Birth, marriage, death, disease, and accidents are among the vital statistics collected to help measure the health and well-being of the population. Union County had 98 births in 1996, a change of -11 births from five years earlier in 1992 (-10.1 percent decrease). Of those live births, 10 were to teen mothers under age 20 — or 10.2 percent of all births in the county. Most births occurred to women between the ages of 20 to 29 (43.9 percent) and 30 to 39 (18.4 percent). There were 0 births to women age 40 and older in 1996, and 0 in 1992. The number of teen pregnancies in 1995 was 20, compared to 17 (19.1 percent) in 1990. There were 52 marriages in 1996, and 75 in 1990.

Among Union County two-year old children in 1996, 88 percent had been fully immunized. Union County had 70 deaths in 1996. Of those deaths, 25 (35.7 percent) were due to heart disease and 9 (12.9 percent) due to cancer. Motor vehicle accidents claimed 2 lives in 1996.

Sadly, in fiscal year 1997, 8 Union County children were reported abused and 13 neglected; of those, 3 were substantiated as physical abuse, 2 as sexual abuse, and 7 as neglect. The percent of cases substantiated was 62.5 percent for abuse and 53.8 percent for neglect. The rate of abuse and neglect per 1,000 children under age 18 in Union County was 6.2 in 1997, compared to 35.4 in 1996.