University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

2019 KENTUCKY COUNTY PROFILES

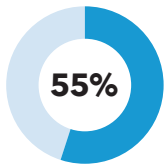# BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES
IN BALLARD COUNTY

OUR FOCUS

Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Extension is committed to improving the health and well-being of individuals and families throughout Kentucky. Our educational programs focus on making healthy lifestyle choices, nurturing families, embracing life as we age, securing financial stability, promoting healthy homes and communities, accessing nutritious food, and empowering community leaders.
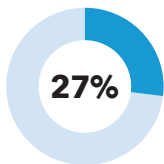
Agent Position Vacant

There is currently no County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences Education in Ballard County.

OUR SUCCESS

In 2017-2018, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made

1,591,056

contacts with individuals and families in Kentucky.[1]

A HEALTHIER KENTUCKY
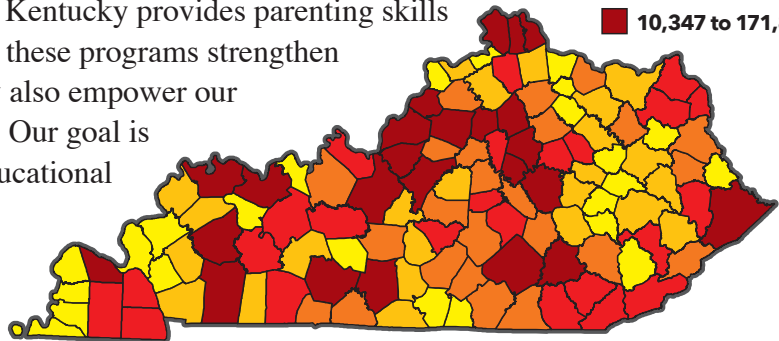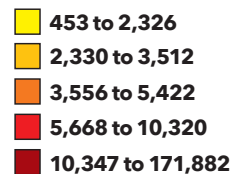## Parenting skills for family success

55%

of counties in Kentucky implemented programs to teach effective parenting skills.[1]

27%

of counties in Kentucky reported that parents and/or caregivers used community resources.[1]

By using effective parenting skills, parents help children become responsible, caring adults and productive members of society. However, limited resources can make it hard for parents to get formal parenting training. In Kentucky, Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Extension through the University of Kentucky provides parenting skills programs. As these programs strengthen families, they also empower our communities. Our goal is to provide educational opportunities to help every family succeed.

2017 estimated population under 18 years old[2]

- 453 to 2,326
- 2,330 to 3,512
- 3,556 to 5,422
- 5,668 to 10,320
- 10,347 to 171,882

FCS Extension makes a difference

Families face many challenges, including poverty, readying children for their school careers, and supporting children who are being harassed or bullied. Some parents also are unable to raise their children and must turn to relatives for help. No matter the challenge, FCS helps families succeed.

❯ It takes a village

A growing number of children are being raised by other relatives, especially grandparents. The American Community Survey (ACS) estimates that between 2012 and 2016 in Ballard County, **111** (+/- 47) grandparents lived with and were responsible for their grandchildren, and **110** (+/-56) grandchildren were being raised by their grandparents. For **46** (+/- 34) of those grandchildren, there was no parent present.[2] Of all children living in all households, **108** (+/- 65) were stepchildren, **74** (+/- 45) were adopted children, and **42** (+/- 50) children were living with other relatives.[2]

❯ The safety of our children

For families, child safety is a priority that can be jeopardized in many ways. In Ballard County in 2017, **21.9%** (16.8% -27.0%) of all families with school-aged children lived below poverty[3], and there were no child victims of substantiated abuse or neglect in 2016.[4] In the schools, there were **36** reported incidences of harassment, which included bullying, in the 2016-2017 school year for all school districts in Ballard County.[5]

❯ Kindergarten readiness

The first five years of life are vital in a child's development and success in life. In 2017, Ballard County had an estimated **430** children ages 5 and under.[6] Of those children, **110** were enrolled as preschoolers.[7]

In Ballard County, **62.1%** of students entered kindergarten ready to engage in and benefit from early learning experiences in the 2016-2017 school year.[7]

In Kentucky, as a result of FCS Extension…

8,270
parents and/or caregivers reported improved personal strengths, communication and life skills that strengthen families.[1]

5,690
individuals reported behaviors that fostered the optimal development of children and youth.[1]

5,623
parents and/or caregivers reported practicing parental leadership skills.[1]

SOURCES:
[1] Kentucky Cooperative Extension Reporting, FY2018
[2] American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (factfinder.census.gov)
[3] Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau (census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe.html)
[4] Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Kids Count Data Center. (datacenter.kidscount.org)
[5] 2016-2017 Kentucky School Report Card, Kentucky Dept. of Education. (Data from school districts were combined to make county total.) (applications.education.ky.gov/src)
[6] 2017 Population Estimates. U.S. Census Bureau. American FactFinder, (factfinder.census.gov)
[7] 2017 Early Childhood Profile, Kentucky Center for Statistics. (kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Reports)

For more information and to download this and other county profiles, visit **hes.uky.edu/StrongFamilies**

UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
School of Human Environmental Sciences