Family and Consumer Sciences Extension is committed to improving the quality of life for individuals and families in Marion 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 9,831 contacts with Marion County individuals and families.²

### Population by Age Group¹

The 2010 U.S. Census reported total population in Marion County as **19,820**.¹

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age 5-17</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 4 and below</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 18-64</td>
<td>62.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 65 and over</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
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### Spotlight on ... EMBRACING LIFE AS WE AGE

Falls are the leading cause of injury and injury-related death among older adults; however, older adults also fall because of lack of exercise, unsafe home environments, vision problems, lack of balance, and medication use. To provide education on falling, the Marion County Family and Consumer Sciences Agent taught a lesson to Extension Homemakers and senior citizens that covered ways to prevent a fall. The program included a home environment survey and concluded with twenty minutes of exercises to develop strength, balance, and flexibility. Of seventy-two participants, forty-three have experienced a fall in the past year; three had been hospitalized. However, post-evaluation revealed that 100% had learned a new technique to prevent a fall. Sixty-seven will make a change at home or work to prevent a fall.
According to the 2010 Census, of families in Marion County with their own children:

- 66.3% are husband-wife families
- 33.7% are single parent families

In addition, there are:

- 7,358 households
- 2,604 households with 1 or more persons under the age of 18
- 339 grandchildren under 18 years old who live with a grandparent householder
- 1,789 households with at least one person age 65 and over

As a result of participation in Marion County Extension programs:

- 1,090 people increased knowledge of lifestyle changes to improve personal health.
- 40 people increased knowledge of parenting and personal relationships.
- 815 people increased knowledge of safe storage, handling and food preparation.

In 2009, the most recent data available, the median household income in Marion County was $35,609.

The number of children in poverty in Marion County was 1,182 compared to 1,075 in 2006.

The total number of people receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in Marion County is 4,156 in 2011.

As a result of participation in Marion County Extension programs:

- 797 people increased leadership knowledge and skills.
- 420 people improved communication skills to address community issues.
- 230 people developed skills to access affordable food.

According to the 2010 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, between 2005 and 2009 in Marion County it is estimated that:

- 53.6% (±/ 5) are married-couple families with both husband and wife in the labor force
- 66.4% (±/ 10) are children under 6 years old with all parents in the labor force
- 25.6% (±/ 6.3) are people 65 years and over below poverty level during the past 12 months

As a result of participation in Marion County Extension programs:

- 320 people increased knowledge of economic and enterprise development.
- 350 people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and increase savings.
- 825 people demonstrated increased practical living skills.

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Average Annual Unemployment Rate
(not seasonally adjusted)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Marion County</th>
<th>Kentucky</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>8.2</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2002</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>8.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>8.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
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<td>8.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>8.2</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>10.7</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.