



## Welfare Reform "By the Numbers" Christian County



Julie N. Zimmerman and Scott A. Samson  
Rural and Economic Development Programs, Rural Sociology

University of Kentucky, College of Agriculture

April, 1998

Across the nation, welfare reform presents a new challenge: how to shift from a program based on income maintenance to one focused on employment. Meeting this challenge calls for both more and new information on which to base decisions. **Welfare Reform "By The Numbers"** is aimed at supplying the most recent data and information useful for local decision-making processes surrounding welfare reform. This series is provided in conjunction with the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Welfare Reform Implementation Task Force -- Community Resources Group.

	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>
<b>Poverty</b>		
Poverty Rate (1993)	20.0	19.7
Number of Individuals Living in Poverty (1993)	11,928	748,007
Total Number of K-TAP Recipients (1997)*	2,455	145,465
Percent of K-TAP Recipients Who Are Children (1997)*	69.6%	68.2%
Percent People under 18 Living in Poverty (1993)	27.2%	28.1%
Percent Participation in the Free and Reduced School Lunch Program (Avg. across districts) (1995-96)	58.2%	43.9%
Percent K-TAP Cases with Benefits 2 Yrs <u>or Less</u> (1997)*	52.1%	42.4%
Percent Population 65 and Over Below Poverty Level (1990)	20.8%	20.60%
<b>Local Economy</b>		
Average Unemployment Rate (Jan-Sept, 1997)	5.3	5.31
Percent of Adults Receiving K-TAP Who Are Either Employed or have a Work History (1997)*	83.1%	79.2%
Top 3 Employment Sectors (% of Total Jobs) (1995)	Govt 54.9%	Services 24.7%
	Services 12.7%	Retail 17.5%
	Manuf 10.8%	Manuf 15.3%
Percent Employment: Manufacturing, Retail, and Services (1995)	32.8%	57.5%
Percent of Women-Owned Businesses (1992)	32.0%	31.4%
Percent of Farmers with Farming as Primary Occupation (1992)	47.9%	44.5%
Percent of Jobs that are in Farming (1995)	2.6%	5.4%
Percent Working at Home (1990)	2.6%	3.0%
Percent of Teenagers Employed (Ages 16-19 Years) (1990)	51.7%	36.0%
Percent of Labor Force that is Female (1990)	34.7%	44.70%
Median Household Income (1993)	\$23,629	\$25,222
Income Maintenance as Percent of Total Transfer Payments (1995)	10.8%	10.7%
Food Stamp Payments (1995)	\$6,097,000	\$411,827,000

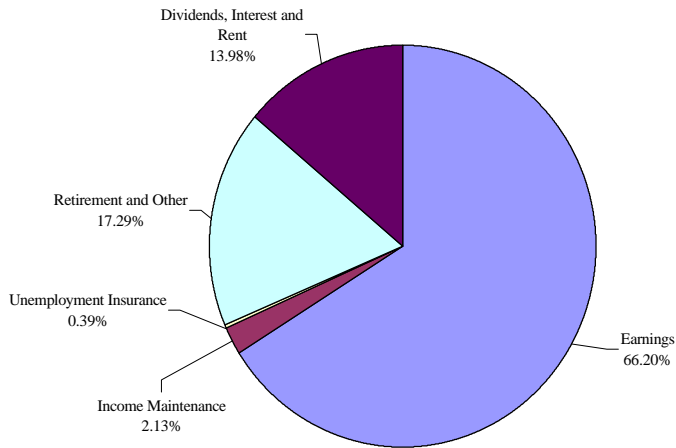
<b>Work Force</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>State</b>
Expenditures per Student (Avg. across Districts) (1994-95)	\$4,434	\$4,685
Child Care Slots (1997)*		
Licensed	1,280	121,255
Certified	108	3,768
Unregulated	714	50,121
Adult K-TAP Recipients w/ High School, GED <u>or More</u> (1997)*	34.5%	48.7%
Percent 18 yrs + with a High School Degree <u>or More</u> (1990)	76.1%	66.1%
Percent 18 yrs + with <u>Less than</u> a 9th Grade Education (1990)	11.1%	16.7%
<b>Transportation</b>		
Percent of Housing Units Without Personal Transportation (1990)	10.5%	11.5%
Average Travel Time to Work (in Minutes) (1990)	15.6	20.7
Percent of Workers Working Outside County of Residence (1990)	13.8%	25.9%
Percent of Population Living on Farms (1992)	3.3%	4.7%
Percent of Workers Either Drive or Share a Ride to Work (1990)	83.4%	90.9%
Percent Commuting 45 Minutes <u>or More</u> to Work (1990)	4.7%	9.6%
<b>Housing</b>		
Median Gross Rent (1990)	\$329	\$319
Percent Households Paying 30% + of Income For Rent (1990)	31.2%	38.1%
Total Number of Rental Housing Units (1990)	10,686	457,136
Rental Vacancy Rate (1990)	6.3	8.3
Percent of Occupied Housing that is Renter Occupied (1990)	46.3%	30.4%
Percent of Housing Units that are Mobile Homes (1990)	10.7%	12.1%
Percent Housing Units Built After 1980 (Incl. Mobile Homes) (1990)	17.9%	20.0%
Percent of Housing Units Lacking Complete Plumbing (1990)	1.2%	2.9%
Percent of Housing Units with Sewage Disposal other than Sewer, Septic Tank or Cesspool (1990)	1.7%	3.8%
Percent of Housing Units Without Telephones (1990)	7.7%	10.2%
<b>Social</b>		
Total Resident Population (1997)	73,229	3,908,124
Number of Family Resource Youth Service Centers (1997)*	11	588
Percent of Births to Mothers 15-19 Years of Age (1993)	15.2%	16.4%
Percent of Births to Mothers <u>Less than</u> 20 Years of Age (1993)	15.7%	16.8%
Percent Households w/ Children Headed by a Single Parent (1990)	8.7%	7.5%
Percent of Population Under 6 Years (1990)	10.2%	8.2%
Percent of Population Ages 10-13 Years (1990)	5.0%	6.1%
Percent of Population Ages 14-19 Years (1990)	9.0%	9.2%
Percent of Population Under 18 Years (1990)	26.2%	25.9%

\* These data are dated June 1997 and were generously supplied by the Kentucky Cabinet for Families and Children. K-TAP refers to the Kentucky Temporary Assistance Program which replaces the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program.

**SEED (Social and Economic Education for Development)** is a program of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service at the University of Kentucky. Faculty draw on the resources of the Social and Natural Resources Information Laboratory and professional contacts at the the University of Kentucky, other agencies, and community programs throughout the country. For more information contact your local Cooperative Extension office or Dr. Richard C. Maurer, SEED, 500 Garrigus Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40546 or call (606) 257-7582.

*Educational programs of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service serves all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.*

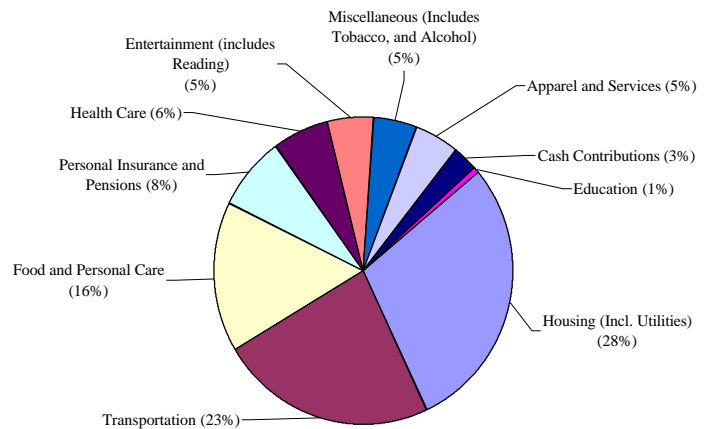
**Christian County  
Income by Source, 1995**



Source: Regional Economic Information System, Bureau of Economic Analysis

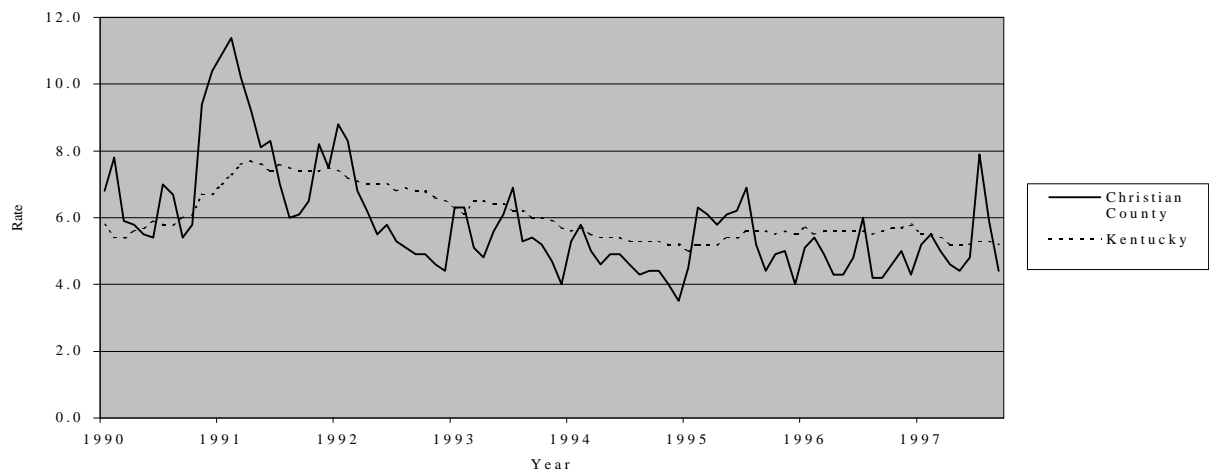
**Average Household Expenditures: Southern Region,  
Income Group \$20-\$29,999**

(Data are not specific to this county, but are for the same income group in the Southern Region as the median income estimated in 1993 for this county.)

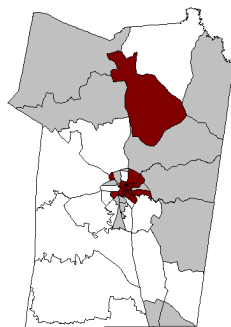


Source: Consumer Expenditure Survey, 1994-5

**Monthly Unemployment Rates 1990-1997**



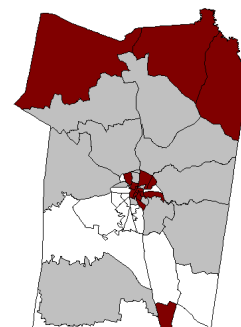
**Households Without Personal Transportation  
Christian County**



Percent  
0.0 - 4.8  
4.8 - 10.4  
10.4 - 45.5

Source: 1990 Census of Population and Housing

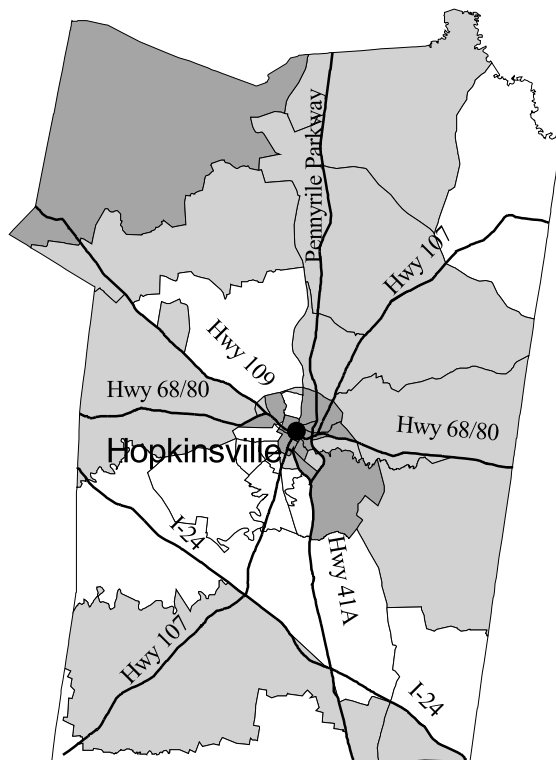
**Households Without Telephones  
Christian County**



Percent  
0.0 - 3.0  
3.0 - 11.3  
11.3 - 28.4

Source: 1990 Census of Population and Housing

# Population Living Below Poverty Level Christian County



## Percent

