



Impact, Jobs and Consumers

	CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS				
	1	2	3	4	STATE TOTAL
FOOD CHAIN LINKS FROM GATE TO PLATE					
Food Chain-Related Employment*	93,928	72,327	50,832	139,026	385,271
Total Employment	509,888	492,111	534,582	489,464	2,026,045
Food Chain-Related as Percent of Total	18.4	14.7	9.5	28.4	19
Population	768,100	773,250	789,410	759,656	3,090,416
LINKS TO IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY					
Education	3,674	3,113	5,935	5,756	18,478
Most undergraduate students enrolled at Iowa State come from Iowa. Total undergraduate enrollment was 28,893 in fall 2014.					
4-H/Youth	20,907	20,762	14,274	28,476	84,419
ISU Extension serves these rural and urban youth who participate in 4-H.					
Alumni	15,981	13,374	34,603	33,528	97,486
Iowa State has nearly 240,000 alumni worldwide, and more than 22,000 College of Agriculture and Life Sciences alumni living in Iowa.					
Extension Participation*	51,760	52,327	35,042	85,693	224,822
Extension-sponsored events attracted Iowans for training in agricultural production; food safety and human nutrition; and to improve their families.					

*The sum of economic impact values for the four congressional districts does not equal the state total. The state and district values are obtained from a unique input-output model built specifically for that region. The figures include the direct employment and value added produced within these industries, plus the related spinoff activity that they stimulate in the remainder of Iowa's economy, from crop farming; cattle ranching and farming; dairy cattle and milk production; poultry and egg production; hog and other animal production; forest nurseries, forest products and timber tracts; logging; fishing; hunting and trapping; support activities for agriculture and forestry; food and beverage manufacturing; ethanol and other basic organic chemical manufacturing; fertilizer manufacturing; pesticide and other agricultural chemical manufacturing; and farm machinery and equipment manufacturing.

*Overall participation figures in 2014 reached 821,295; however, reporting methods allowed for only a small percentage to be captured by congressional district. Total contacts in 2014: 3,595,210 including digital/online.

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2014 Accomplishments

PREPARING TOMORROW'S LEADERS

- Extension and Outreach prepares future leaders through 4-H youth development programs – reaching about one in five Iowa school-age youth. Research shows that 4-Hers are more likely to make healthy choices and become active citizens.
- Iowa State's agricultural programs were ranked fifth among the world's universities in a British organization's annual ranking, which measures academic reputation, employer reputation and citations per scientific paper.
- The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences set its third consecutive annual enrollment record last fall with 4,475 undergraduate students, making it the third largest in the country.
- Within six months of receiving their diplomas, nearly 98 percent of graduates from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences are working, continuing their educations or serving in the military.
- More than 31,000 Iowa youth last year gained science, technology, engineering and math skills to prepare for careers thanks to help from extension, 4-H and the North Central STEM Hub at Iowa State.
- Last year, nearly 400 parents, caregivers and youth gained skills by participating in Strengthening Families Program: For Parents and Youth 10-14. Evaluations show positive changes in parenting skills and protective family factors.
- Each year, more than 1 million people benefit from extension's educational programs.

ENSURING PROFITABLE PRODUCERS

- Research is dispelling myths about breeding pigs to improve feed efficiency, which could produce the same amount and quality of pork, lowering the costs of farmers and providing potential savings for consumers. Studies of 10 generations of pigs bred to be more feed efficient found the animals are more robust.
- A USDA research geneticist at ISU leads an international effort studying the mechanisms determining cereal crops' resistance to fungal pathogens, such as powdery mildew, which can reduce yields by 40 percent or more.
- Extension and Outreach helped farmers and agribusiness professionals make informed decisions in their operations through more than 210,000 learning opportunities.

- Farmers say on-farm advice from extension field agronomists adds more than \$500 per visit to their profitability.
- Herbicide-resistant weeds are an increasing threat to Iowa and national crop production — and to food security. ISU leads a seven-state team to develop strategies for farmer adoption of more effective weed management.
- Extension farm management specialists helped 18,263 farmers and agri-business service providers at 174 meetings learn about the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Farm Bill).
- A new facility will use a robot to gather unprecedented amounts of data on the growth of plants under different environmental conditions, simulating the effects of climate change on early plant development.

HELPING IOWANS PROSPER

- Iowa State leads the new Center for Bioplastics and Biocomposites which aids the production of high-value products, including plastics, coatings, adhesives and composites, from agricultural and forestry feedstocks.
- Scientists have started a biorenewables company to design bacteria that make fatty acids for use as raw materials for environmentally friendly and high-performance lubricants for cars and machines.
- Researchers are turning the state's agricultural commodities into fish food, which could help farmers find new revenue streams and provide a boost to U.S. fish production.
- Volunteers trained by extension completed tax returns for low-income, rural Iowans, providing 748 filers with \$901,415 in Earned Income Tax Credit refunds.
- Extension's Community Design Lab and the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture are using school gardens, farmers' markets and food hubs to promote local food systems.
- Students are developing design concepts for a regional vision to strengthen local economies and revitalize rural downtowns through the Iowa Retail Initiative.
- More Iowans are using extension online educational materials and courses, with nearly 250,000 digital downloads and more than 2.5 million web visitors last year.

IMPROVING HEALTH

- Extension educated 1,614 low-income families, who increased their consumption of fruits and vegetables, a top strategy of the Governor's Healthiest State Initiative.

- About 1,800 Iowa food service workers participated in ServSafe[®], with more than 80 percent successfully earning food safety certification.
- Scientists developed a way to process corn containing a vaccine for Hepatitis B ensuring it would be as effective as an injected vaccine. A wafer made from the flour could provide immunization at a low cost, without needles.
- Researchers have developed a genetic marker for identifying cattle that have a healthier fatty acid composition, enabling accelerated selection of cattle for "heart healthier" meat and dairy products.

PROTECTING NATURAL RESOURCES

- ISU's Monarch Butterfly Conservation Consortium seeks to reverse the loss of breeding habitat in the state, through a collaboration with Iowa farmer groups and the state of Iowa. The research and extension program will develop habitat guidelines and distribute science-based information.
- Extension and research faculty have developed a free, web-based tool to help livestock and poultry producers compare odor mitigation techniques that could be useful on their farms.
- The Iowa Nutrient Research Center coordinates scientists at ISU, the University of Iowa and University of Northern Iowa to fill critical needs in nitrogen and phosphorus research identified in the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy, which addresses nutrients delivered to Iowa waterways and the Gulf of Mexico.
- Certification programs trained 4,844 manure applicators and more than 25,000 pesticide applicators last year in partnership with the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.
- Research seeks to protect urban and rural forests from the emerald ash borer. Outreach and education resources encourage proactive, collaborative and adaptive responses to one of the most destructive forest pests.
- A first-of-its-kind study is establishing an emissions baseline for swine facilities, filling data gaps and providing farmers with reliable information to make decisions on emission controls.