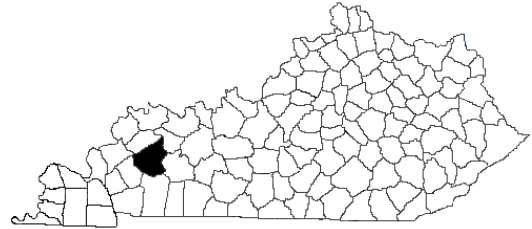


Building Strong Families for Kentucky

. . . . in Hopkins County

Nancy Kelley, County Extension Agent,
 Family and Consumer Sciences



Family and Consumer Sciences Extension is committed to improving the quality of life for individuals and families in Hopkins County resulting in strong families for Kentucky. Educational programs focus on:

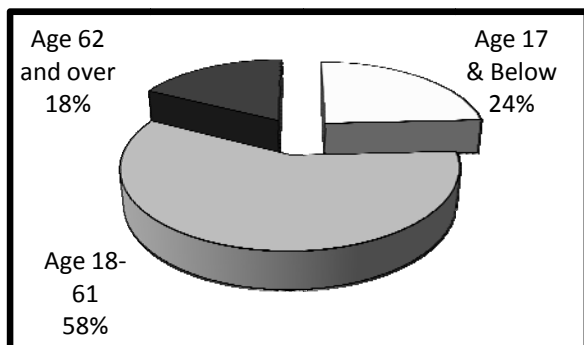
- Making Beneficial Lifestyle Choices***
- Nurturing Families***
- Embracing Life as You Age***
- Securing Financial Stability***
- Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities***
- Accessing Nutritious Food***
- Empowering Community Leaders***

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made **6,539** contacts with Hopkins County families during 2007-2008.¹

Our People

The 2000 U.S. Census reported total population as **46,519**.² The graph below indicates the percentage by age group.

Figure 1. Population by Age Group² (n=46,519)



Spotlight on . . .

Securing Financial Stability



The American Private Enterprise System (APES) and KY Youth Seminar (KYS) teach youth financial skills for future success. The last 13 years the program has been conducted by the FCS agent and community business leaders. Many of these business men and women participated in APES as youth, and are now returning as volunteer leaders. Financial sponsorship has been provided by a local bank and the Chamber of Commerce. Three of this year's students qualified to attend the National Institute of Cooperative Education program and compete for additional scholarship dollars. Since the year 2000, Hopkins County students have received over \$7500.00 in college scholarships and travel expenses to attend state and national conferences, by participating in APES and KYS.¹

Our Families

Using data from the 2000 U.S. Census, Hopkins County families can be described as follows:²

- **13,448** families reside in the county.
- **1,826** families (**13.6%**) live below poverty level.
- Median family income is **\$36,794**.
- **368** grandparents are responsible for the care of their grandchildren.

According to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, **6,889** people in Hopkins County receive food stamps. The average family food stamp benefit is **\$227.24** per month.³

In the county, **82** children live in out-of-home care.⁴ In 2004, there were **71** incidents of adult abuse and **137** incidents of child abuse.⁵

*As a result of participation in Hopkins County Extension programs:*¹

- **1,293** food stamp eligible or recipient families consumed more fruits and vegetables daily.
- **3** people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and/or increase savings.
- **220** people gained knowledge about safe storage, handling and preparation of food.
- **25** people used safe practices to store, handle and prepare food.

Our Community

Unemployment rates are a key economic indicator. In September 2008, the rate of unemployment in Hopkins County was **7.3%**. This represented a **26%** increase from the September 2007 level of **5.8%**.⁶

Mortgage and bank card delinquency rates and foreclosure filings are important financial indicators of community well-being. In Hopkins County, 90-day mortgage delinquency rates have increased by **28%** and 60-day bank card delinquency rates have increased by **10%**.⁷ In a six-month period (May through October 2008), **76** foreclosures were filed.⁸

Access to health insurance is another important factor contributing to family well-being. In Hopkins County, **14%** of the people under age 65 are uninsured.⁹

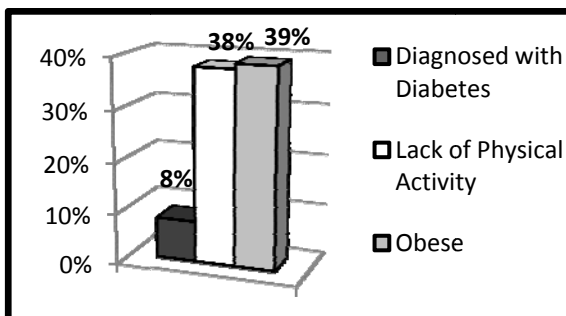
*As a result of participation in Hopkins County Extension programs:*¹

- **53** people increased their knowledge of how government works.
- **58** adults and youth utilized improved communication, problem solving, and group process skills to address community needs.
- **48** people were involved in addressing issues of their community.

Our Health

The health of our people contributes to quality of life. The chart below illustrates health risks of adults in Hopkins County.

Figure 2. Health Risks.⁹



*As a result of participation in Hopkins County Extension programs:*¹

- **504** people gained knowledge and skills to make lifestyle changes to improve their health.
- **75** adults and youth improved their ability to make informed and effective decisions.

Sources

¹ Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, Impacting Reporting, FY2008.
² U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census 2000.
³ Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Data Book, June 2008.
⁴ Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kentucky KIDS COUNT, 2005.
⁵ Kentucky Department for Public Health, County Health Priorities, 2004.

⁶ Kentucky Office of Employment and Training, Kentucky Labor Force Estimates, September 2008.

⁷ TransUnion LLC., Trend Data, Quarter 1 2008.

⁸ Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts, November, 2008.

⁹ Kentucky Institute of Medicine, The Health of Kentucky: A County Assessment, 2007.