Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Extension is committed to improving the health and well-being of individuals and families in Barren County. To help Kentuckians strengthen their financial, physical, and social well-being, 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 2014-2015, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made 9,628 contacts with Barren County individuals and families.¹

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### FARMERS’ MARKET FINDS

The Farmers’ Market Finds program introduced three Plate It Up! Kentucky Proud recipes each week. After sampling, participants were encouraged to prepare the recipes at home using local produce. As a result, all participants said they will buy the produce they used and prepare the recipes. Having a taste test and the recipe card were keys to getting people to try a recipe. Most said the recipe cards also helped them evaluate their nutritional needs. One participant said, "I thought I had a pretty varied diet, but I have tried things that I had never eaten before and one thing that I had never even heard of!"

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¹ [Barren County](http://hes.uky.edu/StrongFamilies)

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**Barren County**

Family and Consumer Sciences

**Building Strong Families**

FOR KENTUCKY 2016

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**OUR FOCUS**

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**OUR PEOPLE**

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**SPOTLIGHT ON...**

**FARMERS’ MARKET FINDS**

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**Annual unemployment rates²**

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In Barren County, the median household income in 2013 was $38,370 (± $3,493) compared to $43,307 (± $631) for the state. The American Community Survey estimates that between 2009-2013:

- **27.4% (± 4.3)** of families with related children were below poverty
- **20.7% (± 3.0)** of people age 65 and over were below poverty
- **4.1% (± 1.2)** of individuals working full time/full year in the previous 12 months were below poverty
- **57.2%** of students were eligible for free lunches and **6.3%** were eligible for reduced-price lunches in 2014-2015

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**PHYSICAL WELL-BEING**

According to the CDC’s County Diabetes Atlas, in Barren County in 2012:

- **12.5% (15.3%-10.0%)** of adults reported having been diagnosed with diabetes
- **32.5% (37.7%-27.7%)** of adults 18 years and over were obese
- **31.2% (36.2%-26.6%)** of adults reported no leisure-time exercise in the past month

Between 2006-2012 in Barren County:

- **43.7% (51.8%-36.0%)** of adults reported having been diagnosed with high blood pressure
- **23.2% (27.6%-19.4%)** of adults reported fair or poor health

In Barren County:

- **57.3%** had adequate access to locations for physical activity compared to 72.0% for the state
- **21.6% (± 3.0)** of those who drive to work on their own have a commute that is more than 30 minutes (2009-2013)
- **25 deaths** were from a drug overdose between 2009-2013

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**SOCIAL WELL-BEING**

The American Community Survey estimates that between 2009-2013 in Barren County:

- **27.7% (± 0.9)** of households included one or more persons age 65 and over
- **644 (± 259)** grandparents lived with and were responsible for their own grandchildren
- **72.7% (± 6.8)** of children under 6 years and **72.3% (± 6.0)** of children 6-17 years had all parents in the labor force
- **1,333 (± 256)** of those age 5 and older spoke a language other than English at home
- **2,483 (± 277)** civilian veterans lived in Barren County

In Barren County:

- **23.3% (29.2%-18.3%)** of adults ages 18+ reported they did not receive sufficient social-emotional support between 2006-12
- **297 children** were determined to have been victims of child abuse or neglect in 2013
- **47.8% of those registered to vote** did so in the 2014 General Election

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**FINANCIAL WELL-BEING**

The American Community Survey estimates that between 2009-2013:

- **27.4% (± 4.3)** of families with related children were below poverty
- **20.7% (± 3.0)** of people age 65 and over were below poverty
- **4.1% (± 1.2)** of individuals working full time/full year in the previous 12 months were below poverty
- **57.2%** of students were eligible for free lunches and **6.3%** were eligible for reduced-price lunches in 2014-2015

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**As a result of participating in Barren County Extension programs:**

- 560 people demonstrated informed and effective decision-making.
- 670 people demonstrated increased practical living skills.

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**As a result of participating in Barren County Extension programs:**

- 343 adults reported increased leadership skills, knowledge or confidence.
- 3,281 people were reached with information related to health and safety.