



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

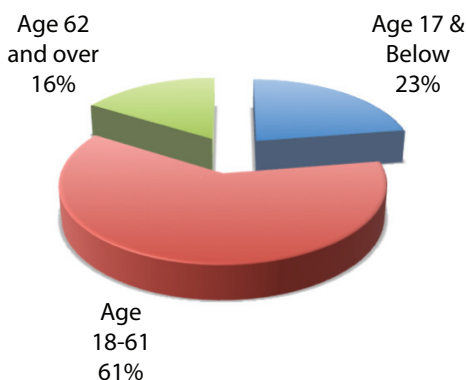
Making Beneficial Lifestyle Choices
Nurturing Families
Embracing Life as You Age
Securing Financial Stability
Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities
Accessing Nutritious Food
Empowering Community Leaders

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made **23,628** contacts with McCracken County families during 2008-2009.¹

OUR PEOPLE

Figure 1. Population by Age Group² (n=65,514)

► 2008 estimates from the 2000 U.S. Census reported total population as **65,514**.² The graph on the right indicates the percentage by age group.



SPOTLIGHT ON...

SECURING FINANCIAL STABILITY

McCracken County currently has 10,741 citizens living in poverty, or 17 percent of the population. To address this problem, our Family and Consumer Sciences program offered "Money Wise," a class that focuses on planning a monthly budget, ways to save at the grocery store, and achieving energy efficiency. In addition, other classes have been held to assist people who are struggling financially, including classes on couponing, canning and "penny pinching." The clients who attend the classes receive our "Food Wise" materials, as well as energy efficiency kits. Class participants stated that they had previously not used a budget or a system for keeping up with their bills. But after attending the class, they said they now see the need for such financial management tools.¹



OUR COMMUNITY

► Unemployment rates are a key economic indicator. In August 2009, the rate of unemployment in McCracken County was **9.4%**.³

Mortgage and bank card delinquency rates and foreclosure filings are important financial indicators of community well-being. In McCracken County, **2.12%** of mortgages are 90-days delinquent and 60-day bank card delinquency rates have increased by **1.56%**.⁴ In a one-year period (October 2008 through October 2009), **37** foreclosures were filed.⁵

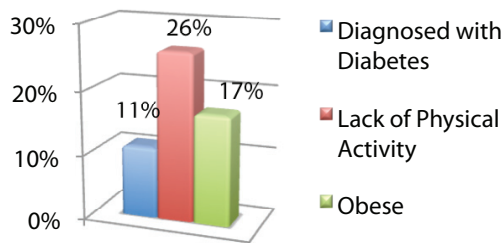
Access to health insurance is another important factor contributing to family well-being. In McCracken County, **12%** of the people under age 65 are uninsured.⁶

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

- **302** people were involved in addressing issues of their community.
- **866** people increased their knowledge of governmental process.
- **422** people were prepared to enter the work force.

OUR HEALTH

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



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

- **478** people increase knowledge of safe practices to store, handle, and prepare food.
- **509** people implemented practices to maintain health and well-being.
- **1,700** 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, McCracken County families can be described as follows:²

- **18,457** families reside in the county.
- **2,112** families (**11.4%**) live below poverty level.
- Median family income is **\$42,513**.
- **540** grandparents are responsible for the care of their grandchildren.



According to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, **3,961** people in McCracken County receive food stamps. The average family food stamp benefit is **\$210.08** per month.⁷

In the county, **154** children live in out-of-home care.⁸ In 2005, there were **335** incidents of adult abuse and **213** incidents of child abuse.⁹

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

- **260** adults and youth improved their ability to make informed and effective decisions.
- **1,791** people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and/or increase savings.
- **363** 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.