Family and Consumer Sciences Extension is committed to improving the quality of life for individuals and families in Barren County. As the current economic situation continues to create challenges, 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 strive for independence longer
- **Securing Financial Stability** in a turbulent economic period
- **Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities** to 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 2010-2011, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made 8,990 contacts with Barren County individuals and families.

### Population by Age Group

The 2010 U.S. Census reported total population in Barren County as **42,173**.

- Age 18-64: 60.4%
- Age 5-17: 17.7%
- Age 4 and below: 6.5%
- Age 65 and over: 15.4%

### Building Strong Families for Kentucky 2012

This year, Barren County Cooperative Extension staff facilitated a winter market for local producers of meat, eggs, cheese, produce, honey, and handmade products. The 15-vendor market gave consumers the opportunity to purchase local items in the off-season. Vendors and patrons were surveyed at season’s end. The surveys indicated that 100% of vendors made money, with total market sales averaging $2,000 each session. Nearly half reported that winter income was on par with weekly summer sales. Surveys showed that 100% of patrons felt the market was a worthy project and would support it in the future. They particularly appreciated Extension’s role in providing an outlet when local items aren’t easily accessible.
According to the 2010 Census,\(^1\) of families in Barren County with their own children…

- 67.3% are husband-wife families
- 32.7% are single parent families

In addition, there are:
- 16,999 households
- 5,603 households with 1 or more persons under the age of 18
- 784 grandchildren under 18 years old who live with a grandparent householder
- 4,567 households with at least one person age 65 and over

As a result of participation in Barren County Extension programs:\(^2\)

- 324 people increased knowledge of lifestyle changes to improve personal health.
- 27 people increased knowledge of parenting and personal relationships.
- 64 people increased knowledge of safe storage, handling and food preparation.

In 2009, the most recent data available, the median household income in Barren County was $35,993.\(^3\)

The number of children in poverty in Barren County was 2,783 compared to 2,365 in 2006.\(^3\)

The total number of people receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in Barren County is 8,348 in 2011.\(^4\)

As a result of participation in Barren County Extension programs:\(^2\)

- 435 people increased leadership knowledge and skills.
- 560 people improved communication skills to address community issues.
- 313 people developed skills to access affordable food.

According to the 2010 American Community Survey 5-year estimates,\(^6\) between 2005 and 2009 in Barren County it is estimated that…

- 53.2% (+/- 3.1) are married-couple families with both husband and wife in the labor force
- 70.7% (+/- 6.1) are children under 6 years old with all parents in the labor force
- 20.9% (+/- 4.3) are people 65 years and over below poverty level during the past 12 months

As a result of participation in Barren County Extension programs:\(^2\)

- 158 people increased knowledge of economic and enterprise development.
- 60 people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and increase savings.
- 470 people demonstrated increased practical living skills.

### Average Annual Unemployment Rate\(^5\)

(not seasonally adjusted)

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</table>

\(^1\) U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Decennial Census.
\(^3\) U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates.
\(^4\) Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Databook, June 2011.
\(^6\) U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates.