



SPENCER COUNTY

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BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES FOR KENTUCKY 2015



OUR FOCUS

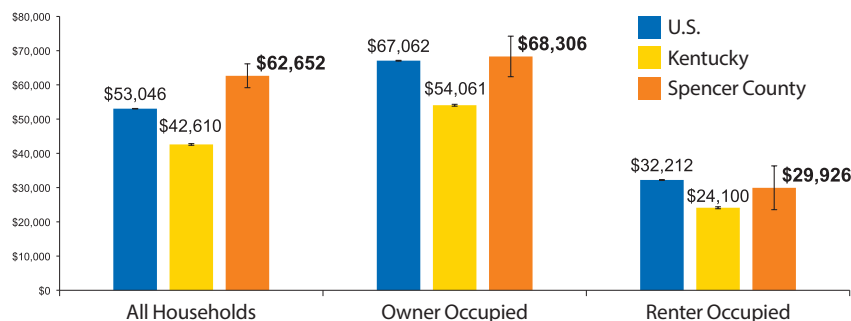
Family and Consumer Sciences Extension is committed to improving the health and well-being of individuals and families in Spencer County. To help families make wise decisions, our educational programs focus on:

- **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 **11,348** contacts with Spencer County individuals and families.¹

OUR PEOPLE

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



SPOTLIGHT ON ...

SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

The Spencer County Summer Enrichment Program is an educational opportunity for middle school children held during summer school. Spencer County Cooperative Extension agents collaborated with school officials to help more than 150 students learn about nutrition, windowsill gardens, and body image. Participants learned how to identify and grow healthy food. They also became aware of body image and the importance of accepting one's own appearance, as well as the appearance of others. Teachers reported that after the programs, students' knowledge of healthy eating and interest in gardening increased. Teachers also reported increased acceptance of personal appearance.

<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.

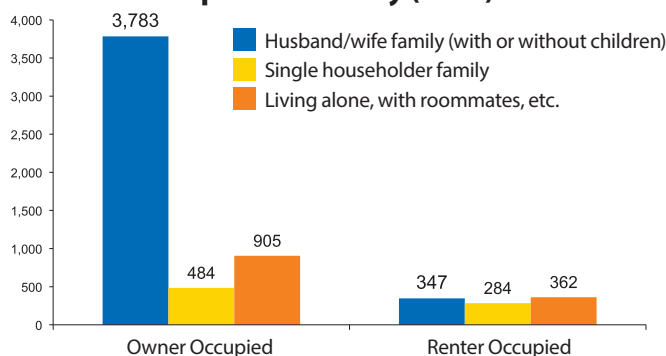
AVAILABILITY

In 2010, in Spencer County, there were...³

- **993** renter households
- **5,172** homeowner households
- **76** vacant housing units for rent
- **147** vacant housing units for sale

According to the Kentucky Department of Education, in 2012-2013, **106** children were homeless or were precariously housed in Spencer County.⁴

Number of households by housing type* in Spencer County (2010)³



HEALTH AND SAFETY

In Spencer County, it is estimated that in 2008-2012...²

- half of all renter-occupied housing was built before **1985** (+/- 9 years)
- half of all owner-occupied housing was built before **1997** (+/- 2 years)

According to 2008-2012 American Community Survey² estimates in Spencer County...

- **1.0%** (+/- 0.7) of all households had no landline or cell phone
- **78.1%** (+/- 3.7) of workers living in Spencer County worked in Kentucky but outside the county and **2.1%** (+/- 1.2) worked outside the state
- Half of all workers traveled **33.2** (+/- 1.7) or more minutes to work

AFFORDABILITY

According to American Community Survey estimates for Spencer County, in 2008-2012...²

- **17.3%** (+/- 8.9) of renter households paid **35%** or more of their income for rent and utilities
- **17.7%** (+/- 4.6) of homeowner households with a mortgage and **7.4%** (+/- 5.4) of homeowner households without a mortgage paid **35%** or more of their income for housing costs
- **22.2%** (+/- 3.7) of homeowner households did not have a mortgage
- **11.8%** (+/- 2.8) of all housing units were mobile homes

According to the most recent poverty estimates, in 2012, **9.9%** (+/- 1.9) of residents in the county were living below poverty.⁵

In 2013, residents needed to earn **\$13.56** an hour (or work **1.9** jobs at \$7.25 an hour**) to afford a two-bedroom apartment at Fair Market Rent in Spencer County.⁶

Estimated percentage of households without a vehicle (2008-2012)²



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/progs/txc/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