



UNION COUNTY

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

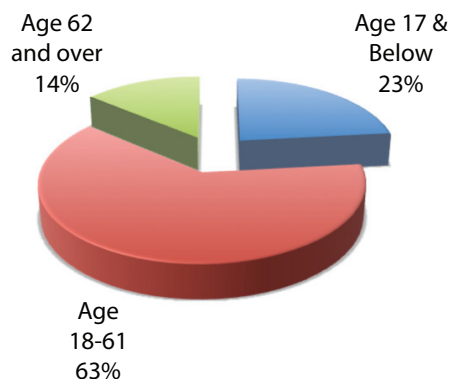
Making Beneficial Lifestyle Choices
Nurturing Families
Embracing Life as You Age
Securing Financial Stability
Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities
Accessing Nutritious Food
Empowering Community Leaders

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made **2,858** contacts with Union County families during 2008-2009.¹

OUR PEOPLE

Figure 1. Population by Age Group² (n=15,637)

► 2008 estimates from the 2000 U.S. Census reported total population as **15,637**.² The graph on the right indicates the percentage by age group.



SPOTLIGHT ON...

EMPOWERING COMMUNITY LEADERS

Low-income and disabled residents in Union County have benefited from the local U-Chip-N home improvement project since 2001 co-sponsored by Extension. The program's aim is to improve their quality of life. Twenty-two homes were repaired in 2008, and volunteers have made repairs to two homes this year. About \$9,000 was raised during our fall fund-raising campaign, with money donated by local businesses, churches and individuals. An army of 100-plus volunteers meet early in the morning on repair day, eat breakfast and then spread out to every corner of the county to help these families. Lunch is provided by local churches. Testimony from homeowners has been given about the help U-Chip-N has provided. One resident stated that she would not have been able to remain in her home if we had not provided the assistance.¹



OUR COMMUNITY

► Unemployment rates are a key economic indicator. In August 2009, the rate of unemployment in Union County was **11.6%**.³

Mortgage and bank card delinquency rates and foreclosure filings are important financial indicators of community well-being. In Union County, **1.39%** of mortgages are 90-days delinquent and 60-day bank card delinquency rates have increased by **1.72%**.⁴ In a one-year period (October 2008 through October 2009), **21** foreclosures were filed.⁵

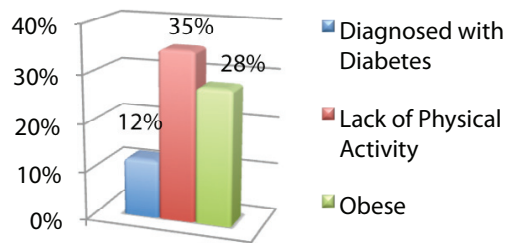
Access to health insurance is another important factor contributing to family well-being. In Union County, **13%** of the people under age 65 are uninsured.⁶

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

- **35** people were involved in addressing issues of their community.
- **1** person was involved in working with government in addressing significant community issues.
- Union County Extension is involved in **10** community coalitions.

OUR HEALTH

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



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

- **1,385** people increased knowledge of practices to maintain health and well-being.
- **475** people increase knowledge of safe practices to store, handle, and prepare food.
- **58** 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, Union County families can be described as follows:²

- **4,081** families reside in the county.
- **380** families (**9.3%**) live below poverty level.
- Median family income is **\$43,103**.
- **65** grandparents are responsible for the care of their grandchildren.



According to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, **842** people in Union County receive food stamps. The average family food stamp benefit is **\$230.84** per month.⁷

In the county, **21** children live in out-of-home care.⁸

In 2005, there were **61** incidents of adult abuse and **74** incidents of child abuse.⁹

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

- **385** adults and youth improved their ability to make informed and effective decisions.
- **180** people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and/or increase savings.
- **30** 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.