

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](#)) ([Spanish](#))

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.