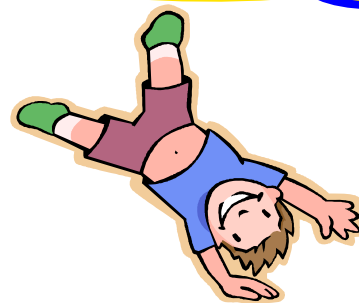


# Profile of Child Well-Being in Union County



## Population Profile

The population 17 years of age or younger in Union County in 2000 was 2,867, a decrease of 12.9 percent since 1990. According to projections, the youth population will decline to 2,319 by 2020.

In Union County, youth accounted for 23.3 percent of the total population in 2000 compared to 25.1 percent statewide. Minority youth in the county numbered 109 in 2000 and are projected to decrease to 89 by 2020.

### 1. Population 17 Years or Younger

|                                    | Union County |        |        |        |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|
|                                    | 1990         | 2000   | 2010*  | 2020*  |
| Total population                   | 12,750       | 12,309 | 11,718 | 11,570 |
| Percent 17 or younger              | 25.8         | 23.3   | 19.9   | 20.0   |
| Population 17 or younger           | 3,292        | 2,867  | 2,337  | 2,319  |
| 0 to 4 years                       | 798          | 725    | 598    | 625    |
| 5 to 9 years                       | 942          | 753    | 637    | 644    |
| 10 to 14 years                     | 970          | 846    | 698    | 647    |
| 15 to 17 years                     | 582          | 543    | 404    | 403    |
| Minority^ Population 17 or younger | n/a          | 109    | 80     | 89     |
| 0 to 4 years                       | n/a          | 40     | 14     | 30     |
| 5 to 9 years                       | n/a          | 33     | 21     | 19     |
| 10 to 14 years                     | n/a          | 21     | 25     | 20     |
| 15 to 17 years                     | n/a          | 15     | 20     | 20     |
| Female Population 17 or younger    | 1,654        | 1,412  | 1,206  | 1,242  |
| 0 to 4 years                       | 404          | 367    | 297    | 310    |
| 5 to 9 years                       | 446          | 365    | 299    | 311    |
| 10 to 14 years                     | 502          | 415    | 301    | 311    |
| 15 to 17 years                     | 302          | 265    | 309    | 310    |
| Male Population 17 or younger      | 1,638        | 1,455  | 1,242  | 1,293  |
| 0 to 4 years                       | 394          | 358    | 301    | 315    |
| 5 to 9 years                       | 496          | 388    | 307    | 320    |
| 10 to 14 years                     | 468          | 431    | 316    | 327    |
| 15 to 17 years                     | 280          | 278    | 318    | 331    |

^ Minority includes all persons except white non-Hispanics.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Summary File 1, \*Projections by Woods & Poole Economics, Inc., 2005

Data and support for this profile  
provided by:

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## Health Profile

As the number of total births in Union County rose from 2000 to 2004, the number of births to teens increased by 2. In 2000, births to teens accounted for 7.1 percent of total births in the county compared to 7.7 percent in 2004.

*Teen parenting is used as a predictor of future economic hardship for both parents and children. Teen parents are often less able to provide positive, safe and caring environments, or family stability.*

In Union County, 9.8 percent of total births in 2004 were low birthweight compared to 7.0 percent statewide.

*Low birthweight (less than 5.5 pounds or 2,500 grams) can be an indicator of mothers not receiving adequate prenatal care and is often a good predictor of future health and developmental complications.*

*Early and ongoing prenatal care increases the chances of delivering healthy, full-term, and normal weight babies. Rates are per 1,000 live births.*

For the period from 2002 to 2003, the rate of mothers in Union County receiving prenatal care during the first trimester of their pregnancy was 847.5 compared to 886.2 statewide.



### 2. Births to Teens, Low Birthweight Births, Pre-natal Care, and Immunizations

| Year | Births to Teens |                   |                   | Low Birthweight Births |                   |                   | 1st Trimester Prenatal Care |                              |                              | Full Immunizations* |                   |                   |
|------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|      | Union County    |                   | State             | Union County           |                   | State             | Union County                |                              | State                        | Union County        |                   | State             |
|      | n               | % of total births | % of total births | n                      | % of total births | % of total births | (per 1,000 live births)     | rate (per 1,000 live births) | rate (per 1,000 live births) | % fully immunized   | % fully immunized | % fully immunized |
| 2000 | 9               | 7.1               | 10.0              | 7                      | 5.5               | 6.1               | ---                         | ---                          | ---                          | 84.0                | 84.0              | 86                |
| 2001 | 7               | 5.2               | 9.6               | 9                      | 6.7               | 6.4               | 863.6                       | 869.8                        | 88                           | 87.0                | 87.0              | 88                |
| 2002 | 17              | 12.3              | 9.0               | 13                     | 9.4               | 6.6               | n/a                         | n/a                          | 85                           | 90.0                | 90.0              | 85                |
| 2003 | 19              | 13.2              | 8.7               | 11                     | 7.6               | 6.6               | 847.5                       | 886.2                        | 89                           | 96.0                | 96.0              | 89                |
| 2004 | 11              | 7.7               | 8.5               | 14                     | 9.8               | 7.0               | n/a                         | n/a                          | 90                           | 95.0                | 95.0              | 90                |

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health

\* NOTE: Immunization data reflect only one site per county so should be interpreted with caution.

In Union County in 2004, 95 percent of children 24 months of age were reported to be fully immunized compared to 84 percent in 2000. Percentages for the state were 89 in 2004 and 84 in 2000.

*Fully immunized = 4 DTP/DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 3 Hib, 3 Hep. B by 24 months of age.*

*Infant mortality is considered one of the best overall measures of health care accessibility and quality in that it measures the health of the most vulnerable in a given population. The infant mortality rate is the number of infants who die before their first birthday per 1,000 live births.*

In Union County, the infant mortality rate from 2002 to 2004 was 0.0, lower than the county rate of 1999-2001 and lower than the statewide rate of 5.3 in the 2002-2004 period.

**NOTE:** Due to the relatively low number of births, infant deaths, and child deaths per year in many of Iowa's counties, users are encouraged to use 3-5 year averages for comparative purposes. These are presented in Tables 3 and 4.



### 3. Infant Mortality

| Year      | Union County |      | State |      |
|-----------|--------------|------|-------|------|
|           | n            | rate | n     | rate |
| 1996-1998 | 3            | 6.6  | 6.6   |      |
| 1999-2001 | 7            | 16.5 | 5.9   |      |
| 2002-2004 | 0            | 0.0  | 5.3   |      |

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health

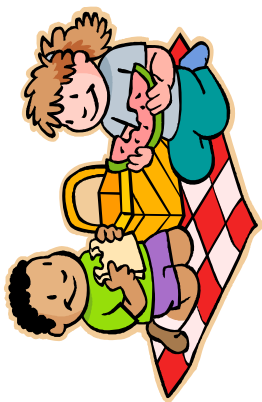
From 2002 to 2004, the child death rate in Union County was 0.5 compared to the state's rate of 0.2

Child deaths include deaths to all children ages 1 to 14. Child death rates are the number of deaths in this population per 1,000 total population age 1 to 14.

### 4. Child Death Rates

| Year      | Union County |      | State |      |
|-----------|--------------|------|-------|------|
|           | n            | rate | n     | rate |
| 2002-2004 | 3            | 0.5  | 0.2   |      |

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health



### Education Profile

In Union County, 8 children were enrolled in Pre-Kindergarten during the 2004-05 school year. This was a 2 child increase from 2001-02.

Pre-Kindergarten students often demonstrate stronger early reading and math skills than non PK students.

### 5. Pre-Kindergarten Enrollment

|           | Union County | State |
|-----------|--------------|-------|
| 2001-2002 | 6            | 5,714 |
| 2002-2003 | 6            | 5,949 |
| 2003-2004 | 8            | 6,907 |
| 2004-2005 | 8            | 6,108 |

Source: Iowa Department of Education

The Union County Empowerment Area reported at least 18.9 percent of its kindergartners consistently displaying school-ready behaviors in the five areas. Statewide at least 33.7 percent of kindergarten students were reported as school ready.

"School readiness" is the result of kindergarten teachers being asked to assess their students in 5 areas: communication skills, cognitive skills, self-management skills, motor skills, and social-emotional development. Teachers report the degree to which behaviors within these five areas are observable ranging from "rarely" to "consistently".

### 6. School Readiness\*, 2003-2004

|                                     | Empowerment Area | State |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------|
| Motor Skills <sup>1</sup>           | 37.6             | 46.1  |
| Communication Skills <sup>2</sup>   | 18.9             | 33.7  |
| Cognitive Skills <sup>3</sup>       | 30.9             | 41.8  |
| Social/Emotional Dev. <sup>4</sup>  | 39.0             | 47.0  |
| Self-Management Skills <sup>5</sup> | 28.0             | 41.2  |

\* Percent reported "consistently observed"

Source: Iowa Department of Education

- <sup>1</sup> Include coordination and balance, using scissors, etc.
- <sup>2</sup> Include the ability to ask and answer questions, communicate needs, etc.
- <sup>3</sup> Include using a variety of words to describe a shape or color, ability to sort objects into categories, etc.
- <sup>4</sup> Includes ability to build relationships with adults and peers, express emotions and feelings, etc.
- <sup>5</sup> Includes ability to follow classroom rules and routines, take responsibility for personal belongings, etc.

### Economic Profile

During the 2004-05 school year, 42.8 percent of K-12 students in Union County were eligible for free or reduced-price school compared to 35.2 percent in 2001-02. Statewide a total of 148,759 students (31.1%) were eligible for free or reduced price meals.

Because eligibility for free and reduced-price school meals is an annual measure, it is a good indicator of the economic well-being of children in a community. Families with incomes 135% or less of the federal poverty threshold are eligible for free meals, those with incomes 136% to 180% of poverty are eligible for reduced-price meals.

## 7. Eligibility for Free or Reduced-Price School Meals

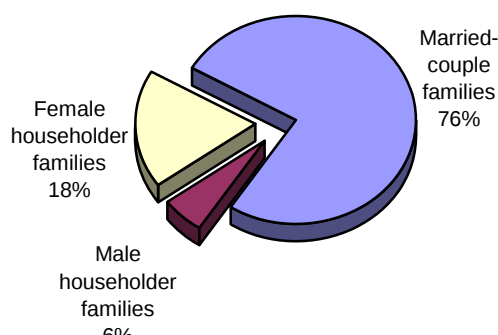
|         | Number Eligible for Free Meals |         | Number Eligible for Reduced-Price Meals |        | Percentage Eligible for Free or Reduced Price Meals |       |
|---------|--------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------|
|         | Union County                   | State   | Union County                            | State  | Union County                                        | State |
| 2001-02 | 489                            | 93,062  | 219                                     | 36,492 | 35.2                                                | 26.7  |
| 2002-03 | 532                            | 100,544 | 198                                     | 36,870 | 38.0                                                | 28.5  |
| 2003-04 | 567                            | 107,324 | 194                                     | 36,907 | 39.4                                                | 30.0  |
| 2004-05 | 592                            | 111,390 | 207                                     | 37,369 | 42.8                                                | 31.1  |

Source: Iowa Department of Education

## Family Living Profile

While the majority of the 2,710 children under 18 years of age in Union County in 2000 resided in a two-parent family, 24.1 percent lived in a family headed by a single parent.

### Children by Family Type, 2000



Source: Census 2000, SF1, US Bureau of the Census

In Union County, 73.8 percent of children under 6 living in a family or subfamily had all parents in the labor force compared to 71.4 percent statewide. All parents includes both parents in a married-couple family and the parent in a male- or female-headed family.

## Safety Profile

The number of confirmed cases of child abuse or neglect in Union County in 2004 was 66, an increase of 4 since 2000.

### 9. Confirmed Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect

|      | Union County | State  |
|------|--------------|--------|
| 2000 | 62           | 10,821 |
| 2001 | 58           | 12,793 |
| 2002 | 61           | 12,292 |
| 2003 | 39           | 14,936 |
| 2004 | 66           | 14,499 |

Source: Iowa Department of Human Services

In 2004, Union County reported 599 Group A and 180 Group B arrests per 100,000 juveniles compared to rates of 1,687 and 1,199, respectively, for the state.

Source and further details available @ [http://www.dps.state.ia.us/documents\\_repository/DPS/2004/iacrime/iacrime.htm](http://www.dps.state.ia.us/documents_repository/DPS/2004/iacrime/iacrime.htm)

Juvenile arrests are reported in 2 groups, Group A offenses include such crimes as murder, rape, burglary and drug violations while Group B offenses include curfew, drunkenness and runaways.

## 8. Employment Status of Parents with Young Children, 2000

|                                | Union County |      | State |
|--------------------------------|--------------|------|-------|
|                                | n            | %    | %     |
| Total Own Children in Families |              |      |       |
| Under 6 years:                 | 854          |      |       |
| Living with 2 parents          | 609          |      |       |
| Both parents in labor force    | 438          | 71.9 | 69.2  |
| Living with father only        | 57           |      |       |
| Father in labor force          | 23           | 40.4 | 88.8  |
| Living with mother only        | 188          |      |       |
| Mother in labor force          | 169          | 89.9 | 75.9  |

Source: Census 2000, SF3, US Bureau of the Census