AN UNPRECEDENTED REACH

The Cooperative Extension System, in partnership with USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), National 4-H Council, and Extension Foundation, is translating research into action for agriculture, health, natural resources, and human sciences to rapidly get practical tools and knowledge into the hands of people and communities who need them.

With over 32,000 state and local professionals and 1M+ volunteers, Extension is a nationwide, educational network that empowers farmers, ranchers, families, and communities to meet the challenges they face. With its wide reach — an office in or near most of the nation’s approximately 3,000 counties — Extension professionals help people to adapt to changing agricultural practices and technology; improve nutrition, health, and food safety; prepare for and respond to emergencies; protect our environment; and prepare the nation’s youth with essential skills to become tomorrow’s leaders.

TRANSLATING RESEARCH INTO ACTION

Land-Grant University faculty members translate science-based research results into practical educational resources appropriate for targeted audiences.

County-based educators work at the local level to identify issues, provide outreach education, evaluate the effectiveness of learning tools, and collect grassroots input to prioritize future research needs.

By living and working in communities, county Extension educators leverage relationships to respond to local needs, build trust, and engage effectively with their communities. Find Extension in every state and territory using this interactive map.