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## Experience Oldham | Census estimates show Oldham by the numbers

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Oldham residents: This column is about you.

You, my friend, are smart. You're also wealthier than most, and you likely moved to Oldham in the last 30 years.

Odds are that the house you (probably) purchased is worth \$200,000 or more, and has at least seven rooms.

At least that's what the survey says (but you're smart enough to know that already, right?)

The U.S. Census Bureau released estimates last week that paint a thorough picture of the county and its cities. The American Community Survey data was collected from 2005 to 2009 and shows that Oldham remains one of the counties in the state with the largest median household income, at \$78,460. In 2000, the median was \$81,394, when adjusted for inflation.



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But it's important to recognize that not everyone fits into this category. In fact, an average of 5.4 percent of the county's 56,000 residents lived in poverty from 2005-2009. That's up from 4.1 percent in 2000.

While most Oldham houses are spacey — considering that only 2.7 people live in each house, on average — there are 346 mobile homes. Many are in La Grange, though Crestwood also has a few.

I'll be painting a fuller, more in-depth picture of what this survey says about Oldham in the coming months. But for now, here's a quick look at you and your neighbors in the last four years:

90 percent of residents living in Oldham between 2005 and 2009 also lived in the county the previous year. The other 10 percent were new.

60 percent of Oldham residents who were born in the United States also were born in Kentucky.

82 percent of the population was in a family (married couple or "other families"). Another 18 percent were people living alone or not with their families.

Of Oldham's 20,168 homes, more than 1,000

sat vacant.

91 percent of people over age 25 had graduated from high school; 37 percent had a bachelor's degree or higher.

\$1,681 was the median mortgage payment.

85 percent of Oldham workers travel to work alone, and 8 percent carpool. Commuters travel on average 25 minutes to work.

The survey results tell many stories about Oldham residents. They even show how many of you (292) use wood to heat your homes, and how many (five) use coal. These are just estimates, though — the 2010 census data haven't been released.

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If you're someone with a story to tell in Oldham, whether you represent the majority or minority there, I'm here to listen. E-mail me.

And in the meantime, enjoy the last few months until you turn 40 (the median age is 38.6).

Reporter Andrea Uhde Shepherd can be reached at (502) 582-4663.

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