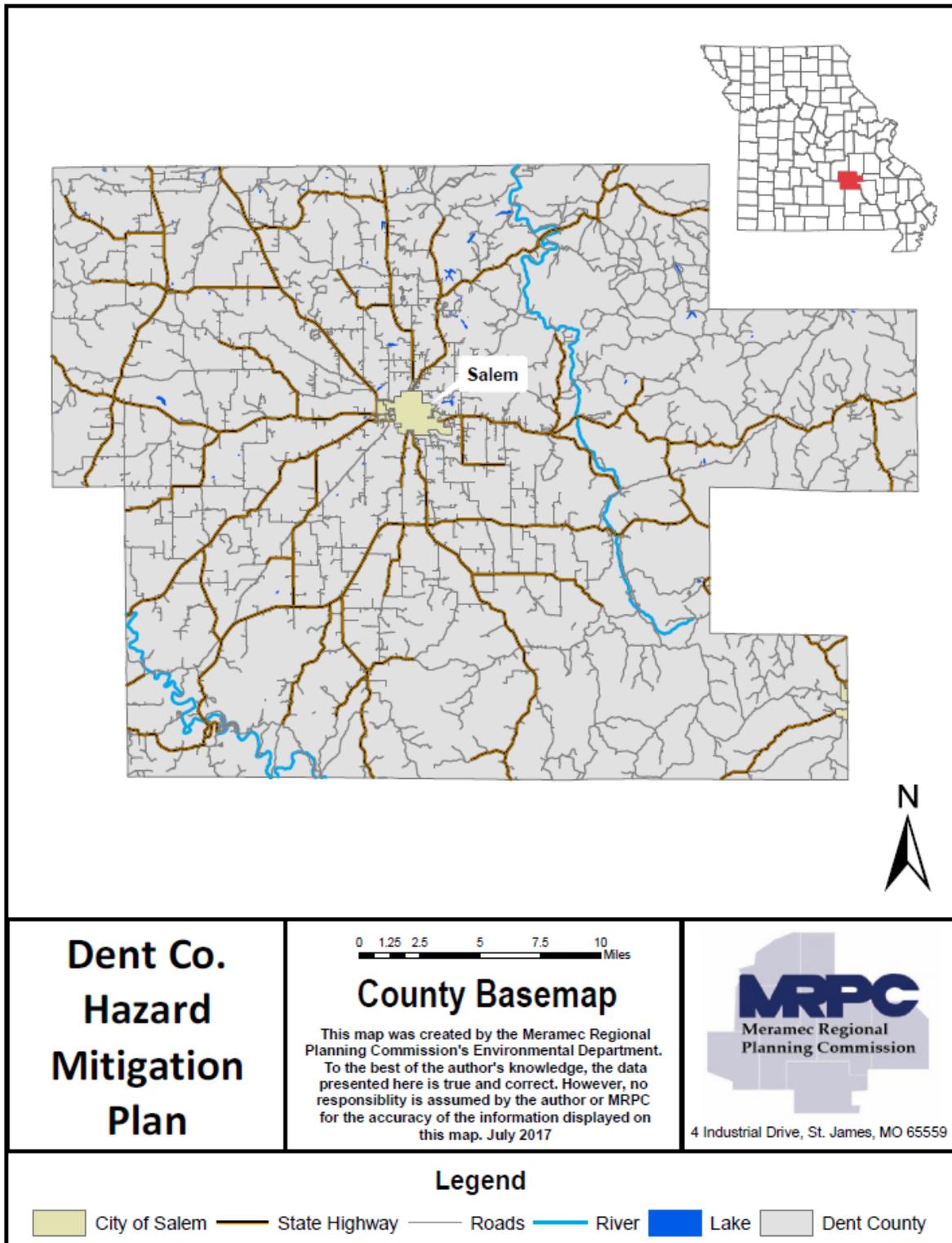

2 PLANNING AREA PROFILE AND CAPABILITIES

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2.1 Dent County Planning Area Profile

Figure 2.1. Map of Dent County



Dent County has a population of approximately 14,421 according to the most recent census data¹. **Table 2.1** illustrates the percentage population growth since 2010 as compared to the statewide and national population growth. The median household income and percentage growth since 1999, as compared to statewide and national figures can be found in **Table 2.2**. Furthermore, median house value percentage growth for Dent County, Missouri, and the United States is provided in **Table 2.3**.

Table 2.1. Percent Population Growth for County, State, and Nation 2010 - 2020

Demographic Region	Total Population		Change Over Period	
	2010	2020	Change	Percent
Missouri	5,814,785	6,154,913	340,128	5.85
United States	300,758,215	331,449,281	30,691,066	10.2
Dent County	15,455	14,421	-1,034	-6.69

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1; U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2020 Redistricting Data

Table 2.2. Median Household Income and Percentage Growth for County, State, and Nation 2010 - 2020

Demographic Region	Median Household Income (USD)		Change Over Period	
	2010	2020	Change	Percent
United States	\$51,914	\$64,994	\$13,080	20.1
Missouri	\$46,262	\$57,290	\$11,028	23.8
Dent County	\$36,118	\$42,714	\$6,596	18.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 and 2016-2020 5-Year American Community Survey

Table 2.3. Median House Value Percentage Growth for County, State, and Nation 2010 - 2020

Demographic Region	Median House Value (USD)		Change Over Period	
	2010	2020	Change	Percent
United States	\$188,400	\$229,800	\$41,400	21.97
Missouri	\$137,700	\$163,600	\$25,900	18.8
Dent County	\$84,100	\$104,900	\$20,800	24.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 and 2016-2020 5-Year American Community Survey

2.1.2 Geography, Geology and Topography

Dent County has a total land area of 755 square miles. Approximately 60 percent of the land cover in the county is deciduous forest intermixed with 30 percent of grassland. Less than one percent of the land cover within the county is cropland. The area has karst terrain, which is characterized by springs, caves, losing streams, and sinkholes. Additionally, the county is comprised of 1.7 square miles of total water area. Incorporated jurisdictions within the county include the City of Salem.

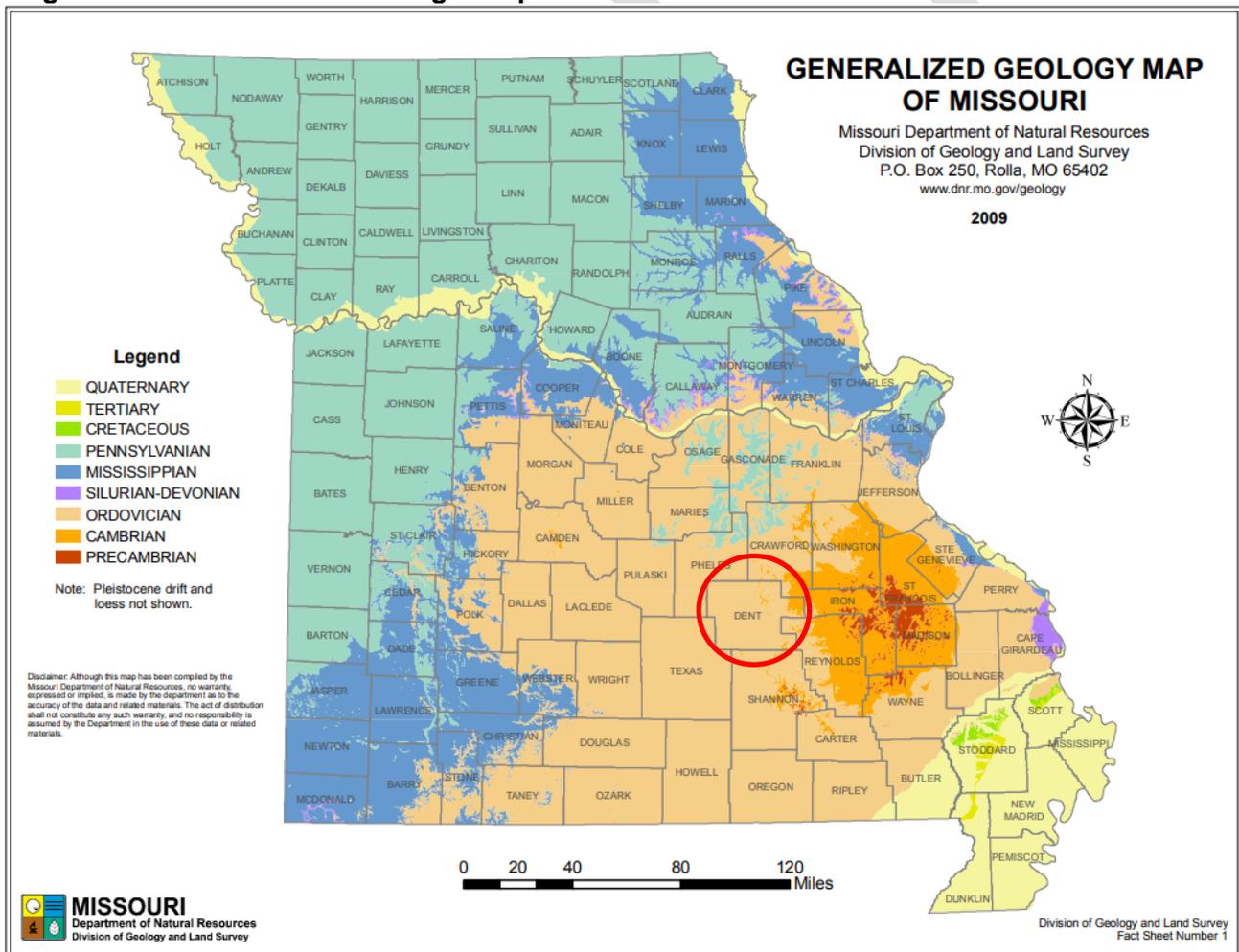
The county seat, Salem, is located in southeast central Missouri, approximately 75 miles

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

southeast of the state capital of Jefferson City, approximately 100 miles northeast of Springfield, Mo. and approximately 98 miles southwest of St. Louis, Mo. The county is bordered on the north by Phelps and Crawford Counties. On the east side the county is bordered by Iron and Reynolds Counties. To the south the county is bordered by Shannon County. Texas County shares a border with Phelps to the west.

Located within the Ozark Mountains, Dent County specifically resides within the Salem Plateau and the interior Ozark Highlands. The county is located in the largest outcrop area of Ordovician-age rocks in the United States. This rock is 505 to 441 million years old and made up primarily of carbonates and thin shales with three distinctive sandstone layers: the Gunter at the base of the column, the red and white Roubidoux which is often used as a building stone and the St. Peter glass sand. This stone is the result of a time period when Missouri was covered by a shallow sea and the stone frequently produces aquatic fossils from that time period. Portions of this formation contain rock that dissolves and fractures over time from rainwater, thus resulting in the karst features found throughout the Ozarks. **Figure 2.2** depicts a generalized geologic map of Missouri and its counties.

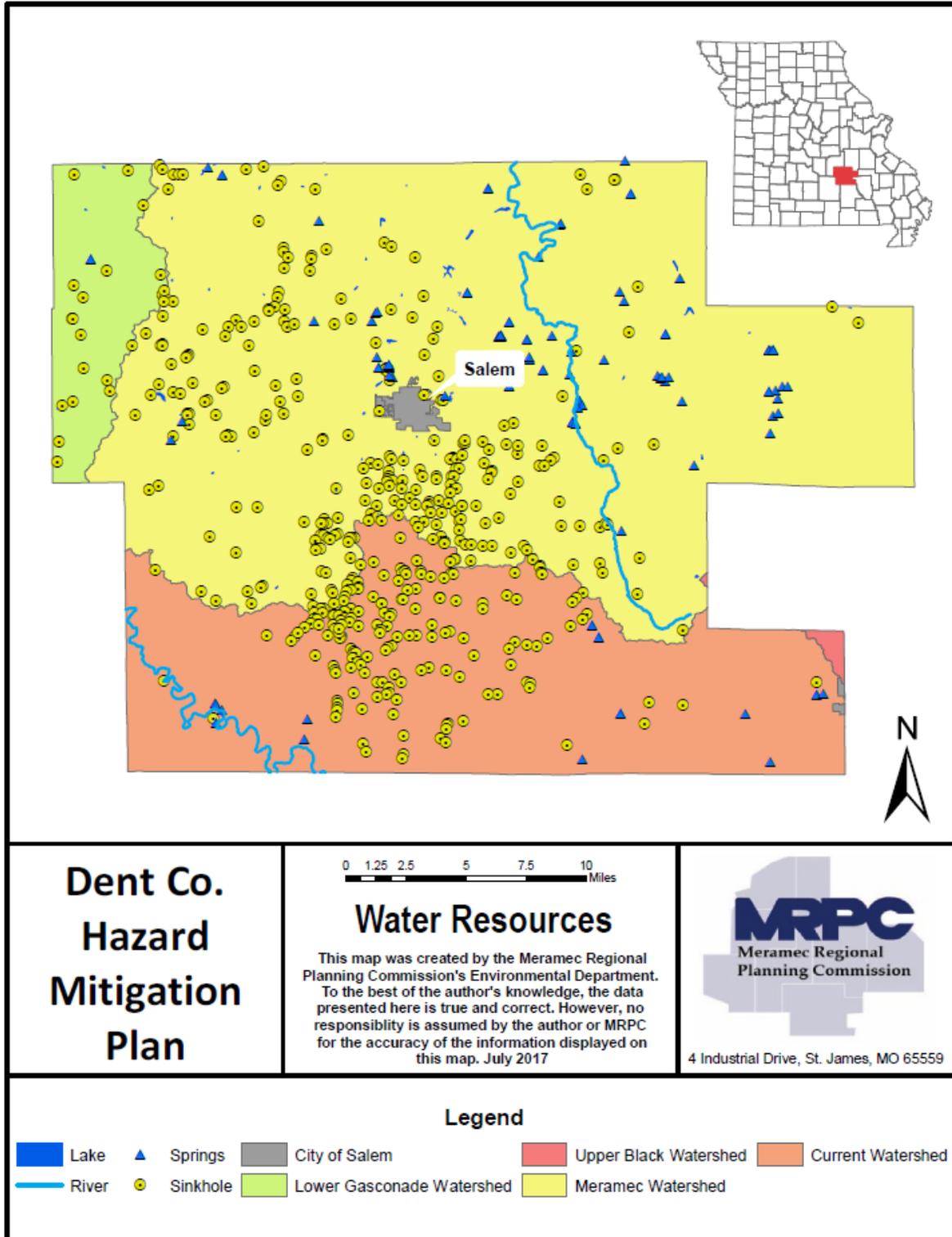
Figure 2.2. Generalized Geologic Map of Missouri



Source: <https://dnr.mo.gov/document-search/generalized-geologic-map-missouri-pub2514/pub2514> *Red circle indicates Dent County

The plateau is centered around the City of Salem with a gently rolling topography. To the east of Salem, the terrain becomes more rugged, with steep, sloping hills. The Current River Watershed area is characterized by very rough terrain and extremely steep, sloping valleys. The maximum relief is about 500 feet, with the high point on a ridge south of Salem, and the low points near the north and south borders of the county.

Figure 2.3. Dent County Watershed/Water Resources



Dent County is comprised of four HUC8 watersheds which include the Lower Gasconade, Upper Black, Meramec, and Current. Seven miles northeast of the town of Salem in Southeastern Missouri, a spring-fed brook called the Watery Fork merges with a larger wet-weather branch and becomes the source of the Meramec River. For many millions of years the Meramec has been carving its twisting, sometimes-tortuous 240-mile course into the solid rock of the Ozark Plateau, scouring its way through a deep, slowly widening valley, bordered by limestone bluffs and steep hills. It is joined along the way by innumerable springs, creeks, and four large tributaries, which transform the Meramec into a 100-yard to 200-yard wide floodplain stream at its confluence with the Mississippi River eighteen miles below St. Louis.

The Current River is the most spring-fed of all of the Ozark Rivers. The watershed drains approximately 2,621 square miles in 9 Missouri counties and 2 Arkansas counties. The Current River is formed by the emergence of Pigeon Creek and the Montauk Spring complex near Montauk, Missouri. The river flows south towards the Black River in Arkansas.

During the last 100 years, stream channels in the Ozarks have become wider and shallower and deep-water fish habitat has been lost. Historical data indicate that channel disturbances have resulted most directly from clearing of vegetation along stream channels, which decreases bank strength. Historical and stratigraphic data show that after 1830, Ozarks streams responded to land-use changes by depositing more gravel and less muddy sediment, compared to pre-settlement conditions. Because less muddy sediment is being deposited on flood plains, many stream banks now lack cohesive sediments, and, therefore, no longer support steep banks. Land use statistics indicate that the present trend in the rural Ozarks is toward increased populations of cattle and increased grazing density; this trend has the potential to continue the historical stream-channel disturbance by increasing storm-water runoff and sediment supply.

Dent County has several soil types. The northwestern part of the county is associated with Nixa-Clarksville-Lebanon-Hobson soils, which are gently sloping to moderately steep, somewhat excessively drained to moderately well drained soils that have a fragipan, a cherty subsoil, or both. Towards the eastern and southern part of the county soils part of the Clarksville-Coulstone association are located. This association is considered steep, somewhat excessively drain, and cherty. Lastly, soil associated with Huzzah Creek and Sinking Creek are categorized as Clarksville-Coulstone which is steep, somewhat excessively drained and well drained soils that have a cherty surface layer and a cherty or clayey subsoil².

2.1.3 Climate

Snowfall typically occurs November to March and averages about 8 to 12 inches in the Meramec Region. It is unusual for snow to stay on the ground for more than a week or two before it melts. Winter precipitation usually is in the form of rain, snow or both. Conditions sometimes borderline between rain and snow, and in these situations freezing drizzle or freezing rain occurs. Spring, summer and early fall precipitation comes largely in the form of showers or thunderstorms. Thunderstorms are most frequent from April to July. Measurable precipitation occurs on the average of less than 100 days per year. About half of these will be days with thunderstorms. The average annual precipitation is 47.21 inches. Most of the precipitation is absorbed by the soil

² Soil Survey, Dent County, Missouri, USDA, SCS, USFS, March 1971

and plants; however, a portion of the precipitation forms runoff and is returned to streams and other bodies of water.

Because of its inland location, Missouri and Dent County are subject to frequent changes in temperature. The average annual temperature is 57.35°F. The average annual high temperature is 68.7°F with the average annual low at 46°F. The average high and low in January is 44°F and 23°F, respectively. In August the average high and low are 90°F and 66°F, respectively.

While winters are cold and summers are hot, prolonged periods of very hot weather are unusual. Occasional periods of mild, above freezing temperatures are noted almost every winter. Conversely, during the peak of the summer season occasional periods of dry, cool weather break up stretches of hot, humid weather. In the summer, temperatures rise to 90°F or higher on average 55 to 60 days. In winter, there is an average of about 100 days with temperatures below 32 degrees. Temperatures below 0°F are infrequent with only about three days per year reaching this low temperature. The first frost occurs in mid-October, and the last frost occurs about mid-April³.

2.1.4 Population/Demographics

Table 2.4 provides population/demographic data for Dent County between 2000 and 2020 by jurisdiction. The unincorporated area of Dent County was determined by subtracting the populations of the incorporated areas from the overall county population.

Table 2.4. Dent County Population 2010-2020 by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	2000 Population	2010 Population	2020 Population	2010-2020 # Change	2010-2020 % Change
Unincorporated Dent County	10,073	10,627	9,813	-814	-7.66%
Salem	4,854	4,828	4,608	-220	-4.56%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1; Census 2010 Summary File 1; Census 2020 Redistricting Data

Table 2.5 provides information in regard to the percent of individuals under the age of 5, and over 65 for the county, State, and Nation. In addition, average household size is illustrated in **Table 2.6** including figures for Dent County, Missouri, and the U.S. In 2020 there were an estimated 6,819 households within the county⁴.

Table 2.5. Percent of Individuals Under the Age of 5, and Over 65 for County, State, and Nation (2019)

Location	% Under Age of 5	% Over Age of 65
Dent County	5.6	21.9
Missouri	6.1	16.9
United States	6.0	16.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016-2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

³ Decker, W.L., 2017, Climate of Missouri, Missouri Climate Center, College of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Decennial Redistricting Data

Table 2.6. 2019 Average Household Size for County, State, and Nation

Location	Average Household Size
Dent County	2.40
Missouri	2.44
United States	2.60

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016-2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Social Vulnerability Index (SoVI ®)

The University of South Carolina developed the Social Vulnerability Index to evaluate and rank the ability to respond to, cope with, recover from, and adapt to natural disasters. The index synthesizes 30 socioeconomic variables which are primarily derived from the United States Census Bureau. **Table 2.7** depicts the Social Vulnerability Index for Dent County along with its national percentile.

Table 2.7. Social Vulnerability Index (SoVI ®)

State	County	SoVI Score (10 - 14)	National Percentile (10 - 14)
Missouri	Dent County	1.950000048	80.4%

Source: <http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/geog/hvri/sovi-data>

The analysis of 30 socioeconomic variables includes the standardization of data, and reduction of variables into a condensed set of statistically optimized components; positive component loadings (+) are linked with amplified vulnerability, and negative component loadings (-) are linked with diminished vulnerability. Scores are represented as a numeric value, but have no inherent mathematical properties. To simplify the metrics of the SoVI ® Score, a negative number illustrates a county's resiliency to hazard events, and a positive number illustrates a decrease in resiliency⁵. Dent County's SoVI ® Score illustrates a diminished vulnerability to cope with natural disasters. Additionally, Dent County is ranked 80.4 percent nationally, for counties most vulnerable to environmental hazards. **Figure 2.4** depicts Missouri's SoVI ® to environmental hazards between 2010 and 2014. Furthermore, **Figure 2.5** depicts the Nation's SoVI ® to environmental hazards between 2010 and 2014.

⁵ <http://webra.cas.sc.edu/hvri/products/sovifaq.aspx>

Figure 2.4. 2010 – 2014 Missouri Social Vulnerability to Environmental Hazards (SoVI ®)

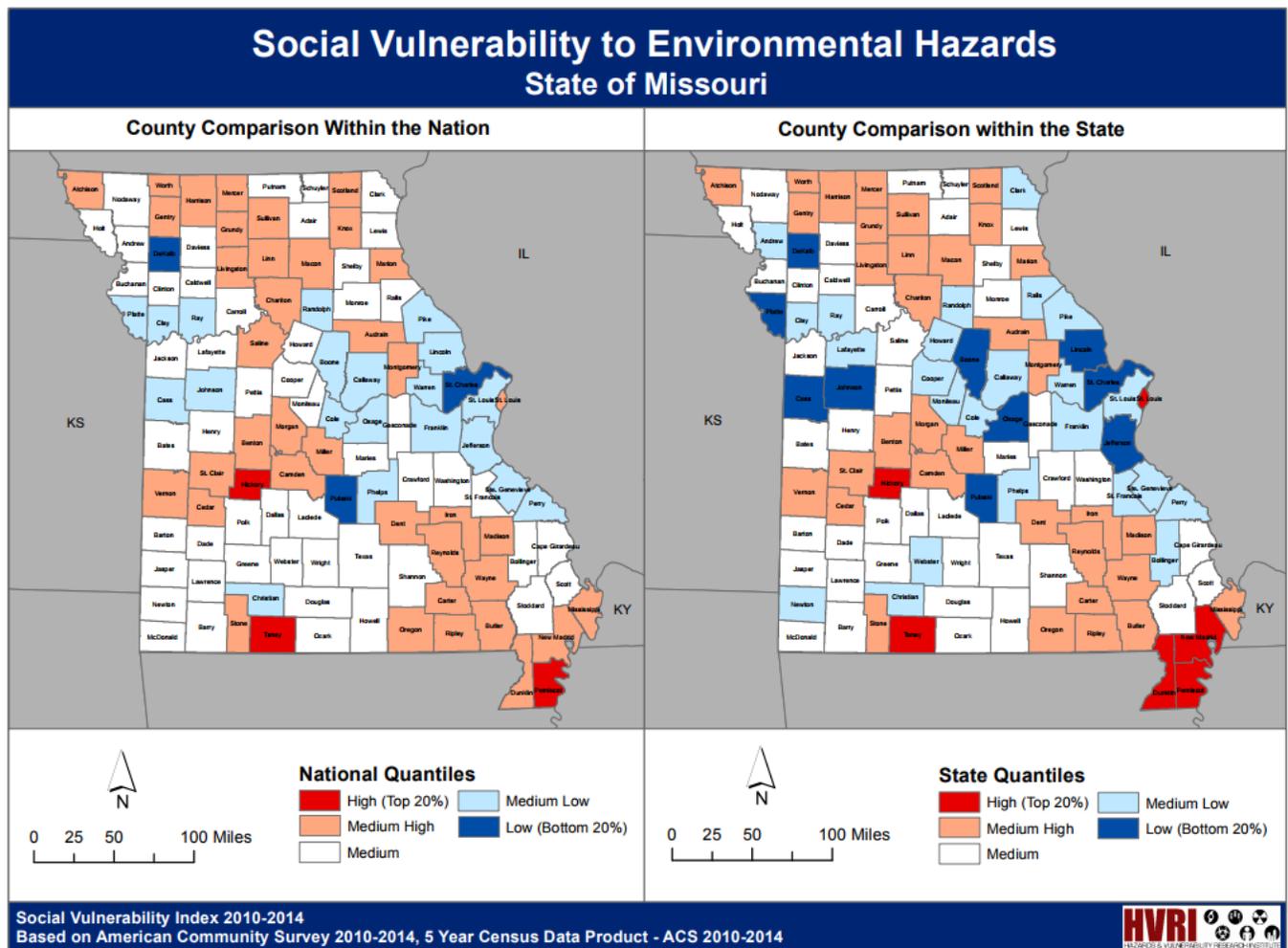
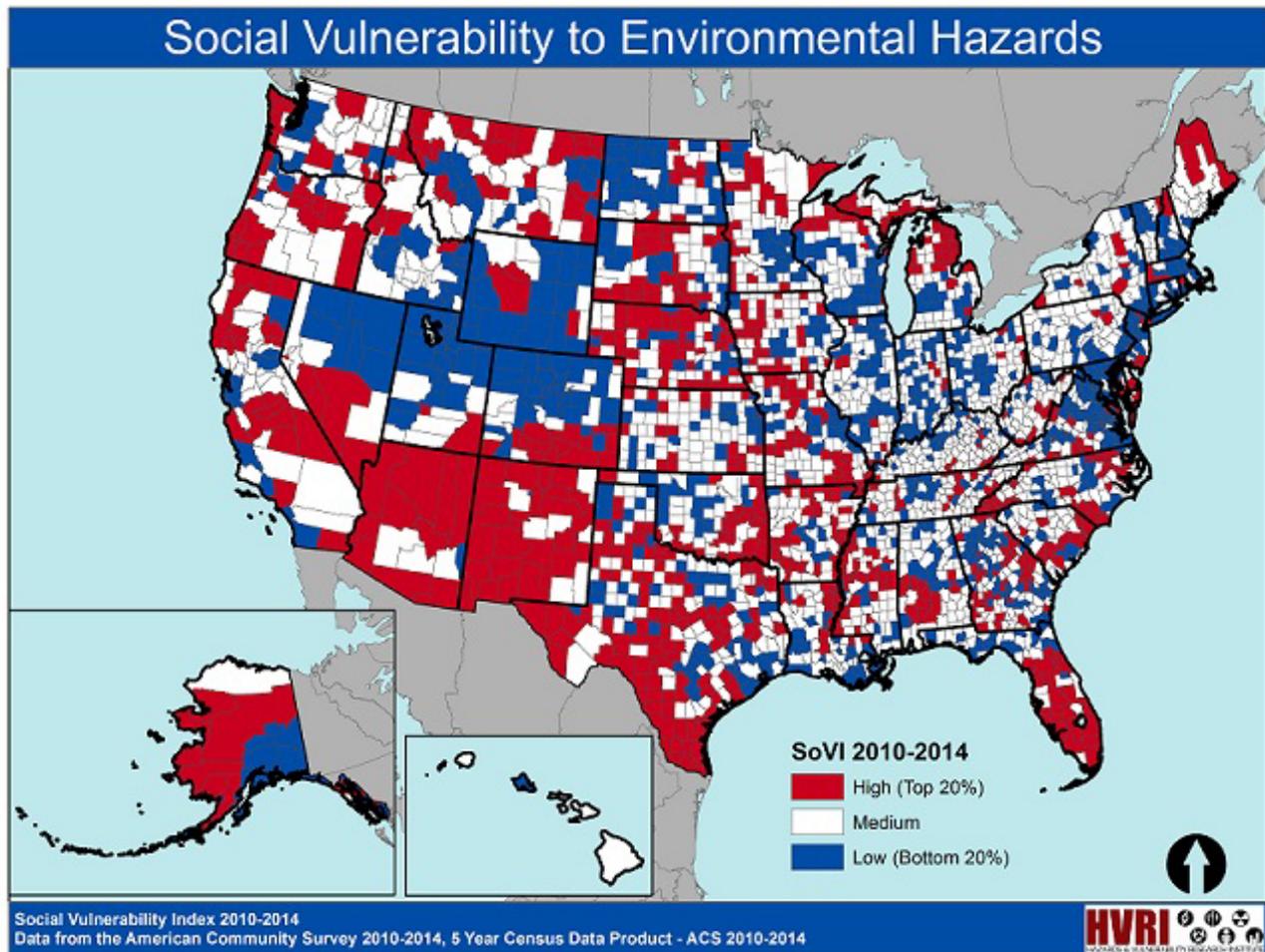


Figure 2.5. 2010 – 2014 U.S. Social Vulnerability to Environmental Hazards (SoVI ®)



Source: <http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/geog/hvri/sovi%C2%AE-0>

Table 2.8 provides additional demographic and economic indicators for Dent County.

Table 2.8. 2019 Unemployment, Poverty, Education, and Language Percentage Demographics, Dent County, Missouri

Jurisdiction	% in Labor Force	% of Population Unemployed	% of Families Below the Poverty Level	High School Diploma ONLY, ages 25+ (%)	Bachelor's degree or higher, ages 25+ (%)	% of population language spoken at home other than English
Dent County	55.3	5.2	11.8	39.2	14.9	1.7
Salem	55.6	7.9	16.3	37.2	13.8	2.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016-2020 American Community Survey, 5-Year American Community Survey

2.1.5 History

It is uncertain whether remains of mounds, earthworks, pottery and other artifacts found in Dent County were left by the pre-historic people known as Mound Builders or by earlier races of Native Americans. It is known, however, that the Native Americans who roamed the region attributed these artifacts to people who have lived long before their time.

Early records indicate that the Native Americans made little trouble for the early settlers in the area. As late as 1838, Native Americans were passing through the county on the White River Trail. The Trail became one of the branches of the Trail of Tears, which many Cherokees were forced to travel along to Oklahoma.

Henry Rowe Schoolcraft was one of the earliest visitors to Dent County. In 1818, Schoolcraft and Levi Pettibone left the Potosi area and ended up at the Current River before returning home. It wasn't until around 1829, that the first settlers came to the area. The first white settler was George Cole, who cultivated a farm on the Meramec. The site later became the location of the Nelson Mill.

Land in the county could be purchased for five cents or less an acre. William Thornton, Daniel Troutman and Daniel W. Wooliver were among the 1829 settlers, followed by William Blackwell, Elisha Nelson, Jerry Potts, Ephraim Bressie, Robert Leonard, Abner Wingfield, Lewis Dent, Wilson Craddock, Thomas Higginbotham, Jack Berry, Silas Hamby, Smith Wofford, Turkill McNeill, Dr. John Hyer, Samuel Hyer and David Lenox.

The Missouri Assembly created Dent County on February 10, 1851, reducing the size of neighboring Crawford and Shannon Counties. The county was named after Lewis Dent, who served as the first representative. The first officers in the county included G.D Breckenridge, Samuel Hyer, Jr., and Jotham Clark. Joseph Millsap and David Henderson were the sheriff and clerk, respectively.

A log courthouse, built in 1851-52, was Dent County's first, located on the Wingfield farm northeast of Salem. In 1852-53 a courthouse was built south of the present courthouse. The courthouse was used as a military headquarters until 1864. In October of that year, while federal troops were away from the area, two Dent County citizens – Simeon Richardson and James Jamison – burned the courthouse and jail. Because of the fire, the court was forced to meet in a store belonging to Judge W.P. Williams. The next courthouse built in 1864, also fell victim to fire in May 1866. The beautiful Victorian courthouse which is listed in the National Registry of Historic Places was built in 1870.

It was not until 1853 that the present site of the county seat was designated in Salem. Previously the court meetings were held either at the home of Mr. Bressie or Mr. Wingfield near what later became Salem on Spring Creek. Salem was established in 1853, and a brick courthouse erected shortly thereafter. Perhaps when the founders named the town, they had in mind the ancient biblical city of Salem in Cannan, later identified with Jerusalem. In 1860, the first mayor of Salem was elected. A year later, the Civil War came and city governments were suspended. It is likely the governments regain function starting in 1870.

Salem grew to a population of between 600 and 800 people by the opening of the Civil War. After the close of the war, Salem recuperated slowly. The construction of the railway and the opening of the mines during 1872 caused a booming growth. By the time of the panic of 1873, the population had reached approximately 1,100^{6,7}.

⁶ Meramec Regional Planning Commission, Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2013 Revision

⁷ S. Charles, Edited by S. Tubbs. History of Dent County, Missouri. Accessed September 2017.

2.1.6 Occupations

Table 2.9 provides occupation statistics for the incorporated jurisdictions and incorporated county.

Table 2.9. Occupation Statistics, Dent County, Missouri

Place	% in Management, Business, Science, and Arts Occupations	% in Service Occupations	% in Sales and Office Occupations	% in Natural Resources, Construction, and Maintenance Occupations	% in Production, Transportation, and Material Moving Occupations
Dent County	28.7	24.7	16.2	10.1	20.3
Salem	28.1	22.9	15.4	8.6	25.1

Source: U.S. Census, 2016-2020 American Community Survey, 5-year Estimates.

2.1.7 Agriculture

Due to the rural nature of the area, agriculture and timber are significant factors in the local economy. According to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, the number of farms in the County was 673 encompassing 188,060 total acres⁸. In addition, the average farm was 279 acres. According to the 2017 Census of Agriculture, Dent County had increased to 694 farms encompassing 189,505 acres, with an average farm size of 273 acres⁹. Furthermore, there are approximately 40 farms with 1,000 or more acres in the County. Due to the rugged nature of the region, row crop farming is for the most part limited to the river valleys. In 2017, 20,565 acres of cropland were harvested, with forage (hay, haylage, grass silage, and greenchop) being the top crop in the County. Moreover, 34,792 cattle and calves were raised. The average sale per farm was \$31,438. Lastly, the total number of hired workers in the County was 284¹⁰ individuals comprising 4.45%¹¹ of the total workforce.

The Ozarks region of Missouri is the focal point of several converging ranges of plant associations. Eastern hardwoods, southern pines and western prairies and the wildlife each supports, all reach the outward limits of their range in this area. As a result, various types of forest lands and animal habitats co-exist within a limited area. Several sawmills operate in the area and the large amount of National Forest Lands in the region also contribute to the importance of timber production and logging to the local economy.

2.1.8 FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants in Planning Area

FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant program provides funding for mitigation activities which have the potential to reduce disaster losses and protect life and property from future disaster damages¹². Previous FEMA HMA Grants issued in the planning area can be found in **Table 2.10**.

⁸ 2012 Census of Agriculture, USDA, National Agriculture Statistics Service

⁹ Source: 2017 Census of Agriculture – County Data, USDA, National Agriculture Statistics Service

¹⁰ https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/Full_Report/Volume_1_Chapter_2_County_Level/Missouri/

¹¹ U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey

¹² <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/103279>

Table 2.10. FEMA HMA Grants in County from 1999-2019

Project Type	Sub applicant	Declaration	Project Total (\$)
-	-	-	-
Total			\$0

Source: Missouri SEMA, <https://www.fema.gov/openfema-dataset-hazard-mitigation-grants-v1>

2.1.9 FEMA Public Assistance (PA) Grants in Planning Area

The purpose of the Public Assistance (PA) Grant Program is to support communities' recovery from major disasters by providing them with grant assistance for debris removal, life-saving emergency protective measures, and restoring public infrastructure. Local governments, states, tribes, territories and certain private nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply. Public Assistance is FEMA's largest grant program. **Table 2.11** below gives information about all Public Assistance Grant for the Planning area. It gives the Declaration number, project type and size, the applicant, and the project total. Total PA grants is \$1,394,054.58.

Table 2.11. FEMA PA Grants in Dent County from 1999-2019

Disaster Declaration	Project Type	Project Size	Applicant	Project Total
1412	REPAIR BALL FIELD AND BRIDGE	Small	SALEM	\$1,024.65
1412	DEBRIS REMOVAL	Small	SALEM	\$4,505.52
1412	ROAD WASHOUTS	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$49,779.11
1412	ROAD/CULVERT CROSSING	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$42,624.76
1412	ROAD WASHOUT	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$15,319.42
1412	ROAD AND BRIDGE REPAIR	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$42,491.83
1412	ROADS/BRIDGE DAMAGE	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$14,325.90
1412	ROADS / BRIDGE DAMAGE	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$13,777.70
1412	ROAD/BRIDGE DAMAGE	Large	DENT COUNTY	\$48,003.36
1749	CULVERT/ROAD WASHOUT	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$19,606.50
1749	ROAD / CULVERT WASHOUT	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$32,528.51
1749	CULVERT AND ROAD DAMAGES	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$23,656.08
1749	ROAD WASHOUT	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$45,895.47
1749	ROAD / CULVERT WASHOUT	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$22,570.96
1749	ROAD WASHOUT	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$14,215.50
1749	ROAD WASHOUTS	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$18,640.81
1749	ROAD / CULVERT WASHOUT	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$38,223.25
1749	ROAD, CULVERT & BRIDGE WASHOUT	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$23,021.20
1749	ROAD AND CULVERT WASHOUT	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$18,013.30
1749	ROAD EROSION	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$13,721.38
1749	ROAD WASHOUT	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$21,018.59

1749	ROAD WASHOUT	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$23,554.67
1749	ROADS & CULVERT WASHOUTS	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$3,399.99
1809	Debris-DENT-A1	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$2,209.21
1809	PA Pilot DENT-A2	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$2,050.35
1809	Dent C-2 Erosion	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$25,679.73
1809	Rd. Dist. #1 - DENT-C1	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$15,931.91
1847	CS01B-Emergency Protective Measures	Small	SALEM	\$2,265.81
1847	CS01F /Distribution Lines, poles transformers, etc	Small	SALEM	\$44,372.23
1847	CS01A / Debris	Large	SALEM	\$111,767.47
1847	CS01E / Buildings	Small	SALEM	\$1,000.00
1847	DC-A1-Debris Removal (Dist. 2)	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$7,213.70
1847	DC-B1-Emergency Protective Measures (Dist. 2)	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$4,559.01
1847	DCJPC01-Aggregate County Roads	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$24,202.25
1847	DC-A2 / Debris Removal (Dist. 1)	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$21,818.21
1847	DCTBC02 - Aggregate County Roads	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$1,843.08
1847	DCJPC03-Aggregate County Roads	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$34,060.77
1847	DCTBC07 / (Dist 1) 16 Sites of County Aggregate Surf Rd	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$2,505.58
1847	DCJPC05 / Aggregate County Roads, 18 Road Sites	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$21,426.79
1847	DCTBC04 / 7 Sites of County Aggregate Surfaced Roads	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$7,623.93
1847	DC-C1 / Roads	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$34,334.60
1847	DCJPC06 / Aggregate County Roads, 24 Road Sites	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$36,969.24
1847	DCJPC08 / Aggregate County Roads, 6 Road Sites	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$57,256.68
1847	DCTBC09 / (Dist 9) 9 Sites of Co Aggregate Surface Rds	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$4,519.93
1847	DC-C2 / Road Scouring	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$44,051.64
1847	DCTBC10 - (District 1) 4 Sites of Dent County Roads	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$17,771.96
1847	DCTBC14 / (District 2) 5 Sites of County Aggregate	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$22,171.00

1847	DCJPC12 / Aggregate Surface Roads, 13 Road Sites	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$51,784.11
1847	DCJPC13 - Chip and Seal County Roads, 11 Road Sites	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$62,069.69
1847	DCJPC11 / Aggregate County Roads, 11 Road Sites	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$38,473.38
1847	DCFP1B / Emergency Protective Measures	Small	DENT COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT	\$17,330.85
3267	DEBRIS REMOVAL	Small	SALEM	\$3,221.37
3267	EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE MEASURES	Small	SALEM	\$6,130.61
3267	DEBRIS REMOVAL	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$1,704.45
3267	EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE MEASURES	Small	DENT COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT	\$0.00
4317	CP01890 - Dent Co., county roads division 1	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$64,317.49
4317	CP02745 - Category C- Dent County Div II Roads	Small	DENT COUNTY	\$51,499.09
			TOTAL	\$1,394,054.58

Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency, 06/09/2022

2.2 Jurisdictional Profiles and Mitigation Capabilities

This section will include individual profiles for each participating jurisdiction. It will also include a discussion of previous mitigation initiatives in the planning area. There will be a summary table indicating specific capabilities of each jurisdiction that relate to their ability to implement mitigation opportunities. The unincorporated county is profiled first, followed by the incorporated communities, the special districts, and the public-school districts.

2.2.1 Unincorporated Dent County

Overview

The jurisdiction of Dent County includes all unincorporated areas within the county boundaries. Dent County is governed by a three-member County Commission. The Commission is composed of a presiding commissioner, representing all of the county's population who is elected for a four-year term. Two associate commissioners representing roughly half the county's population each, are elected for four-year terms. The commission meets on Mondays. Other elected county officials include the County Clerk, Associate Circuit Judge, Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff, Circuit Court Clerk, Recorder of Deeds, Collector of Revenue, Assessor, Treasurer, County Surveyor, Coroner, and Public Administrator.

Technical and Fiscal Resources

The county government has the authority to administer county structures, infrastructure, and finances. Third class counties do not have the authority to enforce building regulations. Dent County has staff resources emergency management and transportation. The county has a 9-1-1 central dispatch center located at the Dent County Sheriff's Office. Additionally, there are no outdoor warning sirens in the county.

There are four fire departments located in Dent County. Three are volunteer departments. Those departments include Jadwin Volunteer Fire Department, Lenox Rural Fire Department and Montauk Rural Fire Department. Dent County Fire Protection District is tax supported. Jadwin, Lenox, and Montauk are dues supported. The county is served by the Dent County Sheriff's Department. The county has a 9-1-1 Central Dispatch Center located at the Dent County Sheriff's Office, 112 East 5th Street, Salem, MO. The county is served by the Salem Memorial Hospital Ambulance. The Sheriff's Office has text notification to provide alerts to residents. The county owns three fixed generators.

Fiscal tools or resources that the county could potentially use to help fund mitigation activities include Community Development Block Grants, capital improvements project funding, levy taxes for specific purposes, incur debt through general obligation bonds, and incur debt through special tax bonds.

Existing Plans and Policies

The county has an Emergency Operations Plan, Economic Development Plan, Regional Transportation Plan, and Land-use Plan.

Other Mitigation Activities

The Office of Emergency Management, local fire departments, Sheriff’s Department and the Dent County Health Department have attempted to raise awareness and increase preparedness among the county’s population. Education has included flood recovery awareness, fire safety, storm preparedness, heat wave preparedness, and general press releases/social media outreach regarding hazards, preparedness, and mitigation. Bicycle and car seat safety education is provided by the Coalition for Roadway Safety.

The county sizes up culverts as necessary. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds were used since the last plan to purchase a UTV for search and rescue.

The unincorporated county has a higher percentage of manufactured homes at over 27 percent. A high percentage of manufactured homes leads to an increased risk of damages during a natural disaster.

Table 2.12. Demographic and Structure Risk Parameters For Unincorporated Dent County

Jurisdiction	Total Population	People With a Disability	Non-English Speaking Populations	People Below Poverty Level	Population Under 5 Yrs.	Population 65 Yrs. and Over	Residences Built Prior to 1939	Mobile Homes
Unincorporated Dent County	10,614	2,143	152	1,611	489	2,166	316	1,101

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016-2020 5-Years American Community Survey

Table 2.13. Unincorporated Dent County Mitigation Capabilities

Capabilities	Status Including Date of Document or Policy
Planning Capabilities	
Comprehensive Plan	No
Builder’s Plan	No
Capital Improvement Plan	No
City Emergency Operations Plan	n/a
County Emergency Operations Plan	Yes
Local Recovery Plan	No
County Recovery Plan	No
City Mitigation Plan	n/a
County Mitigation Plan	Yes - 2018
Debris Management Plan	No
Economic Development Plan	Yes – Regional CEDS 2018
Transportation Plan	Yes – Regional 2019
Land-use Plan	Yes – 5/11/1998
Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Plan	No
Watershed Plan	No
Firewise or other fire mitigation plan	No
Critical Facilities Plan (Mitigation/Response/Recovery)	No
Policies/Ordinance	
Zoning Ordinance	No
Building Code	No
Floodplain Ordinance	No

Capabilities	Status Including Date of Document or Policy
Subdivision Ordinance	N/A
Tree Trimming Ordinance	No
Nuisance Ordinance	No
Storm Water Ordinance	No
Drainage Ordinance	No
Site Plan Review Requirements	No
Historic Preservation Ordinance	No
Landscape Ordinance	No
Program	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	No
Codes Building Site/Design	No
Hazard Awareness Program	No
National Flood Insurance Program	No
NFIP Community Rating System (CRS) Participating Community	No
National Weather Service (NWS) Storm Ready	No
FireWise Community Certification	No
Building Code Effectiveness Grading (BCEGs)	No
ISO Fire Rating	9
Economic Development Program	No
Land Use Program	No
Public Education/Awareness	No
Property Acquisition	No
Planning/Zoning Boards	No
Stream Maintenance Program	No
Tree Trimming Program	No
Engineering Studies for Streams (Local/County/Regional)	No
Mutual Aid Agreements	Yes
Studies/Reports/Maps	
Hazard Analysis/Risk Assessment (City)	N/A
Hazard Analysis/Risk Assessment (County)	Yes – Hazard Mitigation (2018) & Hazardous Materials (annual) Plans
Evacuation Route Map	Yes
Critical Facilities Inventory	Yes – Hazard Mitigation (2018) & Hazardous Materials (annual) Plans
Vulnerable Population Inventory	No
Land Use Map	No
Staff/Department	
Building Code Official	N/A
Building Inspector	No
Mapping Specialist (GIS)	No
Engineer	No
Development Planner	No
Public Works Official	No
Emergency Management Director	Yes
NFIP Floodplain Administrator	N/A
Bomb and/or Arson Squad	No
Emergency Response Team	No
Hazardous Materials Expert	No
Local Emergency Planning Committee	Yes – Regional - MLEPD
County Emergency Management Commission	No
Sanitation Department	No
Transportation Department	Yes

Capabilities	Status Including Date of Document or Policy
Economic Development Department	No
Housing Department	Yes - Phelps Co. PHA
Regional Planning Agencies	Yes - MRPC
Historic Preservation	No
Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)	
American Red Cross	Yes
Salvation Army	Yes
Veterans Groups	Yes
Environmental Organization	No
Homeowner Associations	Yes
Neighborhood Associations	No
Chamber of Commerce	Yes
Community Organizations (Lions, Kiwanis, etc.)	Yes
Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	Yes
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	Yes
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	Yes
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	No
Impact fees for new development	No
Ability to incur debt through general obligation bonds	Yes
Ability to incur debt through special tax bonds	Yes
Ability to incur debt through private activities	No
Ability to withhold spending in hazard prone areas	No

Source: Data Collection Questionnaire, 2022

2.2.2 City of Salem

Overview

Salem is located in the central portion of Dent County. State highways 72, 68, 19, and 32 intersect the City of Salem. Salem is incorporated as a fourth class city (1881) with a four member board of aldermen and a mayor. The city employs a City Clerk, City Attorney, City Administrator, Chief of Police, Building Inspector/Building Code Official, NFIP Floodplain Administrator, and Emergency Management Coordinator. The city population from the 2020 5-year ACS data is 4,904, in 2010 it was 4,828, which shows a slight population growth of one and a half percent.

Technical and Fiscal Resources

Ambulance service is provided by the Salem Memorial District Hospital in Salem. There is also a Volunteer Fire Department within the community. The Sheriff's Department houses and operates the 9-1-1 system located in Salem. The city operates seven warning sirens which is controlled by the Salem Police Department, Dent County EMD, City EMD, or other authorized officials. The city has almost completed the process of implementing an AMI system for city utilities. The Meramec Regional Planning Commission serves as the floodplain coordinator for the city.

Existing Plans and Policies

Salem is a participating community in the National Flood Insurance Program. The city has a Comprehensive Plan, Capital Improvement Plan, City Emergency Operations Plan, Debris Management Plan, Economic Development Plan, Regional Transportation Plan, Land-Use Plan, Critical Facilities Plan.

Other Mitigation Activities

Public education programs regarding preparations for weather events, water and energy conservation are provided locally through social media. Bicycle and car seat safety education is provided by the Coalition for Roadway Safety.

The city has higher percentages than the unincorporated county of population with disabilities, below the poverty line, under the age of 5, over the age of 65, and non-English speakers. Higher percentages of vulnerable populations increase the chances of injury or death during hazard events. In addition the city has a higher percentage of homes built prior to 1939 which increases the chance of damages during hazard events.

Table 2.14 below shows the demographic and structure statistics, and **Table 2.15** describes the mitigation capabilities of the city.

Table 2.14. Demographic and Structure Risk Parameters For Salem

Jurisdiction	Total Population	With a disability	Non-English Speaking Populations	People Below Poverty Level	Population Under 5 Yrs.	Population 65 Yrs. and Over	Residences Built Prior to 1939	Mobile Homes
Salem	4,904	1,184	103	1,154	382	1,230	286	112

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016-2020 5-Years American Community Survey

Table 2.15. City of Salem Mitigation Capabilities

Capabilities	Status Including Date of Document or Policy
Planning Capabilities	
Comprehensive Plan	Yes - 2013
Builder's Plan	No
Capital Improvement Plan	Yes - 2018
City Emergency Operations Plan	Yes - 2016
County Emergency Operations Plan	Yes - 2016
Local Recovery Plan	No
County Recovery Plan	No
City Mitigation Plan	No
County Mitigation Plan	Yes - 2018
Debris Management Plan	Yes - 2016
Economic Development Plan	Yes - Regional CEDS 2018
Transportation Plan	Yes - regional updated annually
Land-use Plan	Yes - 1987
Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Plan	No
Watershed Plan	No
FireWise or other fire mitigation plan	No

Capabilities	Status Including Date of Document or Policy
Critical Facilities Plan (Mitigation/Response/Recovery)	Yes – 2015
Policies/Ordinance	
Zoning Ordinance	Yes – 1987
Building Code	Yes – IBC, 2012
Floodplain Ordinance	Yes – 3/23/2020
Subdivision Ordinance	Yes – 1986
Tree Trimming Ordinance	Yes – 2000
Nuisance Ordinance	Yes – 1992
Storm Water Ordinance	No
Drainage Ordinance	No
Site Plan Review Requirements	Yes – 1986
Historic Preservation Ordinance	No
Landscape Ordinance	No
Program	
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	Yes
Codes Building Site/Design	Yes
Hazard Awareness Program	Yes
National Flood Insurance Program	Yes
NFIP Community Rating System (CRS) Participating Community	No
National Weather Service (NWS) Storm Ready	No
Firewise Community Certification	No
Building Code Effectiveness Grading (BCEGs)	No
ISO Fire Rating	5
Economic Development Program	Yes
Land Use Program	Yes
Public Education/Awareness	Yes
Property Acquisition	No
Planning/Zoning Boards	Yes
Stream Maintenance Program	Yes
Tree Trimming Program	Yes
Engineering Studies for Streams (Local/County/Regional)	No
Mutual Aid Agreements	Yes
Studies/Reports/Maps	
Hazard Analysis/Risk Assessment (City)	No
Hazard Analysis/Risk Assessment (County)	Yes – Hazard Mitigation (2018) & Hazardous Materials (annual) Plans
Evacuation Route Map	Yes - 2016
Critical Facilities Inventory	Yes – Hazard Mitigation (2018) & Hazardous Materials (annual) Plans
Vulnerable Population Inventory	No
Land Use Map	Yes
Staff/Department	
Building Code Official	Yes
Building Inspector	Yes
Mapping Specialist (GIS)	No
Engineer	Yes
Development Planner	Yes
Public Works Official	Yes – Sewer
Emergency Management Director	Yes
NFIP Floodplain Administrator	Yes
Bomb and/or Arson Squad	No

Capabilities	Status Including Date of Document or Policy
Emergency Response Team	No
Hazardous Materials Expert	Yes
Local Emergency Planning Committee	Yes – regional MLEPD
County Emergency Management Commission	Yes
Sanitation Department	No
Transportation Department	No
Economic Development Department	Yes
Housing Department	Yes - Phelps Co. PHA
Regional Planning Agencies	Yes - MRPC
Historic Preservation	No
Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)	
American Red Cross	Yes
Salvation Army	Yes
Veterans Groups	Yes
Environmental Organization	No
Homeowner Associations	No
Neighborhood Associations	No
Chamber of Commerce	Yes
Community Organizations (Lions, Kiwanis, etc.)	Yes
Local Funding Availability	
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	Yes
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	Yes
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	Yes
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	Yes
Impact fees for new development	No
Ability to incur debt through general obligation bonds	Yes
Ability to incur debt through special tax bonds	Yes
Ability to incur debt through private activities	No
Ability to withhold spending in hazard prone areas	Yes

Source: Data Collection Questionnaire, 2022

Table 2.16 summarizes the mitigation capabilities of Dent County and its jurisdictions.

Table 2.16. Mitigation Capabilities Summary Table

CAPABILITIES	Unincorporated Dent County	Salem
Planning Capabilities		
Comprehensive Plan	No	Yes - 2013
Builder's Plan	No	No
Capital Improvement Plan	No	Yes - 2018
City Emergency Operations Plan	N/A	Yes - 2016
County Emergency Operations Plan	Yes	Yes - 2016
Local Recovery Plan	No	No
County Recovery Plan	No	No
City Mitigation Plan	N/A	No
County Mitigation Plan	Yes – 2018	Yes – 2018
Debris Management Plan	No	Yes - 2016
Economic Development Plan	Yes – CEDS 2018	Yes – CEDS 2018
Transportation Plan	Yes – Regional 2021	Yes – Regional 2021
Land-use Plan	No	Yes - 1987
Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Plan	No	No
Watershed Plan	No	No
Firewise or other fire mitigation plan	No	No
Critical Facilities Plan (Mitigation/Response/Recovery)	No	Yes - 2015
Policies/Ordinances		
Zoning Ordinance	No	Yes – 1987
Building Code	No	Yes – IBC, 2012
Floodplain Ordinance	No	Yes – 3/23/2020
Subdivision Ordinance	N/A	Yes – 1986
Tree Trimming Ordinance	No	Yes - 2000
Nuisance Ordinance	No	Yes – 1992
Storm Water Ordinance	No	No
Drainage Ordinance	No	No
Site Plan Review Requirements	No	Yes – 1986
Historic Preservation Ordinance	No	No
Landscape Ordinance	No	No
Program		
Zoning/Land Use Restrictions	No	Yes
Codes Building Site/Design	No	Yes
Hazard Awareness Program	No	Yes
National Flood Insurance Program	Yes	Yes

CAPABILITIES	Unincorporated Dent County	Salem
NFIP Community Rating System (CRS) Participating Community	No	No
National Weather Service (NWS) Storm Ready	Yes	No
Firewise Community Certification	No	No
Building Code Effectiveness Grading (BCEGs)	No	No
ISO Fire Rating	9	5
Economic Development Program	No	Yes
Land Use Program	No	Yes
Public Education/Awareness	No	Yes
Property Acquisition	No	No
Planning/Zoning Boards	No	Yes
Stream Maintenance Program	No	Yes
Tree Trimming Program	No	Yes
Engineering Studies for Streams (Local/County/Regional)	No	No
Mutual Aid Agreements	Yes	Yes
Studies/Reports/Maps		
Hazard Analysis/Risk Assessment (City)	No	No
Hazard Analysis/Risk Assessment (County)	Yes – 2018, 2022	Yes – 2018, 2022
Evacuation Route Map	Yes	No
Critical Facilities Inventory	Yes – 2018, 2022	Yes – 2018, 2022
Vulnerable Population Inventory	No	No
Land Use Map	No	Yes
Staff/Department		
Building Code Official	N/A	Yes
Building Inspector	No	Yes
Mapping Specialist (GIS)	No	No
Engineer	No	Yes
Development Planner	No	Yes
Public Works Official	No	Yes
Emergency Management Director	Yes	Yes
NFIP Floodplain Administrator	N/A	Yes
Bomb and/or Arson Squad	No	No
Emergency Response Team	No	No
Hazardous Materials Expert	No	Yes
Local Emergency Planning Committee	Yes - MLEPD	Yes - MLEPD
County Emergency Management Commission	No	Yes
Sanitation Department	No	No
Transportation Department	Yes	No

CAPABILITIES	Unincorporated Dent County	Salem
Economic Development Department	No	Yes
Housing Department	Yes - Phelps Co. PHA	Yes - Phelps Co. PHA
Regional Planning Agencies	Yes - MRPC	Yes - MRPC
Historic Preservation	No	No
Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)		
American Red Cross	Yes	Yes
Salvation Army	Yes	Yes
Veterans Groups	Yes	Yes
Environmental Organization	No	No
Homeowner Associations	Yes	No
Neighborhood Associations	No	No
Chamber of Commerce	Yes	Yes
Community Organizations (Lions, Kiwanis, etc.)	Yes	Yes
Financial Resources		
Ability to apply for Community Development Block Grants	Yes	Yes
Ability to fund projects through Capital Improvements funding	Yes	Yes
Authority to levy taxes for a specific purpose	Yes	Yes
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	No	Yes
Impact fees for new development	No	No
Ability to incur debt through general obligation bonds	Yes	Yes
Ability to incur debt through special tax bonds	Yes	Yes
Ability to incur debt through private activities	No	No
Ability to withhold spending in hazard prone areas	No	Yes

Source: Data Collection Questionnaires, 2022

2.2.3 Public School District Profiles and Mitigation Capabilities

The following school districts are participating jurisdictions in this plan: Dent-Phelps R-III, Green Forest R-II, North Wood R-IV, Oak Hill R-I, and Salem R-80. As public institutions responsible for the care and education of the county's children, these school districts share an interest with Dent County in public safety and hazard mitigation planning. **Figure 2.6** provides the boundaries of the school districts participating in this planning process.

Technical and Fiscal Resources

Green Forest R-II and North Wood R-IV are the only districts that have NOAA all hazard radios on site to provide early warning of hazard events. In addition, each school district (except Salem R-80) has fire alarms and intercom systems capable of providing specific instructions in the event of an emergency. Salem R-80 can do an all call within individual buildings.

Existing Plans and Policies

All five school districts have an emergency management plan and weapons policy.

Other Mitigation Activities

All schools participating in the plan conduct regular fire, earthquake, tornado drills, and lock-down security training at varying frequencies from quarterly to twice an academic year. None of the school districts have a designated safe area for tornados that meets FEMA standards.

New Construction

Dent-Phelps R-III School District has not completed any construction since the last plan and has no plans for construction in the next five years.

Green Forest R-II School District plans to construct a music/art room that would be a safe room.

North Wood R-IV School District renovated the buss barn and completed new construction behind the building since the last plan. The school district is in the process of applying for a FEMA designated saferoom and is awaiting approval.

Oak Hill R-I School District completed a 6th grade, library, and bathroom addition since the last plan. The district plans to remodel a stage into a classroom and remodel the office in the next five years.

Salem R-80 School District plans to construct a new elementary school and remodel the gymnasium in the next five years. The district has submitted a 2022 FEMA saferoom grant application.

Table 2.17. School District Buildings and Enrollment Data, 2022

District Name	Building Name	Enrollment
Dent-Phelps R-III		
	Dent-Phelps Elementary	236
Green Forest R-II		
	Green Forest Elementary	188
North Wood R-IV		
	North Wood Elementary	210
Oak Hill R-I		
	Oak Hill Elementary	129
Salem R-80		
	Salem Senior High	555
	Salem Middle	259
	William H. Lynch	274
	Salem Upper Elementary	325
	Ozark Hills School	11

Source: <https://dese.mo.gov/directory>

Figure 2.6. Dent County School Districts

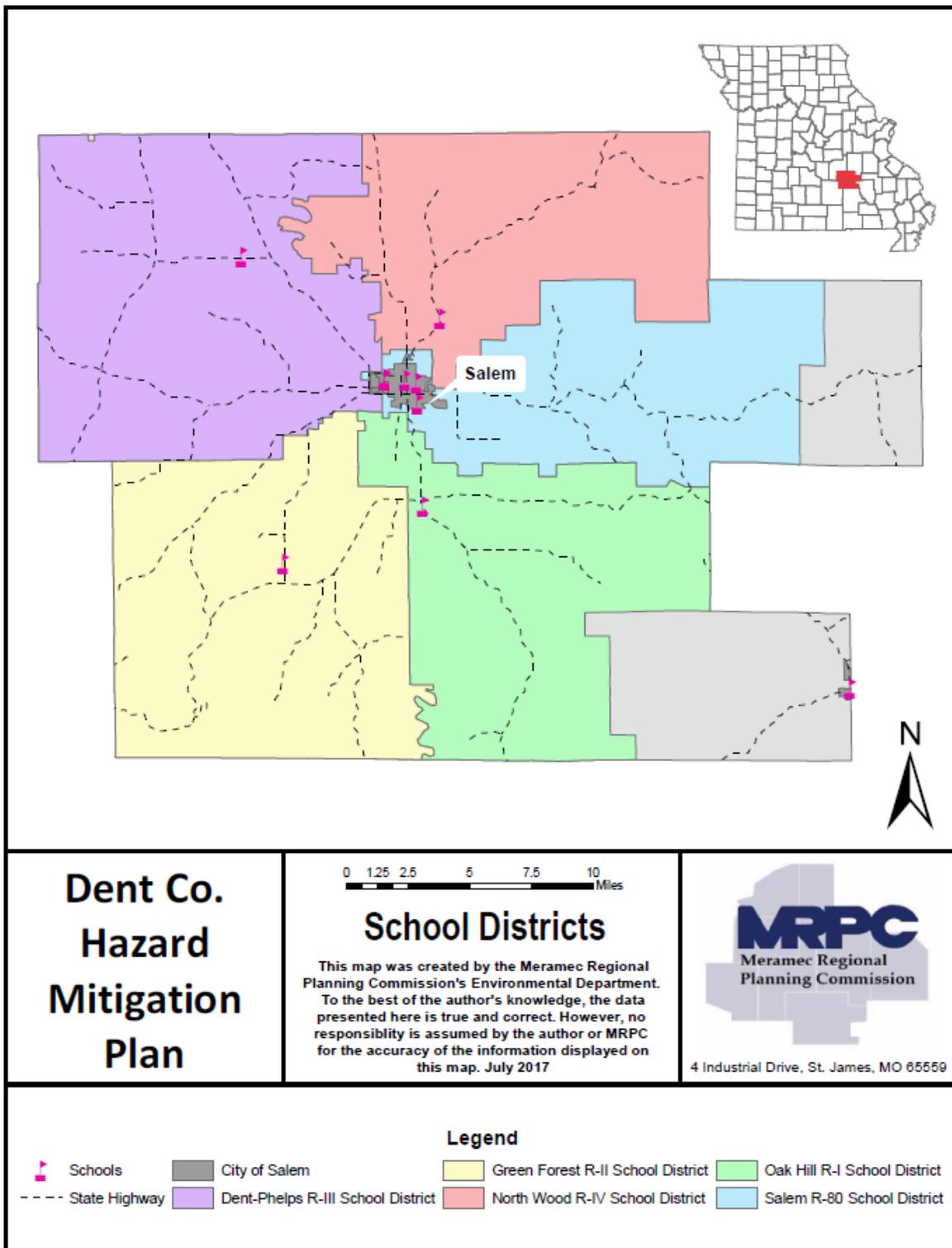


Table 2.18. Summary of Mitigation Capabilities for School Districts

Capability	Dent-Phelps R-III	Green Forest R-II	North Wood R-IV	Oak Hill R-I	Salem R-80
Planning Elements					
Master Plan/Date	Yes – March 2021	Yes – 2020	Yes – 8/22/2022	No	Yes – 2014
Capital Improvement	No	No	Yes – 8/11/2022	No	Yes – 2015
School Emergency Plan/Date	Yes – May 2022	Yes – 2021	Yes – 7/14/2022	Yes – 2022	Yes - 2014
Weapons Policy/Date	Yes – March 2021	Yes – 2006	Yes – August 2010	Yes – 2022	Yes - 2000
Personnel Resources					
Full-Time Building Official (Principal)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Emergency Manager	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Grant Writer	No	No	Yes	No	No
Public Information Officer	No	Yes	No	No	No
Financial Resources					
Capital Improvements Project Funding	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Local Funds	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
General Obligation	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Special Tax Bonds	No	No	No	No	Yes
Private Activities/Donations	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
State and Federal Funds/Grants	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Other					
Privately or Self-Insured?	CHUBB	Privately	MUSIC	MUSIC	MUSIC
Fire Evacuation Training	Bi-Annually	Semi-Annually	Quarterly	Bi-Annually	Bi-Annually
Tornado Sheltering Exercises	Bi-Annually	Semi-Annually	Quarterly	Bi-Annually	Bi-Annually
Public Address/Emergency Alert System	PA System	Intercom System	Intercom System	Intercom System	All Call within Individual Buildings

Capability	Dent-Phelps R-III	Green Forest R-II	North Wood R-IV	Oak Hill R-I	Salem R-80
NOAA Weather Radios	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Lock-Down Security Training	Bi-Annually	Semi-Annually	Quarterly	Bi-Annually	Bi-Annually
Mitigation Programs	No	No	Applying for FEMA Safe Room	New windows and doors	No
Tornado Shelter/Safe-room	No	No	Awaiting Grant Application Approval	No	No
Campus Police	No	Shared Part-time School Resource Officer	Shared Part-time School Resource Officer	Shared Part-time School Resource Officer	No

Source: Data Collection Questionnaires, 2022

Southwest Baptist University is located in Bolivar, MO. The university operates a satellite campus within Dent County. The campus and location are shown in **Table 2.19**.

Table 2.19. Dent County Colleges/Universities

College/University	Location	Description
Southwest Baptist University-Salem Campus	501 S Grant St, Salem, MO 65560	Afternoon and evening classes. 9 undergraduate majors available.