

**KNOX COUNTY***Family & Consumer Sciences Extension*

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 Knox County resulting in strong families for Kentucky. Educational programs focus on:

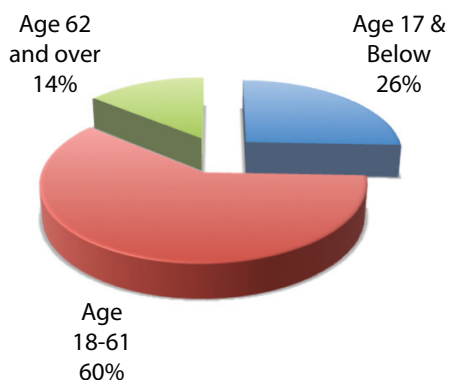
Making Beneficial Lifestyle Choices
Nurturing Families
Embracing Life as You Age
Securing Financial Stability
Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities
Accessing Nutritious Food
Empowering Community Leaders

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made **20,337** contacts with Knox County families during 2008-2009.¹

OUR PEOPLE

Figure 1. Population by Age Group² (n=31,795)

► 2008 estimates from the 2000 U.S. Census reported total population as **31,795**.² The graph on the right indicates the percentage by age group.

**SPOTLIGHT ON...**

NURTURING FAMILIES

Twenty-two children and their fathers enrolled in Knox County's Fathers Reading Every Day (FRED) program in 2008. Each week, they received at least one book, participated in a story-telling event and made a family craft. At the end of the program, surveys revealed that parents had increased time spent reading with their children to an average of two hours per week and 100 percent had acquired and used a public library card. Previously, the fathers reported that while someone read to their children three or four times a week, they were involved less than 30 percent of the time. Only half of the participants had a library card prior to FRED. The program was collaboration among Knox County Extension's Family and Consumer Sciences program and several businesses and community organizations.¹



OUR COMMUNITY

► Unemployment rates are a key economic indicator. In August 2009, the rate of unemployment in Knox County was **12.1%**.³

Mortgage and bank card delinquency rates and foreclosure filings are important financial indicators of community well-being. In Knox County, **3.49%** of mortgages are 90-days delinquent and 60-day bank card delinquency rates have increased by **2.79%**.⁴ In a one-year period (October 2008 through October 2009), **35** foreclosures were filed.⁵

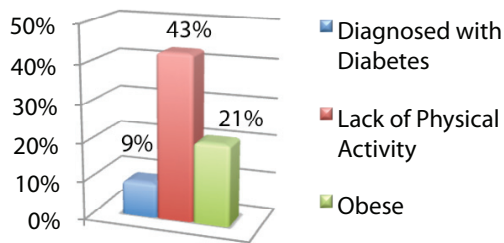
Access to health insurance is another important factor contributing to family well-being. In Knox County, **21%** of the people under age 65 are uninsured.⁶

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

- **55** people were involved in addressing issues of their community.
- **125** people were prepared to enter the work force.
- **55** 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 Knox County.
*Figure 2. Health Risks.*⁶



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

- **2,200** people increased knowledge of practices to maintain health and well-being.
- **780** people increase knowledge of safe practices to store, handle, and prepare food.
- **150** people developed skills to access affordable food.

OUR FAMILIES

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

- **8,936** families reside in the county.
- **2,630** families (**29.6%**) live below poverty level.
- Median family income is **\$23,136**.
- **435** grandparents are responsible for the care of their grandchildren.



According to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, **4,843** people in Knox County receive food stamps. The average family food stamp benefit is **\$211.26** per month.⁷

In the county, **134** children live in out-of-home care.⁸ In 2005, there were **139** incidents of adult abuse.⁹

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

- **1,010** adults and youth improved their ability to make informed and effective decisions.
- **500** people increased their knowledge and skills related to parenting and personal relationships.
- **1,800** adults and youth improved practical living skills.

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.