BUTLER COUNTY
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County Extension Agent, Family and Consumer Sciences

BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES
FOR KENTUCKY 2015

OUR FOCUS
Family and Consumer Sciences Extension is committed to improving the health and well-being of individuals and families in Butler County. To help families make wise decisions, our 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 live independently longer
• Securing Financial Stability in a turbulent economic period
• Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities that 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 2013-2014, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made 3,163 contacts with Butler County individuals and families.

http://hes.uky.edu/StrongFamilies

OUR PEOPLE

Median household income by housing type* (2008-2012)²

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Type</th>
<th>U.S.</th>
<th>Kentucky</th>
<th>Butler County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Households</td>
<td>$53,046</td>
<td>$42,610</td>
<td>$36,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner Occupied</td>
<td>$67,062</td>
<td>$54,061</td>
<td>$44,977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter Occupied</td>
<td>$32,212</td>
<td>$24,100</td>
<td>$12,006</td>
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SPOTLIGHT ON ...
BUTLER COUNTY HEAD START

Head Start parents met monthly at the Butler County Extension Service to learn how to improve the lives of their families. Since most of the parents present were Hispanic, an interpreter was provided. Extension staff and community partners presented programs on such topics as budgeting, healthy cooking, couponing, gardening and food preservation, and school readiness. A disaster preparedness session helped families decrease fear and mitigate loss during a disaster. Each family made a disaster kit, created a family disaster plan, learned about the different types of warnings and normal disasters in their area, and learned how to get involved in local disaster preparedness. Thirty families attended the meetings.
Housing has long been recognized as a basic human need. Yet, because housing is often a family’s largest expense and largest debt, it can be a stumbling block for many. Safe, lower-cost housing options are often limited for struggling families, and this can lead them into crisis. Family and Consumer Sciences Extension helps people improve home safety, lessen their environmental footprint, and strengthen financial stability. It also helps communities promote healthy lifestyles throughout the lifespan by supporting strong family home environments. Please tell us ways you think we can do more.

**AVAILABILITY**

In 2010, in Butler County, there were…
- 1,261 renter households
- 3,796 homeowner households
- 98 vacant housing units for rent
- 54 vacant housing units for sale

According to the Kentucky Department of Education, in 2012-2013, 32 children were homeless or were precariously housed in Butler County.

**AFFORDABILITY**

According to American Community Survey estimates for Butler County, in 2008-2012…
- 41.4% (+/- 9.2) of renter households paid 35% or more of their income for rent and utilities
- 22.8% (+/- 6.5) of homeowner households with a mortgage and 7.9% (+/- 3.6) of homeowner households without a mortgage paid 35% or more of their income for housing costs
- 47.2% (+/- 3.9) of homeowner households did not have a mortgage
- 23.8% (+/- 3.2) of all housing units were mobile homes

According to the most recent poverty estimates, in 2012, 21.6% (+/- 3.7) of residents in the county were living below poverty.

In 2013, residents needed to earn $10.87 an hour (or work 1.5 jobs at $7.25 an hour**) to afford a two-bedroom apartment at Fair Market Rent in Butler County.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

In Butler County, it is estimated that in 2008-2012…
- Half of all renter-occupied housing was built before 1978 (+/- 3 years)
- Half of all owner-occupied housing was built before 1984 (+/- 3 years)

According to 2008-2012 American Community Survey estimates in Butler County…
- 3.1% (+/- 1.5) of all households had no landline or cell phone
- 48.5% (+/- 4.2) of workers living in Butler County worked in Kentucky but outside the county and 2.9% (+/- 1.6) worked outside the state
- Half of all workers traveled 31.9 (+/- 3.1) or more minutes to work

**SOURCES:**
1. Kentucky Cooperative Extension reporting. FY 2014
2. 2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau
3. 2010 Decennial Census, U.S. Census Bureau
4. 2010 Kentucky Dept. of Education http://education.ky.gov/federal/progs/che/Pages/TK-Docs.aspx (Data for school districts were combined to produce the county total.)
5. Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau
6. Out Of Reach 2014. National Low Income Housing Coalition
* Data refer to housing tenure (owner or renter).
** The current federal minimum wage

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