Birth, marriage, death, disease, and accidents are among the vital statistics collected to help measure the health and well-being of the population. Johnson County had 1,415 births in 1996, a change of 81 births from five years earlier in 1992 (6.1 percent increase). Of those live births, 138 were to teen mothers under age 20 — or 9.8 percent of all births in the county. Most births occurred to women between the ages of 20 to 29 (55.6 percent) and 30 to 39 (33.2 percent). There were 19 births to women age 40 and older in 1996, and 10 in 1992. The number of teen pregnancies in 1995 was 207, compared to 208 (13.6 percent) in 1990. There were 872 marriages in 1996, and 878 in 1990.

Among Johnson County two-year old children in 1996, 91 percent had been fully immunized. Johnson County had 923 deaths in 1996. Of those deaths, 308 (33.4 percent) were due to heart disease and 204 (22.1 percent) due to cancer. Motor vehicle accidents claimed 6 lives in 1996.

Sadly, in fiscal year 1997, 347 Johnson County children were reported abused and 363 neglected; of those, 29 were substantiated as physical abuse, 42 as sexual abuse, and 75 as neglect. The percent of cases substantiated was 20.5 percent for abuse and 20.7 percent for neglect. The rate of abuse and neglect per 1,000 children under age 18 in Johnson County was 6.1 in 1997, compared to 12.5 in 1996.