



2016 Community Health  
Needs Assessment

## Table of Contents

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Social Determinants of Health</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Lifestyle, Obesity and Nutrition</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Chronic Disease and Prevention</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Smoking and Tobacco</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Access and Coverage</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Maternal and Child Health</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Injuries</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Family Violence</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Alcohol and Substance Use and Abuse</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Environment</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Community Perceptions</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Data Sources</b>	<b>21</b>

## Introduction

The role of the Butler County Health Department has been and continues to be one of delivering value, connecting people to information and resources, developing and implementing programs, and reaching out to people. As part of community education and outreach, the Butler County Health Department conducts a Community Health Assessment, drawing upon public health, crime, education, census, and economic data, opinions of community members, and other community level information such as the built environment, economic factors, and relevant events in the community. The Community Health Assessment provides organized data which the Butler County Health Department uses to work with local partners to identify new revenue streams, improve decision-making and transform how local health problems are solved.

### Contact Information:

Robert Hudson, Administrator  
Butler County Health Department  
1619 North Main  
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901  
Phone: 573-785-8478  
Fax: 573-785-2825

## MISSION STATEMENT

*The Butler county health department is responsible for promoting and protecting the health of its citizens through community assessment, policy development and assurance to provide community readiness and response to disease episodes and outbreaks. The health department also reaches beyond county lines to provide In-Home care to the aged and infirm as well as other programs in a multi-county effort to insure that all, in our service area, may achieve their fullest health potential.*

## Executive Summary

The County Health Rankings show the rank of the health of nearly every county in the nation and illustrate that much of what affects health occurs outside the doctor’s office. The Rankings help counties understand what influences the health of residents and how long they will live. The Rankings look at various measures that affect health such as the rate of people dying before age 75, high school graduation rates, unemployment, income, and rates of smoking, obesity, and teen births. Based on data available for each county, the Rankings are unique in their ability to measure the overall health of each county in all 50 states on the many factors that influence health. The following tables from the County Health Rankings allow for a quick comparison between Butler County and Missouri. Items indicated in red are areas where the county rate is significantly different than the state rate and could have an impact on health status in the county.

	Butler County	Missouri
<b>Demographics</b>		
<a href="#">Population</a>	43,083	6,044,171
<a href="#">% below 18 years of age</a>	23.50%	23.10%
<a href="#">% 65 and older</a>	17.40%	15.00%
<a href="#">% Non-Hispanic African American</a>	5.40%	11.60%
<a href="#">% American Indian and Alaskan Native</a>	0.70%	0.50%
<a href="#">% Asian</a>	0.90%	1.80%
<a href="#">% Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander</a>	0.00%	0.10%
<a href="#">% Hispanic</a>	1.80%	3.90%
<a href="#">% Non-Hispanic white</a>	89.40%	80.40%
<a href="#">% not proficient in English</a>	0.10%	1.00%
<a href="#">% Females</a>	51.30%	51.00%
<a href="#">% Rural</a>	52.20%	29.60%
<b>Health Outcomes</b>		
<a href="#">Diabetes</a>	11%	11%
<a href="#">HIV prevalence</a>	61	223
<a href="#">Premature age-adjusted mortality</a>	509.4	381.4
<a href="#">Infant mortality</a>	8.9	7.2
<a href="#">Child mortality</a>	92.3	59.9
<b>Health Behaviors</b>		
<a href="#">Food insecurity</a>	17%	17%
<a href="#">Limited access to healthy foods</a>	7%	6%
<a href="#">Motor vehicle crash deaths</a>	30	15
<a href="#">Drug poisoning deaths</a>	24	14
<b>Health Care</b>		
<a href="#">Uninsured adults</a>	21%	19%
<a href="#">Uninsured children</a>	8%	7%
<a href="#">Health care costs</a>	\$9,758	\$9,627
<a href="#">Could not see doctor due to cost</a>	23%	14%
<a href="#">Other primary care providers</a>	879:1	1,686:1
<b>Social &amp; Economic Factors</b>		
<a href="#">Median household income</a>	\$35,381	\$46,905
<a href="#">Children eligible for free lunch</a>	52%	38%
<a href="#">Homicides</a>		7

	Butler County	Error Margin	Top U.S. Performers*	Missouri	Rank (of 114)
<b>Health Outcomes</b>					<b>106</b>
Length of Life					96
<a href="#">Premature death</a>	10,012	8,970-11,054	5,200	7,714	
Quality of Life					108
<a href="#">Poor or fair health</a>	28%	22-35%	10%	16%	
<a href="#">Poor physical health days</a>	6.3	4.6-8.0	2.5	3.7	
<a href="#">Poor mental health days</a>	4.8	3.5-6.1	2.3	3.8	
<a href="#">Low birthweight</a>	10.00%	9.0-10.9%	5.90%	8.00%	
<b>Health Factors</b>					<b>89</b>
Health Behaviors					104
<a href="#">Adult smoking</a>	34%	27-42%	14%	23%	
<a href="#">Adult obesity</a>	35%	29-41%	25%	31%	
<a href="#">Food environment index</a>	6.6		8.4	7	
<a href="#">Physical inactivity</a>	30%	24-36%	20%	26%	
<a href="#">Access to exercise opportunities</a>	72%		92%	77%	
<a href="#">Excessive drinking</a>	11%	7-17%	10%	17%	
<a href="#">Alcohol-impaired driving deaths</a>	22%		14%	35%	
<a href="#">Sexually transmitted infections</a>	481		138	462	
<a href="#">Teen births</a>	72	67-78	20	40	
Clinical Care					14
<a href="#">Uninsured</a>	17%	15-19%	11%	16%	
<a href="#">Primary care physicians</a>	1,001:1		1,045:1	1,439:1	
<a href="#">Dentists</a>	1,873:1		1,377:1	1,920:1	
<a href="#">Mental health providers</a>	435:1		386:1	632:1	
<a href="#">Preventable hospital stays</a>	81	74-88	41	65	
<a href="#">Diabetic monitoring</a>	91%	84-97%	90%	86%	
<a href="#">Mammography screening</a>	64.40%	57.4-71.4%	70.70%	62.20%	
Social & Economic Factors					98
<a href="#">High school graduation</a>	80%			86%	
<a href="#">Some college</a>	50.30%	44.6-56.0%	71.00%	63.80%	
<a href="#">Unemployment</a>	6.60%		4.00%	6.50%	
<a href="#">Children in poverty</a>	32%	23-40%	13%	22%	
<a href="#">Income inequality</a>	4.5	4.0-5.1	3.7	4.6	
<a href="#">Children in single-parent households</a>	36%	30-42%	20%	34%	
<a href="#">Social associations</a>	11.4		22	11.9	
<a href="#">Violent crime</a>	491		59	452	
<a href="#">Injury deaths</a>	103	90-117	50	74	
Physical Environment					94
<a href="#">Air pollution - particulate matter</a>	12.3		9.5	10.2	
<a href="#">Drinking water violations</a>	0%		0%	4%	
<a href="#">Severe housing problems</a>	14%	11-17%	9%	14%	
<a href="#">Driving alone to work</a>	84%	82-87%	71%	81%	
<a href="#">Long commute - driving alone</a>	15%	12-17%	15%	30%	

## **Social Determinants of Health**

### **Population and Change**

According to American Community Survey 2010-2014 estimates, the population of Butler County increased to 42,957, an increase of 350 people from the 2000-2011 estimates of 42,607.

### **Age**

According to ACS 2010-14 estimates, 17.02% of Butler County's population is aged 65 and older, compared to 14.64% for Missouri. In contrast to the elderly population, 23.3% of the population is under the age of 18, which is the same as the statewide rate.

### **Racial Diversity**

The 2010-2014 ACS data indicates that 90.7% of the population of Butler County was White (39,002 persons), while the Black/African American population was 2,247 (5.2%). The same data indicates there were 237 Asians (0.6%), and 222 American Indians/Alaskan Natives (0.5%). Hispanic people are not considered a separate race, but are a separate category. ACS estimates indicates 708 Hispanic persons in Butler County (1.6%).

### **Housing**

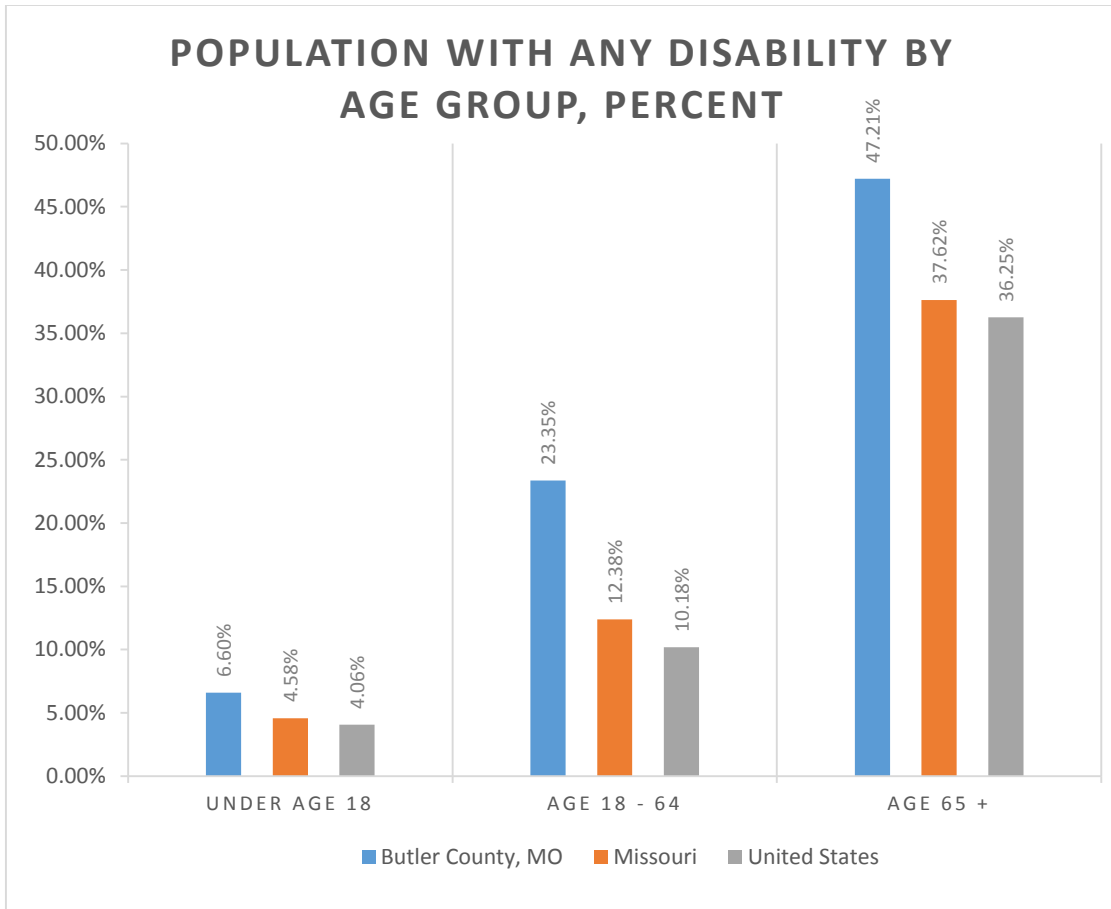
According to the ACS, there were 19,683 housing units in Butler County in 2014, with 85.2% of those being occupied and 14.8% vacant units. Of the occupied units, 66.1% were owner-occupied and 33.9% were renter-occupied. The median value of owner-occupied housing units in 2014 was \$91,700, an increase of \$5,500 from 2011. Statewide median values were \$136,700, a decrease of \$2,200 over the same time period. There are 925 subsidized housing units in Butler County according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. A total of 1,735 people live in the available subsidized housing, and the average wait period to obtain subsidized housing in Butler County is five months.

### **Households and Families**

There were 16,773 households in Butler County according to 2010-2014 ACS estimates. Families comprised 66.5% of households (11,155). About 2,931 households (17.5%) were married couples with children under 18, and single parent family households numbered 1,599 (9.5%).

### **Disabilities**

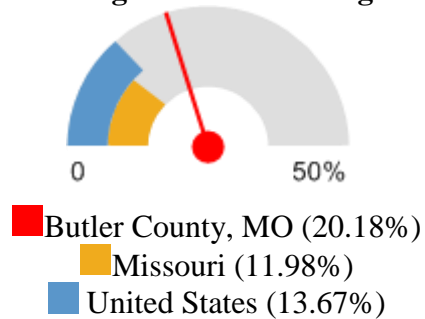
There were 3,288 persons age 65 and older in Butler County who reported having a disability in 2014 (47.2%) according to ACS. The corresponding Missouri rate is 37.6%. Among the working age population (age 18 to 64) in the county, 23.3% reported a disability, as compared to the state rate of 12.4%. The county rate shows an increase of 2.9% from 2010 for the working age population.



### Educational Attainment

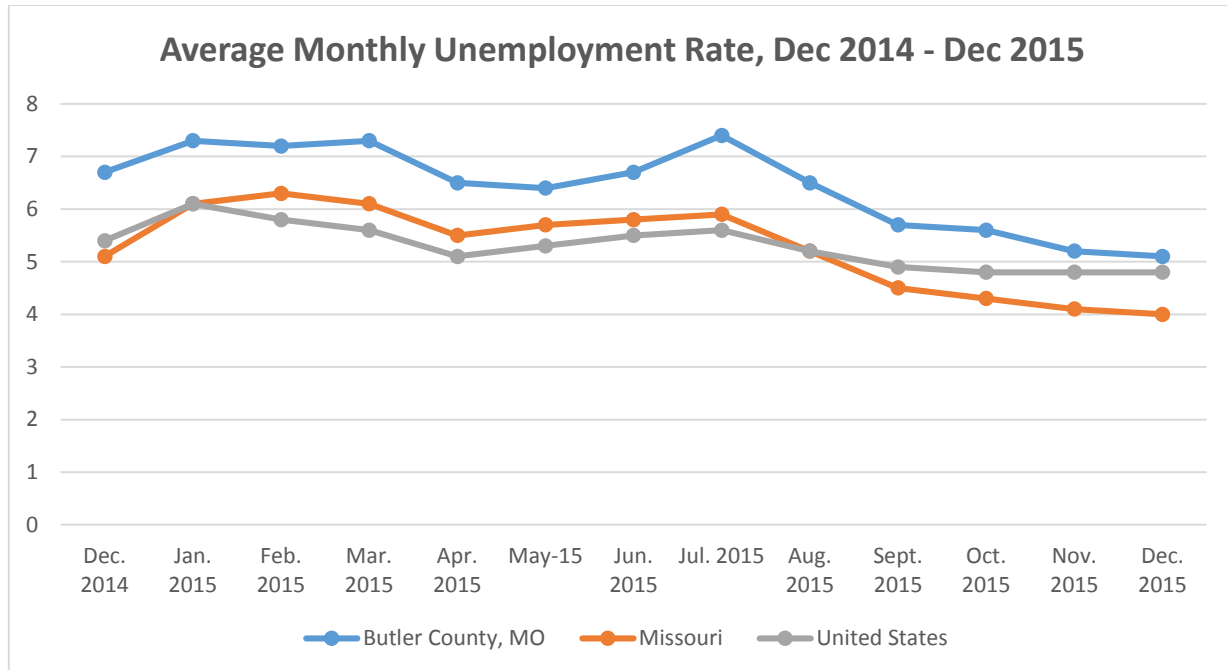
In Butler County, 21.92% of the population aged 25 and older, or 6,437 have obtained an Associate's level degree or higher, compared to the state rate of 33.88%. Slightly over 20% of the population of Butler County has not completed high school or earned a GED according to the U.S. Department of Education. This is nearly double the state rate (11.98%) and also higher than the national rate (13.67%).

### Percent Population Age 25+ with No High School Diploma



## Unemployment and Income

Total unemployment in Butler County as of December 2015 was 1,310, or 6.7% of the civilian non-institutionalized population age 16 and older (non-seasonally adjusted), according to the *US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics*. The rate for Missouri for the same time period was 5.1%. Over time, Butler County unemployment rates have consistently been higher than state and national rates. This indicator is relevant because unemployment creates financial instability and barriers to access including insurance coverage, health services, healthy food, and other necessities that contribute to poor health status.

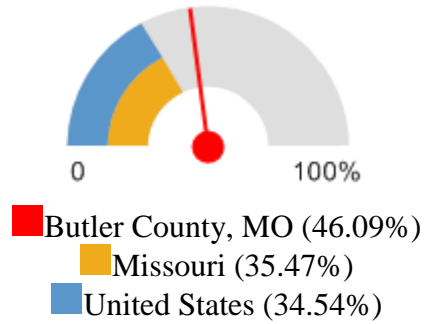


The per capita income for Butler County is \$19,185 according to ACS 2010-2014 estimates. Overall, the per capita income at the state level is \$26,006, showing that Butler County residents are earning far less than others in the state. Per capita income includes all reported income from wages and salaries as well as income from self-employment, interest or dividends, public assistance, retirement, and other sources.

## Poverty

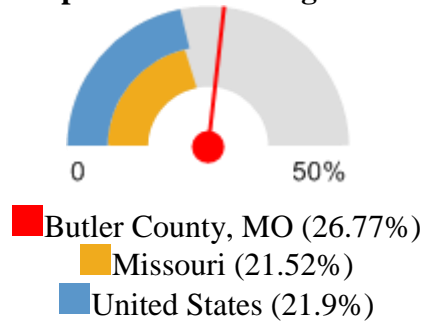
In Butler County, 46.09% or 19,271 individuals are living in households with income below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) according to ACS 2010-2014 estimates.

### Percent Population with Income at or Below 200% FPL



Additionally, one of every four children in Butler County lives below the Federal Poverty Level (26.77%).

### Percent Population Under Age 18 in Poverty



Poverty creates barriers to access including health services, healthy food, and other necessities that contribute to poor health status. Many different factors can contribute to poverty including education, drug and alcohol use, divorce, unemployment, illness and medical bills, and others. Recognizing and addressing these underlying factors may improve socio-economic status in communities.

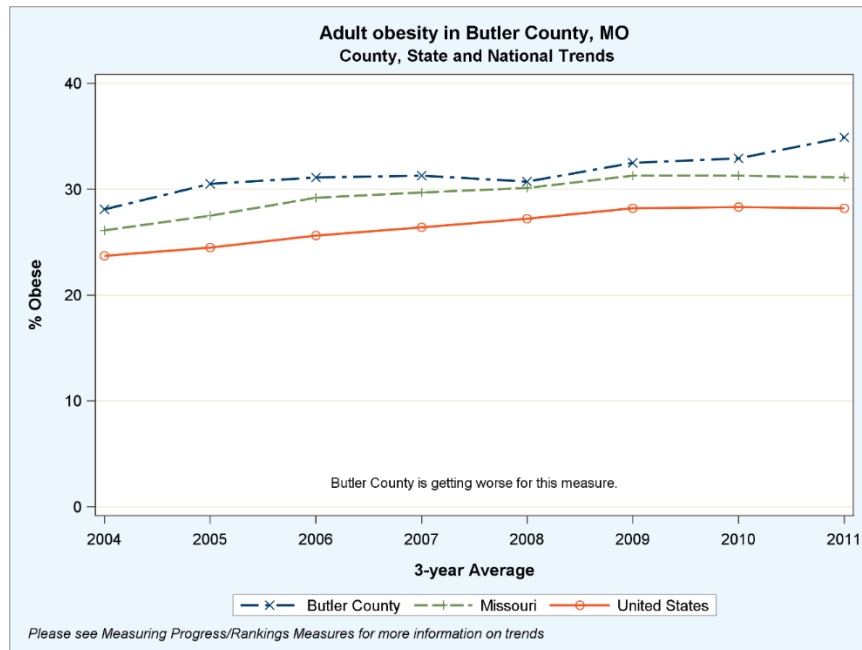


## Lifestyle, Obesity and Nutrition

Obesity is complex – although genetics can predispose some individuals to overweight and obesity, environment and behavioral factors also play a critical role. Key factors that lead to weight gain include:

- Community environment
- Too many calories
- Too few babies breastfed
- Too much screen time
- Too few fruits and vegetables
- Not enough physical activity

In Butler County, 36.6% of adults aged 20 and older self-report that they have a Body Mass Index (BMI) greater than 30.0 (obese) according to the Centers for Disease Control. In comparison, 30.3% of Missourians self-report obesity and the rate is 27.1% for the nation. Excess weight may indicate an unhealthy lifestyle and puts individuals at risk for further health issues.



Environmental and nutrition factors play a role in weight gain and obesity. For those with limited access to parks and public recreation areas, sidewalks, and/or outdoor spaces, maintaining a healthy weight and activity level may be challenging. Butler County residents have limited access to recreation and fitness facilities, with a rate of 4.67 establishments per 100,000 population as compared to the state rate of 9.6 facilities per 100,000 population according to the Census Bureau.

An estimated 26,545 Butler County residents, or 84.5% of adults over the age of 18, are consuming less than 5 servings of fruits and vegetables each day, as compared to the state rate of 79.1%. Current behaviors are determinants of future health, and unhealthy eating habits may cause of significant health issues, such as obesity and diabetes. *Source: CDC*

## Chronic Disease and Prevention

Chronic diseases such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, and diabetes are among the most common, costly, and preventable of all health problems in the U.S. Four modifiable health risk behaviors – lack of physical activity, poor nutrition, tobacco use, and excessive alcohol consumption – are responsible for much of the illness, suffering, and early deaths related to chronic diseases. The table below provides a comparison of the incidence of chronic disease among Butler County adults to that of Missouri residents overall.

	Diabetes	Asthma	High Blood Pressure	High Cholesterol
Butler County	10.4%	19.1%	40.8%	45.39%
Missouri	9.62%	14.2%	29.5%	40.42%

*Diabetes Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion](#), 2012.*

*Asthma Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System](#). Additional data analysis by [CARES](#), 2011-12*

*High Blood Pressure Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System](#). Additional data analysis by [CARES](#), 2006-12*

*High Cholesterol Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System](#). Additional data analysis by [CARES](#), 2011-12*

Rates of cancer are higher in Butler County when compared to state rates, as evidenced in the table below. All rates are per 100,000 population.

	Breast Cancer Incidence	Colon/Rectum Cancer Incidence	Lung Cancer Incidence
Butler County	127.3	52	91.2
Missouri	124.7	44.5	76.2

*Source: National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute, [Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program](#), [State Cancer Profiles](#), 2008-12*

The table below reflects the leading causes of death among Butler County residents. It is important to note that the death rates in Butler County routinely exceed the Missouri rates for almost all causes.

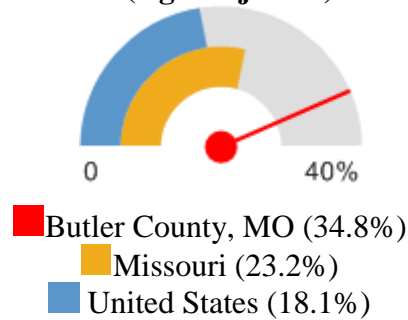
Leading Causes of Death	Data Years	Rate	State Rate
All Causes	2003-2013	1,029.1	837.3
<a href="#">Heart Disease</a>	2003-2013	236.7	216.7
<a href="#">All Cancers (Malignant Neoplasms)</a>	2003-2013	224.4	188.9
<a href="#">Lung Cancer</a>	2003-2013	82.5	58.7
<a href="#">Breast Cancer</a>	2003-2013	15.2	13.6
<a href="#">Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease</a>	2003-2013	63.5	50.3
<a href="#">Stroke/Other Cerebrovascular Disease</a>	2003-2013	62.5	47.8
<a href="#">Total Unintentional Injuries</a>	2003-2013	75.1	47.5
<a href="#">Motor Vehicle Accidents</a>	2003-2013	29.8	16.4

<a href="#">Alzheimer's Disease</a>	2003-2013	52.8	25.8
<a href="#">Diabetes Mellitus</a>	2003-2013	33.6	22.0
<a href="#">Pneumonia and Influenza</a>	2003-2013	35.9	20.3
<a href="#">Kidney Disease (Nephritis and Nephrosis)</a>	2003-2013	25.0	18.1
<a href="#">Suicide</a>	2003-2013	19.5	13.7
<a href="#">Septicemia</a>	2003-2013	14.4	11.5
<a href="#">Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis</a>	2003-2013	12.0	7.5
<a href="#">Homicide</a>	2003-2013	4.9	7.2
<a href="#">HIV/AIDS</a>	2003-2013	1.4*	1.9
<a href="#">Smoking-Attributable (estimated)</a>	2003-2013	187.9	145.2
<a href="#">Alcohol/Drug-Induced</a>	2003-2013	32.5	20.2
<a href="#">All Injuries and Poisonings</a>	2003-2013	102.9	70.5
<a href="#">Firearm</a>	2003-2013	16.8	13.2
<a href="#">Injury at Work</a>	2003-2013	2.4*	1.7

## Smoking and Tobacco

In the report area an estimated 11,106, or 34% of adults age 18 or older self-report currently smoking cigarettes some days or every day. This indicator is relevant because tobacco use is linked to leading causes of death such as cancer and cardiovascular disease.

**Percent Population Smoking Cigarettes  
(Age-Adjusted)**



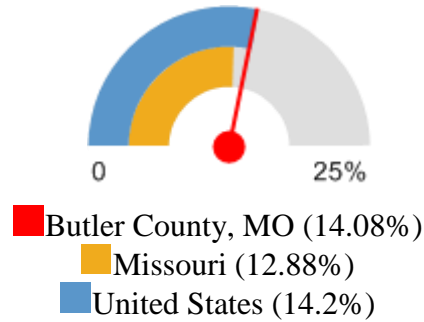
*Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Accessed via the Health Indicators Warehouse. US Department of Health & Human Services, Health Indicators Warehouse. 2006-12.*

Additionally, 29% of women reported smoking while pregnant in 2013 according to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services Prenatal Profile. The state rate was 17.5% for the same time period. Smoking during pregnancy increases the risk for preterm delivery, stillbirth, low birthweight and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

## Access and Coverage

Lack of health care insurance is a primary barrier to healthcare access including regular primary care, specialty care, and other health services. The lack of health insurance is considered a *key driver* of health status. This indicator reports the percentage of the total civilian non-institutionalized population without health insurance coverage. For Butler County, the percentage is 14.08%, compared to the state rate of 12.88%.

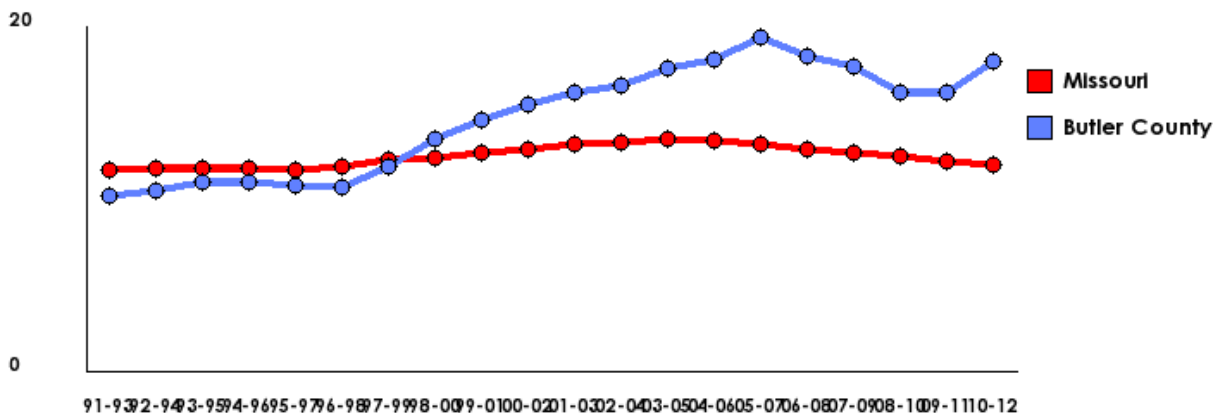
### Percent Uninsured Population



Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#), 2010-14.

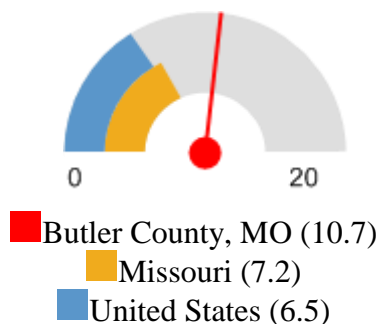
## Maternal and Child Health

During the 2009-2013-time period, there were 435 births to teen mothers (under age 19) in Butler County. While rates of teen pregnancy have declined since the 1990s at the state level, rates have remained fairly consistent in Butler County. Infants born to teen mothers are at increased risk of being born prematurely and at a low birth weight. The rate for infants at a low birth weight from 2008-2012 in Butler County was 9.7%, as compared to the state rate of 8.03%. The rate of preterm births was 17.4 for the county for the same time period as compared to the state rate of 12.23. The rates of preterm births have been increasing in Butler County since the 1990s.



The rate of deaths to infants less than one year of age per 1,000 births in Butler County is 10.7 as compared to the Missouri rate of 7.2. This indicator is relevant because high rates of infant mortality indicate the existence of broader issues pertaining to access to care and maternal and child health.

### Infant Mortality Rate (Per 1,000 Births)

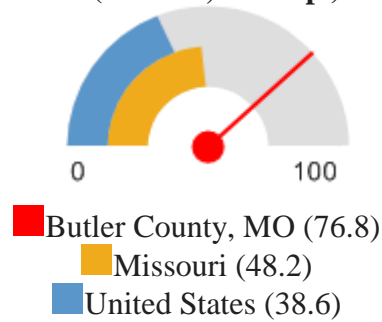


Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [National Vital Statistics System](#).

## Injuries

The rates of death for unintentional injuries in Butler County is 76.8 per 100,000 as compared to the Missouri rate of 48.2 per 100,000. Rates are higher among men than women, at county, state, and national levels.

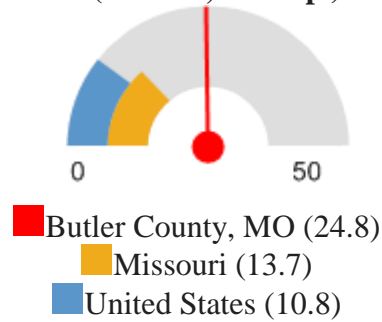
### Unintentional Injury (Accident) Mortality, Age-Adjusted Death Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.)



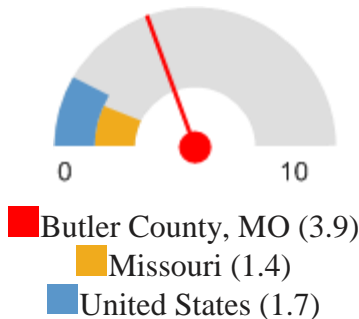
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [National Vital Statistics System](#).

Butler County has high rates of unintentional injury deaths due to both motor vehicle accidents and pedestrian accidents. The area is rural, with curvy, hilly roads and few sidewalks which are contributing factors.

### Motor Vehicle Crash Death, Age-Adjusted Death Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.)

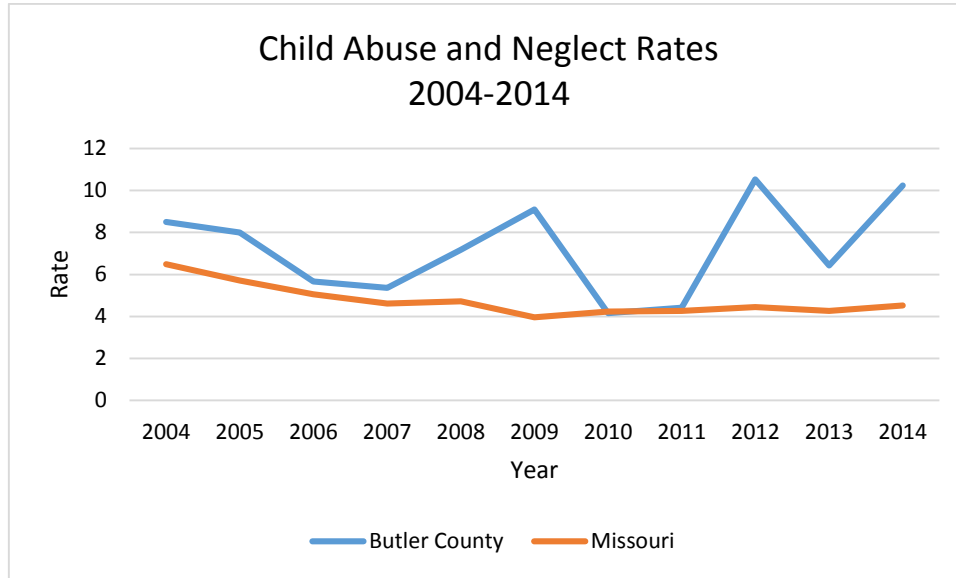


### Pedestrian Motor Vehicle Mortality, Age-Adjusted Death Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.)



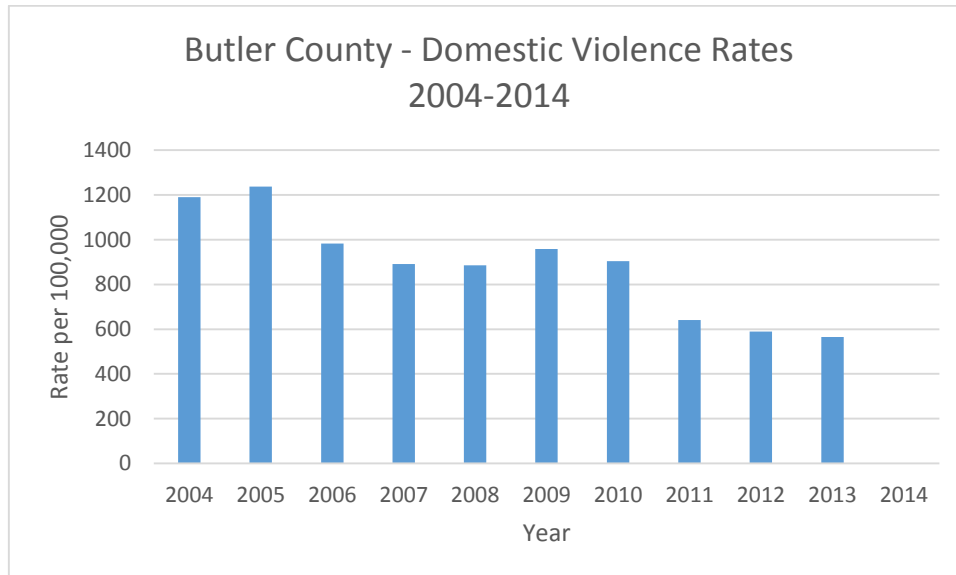
## Family Violence

Family violence can include both intimate partner violence, child abuse and maltreatment, and elder abuse. Child abuse rates in Butler County have fluctuated over time, but are currently higher than 2004 rates.



Source: Missouri Department of Social Services, Child Abuse and Neglect Annual Reports.

Domestic violence rates however, have been on the decline over the last ten years in Butler County.

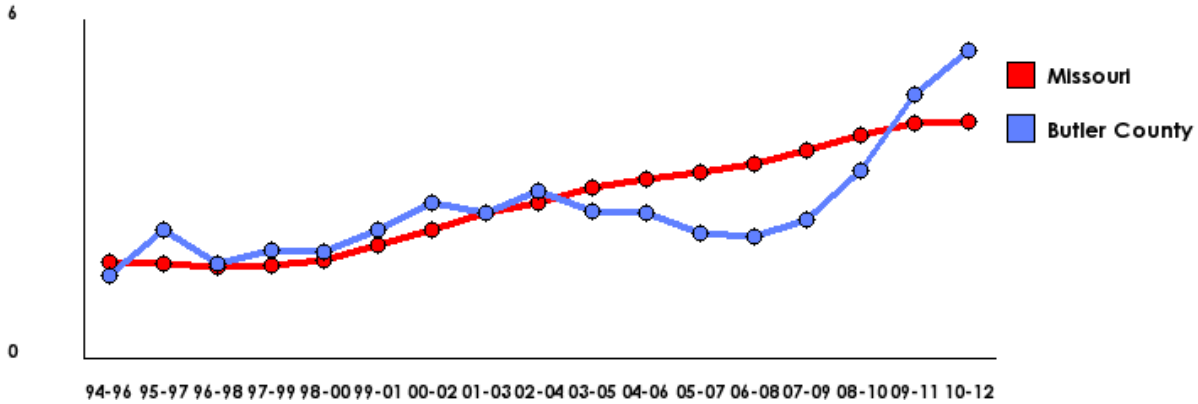


Source: Missouri State Highway Patrol, Crime in Missouri Reports

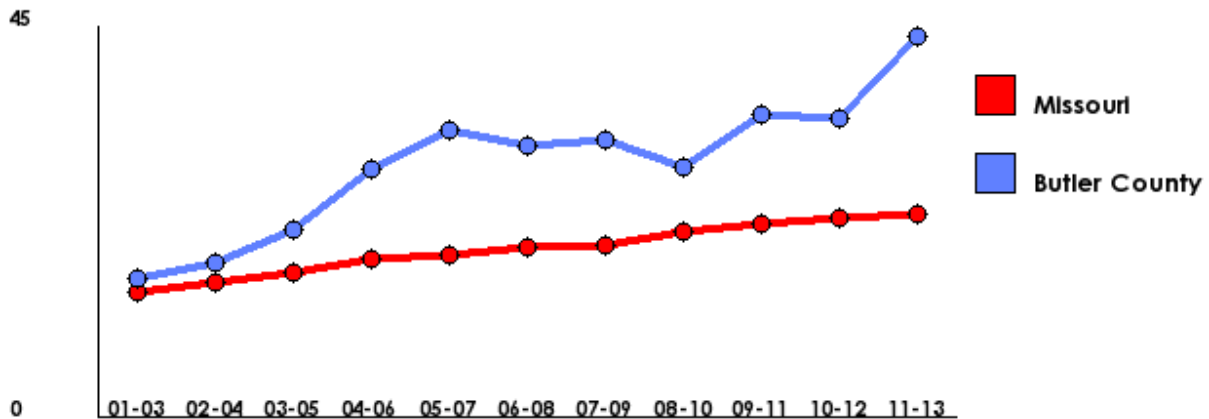


## Alcohol and Substance Use and Abuse

The rate of hospitalizations due to alcohol or drug abuse has increased significantly over recent years in Butler County.



Additionally, there has been a significant increase in the rate of drug or alcohol related deaths in Butler County during the 2001-2-12 time period.



## Substance Use and Abuse

Health: In 2012, Butler County residents had a total of 35 alcohol-related and 56 drug-related hospitalizations. In addition, there were 74 alcohol-related and 90 drug-related ER visits that did not include a hospital stay.

Treatment: In 2014, 540 individuals in Butler County were admitted into Substance Abuse Treatment Programs. A total of 142 were primarily due to alcohol while 135 were primarily due to marijuana.

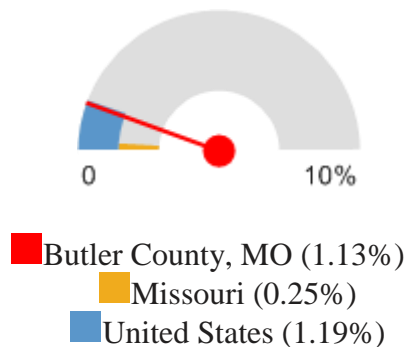
## Environment

Our environment can affect our health. Hazardous substances in the air, soil, and water can come from a variety of sources including farming, mining, landfills, and industrial and commercial activities. Health officials work with people, community groups, other agencies and businesses to reduce or eliminate exposure to harmful substances.

### Air Quality

This indicator reports the percentage of days with particulate matter 2.5 levels above the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (35 micrograms per cubic meter) per year, calculated using data collected by monitoring stations and modeled to include counties where no monitoring stations occur. This indicator is relevant because poor air quality contributes to respiratory issues and overall poor health.

#### Percentage of Days Exceeding Standards, Pop. Adjusted Average



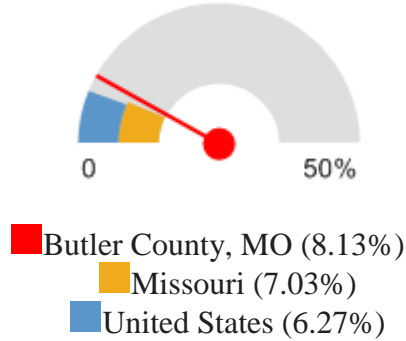
### Water Quality

There are fourteen public water systems in Butler County. Of those, only four are fluoridated systems (28.5%). According to the Centers for Disease Control, drinking fluoridated water keeps the teeth strong and reduced tooth decay by approximately 25% in children and adults. By preventing tooth decay, community water fluoridation has been shown to save money, both for families and the health care system.

### Other Factors

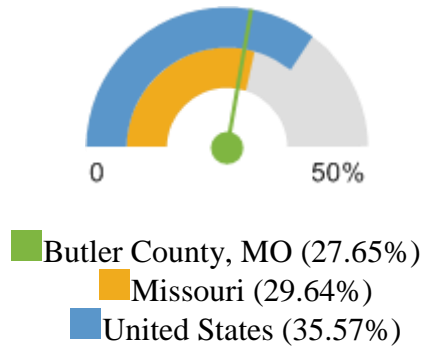
Access to healthy food choices can be more challenging for low-income people and families. In the Butler County area, 8.13% of the low income population also has low food access, as compared to the national average of 6.27%.

### Percent Low Income Population with Low Food Access



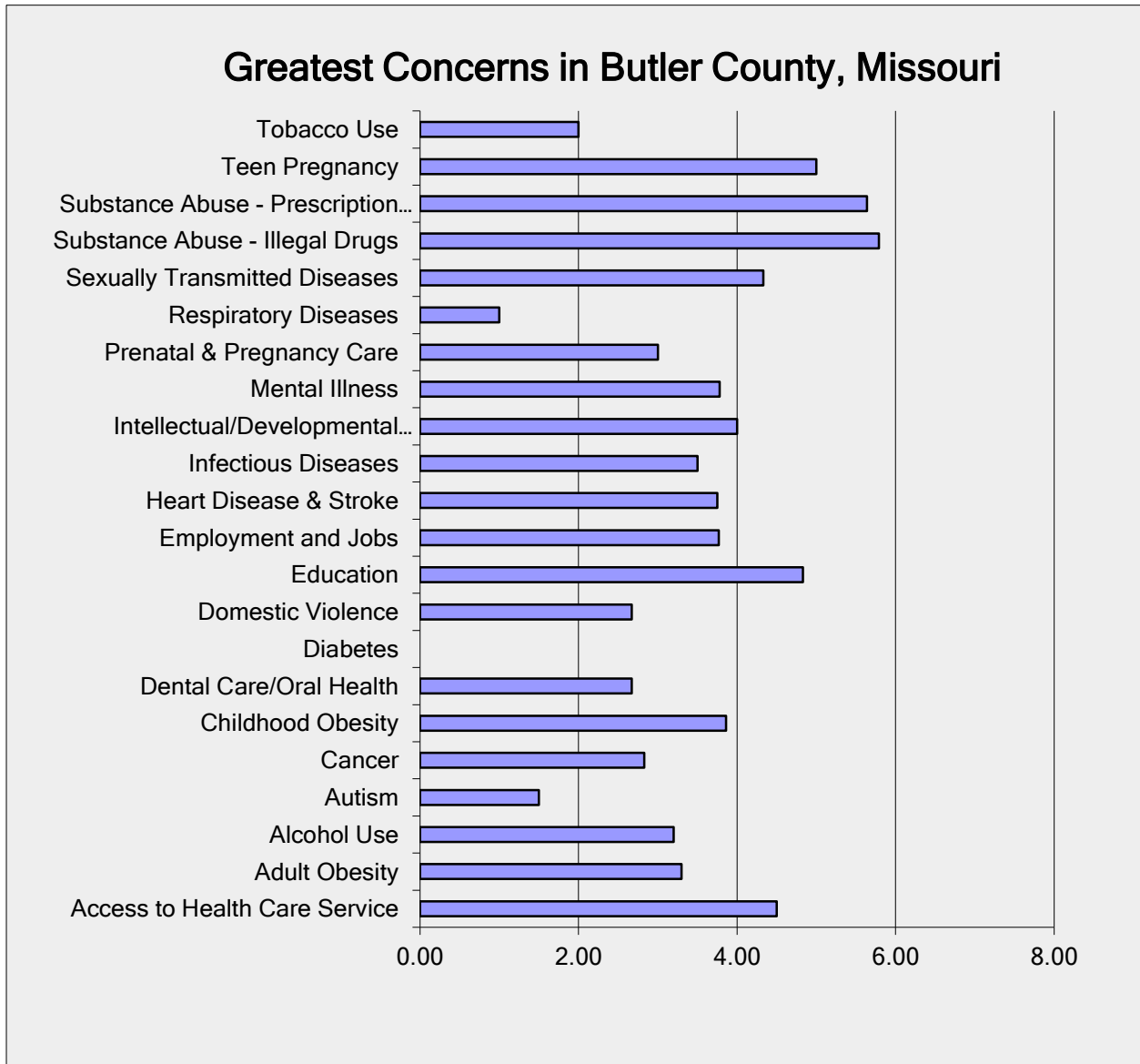
Sub-standard housing shows the number and percentage of owner- and renter-occupied housing units having at least one of the following conditions: 1) lacking complete plumbing facilities, 2) lacking complete kitchen facilities, 3) with 1.01 or more occupants per room, 4) selected monthly owner costs as a percentage of household income greater than 30 percent, and 5) gross rent as a percentage of household income greater than 30 percent. Selected conditions provide information in assessing the quality of the housing inventory and its occupants. This data is used to easily identify homes where the quality of living and housing can be considered substandard. In Butler County, 27.65% of occupied housing units have one or more substandard conditions.

### Percent Occupied Housing Units with One or More Substandard Conditions



## Community Perceptions

Butler County Health Department reached out to community members and leaders to ask for input on determining the issues most relevant and of concern to residents. Twenty people completed the survey. Overall, community members ranked substance abuse as the biggest concern, followed by teen pregnancy, and education as shown in the chart below.



Community members also responded to key areas in regards to availability, access, and quality. For these areas, the terms are defined as follows:

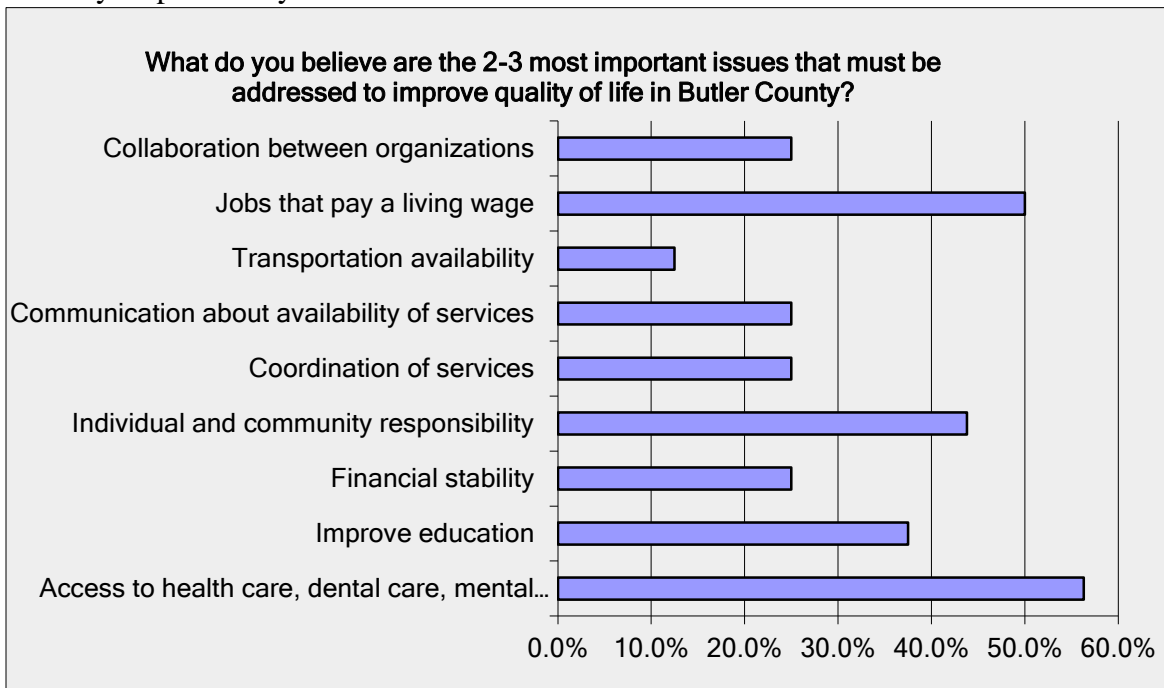
**Availability** - The availability of services impacts an individual's quality of life. Availability refers to the existence of services in convenient locations with hours of operation that reflect community needs. While services may exist (i.e. be available), it may not necessarily mean they are accessible.

**Access** - Access measures accessibility to needed services. For example, while having health insurance is a crucial step toward accessing the different aspects of the health care system, health insurance by itself does not ensure access. There are barriers to access in some populations due to lack of transportation, lack of knowledge, long waits to get an appointment, low health literacy, and inability to pay.

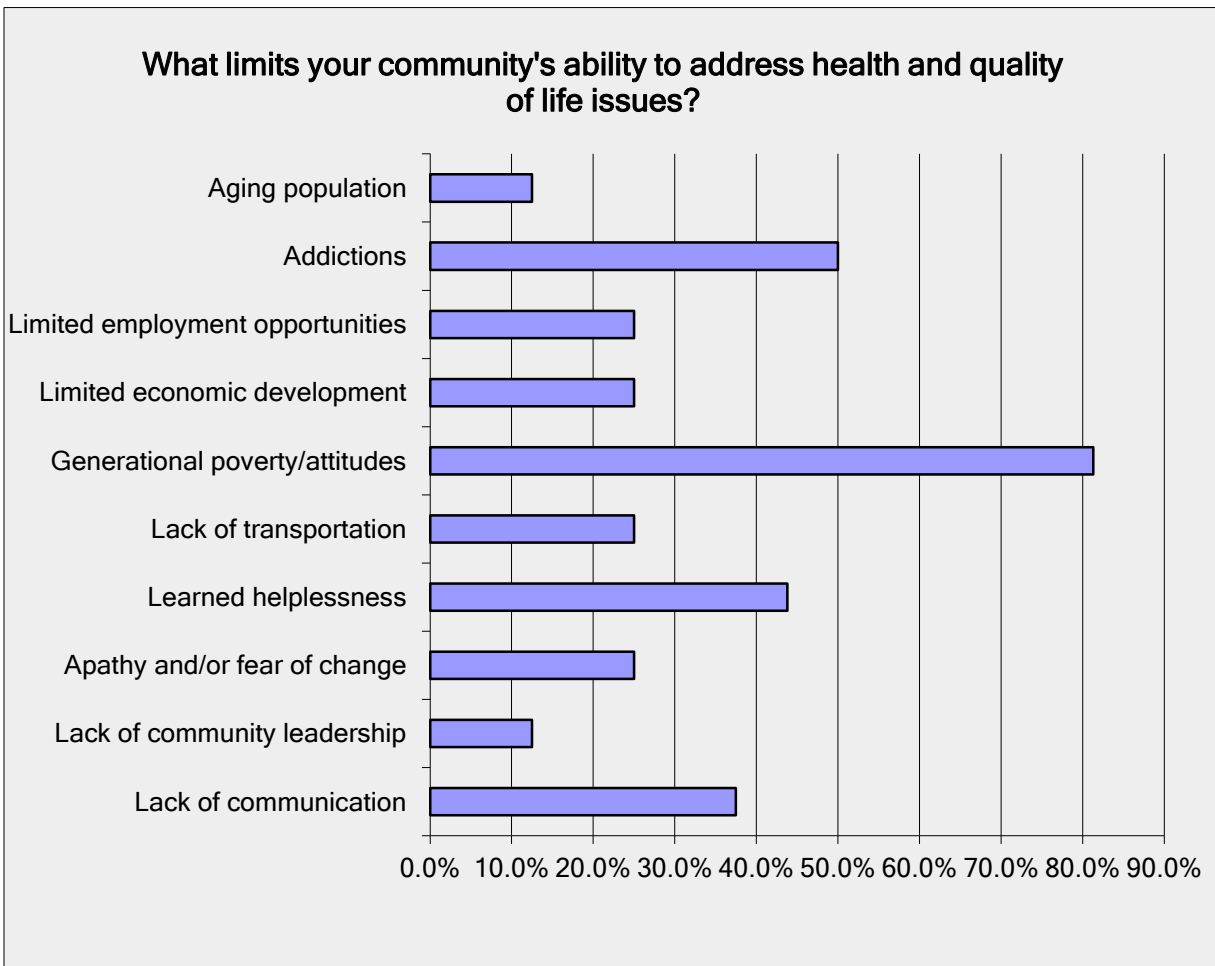
**Quality** - The services available are high quality and designed to meet community needs.

The majority of community members felt that access to health care coverage and dental care coverage needed to be improved, along with other specialty medical care, family planning, and social services. Other major areas of concern centered around the availability of transportation, food access, basic needs, and substance abuse treatment. Quality of care was a concern in regards to hospital care, chronic pain management, social services, and primary health care.

Respondents selected areas they felt needed to be addressed in order to improve quality of life in Butler County. Overwhelmingly, increasing access to health care, dental care, and mental health care was the most important factor. As shown in the chart below, respondents also want an increase in the availability of jobs that pay a decent wage, and an increase in individual and community responsibility.



Community members believe that generational poverty and attitudes are the leading obstacle when it comes to addressing health and quality of life issues, as shown in the chart below. Addictions and learned helplessness are also concerns. Generational poverty and attitudes are limiting factors when each successive generation believes in doing things a certain way because that's the way it's always been, or because other family members are judgmental when an individual attempts to move beyond traditional circumstances. Learned helplessness ties into generational poverty and attitudes as each generation learns from the previous to seek handouts and assistance instead of seeking ways to improve life circumstances without federal or state financial aid. Addictions and addictive behaviors provide additional complications to communities as families, friends, and employers are impacted by the addict's behavior.



The majority of respondents would like the engagement of young people in the community. Young people bring fresh energy and unique perspectives to solving community problems. Their enthusiasm and passion can trigger revitalization in struggling communities. Mental health services and transportation are additional resources respondents would like to have accessible in the community.

## **Data Sources**

Community Commons

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

Missouri Department of Mental Health

Missouri State Highway Patrol

County Health Rankings

Centers for Disease Control

U.S. Census, American Factfinder

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Missouri Department of Economic Development