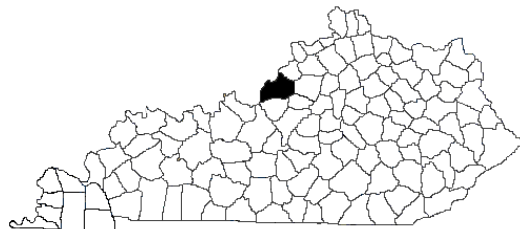


Building Strong Families for Kentucky

..... in Jefferson County

Martha deCampos, Valerie Holland, and Nelda Moore,
 County Extension Agents,
 Family and Consumer Sciences



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

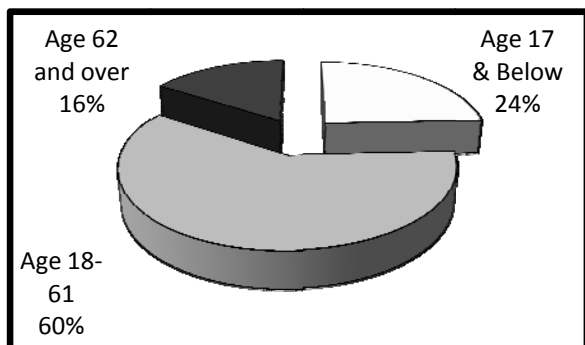
- Making Beneficial Lifestyle Choices***
- Nurturing Families***
- Embracing Life as You Age***
- Securing Financial Stability***
- Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities***
- Accessing Nutritious Food***
- Empowering Community Leaders***

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made **24,978** contacts with Jefferson County families during 2007-2008.¹

Our People

The 2000 U.S. Census reported total population as **693,604**.² The graph below indicates the percentage by age group.

Figure 1. Population by Age Group² (n=693,604)



Spotlight on . . .

Nurturing Families



A Jefferson County Extension Homemaker Club partnered with the Kentucky Refugee Ministries to furnish an apartment for a family of refugees from Burma. Approximately \$11,000 dollars worth of items were donated to furnish the apartment. “We are trying to help them learn about cooking and simple things that we take for granted. They had to learn about electricity and everything in the kitchen.” The club members have volunteered over 900 hours to give aid, valued at \$13,500. They have helped this family overcome the challenges of settling into their new country, which will help them become successful citizens and contribute to the economic development of Metro Louisville.¹

Our Families

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

- **183,647** families reside in the county.
- **17,526** families (**9.5%**) live below poverty level.
- Median family income is **\$49,161**.
- **6,371** grandparents are responsible for the care of their grandchildren.

According to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, **93,873** people in Jefferson County receive food stamps. The average family food stamp benefit is **\$226.05** per month.³

In the county, **2,288** children live in out-of-home care.⁴ In 2004, there were **2,184** incidents of adult abuse and **2,954** incidents of child abuse.⁵

As a result of participation in Jefferson County Extension programs:¹

- **100%** of food stamp recipients or eligible recipients enrolled in the nutrition education program improved their diet.
- **135** adults and youth improved their ability to make informed and effective decisions.
- **86** people increased their knowledge and skills related to parenting and personal relationships.
- **20** people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and/or increase savings.

Our Community

Unemployment rates are a key economic indicator. In September 2008, the rate of unemployment in Jefferson County was **7.1%**. This represented a **48%** increase from the September 2007 level of **4.8%**.⁶

Mortgage and bank card delinquency rates and foreclosure filings are important financial indicators of community well-being. In Jefferson County, 90-day mortgage delinquency rates have increased by **32%** and 60-day bank card delinquency rates have increased by **20%**.⁷ In a six-month period (May through October 2008), **2,396** foreclosures were filed.⁸

Access to health insurance is another important factor contributing to family well-being. In Jefferson County, **11%** of the people under age 65 are uninsured.⁹

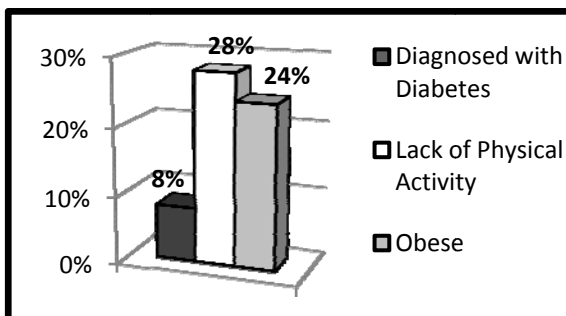
As a result of participation in Jefferson County Extension programs:¹

- **78** people expanded their knowledge of economic development.
- **189** citizens enhanced their leadership skills by participation in leadership programs.
- **52** people increased their knowledge of how government works.

Our Health

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

Figure 2. Health Risks.⁹



As a result of participation in Jefferson County Extension programs:¹

- **190** people gained knowledge and skills to make lifestyle changes to improve their health.
- **92** people increased their use of radon testers, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, and other devices to ensure personal safety.
- **190** people gained knowledge and skills to make lifestyle changes to improve their health.

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.