

History of Franklin County

Franklin County was organized and separated from St. Louis County in 1818. The Village of Newport was designated as the County Seat in 1820. The village was near the Missouri River in St. John's Township just west of the present-day community of Washington. All that remains today of the present-day Newport is the old Newport Hotel constructed in 1826; it is still being used as a private home.

The boundaries of Franklin County in 1818 included the present northern, eastern and southern boundaries. However, the established western boundary of the county in 1818 extended to the Osage River. This area included the present-day counties of Maries, Osage and Gasconade. On November 5, 1820, the territorial legislature revised the western boundary of Franklin County to its present-day location. On January 22, 1825, the legislature issued an act that would officially remove the county seat from Newport to present-day location in Union because it was more centrally located.

The settlement of Franklin County progressed throughout the 19th and 20th centuries due to Franklin County's location and accessibility. The Missouri, Meramec, and Bourbeuse Rivers as well as other streams provided early access to Franklin County and made it attractive for settlement.

The first railroads in Franklin County were built in 1854. These were the Missouri-Pacific (which passed through Washington and Pacific), and the St. Louis and San Francisco (which passed through St. Clair). In 1887 the St. Louis-Kansas City and Colorado Railroad (later known as Rock Island Railroad) was constructed through Union.

The Missouri and U.S. Highway Systems were created in 1921 and 1925, respectively. Early highways in Franklin County included MO Route 47, which was part of the original 1922 designated state highways, U.S. Route 50, which was designated in 1926, and U.S. Route 66 which was constructed through Franklin County in 1933.

Demographics

As of the 2010 Census, Franklin County had a population of 101,492. This represents an increase of about 8.2% over the 2000 population (90,807). Table 1 provides a comparison of population for the county and adjacent counties within the region. Table 2 provides an illustration of growth within the county from 1950 to 2010.

County	2000 Population	2010 Population	Percent Change
Franklin County	90,807	101,492	8.2%
St. Louis County	1,016,315	998,954	-1.7%
St. Charles County	283,883	360,485	27%
Warren County	24,525	32,513	32.6%
Washington County	23,334	25,195	7.9%
Gasconade County	15,342	15,222	-0.8%
Crawford County	22,804	24,696	8.3%
Jefferson County	198,099	218,73	10.4%

Table 1: Population Comparison

1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
36,046	44,566	55,127	71,233	80,603	93,807	101,492

Table 2: Growth within Franklin County

The majority of the growth in Franklin County through the first half of the 20th century was in the cities; however, beginning in the 1960s, the growth of the unincorporated county began to outpace the growth of the cities. After 1960, the growth of the unincorporated areas increased significantly, hitting its peak in the 1970s at a growth rate of about 4.6% per year. Since 1980, the percentage of residents in the county versus the cities has been fairly constant, with the percentage of county residents generally varying from around 57% to 59%. The 2010 data indicates that the unincorporated county still holds the majority of the population, but this majority has decreased to about 55% of the population. Figure 1 illustrates the comparison of the County’s population verses that of the cities.

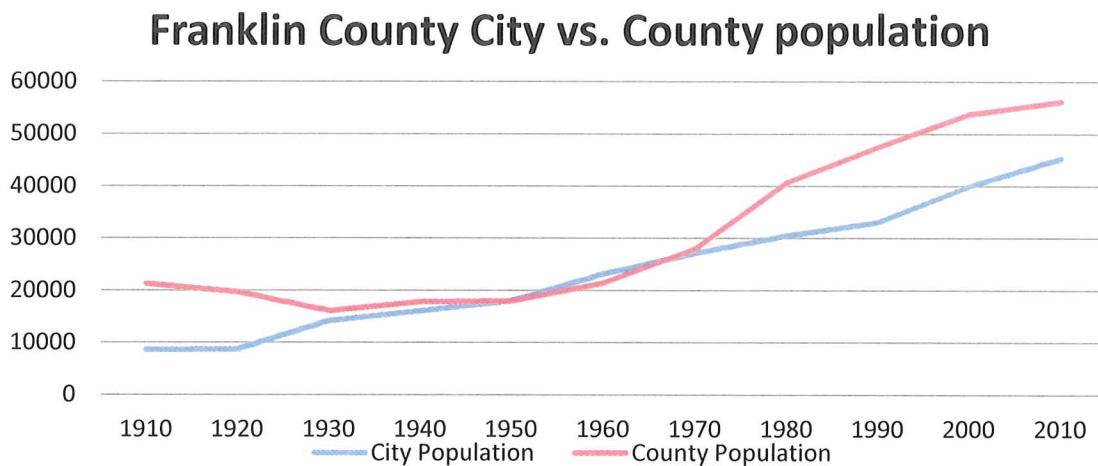


Figure 1

A more detailed review of the demographic characteristics from the 2010 Census indicates that the median age of Franklin County residents is 39.4 years of age. Nearly 41% of the population is between the ages of 25-55 years old. This compares similarly to the State of Missouri as a whole where 40% of the population is in this same age range.

The racial make-up of the community varies somewhat from the State. White persons in the State of Missouri comprise 82.8% of the overall population while Franklin County has 96.8% of the population as white. Franklin County is less racially diverse than the State but we are slowly becoming more diverse as the numbers of American Indians, Asians, and other races or combinations of races are increasing at a faster rate than that of whites.

According to the results of the 2010 Census, there are a total of 43,046 total housing units. Of these total housing units, 89.6% are occupied and 10.4% are vacant. Approximately 78.6% of housing units are owner occupied while 23.2% of housing units are renter occupied as of the 2010 census.

A further evaluation of household information from the 2010 Census indicates that 99% of the population of Franklin County is within households. Roughly 3/4 of these households consist of family households. The

average household size is 2.59 persons with an average of 3.07 persons for the family size. Households do not include those persons living in group quarters or institutions.

Growth and Projections

The growth of Franklin County has been significantly greater than the growth of Missouri during the last half of the 20th century. Franklin County’s population has more than doubled since 1950. Since 1980, the growth rate began to slow somewhat to about 1.5% per year. The Missouri State Office of Demography has projected that Franklin County’s growth will continue to slow, with an average growth rate of less than 0.8% per year between 2010 and 2020 and less than 0.6% per year between 2020 and 2030. Table 3 illustrates the projected growth of Franklin County compared to the State of Missouri.

	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
Missouri	5,596,687	5,781,293	5,979,344	6,184,390	6,389,850	6,580,868	6,746,762
Growth		3.3%	3.4%	3.4%	3.3%	3.0%	2.5%
Franklin County	93,807	98,156	102,419	106,652	110,704	114,251	117,122
Growth		4.6%	4.3%	4.1%	3.8%	3.2%	2.5%

Table 3: Growth Projections

Townships and Cities

Franklin County is broken in to 10 voter townships and has 8 major cities and 5 villages. Figure 2 illustrates the voter township and city boundaries. The voter townships include Boeuf, Lyon, Boone, St. John’s, Union, Central, Meramec, Boles, Calvey and Prairie. According to the 2010 Census, the most populous townships are Boles, Central and Union followed closely by St. John’s and Calvey. Washington (in St. John’s Township) is the most populous city in Franklin County with a 2010 population of 13,982. Union (in Union Township) is second most populous city with 10,204 followed by the City of Sullivan with a population of 7,081. Pacific is very similar with an overall population of 7,002. New Haven, Gerald, and Berger are towns with long histories, but modest growth; their 2010 Census populations are 2,089, 1,345 and 221 respectively. There are five other incorporated towns and villages in Franklin County, each with populations of less than 1,000; they are Charmwood, Leslie, Parkway, Oak Grove, and Miramagoa. While Miramagoa and Berger have experienced little to no growth in the past ten years, Leslie, Parkway, and Oak Grove have grown substantially. Even with this growth, these five incorporated areas have a combined population of just 1,460.

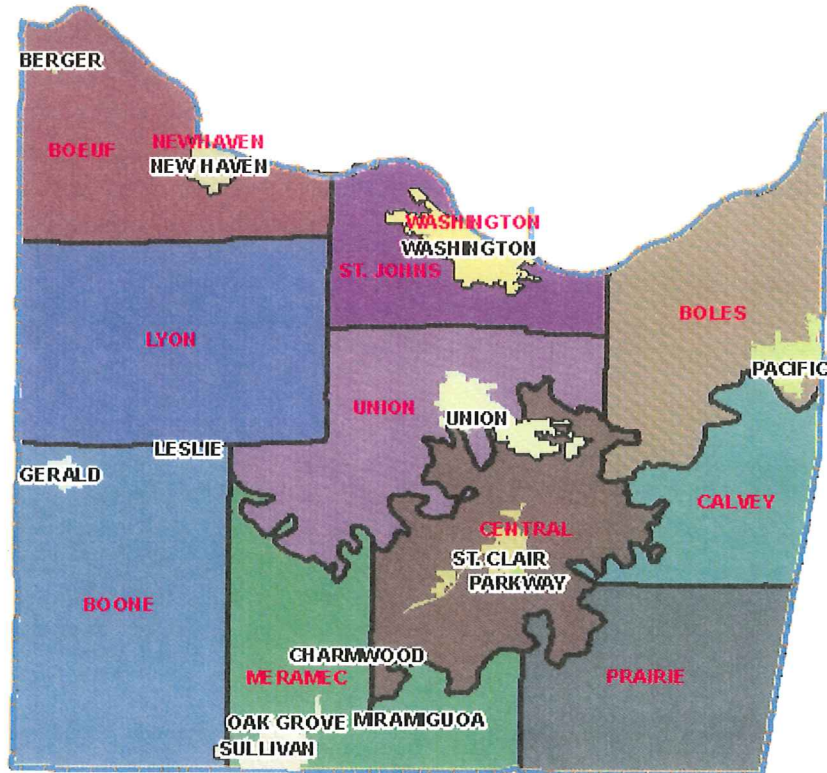


Figure 2

Economic Development

Located only 40 miles west of downtown St. Louis, Franklin County is a prime place for business development. The County has a 2010 median household income of \$49,120 compared to the state which has a median household income of \$46,262. Franklin County is a pro-growth county and is prime for business development. The county has access to Interstate 44 and major state highways including highways 100, 47, 50, 185 and 30. Other added benefits to Franklin County are the access to rail, air and even water transportation.

There are three main railroad tracks that traverse Franklin County. Union Pacific and Burlington Northern Santa Fe are active in their entirety and are owned by large freight railroad companies. The third line, Missouri Central Railroad Company, is active from the eastern end of the county through the City of Union. The Missouri Central Railroad is owned by Ameren, which also owns a railroad spur that connects the Labadie Power Plant to both the Missouri Central and Union Pacific tracks. Amtrak runs the only passenger train that travels through Franklin County. The route, known as the Missouri River Runner, goes from St. Louis to Kansas City with stops in Washington, Hermann, Jefferson City, and other Missouri cities. Each day four trains stop in Washington, two eastbound and two westbound. Amtrak uses the tracks owned by the Union Pacific Railroad.

Franklin County has two regional airports – Washington Regional and Sullivan Regional. The Washington Regional Airport is owned by the City of Washington, but located about 2.5 miles north of Washington in Warren County. The airport has one runway which is 5,000 feet in length and has an average of 59 aircraft operations per day. The City of Washington, FAA, and MoDOT have agreed to do a project to reconstruct the airport's taxi lane and apron. The Sullivan Regional Airport is owned by the City of Sullivan and is located on

the north side of the city. It has one runway which is 4,500 feet in length and has an average of 39 aircraft operations per day.

Franklin County houses 3 major rivers; the Missouri River, the Meramec River and the Bourbeuse River. The largest of these is the Missouri River which makes up the northern border of Franklin County, giving the county a large amount of riverfront on a major river. As of 2010, there are no public ports in Franklin County. Franklin County does not currently have a port authority that would manage and fund any public ports in the county. According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, two private ports are currently operating on the Missouri River in Franklin County, one in Washington and one in New Haven. The opportunity exists for greater use of the Missouri River for transportation of goods to and from the county.

Manufacturing and educational/health care/social assistance are the dominant industries in Franklin County. According to the 2010 census, manufacturing makes up 21.6% of the jobs in Franklin County. Educational and health care and social assistance are not too far behind manufacturing with 19.2% of the jobs in Franklin County. Table 4 illustrates the largest employers in Franklin County in 2012.

Company	Industry	Employment
Mercy	Healthcare	1,268
Parker Hannifan – Sporlan Valve Division	Manufacturing	1,087
Washington School District	Education	529
CG Power Systems USA, Inc.	Manufacturing	450
Union School District	Education	384
St. Clair School District	Education	375
Aerofil Technology	Manufacturing	370
Esselte	Manufacturing	361
Wal-Mart	Retail	350
Franklin County	Government	340

Table 4: Largest Employers in Franklin County per local data

Healthcare

Franklin County is serviced by two hospitals –Mercy in Washington and Missouri Baptist in Sullivan. Mercy was built in 1926 and is one of the largest employers in the City of Washington. It is the only level 3 trauma center in Franklin County and they have physician offices and facilities located throughout the county. Missouri Baptist Sullivan Hospital, built in 1962, is a part of the BJC healthcare system and employs approximately 400 people. Missouri Baptist serves the needs of Franklin County as well as the surrounding counties of Crawford and Washington. In 2010 Missouri Baptist finished an eight year rebuilding phase with a 25,000 square foot wing which houses an expanded cancer treatment center, a wound care center and new sleep lab among many others.

As of 2009, there were 97 primary care physicians practicing in Franklin County (www.countyhealthrankings.org). At one doctor for approximately every 1,040 people, this appears to be an adequate number of doctors for the County's residents. Franklin County also has several long-term care facilities for the aged or infirm. These include 8 skilled nursing facilities (2 of these also offer assisted living), 4 assisted living facilities, and 4 residential care facilities.

Education

Public Schools

There are fourteen (14) public school districts in Franklin County. The six school districts in Franklin County that have the highest enrollment are those that serve the six largest municipalities – St. Clair, Sullivan, New Haven, Pacific (Meramec Valley School District), Union, and Washington. These are also the only school districts in Franklin County with high schools. These school districts each include areas in incorporated and unincorporated areas and most have several elementary schools and a middle school, as well. The other four school districts in the county generally serve unincorporated Franklin County residents and each includes only one school location which provides an elementary and middle school education (K-8). These districts are Franklin County (R-2), Spring Bluff (R-15), Lonedell (R-14), and Strain-Japan (R-16).

The largest school district in the county in terms of number of students and area covered is the Washington School District. Meramec Valley, which includes the City of Pacific, is the second largest in terms of number of students, followed closely by Union. Meramec Valley and Union also cover large areas of the county. Somewhat smaller than those school districts are St. Clair and Sullivan both in area and number of students. New Haven appears to be the smallest school district in terms of area covered and it has the fewest students of all the municipal school districts. The districts with the fewest students are those that do not include a high school or any municipalities. Of these schools, Lonedell is the largest with 312 students and Strain-Japan is the smallest with 72 students. (All school data is based on 2011 information from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education – www.dese.mo.gov)

There are 6 public high schools in Franklin County – Washington High School, New Haven High School, Pacific High School, Sullivan High School, Union High School and St. Clair High School. In 2011, New Haven, Pacific, and Washington had the highest graduation rates. These schools have also had some of the highest graduation rates over the past few years. Sullivan High has generally also had some of the highest graduation rates in the county; however their graduation rate for 2011 was one of the lowest (85.4) and was below the Missouri average. Union had fairly low graduation rates in 2008 and 2009, but has shown improvement over the last two years and is now equal with the state average for graduation rate. Over the last few years, the graduation rates for St. Clair had generally been about the same as the Missouri average; however, their graduation rate in 2011 experienced a sharp decrease to 81.5%, which was the lowest in the county for that year.

Private Schools

In addition to the public schools, Franklin County also has several private schools. These include two early childhood schools (PK-K), nine elementary/middle schools (generally PK-8), three schools that have elementary, middle, and high schools programs in one facility, and one private high school. Eight of the elementary schools and the one private high school are Catholic schools. Union, Pacific, Sullivan, St. Clair, and Villa Ridge each contain a Catholic elementary school that goes through eighth grade. Washington has the most Catholic schools with three Catholic elementary schools and the one Catholic high school. Three additional schools in Franklin County, two of which include classes from elementary through high school, are affiliated with other Christian religions. These schools are located in Washington, Villa Ridge, and St. Clair. The two early childhood schools are unaffiliated with any religion and are both located in Washington. One other

school is unaffiliated with any religion and educates children from pre-school through 12th grade. This school is located in St. Albans. (Source: www.privateschoolreview.com)

Post Secondary Education

A handful of colleges, extensions, and vocational schools located in Franklin County including East Central College, Missouri Baptist University, Central Methodist and the University of Missouri. East Central College was founded in 1968 and offers associates degrees in a variety of disciplines. In a cooperative venture since 1994, Central Methodist College has offered courses and degree programs, including the Master of Education degree program, on the campus of East Central College in Union, Missouri. The Missouri Baptist University Extension gives citizens the means to complete a graduate or undergraduate degree generally in business or educational fields. The University of Missouri Extension Office does not offer specific degree programs, but provides community-identified education needs and resources for residents, businesses, and farm-owners in Franklin County.

Four Rivers Career Center is a vocational and technical school that offers specialized educational opportunities to both secondary and post-secondary students. The Four Rivers Career Center combines classroom learning with hands-on activities that provide the students with industry ready skills to get a jump start into either post-secondary technical training or successful entrance into the workplace.

Quality of Life

Franklin County is a historic place filled with rolling hills and picturesque landscapes but also lively urban centers. Being situated on the Missouri River, Meramec River and Bourbeuse Rivers, Franklin County offers citizens many opportunities to enjoy the outdoors

There are two state parks that lie in Franklin County – Robertsville State Park and Meramec State Park.

Robertsville State Park lies along the Meramec River on the eastern side of the county and is approximately 1,225 acres (almost 2 square miles). Robertsville State Park allows opportunities for picnicking, fishing, hiking, and camping. Meramec State Park lies on Franklin County's southern border and is approximately 6,896 acres (over 10 square miles) and has over 40 caves. The park provides guided tours of Fisher Cave as well as opportunities to enjoy the Meramec River, including hiking, fishing, canoeing, swimming, camping, and lodging.

In addition to these two state parks, the Missouri Department of Conservation owns or maintains 19 Conservation Areas in Franklin County. The majority of these Conservation Areas are fifty acres or less and provide access, including boat ramps, to the Meramec, Bourbeuse, and Missouri Rivers. Additional areas are larger and have opportunities for hiking or fishing, including the River Round Conservation Area, Catawissa Conservation Area, Engelmann Woods Natural Area, Little Indian Creek Conservation Area, Meramec Conservation Area, Long Ridge Conservation Area, and Port Hudson Lake Conservation Area.

Historic Route 66 traveled through Franklin County near the path of the existing Interstate 44, passing through Pacific, Gray Summit, Villa Ridge, St. Clair, Stanton, and Sullivan. There are a number of sites in Franklin County that historically served travelers on Route 66 and are now tourist destinations. These include old hotels and

motels, such as the Gardenway Motel in Gray Summit, the Sunset Hotel in Villa Ridge, and the Delta and Stanton Motels in Stanton, among others.

There are several history museums in Franklin County focusing on a variety of interests and areas. Washington has numerous museums, including the Washington Historical Museum, the Missouri Photojournalism Hall of Fame, etc. In addition, Washington is home to the world's oldest and largest corncob pipe factory, according to the company's website, and a museum is located in the factory building. St. Clair also has its own historical museum focusing on the history of the city and especially the mining that contributed to the city's early growth. New Haven has a monument and a small museum dedicated to John Colter, one of the best known members of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Colter lived in Franklin County and was buried near New Haven. The New Haven Preservation Society also hosts the Springgate Museum, which focuses on the history of New Haven. Pacific is home to the Meramec Valley History Museum, which showcases the history of Pacific, as well as some of the nearby unincorporated communities, such as Gray Summit, Labadie, and Robertsville. Union currently has a Veterans Memorial and a Veterans Hall of Honor Museum located in the old County Courthouse.

According to the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office, Franklin County has 715 known archaeological sites. These sites are located throughout Franklin County. The most common type of site is a simple lithic scatter, which means waste material created during stone tool manufacture. The lithic scatters are listed simply as "prehistoric," but other sites are from a variety of different periods including Historic Native American, Antebellum, Civil War, Early Industrial, Urban/Industrial, and many other periods. Besides prehistoric stone tools, some sites may include Native American burial grounds and other items of historic significance.

Franklin County is home to great tourist attractions like Meramec Caverns, Shaw Nature Reserve and Purina Farms. Meramec Caverns is the largest commercial cave in the state of Missouri. Open year round, Meramec Caverns offers guided tours by trained rangers along well-lighted walkways where you can learn how an ancient limestone "Wine Table" and an entire 7-story mansion were built... all underground. Also at Meramec Caverns you can experience the first zip line in the St. Louis metro region. It is a ninety-minute canopy adventure and includes three swinging sky-bridges and four zip rides varying in length from 200 to 1250 feet, reaching speeds of 50 mph. Shaw Nature Reserve is a part of the Missouri Botanical Gardens and is located in Gray Summit. Shaw Nature Reserve stretches across 2,400 acres and the scenery and terrain are so varying and unique, you can have a new experience every time you visit! Explore floodplain forests, upland woods, dolomite glades, tallgrass prairies, oak-hickory woodlands, savannas and wetlands. With the different landscapes come a diverse variety of wildlife, plants, and insects. Purina Farms, located in Gray Summit, features an event center and a visitor's center along with several Outdoor Canine Competition Areas. It is an all-inclusive destination for animal lovers and enthusiasts of all ages. Competitive shows and trials as well as fun and educational family-friendly activities and exhibits reinforce the many ways that animals enrich our lives.

Utilities

Sewer Systems

The County's incorporated cities each have sewer systems. This includes St. Clair, Sullivan, Pacific, Berger, New Haven, Union, Washington, Gerald, and Leslie. In addition, there are several rural public sewer districts, as follows: Public Water Supply District #1 and #3, Gray Summit Sewer District, Calvey Creek Sewer District, Brush Creek Sewer District, St. Albans Water and Sewer Authority and Labadie Sewer District. Franklin County has three subdivisions which have their own independent sewer districts; Crestview Acres, Beauty View Acres and Sylvan Manor-Sunset Acres.

Many of the County's sewer systems that were designed to serve single subdivisions have been turned over to PWSD #1 and #3 for management. In addition, there are 47 sewer systems in Franklin County that serve single subdivisions, mobile home parks, or apartment buildings and are owned either by a private individual or company or by a subdivision association. Because of their size, these systems are not classified as sewer districts.

Altogether, the county's public sewer systems have the capacity to serve 123,397 people. Over 84% of this public capacity is from the county's municipal sewer systems. The private sewer systems can serve an additional 6,264 persons. In addition, the Franklin County Building Department estimates that there are between 14,500 and 15,000 private on-site septic systems in Franklin County.

Drinking Water

Community water systems serve several of the County's municipalities – Pacific, Sullivan, St. Clair, Union, Washington, Berger, New Haven, Gerald, Oak Grove Village, and Miramigoua Park. In addition, there are 3 rural community water districts: Public Water Supply District #1, #3 and #4.

In addition, there are 28 community water systems, mostly serving subdivisions and mobile home parks. The largest community system is run by the Franklin County Water Co, Inc. and serves about 300 persons in the Lake St. Clair Subdivision. The second largest system provides water to 240 persons in the Sylvan Manor Subdivision. All the other systems serve fewer than 200 persons, with seven serving between 100 and 200 and the remaining 19 serving fewer than 100 persons. The total number of persons served by these community water systems is 2509. In addition, there are 28 independent community water systems, mostly serving single subdivisions and mobile home parks.

An additional 32 non-community water systems hold permits from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. These systems serve schools, recreation areas, restaurants and other sites that require permits because of the type of establishment or the number of people served by the water system.

All other residences in Franklin County are served by individual wells. These wells are not regulated so no data is available to determine how many individual wells exist in the county.

Electric Service

The rural areas of Franklin County are served by three different electric companies – Ameren, Crawford Electric, and Three Rivers Electric.

Ameren has the largest territory, having portions of two different territories in Franklin County. The Franklin District serves the eastern and central portions of Franklin County as well as the southeastern portion of the county.

The Crawford Electric Cooperative serves the southern and southwestern portions of the county, including Stanton and Sullivan. In addition, Crawford Electric serves portions of the central corridor along Highway 50.

The Three Rivers Electric Cooperative serves the rural northwestern portion of the county. This service area overlaps with portions of Ameren's Capital District. Those customers in the overlapping areas who live outside of New Haven and Berger may choose either Ameren or the Three Rivers Cooperative for electric service.

These three electric providers cover all of Franklin County with the exception of Sullivan, which has its own municipal electric service.

Natural Gas

Natural gas is provided to portions of Franklin County by Missouri Natural Gas, which is owned by Laclede Gas. Gas service is available in the cities of Pacific, Washington, Union, St. Clair, Sullivan, and parts of Labadie and St. Albans. New Haven operates its own natural gas utility, which serves both New Haven and Berger. Natural gas service is not available throughout most of rural Franklin County. Most municipalities are covered with the exception of Gerald and the Village of Leslie.





Pipelines






There are three major multi-state underground pipelines that run through Franklin County. Enbridge Pipelines owns one of these pipelines, which was formerly owned and operated by Shell Oil. This pipeline comes from northeastern Franklin County and then goes diagonally southwest through the county to exit at the general vicinity of Highway 50. This portion of the pipeline carries crude oil from Cushing, Oklahoma to the refinery in Wood River, Illinois.





The Explorer Pipeline is another multi-state pipeline, which follows nearly the same path as the Enbridge Pipeline. The Explorer Pipeline carries refined petroleum products between Hammond, Indiana and Pasadena, Texas with a pipeline facility in Gerald.

The ConocoPhillips Pipe Line Company owns and operates a third multi-state pipeline. This pipeline runs through Pacific and then goes almost due west through the county. This pipeline generally carries liquid gases and runs between Chicago, Illinois and Borger, Texas.

Laclede Gas and the Missouri Pipeline Co. operate natural gas pipelines in the county. The Laclede pipeline runs through the northeastern portion of the county and then ends near Washington, where it intersects with the Missouri Pipeline Company's line. The Laclede Gas pipeline also serves the City of Pacific.

How would you rate your overall quality of life as a resident in Franklin County?		
Excellent		Response Percent 23.4%
Good		63.4% 1,087
Fair		11.8%
Poor		1.5%
Answered Question		1,715
Skipped Question		60

What type of residential property would you prefer to live on and/or own?		
5+ acres		48.1% 825
3-5 acres		15.5%
1-3 acres		19.7%
Less than 1 acre		14.0%
Apartment /Condo		2.7%
Answered Question		1,714
Skipped Question		61

Please choose one ending for the following sentence: Zoning Regulations and Subdivision Regulations _____?		
should be fairly strict to protect property values and residents' quality of life		55.4% 924
should provide a lot of flexibility to promote and protect new and existing businesses		26.3%
should only be enforce in higher density areas within 1.5 miles of the cities		12.8%
should be abolished		5.5%
Answered Question		1,714
Skipped Question		61

FRANKLIN COUNTY SURVEY RESULTS

How much do you agree with the following statements?						
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Rating Average	Response Count
Franklin County should offer more public transportation options (buses, trains, etc)	25.8% (449)	38.8% (676)	29.2% (509)	6.3% (109)	2.16	1,743
Franklin County should establish a countywide public parks program	23.4% (407)	45.3% (787)	25.5% (443)	5.8% (100)	2.14	1,737
Public water and sewer systems should be extended to areas that lack those services	18.6% (322)	39.6% (685)	33.2% (573)	8.6% (148)	2.32	1,728
Franklin County should fund additional services like those listed above by assessing additional taxes and fees to residents	5.0% (87)	28.3% (490)	38.5% (666)	28.2% (487)	2.90	1,730
Land use policies and regulations should steer new housing development away from agricultural areas and other open lands and toward already developed areas	41.1% (704)	41.5% (710)	14.0% (239)	3.4% (58)	1.80	1,711
Development should be allowed in floodplains	3.1% (52)	9.0% (153)	36.5% (621)	51.5% (876)	3.36	1,702
Answered Question						1,770
Skipped Question						5

How do you rate Franklin County in regards to the following issues?						
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Rating Average	Response Count
Environmental quality	12.2% (213)	61.8% (1,082)	22.9% (402)	3.1% (55)	2.17	1,752
Scenic beauty	36.2% (636)	49.2% (863)	13.6% (238)	1.0% (18)	1.79	1,755
Employment opportunities	1.8% (31)	22.9% (400)	54.1% (944)	21.2% (369)	2.95	1,744
Recreational Opportunities	5.5% (97)	37.7% (662)	42.7% (750)	14.0% (246)	2.65	1,755
Historic and cultural attractions	6.0% (105)	40.9% (719)	41.5% (730)	11.6% (203)	2.59	1,757
Health care facilities and services	13.8% (241)	52.5% (919)	27.4% (480)	6.3% (111)	2.26	1,751
Safety (fire and law enforcement services)	24.9% (436)	56.7% (995)	15.5% (272)	2.9% (51)	1.96	1,754
Cost of living	7.8% (137)	53.4% (938)	33.6% (590)	5.2% (91)	2.36	1,756
Maintenance of county roads	4.5% (79)	41.1% (720)	40.3% (706)	14.1% (247)	2.64	1,752
Public education	10.9% (189)	57.2% (993)	26.2% (455)	5.7% (99)	2.27	1,736
Quality of housing	5.1% (88)	60.2% (1,047)	31.7% (552)	3.0% (53)	2.33	1,740
Communication between residents and public officials	2.1% (36)	32.1% (557)	43.5% (755)	22.4% (389)	2.86	1,737
Answered Question						1,765
Skipped Question						10

How great of a problem are the following issues?						
	Severe Problem	Moderate Problem	Minor Problem	Not a problem	Rating Average	Response Count
Availability of public water and sewer	5.6% (95)	27.9% (476)	40.5% (690)	26.0% (443)	2.87	1,704
Storm water runoff and flooding	9.8% (166)	40.2% (683)	37.2% (632)	12.8% (217)	2.53	1,698
Illegal trash dumping	25.2% (435)	41.0% (708)	27.6% (477)	6.3% (108)	2.15	1,728
Stray animals	23.5% (407)	32.2% (556)	35.7% (618)	8.6% (148)	2.29	1,729
Loss of farmland/open space due to development	25.9% (445)	39.7% (681)	26.4% (453)	8.0% (137)	2.16	1,716
Unemployment	36.8% (634)	47.4% (818)	14.2% (245)	1.6% (27)	1.81	1,724
Cost of housing	8.4% (144)	38.2% (655)	38.7% (664)	14.7% (253)	2.60	1,716
Quality of housing	5.1% (86)	30.4% (516)	44.8% (760)	19.6% (333)	2.79	1,695
Loss of rural character	18.0% (307)	33.2% (568)	33.2% (567)	15.7% (268)	2.47	1,710
Air and water pollution	7.5% (128)	24.0% (413)	47.3% (813)	21.2% (364)	2.82	1,718
Lack of access to high-speed internet	33.6% (578)	28.2% (484)	23.2% (399)	15.0% (257)	2.19	1,718
Traffic congestion	12.7% (220)	37.2% (660)	30.3% (522)	4.8% (82)	2.51	1,727
Rundown properties/junk on properties	26.6% (457)	38.3% (660)	30.3% (522)	4.8% (82)	2.13	1,721
Lack of variety in shopping, restaurants and entertainment	18.6% (318)	28.0% (480)	30.2% (518)	23.2% (398)	2.58	1,714
Answered Question						1,754
Skipped Question						21

Where do you live?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Unincorporated Franklin County	66.1%	1,136
Incorporated city or Village	33.9%	582
Answered Question		1,718
Skipped Question		57

What are the main reasons you choose to live in Franklin County?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
This is where I grew up		46.6%	798
This is where my family lives		43.4%	742
Quality of housing/neighborhoods		15.3%	261
Outdoor activities		12.9%	220
Rural character		51.0%	872
Safe atmosphere		39.1%	669
Cost of housing		23.3%	399
Employment opportunities		10.9%	186
Geographic location		22.6%	386
Schools		17.7%	302
Social opportunities		4.4%	75
Other		9.6%	164
Answered Question			1,711
Skipped Question			64

Please indicate your age range?			
		Response Percent	Response Count
18 or under		.5%	8
19-30		13.2%	229
31-40		15.9%	227
41-50		21.8%	379
51-60		26.7%	464
61-70		16.1%	279
71-80		4.8%	84
Over 80		1.0%	17
Answered Question			1,737
Skipped Question			38