



GRAVES COUNTY

Virginia Langford, County Extension Agent
 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 Graves County resulting in strong families for Kentucky. Educational programs focus on:

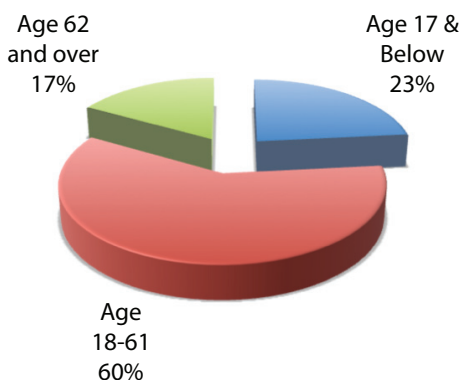
Making Beneficial Lifestyle Choices
Nurturing Families
Embracing Life as You Age
Securing Financial Stability
Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities
Accessing Nutritious Food
Empowering Community Leaders

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made **4,282** contacts with Graves County families during 2008-2009.¹

OUR PEOPLE

Figure 1. Population by Age Group² (n=37,028)

► 2008 estimates from the 2000 U.S. Census reported total population as **37,028**.² The graph on the right indicates the percentage by age group.



SPOTLIGHT ON...

NURTURING FAMILIES

The inability to efficiently use what's on hand or to have access to the appropriate resources prevents some families from being able to provide the basics for their families. To combat this problem, Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) agents throughout Kentucky work collaboratively with family resource coordinators, community and adult education leaders and Extension Homemakers to provide educational opportunities and activities to these families. One such opportunity in Graves County was the "Make and Take Workshop" for Head Start families. A total of 48 participants, including children, learned to make a variety of simple and inexpensive gifts to take home to share with family and friends. The FCS agent also collaborated on a "Home Canning Basics 101" workshop at the Graves County Middle School. Fourteen people, including two men, participated.¹



OUR COMMUNITY

► Unemployment rates are a key economic indicator. In August 2009, the rate of unemployment in Graves County was **10.9%**.³

Mortgage and bank card delinquency rates and foreclosure filings are important financial indicators of community well-being. In Graves County, **1.22%** of mortgages are 90-days delinquent and 60-day bank card delinquency rates have increased by **1.12%**.⁴ In a one-year period (October 2008 through October 2009), **71** foreclosures were filed.⁵

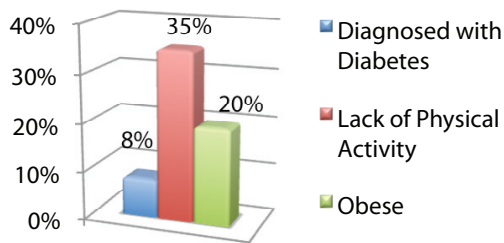
Access to health insurance is another important factor contributing to family well-being. In Graves County, **15%** of the people under age 65 are uninsured.⁶

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

- **407** people were involved in addressing issues of their community.
- **555** people increased their knowledge of governmental process.
- **277** 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 Graves County.
*Figure 2. Health Risks.*⁶



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

- **687** people increased knowledge of practices to maintain health and well-being.
- **232** people made lifestyle changes to improve health.
- **155** people increased knowledge of safe practices to store, handle, and prepare food.

OUR FAMILIES

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

- **10,562** families reside in the county.
- **1,393** families (**13.1%**) live below poverty level.
- Median family income is **\$38,054**.
- **297** grandparents are responsible for the care of their grandchildren.



According to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, **2,321** people in Graves County receive food stamps. The average family food stamp benefit is **\$213.67** per month.⁷

In the county, **111** children live in out-of-home care.⁸

In 2005, there were **155** incidents of adult abuse and **99** incidents of child abuse.⁹

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

- **340** adults and youth improved their ability to make informed and effective decisions.
- **25** people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and/or increase savings.
- **200** people increased their knowledge and skills related to parenting and personal relationships.

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.