Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Extension is committed to improving the health and well-being of individuals and families in Nelson 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 10,852 contacts with Nelson County individuals and families.

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

- All Households: $53,046
- Owner Occupied: $67,062
- Renter Occupied: $32,212

**Healthy Homes**

The Nelson County Extension Office has partnered with many agencies to offer programs about healthy homes. Nelson County FCS offered home accessibility training for Bardstown at Home, a volunteer group that helps older adults complete day-to-day errands. Attendees used the information to assess and then make changes in the homes of older adults. More than 20 homes were made more accessible because of the training. Nelson County FCS has also partnered with local libraries to offer “Making Green Cleaning Product” sessions. By using the recipes, households are exposed to fewer chemicals, creating cleaner air and healthier people. More than 50 people came to these sessions, and 88% have used the recipes at home.

http://hes.uky.edu/StrongFamilies
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.

### Availabilty

In 2010, in Nelson County, there were…
- **4,020** renter households
- **12,806** homeowner households
- **248** vacant housing units for rent
- **265** vacant housing units for sale

According to the Kentucky Department of Education, in 2012-2013, **36** children were homeless or were precariously housed in Nelson County.

#### Number of households by housing type* in Nelson County (2010)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Owner Occupied</td>
<td>7,771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter Occupied</td>
<td>3,221</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Affordability

According to American Community Survey estimates for Nelson County, in 2008-2012...
- **43.2% (+/- 6.3)** of renter households paid 35% or more of their income for rent and utilities
- **20.7% (+/- 2.9)** of homeowner households with a mortgage and **5.2% (+/- 2.5)** of homeowner households without a mortgage paid 35% or more of their income for housing costs
- **36.0% (+/- 2.8)** of homeowner households did not have a mortgage
- **9.7% (+/- 1.5)** of all housing units were mobile homes

According to the most recent poverty estimates, in 2012, **17.1% (+/- 2.3)** of residents in the county were living below poverty.

In 2013, residents needed to earn **$11.77** an hour (or work **1.6** jobs at $7.25 an hour**) to afford a two-bedroom apartment at Fair Market Rent in Nelson County.

### Health and Safety

In Nelson County, it is estimated that in 2008-2012...
- Half of all renter-occupied housing was built before **1983 (+/- 3 years)**
- Half of all owner-occupied housing was built before **1990 (+/- 2 years)**

According to 2008-2012 American Community Survey estimates in Nelson County...
- **1.9% (+/- 0.8)** of all households had no landline or cell phone
- **36.7% (+/- 2.5)** of workers living in Nelson County worked in Kentucky but outside the county and **1.4% (+/- 0.8)** worked outside the state
- Half of all workers traveled **25.5 (+/- 1.2)** 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. Kentucky Dept. of Education [http://education.ky.gov/federal/programs/Pages/TX-Docs.aspx](http://education.ky.gov/federal/programs/Pages/TX-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