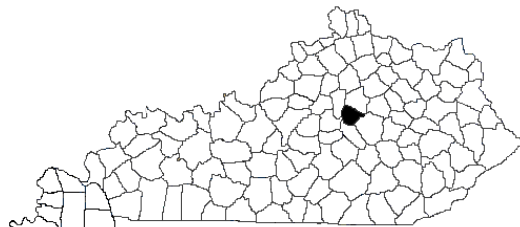


Building Strong Families for Kentucky

..... in Jessamine County

Marisa Aull, 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 Jessamine County resulting in strong families for Kentucky. Educational programs focus on:

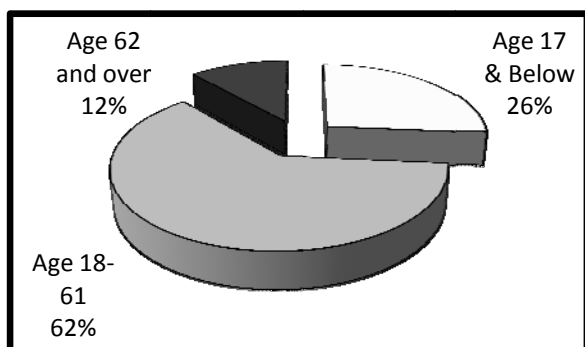
- Making Beneficial Lifestyle Choices***
- Nurturing Families***
- Embracing Life as You Age***
- Securing Financial Stability***
- Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities***
- Accessing Nutritious Food***
- Empowering Community Leaders***

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made **23,212** contacts with Jessamine County families during 2007-2008.¹

Our People

The 2000 U.S. Census reported total population as **39,041**.² The graph below indicates the percentage by age group.

Figure 1. Population by Age Group² (n=39,041)



Spotlight on . . .

Securing Financial Stability



The Jessamine County FCS agent offered a family financial series entitled "Save Today for Tomorrow," and Moneysmart, (an Extension and FDIC program), in collaboration with community partners. Twenty-seven families received a quarterly newsletter and access to all sessions that included: estate planning, planning for the holidays, dealing with financial institutions, taxes, and saving for college educations. Ninety-four percent of the families indicated that the information they received was beneficial in their budgeting and financial planning. The average amount saved or debt reduced was \$ 2,800 per family during 2007-2008 year.¹

Our Families

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

- **10,723** families reside in the county.
- **902** families (**8.4%**) live below poverty level.
- Median family income is **\$46,152**.
- **265** grandparents are responsible for the care of their grandchildren.

According to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, **5,752** people in Jessamine County receive food stamps. The average family food stamp benefit is **\$257.11** per month.³

In the county, **90** children live in out-of-home care.⁴ In 2004, there were **57** incidents of adult abuse and **165** incidents of child abuse.⁵

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

- **75** people increased their knowledge and skills related to parenting and personal relationships.
- **120** adult, dependent, and child care providers increased their care giving knowledge.
- **202** people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and/or increase savings.
- **900** 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 Jessamine County was **5.8%**. This represented a **41%** increase from the September 2007 level of **4.1%**.⁶

Mortgage and bank card delinquency rates and foreclosure filings are important financial indicators of community well-being. In Jessamine County, 90-day mortgage delinquency rates have increased by **28%** and 60-day bank card delinquency rates have increased by **1%**.⁷ In a six-month period (May through October 2008), **24** foreclosures were filed.⁸

Access to health insurance is another important factor contributing to family well-being. In Jessamine County, **12%** of the people under age 65 are uninsured.⁹

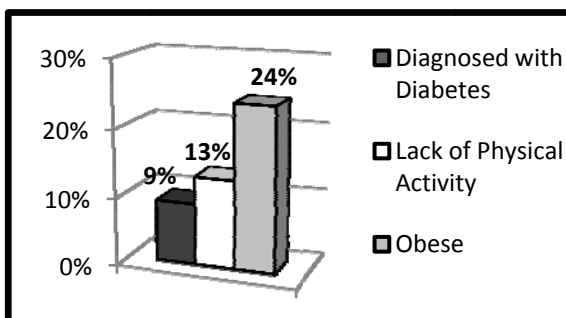
*As a result of participation in Jessamine County Extension programs:*¹

- **2,100** adults and youth improved their ability to make informed and effective decisions.
- **170** adults and youth utilized improved communication, problem solving and group process skills to address community needs and issues.
- Jessamine County Extension is involved in **21** community coalitions.

Our Health

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

Figure 2. Health Risks.⁹



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

- **2,200** people made lifestyle changes to improve physical health.
- **2,100** people implemented new practices to maintain health and well-being.
- **225** people increased their use of radon testers, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, and other devices to ensure personal safety.

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.