LYON COUNTY

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County Extension Agent, Family and Consumer Sciences

BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES
FOR KENTUCKY 2015

OUR FOCUS

Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Extension is committed to improving the health and well-being of individuals and families in Lyon 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 3,284 contacts with Lyon County individuals and families.¹

http://hes.uky.edu/StrongFamilies

OUR PEOPLE

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

- **Owner Occupied**
  - U.S.: $67,062
  - Kentucky: $54,061
  - Lyon County: $47,461
- **Renter Occupied**
  - U.S.: $32,212
  - Kentucky: $24,100
  - Lyon County: $24,250

SPOTLIGHT ON ...

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “environmental and policy approaches that help older adults make healthy choices could reduce the chronic disease burden in this population.” With a fast growing older adult population in Lyon County, the FCS agent puts much emphasis on helping aging adults to make healthy lifestyle choices. In a partnership with the Pennyrile Allied Community Services and the Lyon County Senior Citizens Center, the FCS agent offers monthly programs about issues linked to nutrition and health. In a recent poll, 100% of participants agreed they had learned something new about nutrition, exercise, and eating healthier and would take action to stay healthy.
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 Lyon County, there were…

- **642** renter households
- **2,645** homeowner households
- **45** vacant housing units for rent
- **84** vacant housing units for sale

According to the Kentucky Department of Education, in 2012-2013, **41** children were homeless or were precariously housed in Lyon County.

### Number of households by housing type*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Husband/wife family (with or without children)</td>
<td>1,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single householder family</td>
<td>244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living alone, with roommates, etc.</td>
<td>755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Renter Occupied</strong></td>
<td>4,044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Owner Occupied</strong></td>
<td>1,899</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Affordability

According to American Community Survey estimates for Lyon County, in 2008-2012…

- **18.7% (+/- 8.9)** of renter households paid more than 35% of their income for rent and utilities
- **24.6% (+/- 6.1)** of homeowner households with a mortgage and **5.0% (+/- 2.7)** of homeowner households without a mortgage paid more than 35% of their income for housing costs
- **47.1% (+/- 5.2)** of homeowner households did not have a mortgage
- **23.2% (+/- 4.5)** of all housing units were mobile homes

According to the most recent poverty estimates, in 2012, **17.5% (+/- 3.6)** 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 Lyon County.

### Estimated percentage of households without a vehicle (2008-2012)

- **2.4-5.4%**
- **5.6-7.9%**
- **8.2-11.1%**
- **11.4-15.5%**

## Health and Safety

In Lyon County, it is estimated that in 2008-2012…

- Half of all renter-occupied housing was built before 1987 (+/- 6 years)
- Half of all owner-occupied housing was built before 1983 (+/- 5 years)

According to 2008-2012 American Community Survey estimates in Lyon County…

- **5.5% (+/- 2.2)** of all households had no landline or cell phone
- **43.0% (+/- 5.5)** of workers living in Lyon County worked in Kentucky but outside the county and **2.9% (+/- 1.7)** worked outside the state
- Half of all workers traveled **22.9 (+/- 2.7)** 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
5. Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau
6. Out Of Reach 2014. National Low Income Housing Coalition
7. Data refer to housing tenure (owner or renter).
8. 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.**