Useful Public Datasets for Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS) Extension Professionals

Health, Nutrition, and Wellness

1. *CDC PLACES Project*
    - Local-level estimates of chronic disease, physical activity, obesity, and more
        - www.cdc.gov/places/

2. *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS CDC)*
    - State-level data on health behaviors: diet, exercise, smoking, preventive care
        - www.cdc.gov/brfss/

3. *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps*
    - County-level health, social, and economic indicators affecting families
        - www.countyhealthrankings.org/

4. *USDA Food Environment Atlas*
    - Data on food access, local food stores, and diet-related health outcomes
        - www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-environment-atlas/

5. *USDA SNAP-Ed Evaluation Framework & Data Tools*
    - Useful for nutrition education programs and outcome tracking
        - snapedtoolkit.org/

Financial Wellness & Economic Stability

6. *Consumer Expenditure Survey (Bureau of Labor Statistics)*
    - National data on how people spend money, useful for budgeting education
        - www.bls.gov/cex/

7. *U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS)*
    - Local data on income, employment, housing costs, family structure
        - data.census.gov/

8. *ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed United Way)*
    - County-level estimates of households struggling financially but above the poverty line
        - www.unitedforalice.org/

Family Well-being & Education

9. Kids Count Data Center (Annie E. Casey Foundation)

- Tracks child and family well-being indicators like childcare, teen birth rates, family income
  - datacenter.kidscount.org/

10. National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)

- Data on school enrollment, adult education, literacy, early childhood programs
  - nces.ed.gov/

11. Child Care and Early Education Research Connections

- Research and data on early childhood and family support programs
  - www.researchconnections.org/

Housing, Home Life & Community Context

12. HUD Picture of Subsidized Households

- Information on low-income housing and demographics of residents
  - www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/picture/yearlydata.html

13. CDC Social Vulnerability Index (SVI)

- Identifies communities that may need more support based on housing, income, education
  - www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/

14. Opportunity Atlas

- Tracks economic mobility by neighborhood and how early life conditions shape outcomes
  - opportunityatlas.org/

Using Public Data for Evaluation and Program Planning
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