

## **Kentucky Farm Business Management Program**

# Family Living 2008 Sources and Uses Summary

### **Agricultural Economics - Extension No. 2009-08**

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By:

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## Acknowledgments

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#### A Special Note to Our Readers

The data for this study are drawn from the detailed financial and production records of producers cooperating with the Kentucky Farm Business Management Program. The data are not drawn from a random sample of farms in the state. However, these data are the most accurate and detailed farm financial data which are available to researchers and educators. Every attempt has been made to select a set of farms for these research studies which are "typical" operations and have complete financial information available for analysis. These data are carefully cross-checked by our farm management specialists before inclusion in this analysis. It should be noted that farms included in this study are representative of commercial farms producing major commodities and livestock, but not of all farms in Kentucky.

A depressed economy in 2008 did not depress the level of family living expenses among farm families. According to data collected on 88 farms participating in the Kentucky Farm Business Management Program, family living expenses continued to increase, as did net farm incomes during 2008.

In general, Kentucky farms experienced an exceptional year during 2008, with unprecedented prices for several crops and reasonable yields. This allowed farm families to escape many of the pressures resulting from the falling American economy. When the farm is doing well, making money, much of the focus on limiting family living expenses can be lost, because there is money flowing. However, keeping tabs on family living expenses is vital to the sustainability of the farm. When money leaves the farm for family living it is not available for operating expenses, capital replacement, and debt repayment. If family living is not in check, a farming operation can actually end up in a worse financial position despite a good net farm income.

As with many aspects of farming, family living expenses can vary widely among operations. Family living expenses for 2008 will be examined based on the Kentucky average, family size, age of children, and size of operation.

#### Average Sources & Uses – Trend

Kentucky farm family living expenses continue to increase. The average Kentucky farm and family sources and uses of dollars per farm from 2004 to 2008 are displayed in Table 1. Total family living expenses were \$71,742 in 2008; this is a 10.7% or \$6,958 increase over 2007. \$4,442 of this increase was spent on non-capital expenses (contributions, life insurance, medical expenses, and expendables), while \$2,516 was due to an increase in capital expenditures (vehicle, home improvements). This increase in capital expenditures was very significant and represents 71% more than the amount spent on the same items in 2007. Farm families experienced incredible net farm incomes during 2008, with an average of \$160,390. These high levels of farm income provided more money to spend throughout the operation, including family living.

During 2008, farm families did experience a reduction in non-farm income, down \$7,542 or 19%. This could be assumed to be part of the down swing in the U.S. economy which resulted in fewer jobs and/or reduced hours. Net non-farm income was at its lowest level since 2003 on the farms studied.

While machinery and equipment purchases escalated in 2007 from 2006, we saw another significant increase during 2008, up \$103,014 on average. 2008 presented record farm incomes, as previously mentioned, as well as very favorable tax laws, allowing farming operations to accelerate a large amount of depreciation. Thus the amount of equipment was inflated in some instances.

#### Number in Family

The size of the family can impact the amount of money spent on family living expenses. Table 2 provides data on the sources of uses of dollars by the number of people in the family. Family

size is split into three groups: families with two or less members, families with three to five members, and families with greater than five members. Interestingly, the families with the fewest members exhibited the highest level of total family living expenses during 2008 at \$74,740. These families were higher in all segments of family living expense except expendables. However, and most significantly, the amount spent on capital items was \$9450; over three times as much as the other family sizes. This could be explained by the fact that these families do not have children living in the home and are typically older with an average age of 65. Therefore, one would expect there to be less emphasis on savings as well as less of a need for mortgage payments. This allows for these producers to spend more money on luxuries, like new cars and home renovations, than other younger families with children.

Ranking second in family living expenses are the largest families (those with more than five members). These families spent \$74,488 on family living, with a much higher portion of those expenses going toward expendables. These largest families realized the lowest net farm and non-farm incomes. These farms also represented the highest level of feed fed, indicating that the average farm type may differ from the smaller families.

Families with three to five members realized the highest farm income at \$181,019 and non-farm income at \$39,721, but spent the least on family living at \$67,545. However, these farms did spend the most on other farm expenses and machinery and building purchases, indicating a larger investment back into the farming operation. Table 3 examines families with three to five members further, by splitting them into a high and low third of family living expenses. While on average this group represented the lowest family living expenses, there is a wide variation between the top and bottom. The high third spent almost four times as much on family living expenses but they also represented over two and half times the net farm income and over ten times as much non-farm income than the low third group. This illustrates that when there is more money available, it is typical to see a higher level of family living.

#### Age of Children

Table 4 splits average family living expenses by the age of the oldest child in the family. It is interesting to note that total family living expenses are close to the same for families with children under 10 and those families with children older than 16 at approximately \$73,000. Family living expenses for families with children between 10 and 16 are much lower at \$59,424.

The highest average family living expenses during 2008 occurred in families with the oldest child less than 10 years of age. These families spent \$73,786, with a notable \$13,705 or 18.6% of that going for medical expenses. This group also had the lowest amount of non-farm income at \$21,989. However, this group did have the highest net farm income on average during 2008 at \$228,108.

Families with the oldest child over 16 represented the second highest family living expenses. The average age of the oldest child in this group is 22, indicating that these families could be supporting a child in college or that the adult child is working either on the farm or at an off-farm job. These farms pulled in the most money from non-farm income, indicating the possibility of

more opportunities to work outside the home due to children being old enough to care for themselves.

Average family living expenses were lowest for families where the oldest child is between 10 and 16. These farms had family living expenses of \$59,424, on average. The greatest difference in spending habits for these families was the lower expendables, at over \$9,000 below the next lowest group. This middle group also spent less on family capital expenditures.

#### Size of Farm

The size of the farm can have a significant impact on the amount of net farm income earned, especially if they are row crop farms, however, this can also impact the amount of money spent for family living expenses. Table 5 shows family living expenses by the size of the farm: those less than 300 tillable acres, between 300 and 600 tillable acres, and those greater than 600 acres. There is also a split between the high and low third of farms from 300 to 600 tillable acres.

As one might assume, as the farms get larger the average net farm income increases. This is also true with the amount spent on family living expenses during 2008. The smallest farms represent the lowest family living expenses, but those amounts are not much lower than the next size farm, only \$5,240 less. These smallest farms also spent more on family living than the net farm income of the farm. This indicates a need for non-farm income, which was \$30,327. It is important for these farms to realize the importance of the non-farm income, especially in the present condition of the U.S. economy.

Farms between 300 and 600 acres spent \$48,669 on family living in 2008, with net farm incomes of \$67,395 and non-farm incomes of \$19,743 on average. By splitting this group of farms into a high and low third the differences within the group become evident. The high third of these farms had higher net farm incomes and non-farm incomes at \$110,696 and \$28,878 respectively. Those in the low third spent less but also made less with net farm incomes of \$27,451 and non-farm incomes of \$14,719. The good news is that unlike in 2007, the low third farms made enough money, both on and off farm, to pay for family living expenses and did not necessarily have to pull from savings or loans to fund the family.

The highest expenses for family living were for farms with greater than 600 acres, in which the average size is 1,490 acres. These farms spent \$102,571 on family living expenses, which is over double the amount spent on expendables by the other two farm size groups. These large farms had the highest net farm incomes at \$297,417 and non-farm incomes at \$39,064. Capital family expenses were also much higher for these farms at \$11,774.

Higher net farm incomes in 2008 allowed family living expenses to increase without feeling any pressures on the farm level. When there is more money being made it is foreseeable that family living expenses will increase as well. The problems arise when farm incomes begin to drop and family living expenses do not decrease accordingly. This could be detrimental to the financial stability of the farm as family living expenses do not go back to productive or financial improvements on the farm.

When family living expenses exceed the combination of farm and non-farm income farm families are forced to supplement with savings and loans. The savings can only last for a short time when money is not replaced. If the family is living out of the farm operating loan the farm can, over time, be put into a situation of not being able to pay that back. This can lead to long-term financing of operating expense, and family expenses, which can create a precarious situation for the farm.

While family living expenses do not impact whether the farm is making money at its productive units, family livings expenses can rob the farming operation of all-important cash needed for inputs, servicing loans, and renewing equipment. It is important for farm families to realize the impact that family living has on the operation and be sure to keep living expenses in check, especially when it is foreseeable that net farm incomes could fall from one year to the next.

Table 1. Farm and Family 2003-2008.				,	y	,
Item	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
Number of families	87	86	123	121	136	120
Age of operator	56	54	57	55	54	53
Number in family		3.1	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9
Age of oldest dependent child		16	17	17	17	16
Total tillable operator acres <sup>1</sup> .	822	707	746	685	745	678
Value of feed fed			\$29,365	\$32,446	\$29,791	\$34,494
Net farm income	\$160,390	\$67,939	\$85,642	\$64,594	\$70,785	\$76,774
FAMILY LIVING EXPENS	E:					
Contributions		\$3,290	\$4,358	\$4,060	\$3,881	\$3,347
Medical			7,697	7,346	7,529	6,185
Life Insurance			1,800	1,421	1,772	1,695
Expendables		49,631	43,121	40,936	36,950	33,615
Total Non-Capital		(61,260)	(56,976)	(53,763)	(50,131)	(44,842
Capital		3,524	2,528	3,573	3,543	3,083
Total Living Expenses			(\$59,504)	(\$57,336)	(\$53,674)	(\$47,925
SOURCES OF FUNDS:						
Non-taxable receipts	81.827	7 58,667	40,419	31,556	26,891	24,740
Net non-farm income			43,641	42,068	36,213	31,380
Money borrowed			206,185	190,236	203,804	204,563
Total farm receipts			396,481	375,553	379,183	324,239
TOTAL SOURCE ALL FUNI			\$686,726	\$639,413	\$646,091	\$584,92
USES OF FUNDS:						
Farm						
Interest paid	\$24.724	\$28,025	\$18,468	\$16,806	\$15,236	\$15,537
Other farm expenses			288,439	271,895	265,496	239,735
Machinery-bldg. purchases			55,045	49,276	59,004	43,025
Total Farm Expenditures						
Principal payments			`	\$177,369	\$187,334	\$182,680
Income & S.S. tax			19,382	14,805	13,173	11,109
Savings and Investment.			61,857	51,932	52,166	44,901
-			01,001	0.,002	02,100	1 1,00 1
Living expenses:	¢65.70′	) \$61.260	<b>\$56.076</b>	¢52.762	¢50 121	\$11 O1
Total Non-Capital			\$56,976	\$53,763	\$50,131	\$44,842
Capital			2,528	3,573	3,543	3,083
Total Living Expense	,	· ·	(\$59,504)	(\$57,336)	(\$53,674)	(\$47,925
TOTAL USE OF FUNDS	\$1,0.68,48	8 \$892,723	\$686,727	\$639,418	\$646,084	\$584,913
Balancing error	16	27	1	5	-7	-8
Total tillable acres prior to 2002. Included fund transfers and withdrawals fr	rom savinos tax refunds	aifts inharitances tr	ansfer from other h	usings ont & miss		

Family and All Families.				
		Number in Fan	nily	All Families
Item	1 - 2	3 - 5	>5	2008
Number of families	44	36	7	8.
Age of operator	65	48	44	5
Number in family	1.8	3.9	6.9	3.0
Age of oldest dependent child	. 0	16	19	10
Total tillable operator acres	79.6.	. 823	969	822
Value of feed fed	\$44,361	\$56,287	\$144,685	\$57,368
Net farm income	\$151,604	\$181,019	\$109,524	\$160,390
FAMILY LIVING EXPENSE:				
Contributions	\$5,008	\$4,501	\$3,861	\$4,706
Medical	8,551	8,323	7,618	8,38
Life Insurance	2,572	1,875	1,606	2,200
Expendables	<u>49,159</u>	<u>50,409</u>	58,274	50,409
Total Non-Capital	(65,289)	(65,108)	(71,359)	(65,702)
Capital	. <u>9,450</u>	<u>2,437</u>	<u>3,129</u>	6,04
Total Living Expenses	. (\$74,740)	(\$67,545)	(\$74,488)	(\$71,742)
SOURCES OF FUNDS:				
Non-taxable receipts 1	\$99,37.7	\$67,232	\$46,573	\$81,827
Net non-farm income	28,596	39,721	13,607	31,993
Money borrowed	292,247	374,884	553,410	347,455
Total farm receipts		703,806	760,282	607,229
TOTAL SOURCE ALL FUNDS	. \$924,081	\$1,185,644	\$1,373,872	\$1,068,504
USES OF FUNDS:				
Farm				
Interest paid	\$20,910	\$27,031	\$36,833	\$24,724
Other farm expenses	385,015	554,614	522,962	466,294
Machinery-bldg. purchases	68,670	139,282	132,364	103,014
Total Farm Expenditures	(\$474,596)	(\$720,927)	(\$692,159)	(\$594,031)
Principal payments		\$296,997	\$495,940	\$280,863
Income & S.S. tax	23,764	20,070	2,339	20,51
Savings and Investment <sup>2</sup>		80,056	109,001	101,340
Living expenses:				
Total Non-Capital	\$65,289	\$65,108	\$71,359	\$65,702
Capital	9,450	2,437	3,129	6,040
Total Living Expense		(\$67,545)	(\$74,488)	(\$71,742
TOTAL USE OF FUNDS		\$1,185,595	\$1,373,927	\$1,068,488

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Included fund transfers and withdrawals from savings, tax refunds, gifts, inheritances, transfer from other business ent. & misc. <sup>2</sup> Includes transfers to savings, loans to others, real estate purchases, other non-farm capital and net change in bank balance.

Table 3.	Kentucky Farm and Family Sources and Uses of Dollars, 2008, by
	High-Low 1/3 Non-Capital Living Expenses for Family of 3 to 5.

	Non-Capital Living	Expense
	For Family of Thr	ee to Five
Item	High 1/3	Low 1/3
Number of families	12	12
Age of operator	48	48
Number in family	3.7	3.8
Age of oldest dependent child	16	13
Total tillable operator acres	1,360	455
Value of feed fed	\$11,206	\$67,619
Net farm income	\$275,506	\$101,867
FAMILY LIVING EXPENSE:		
Contributions	\$6,048	\$953
Medical	13,821	5,309
Life Insurance	2,935	746
<b>Expendables</b>	87,227	22,169
Total Non-Capital	(110,031)	(29,177)
Capital	4,446	242
Total Living Expenses	(\$114,477)	(\$29,419)
SOURCES OF FUNDS:		
Non-taxable receipts 1	\$80,270	\$21,615
Net non-farm income	57,466	5,039
Money borrowed	521,372	139,549
Total farm receipts	1,043,012	405,932
TOTAL SOURCE ALL FUNDS	\$1,702,120	\$572,135
USES OF FUNDS:		
Farm		
Interest paid	\$29,772	\$15,955
Other farm expenses	853,216	305,498
Machinery-bldg. purchases	<u>151,974</u>	71,550
Total Farm Expenditures	(\$1,034,961)	(\$393,003)
Principal payments	\$428,841	\$117,888
Income & S.S. tax	28,350	3,718
Savings and Investment <sup>2</sup>	95,256	28,109
Living expenses:	,	,
Total Non-Capital	\$110,031	\$29,177
Capital	4,446	242
Total Living Expense	(\$114,477)	(\$29,419)
TOTAL USE OF FUNDS	\$1,701,885	\$572,136
TOTAL OSL OF FUNDS	ψ1,701,000	ψ312,130
Balancing error	-235	2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Included fund transfers and withdrawals from savings, tax refunds, gifts, inheritances, transfer from other business ent. & misc.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Includes transfers to savings, loans to others, real estate purchases, other non-farm capital and net change in bank balance.

Item	Age of Old	doot Donondont Chile	
ltom		dest Dependent Child	
item	Under 10	10 - 16	Over 16
Number of families	7	16	2′
Age of operator	45	44	51
Number in family	3.4	4.6	4.4
Age of oldest dependent child	6	13	22
Total tillable operator acres	830	982	737
Value of feed fed	\$45,786	\$66,701	\$78,639
Net farm income	\$228,108	\$221,099	\$107,856
FAMILY LIVING EXPENSE:			
Contributions	\$1,715	\$5,534	\$4,254
Medical	13,705	7,440	6,774
Life Insurance	2,458	1,342	1,977
Expendables	52,908	43,826	56,794
Total Non-Capital	(70,786)	(58,142)	(69,799)
Capital	3,000	1,282	3,244
Total Living Expenses	(\$73,786)	(\$59,424)	(\$73,044)
SOURCES OF FUNDS:			
Non-taxable receipts <sup>1</sup>	\$13,559	\$48,326	\$89,440
Net non-farm income	21,989	22,882	47,866
Money borrowed	393,216	433,452	381,836
Total farm receipts	640,893	858,130	605,763
TOTAL SOURCE ALL FUNDS	\$1,069,657	\$1,362,790	\$1,124,905
USES OF FUNDS:			
Farm			
Interest paid	\$19,570	\$33,878	\$27,061
Other farm expenses	527,613	660,437	456,110
Machinery-bldg. purchases	68,263	197,394	110,672
Total Farm Expenditures	(\$615,446)	(\$891,709)	(\$593,843)
Principal payments	\$314,398	\$339,471	\$325,882
Income & S.S. tax	11,581	9,847	24,108
Savings and Investment <sup>2</sup>	54,446	62,334	107,966
	04,440	02,004	107,000
Living expenses:	Ф <b>7</b> 0.700	Ф <b>Г</b> О 4 40	ФСО <b>7</b> 00
Total Non-Capital	\$70,786	\$58,142	\$69,799
Capital	3,000	(\$50,404)	3,244
Total Living Expense	(\$73,786)	(\$59,424)	(\$73,044)
TOTAL USE OF FUNDS	\$1,069,657	\$1,362,785	\$1,124,842
Balancing error	0	-6	-63

Included fund transfers and withdrawals from savings, tax refunds, gifts, inheritances, transfer from other business ent. & misc. Includes transfers to savings, loans to others, real estate purchases, other non-farm capital and net change in bank balance.

Table 5. Kentucky Farm and Family Sources and Uses of Dollars, 2008, by Operator Tillable Acres
In Farm and by High-Low 1/3 Non-Capital Living Expenses for 300-600 Acre Size.

				Non-Capital	Living	
	Opera	Operator Tillable Acres in Farm Exper		Expense		
	Unde	r		300-600 Operato	or Tillable Acr	
Item	300	300-600	600+	High 1/3	Low 1/3	
Number of families	26	19	39	6	6	
Age of operator		7 55	55	58	57	
Number in family		3 2.9	3.0	3.0	2.3	
Age of oldest dependent child			17	16	27	
Total tillable operator acres .	193	3440	1,490	415	414	
Value of feed fed				\$69,137	\$70,936	
Net farm income			\$297,417	\$110,696	\$27,451	
FAMILY LIVING EXPENS	SE:					
Contributions		2 \$4,235	\$6,505	\$8,181	\$916	
Medical				7,964	6,046	
Life Insurance				1,414	2,969	
Expendables		-	·	46,107	19,646	
Total Non-Capital				(63,667)	(29,576)	
Capital				3,042	4,833	
Total Living Expenses			(\$102,571)	(\$66,709)	(\$34,409)	
SOURCES OF FUNDS:						
Non-taxable receipts 1	\$18,61.	7 \$44,625	\$145,414	\$87,356	\$44,854	
Net non-farm income				28,878	14,719	
Money borrowed				104,815	140,348	
Total farm receipts				393,254	250,360	
TOTAL SOURCE ALL FUN			\$1,744,198	\$614,302	\$450,280	
USES OF FUNDS:						
Farm						
Interest paid	\$21.298	3 \$10,466	\$35,856	\$10,571	\$9,338	
Other farm expenses				246,670	192,419	
Machinery-bldg. purchase			·	40,090	40,070	
Total Farm Expenditures				(\$297,332)	(\$241,827)	
Principal payments				\$113,559	\$143,630	
Income & S.S. tax				22,201	7,374	
Savings and Investment <sup>2</sup> .				114,503	23,043	
		30,200	107,110	111,000	20,010	
Living expenses:	\$42.60	8 \$46,182	\$90,797	\$63,667	\$29,576	
Total Non-Capital		1		3,042		
Capital				(\$66,709)	4,833 (\$34,400)	
Total Living Expense			(\$102,571)	```	(\$34,409)	
	\$538,203	3 \$548,793	\$1,744,126	\$614,302	\$450,284	
TOTAL USE OF FUNDS						

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Included fund transfers and withdrawals from savings, tax refunds, gifts, inheritances, transfer from other business ent. & misc.

<sup>2</sup> Includes transfers to savings, loans to others, real estate purchases, other non-farm capital and net change in bank balance.