



## Welfare Reform "By the Numbers" Rowan County



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Across the nation, welfare reform presents a new challenge: how to shift from a program based on income maintenance to one focused on employment. Meeting this challenge calls for both more and new information on which to base decisions. **Welfare Reform "By The Numbers"** is aimed at supplying the most recent data and information useful for local decision-making processes surrounding welfare reform. This series is provided in conjunction with the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Welfare Reform Implementation Task Force -- Community Resources Group.

|   | <u>County</u>  | <u>State</u>   |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Poverty</b>  |                |                |
| Poverty Rate (1993)   | 27.3           | 19.7           |
| Number of Individuals Living in Poverty (1993)  | 4,965          | 748,007        |
| Total Number of K-TAP Recipients (1997)*  | 702            | 145,465        |
| Percent of K-TAP Recipients Who Are Children (1997)*  | 65.8%          | 68.2%          |
| Percent People under 18 Living in Poverty (1993)  | 32.9%          | 28.1%          |
| Percent Participation in the Free and Reduced School<br>Lunch Program (Avg. across districts) (1995-96) | 58.2%          | 43.9%          |
| Percent K-TAP Cases with Benefits 2 Yrs <u>or Less</u> (1997)*  | 44.3%          | 42.4%          |
| Percent Population 65 and Over Below Poverty Level (1990)   | 33.0%          | 20.60%         |
| <b>Local Economy</b>  |                |                |
| Average Unemployment Rate (Jan-Sept, 1997)  | 5.4            | 5.31           |
| Percent of Adults Receiving K-TAP Who Are Either<br>Employed or have a Work History (1997)*             | 75.4%          | 79.2%          |
| Top 3 Employment Sectors (% of Total Jobs) (1995)   | Govt 27.1%     | Services 24.7% |
|   | Services 25.9% | Retail 17.5%   |
|   | Retail 20.8%   | Manuf 15.3%    |
| Percent Employment: Manufacturing, Retail, and Services (1995)  | 53.5%          | 57.5%          |
| Percent of Women-Owned Businesses (1992)  | 30.3%          | 31.4%          |
| Percent of Farmers with Farming as Primary Occupation (1992)  | 36.3%          | 44.5%          |
| Percent of Jobs that are in Farming (1995)  | 5.3%           | 5.4%           |
| Percent Working at Home (1990)  | 3.3%           | 3.0%           |
| Percent of Teenagers Employed (Ages 16-19 Years) (1990)   | 28.9%          | 36.0%          |
| Percent of Labor Force that is Female (1990)  | 47.5%          | 44.70%         |
| Median Household Income (1993)  | \$20,634       | \$25,222       |
| Income Maintenance as Percent of Total Transfer Payments (1995)   | 13.0%          | 10.7%          |
| Food Stamp Payments (1995)  | \$2,439,000    | \$411,827,000  |

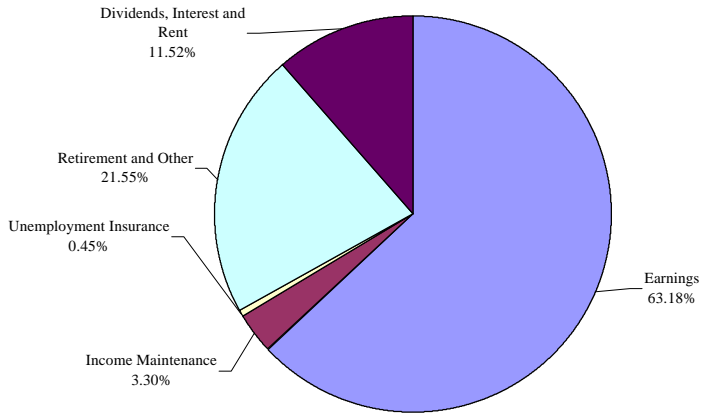
| <b>Work Force</b>   | <b>County</b> | <b>State</b> |
|---|---------------|--------------|
| Expenditures per Student (Avg. across Districts) (1994-95)  | \$4,661       | \$4,685      |
| Child Care Slots (1997)*  |               |              |
| Licensed  | 486           | 121,255      |
| Certified   | 24            | 3,768        |
| Unregulated   | 341           | 50,121       |
| Adult K-TAP Recipients w/ High School, GED <u>or More</u> (1997)*                                 | 30.9%         | 48.7%        |
| Percent 18 yrs + with a High School Degree <u>or More</u> (1990)                                  | 70.0%         | 66.1%        |
| Percent 18 yrs + with <u>Less than</u> a 9th Grade Education (1990)                               | 17.9%         | 16.7%        |
| <b>Transportation</b>   |               |              |
| Percent of Housing Units Without Personal Transportation (1990)                                   | 12.1%         | 11.5%        |
| Average Travel Time to Work (in Minutes) (1990)   | 17.3          | 20.7         |
| Percent of Workers Working Outside County of Residence (1990)                                     | 16.0%         | 25.9%        |
| Percent of Population Living on Farms (1992)  | 3.7%          | 4.7%         |
| Percent of Workers Either Drive or Share a Ride to Work (1990)                                    | 81.0%         | 90.9%        |
| Percent Commuting 45 Minutes <u>or More</u> to Work (1990)  | 8.3%          | 9.6%         |
| <b>Housing</b>  |               |              |
| Median Gross Rent (1990)  | \$250         | \$319        |
| Percent Households Paying 30% + of Income For Rent (1990)   | 41.8%         | 38.1%        |
| Total Number of Rental Housing Units (1990)   | 2,389         | 457,136      |
| Rental Vacancy Rate (1990)  | 5.8           | 8.3          |
| Percent of Occupied Housing that is Renter Occupied (1990)  | 33.3%         | 30.4%        |
| Percent of Housing Units that are Mobile Homes (1990)   | 25.0%         | 12.1%        |
| Percent Housing Units Built After 1980 (Incl. Mobile Homes) (1990)                                | 23.7%         | 20.0%        |
| Percent of Housing Units Lacking Complete Plumbing (1990)   | 4.3%          | 2.9%         |
| Percent of Housing Units with Sewage Disposal other than<br>Sewer, Septic Tank or Cesspool (1990) | 5.5%          | 3.8%         |
| Percent of Housing Units Without Telephones (1990)  | 15.6%         | 10.2%        |
| <b>Social</b>   |               |              |
| Total Resident Population (1997)  | 22,021        | 3,908,124    |
| Number of Family Resource Youth Service Centers (1997)*   | 4             | 588          |
| Percent of Births to Mothers 15-19 Years of Age (1993)  | 12.5%         | 16.4%        |
| Percent of Births to Mothers <u>Less than</u> 20 Years of Age (1993)                              | 12.5%         | 16.8%        |
| Percent Households w/ Children Headed by a Single Parent (1990)                                   | 7.2%          | 7.5%         |
| Percent of Population Under 6 Years (1990)  | 6.4%          | 8.2%         |
| Percent of Population Ages 10-13 Years (1990)   | 4.5%          | 6.1%         |
| Percent of Population Ages 14-19 Years (1990)   | 15.6%         | 9.2%         |
| Percent of Population Under 18 Years (1990)   | 20.5%         | 25.9%        |

\* These data are dated June 1997 and were generously supplied by the Kentucky Cabinet for Families and Children. K-TAP refers to the Kentucky Temporary Assistance Program which replaces the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program.

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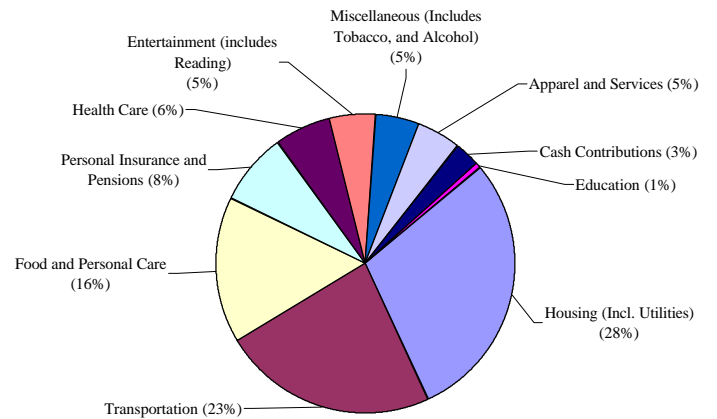
**Rowan County  
Income by Source, 1995**



Source: Regional Economic Information System, Bureau of Economic Analysis

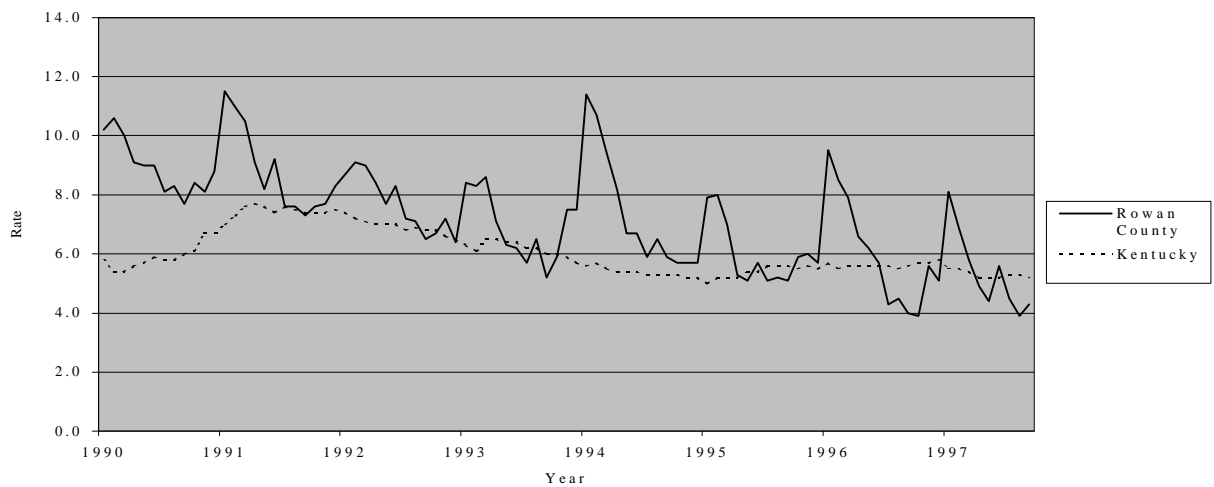
**Average Household Expenditures: Southern Region,  
Income Group \$20-\$29,999**

*(Data are not specific to this county, but are for the same income group in the Southern Region as the median income estimated in 1993 for this county.)*

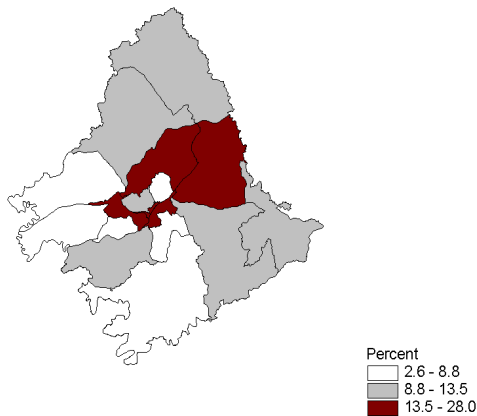


Source: Consumer Expenditure Survey, 1994-5

**Monthly Unemployment Rates, 1990-1997**

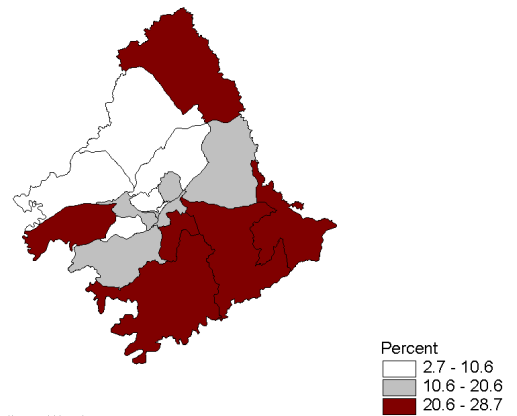


**Households Without Personal Transportation  
Rowan County**



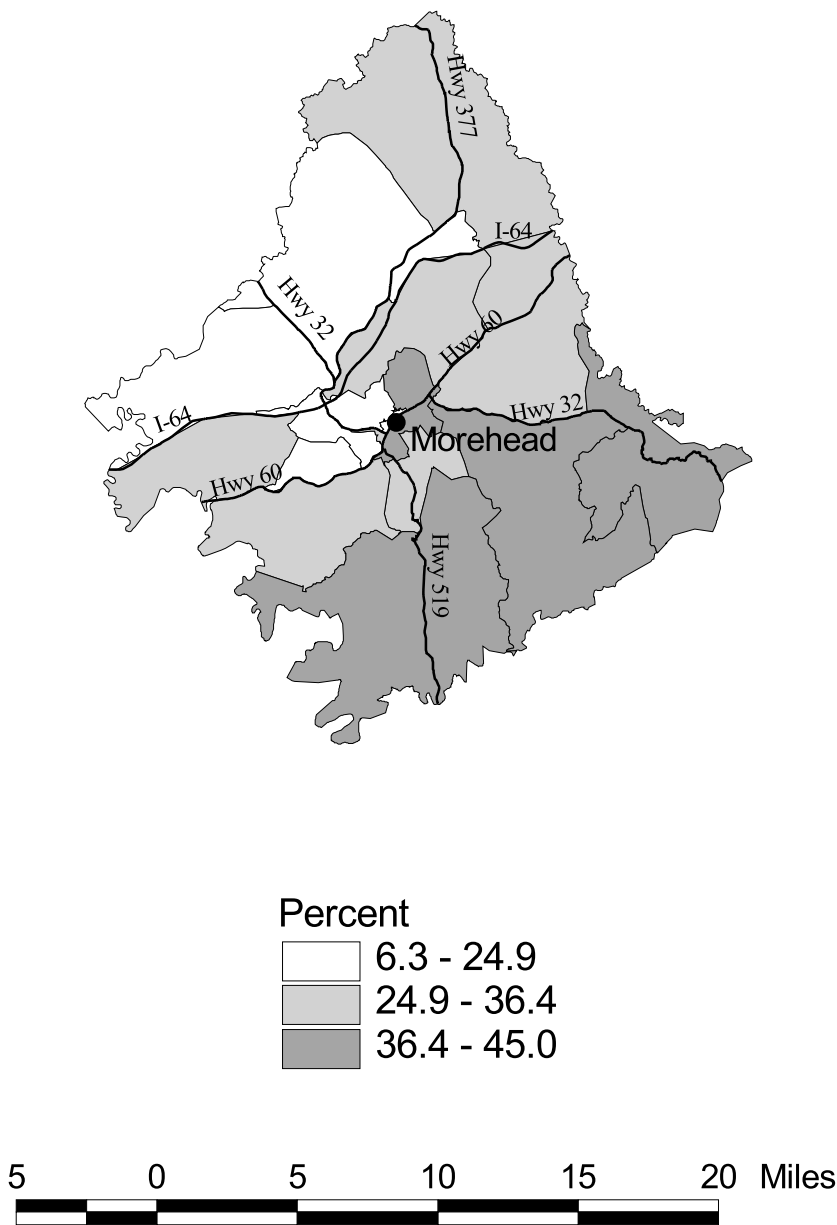
Source: 1990 Census of Population and Housing

**Households Without Telephones  
Rowan County**



Source: 1990 Census of Population and Housing

# Population Living Below Poverty Level Rowan County



Source: 1990 Census of Population and Housing