



BARREN COUNTY

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Family & Consumer Sciences

BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES FOR KENTUCKY

OUR FOCUS

► Family and Consumer Sciences Extension is committed to improving the quality of life for individuals and families in Barren County resulting in strong families for Kentucky. Educational programs focus on:

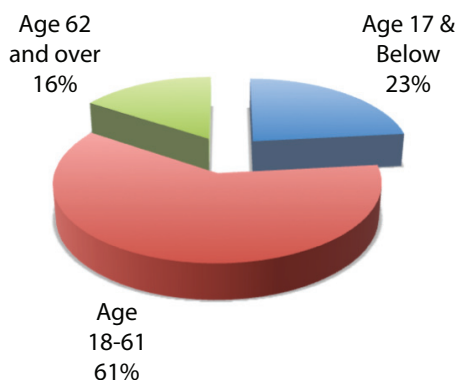
Making Beneficial Lifestyle Choices
Nurturing Families
Embracing Life as You Age
Securing Financial Stability
Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities
Accessing Nutritious Food
Empowering Community Leaders

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made **3,787** contacts with Barren County families during 2008-2009.¹

OUR PEOPLE

Figure 1. Population by Age Group² (n=38,033)

► 2008 estimates from the 2000 U.S. Census reported total population as **38,033**.² The graph on the right indicates the percentage by age group.



SPOTLIGHT ON...

NURTURING FAMILIES

The Community Action of Southern Kentucky Foster Grandparent program reaches out to people who are over age 60 and are economically disadvantaged. Currently, 43% of Foster Grandparents are from minority populations. In an effort to teach basic money management skills the Foster Grandparent program partnered with Barren County Cooperative Extension Service to offer the series, Small Steps to Health and Wealth. This program was designed to help the 95 participants set small goals to increase their well-being and financial management. As a result of the program 100 percent of participants reported an increase in knowledge concerning wise eating and activity behaviors. 80 percent of participants indicated that knowledge was gained concerning personal financial behaviors and 75 percent reported setting either a financial or health related goal.¹



OUR COMMUNITY

► Unemployment rates are a key economic indicator. In August 2009, the rate of unemployment in Barren County was **12.3%**.³

Mortgage and bank card delinquency rates and foreclosure filings are important financial indicators of community well-being. In Barren County, **2.64%** of mortgages are 90-days delinquent and 60-day bank card delinquency rates have increased by **1.58%**.⁴ In a one-year period (October 2008 through October 2009), **143** foreclosures were filed.⁵

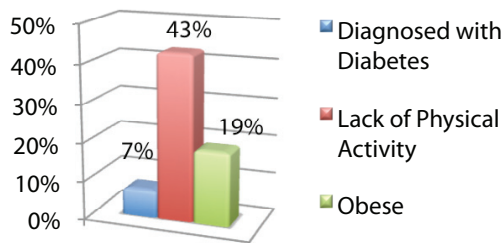
Access to health insurance is another important factor contributing to family well-being. In Barren County, **14%** of the people under age 65 are uninsured.⁶

As a result of participation in Barren County Extension programs:¹

- **118** people were involved in addressing issues of their community.
- **78** people increased their knowledge of governmental process.
- **62** people expanded their knowledge of economic development.

OUR HEALTH

► The health of our people contributes to quality of life. The chart below illustrates health risks of adults in Barren County.
*Figure 2. Health Risks.*⁶



As a result of participation in Barren County Extension programs:¹

- **308** people increased knowledge of practices to maintain health and well-being.
- **316** people increased knowledge of safe practices to store, handle, and prepare food.
- **2,410** people increased their use of radon testers, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, and other devices to ensure personal safety.

OUR FAMILIES

► Using data from the 2000 U.S. Census, Barren County families can be described as follows:²

- **10,939** families reside in the county.
- **1,303** families (**11.8%**) live below poverty level.
- Median family income is **\$37,231**.
- **211** grandparents are responsible for the care of their grandchildren.



According to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, **2,821** people in Barren County receive food stamps. The average family food stamp benefit is **\$209.34** per month.⁷

In the county, **144** children live in out-of-home care.⁸

In 2005, there were **232** incidents of adult abuse and **202** incidents of child abuse.⁹

As a result of participation in Barren County Extension programs:¹

- **526** adults and youth improved their ability to make informed and effective decisions.
- **113** people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and/or increase savings.
- **42** adult or childcare providers increased their knowledge and skills related to appropriate age care.

SOURCES

¹ Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, Impacting Reporting, FY2009.

² U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census 2000.

³ Kentucky Office of Employment and Training, Kentucky Labor Force Estimates, August 2009.

⁴ TransUnion LLC., Trend Data, Quarter 1 2009.

⁵ Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts, November, 2009.

⁶ Kentucky Institute of Medicine, The Health of Kentucky: A County Assessment, 2007.

⁷ Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Data Book, June 2008.

⁸ Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kentucky KIDS COUNT, 2005.

⁹ Kentucky Department for Public Health, County Health Priorities, 2004.