Family and Consumer Sciences Extension is committed to improving the quality of life for individuals and families in Bracken County. As the current economic situation continues to create challenges, educational programs focus on:

- **Making Healthy Lifestyle Choices** that influence health and well-being
- **Nurturing Families** as they cope with fewer resources and more demands
- **Embracing Life as We Age** to strive for independence longer
- **Securing Financial Stability** in a turbulent economic period
- **Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities** to recycle, reduce waste, and protect our environment
- **Accessing Nutritious Food** that is affordable, available and safe
- **Empowering Community Leaders** as we all work to sustain and improve our communities.

In 2010-2011, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made 14,802 contacts with Bracken County individuals and families.

### Population by Age Group

- **Age 18-64**: 61.0%
- **Age 65 and over**: 13.7%
- **Age 4 and below**: 6.7%
- **Age 5-17**: 18.6%

The 2010 U.S. Census reported total population in Bracken County as **8,488**.

### Spotlight on...

**SECURING FINANCIAL STABILITY**

In these tough economic times it has become a necessity to stretch family food dollars. The Bracken County Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Agent taught lessons in ten counties to promote wise use of coupons and menu planning. The classes reached 195 participants. A local coupon exchange club was started, which taught how to plan meals using sale items, find coupons online, and reduce food bills. In the 12-week follow-up, positive comments were received: “Couponing keeps me in my budget.” “I use grocery savings to purchase better quality meats that I normally could not afford.” Consumers reported savings as much as 100% on their food costs and up to $40 in one trip.
According to the 2010 Census,\(^1\) of families in Bracken County with their own children…
- 69.0% are husband-wife families
- 31.0% are single parent families

In addition, there are:
- 3,317 households
- 1,164 households with 1 or more persons under the age of 18
- 208 grandchildren under 18 years old who live with a grandparent householder
- 865 households with at least one person age 65 and over

**As a result of participation in Bracken County Extension programs:**\(^2\)
- 176 people increased knowledge of lifestyle changes to improve personal health.
- 15 people increased knowledge of parenting and personal relationships.
- 85 people increased knowledge of safe storage, handling and food preparation.

**OUR ECONOMY**

According to the 2010 American Community Survey 5-year estimates,\(^6\) between 2005 and 2009 in Bracken County it is estimated that…
- 54.8% (+/- 6) are married-couple families with both husband and wife in the labor force
- 62% (+/- 13.1) are children under 6 years old with all parents in the labor force
- 12% (+/- 7) are people 65 years and over below poverty level during the past 12 months

**As a result of participation in Bracken County Extension programs:**\(^2\)
- 152 adults and youth improved their ability to make informed and effective decisions.
- 7 people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and increase savings.
- 39 people demonstrated increased practical living skills.

**OUR COMMUNITY**

In 2009, the most recent data available, the median household income in Bracken County was $39,141.\(^3\)

The number of children in poverty in Bracken County was 511 compared to 362 in 2006.\(^3\)

The total number of people receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in Bracken County is 1,851 in 2011.\(^4\)

**As a result of participation in Bracken County Extension programs:**\(^2\)
- 201 people increased leadership knowledge and skills.
- 178 people improved communication skills to address community issues.
- 62 people developed skills to access affordable food.

**Average Annual Unemployment Rate**\(^5\)

*not seasonally adjusted*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Bracken County</th>
<th>Kentucky</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>11.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>10.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>11.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SOURCES**
\(^1\) U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Decennial Census.
\(^3\) U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates.
\(^4\) Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Databook, June 2011.
\(^6\) U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates.

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.