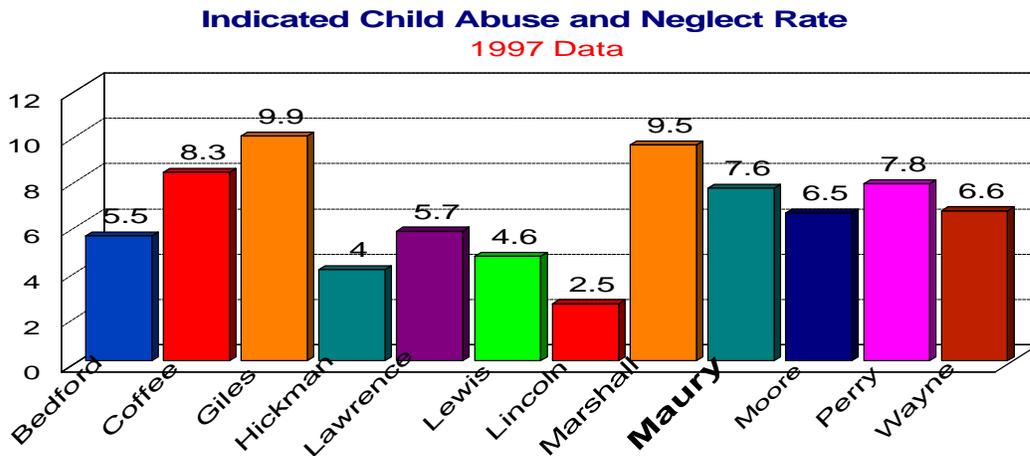


### Children and Youth:

The Health Council reviewed data concerning child abuse and neglect. The child abuse and neglect rate is the number of cases per 1,000 children under 18 years old in the population. Child abuse and neglect occur when a child is mistreated, resulting in injury or risk of physical harm. In Maury County during 1997 there were 140 indicated cases of child abuse, giving the county a rate of 7.6 per 1,000. (Indicated refers to cases that have been investigated with the investigation concluding that an incidence of abuse occurred.) Maury County's indicated child abuse rate is lower than the state rate of 8.0 but higher than the regional rate of 6.5 for this same period of time.



Rate per 1,000 children under age 18

Commitment to state custody is the most serious sanction juvenile courts judge can administer a child. In Maury County during fiscal year 1997-98 the commitment rate of children to state custody was 6.2 per 1,000 (114 children). This number is higher than the state's commitment rate of 4.9 and the region's commitment rate of 5.7.

The number of teen violent deaths has grown 30% statewide in the past decade for teens aged 15-19. Violent deaths include motor vehicle accidents, suicides and homicides. The three-year average (1994-1996) of adolescent violent deaths in Maury County was 19.4, which was below the state's rate of 23.7 and the South Central Regional rate of 21.0. The major cause of teen violent deaths in the county was accidents and adverse effects.