

It was also noted that 32% said toxic wastes were a definite problem and 22% identified air pollution as a definite problem. Cancer was divided into four types in this survey. The following table lists the type of cancer and the percent of respondents indicating it as a definite problem within the community.

Table 8

	Definite Problem
Colon Cancer	18%
Lung Cancer	33%
Breast Cancer	31%
Prostate Cancer	28%

B. Secondary Data

Information on the health status, health resources, economy, and demographics of Anderson County is essential for understanding the existing health problems in the community. The health council received an extensive set of data for the county which showed the current health status as well as the available health resources. The secondary data (information already collected from other sources for other purposes) was assembled by the State Office of Assessment and Planning. Data sets that are routinely collected by the Department of Health as well as other state departments and agencies were assembled and distributed to health council members. Socio-economic information was obtained from the Department of Economic and Community Development as well as information put together by the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth in their “Kid’s Count” report.

Various mortality and morbidity indicators covering the last 12 years were presented for the county, region, and state. Trend data were presented graphically using three-year moving averages. The three year moving averages smooth the trend lines and eliminate wide fluctuations in year-to-year rates that distort true trends.

Another section of secondary data included the status of Anderson County on mortality and morbidity indicators and compared the county with the state, nation and Year 2000 objectives for the nation.

Issues identified by the council from all secondary data were selected primarily on the comparison of the county with the Year 2000 objectives. The issues identified were:

- Coronary heart disease
- Infant death
- Lung cancer
- Motor vehicle accidents
- Suicide
- Homicide
- Stroke
- Teen pregnancy