

GRAVES COUNTY

Virginia Langford, County Extension Agent, Family & Consumer Sciences

BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES FOR KENTUCKY 2011



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:

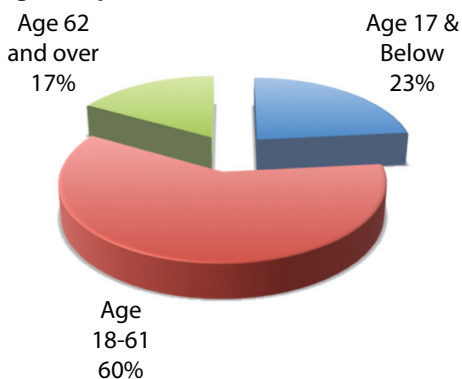
Making Beneficial Lifestyle Choices
Nurturing Families
Embracing Life as You Age
Securing Financial Stability
Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities
Accessing Nutritious Food
Empowering Community Leaders

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made **4,395** contacts with Graves County families during 2009-2010.¹

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...

MAKING BENEFICIAL LIFESTYLE CHOICES

The Family and Consumer Sciences Agent utilized a variety of UK curricula to address the high incidences in Graves County of cardiovascular disease, hypertension, diabetes, and sedentary lifestyles. Through a series of comprehensive, far-reaching sessions, the FCS agent shared the importance of adopting healthy lifestyles with over 1000 participating children, adults, and senior citizens in the county. The FCS agent used the Community Walk to raise awareness of health and wellness as well as to increase visibility and knowledge of Extension services. Participation in the Community Walk increases each year, supported by growing numbers of walkers, joggers, and community agencies that contribute door prizes and promote the Community Walk among associates and colleagues.¹



OUR COMMUNITY

► Unemployment rates are a key economic indicator. In July 2010, the rate of unemployment in Graves County was **9.7%**.⁶

Mortgage and bank card delinquency rates and foreclosure filings are important financial indicators of community well-being. In Graves County, **2.5%** of mortgages are 90-days delinquent and **1.5%** of bank cards are 60-days delinquent.⁷ In a one-year period (August 2009 through August 2010), **182** foreclosures were filed.⁵

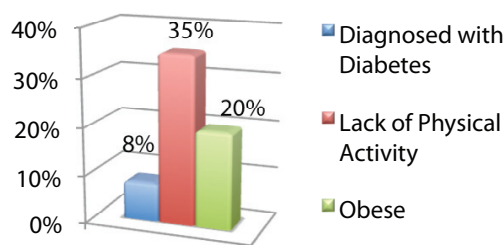
Access to health insurance is another important factor contributing to family well-being. In Graves County, **15%** of the people under age 65 are uninsured.⁸

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

- **635** people were involved in addressing issues of their community.
- **660** people increased their knowledge of governmental process.
- **450** people expanded their knowledge of economic development.
- Graves County Extension is involved in **6** community coalitions.

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.**⁸



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

- **250** people implemented new practices to maintain health and well-being.
- **761** people used safe practices to store, handle, and prepare food.
- **150** people made lifestyle changes to improve health.

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, **2,503** people in Graves County receive supplemental nutrition assistance. The average family benefit is **\$237.78** per month.³

In the county, **154** children live in out-of-home care. There were **91**

child victims of substantiated abuse.⁴ There were **150** incidents of adult abuse.⁵

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

- **660** adults and youth improved their ability to make informed and effective decisions.
- **650** people increased their knowledge and skills related to parenting and personal relationships.
- **650** adults and youth improved practical living skills.

SOURCES

¹ Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, Impact Reporting, FY2010.

² U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census 2000. 2008 Estimates.

³ Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Data Book, December 2008.

⁴ Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kentucky KIDS COUNT, 2009.

⁵ Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts, September, 2010

⁶ Kentucky Office of Employment and Training, Kentucky Labor Force Estimates, July 2010.

⁷ TransUnion LLC., Trend Data, Quarter 1 2010.

⁸ Kentucky Institute of Medicine, The Health of Kentucky: A County Assessment, 2007.