Birth, marriage, death, disease, and accidents are among the vital statistics collected to help measure the health and well-being of the population. Lake County had 7,126 births in 1996, a change of -476 births from five years earlier in 1992 (-6.3 percent decrease). Of those live births, 1,214 were to teen mothers under age 20 — or 17.0 percent of all births in the county. Most births occurred to women between the ages of 20 to 29 (52.4 percent) and 30 to 39 (27.4 percent). There were 96 births to women age 40 and older in 1996, and 76 in 1992. The number of teen pregnancies in 1995 was 1,700, compared to 1,569 (17.2 percent) in 1990. There were 3,316 marriages in 1996, and 4,234 in 1990.

Among Lake County two-year old children in 1996, 45 percent had been fully immunized. Lake County had 4,514 deaths in 1996. Of those deaths, 1,446 (32.0 percent) were due to heart disease and 1,053 (23.3 percent) due to cancer. Motor vehicle accidents claimed 60 lives in 1996.

Sadly, in fiscal year 1997, 689 Lake County children were reported abused and 1,271 neglected; of those, 159 were substantiated as physical abuse, 134 as sexual abuse, and 674 as neglect. The percent of cases substantiated was 42.5 percent for abuse and 53.0 percent for neglect. The rate of abuse and neglect per 1,000 children under age 18 in Lake County was 7.3 in 1997, compared to 11.8 in 1996.