FFA FACTS!

**MEMBERSHIP​**

Today, there are 540,379 FFA members, aged 12‒21, in 7,489 chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

* 43% of FFA members are female; women hold approximately 50% of state leadership positions.
* 76% of our membership is Caucasian; 16% is Hispanic; 4% is African-American; 2% is Native American.
* 88% of FFA members are in grades 9-12; 7% are in middle school; 5% are high school graduates.
* 70% of FFA members live in rural/farm areas; 19% live in small towns; 10% live in urban/suburban areas.
* FFA chapters are in 18 of the 20 largest U.S. cities, including New York, Chicago and Philadelphia.
* The top five membership states are Texas, California, Georgia, Missouri and Oklahoma.
* The 2011 National FFA Convention was host to 53,358 members, FFA advisors and FFA supporters.
* 2010-11 National FFA Organization membership by states: ([English](https://www.ffa.org/documents/about_2010-11_State_Membership_Comparison_Report-English.pdf)) ([Spanish](https://www.ffa.org/documents/about_2010-11_State_Membership_Comparison_Report-Spanish.pdf))

**EDUCATION**

More than 11,000 FFA advisors and agriculture teachers deliver an integrated model of agricultural education providing students with innovative and leading-edge education, enabling them to grow into competent leaders.

* 92% offer agriscience; 71% offer advanced agriscience and biotechnology; 59% offer agricultural mechanics; 49% offer horticulture; 43% offer animal science; and 24% offer environment-related
* In 2001, 59% of qualified agricultural education graduates pursued teaching, 35 agriculture programs closed due to lack of qualified teachers and 365 agriculture teachers teach in more than one school
* 23% of teachers have five or fewer years of teaching experience
* The shortage of qualified agriculture teachers is the greatest challenge facing FFA and agricultural education

**CAREER EXPLORATION**

FFA classroom activities include math and science as well as hands-on work experience and the development of life skills, helping members discover their career path and realize success.

* Collectively, FFA members earn more than $4 billion annually through their hands-on work experience.
* Members participate and learn advanced career skills in 47 national proficiency areas based on their hands-on work experiences ranging from agricultural communications and food science and technology to turf grass management and wildlife production and management.
* According to the student magazine readership study, 87% of our students are interested in learning about career exploration, 81% about college preparation and 81% about technology.
* Through 24 national career development events and one activity, FFA members are challenged to real-life, hands-on tests of skills used to prepare them for more than 300 careers in the agriculture industry.

**INDUSTRY SUPPORT**

Agriculture is the nation’s largest employer, with more than 23 million jobs (17 percent of the civilian workforce) involved in some facet of American agriculture.

* The National FFA Foundation has raised more than $232 million for the National FFA Organization since 1944.
* Over 3,000 sponsors provided more than $16 million for FFA and agricultural programs and activities in 2011.
* In 2011, 129 sponsors provided 1,590 individual scholarships worth over $1.9 million through the National FFA Organization.
* To date, more than $34 million in FFA collegiate scholarships have been awarded to students pursuing higher education.
* At the National FFA Convention and Expo, the exhibit halls utilize more than 225,000 net square feet, attracting more than 400 exhibitors and vendors.

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*FFA.org*