

Wood County Community Demographics



- Located in the center of Wisconsin, Wood County was incorporated in 1856.
- In 2000, the county had a population of 75,555, which was a 2.6 percent increase from 1990.
- 2000 Census indicates that minorities made up 3.6 percent of the Wood County population:

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|--------------------|-------|
| White | 96.4% |
| Asian | 1.6% |
| Hispanic or Latino | .9% |
| Other races | 1.1% |

- Median age of county residents was 38.4.
- 25.5 percent of Wood County residents are under 18 years of age.
- Residents age 65 and over made up 15.3 percent of the population.
- In 2000, it was estimated that 6.5 percent of Wood County residents were living in poverty.
- In 1999, the median household income in Wood County was estimated at \$41,767. The average per capita personal income in 1999 was \$20,203.

Executive Summary

The LIFE project is a collaboration among partners who care about advancing the quality of life in Wood County.

Four-step Process:

The LIFE project utilizes a four-step process that leads to continuous evaluation and improvements.

1. The report defines where we are and how we are doing relative to key indicators that describe various aspects about the quality of life in our communities.
2. Public input and perception is gathered through a phone survey. This information, when combined with quantifiable data, provides a basis for setting community goals or priorities.
3. The document serves as a guide to help mobilize action and improve life in Wood County. In addition, the LIFE Steering Committee uses the report to stimulate discussion, create momentum, and initiate change on a broad county-wide level.
4. As future reports are prepared, each serves the additional purpose of monitoring progress as well as continuing the ongoing process of evaluation and improvements.

As this is Wood County's second report, it is anticipated that the 2003 and 2006 documents will create a foundation in which additional indicators will be built upon in future editions.
