoPhims/ProfileBuilder?pc=13>

² County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2019 Rankings

³ Missouri Department of Transportation. Missouri Motor Vehicle Occupant Fatalities, 2015 – 2017. Retrieved from <https://www.modot.org/safety-belts>

⁴ Missouri Department of Transportation. Missouri Statewide Safety Belt Survey, Seat Belt Usage by Survey Site. 2018 Survey Data. Only Howell and Wright Counties were included in the observation survey. Retrieved from <https://www.modot.org/safety-belts>.

In almost all child deaths in motor vehicle accidents in Region G, the children were not wearing a seat belt.

Table 4.6 Unrestrained Automobile Fatalities among Children Under 18 Years Old

	Unrestrained Automobile Fatalities (<18 Years) 2008 - 2012	Unrestrained Automobile Fatalities (<18 Years) 2013 - 2017	Percent Change Unrestrained Automobile Fatalities (<18 Years) 2008 – 2012 to 2013 – 2017
Carter	0%	0%	
Douglas	50%	100%	100.0%
Howell	60%	100%	66.7%
Oregon	100%	0%	-100.0%
Ozark	50%	100%	100.0%
Reynolds	0%	100%	
Shannon	100%	0%	-100.0%
Texas	100%	75%	-25.0%
Wright	0%	100%	
Region G	51%	64%	25.5%
Missouri	68%	59%	-13.2%

University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets. Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>

Section V

Maternal and Child Health Indicators

Maternal and Child Health Indicators

Live Births

Region G saw 1,656 live births in 2017, nearly level with 1,660 births in 2010 and 1,671 in 2007. The highest number of births occurred in Howell County, with 521 live births in 2017.

Table 5.1 Live Births

	Births 2007	Births 2010	Births 2017
Carter	80	70	70
Douglas	183	137	159
Howell	582	537	521
Oregon	117	132	104
Ozark	102	84	97
Reynolds	53	74	59
Shannon	99	111	96
Texas	319	284	291
Wright	136	231	259
Region G	1,671	1,660	1,656

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA), Births.

Education Status of New Mothers

In 2017, 18% of new mothers had less than 12 years of education, this compares to 22.6% in 2010 and 23.5% in 2008. Only Carter and Ozark Counties saw a rate increase between 2010 and 2017.

Table 5.2 Education Status: Mother's Years of Education

	Less than 12 years, 2008	Less than 12 years, 2010	Less than 12 years, 2017	Percent Change 2010 to 2017
Carter	25.0	24.3	*25.5	4.9%
Douglas	20.8	17.7	*12.0	-32.2%
Howell	23.5	22.7	14.6	-35.7%
Oregon	21.4	18.3	*14.6	-20.2%
Ozark	17.6	17.9	*18.6	3.9%
Reynolds	20.8	16.2	*13.6	-16.1%
Shannon	35.4	30.6	*16.7	-45.4%
Texas	21.3	21.6	18.1	-16.2%
Wright	25.6	28.7	21.5	-25.1%
Region G	23.5	22.6	18.0	-20.4%
Missouri	17.9	17.1	12.0	-29.8%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA), Births.

Teen Births

The rate of births to teens age 15 to 19 ranged from 18.9% in Oregon County to 46% in Howell County. Ozark County saw the largest growth in births to teens with a 49% increase between 2013 and 2017.

Table 5.3 Births to Females Age 15 to 19, 2013 to 2017 Comparison

	Births to Teens Age 15 – 19 2013	Births to Teens Age 15 – 19 2017	Percent Change
Carter	66.7	45.7	-31.5%
Douglas	47.4	26.7	-43.7%
Howell	51.7	46.0	-11.0%
Oregon	74.2	18.9	-74.5%
Ozark	30.0	44.7	49.0%
Reynolds	28.7	25.5	-11.2%
Shannon	64.9	32.4	-7.2%
Texas	40.1	32.8	-18.2%
Wright	54.8	42.2	-23.0%
Region G	50.9	35.0	-31.2%
Missouri	30.3	22.5	-25.7%

University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets. 2013 – 2017 data set (per 1,000). Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>.

Infant Birth Weight

In 2017, infants were born at a low birth weight in Region G at a rate of 8.22%, a decrease from 9.05% in 2010. Four counties saw an increase in low birth weight infants between 2010 and 2017. Ozark County's rate increased by 125.2%, while Shannon County's rate increased by 47.2%.

Table 5.4 Infant Low Birth Weight, 2010 to 2017 Comparison

	Birth Weight Very Low (<1500g) 2010	Birth Weight Very Low (<1500g) 2017	Percent Change Birth Weight Very Low 2010 to 2017	Birth Weight Low (<2500g) 2010	Birth Weight Low (<2500g) 2017	Percent Change Birth Weight Low 2010 to 2017
Carter				*18.57	*7.14	-61.6%
Douglas				*7.35	*5.06	-31.2%
Howell	*1.49	0.96	-35.6%	8.75	7.49	-14.4%
Oregon				*9.09	*11.54	27.0%
Ozark				*5.95	*13.4	125.2%
Reynolds				*9.59	*10.17	6.1%
Shannon				*9.91	*14.59	47.2%
Texas				10.21	8.93	-12.5%
Wright				*6.93	*5.02	-27.6%
Region G	*1.63	*1.15	-29.45	9.05	8.22	-9.2%
Missouri	1.46	1.52	4.11	8.25	8.71	5.6%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA), Births.

Gestation

In 2017, an average of 9.55% of births occurred pre-term, or at less than 37 weeks of gestation. This compares to the state average of 10.57. Four counties in the region saw a significant decrease in the rate of preterm babies born between 2010 and 2017. Reynolds County saw an 11.2% rate increase and Wright and Oregon Counties experienced a small rate increase.

Table 5.5 Gestation: Preterm (less than 37 completed weeks)

	Rate per 100 2007	Rate per 100 2010	Rate per 100, 2017	Percent Change 2010 to 2017
Carter	16.9	27.1	*12.86	-52.5%
Douglas	10.6	19.0	*8.92	-53.0%
Howell	12.1	12.1	7.68	-36.5%
Oregon	11.0	11.4	*11.54	1.2%
Ozark	11.8	11.9	*10.42	-12.4%
Reynolds	8.3	12.2	*13.56	11.2%
Shannon	17.3	17.1	*16.67	-2.5%
Texas	14.4	13.7	8.48	-38.1%
Wright	10.6	9.1	9.30	2.2%
Region G	12.4	14.8	9.55	-35.5%
Missouri	13.0	12.3	10.57	-14.1%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA), Births.

Prenatal Care

All Region G counties, except Oregon County, had a higher rate of inadequate prenatal care in 2017 than the state average. Douglas and Carter Counties saw the most significant increase in the rate of inadequate prenatal care in a 2010 to 2017 comparison, with 168% and 112.7% growth respectively. Douglas and Howell County also recorded a rate of women receiving no prenatal care that exceeds the state rate.

Prenatal care helps to ensure a healthy pregnancy and reduce the risk of complications for the baby and the mother. The American Academy of Pediatrics and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists recommend prenatal care with early and ongoing risk assessment for all women. Research shows that lower rates of prenatal care are linked to younger women, women with less education, women giving birth to their fourth or more child, and women of non-Hispanic Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander race and ethnicity.

In 2017, approximately eight in ten (80.04%) Missouri women received adequate prenatal care. In Region G, that rate was lower, with only 76% of women receiving adequate prenatal care.

Table 5.6 Prenatal Care: Inadequate or None

	Inadequate (rate per 100) 2007	Inadequate (rate per 100) 2010	Inadequate (rate per 100) 2017	Percent Change Inadequate 2010 to 2017	No Prenatal Care 2017
Carter	14.5	15.9	33.82	112.7%	
Douglas	8.9	11.6	31.08	168.0%	*4.67
Howell	6.8	15.0	20.32	35.5%	*3.73
Oregon	6.4	12.1	*17.48	44.5%	
Ozark	8.9	24.1	24.47	1.5%	
Reynolds	18.9	25.7	*26.32	2.4%	
Shannon	12.6	11.3	*20.88	84.8%	
Texas	8.5	12.7	21.07	65.9%	
Wright	8.9	17.0	29.88	75.8%	
Region G	8.7	16.2	23.83	47.1%	2.33
Missouri	11.9	16.8	19.96	18.8%	1.38

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA), Births. Inadequate measure Missouri index.

Prenatal Weight for Height

Region G had a higher rate of obese prenatal women than the state average, and six of the nine counties in the region showed an increase in the rate of obese prenatal women when comparing 2010 to 2017 data.

Table 5.7 Prenatal Care: Weight for Height, 2010 to 2017 Comparison

	Weight for Height Overweight (BMI 25.0 – 29.9) 2010	Weight for Height Overweight (BMI 25.0 – 29.9) 2017	% Change Overweight 2010 - 2017	Weight for Height Obese (BMI 30+) 2010	Weight for Height Obese (BMI 30+) 2017	% Change Obese 2010 to 2017
Carter	*18.46	*24.64	33.5%	33.85	31.88	-5.8%
Douglas	19.53	26.75	37.0%	21.88	19.75	-9.7%
Howell	24.57	24.38	-0.8%	23.43	32.25	37.6%
Oregon	26.72	22.12	-17.2%	30.17	36.54	21.1%
Ozark	*23.44	22.68	-3.4%	34.38	34.02	-1.0%
Reynolds	27.78	*25.42	-8.5%	29.17	38.98	33.6%
Shannon	22.02	21.05	-4.4%	28.44	31.58	11.0%
Texas	21.55	24.91	15.6%	25.09	30.53	21.7%
Wright	22.67	20.23	-10.8%	27.11	33.07	22.0%
Region G	23.19	23.66	2.0%	26.09	31.45	20.5%
Missouri	23.65	24.43	3.3%	23.85	28.03	17.5%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA), Births.

Prenatal Weight Change

In 2010 and 2017, Region G had a slightly higher rate than the state of women who gained less than 15 pounds during pregnancy. Howell and Shannon Counties saw an increase in this rate between 2010 and 2017 with 25.1% growth and 21.2% growth respectively.

Region G's rates of women who gained more than 44 pounds during pregnancy are comparable to the state average. However, Region G counties have a slightly higher rate of mothers who are 20% or more overweight. Reynolds County had the highest rate at 57.63% in 2017. Douglas County had the lowest rate at 39.49%, compared to the state average of 45.26%.

Table 5.8 Prenatal Care: Weight Change, 2010 to 2017 Comparison

	Gained <15lb 2010	Gained <15lb 2017	Percent Change Gained <15lb	Gained >44lb 2010	Gained >44lb 2017	Percent Change Gained >44lb	Mother Overweight 20% or More 2010	Mother Overweight 20% or More 2017	Percent Change Mother Overweight 20% or More
Carter		*10.17		*18.42	37.29	102.4%	44.62	49.28	10.4%
Douglas		*10.00		20.41	24.29	19.0%	36.72	39.49	7.5%
Howell	13.41	16.77	25.1%	20.44	20.81	1.8%	41.90	51.25	22.3%
Oregon	*16.00	*15.22	-4.9%	20.00	*18.48	-7.6%	50.00	53.85	7.7%
Ozark		*11.90		*26.92	*16.67	-38.1%	51.56	45.36	-12.0%
Reynolds		*14.58		*8.47	*14.58	72.1%	50.00	57.63	15.3%
Shannon	*19.51	*15.38	-21.2%	24.39	*24.36	-0.1%	43.12	46.32	7.4%
Texas	16.03	15.92	-0.7%	17.30	20.00	15.6%	39.22	48.77	24.4%
Wright	14.51	14.29	-1.5%	19.69	16.02	-18.6%	43.56	49.03	12.6%
Region G	14.69	14.78	0.6%	19.63	20.51	4.5%	42.79	49.03	14.6%
Missouri	11.39	13.42	17.8%	19.91	20.40	2.5%	40.24	45.26	12.5%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA), Births.

Smoked During Pregnancy

According to Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, 23.87% of mothers in Region G smoked during pregnancy in 2017, compared to 14.46% of mothers in Missouri. This was a decrease from 30.1% and 18.7% in 2010 respectively. All nine counties reported higher rates of mothers who smoked during pregnancy than the state average.

Between 2010 and 2017, the rate of mothers who smoked during pregnancy dropped in every county except Carter County. Carter County saw a rate increase of 23.8%.

Table 5.9 Smoked During Pregnancy, 2010 to 2017 Comparison

	Rate per 100 2007	Rate per 100 2010	Rate per 100 2017	Percent Change 2010 to 2017
Carter	31.2	30.0	37.14	23.8%
Douglas	25.4	22.6	18.24	-19.3%
Howell	25.5	29.6	22.97	-22.4%
Oregon	29.1	31.1	29.13	-6.3%
Ozark	29.4	27.4	*18.75	-31.6%
Reynolds	30.0	33.8	*28.07	-17.0%
Shannon	37.5	36.0	22.92	-36.3%
Texas	23.2	31.7	26.83	-15.4%
Wright	26.7	29.0	21.48	-25.9%
Region G	26.9	30.1	23.87	-20.7%
Missouri	17.7	18.7	14.46	-22.7%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA), Births.

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program

A total of 6,272 persons in Region G received WIC benefits in 2016, a decrease from 10,506 in 2009.

Table 5.10 Missouri Resident WIC Participants by Age

	Prenatal Participants 2009	Prenatal Participants 2016	Infant Participants 2009	Infant Participants 2016	Children Certified 2009	Children Certified 2016
Carter	145	112	81	64	375	157
Douglas	166	213	82	120	568	270
Howell	817	705	462	374	2,019	912
Oregon	193	177	100	103	589	273
Ozark	130	118	72	63	334	147
Reynolds	101	68	60	36	198	100
Shannon	158	131	82	73	365	149
Texas	434	352	235	206	1,035	456
Wright	427	300	229	170	1,049	423
Region G	2,571	2,176	1,403	1,209	6,532	2,887
Missouri	79,443	63,816	46,885	38,153	16,7522	72,465

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA), Missouri Resident WIC Participants.

In 2016, an average of 61.1% of children under five years old in Region G were income eligible to participate in the WIC program, however, only 75.5% of those children were participating. This is a slight increase from 74% of those eligible and participating in 2013, and exceeds the 2016 state average of 59.7%.

The largest increase in children eligible and participating occurred in Ozark County and Douglas County with an increase of 21.1% and 20.3% respectively. Texas County saw a 16.3% increase in children eligible and participating between 2013 and 2016, and Wright County had a 12.6% increase. The other five counties in Region G experienced a decrease, and the state rate decreased by 27.6%.

Table 5.11 WIC Eligibility and Percent Participating, 2013 to 2016 Comparison

	Percent <5 Years Income Eligible 2013	Percent <5 Years Income Eligible 2016	Percent Change <5 Years Eligible 2013 to 2016	Percent <5 Years Eligible and Participating 2013	Percent <5 Years Eligible and Participating 2016	Percent Change <5 Years Eligible and Participating 2013 to 2016
Carter	77.1	79.8	3.5%	69.9	65.9	-5.7%
Douglas	74.2	58.1	-21.7%	64.0	77.0	20.3%
Howell	55.9	64.6	15.6%	81.4	74.1	-9.0%
Oregon	54.3	68.5	26.2%	100	95.7	-4.3%
Ozark	59.1	55.2	-6.6%	67.7	82.0	21.1%
Reynolds	46.2	53.5	15.8%	61.6	49.4	-19.8%
Shannon	56.3	49.4	-12.3%	91.3	87.8	-3.8%
Texas	75.6	61.9	-18.1%	50.4	58.6	16.3%
Wright	65.2	59.1	-9.4%	79.4	89.4	12.6%
Region G	62.6	61.1	-2.4%	74.0	75.5	2.0%
Missouri	50.9	46.4	-8.8%	82.5	59.7	-27.6%

University of Missouri Extension, Interdisciplinary Center for Food Service, Missouri Hunger Atlas, 2016. Retrieved from http://foodsecurity.missouri.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/20160708_New-Missouri-Hunger-Atlas-2016-text-final_3_full-doc-w-county-profiles.pdf

Section VI

Infection and Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Infections

Communicable Disease

Communicable diseases can be passed from person to person. Local public health agencies monitor diseases in their community through active and passive surveillance. They quickly investigate reported illness in order to slow and stop the spread of disease. Reportable diseases for Region G counties are described in Table 6.1.

Table 6.1 Reported Communicable Diseases, 2018

	Carter	Douglas	Howell	Oregon	Ozark	Reynolds	Shannon	Texas	Wright
Animal Bite		4	21	10	1	13		3	
Campylobacteriosis		5	19	5	3	6	2	12	3
Cryptosporidiosis		3	5			1			1
E. coli			2		1			1	1
Ehrlichia		3	8	4		3	3	4	1
Giardiasis			3	2	1		1	2	1
Hepatitis A	20		1	5		5		2	
Hepatitis B	1		1				1		
Hepatitis C	16	9	42	5	7	6	6	23	15
Haemophilus Influenzae		1	1	2	1			2	2
Influenza		286	985		26	296		494	473
Legionellosis		1					1	1	1
Meningococcal Disease							1	1	2
MOTT		2	1	1			1	3	2
Mumps								1	
Pertussis			1	1		1			
Rabies (animal)			1					1	
Rabies (post-exposure prophylaxis)		1	25	10		3		3	
Rocky Mt. Spotted Fever	1	1	18	14		2	5	3	3
Salmonellosis	1		8	3	2	1	2	8	3
Shiga Toxin			1	2					
Shigellosis			1						
Strep Pneumoniae		2	4	2	1	1		2	1
TB Infection	1		10			1		1	
TB Disease		1							1
Tularemia		1	1	1					
Varicella			1	1	2			1	

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Bureau of Reportable Disease Informatics. 2018

Hospitalizations Related to Infections

Hospitalizations related to infections occurred at a rate of 52.46 in Region G in 2015, compared to the state rate of 52.12. All nine counties in Region G saw an increase in hospitalization rates related to infection between 2010 and 2015. Reynolds County and Shannon County experienced the highest rate increase at 35%. Carter County saw the lowest rate increase at 9.8%.

Table 6.2 Inpatient Hospitalizations Related to Infections, 2010 to 2015 Comparison

	Septicemia Number 2010	Septicemia Number 2015	Septicemia Rate 2010	Septicemia Rate 2015	Percent Change Septicemia Rate 2010 to 2015
Carter	67	36	42.18	46.3	9.8%
Douglas	121	77	30.16	37.96	25.9%
Howell	457	289	44.18	54.63	23.7%
Oregon	147	93	49.81	59.19	18.8%
Ozark	103	67	35.99	43.9	22.0%
Reynolds	74	52	39	52.88	35.6%
Shannon	67	45	31.54	42.64	35.2%
Texas	287	169	41.64	48.52	16.5%
Wright	245	164	53.77	72.07	34.0%
Region G	1,568	992	42.22	52.46	24.3%
Missouri	56,387	36,878	40.99	52.12	27.2%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA), Inpatient Hospitalization MICA.

Deaths Related to Infections

The regional rate of deaths related to septicemia remained fairly level between 2010 and 2017, and were comparable to the state rate.

Between 2014 and 2017, Region G counties saw an average rate of deaths due to pneumonia and influenza that was higher than the state rate of 16.91. Reynolds County had the largest rate increase between the two reporting periods of 2010 to 2013 and 2014 to 2017, at 86.5%. Carter County experienced a 26.7% increase, and Shannon County had a 19.2% rate increase.

Overall, Region G had a rate of death by infection that was higher than the state rate. Septicemia deaths in Region G occurred at a rate of 11.20 per 100,000 in 2014 – 2017, while the state rate was 11.14. Pneumonia and influenza deaths in Region G occurred at a rate of 19.17 during the same reporting period, compared to the state rate of 16.91. The rate of deaths from other infections and parasites in Region G between 2014 and 2017 was 6.63 per 100,000 population, while the state rate was 5.06 for the same time period.

Table 6.3 Deaths by Infection (rates per 100,000), 2010 – 2013 and 2014 – 2017 Comparison

	Septicemia 2010 – 2013	Septicemia 2014 - 2017	Pneumonia and Influenza 2010 - 2013	Pneumonia and Influenza 2014 - 2017	% Change P&I	Other Infections and Parasites 2010 - 2013	Other Infections and Parasites 2014 - 2017
Carter	*23.49	*12.45	*26.78	*33.92	26.7%	*6.97	*6.49
Douglas	*6.94	*4.14	*18.96	*13.97	-26.3%	*2.30	*3.08
Howell	11.60	10.09	20.83	19.32	-7.3%	*9.03	*9.75
Oregon	*6.35	*14.94	*29.79	*16.29	-45.3%	*7.40	*1.31
Ozark	*12.17	*6.80	*25.39	*13.06	-48.6%	*7.60	*14.21
Reynolds	*10.21	*6.09	*13.34	*24.88	86.5%	*2.73	*9.87
Shannon	*8.77	*8.62	*16.71	*19.92	19.2%	*10.44	*3.27
Texas	15.41	*13.79	34.63	25.80	-25.5%	*5.22	*7.42
Wright	*8.14	18.68	*14.27	*12.84	-10.0%	*12.11	*0.84
Region G	11.29	11.20	23.08	19.17	-16.9%	7.36	6.63
Missouri	11.05	11.14	17.54	16.91	-3.6%	6.33	5.06

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA), Missouri Resident Deaths. **Note:** *Rate is unreliable, numerator <20.

Tuberculosis

In 2016, 21 cases of latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI) were reported in Region G, a decrease from 38 cases in 2012. LTBI indicates a person has TB infection in the body, but has not developed TB *disease* and cannot spread TB to other people. LTBI may last for a lifetime and never develop into TB disease.

Table 6.4 Latent Tuberculosis Infection (rates per 100,000), 2012 to 2016 Comparison

	Cases 2012	Cases 2016	% Change Cases 2012 to 2016	Reporting Rate 2012	Reporting Rate 2016	% Change Reporting Rate 2012 to 2016
Carter	0	1		0	16.0	
Douglas	2	1	-50.0%	14.6	7.3	-50.0%
Howell	28	12	-57.1%	69.3	29.7	-57.1%
Oregon	3	1	-66.7%	27.6	9.2	-66.7%
Ozark	0	0		0	0	
Reynolds	4	1	-75.0%	59.7	14.9	-75.0%
Shannon	1	0	-100.0%	11.8	0	-100.0%
Texas	0	5		0	19.2	
Wright	0	0		0	0	
Region G	38	21	-44.7%	20.3	10.7	-47.3%
Missouri	2,830	2,996	5.87%	47.3	50.0	5.71%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Tuberculosis. Latent Tuberculosis Infection by Counties, 2016. Retrieved from https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/tuberculosis/pdf/2016_TB_Infections.pdf.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Sexually Transmitted Infections

Chlamydia is the most commonly reported sexually transmitted infection in the U.S. It is caused by a type of bacteria that can be passed from person to person during vaginal, oral or anal sex. Chlamydia can be treated with antibiotics, but if left untreated, it can cause pelvic inflammatory disease and can lead to long-term health problems including difficulty getting pregnant. Region G saw a total of 334 chlamydia cases in 2018, a decrease from 341 in 2017.

Gonorrhea is the second most commonly reported sexually transmitted infection in the U.S and often occurs with chlamydia. It is also caused by bacteria that can be passed to other people during vaginal, oral or anal sex. Gonorrhea often causes only mild symptoms or no symptoms at all. Yearly screening is recommended for women younger than 25 years old, or older than 25 with risk factors for gonorrhea. If left untreated, it can lead to long-term health complications. Region G saw a total of 78 gonorrhea cases in 2018, a decrease from 89 in 2017.

Syphilis is also caused by bacteria, and is spread from person to person when bacteria enter the body through a cut in the skin or through contact with a partner's syphilis sore, called a chancre. Syphilis is often spread through sexual contact and increase a person's risk of becoming infected with or transmitting HIV. Syphilis can be treated with antibiotics, but if left untreated, it can lead to very serious illness later in life. Syphilis cases in Region G increased dramatically between 2017 and 2018, from 13 cases to 386 cases.

Table 6.5 Sexually Transmitted Diseases, 2017 to 2018 Comparison

	Chlamydia 2017	Chlamydia 2018	Gonorrhea 2017	Gonorrhea 2018	Syphilis 2017	Syphilis 2018
Carter	13	15	3	8		371
Douglas	27	36	9	5	2	2
Howell	135	124	20	31	6	1
Oregon	15	25	8	2		1
Ozark	14	12	7	2		
Reynolds	10	8	2			1
Shannon	10	13	3			
Texas	65	47	20	19	3	5
Wright	52	54	17	11	2	5
Region G	341	334	89	78	13	386

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Bureau of Reportable Disease Informatics. Reportable Sexually Transmitted Diseases, by County, for 2018. Retrieved from <https://health.mo.gov/data/hivstdaids/data.php>

Section VII

Chronic Disease

Prevalence of Chronic Disease Risk Factors

County Health Rankings and Roadmaps ranks Missouri counties on the prevalence of chronic disease risk factors. The rankings for each county by indicator are shown in Table 7.1.

Table 7.1 Overall Ranking (of 115 Missouri Counties)

	Health Outcomes	Length of Life	Health Factors	Health Behaviors	Clinical Care	Social and Economic Factors	Physical Environment
Carter	99	102	104	103	110	104	25
Douglas	66	69	92	72	104	85	46
Howell	73	73	90	94	32	88	100
Oregon	105	104	102	81	88	105	61
Ozark	100	78	103	66	103	102	103
Reynolds	101	98	93	93	95	90	19
Shannon	74	38	109	75	90	113	50
Texas	88	79	99	96	101	95	29
Wright	97	97	100	92	98	100	30

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2019 Rankings

Poor or Fair Health, Physical Health, and Mental Health

In comparison with the Missouri statewide average, counties in Region G had a higher rate of poor or fair health days in both 2014 and 2019. The rates of poor physical health days in Region G also exceeded the state average in 2014 and 2019. Three of the counties had an equal to or lower rate of poor mental health days than the state average in 2014, but by 2019, the counties' rates all exceeded the state average.

Table 7.2 Poor or Fair Health, Physical Health, and Mental Health

	Poor or Fair Health 2014	Poor or Fair Health 2019	Poor Physical Health Days 2014	Poor Physical Health Days 2019	Poor Mental Health Days 2014	Poor Mental Health Days 2019
Carter		22%		5.1		4.8
Douglas	21%	21%	7.6	5.0	3.8	4.9
Howell	21%	21%	4.4	5.0	5.9	4.7
Oregon	19%	22%		5.0	2.9	4.8
Ozark	16%	23%	5.6	5.2		4.8
Reynolds	28%	23%	5.0	5.1	5.5	4.7
Shannon	25%	21%	3.9	4.9	2.9	4.7
Texas	30%	22%	6.8	5.1	4.7	4.8
Wright	20%	24%	4.5	4.8	4.1	4.9
Region G	22%	22%	5.4	5.0	4.3	4.8
Missouri	16%	19%	3.7	4.2	3.8	4.4

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2019 Rankings

Activity Limitation

Between 2014 and 2019, Howell County saw an increase in percent of the population who were physically inactive. Carter County and Shannon County also saw an increase of approximately 3% each. All counties in Region G improved the rate of access to exercise opportunities, however the average rate for the region still falls short of the state rate.

Table 7.3 Physical Inactivity and Access to Exercise Opportunities, 2014 and 2019 Comparison

	Physical Inactivity 2014	Physical Inactivity 2019	% Change Physical Inactivity	Access to Exercise Opportunities 2014	Access to Exercise Opportunities 2019	% Change Access to Exercise Opportunities
Carter	30%	31%	3.3%	74%	77%	4.1%
Douglas	33%	33%	0.0%	36%	43%	19.4%
Howell	28%	30%	7.4%	54%	56%	3.7%
Oregon	35%	31%	-11.4%	23%	51%	121.7%
Ozark	32%	28%	-12.5%	31%	40%	29.0%
Reynolds	34%	32%	-5.9%	64%	64%	0.0%
Shannon	29%	30%	3.5%	67%	73%	9.0%
Texas	36%	29%	-19.4%	33%	66%	100.0%
Wright	32%	31%	-3.1%	29%	34%	17.2%
Region G	32%	31%	-3.1%	46%	56%	21.7%
Missouri	27%	25%	-7.4%	70%	76%	8.6%

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2019 Rankings

Food Environment

Food Environment Index ranges from 0 (worst) to 10 (best). It is measured by both income and the distance a person lives from a grocery store or supermarket. These stores traditionally provide healthier options than convenience stores or smaller grocery stores. For rural areas, “living close” to a grocery store means within 10 miles.

Areas without access to fresh fruit, vegetables and other healthful whole foods because of limited numbers of grocery stores or Farmers Markets are designated by the USDA as *food deserts*. Food deserts are correlated with high prevalence of overweight, obesity, and premature death.

Food *insecurity* looks at the barrier of cost as a factor in access to healthy foods. It estimates the percentage of the population that did not have access to a reliable source of food during the past year.

Table 7.4 shows the food environment index, the percent of people who are food uncertain and food uncertain with hunger, food affordability and food bank distributions.

Table 7.4 Food Environment

	Food Environment Index¹ 2019	Percent of Individuals Food Uncertain² 2016	Percent of Individuals Food Uncertain with Hunger² 2016	Food Affordability² (% of median income) 2016	Food Bank Distributions² (lbs per capita below 100% poverty level) 2016	Percent of Housing Units without Complete Kitchen Facilities³ 2013 - 2017
Carter	5.3	17.4	8.2	21.9	108	1.0%
Douglas	6.7	16.9	7.9	23.9	45	1.1%
Howell	6.8	17.2	8.1	20.2	83	2.9%
Oregon	6.8	17.7	8.3	23.2	98	1.5%
Ozark	5.0	16.4	7.7	21.7	50	1.2%
Reynolds	6.1	18.0	8.5	20.8	301	0.8%
Shannon	7.1	17.9	8.4	15.0	118	0.6%
Texas	7.1	16.7	7.8	21.6	117	1.8%
Wright	7.0	18.3	8.6	24.1	86	0.4%
Region G	6.4	17.4	8.2	21.4	112	1.3%
Missouri	6.8	16.4	7.7	14.8	120	0.8%

¹ Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2019 Rankings

² University of Missouri Extension, Interdisciplinary Center for Food Service, Missouri Hunger Atlas, 2016. Retrieved from http://foodsecurity.missouri.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/20160708_New-Missouri-Hunger-Atlas-2016-text-final_3_full-doc-w-county-profiles.pdf

³ U. S. Census Bureau 2013 – 2017 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates. Selected Housing Characteristics.

In Region G, the number of fresh fruits and vegetables residents eat can be influenced by a number of factors. More than 6% of households have no access to a vehicle. More than one in three restaurants are fast food establishments, and very few sell fresh produce.

Table 7.5 Access to Fresh Produce, 2014 - 2016

	Percent of Population who Eat <5 Servings of Fruits & Vegetables per Day¹ 2016	Percent of Households with no Access to a Vehicle² 2014	Rate of Food Establishments Selling Fresh Produce² (per 10,000 population) 2014	Percent of Restaurants that are Fast Food² 2014	Ratio of Fast Food Establishments to those Selling Fresh Produce² 2014
Carter	88.51	10.83%	7.98	50.00%	1.20
Douglas	88.14	3.57%	2.19	36.36%	3.67
Howell	91.01	7.86%	3.22	41.07%	3.85
Oregon	90.05	5.68%	3.68	27.27%	2.75
Ozark	90.97	6.21%	3.09	20.00%	3.00
Reynolds	88.67	7.45%	2.99	25.00%	4.00
Shannon	90.49	4.14%	4.74	14.29%	1.50
Texas	89.26	5.38%	3.08	40.74%	2.75
Wright	88.32	5.45%	3.73	47.37%	2.86

	Percent of Population who Eat <5 Servings of Fruits & Vegetables per Day ¹ 2016	Percent of Households with no Access to a Vehicle ² 2014	Rate of Food Establishments Selling Fresh Produce ² (per 10,000 population) 2014	Percent of Restaurants that are Fast Food ² 2014	Ratio of Fast Food Establishments to those Selling Fresh Produce ² 2014
Region G	89.49	6.29%	3.86	33.57%	2.84
Missouri	88.47	7.36%	2.26	46.93%	4.86

¹ Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA). Missouri Resident County-Level Study Profile. 2016.

² Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (EPHT). 2005 – 2015 data set. Retrieved from https://ephtn.dhss.mo.gov/EPHTN_Data_Portal/.

Overweight or Obese

The prevalence of adult obesity in Region G decreased slightly between 2014 and 2019, from 33% to 32%. Reynolds County had the highest rate of adult obesity in 2019 at 35%, while Wright County had the lowest at 29%. Howell County saw the largest increase between 2014 and 2019, with a 13.8% change. Ozark County also increased by 3.5%, and the other counties remained level or decreased the rate of adult obesity.

The average rate of WIC children in the Region who were considered obese in 2016 was 12.98%, compared to the Missouri average of 14.31%.

Table 7.6 Overweight or Obese

	Adult Obesity Prevalence ¹ 2014	Adult Obesity Prevalence ¹ 2019	Percent Change	WIC Children (24 – 59 months) Obese 2016
Carter	33%	33%	0.0%	*9.00
Douglas	32%	32%	0.0%	*10.53
Howell	29%	33%	13.8%	11.86
Oregon	32%	31%	-3.1%	*8.99
Ozark	29%	30%	3.5%	*18.28
Reynolds	35%	35%	0.0%	*7.02
Shannon	37%	32%	-13.5%	*13.98
Texas	34%	33%	-2.9%	15.33
Wright	35%	29%	-17.1%	11.74
Region G	33%	32%	-3.0%	12.98
Missouri	31%	32%	3.2%	14.31

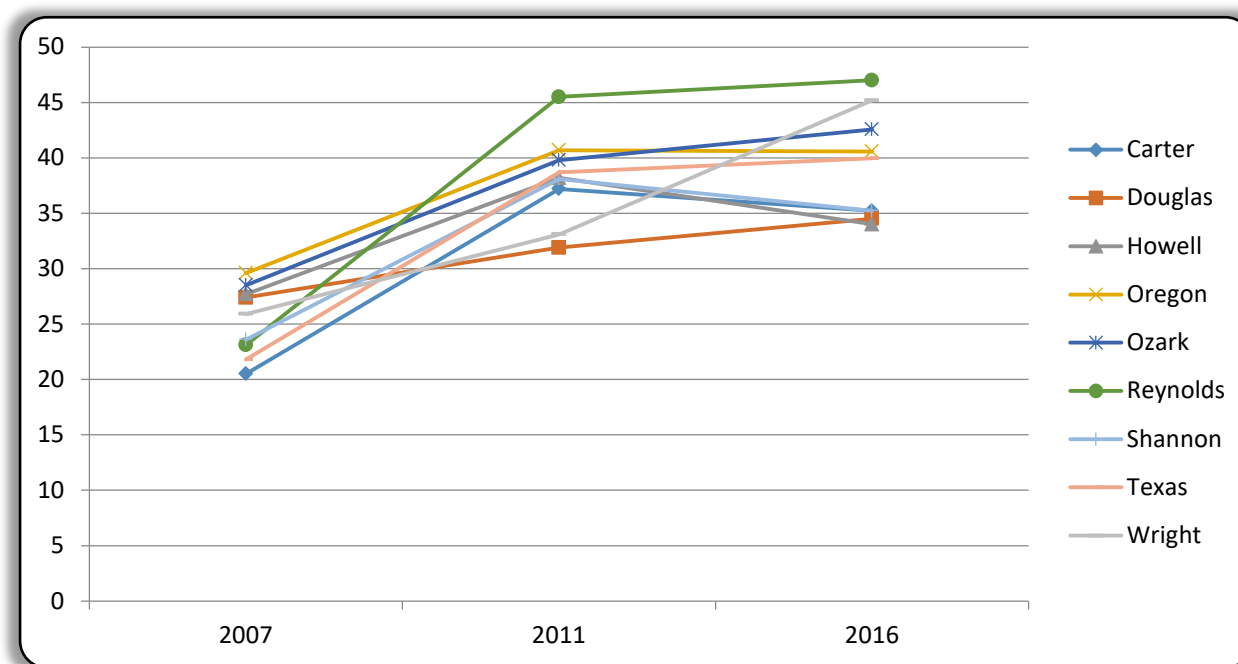
¹ Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, 2019 Rankings

² Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA), Missouri Resident Child Health Profile.

High Blood Pressure

Generally, the prevalence of persons with high blood pressure in Region G has trended higher since 2007. The average rate for the region in 2007 was 25.9. It climbed to 33.1 in 2011 and to 39.36 in 2016. All nine counties in the region saw an increase in high blood pressure prevalence between 2007 and 2016.

Figure 7.1 High Blood Pressure Trend, 2007 - 2016



Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Resident County-Level Study Profile. 2016.

Table 7.7 High Blood Pressure Prevalence, 2007 to 2016 Comparison

	2007	2011	2016	Percent Change 2007 to 2016
Carter	20.5	37.2	35.22	71.8%
Douglas	27.4	31.9	34.52	26.0%
Howell	27.7	38.2	34.01	22.8%
Oregon	29.6	40.7	40.58	37.1%
Ozark	28.5	39.8	42.57	49.4%
Reynolds	23.1	45.5	47.00	103.5%
Shannon	23.6	38.1	35.23	49.3%
Texas	21.8	38.7	39.96	83.3%
Wright	25.9	33.1	45.19	74.5%
Region G	25.9	33.1	39.36	52.0%
Missouri	20.4	34.4	33.73	65.3%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Resident County-Level Study Profile. 2016.

High Cholesterol

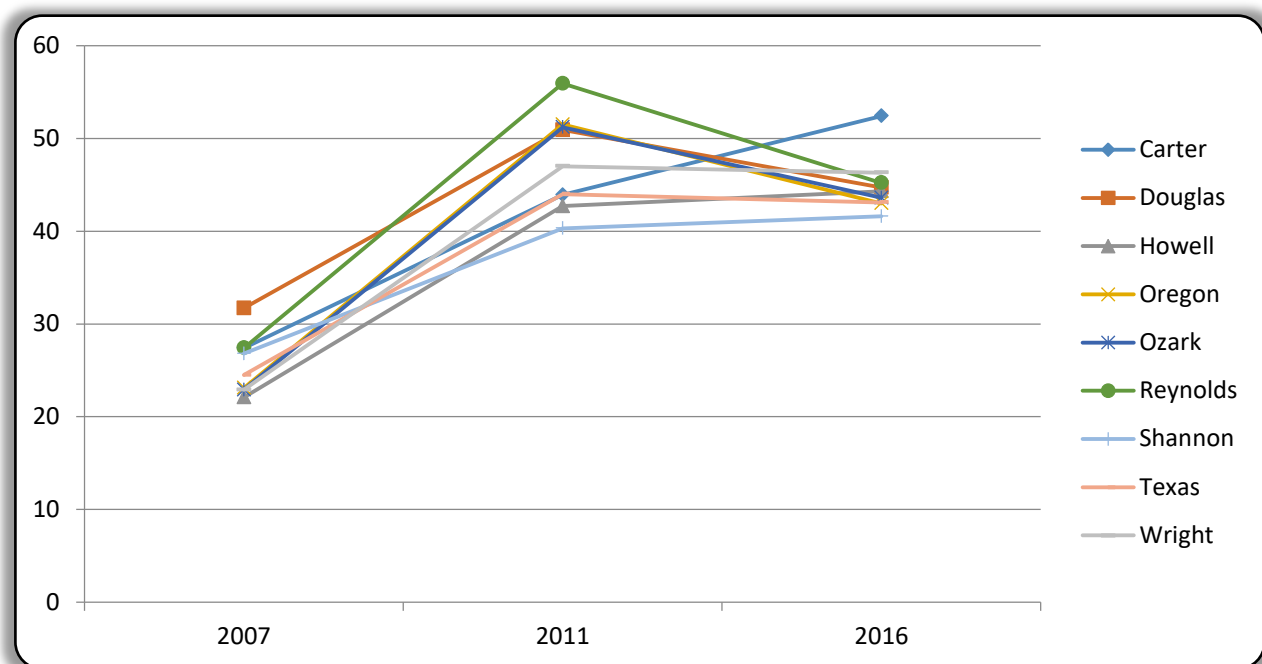
The prevalence of persons with high cholesterol in Region G increased between 2007 and 2011, but then decreased slightly between 2011 and 2016. Overall, the prevalence between 2007 and 2016 shows an increase in every county, with Wright County showing the largest increase at 102.2%, followed by Howell County at 100.5% increase between 2007 and 2016. This compares to the state change of 89.8% for the

Table 7.8 High Cholesterol Among Persons Age 35 and Older Who Have Had Cholesterol Checked, 2016

	2007	2011	2016	Percent Change 2007 to 2016
Carter	27.4	43.9	52.4	91.2%
Douglas	31.7	50.9	44.7	41.0%
Howell	22.1	42.7	44.3	100.5%
Oregon	23.1	51.5	43.0	86.1%
Ozark	22.9	51.2	43.6	90.4%
Reynolds	27.4	55.9	45.2	65.0%
Shannon	26.8	40.3	41.6	55.2%
Texas	24.5	44.0	43.1	75.9%
Wright	22.9	47.0	46.3	102.2%
Region G	25.4	47.5	44.9	76.8%
Missouri	21.5	44.8	40.8	89.8%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Resident County-Level Study Profile. 2016.

Figure 7.2 High Cholesterol Trend, 2007 - 2016



Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Resident County-Level Study Profile. 2016.

COPD, Emphysema, and Chronic Bronchitis

Rates of COPD, emphysema and chronic bronchitis in Region G exceeded the state rate in both 2011 and 2016. The rate dropped in four of the nine Region G counties between 2011 and 2016, but increased by 56.3% in Howell County and by 17.7% in Oregon County.

Table 7.9 COPD, Emphysema, and Chronic Bronchitis, 2011 to 2016 Comparison

	2011	2016	Percent Change 2011 to 2016
Carter	19.2	15.8	-17.7%
Douglas	15.9	7.8	-50.9%
Howell	6.4	10.0	56.3%
Oregon	10.7	12.6	17.7%
Ozark	17.8	14.2	-20.2%
Reynolds	16.4	11.7	-28.7%
Shannon	11.1	11.3	1.8%
Texas	11.9	12.3	3.4%
Wright	13.9	14.1	1.4%
Region G	13.7	12.2	-11.0
Missouri	8.0	8.5	6.3%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Resident County-Level Study Profile. 2016.

Coronary Heart Disease, Heart Attack, and Stroke

The 2016 rate of coronary heart disease, heart attack, and stroke in Region G exceed the state rates.

Table 7.10 Coronary Heart Disease, Heart Attack, and Stroke, 2016

	Coronary Heart Disease 2016	Heart Attack 2016	Stroke 2016
Carter	6.52	4.85	4.28
Douglas	7.90	6.66	3.85
Howell	3.20	5.60	5.30
Oregon	8.30	6.52	6.80
Ozark	6.91	12.11	7.25
Reynolds	7.32	9.14	5.26
Shannon	6.04	7.16	6.54
Texas	5.76	7.77	5.35
Wright	6.53	7.93	9.38
Region G	6.50	7.53	6.00
Missouri	4.61	5.14	4.48

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Resident County-Level Study Profile. 2016.

Asthma

In Region G, the prevalence of asthma has exceeded the state average since 2007. Between 2007 and 2016, Region G saw an average increase of 8% in the prevalence of asthma, compared to no change in the state rate in the same period. Six of the nine Region G counties saw an increase in the prevalence of asthma between 2007 and 2016, with Howell County recognizing the highest increase at 35.6%. Oregon County and Ozark County saw the most significant decrease in prevalence between 2007 and 2016 with a 15% change.

Table 7.11 Asthma Prevalence, 2007 to 2016 Comparison

	2007	2011	2016	Percent Change 2007 to 2016
Carter	9.3	20.0	7.5	-19.4%
Douglas	6.6	13.0	8.7	31.8%
Howell	7.3	12.9	9.9	35.6%
Oregon	12.5	12.0	10.6	-15.2%
Ozark	10.7	15.6	9.0	-15.9%
Reynolds	11.3	14.8	13.1	15.9%
Shannon	11.2	12.7	12.8	14.3%
Texas	9.3	13.8	10.3	10.8%
Wright	12.2	12.2	15.1	23.8%
Region G	10.0	14.1	10.8	8.0%
Missouri	9.7	10.7	9.7	0.0%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Resident County-Level Study Profile. 2016.

Diabetes

Region G saw an overall increase in diabetes prevalence between 2011 and 2015, exceeding the state rate.

Table 7.12 Diabetes Prevalence, 2011 to 2015 Comparison

	2015 (2011 data set)	2019 (2015 data set)	% Change
Carter	12%	12%	0.0%
Douglas	12%	16%	33.3%
Howell	11%	13%	18.2%
Oregon	13%	12%	-7.7%
Ozark	14%	15%	7.1%
Reynolds	13%	14%	7.7%
Shannon	13%	13%	0.0%
Texas	11%	14%	27.3%
Wright	13%	13%	0.0%
Region G	12%	14%	16.7%
Missouri	11%	12%	9.1%

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, County Health Rankings and Roadmaps 2019. 2011 and 2015 data sets. Retrieved from <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/missouri/2015/measure/outcomes/60/data>.

Mammogram Screening

Between 2011 and 2016, the percent of women 40 years old and older who have never had a mammogram increased significantly in eight of the nine Region G counties. Carter County saw the highest increase from a rate of 4.9 in 2011 to 47.1 in 2016 (860% change). Oregon County and Ozark County had changes of 352% and 337% respectively. The percent change in five of the counties exceeds the state change at 212%.

Table 7.13 No Mammogram within Past Two Years (women 40+ years)

	Percent Never Had a Mammogram (age 40+) 2007	Percent Never Had a Mammogram (age 40+) 2011	Percent Never Had a Mammogram (age 40+) 2016	Percent Change 2011 to 2016
Carter	18.1	4.9	47.06	860.0%
Douglas	23.5	31.1	48.61	56.3%
Howell	13.4	22.5	53.70	138.7%
Oregon	23.3	10.1	45.60	351.5%
Ozark	11.8	10.1	44.15	337.0%
Reynolds	8.4	13.1	51.21	291.0%
Shannon	21.2	19.8	42.02	112.2%
Texas	20.9	14.5	49.23	239.5%
Wright	18.7	20.6	53.10	157.8%
Region G	17.7	16.3	48.30	202.0%
Missouri	9.0	9.9	30.90	212.0%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Resident County-Level Study Profile. 2016.

Pap Screening

Pap screening is a test for cervical cancer and is recommended every three years for women over 21.

Table 7.14 No Pap Test in the Last Three Years (women 18+ years)

	2007	2011	2016	% Change
Carter	3.0	8.0	30.0	275.0%
Douglas	1.5	14.5	39.1	169.7%
Howell	5.3	3.5	45.8	1,209.0%
Oregon	3.8	6.3	42.4	573.0%
Ozark	3.2	7.9	50.9	544.0%
Reynolds	4.0	4.3	43.5	912.0%
Shannon	3.6	10.8	43.4	302.0%
Texas	4.6	7.0	51.5	636.0%
Wright	7.8	15.2	53.8	254.0%
Region G	4.1	8.6	44.5	417.4%
Missouri	4.3	7.5	27.0	260.0%

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Resident County-Level Study Profile. 2016.

Cancer Registry Incidence

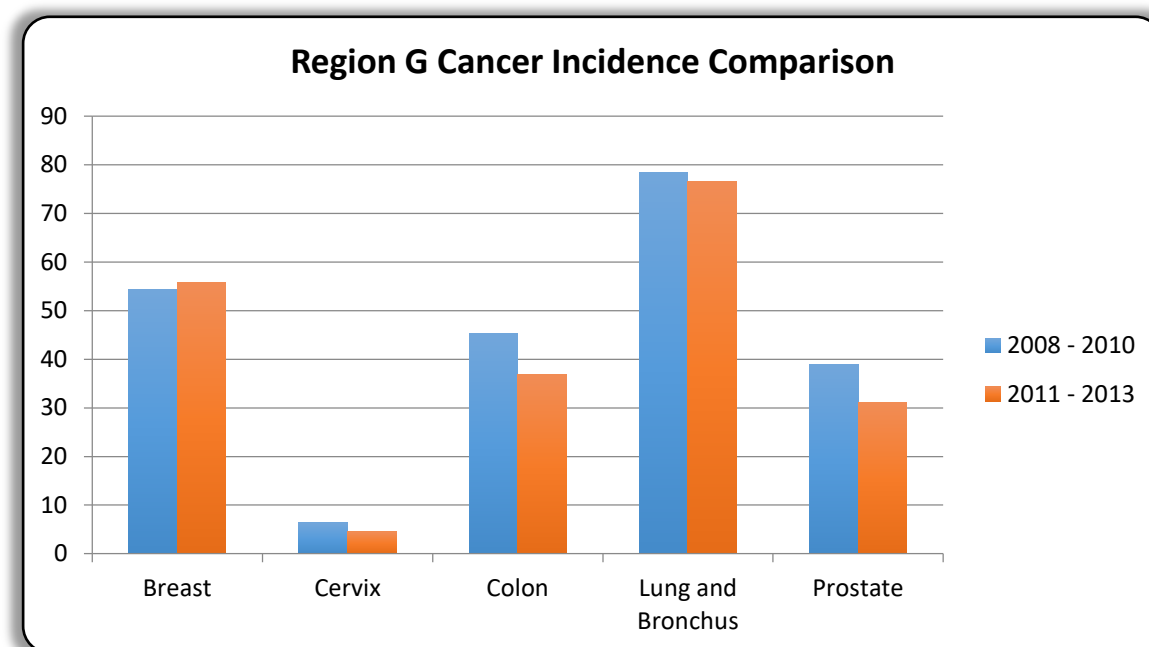
Between reporting periods of 2008 – 2010 and 2011 – 2013, rates of breast cancer increased in Region G, while rates of cervical cancer, colon cancer, prostate cancer, and lung and bronchus cancer all decreased. Regional rates of cervical cancer, colon cancer, and lung and bronchus cancer exceed the state rates.

Table 7.15 Cancer Incidence, 2008 – 2010 to 2011 – 2013 Comparison

	Breast 08 - 10	Breast 11 - 13	Cervix 08 - 10	Cervix 11 - 13	Colon 08 - 10	Colon 11 - 13	Lung and Bronchus 08 - 10	Lung and Bronchus 11 - 13	Prostate 08 - 10	Prostate 11 - 13
Carter	124.1	*76.91	12.1	*6.49	60.6	*43.02	109.3	118.29	47.9	*33.65
Douglas	29.5	43.31	3.6	*1.64	41.3	*26.96	53.8	48.52	39.5	36.27
Howell	38.9	59.31	2.7	*2.37	54.2	41.60	86.7	80.56	40.1	21.58
Oregon	42.3	53.01	6.2	*1.74	44.5	*33.07	56.5	72.80	31.6	*14.96
Ozark	40.5	44.08	15.9	*7.55	42.8	*24.44	84.7	76.72	44.3	*34.71
Reynolds	67.2	37.98	13.2	0	28.2	*33.99	87.8	77.45	45.5	*49.75
Shannon	32.0	54.62	0	*6.24	35.3	*44.24	58.4	70.48	23.5	*46.47
Texas	49.6	51.63	1.8	*7.94	42.1	38.39	78.5	68.52	31.8	28.15
Wright	65.6	101.57	1.3	*6.71	57.7	45.20	88.6	75.88	45.8	38.26
Region G	54.4	55.69	6.3	4.52	45.2	36.77	78.3	76.58	38.9	31.07
Missouri	66.6	83.31	4.1	4.36	45.5	32.90	76.0	75.99	53.7	47.91

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA). Cancer Incidence MICA. Comparison 2008 – 2010 data set to 2011 – 2013 data set.

Figure 7.3 Region G Cancer Incidence, 2008 – 2010 to 2011 – 2013 Comparison



Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA). Cancer Incidence MICA. Comparison 2008 – 2010 data set to 2011 – 2013 data set.

Section VIII

Leading Causes of Death

Premature Death

The average Region G resident can expect to live about 76 years, depending on where they live in the region. Shannon County has the highest life expectancy at 77.5 years, and Carter County has the lowest life expectancy in the region at 74.3 years.

Premature death is measured in years of potential life lost before age 75 per 100,000 population (age-adjusted). Douglas County saw the highest increase in the rate of premature death between the two reporting periods, and Carter County saw the largest decrease.

Table 8.1 Life Expectancy and Premature Death

	Life Expectancy 2015 - 2017	Premature Death (2012 – 2014 data)	Premature Death (2015 – 2017 data)	Percent Change Premature Death
Carter	74.3	14,630	11,000	-24.8%
Douglas	76.8	7,404	9,000	21.6%
Howell	75.8	9,403	9,200	-2.2%
Oregon	74.6	8,838	11,300	4.1%
Ozark	77.3	12,976	9,400	-27.6%
Reynolds	76.6	10,510	10,500	-0.1%
Shannon	77.5	9,689	7,900	-18.5%
Texas	76.6	9,647	9,400	-2.6%
Wright	74.7	9,259	10,500	13.4%
Region G	76.0	10,261	9,800	-4.5%
Missouri	70.7 – 80.7	7,827	8,200	4.8%

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, County Health Rankings and Roadmaps. 2019.

Figure 8.1 Premature Death, 2012 – 2014

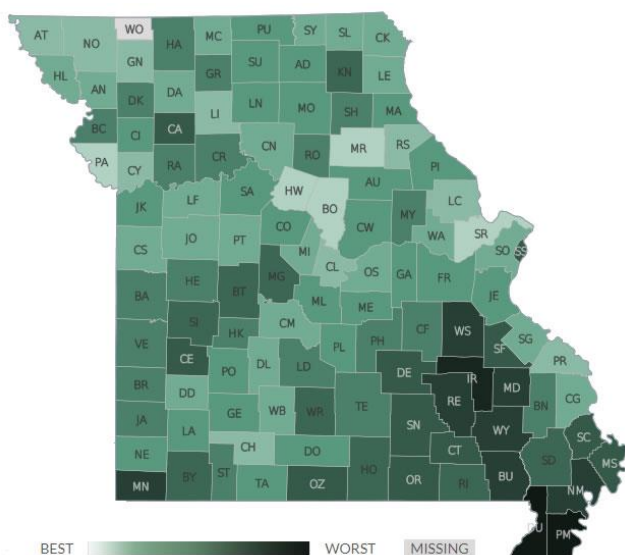
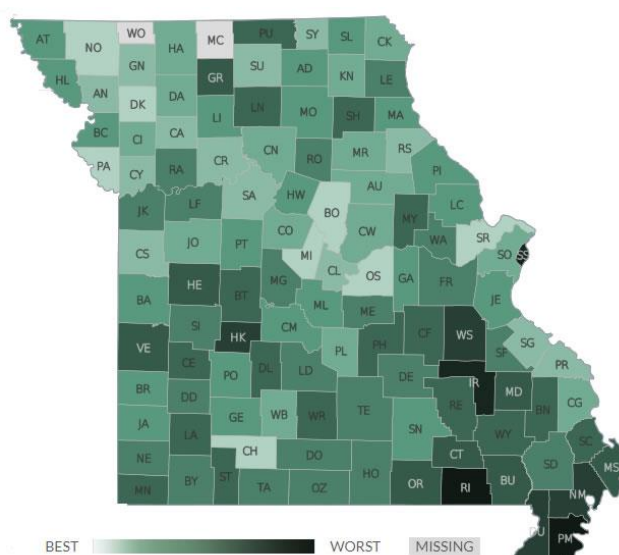


Figure 8.2 Premature Death, 2015 - 2017



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, County Health Rankings and Roadmaps. 2017 and 2019.

Causes of Death

Heart disease remained the leading cause of death in Region G in 2017 with an age-adjusted rate of 220.56 per 100,000 population, on average. Wright County had the highest rate of heart disease in the region at 309.69, compared to the state average at 191.53. Texas County had the lowest rate at 181.76.

Cancer was the second leading cause of death with an average rate of 172.51 per 100,000 residents in the region. This compares to the state rate of 167.07 for cancer deaths.

Table 8.2 Causes of Death (age-adjusted rate per 100,000)

	Cancer	Diabetes	Alzheimers Disease	Heart Disease	Stroke	Kidney Disease	Pneumonia and Influenza	Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease (Asthma, Emphysema, Bronchitis)
Carter	251.30	*4.80	*45.12	219.91	*55.85	*59.95	*32.47	*107.40
Douglas	125.99	*42.45	63.28	220.49	*37.15	*8.09	*10.85	84.20
Howell	185.93	33.36	33.18	204.32	45.58	*9.20	16.13	62.56
Oregon	152.31	*16.79	*19.76	274.41	*31.37	*17.62	*10.94	*48.73
Ozark	181.14	*4.93	*8.16	197.56	*35.96	*32.80	*11.34	*45.68
Reynolds	119.73	*53.83	*13.54	182.92	*57.00	*4.23	*8.78	*55.58
Shannon	173.40	*19.82	*17.85	194.00	*50.71	*15.56	*25.01	*65.66
Texas	179.11	*19.84	*6.02	181.76	42.90	38.18	*22.78	60.26
Wright	183.65	39.54	56.94	309.69	43.42	*21.77	*18.70	60.71
Region G	172.51	36.45	51.13	220.56	43.97	38.18	16.13	66.93
Missouri	167.07	20.54	31.14	191.53	40.68	19.59	15.93	51.36

Table 8.2 Causes of Death (continued)

	Motor Vehicle Accidents	Suicide	Homicide	Accidental Discharge of Firearms	Accidental Exposure to Smoke/Fire/Flames	Accidental Poisoning and Exposure to Noxious Substances
Carter	*31.53	*27.50	0			*13.21
Douglas	*13.56	*30.19	*7.13	*1.98		*1.98
Howell	26.53	24.08	*7.55	*2.86	*1.41	*12.80
Oregon	*32.79	*69.67	*10.47		*5.60	*17.84
Ozark	*31.99	*18.47	0		*26.42	*2.74
Reynolds	*58.50	*4.23	*31.15		*4.23	*15.85
Shannon	*37.22	*10.91	0			0
Texas	*15.85	*11.51	*15.26	*2.23		*12.17
Wright	*19.88	*26.55	*2.62			*12.64
Region G	26.53	24.08	8.24	0.79	4.18	9.91
Missouri	16.04	18.41	10.62	0.37	1.09	21.52

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA). Causes of Death. 2016 – 2017.

Infant and Child Mortality

Region G posted a higher infant mortality rate than the state average in both periods, but did show a decrease of 23.53% in the infant mortality rate between 2008 and 2017. Region G also saw a decrease of 12% in the death rate among children 1 – 14 years old during the same period. The death rate among children 15 – 17 years old increased by 62.6% in the region, compared to a decrease of 3.3% in Missouri.

Table 8.3 Mortality Rates by Age, Infants and Children 1 – 14

	Infant Mortality (per 1,000) 2008 - 2012	Infant Mortality (per 1,000) 2013 - 2017	Percent Change Infant Mortality	Child Deaths (age 1 – 14) (per 100,000) 2008 – 2012	Child Deaths (age 1 – 14) (per 100,000) 2013 - 2017	Percent Change Child Deaths (age 1 – 14)
Carter	2.1	0	138.0%	65.3	82.3	26.0%
Douglas	7.9	5.3	-32.9%	24.0	25.4	5.8%
Howell	7.0	5.9	-15.7%	24.0	32.3	34.6%
Oregon	13.0	11.4	-12.3%	10.3	30.9	200.0%
Ozark	4.4	7.0	59.1%	38.2	41.0	7.3%
Reynolds	12.5	0	-100.0%	49.2	19.0	-16.6%
Shannon	8.0	11.3	41.3%	37.8	0	-100.0%
Texas	12.7	8.0	-37.0%	38.8	20.1	-48.2%
Wright	8.9	9.6	7.9%	35.0	32.1	-8.3%
Region G	8.5	6.5	-23.53%	35.8	31.5	-12.0%
Missouri	6.8	6.4	-5.9%	17.9	18.2	1.7%

University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets. Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>

Table 8.4 Mortality Rates by Age, Children 15 - 17

	Child Deaths (age 15 – 17) (per 100,000) 2008 - 2012	Child Deaths (age 15 – 17) (per 100,000) 2013 - 2017	Percent Change Child Deaths (15 – 17)
Carter	0	0	
Douglas	70.5	82.6	17.2%
Howell	84.1	118.6	41.0%
Oregon	83.2	42.8	-48.6%
Ozark	60.2	55.9	-7.1%
Reynolds	0	144.9	
Shannon	52.6	61.3	16.5%
Texas	36.9	99.9	170.7%
Wright	0	24.7	
Region G	43.1	70.1	62.6%
Missouri	51.7	50.0	-3.3%

University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets. Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>

Section IX

Health Care System Indicators

Access to Care

Access to primary care, dental care, hospital services, and specialty care improve overall health and contribute significantly to a community's economic health. In Region G, these resources are limited, even for people with health insurance coverage, access to transportation, and no financial difficulty.

Health Care Facilities

According to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, one in six rural Missourians gets essential health services from a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). Rural Health Clinics (RHC) are also intended to increase access to primary care in rural areas.

Table 9.1 Health Care Facilities in Region G, 2019

	Hospitals	Rural Health Clinics	Federally Qualified Health Clinics
Carter	0	1	1
Douglas	0	1	2
Howell	2	11	2
Oregon	0	2	1
Ozark	0	2	1
Reynolds	0	1	3
Shannon	0	4	1
Texas	1	6	2
Wright	0	7	2

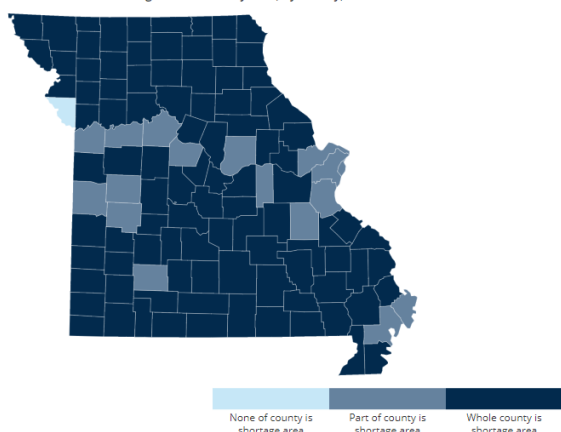
Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Local Public Health Agency Profiles. July 2019.

Providers

Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) are designated when there aren't enough health care resources to meet the needs of residents. This can occur when there are no providers, not enough providers, more patients than providers can see, or transportation barriers that prevent patients from reaching providers.

Figure 9.1 Health Professional Shortage Areas by County, 2019

Health Professional Shortage Areas: Primary Care, by County, 2019 - Missouri



Health Professional Shortage Areas: Dental Care, by County, 2019 - Missouri

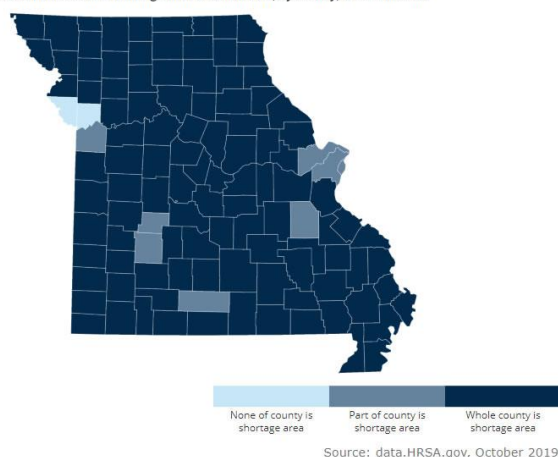


Table 9.2 Population to Provider Ratio by Type of Provider, 2019

	Population per Physician	Population per Dentist	Population per Mental Health Provider
Carter	6,170	3,080	1,030
Douglas	6,680	2,660	1,480
Howell	1,030	2,360	440
Oregon		10,560	4,280
Ozark	4,620	2,300	
Reynolds	2,150	1,570	520
Shannon			8,250
Texas	2,340	5,150	2,860
Wright	6,100	2,620	800
Region G	4,152	3,788	2,458
Missouri	1,420	1,760	5,500

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, County Health Rankings and Roadmaps. 2019.

Health Insurance Coverage

The rate of uninsured children in Region G is roughly double the state rate. The average rate of total uninsured persons in Region G is 21.17 versus the state rate of 13.81. Carter County has the highest rate of uninsured persons in the region, at 29.89. All nine counties have a rate higher than the state average, however the rates did decrease between 2012 and 2016.

Table 9.3 Health Insurance Coverage, 2012 to 2016 Comparison

	Percent of Population with No Health Care Coverage ¹ (age 18 – 64)	Uninsured Children ² 2012	Uninsured Children ² 2016	Percent Change Uninsured Children 2012 to 2016
Carter	29.89	10.0%	6.8%	-32.0%
Douglas	17.88	10.0%	7.1%	-29.0%
Howell	19.21	7.9%	6.5%	-17.7%
Oregon	26.37	9.1%	6.7%	-26.4%
Ozark	17.67	12.5%	7.8%	-37.6%
Reynolds	24.13	8.8%	5.6%	-36.4%
Shannon	17.55	10.2%	6.3%	-38.2%
Texas	18.37	11.3%	8.9%	-21.2%
Wright	19.49	9.4%	7.6%	-19.2%
Region G	21.17	9.9%	7.0%	-29.1%
Missouri	13.81	7.4%	4.8%	-35.1%

¹ Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Missouri Public Health Information Management System (MOPHIMS). Missouri Information for Community Assessment (MICA). Missouri Resident County-Level Study Profile. 2016.

² University of Missouri Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED). Annie E. Casey Missouri Kids Count, 2019 Data Sheets. 2013 – 2017 data set. Retrieved from <http://www.missourikidscountdata.org/archive.php>.

Delayed or No Care

On average, residents of Region G did not get medical care because of the cost at a rate of 53.88, slightly higher than the state rate of 52.72. Oregon County had the highest rate at 66.01. Texas County saw the highest rate of residents who had a routine physical checkup two or more years ago, at 27.1, compared to the state rate of 16.26.

Dental visits were delayed in Region G at a rate of 28.55, compared to the state rate of 18.95, and the region had a rate of 40.81 persons with a dental visit two or more years ago. Shannon County experienced the highest rate of delayed dental visits with 47.16, and Texas County had the highest rate of residents not seeking dental care due to cost.

Table 9.4 Delayed or No Care, 2019

	Did Not Get Medical Care Because of Cost (delayed or did not get needed care within past 12 months)	Last Routine Physical Checkup 2+ Years Ago	Last Visit to Dentist 2+ Years Ago	Needed to See a Dentist in Past 12 Months, But Could Not Due to Cost
Carter	60.04	22.83	43.81	26.89
Douglas	65.12	21.72	33.69	19.76
Howell	49.39	18.4	35.64	22.77
Oregon	66.01	20.93	40.98	28.49
Ozark	35.44	19.56	41.55	21.80
Reynolds	51.83	19.12	40.94	27.89
Shannon	54.93	22.09	47.16	24.66
Texas	58.12	27.10	39.34	28.55
Wright	44.05	22.39	44.21	25.79
Region G	53.88	21.57	40.81	25.18
Missouri	52.72	16.26	24.44	18.95

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, County Health Rankings and Roadmaps. 2019.

Section X

Community Health Resources

Community Action Agencies

Community Action Agencies are located in each county in the Region G area. A Neighborhood Center is located in each of the nine counties. The Neighborhood Centers provide services for the low income population for the purpose of helping each family or individual achieve self-sufficiency and stability.

Services provided at the Neighborhood Centers include the following:

- Head Start
- Home Weatherization Program
- Housing Assistance
- Energy Crisis Intervention Program
- Life Skills Training
- Parenting Classes
- Emergency Assistance
- Referrals and Linkage to Other Community Services

Community Health Centers

Three Community Health Center organizations are available to provide health care to medically underserved residents in Region G. Services vary by clinic site, but may include primary and preventive healthcare, mental health, and oral health treatment, as well as supportive services that promote access to health care and ensure patient well-being.

Missouri Highlands Health Care provides services at six clinic sites in Carter County, Reynolds County, and Shannon County.

Table 10.1 Community Health Centers

	Street Address	City	County
Big Springs Medical Clinic	402 Main St	Van Buren	Carter
Big Springs Behavioral Health	105 Walnut	Ellington	Reynolds
Big Springs Dental Clinic	115 Walnut	Ellington	Reynolds
Ellington Family Clinic	205 Walnut	Ellington	Reynolds
Valley Springs Medical Clinic	County Road 814	Black	Reynolds
Shannon County Family Clinic	209 Main St	Eminence	Shannon

Missouri Ozarks Community Health Center provides services at three clinic sites in Douglas County, Ozark County and Wright County.

Table 10.2 Missouri Ozarks Community Health Centers

	Street Address	City	County
Missouri Ozarks Community Health	504 Northwest 10 th	Ava	Douglas
Missouri Ozarks Community Health	201 South Elm St	Gainesville	Ozark
Missouri Ozarks Community Health	804 North Highway 5	Mansfield	Wright

Southern Missouri Community Health Center provides services at two locations in Howell County and Oregon County.

Table 10.3 Southern Missouri and Oregon County Community Health Centers

	Street Address	City	County
Southern Missouri Community Health	1137 Independence	West Plains	Howell
Oregon County Community Health	Route 3, Box 3707	Thayer	Oregon

Hospitals

Table 10.4 Hospitals

	Street Address	City	County
Ozarks Medical Center	1100 Kentucky	West Plains	Howell
St. John's St. Francis Hospital	100 West Highway 60	Mtn. View	Howell
Texas County Memorial Hospital	1333 Sam Houston	Houston	Texas

Mental Health Services

The Missouri Department of Mental Health offers clinical treatment and recovery support services through a variety of programs, at multiple locations in Region G.

Community Mental Health Centers

Services for the Missouri Department of Mental Health's Division of Comprehensive Psychiatric Services are accessed through 25 service areas, with each service area serving particular counties in Missouri.

Administrative Agents (community mental health centers) are responsible for providing these services. The nine counties in Region G are served by two community mental health centers.

Table 10.5 Community Mental Health Centers

	Counties Served
Family Counseling Center 925 Highway V PO Box 71 Kennett, MO 63857 (573) 888-5925	Carter Reynolds
Ozarks Medical Center Behavioral Healthcare PO Box 1100 West Plains, MO 65775 (417) 257-6762	Douglas Howell Ozark Oregon Shannon Texas Wright
Mountain Grove Medical Complex 1604 North Main Mountain Grove, MO 65711 (417) 926-6563	Douglas Howell Ozark Oregon Shannon Texas Wright

CSTAR

The Comprehensive Substance Treatment and Rehabilitation (CSTAR) Program provides a continuum of care approach to substance abuse treatment. CSTAR offers a combination of clinical and supportive services, including temporary living arrangements when appropriate, that vary in duration and intensity, depending on individual needs.

CSTAR Adolescent

The CSTAR General Adult program offers intensive outpatient treatment services to adolescents with substance abuse problems.

Table 10.6 CSTAR Adolescent

	Street Address	City	County
Family Counseling Center	3411 Division	West Plains	Howell
Family Counseling Center	1591 North Highway 63	Houston	Texas

CSTAR General Adult

The CSTAR General Adult program offers intensive outpatient treatment services to both men and women with substance abuse problems.

Table 10.7 CSTAR General Adult

	Street Address	City	County
Family Counseling Center	1015 Lanton	West Plains	Howell
Southeast Missouri Community Treatment	1597 Highway 63	Houston	Texas

Compulsive Gambling

Individuals with gambling problems and their family members can receive counseling services and referrals for other supportive interventions, including 12-step support groups, financial planning and remediation, and legal assistance. Treatment is individualized, and services include individual and group counseling and family therapy. Services are funded through the Compulsive Gamblers Fund, which is derived from the fees paid by Missouri casino properties. Region G has one treatment center, located in Texas County.

Table 10.8 Compulsive Gambling

	Street Address	City	County
Southeast Missouri Community Treatment	1597 Highway 63	Houston	Texas

Primary Recovery Plus

The Primary Recovery Plus program provides a continuum of care, including detoxification, outpatient services, and residential support as clinically appropriate. Services are designed to enhance participation in treatment and help improve individual function, promote community integration, and foster recovery from substance use disorders. These services are available at five locations in Region G.

Table 10.9 Primary Recovery Plus

	Street Address	City	County
Southeast Missouri Community Treatment Center	401 Main	Van Buren	Carter
Family Counseling Center	203 Southeast Second	Ava	Douglas
Family Counseling Center	1015 Lanton	West Plains	Howell
Southeast Missouri Community	1597 Highway 63	Houston	Texas

	Street Address	City	County
Treatment Center			
Family Counseling Center	8401 Outer Road	Mtn. Grove	Wright

Substance Abuse Traffic Offender Program

Agencies, certified by the Department of Mental Health, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, provides services to individuals involved in an alcohol or drug-related traffic offense through the Substance Abuse Traffic Offender Program (SATOP). Five agencies provide SATOP services in the Region G area.

Table 10.10 SATOP

	Street Address	City	County
Safety Council of the Ozarks	203 Southeast Second	Ava	Douglas
South Central Missouri Citizens Advisory	1559 Imperial	West Plains	Howell
Community Services of Missouri, Inc.	1599 North Highway 63	Houston	Texas
Southeast Missouri Community Treatment Center	1597 Highway 63	Houston	Texas
Safety Council of the Ozarks	100 East State St	Mtn. Grove	Wright

Developmental Disabilities

The Missouri Department of Mental Health, Division of Developmental Disabilities (DD) provides services for individuals that have developmental disabilities such as mental retardation, cerebral palsy, head injuries, autism, epilepsy, and certain learning disabilities. Region G is located in three Division of Developmental Disabilities' regions. The regional offices serve as the primary points of entry into the service system.

Table 10.11 Developmental Disabilities

	Street Address	Counties Covered
Poplar Bluff Regional Office	231 Kanell Boulevard	Carter Howell Oregon Reynolds Shannon
Springfield Regional Office	1515 East Pythian	Douglas Ozark

	Street Address	Counties Covered
		Wright
Rolla Regional Office	105 Fairgrounds Road	Texas

Long Term Care Facilities

Skilled Nursing Care Facilities (SNF) provides assistance and supervision with medical and personal care needs on a 24-hour basis. Residential Care (RCF) is for individuals needing a limited amount of care and medical supervision. Assisted Living Facilities (ALF) are available for individuals who need little to no care.

Table 10.12 Primary Recovery Plus

	City	County	Type of Facility	Licensed Beds
Current River Manor	Van Buren	Carter	RCF I	6
Riverways Manor	Van Buren	Carter	SNF	60
Velma Dowdy RCF II	Fremont	Carter	RCF II	45
Ava Place	Ava	Douglas	SNF	40
Heart of the Ozarks Healthcare Center	Ava	Douglas	SNF	120
Brooke Haven Healthcare	West Plains	Howell	SNF	120
Country Living Care Facility	Moody	Howell	RCF I	5
Lamplight Village	West Plains	Howell	RCF II	32
Mountain View Healthcare	Mtn. View	Howell	SNF	90
NHC Healthcare, West Plains	West Plains	Howell	SNF	120
Park Place Apartments	Mtn. View	Howell	ALF Option 1	18
Pleasant Valley Manor	West Plains	Howell	RCF II	72
Southview	West Plains	Howell	RCF II	32
West Vue Nursing and Rehabilitation	West Plains	Howell	SNF	120
Willow Care Nursing Home	Willow Springs	Howell	SNF	120
Willow West Apartments	Willow Springs	Howell	ALF Option 1	36
Shady Oaks Healthcare Center	Thayer	Oregon	SNF	120
Shepherds View Residential Care	Alton	Oregon	ALF Option 2	39

	City	County	Type of Facility	Licensed Beds
Gainesville Healthcare Center	Gainesville	Ozark	SNF	99
Brent B. Tinnin Manor	Ellington	Reynolds	SNF	60
Holt Residential Care	Bunker	Reynolds	RCF I	12
Birch View Nursing Center	Birch Tree	Shannon	SNF	90
Hilltop Haven	Eminence	Shannon	RCF I	16
Hilltop Haven II	Eminence	Shannon	RCF I	7
Houston House	Houston	Texas	SNF	96
Kabul Nursing Homes Inc.	Cabool	Texas	SNF	99
Lake's Residential Care I	Houston	Texas	RCF I	12
Landmark Villa	Cabool	Texas	ALF Option 1	44
Licking Park Manor	Licking	Texas	SNF	60
Licking Residential Care	Licking	Texas	RCF II	34
Pineview Heights	Cabool	Texas	ALF Option 1	16
Autumn Oaks Caring Center	Mtn. Grove	Wright	SNF	120
Hartville Care and Rehabilitation Center	Hartville	Wright	SNF	60
Rocky Ridge Manor	Mansfield	Wright	SNF	65

Physical Activity

Carter County Parks

- Ozark National Scenic Riverways
- Big Spring Campgrounds
- Big Spring State Park
- Miller Community Lake State Wildlife Area
- Peck Ranch State Wildlife Management Area
- Chilton Creek Campsite
- Watercress Park

Howell County Parks

- Carmen Springs Wildlife Refuge Management Area
- Dean Davis state Wildlife Area

Oregon County Parks

- Alton City Park
- Grand Gulf State Park
- Eleven Point National Scenic River

Ozark County Parks

- Spring Creek Public Use Area
- Blair Bridge Park
- Caney Mountain State Game Refuge
- Pontiac Public Use Area

Reynolds County Parks

- Webb Creek Public Use Area
- Bluff View Public Use Area
- Highway K Public Use Area
- Piedmont Park Public Use Area
- Johnson Shut-Ins State Park
- Thurman Point Public Use Area
- Clearwater Lake State Wildlife Management Area

Shannon County Parks

- Flat Rock State Wildlife Area
- Alley Spring State Park
- Skunk Pond State Wildlife Management Area
- Bay Creek Campsite
- Blue Spring Campsite
- Round Spring State Park
- Roberts Field Campsite
- Curve Bridge Picnic Area
- Twin Pines
- Mahan Roadside Park
- Ozark National Scenic Riverways
- Echo Bluff State Park
- Joshua T. Chilton Memorial Landing

Texas County Parks

- Barn Hollow Natural Area
- Cabool State Wildlife Management Area
- Rodeo Stadium
- Pairlee Freeman Barnes State Wildlife Area
- Larson State Wildlife Management Area
- Piney River Narrows State Natural Area
- Summersville Towersite State Wildlife Area

Wright County Parks

- Wilber Allen Memorial State Wildlife Area

A variety of other opportunities for physical activity are available across the region. A YMCA is located in Mtn. Grove and many of the towns have community centers that offer physical activity opportunities.

Pregnancy Support Services

Table 10.13 Pregnancy Support Services

	Street Address	City	Telephone
Birthright	1507 Imperial Center	West Plains	(417) 256-1313
Forgiven Hearts Crisis Pregnancy Center	712 South Preston Road	Seymour	(417) 935-4357
Pregnancy Support Center	PO Box 373	Lebanon	(417) 532-8555
Riverways Pregnancy Resource Center	PO Box 253	Salem	(573)739-4673
Whole Kids Outreach	62143 Highway 21	Ellington	(573)663-3257

Public Health Services

Local public health agencies (LPHA) are committed to the protection and enhancement of health and the quality of life for all members of the community. Services include assessment of health and environmental status, development of policies and priorities, and assurance of an appropriate response to the identified needs. A LPHA, also known as a county health department or health center, is located in each county in Region G. Each LPHA offers a range of services that vary by county.

Environmental public health programs promote healthy environmental conditions and reduce risks associated with communicable disease. Health promotion activities educate people about prevention and improve access to preventive services designed to prevent disease and improve health and equality of life. Immunization services increase the proportion of children and adults who are vaccinated against vaccine-preventable disease. WIC improves the health of nutritionally at-risk women, infants and children under five years old.

Prenatal case management supports at-risk pregnant women. Family planning services improve pregnancy planning and prevent unintended pregnancy. Some of the local public health agencies also offer in-home and home health services for uninsured or underinsured older and disabled residents. Home health services include skilled nursing and aide services, physical and speech therapy, and the provision of medical supplies and equipment.

Table 10.14 Public Health Services

	Street Address	City
Cater County Health Center	1611 Health Center Road	Van Buren
Douglas County Health Department	603 Springfield Road	Ava
Howell County Health Department	180 South Kentucky	West Plains
Oregon County Health Department	#10 Court Square	Alton
Ozark County Health Center	304 West 3 rd St	Gainesville
Reynolds County Health Center	2323 Green St	Centerville
Shannon County Health Center	18018 Grey Jones Drive	Eminence
Texas County Health Department	950 North Highway 63	Houston
Wright County Health Department	300 South Main, Suite C	Hartville

Rural Health Clinics

Table 10.15 Rural Health Clinics

	Street Address	City	County
Van Buren Medical Clinic	1009 Highway Business 60	Van Buren	Carter
Ava Medical Clinic	1300 North Highway 5	Ava	Douglas
Mansfield Clinic dba Prime Care of Ava	120 Southwest 2 nd	Ava	Douglas
Burton Creek Medical Clinic	805 Kentucky Avenue	West Plains	Howell
Doctors Urgent Care	1709 Gibson St	West Plains	Howell
Joseph William Stafford, Jr.	312 Kentucky Avenue	West Plains	Howell
McVicker Family Clinic	220 North Elm St	Mtn. View	Howell
Medical Clinic of Willow Springs	816 East Main	Willow Springs	Howell
Mountain View Medical Clinic	104 East Highway 60	Mtn. View	Howell
Ozark Medical Clinic, RHC	312 Kentucky Avenue	West Plains	Howell
Ozark Medical Clinic, Urgent Care	181 Kentucky Avenue	West Plains	Howell
Valley Medical Clinic	308 South Harris	Willow Springs	Howell
Westwood Rural Health Clinic	2646 Highway 76	Willow Springs	Howell

	Street Address	City	County
Ozarks Medical Clinic of Alton	100 Medical Drive	Alton	Oregon
Thayer Medical Clinic	Highway 63 and Eastwood	Thayer	Oregon
Gainesville Clinic	404 West State Highway 160	Gainesville	Ozark
Advanced Community Care Clinic	Highway 21	Ellington	Reynolds
Rains Rural Health Clinic	350 East Walnut	Ellington	Reynolds
Birch Tree Medical Clinic	Highway 99 and Obanion St	Birch Tree	Shannon
Eminence Medical Clinic	Highway 19	Eminence	Shannon
Shannon County Medical Clinic	1008 Highway 19	Winona	Shannon
Cabool Medical Clinic	500 Main St	Cabool	Texas
Dale Family Medicine	1340 South Highway 63	Houston	Texas
Family Health Care	1442 South Sam Houston	Houston	Texas
Summersville Medical Clinic	149 Rogers Avenue	Summersville	Texas
TCMH Family Clinic	233 South Main	Licking	Texas
TCMH Internal Medicine Association	1337 South Sam Houston	Houston	Texas
Cox Family Medicine	1602 A North Main	Mtn. Grove	Wright
Family Walk-In Clinic	205 West 3 rd	Mtn. Grove	Wright
Hartville Medical Clinic	275 South School Avenue	Hartville	Wright
Mansfield Clinic	304 West Commercial	Mansfield	Wright
Ozarks Medical Center	10604 North Main	Mtn. Grove	Wright
SJC Mountain Grove	120 West 16 th St	Mtn. Grove	Wright

Transportation

Limited transportation resources are available across the region. OATS, SMTS, and Medicaid Non-Emergency Transportation services vary by city and county. Senior Centers provide limited transportation services for seniors within their communities.

Shelters for Abuse Victims

Three shelters are available in Region G for victims of domestic violence. These agencies offer a variety of residential and non-residential services.

Table 10.16 Shelters for Abuse Victims

	City	Services
Christos House	Alton	Support for women who have been battered
Casa Guadalupe Family Growth Center	Ellington	Shelter and motel placement Non-residential services Court/legal advocacy Professional therapy Structured program for children Support groups Teen violence protection program Thrift store Safe at Home Program
Agape House of Mountain View	Mtn. View	Shelter and motel placement Non-residential services Court advocacy Structured program for children Support groups for women, children, and men who have been battered Teen violence prevention Transportation Life skills and parenting classes
Christos House	West Plains	Shelter Non-residential services Court advocacy Life skills and parenting classes Professional therapy for women and children Support groups Teen violence prevention program Thrift store Transportation Safe at Home Program

Section XI

Community Health Survey

Executive Summary

A 38-question digital survey was administered in Region G with each community using their own methods of dissemination. Some provided a link on their agency website or through social media channels. Some placed an article or an advertisement in the local newspaper. Others sent a link to community members via email, enlisted the help of the local library, or made the survey available in their health departments. The survey remained open for one month, from August 15, 2019 through September 15, 2019.

A total of 1,001 persons completed the survey, with 87.84% self-identifying as *female*, 11.76% as *male*, and 0.40% as *other, not listed*. The age of participants ranged from 18 years old to over 80 years old.

Age in Years	Total Number of Participants	Percent of Total Participants
18 – 25	21	12.15%
26 – 39	318	31.93%
40 – 54	300	30.12%
55 – 64	170	17.07%
65 – 80	79	7.93%
Over 80	8	0.80%

n=1,001

The majority (93.64%) of participants identified as Caucasian, with less than 3% identifying as people of color. More than nine in ten (94.55%) participants self-identified as *not* of Hispanic or Latino heritage.

Survey participants represented a fairly even range of annual household income levels, with approximately 20% in each of four categories between *less than \$20,000 to \$50,000 to \$74,000*. Just over 10% answered *\$75,000 to \$100,000*, and 8% selected *more than \$100,000*.

Approximately half of survey participants graduated from high school (46%) and half had a college degree or higher (49%). Just over 4% reported *did not graduate from High School*.

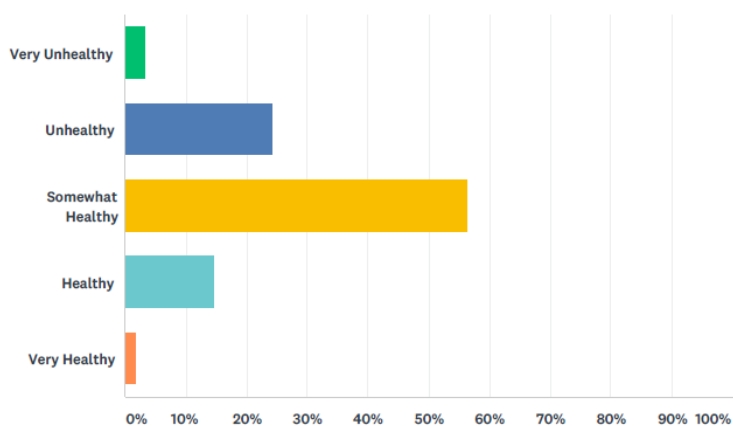
Survey participants live in the following counties:

	Total Number of Participants	Percent of Total Participants
Carter	73	7.29%
Douglas	174	17.38%
Howell	88	8.79%
Oregon	24	2.40%
Ozark	36	3.60%
Reynolds	56	5.59%
Shannon	262	26.17%
Texas	259	25.87%
Wright	15	1.50%

n=1,001

Q1 How would you rate your community?

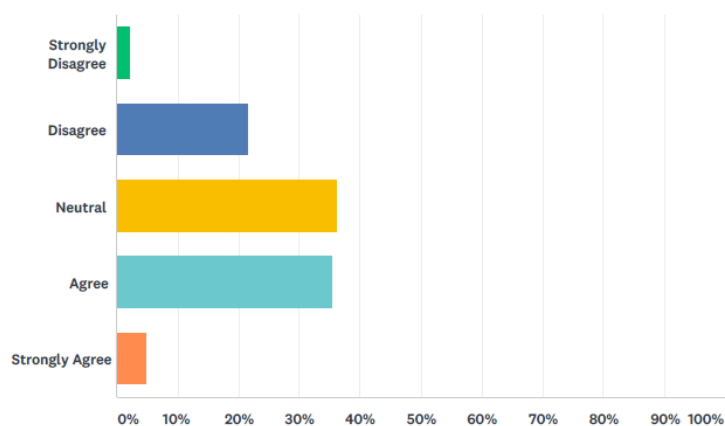
Answered: 1,001 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very Unhealthy	3.30%	33
Unhealthy	24.18%	242
Somewhat Healthy	56.24%	563
Healthy	14.59%	146
Very Healthy	1.70%	17
TOTAL		1,001

Q2 I am satisfied with the overall well-being and safety in my community.

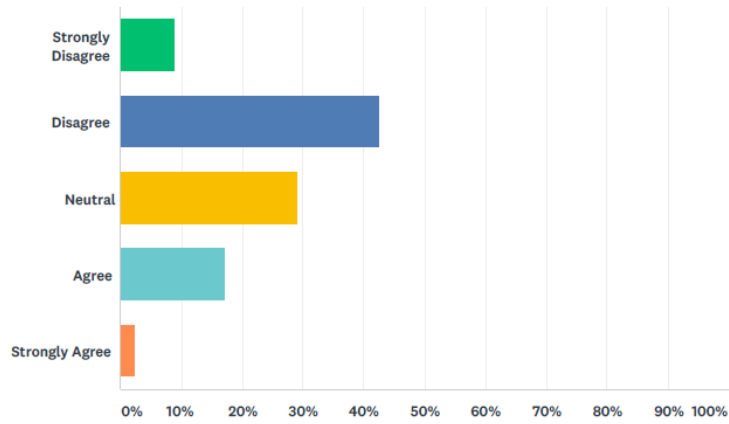
Answered: 1,001 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Disagree	2.10%	21
Disagree	21.48%	215
Neutral	36.26%	363
Agree	35.26%	353
Strongly Agree	4.90%	49
TOTAL		1,001

Q3 My community has enough health and wellness activities.

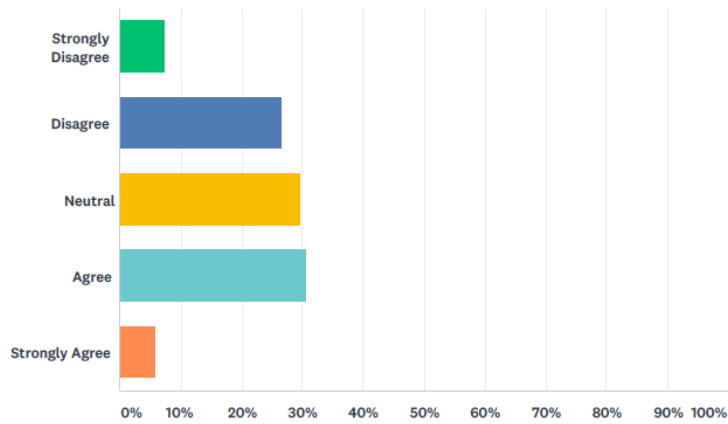
Answered: 1,001 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Strongly Disagree	8.89% 89
Disagree	42.56% 426
Neutral	29.17% 292
Agree	17.18% 172
Strongly Agree	2.20% 22
TOTAL	1,001

Q4 I am satisfied with the health care system in my community.

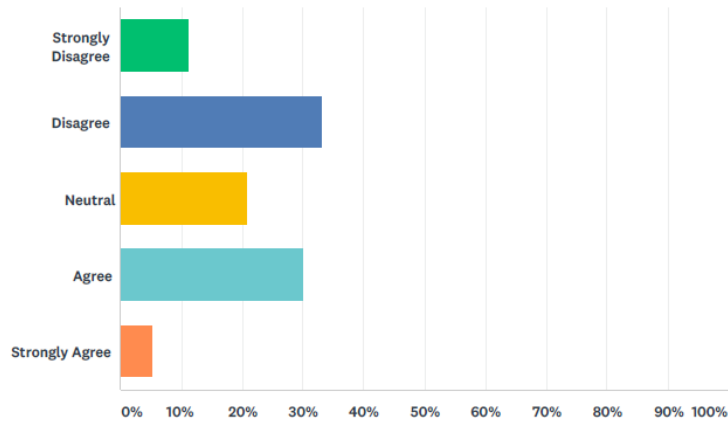
Answered: 1,001 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Strongly Disagree	7.39% 74
Disagree	26.57% 266
Neutral	29.77% 298
Agree	30.47% 305
Strongly Agree	5.79% 58
TOTAL	1,001

Q5 I have easy access to the medical specialists I need.

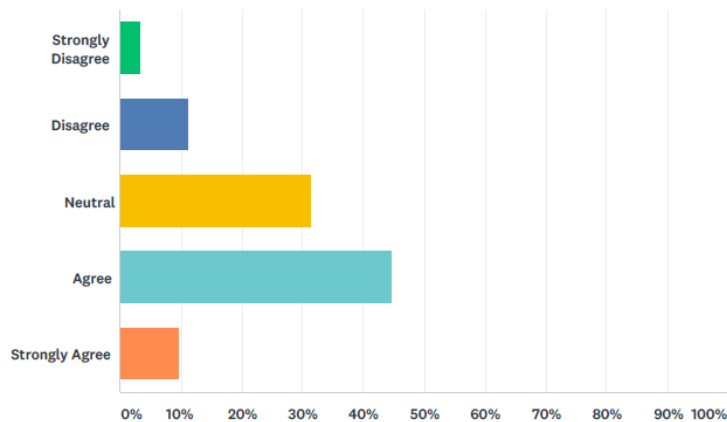
Answered: 998 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Strongly Disagree	11.12% 111
Disagree	33.07% 330
Neutral	20.74% 207
Agree	29.86% 298
Strongly Agree	5.21% 52
TOTAL	998

Q6 I am very satisfied with the medical care I receive.

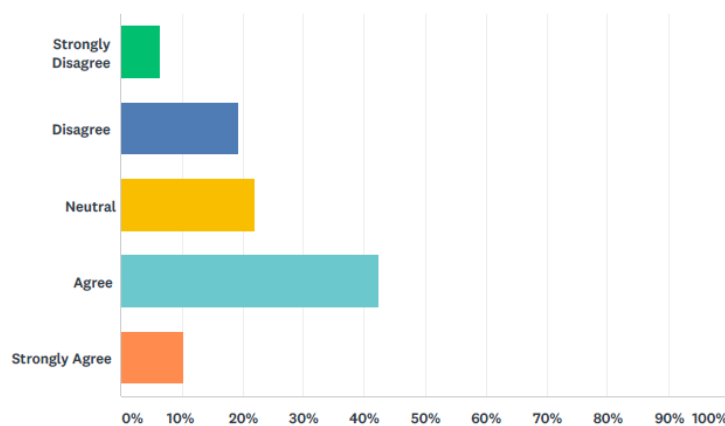
Answered: 998 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Strongly Disagree	3.41% 34
Disagree	11.12% 111
Neutral	31.36% 313
Agree	44.49% 444
Strongly Agree	9.62% 96
TOTAL	998

Q7 I am able to get medical care whenever I need it.

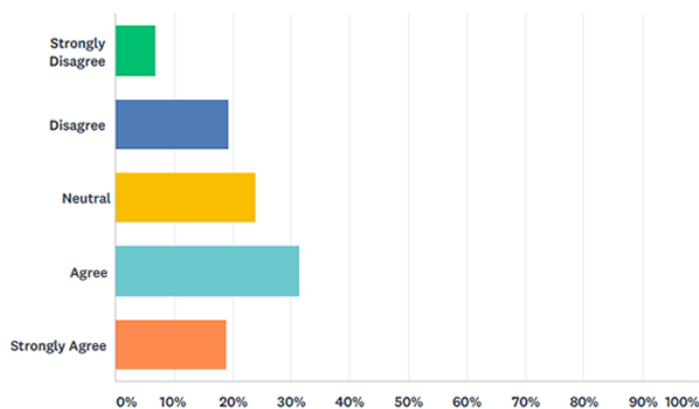
Answered: 998 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Disagree	6.21%	62
Disagree	19.34%	193
Neutral	21.94%	219
Agree	42.28%	422
Strongly Agree	10.22%	102
TOTAL		998

Q8 Sometimes it is a problem for me to pay for my share of the cost for a medical care visit.

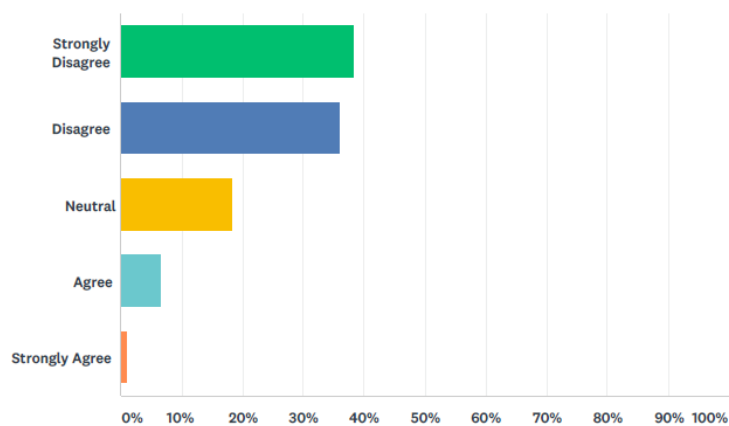
Answered: 998 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Disagree	6.61%	66
Disagree	19.24%	192
Neutral	23.95%	239
Agree	31.36%	313
Strongly Agree	18.84%	188
TOTAL		998

Q9 I use emergency services (ambulance) to access healthcare.

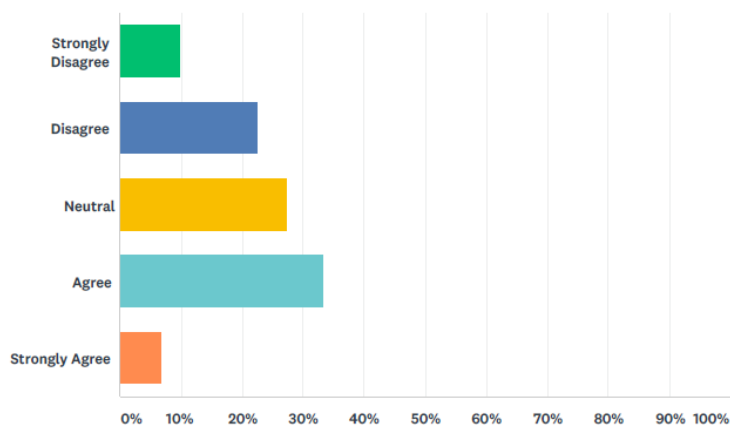
Answered: 997 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Strongly Disagree	38.21% 381
Disagree	36.01% 359
Neutral	18.15% 181
Agree	6.52% 65
Strongly Agree	1.10% 11
TOTAL	997

Q10 I use the Health Department to access healthcare.

Answered: 1,001 Skipped: 0



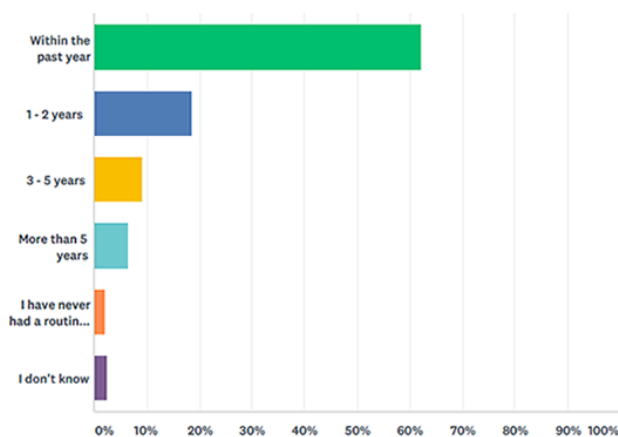
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Strongly Disagree	9.89% 99
Disagree	22.58% 226
Neutral	27.37% 274
Agree	33.37% 334
Strongly Agree	6.79% 68
TOTAL	1,001

Q11 What health care services would you like to see in your community that are not currently available?

Home actually center doctors nurse practitioners Emergency Services Substance abuse etc
 love Dermatology Trained Mental health services health services office least
 insurance bigger access nice Free clinic Eye doctor providers Transportation
 healthcare indoor pool sure affordable dental working women None
 actual doctors see afford medical children Affordable Diabetes gym
 walking hours services available services dental services hospital
 Mercy Dental activities care time doctors Birth control
 specialists medical clinic urgent care Pharmacy
 clinic nutrition Better programs dentist emergency care
 mental health Cheaper Health areas people Dr exercise
 weekends Free available need know Pediatrician receive pediatric open
 health care options education facility Dermatologist Also walk clinic Na
 patients instead nurse practitioners classes OB GYN N disease one hours away mental
 including visits dont know take providing emergency Local

Q12 How long has it been since you last visited a doctor for a routine checkup?

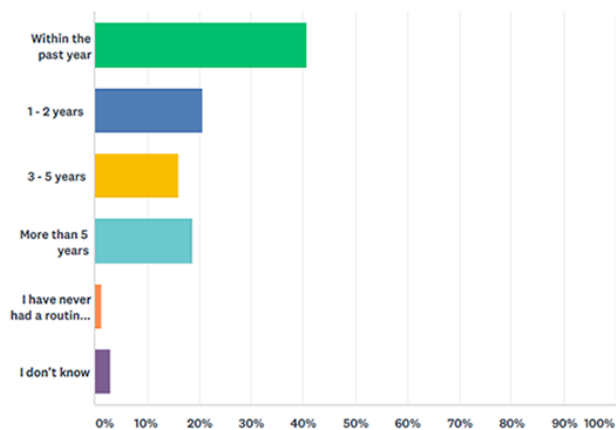
Answered: 1,001 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Within the past year	62.14%	622
1 - 2 years	18.48%	185
3 - 5 years	8.99%	90
More than 5 years	6.19%	62
I have never had a routine checkup	1.90%	19
I don't know	2.30%	23
TOTAL		1,001

Q13 How long has it been since you last visited a dentist for a routine checkup?

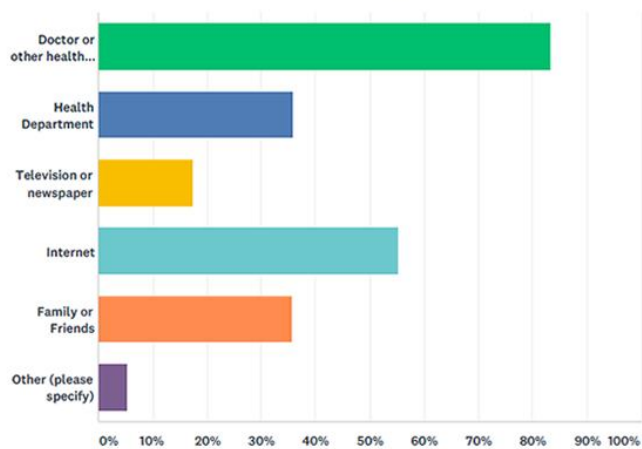
Answered: 1,001 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Within the past year	40.66%	407
1 - 2 years	20.48%	205
3 - 5 years	15.98%	160
More than 5 years	18.68%	187
I have never had a routine checkup	1.20%	12
I don't know	3.00%	30
TOTAL		1,001

Q14 How do you get your health information? Please mark all that apply.

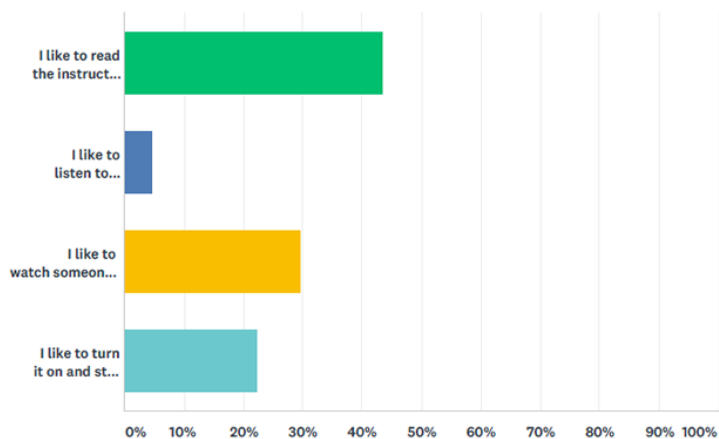
Answered: 999 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Doctor or other health professional	83.18%	831
Health Department	35.84%	358
Television or newspaper	17.42%	174
Internet	55.26%	552
Family or Friends	35.54%	355
Other (please specify)	5.31%	53
Total Respondents: 999		

Q15 If you got a new digital camera, how would you best learn how to use it?

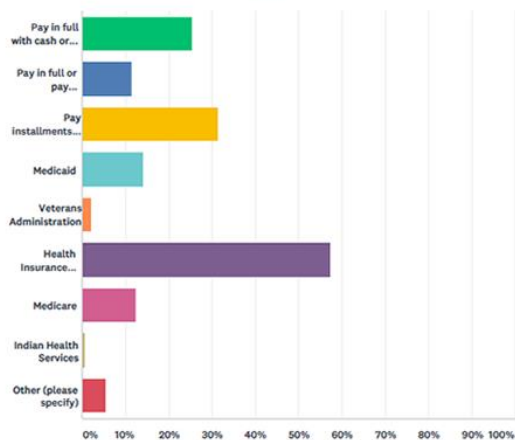
Answered: 997 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I like to read the instruction manual.	43.43%	433
I like to listen to someone explain how to use it.	4.51%	45
I like to watch someone demonstrate how to use it.	29.69%	296
I like to turn it on and start pushing buttons until I figure out how to use it.	22.37%	223
TOTAL		997

Q16 How do you pay for your health care? Please check all that apply.

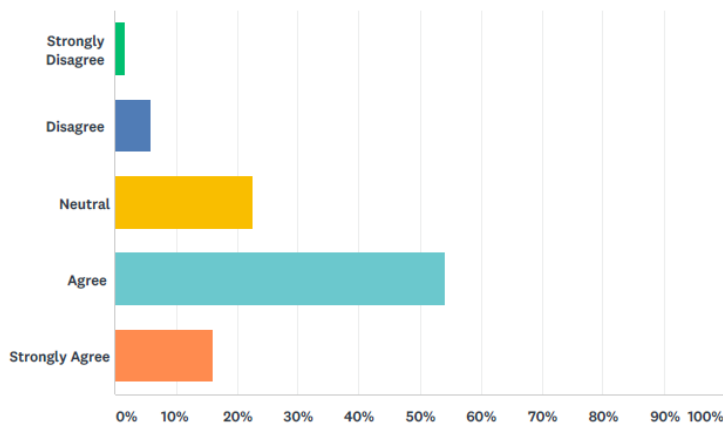
Answered: 994 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Pay in full with cash or check at time of service	25.25%	251
Pay in full or pay installments with a credit card	11.37%	113
Pay installments with cash or check	31.09%	309
Medicaid	14.08%	140
Veterans Administration	1.91%	19
Health Insurance (e.g., private insurance, Blue Shield, HMO, through employer)	57.34%	570
Medicare	12.27%	122
Indian Health Services	0.60%	6
Other (please specify)	5.33%	53
Total Respondents: 994		

Q17 My community is a good place to raise children.

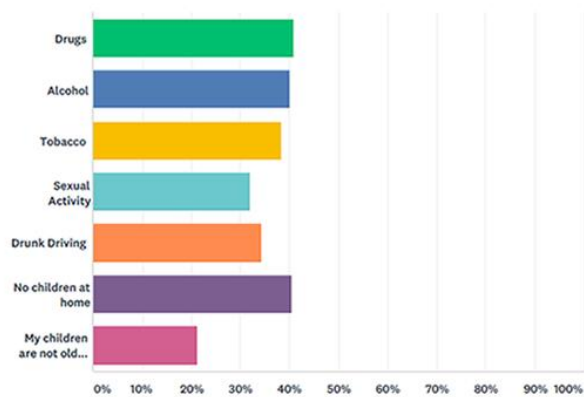
Answered: 998 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Disagree	1.50%	15
Disagree	5.91%	59
Neutral	22.65%	226
Agree	54.01%	539
Strongly Agree	15.93%	159
TOTAL		998

Q18 If you have children living at home, have you talked about your views and beliefs with them about the following topics? Please mark all that apply.

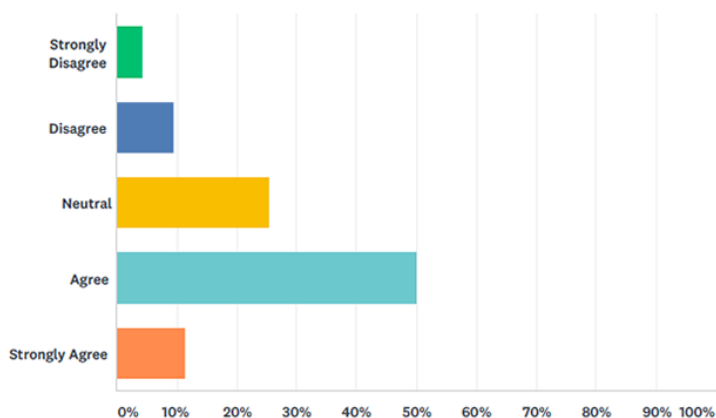
Answered: 998 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Drugs	40.88%	408
Alcohol	39.98%	399
Tobacco	38.38%	383
Sexual Activity	31.96%	319
Drunk Driving	34.27%	342
No children at home	40.38%	403
My children are not old enough	21.14%	211
Total Respondents: 998		

Q19 My community has a transportation service that takes older adults to medical facilities or to shopping centers.

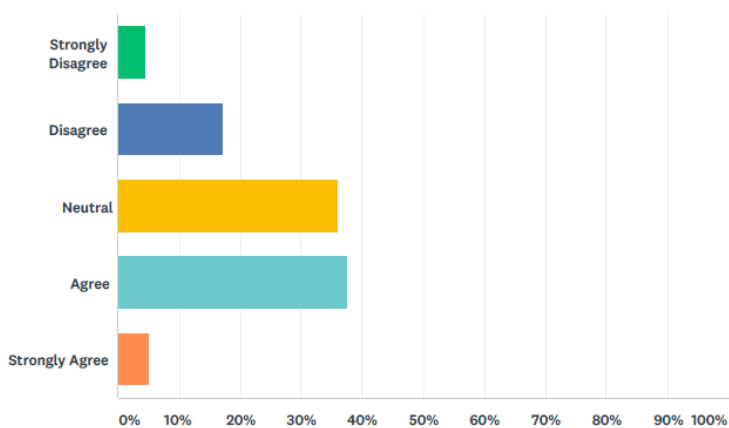
Answered: 999 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Disagree	4.10%	41
Disagree	9.41%	94
Neutral	25.23%	252
Agree	50.05%	500
Strongly Agree	11.21%	112
TOTAL		999

Q20 My community has networks to support older adults who live alone.

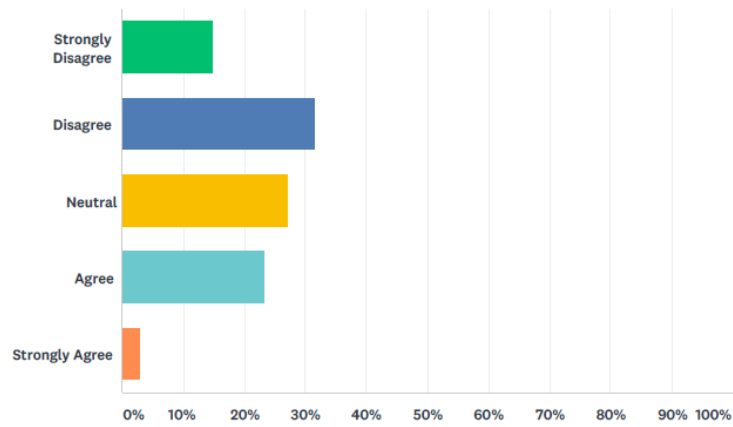
Answered: 1,000 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Disagree	4.30%	43
Disagree	17.20%	172
Neutral	36.00%	360
Agree	37.40%	374
Strongly Agree	5.10%	51
TOTAL		1,000

Q21 My community has jobs available.

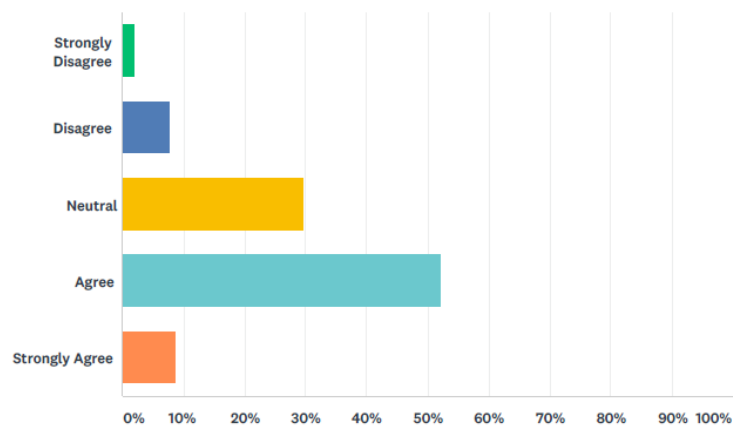
Answered: 999 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Strongly Disagree	14.81% 148
Disagree	31.63% 316
Neutral	27.23% 272
Agree	23.32% 233
Strongly Agree	3.00% 30
TOTAL	999

Q22 My community is a safe place to live.

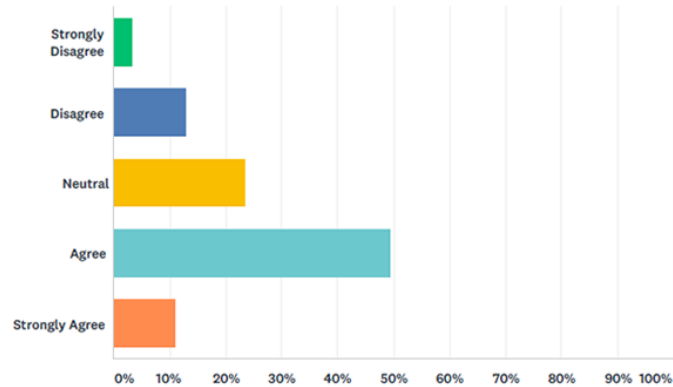
Answered: 1,000 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Strongly Disagree	1.90% 19
Disagree	7.70% 77
Neutral	29.70% 297
Agree	52.10% 521
Strongly Agree	8.60% 86
TOTAL	1,000

Q23 My community has support networks (like neighbors, support groups, faith community, outreach, agencies, and organizations) for individuals and families during times of stress and need.

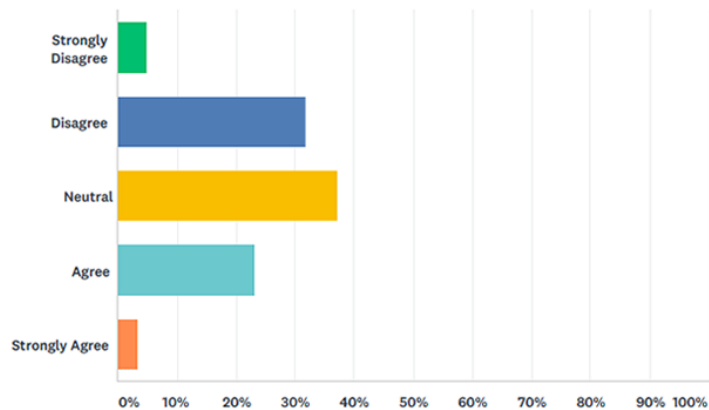
Answered: 1,000 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Strongly Disagree	3.30% 33
Disagree	13.00% 130
Neutral	23.50% 235
Agree	49.40% 494
Strongly Agree	10.80% 108
TOTAL	1,000

Q24 In my community, all residents believe they can make the community a better place to live.

Answered: 999 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Strongly Disagree	4.80% 48
Disagree	31.83% 318
Neutral	37.04% 370
Agree	22.92% 229
Strongly Agree	3.40% 34
TOTAL	999

Q25 Please rank what you think are the 3 most important **health problems** in our community.

	1		2		3		Total	Weighted Average
Aging problems (e.g., arthritis, hearing/vision loss)	32.86%	46	37.14%	52	30.00%	42	140	2.03
Alcohol or drug abuse	70.83%	539	16.43%	125	12.75%	97	761	2.58
Bullying	25.71%	27	52.38%	55	21.90%	23	105	2.04
Cancers	29.27%	84	43.55%	125	27.18%	78	287	2.02
Child abuse or neglect	17.22%	52	56.62%	171	26.16%	79	302	1.91
Dental problems	17.09%	20	40.17%	47	42.74%	50	117	1.74
Diabetes	21.35%	19	43.82%	39	34.83%	31	89	1.87
Domestic violence	6.90%	6	37.93%	33	55.17%	48	87	1.52
Firearms-related injuries	0.00%	0	28.57%	2	71.43%	5	7	1.29
Heart disease and stroke	18.10%	21	37.93%	44	43.97%	51	116	1.74
High blood pressure	15.79%	6	36.84%	14	47.37%	18	38	1.68
HIV/AIDS	42.86%	3	42.86%	3	14.29%	1	7	2.29
Housing that is adequate, safe and affordable	10.61%	19	41.90%	75	47.49%	85	179	1.63
Homicide	0.00%	0	100.00%	2	0.00%	0	2	2.00
Infant death	25.00%	1	25.00%	1	50.00%	2	4	1.75
Infectious diseases (e.g., hepatitis, TB)	12.50%	4	12.50%	4	75.00%	24	32	1.38
Mental health problems	23.40%	55	30.64%	72	45.96%	108	235	1.77
Motor vehicle crash injuries	12.20%	5	24.39%	10	63.41%	26	41	1.49
Obesity	21.26%	37	28.74%	50	50.00%	87	174	1.71
Rape or sexual assault	25.00%	3	33.33%	4	41.67%	5	12	1.83
Respiratory or lung disease	34.38%	11	18.75%	6	46.88%	15	32	1.88
Sexually transmitted diseases	5.26%	1	31.58%	6	63.16%	12	19	1.42
Suicide	16.13%	10	25.81%	16	58.06%	36	62	1.58
Teenage pregnancy	10.81%	8	27.03%	20	62.16%	46	74	1.49
Other (describe in the box below)	35.29%	6	17.65%	3	47.06%	8	17	1.88
n=984								

Q26 Please rank what you think are the 3 most important **risky behaviors** in our community – those that have the greatest impact on overall community health.

	1		2		3		Total	Weighted Average
Alcohol abuse	27.73%	142	51.17%	262	21.09%	108	512	2.07
Dropping out of school	24.56%	28	38.60%	44	36.84%	42	114	1.88
Drug abuse	71.46%	606	18.04%	153	10.50%	89	848	2.61
Lack of exercise	14.94%	23	37.66%	58	47.40%	73	154	1.68
Overeating	11.54%	9	46.15%	36	42.31%	33	78	1.69
Poor eating habits	16.79%	44	32.44%	85	50.76%	133	262	1.66
Not getting “shots to prevent disease	17.95%	14	42.31%	33	39.74%	31	78	1.78
Racism	9.38%	3	34.38%	11	56.25%	18	32	1.53
Texting/ cell phone while driving	17.46%	44	37.30%	94	45.24%	114	252	1.72
Tobacco use/ or electronic cigarette use	9.15%	26	35.56%	101	55.28%	157	284	1.54
Not using birth control	10.87%	10	34.78%	32	54.35%	50	92	1.57
Not using seat belts and/or child safety seats	16.19%	17	28.57%	30	55.24%	58	105	1.61
Unsafe sex	12.30%	15	31.97%	39	55.74%	68	122	1.57
Other (describe in the box below)	25.00%	2	25.00%	2	50.00%	4	8	1.75
n=982								

Q27 Please rank what you think are the 3 most important **environmental issues** in our community.

	1		2		3		Total	Weighted Average
Food safety	27.77%	153	37.21%	205	35.03%	193	551	1.93
Housing	60.84%	491	21.56%	174	17.60%	142	807	2.43
Indoor air quality	15.94%	33	44.93%	93	39.13%	81	207	1.77
Outdoor air quality	20.56%	22	37.38%	40	42.06%	45	107	1.79
Safe drinking water	25.71%	108	41.19%	173	33.10%	139	420	1.93
Sewage disposal	11.03%	32	41.03%	119	47.93%	139	290	1.63
Trash or solid waste disposal	25.66%	126	32.18%	158	42.16%	207	491	1.84
Other (describe in the box below)	26.98%	17	23.81%	15	49.21%	31	63	1.78
n=981								