

Rural and Economic Development Programs, Rural Sociology

University of Kentucky, College of Agriculture

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>
Poverty	20.6	10.7
Poverty Rate (1993)	30.6	19.7
Number of Individuals Living in Poverty (1993)	10,547	748,007
Total Number of K-TAP Recipients (1997)*	2,548	145,465
Percent of K-TAP Recipients Who Are Children (1997)*	68.7%	68.2%
Percent People under 18 Living in Poverty (1993)	42.9%	28.1%
Percent Participation in the Free and Reduced School		
Lunch Program (Avg. across districts) (1995-96)	61.5%	43.9%
Percent K-TAP Cases with Benefits 2 Yrs or Less (1997)*	39.1%	42.4%
Percent Population 65 and Over Below Poverty Level (1990)	24.9%	20.60%
Local Economy		
Avarage Unemployment Rate (Jan-Sept, 1997)	7.2	5.31
Percent of Adults Receiving K-TAP Who Are Either		
Employed or have a Work History (1997)*	72.1%	79.2%
Top 3 Employment Sectors (% of Total Jobs) (1995)	Services 28.3%	Services 24.7%
	Retail 17.7%	Retail 17.5%
	Manuf 15%	Manuf 15.3%
Percent Employment: Manufacturing, Retail, and Services (1995)	61.1%	57.5%
Percent of Women-Owned Businesses (1992)	29.4%	31.4%
Percent of Farmers with Farming as Primary Occupation (1992)	35.2%	44.5%
Percent of Jobs that are in Farming (1995)	2.6%	5.4%
Percent Working at Home (1990)	1.6%	3.0%
Percent of Teenagers Employed (Ages 16-19 Years) (1990)	27.5%	36.0%
Percent of Labor Force that is Female (1990)	44.5%	44.70%
Median Household Income (1993)	\$18,374	\$25,222
Income Maintenance as Percent of Total Transfer Payments (1995)	14.5%	10.7%
Food Stamp Payments (1995)	\$7,041,000	\$411,827,000

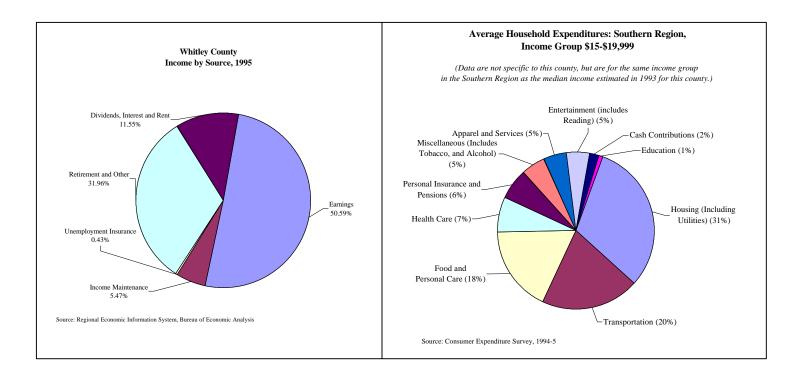
April, 1998

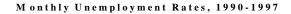
Work Force	<b>County</b>	Stat
Expenditures per Student (Avg. across Districts) (1994-95)	\$4,643	\$4,685
Child Care Slots (1997)*		
Licensed	754	121,25
Certified	42	3,76
Unregulated	790	50,12
Adult K-TAP Recipients w/ High School, GED or More (1997)*	59.2%	48.7%
Percent 18 yrs + with a High School Degree or More (1990)	55.7%	66.1%
Percent 18 yrs + with Less than a 9th Grade Education (1990)	25.1%	16.7%
Fransportation		
Percent of Housing Units Without Personal Transportation (1990)	14.0%	11.5%
Average Travel Time to Work (in Minutes) (1990)	20.4	20.
Percent of Workers Working Outside County of Residence (1990)	21.4%	25.9%
Percent of Population Living on Farms (1992)	0.7%	4.7%
Percent of Workers Either Drive or Share a Ride to Work (1990)	91.2%	90.9%
Percent Commuting 45 Minutes or More to Work (1990)	10.3%	9.6%
Housing		
Median Gross Rent (1990)	\$270	\$319
Percent Households Paying 30% + of Income For Rent (1990)	53.3%	38.19
Total Number of Rental Housing Units (1990)	3,807	457,13
Rental Vacancy Rate (1990)	6.8	8.
Percent of Occupied Housing that is Renter Occupied (1990)	29.2%	30.49
Percent of Housing Units that are Mobile Homes (1990)	22.4%	12.19
Percent Housing Units Built After 1980 (Incl. Mobile Homes) (1990)	24.6%	20.09
Percent of Housing Units Lacking Complete Plumbing (1990)	6.6%	2.99
Percent of Housing Units with Sewage Disposal other than		
Sewer, Septic Tank or Cesspool (1990)	6.5%	3.89
Percent of Housing Units Without Telephones (1990)	17.6%	10.29
Social		
Total Resident Population (1997)	35,583	3,908,12
Number of Family Resource Youth Service Centers (1997)*	12	58
Percent of Births to Mothers 15-19 Years of Age (1993)	19.3%	16.49
Percent of Births to Mothers Less than 20 Years of Age (1993)	19.6%	16.89
Percent Households w/ Children Headed by a Single Parent (1990)	9.1%	7.5%
Percent of Population Under 6 Years (1990)	8.3%	8.29
Percent of Population Ages 10-13 Years (1990)	6.8%	6.19
Percent of Population Ages 14-19 Years (1990)	10.8%	9.29
Percent of Population Under 18 Years (1990)	27.1%	25.9%

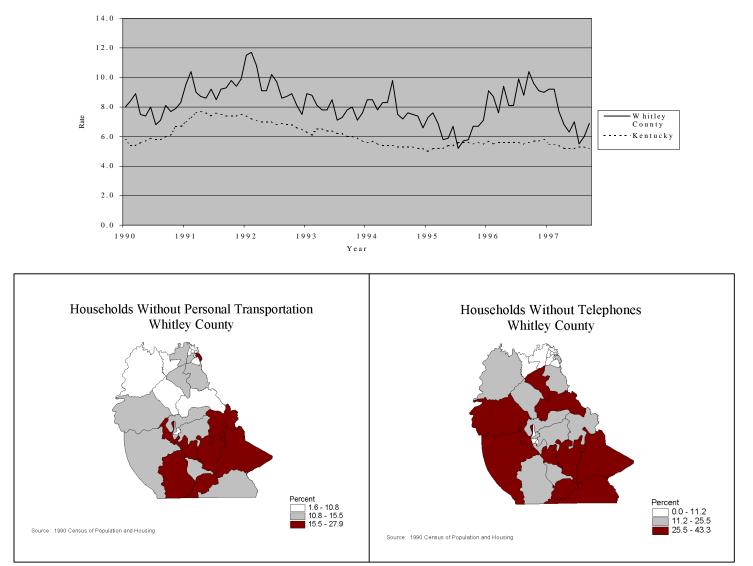
\* These data are dated June 1997 and were generously supplied by the Kentucky Cabinet for Families and Children. K-TAP refers to the Kentucky Temporary Assistance Program which replaces the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program.

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## Population Living Below Poverty Level Whitley County

