

# Blue Hills Caring Communities

## Data Book



A review and analysis of the community surrounding the Caring Communities site located at Blue Hills Elementary School in Independence, Mo.





# Introduction

## About Caring Communities

Caring Communities was developed by the Local Investment Commission (LINC) to fulfill the role once played by the courthouse square: a place where the community gathers together, shares ideas, and holds neighborhood events. The growth of Caring Communities reflects increasing national interest in creating “community schools.”

The LINC Caring Communities effort, which began in 1992, has grown to 80 sites in seven school districts in Kansas City and Jackson County, MO. LINC’s school district partners include Kansas City, Independence, Fort Osage, North Kansas City, Hickman Mills, Grandview and Center. Other partners include charter schools, local government, state agencies, and community organizations.

## About This Book

The Blue Hills Caring Communities Data Book is intended to provide useful information for decision-makers of the Blue Hills community — parents, neighbors, site council members, staff and the general public. We hope the facts, figures and resources contained in this book will help these decision-makers to better understand their neighborhoods and identify needs and opportunities for better coordination of services. We hope this book will help build on the success of Caring Communities and help it thrive in the future.

To request additional copies of this book, or to suggest improvements for future editions of this book, contact the Blue Hills Caring Communities Site Coordinator. The book is also available to download for free at [www.kclinc.org/fortosage](http://www.kclinc.org/fortosage)

**Blue Hills Caring Communities**  
**Established 2007**

## What is a Community School?

A community school is both a place and a set of partnerships between the school and other community stakeholders which leads to improved student learning, stronger families and healthier communities. Community schools are open to everyone—all day, including evenings and weekends. Community-based organizations or public institutions often work as lead agencies in community schools, helping to mobilize community assets and support students success.

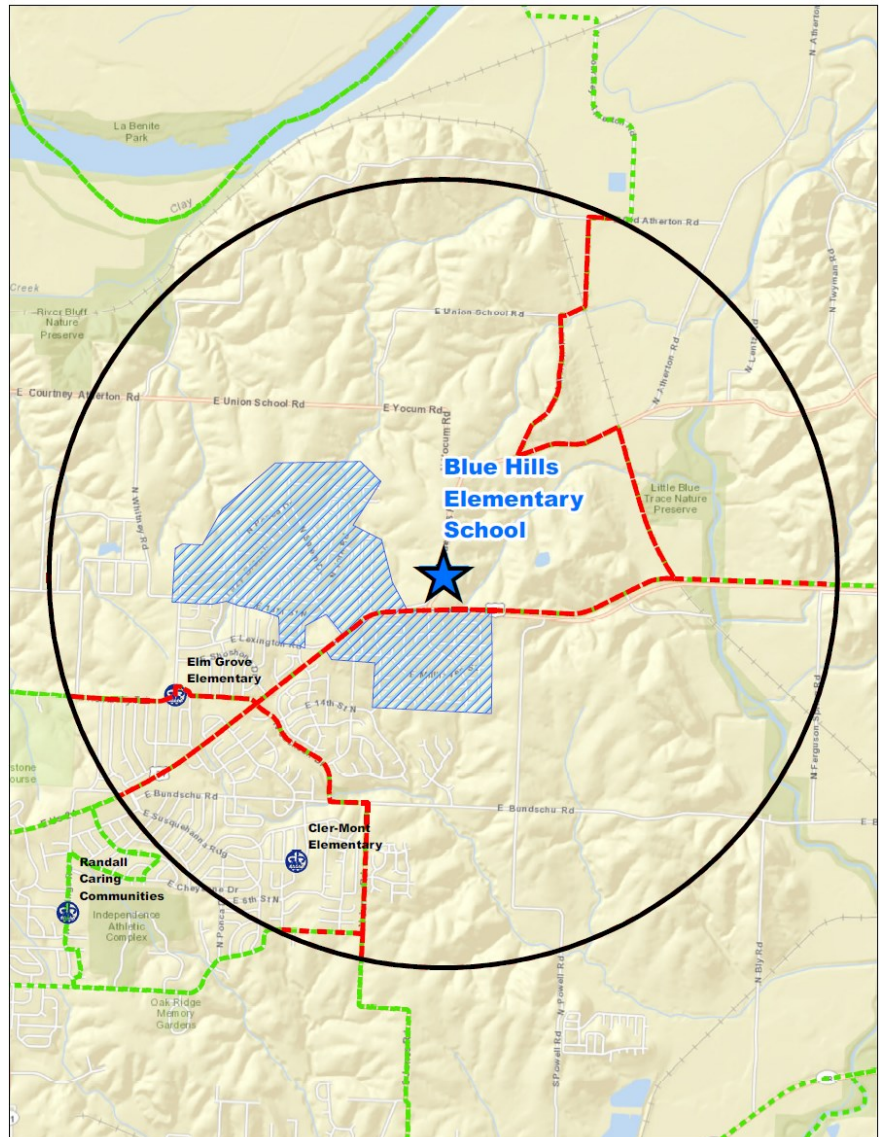
**Coalition for Community Schools**  
[www.communityschools.org](http://www.communityschools.org)

## Community Analysis Zone (CAZ)

The Community Analysis Zone (CAZ) for the Blue Hills community was established using Blue Hills Elementary School as a reference point and includes the area within a two-mile radius of the school (the black circle in the map at right). The school catchment area is displayed by the white and blue striped area.

The CAZ delimits an area that overlaps, but is not identical to, the Blue Hills school boundaries (blue shaded area). The CAZ allows for analysis of data about residents, neighborhoods and services that, while not necessarily located within the official school boundaries, nevertheless pertains directly to the community served by the Caring Communities site.

For the purpose of this book the boundaries of the Blue Hills CAZ and the “Blue Hills community” are the same, and the terms “CAZ” and “community” are used interchangeably.



Data for the site book was obtained from a number of resources including but not limited to the City of Independence, Mo.; U.S. Census Bureau; Jackson County, Mo.; Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services; United Way of Greater Kansas City; Missouri Department of Social Services; University of Missouri-Kansas City Center for Economic Information; and University of Michigan National Poverty Center.

Community data was analyzed by census tract (red boundaries) within the CAZ. Census tracts are small, relatively permanent statistical subdivisions of a county delineated by local participants as part of the U.S. Census Bureau's Participant Statistical Areas Program. The U.S. Census Bureau delineated census tracts in situations where no local participant existed or where local or tribal governments declined to participate. Census tracts generally have between 1,500 and 8,000 people, with an optimum size of 4,000 people. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau.)

# Education

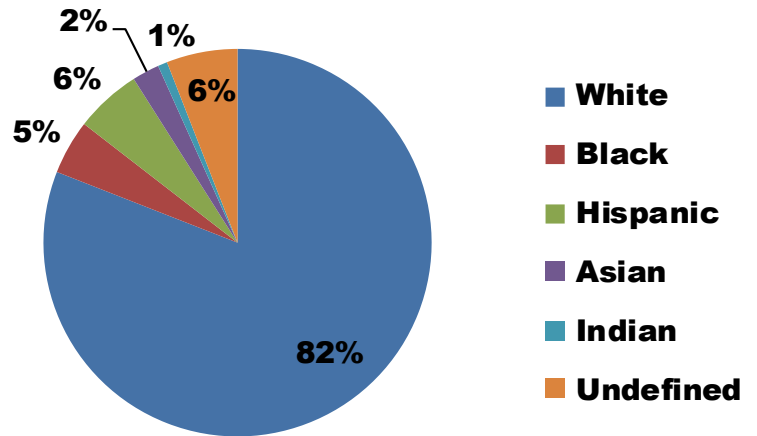
## Blue Hills Elementary

**Total Enrollment 2012: 394**

1911 N. Blue Mills Rd., Independence, MO 64058

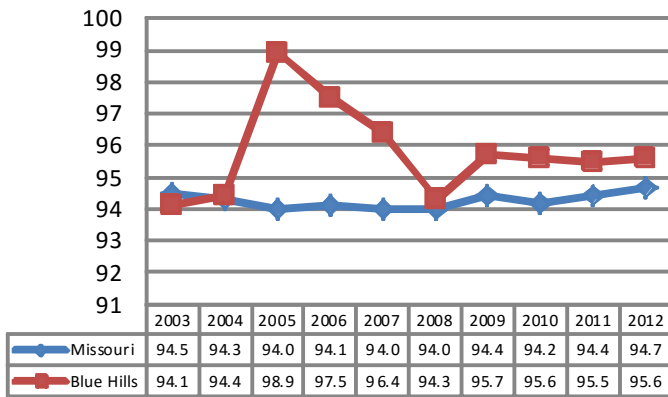
(816) 650-7440

## 2012 Student Demographics



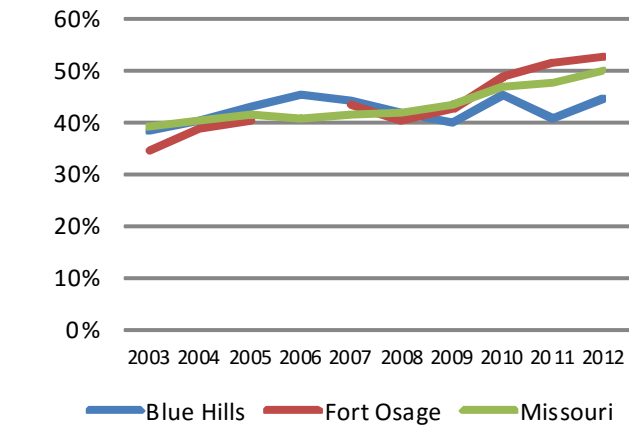
Source: Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

## 2012 Student Attendance Rate



Source: Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

## Free/Reduced Lunch

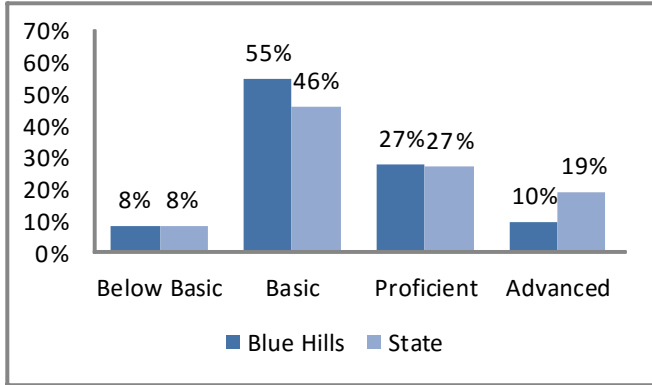


Source: Missouri Department of Secondary and Elementary Education

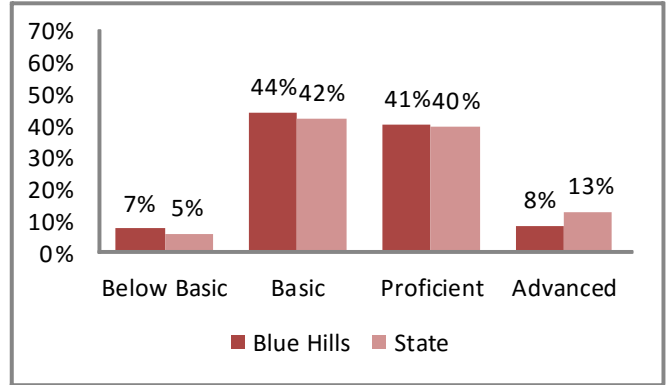
# Education

## 2012 Missouri Assessment Program (MAP)

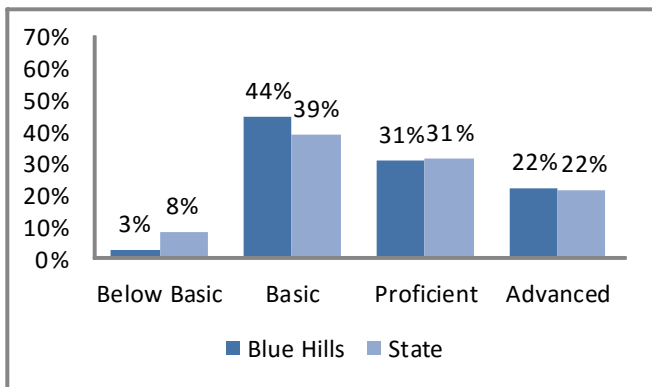
### 3rd Grade Communication Arts



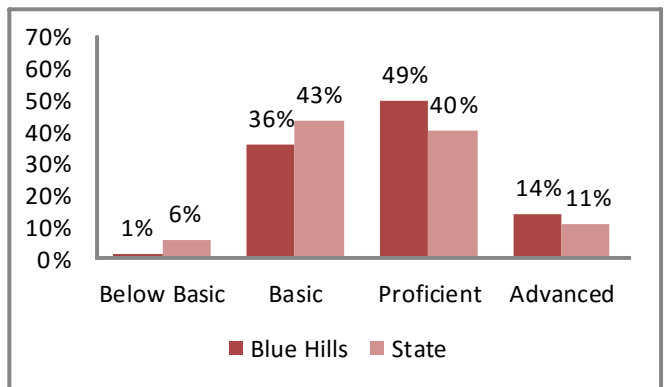
### 3rd Grade Mathematics



### 4th Grade Communication Arts



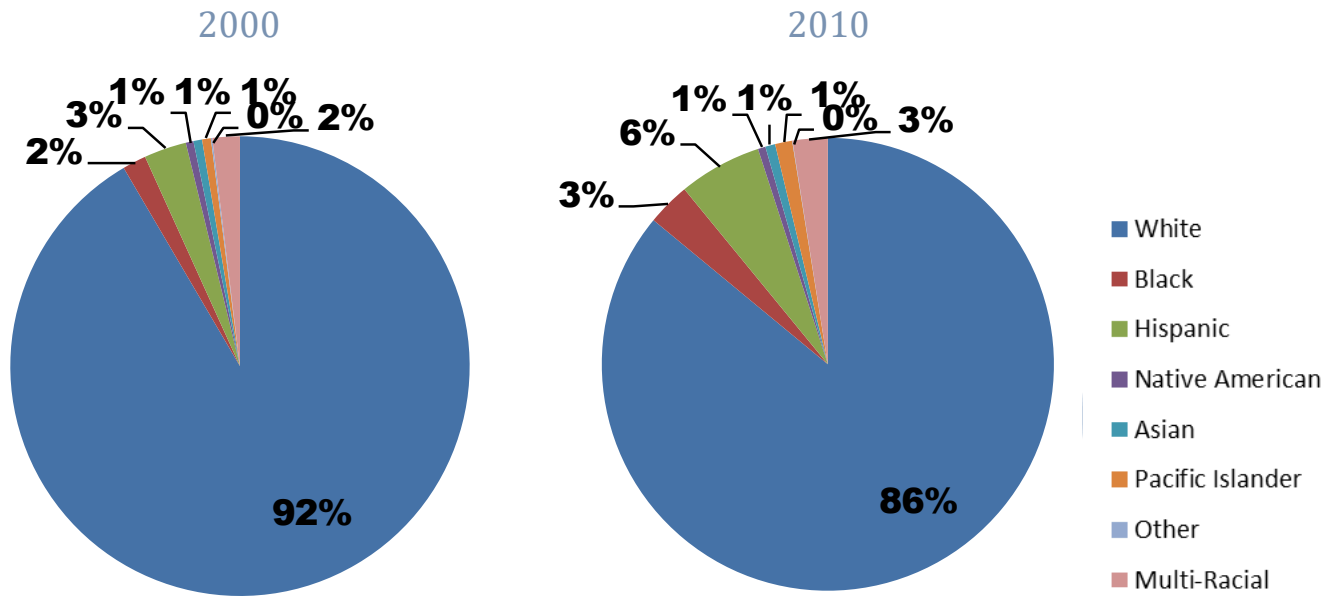
### 4th Grade Mathematics



Source: Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

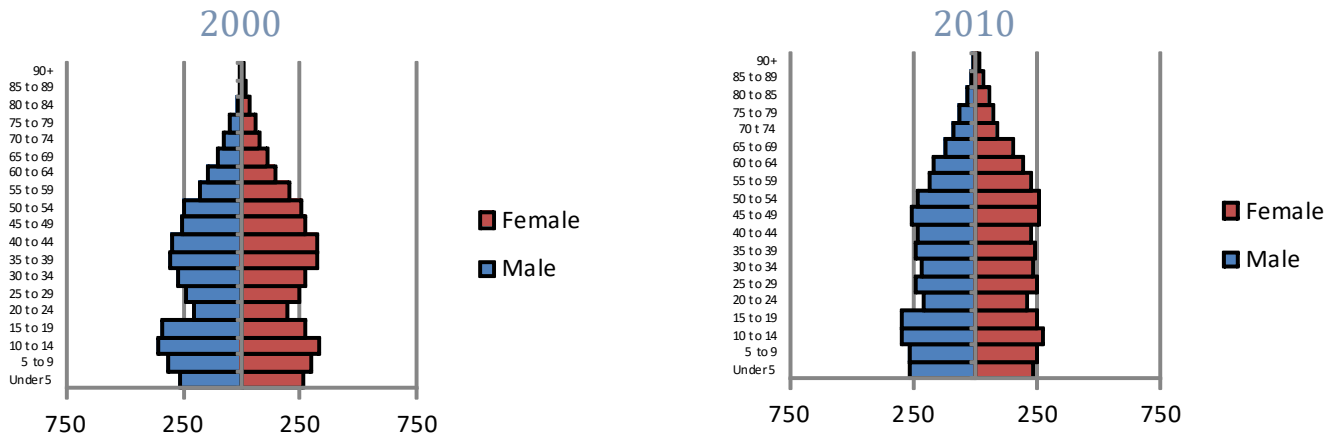
# Demographics

## Race



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## Age by Sex



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## Family Type with Related Children

	2000	2010	% Change
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>7,346</b>	<b>6,956</b>	<b>-5%</b>
<b>Total Families</b>	<b>2,053</b>	<b>1,889</b>	<b>-8%</b>
<b>Married Families</b>	<b>1,630</b>	<b>1,368</b>	<b>-16%</b>
With Children Under Age 18	827	627	-24%
<b>Single Male Households</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>45%</b>
With Children Under Age 18	79	115	46%
<b>Single Female Households</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>14%</b>
With Children Under Age 18	230	240	4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

# Economy

	Blue Hills	Jackson County
Median Income	\$54,218	\$46,252
Unemployment Rate	11.0%	8.8%

Source: U.S. Census

## Poverty

	Blue Hills	Jackson County
2000	4.6%	11.9%
2010	9.5%	15.7%

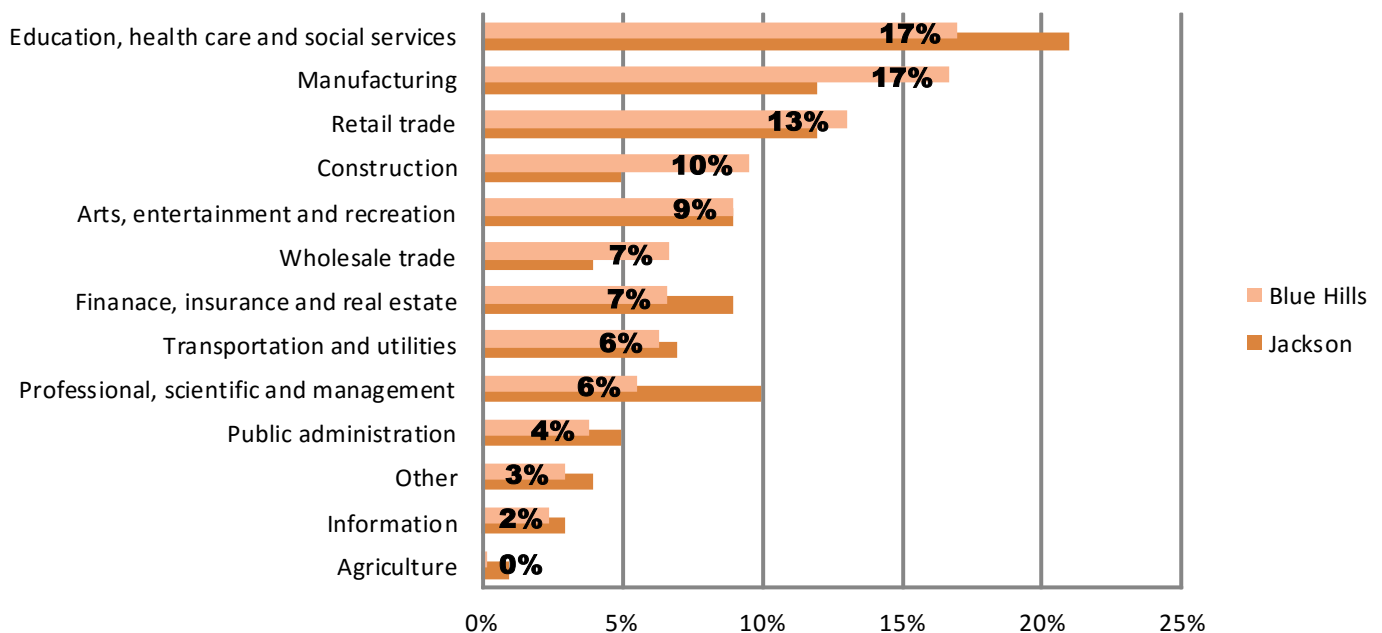
U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 ACS 5 Year Estimates

2010 Poverty Thresholds, Selected Family Types		
Single Individual	Under 65	\$ 11,344
	65 years and Older	\$ 10,458
Single Parent	One Child	\$ 15,030
	Two Children	\$ 17,568
	No Children	\$ 14,602
Two Adults	One Child	\$ 17,552
	Two Children	\$ 22,113
	Three Children	\$ 26,023

Note: The United States determines the official poverty rate using poverty thresholds that are issued each year by the Census Bureau. The thresholds represent the annual amount of cash income minimally required to support families of various sizes. A family is counted as poor if its pretax money income is below its poverty threshold. Money income does not include noncash benefits such as public housing, Medicaid, employer-provided health insurance and food stamps.

Source: National Poverty Center

## Employment by Industry

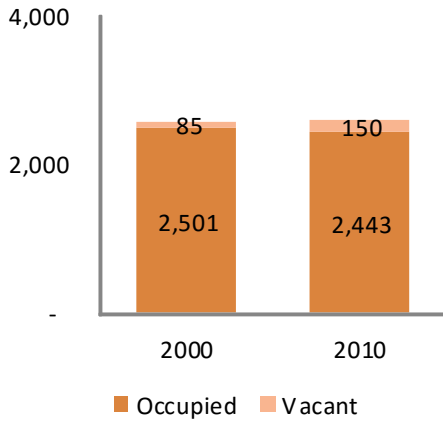


U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 ACS 5 Year Estimates



# Housing

## Vacant Houses



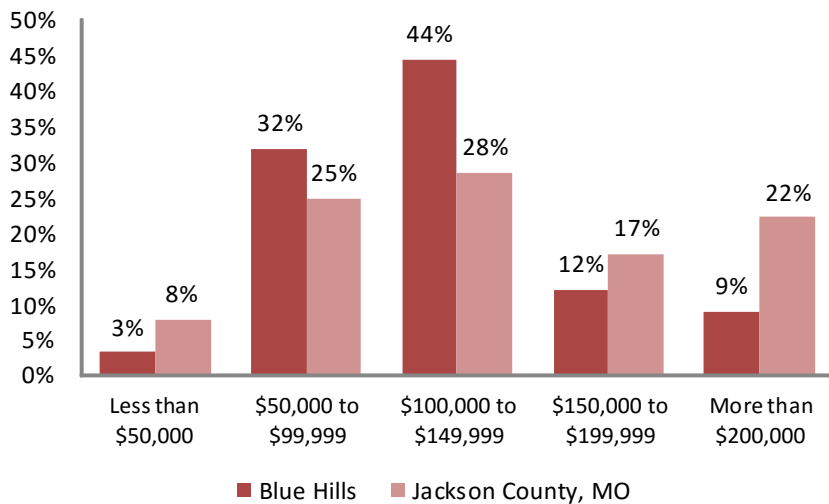
Source: U.S. Census, 2000, 2010

## Vacancy Rate

	2000	2010
Blue Hills	3.3%	5.8%
Jackson County	7.6%	12.0%

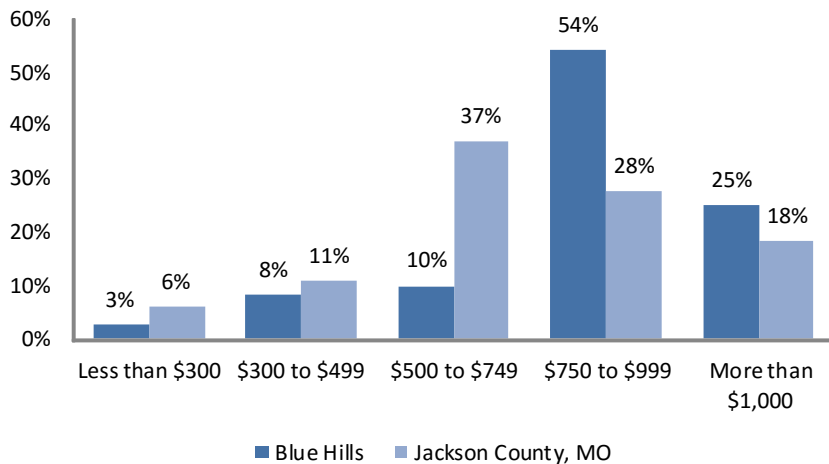
Source: U.S. Census, 2000, 2010

## Home Values



Source: U.S. Census, 2010 ACS 5 Year Estimates

## Gross Rent



Source: U.S. Census, 2010 ACS 5 Year Estimates

Housing Characteristics	2000 to 2010 Change
Housing Units	0%
Tenure	
Owner	-6%
Renter	19%
Units Moved into Previous Five Years	-33%
<b>Age of Housing Stock</b>	<b>2010 Percent</b>
Less than 5 Years	4%
Less than 10 Years	14%
Less than 20 Years	22%
Less than 30 Years	30%
Less than 40 Years	60%
More than 50 Years	40%

Source: U.S. Census, 2010 ACS 5 Year Estimates

# Community Resources

## Parks

		Acres
Bund-Jack Park	1001 N. Jackson, Independence, MO	2
Little Blue Trace	Multiple Entrances	1,856

Source: City of Independence Dept. of Parks and Recreation

## Food Pantries

SUSQUEHANNA BAPTIST CHURCH	17800 Susquehanna Ridge	Independence	MO
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Source: United Way of Greater Kansas City

## Nursing Homes

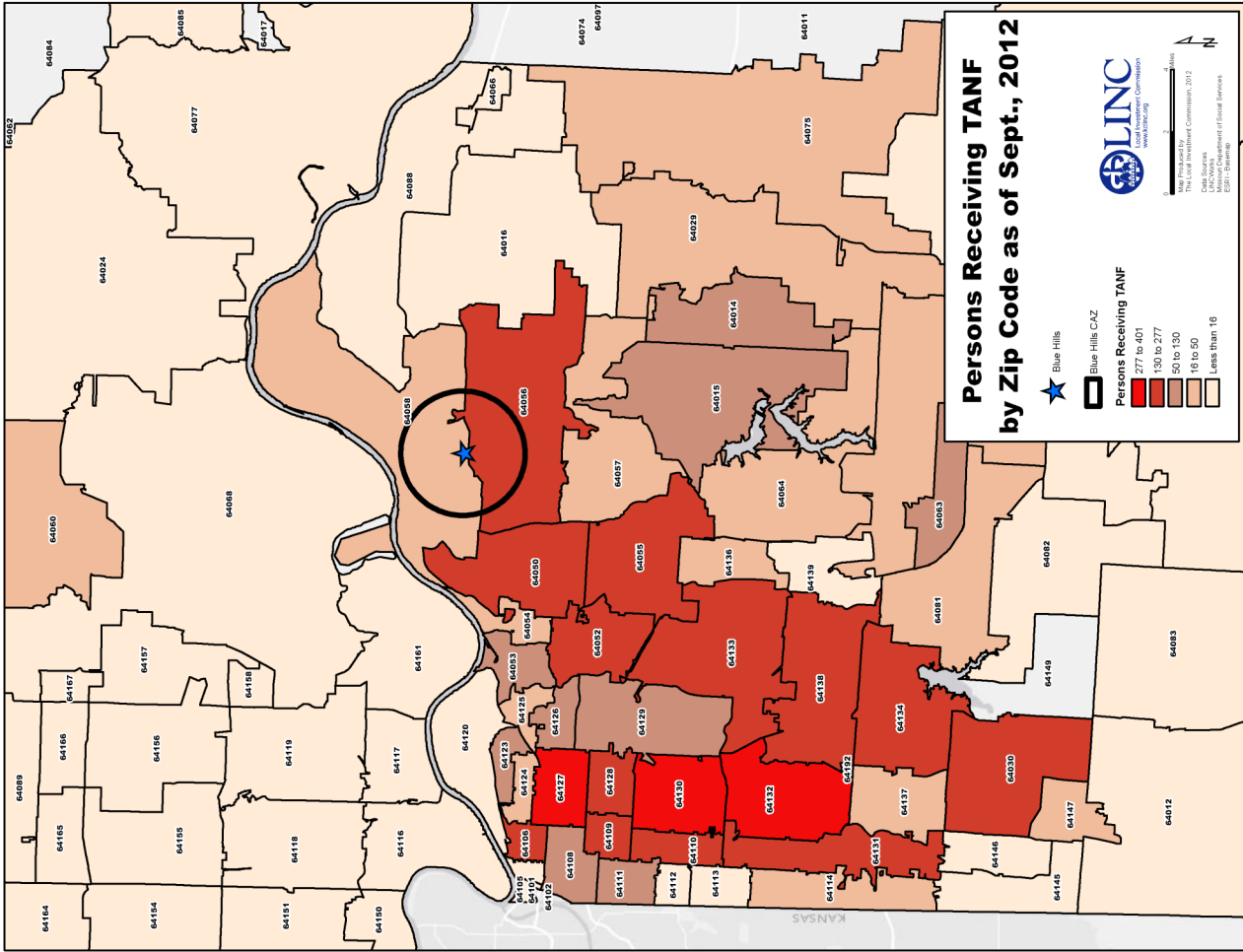
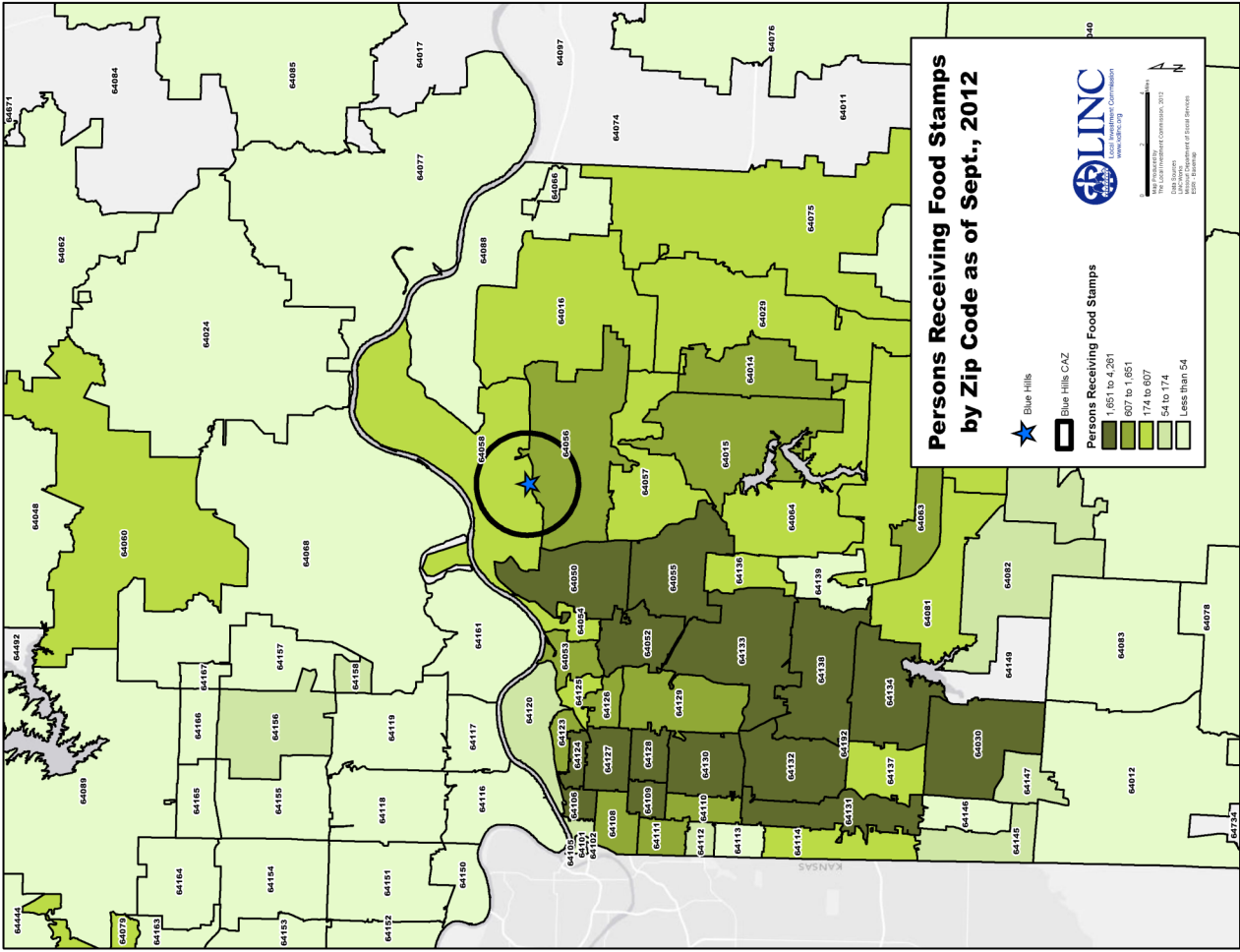
BLUE HILLS REST HOME, INC	2207 NORTH BLUE MILLS ROAD	INDEPENDENCE	MO
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Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

## Churches

Calvary Sounds Church	2120 N Whitney Rd	Independence	MO
Church Of The First Born In	1508 N Geronimo Dr	Independence	MO
Faith Missionary Baptist Chr	17245 E Kentucky Rd	Independence	MO
Fort Osage Church-Nazarene	19333 E Us Highway 24	Independence	MO
Harmony Heights Missionary	1701 N Salem Dr	Independence	MO
House Of Prayer	1706 N Jennings Rd	Independence	MO
Lighthouse Baptist Church	17902 N Whitney Rd	Independence	MO
New Harvest Church Of God	1213 N. Davis Rd	Independence	MO
New Hope Baptist Church	18000 E Lexington Rd	Independence	MO
New Salem Baptist Church	1805 N Blue Mills Rd	Independence	MO
New Salem Baptist Church	1506 N. Millhaven Ct.	Independence	MO
Pleasant View Christian Church	19114 E Salisbury Rd	Independence	MO
St Joseph Worker Church	2200 N Blue Mills Rd	Independence	MO
St Theodore's Orthodox Chr Oca	17803 Susquehanna Rdg	Independence	MO
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Source: Yellowpages



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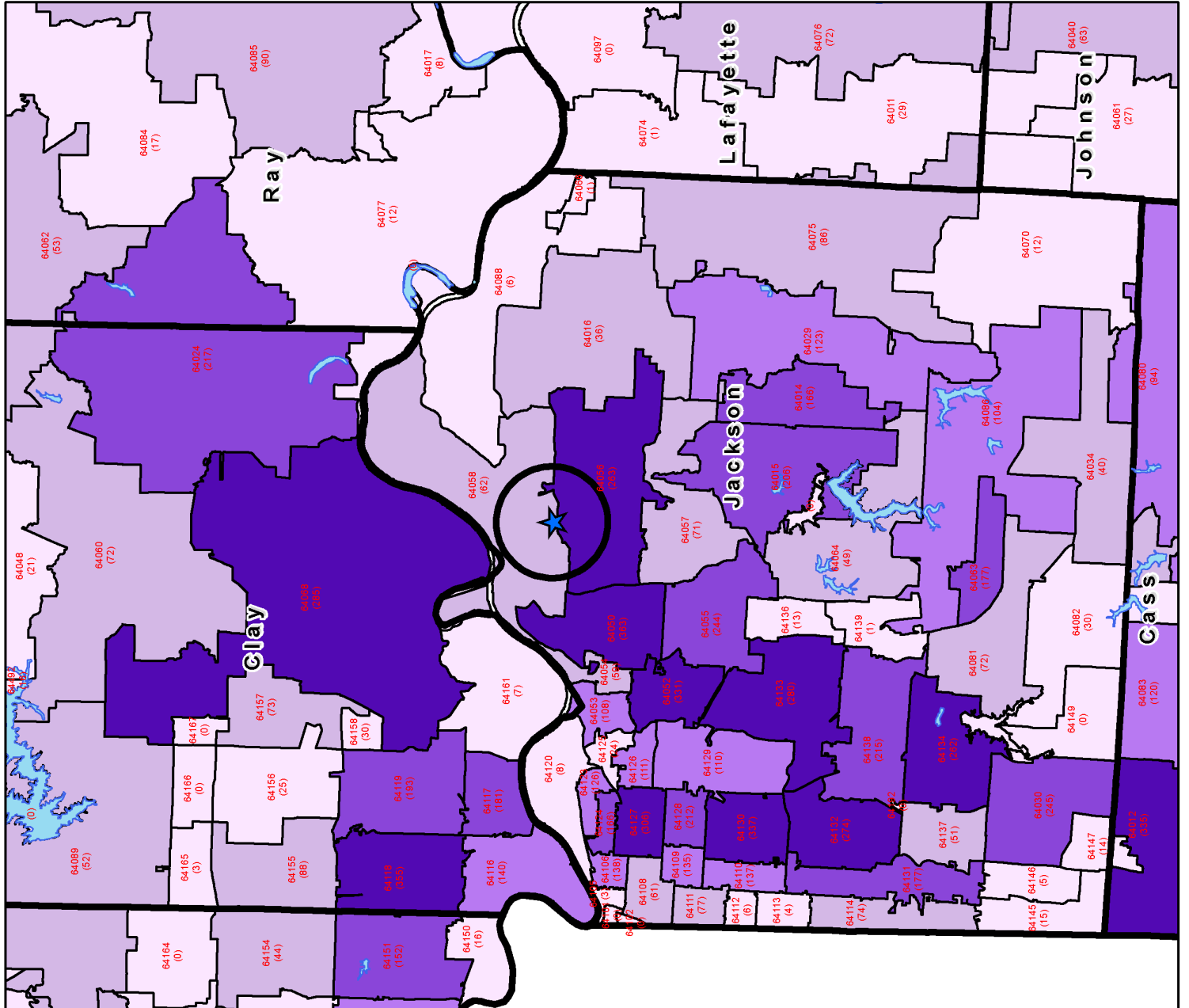
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Source: Yellowpages



### Total C/N Reports: Northwest Region

Total Reports	County Boundary	Rivers	Lakes	Blue Hills	Blue Hills CAZ	Report Counts:
More than 250						Total region count: 13,918
150 to 250						Max Count: Jackson Zip - 64050 363 Reports
90 to 150						
30 to 90						
Less than 30						

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**Site Book developed By:  
Local Investment Commission (LINC)  
2012**

**All maps, photographs, and tables were developed and/or are property of LINC, unless otherwise noted,  
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**For more information on LINC, please visit:  
[www.kclinc.org](http://www.kclinc.org)**