

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION

Jefferson County

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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extension.missouri.edu/jefferson

**SERVE
MISSOURI.
DELIVER
MIZZOU.**



Extension
University of Missouri
an equal opportunity/ADA institution



Office of Extension
and Engagement
University of Missouri

OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR
FOR EXTENSION AND ENGAGEMENT

108 Whitten Hall

Columbia, MO 65211

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December 2023

Dear county commissioners and friends of MU Extension and Engagement,

Thank you for your important partnership with the University of Missouri Extension this past year.

I want to highlight three areas that address needs you helped us identify.

You may recall that the FY 23 state budget provided a one-time \$5 million infusion to MU Extension for growth. Of that, we allocated about \$3 million for field faculty in the areas of agriculture, 4-H, health/human development and business and community development.

Through a dedicated hiring effort, and thanks to that allocation, we have hired 168 new employees since November 2022. That includes 72 academic/faculty members, most of whom are field specialists in a priority area noted above, and 96 staff members (e.g., office administrators, youth and food and nutrition associates, etc.).

We also returned more faculty to local program delivery that best serves your county's needs, while preserving the partnership and relationship building work you value. Our extension and engagement specialists focus full-time on that work as they serve their assigned multi-county groups. Currently, 19 have been hired, with two more in the pipeline.

Finally, we are prioritizing our work with county extension councils. In the new role of partnership and council development director, Lorin Fahrmeier focuses on strengthening council representation and governance. This role will build stronger links with regional, educational and campus leadership to better identify and address local priorities.

At the UM System level, our engagement work across four universities and with leaders across the state makes a difference in areas of greatest need: broadband, workforce development, health access, food security and healthy futures for our youth.

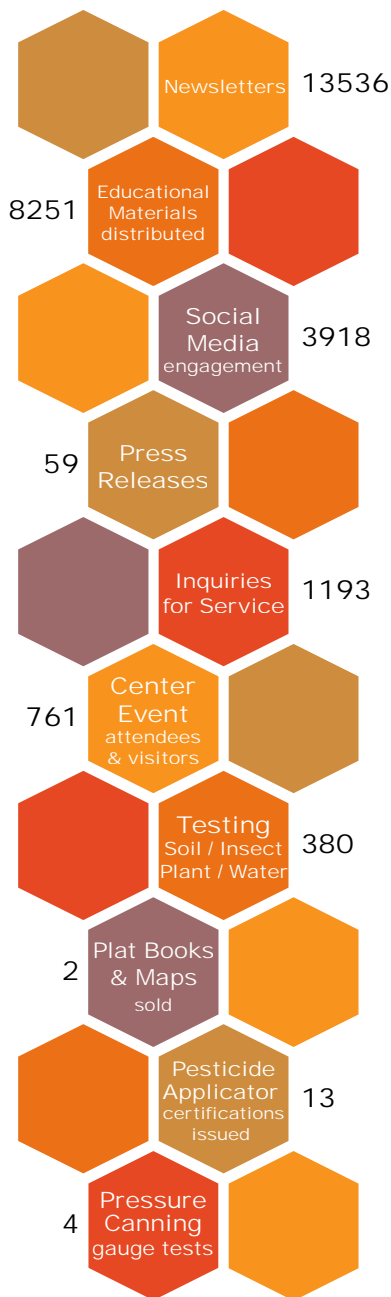
Your county annual report shows what we are accomplishing together as we Serve Missouri and Deliver Mizzou. We look forward to strengthening that partnership with county commissioners and community stakeholders in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Chad Higgins, PhD
Interim Vice Chancellor, MU Extension and Engagement
Chief Engagement Officer, UM System

Who we are

2023 numbers



University of Missouri Extension

University of Missouri Extension (*MU Extension*) helps citizens across the state gain practical knowledge, understand and adapt to change, solve problems and make informed decisions. Using University research-based knowledge, *MU Extension* addresses a wide range of needs that fall into three grand



challenges for the state of Missouri: economic opportunity, educational

excellence and healthy futures. Every year, more than **one million**

Missourians turn to *MU Extension* for education and support specifically designed to respond to current needs, including agriculture and the environment; business and community development; family and youth development; health and safety.



Services & Support

Our distinct land-grant mission is to improve lives, communities and economies by producing relevant, reliable and responsive educational strategies that enhance access to the resources and research of the University of Missouri. The University of Missouri (MU) is a land-grant university, meaning it is a part of a federally mandated mission to carry the benefits of university research beyond campus. Federal legislation in the 1800's provided for the donation of public land to individual states. Missourians chose to apply their land grants to the existing Columbia campus.

This created two universities in one — a land-grant institution leading in research for all citizens of the state, across the nation and around the world, and an intellectual center to advance liberal arts education. Today, through statewide offices, publications and web-based services, extension faculty in every county of Missouri continue to carry the benefits of MU research throughout the entire state.

Extension has Something for Everyone in Jefferson County



- 4-H Youth Futures
- Strategic Doing
- Dining with Diabetes
- Walk with Ease
- Soil & Water Testing
- Food Preservation training
- Neighborhood Leadership Academy
- Stay Strong/Stay Healthy, Levels I & II
- Local Foods—Selling at Farmers Markets
- MU Extension Master Gardeners
- Family Nutrition Education Program
- Jefferson County Agricultural Conference

Your one-stop source
for **PRACTICAL EDUCATION**
on almost anything.



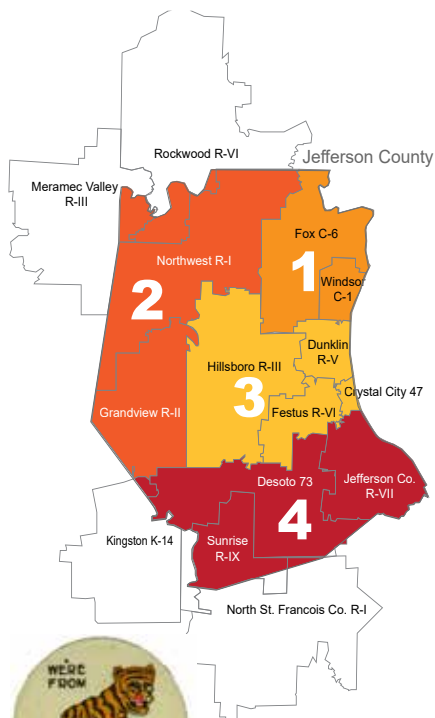
SERVE MISSOURI.

DELIVER MIZZOU.®

MU Extension Council-Jefferson County

Kevin Politte , Chair	District III
Chris Borgerson , Vice-Chair	District III
Jeffrey Valle , Secretary	District IV
Joan Boxx , Treasurer	District I
Nan Backes	District III
Mike Cook	City of Festus
Andrea Facio	District IV
Karen Kowal	District I
Blake Kruse	Cattlemen's Assoc.
Al Macri	District II
David Reed	Farm Bureau
Greg Shuster	District II

As of December 31, 2023, there are vacant seats in Districts I, II, III & IV, and City of Arnold



Courtesy of University Archives

Faculty and Staff



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Janet Eckstein

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Courtesy of
University Archives



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Chadwick Higgins

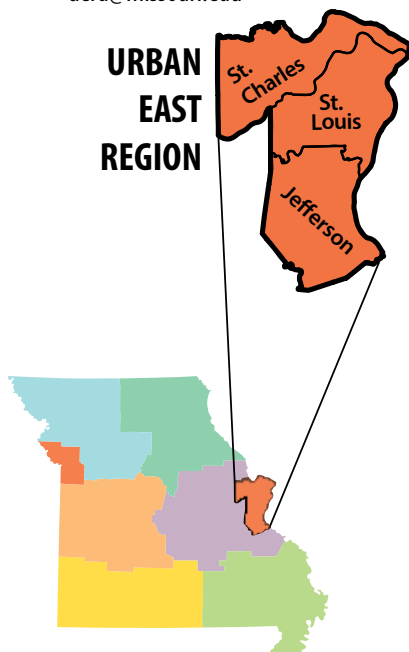
Interim Vice Chancellor
MU Extension And Engagement
& UM System Chief Engagement Officer
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MU Urban East Regional Office

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Jody Squires

Interim Director of Off-Campus Operations
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Courtesy of University Archives

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Missouri Grand Challenges



Knowing Missouri's Needs

MU Extension asked Missourians to share the greatest challenges they and their communities face.

We heard that feedback and made big changes in the way we work with council and local partners to improve lives. Locally, a network of county engagement and subject matter specialists now share MU's knowledge, research and engagement, targeting programs, information and assistance in:

- agriculture and environment
- youth and family
- business and community
- health and safety

For each grand challenge, MU Extension and Engagement targets a specific gain:



Economic opportunity
Increase MU Extension and Engagement's economic impact to the State of Missouri from \$1 billion to \$1.5 billion overall, and from \$88 billion to \$100 billion in agriculture, the top economic sector



Educational access and excellence
Increase participation in postsecondary education from 66% to 70%



Health and well-being
Improve Missouri's health ranking from 40th to 35th in nation

Jefferson County



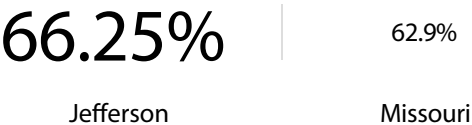
GRAND CHALLENGE 1: Economic Opportunity

Economic Mobility

Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate is a measure of an economy's active workforce and includes people who are employed and those seeking employment. According to the 2015 – 2019 American Community Survey, of the 181,316 persons of working age in the report area, 66.25% are included in the labor force. This rate exceeds the Missouri labor force participation rate of 62.90%.

Labor Force Participation Rate

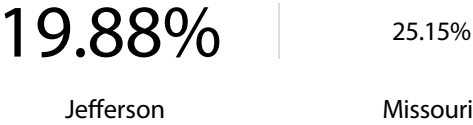


Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

Cost-Burdened Households (30%)

Cost-burdened households, where housing costs exceed 30% of total annual household income, is one measure of the relationship between cost of living and income. Households with high housing costs have fewer dollars remaining for other expenditures and are more likely to live paycheck-to-paycheck. The 19.88% of households in the report area are considered cost-burdened. This is below the state average of 25.15%.

Cost-Burdened Households, Percent



Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.



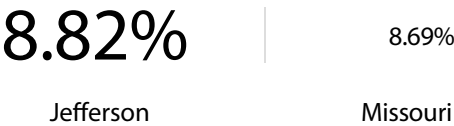
GRAND CHALLENGE 2: Educational Access and Excellence

Educational Attainment

Adult Educational Attainment

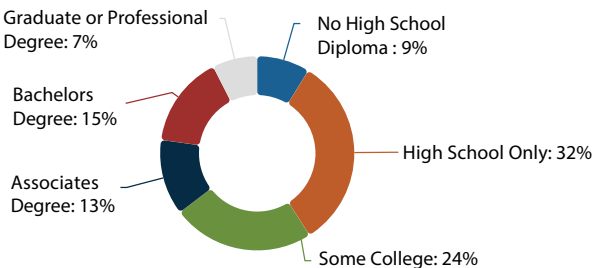
Educational attainment shows the distribution of the highest level of education achieved in the report area, and helps schools and businesses understand the needs of adults, whether it be workforce training or the ability to develop science, technology, engineering, and mathematics opportunities. Educational attainment is calculated for persons over 25 and is an estimated average for the period from 2017 to 2021.

No High School Diploma



Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.

In the report area, 23.7% of adults have at least some college education and 27.9% of adults have an associate's level degree or higher. However, 32.2% stopped their formal educational attainment after completing high school, and 8.8% of adults did not complete high school.



Data Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2018-22.



GRAND CHALLENGE 3: Healthy Futures

Healthy Aging & Healthy Weight

Fall Injuries

Falls are the leading cause of injury-related fatality and hospitalization among older adults in the United States. Between 2013 and 2015, adults over age 65 in the report area had 5,246 hospital or emergency room admissions for fall and jump-related injuries. The rate of these injuries was 4,843 per 100,000 population, which is lower than the state rate of 5,396. Falls hospitalizations have increased since the 2001-03 time period when the rate was 4,269.

Rate per 100,000, 2019-2021

4,843

Jefferson



5,396

Missouri

Data Source: US Department of Health & Human Services, Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services. 2019-2021.

Obesity (Adult)

This indicator reports the number and percentage of adults aged 20 and older self-report having a Body Mass Index (BMI) greater than 30.0 (obese). Respondents were considered obese if their Body Mass Index (BMI) was 30 or greater. Body mass index (weight [kg]/height [m]²) was derived from self-report of height and weight. Excess weight may indicate an unhealthy lifestyle and puts individuals at risk for further health issues.

Percentage of Adults Obese, 2016

37.5%

Jefferson



33%

Missouri

Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. 2021.



GRAND CHALLENGE 4: Agricultural Growth & Stewardship

Resource Management & Economy

Food Access

The ability to access healthy and affordable food can be a challenge in Missouri's rural and urban communities alike — with negative impacts on people's health and food security status. Food insecurity is the lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life. It is associated with many adverse social and health outcomes. Missouri's overall food insecurity rate is 11.8% — and 12.8% for children under age 18. More than half of Missouri's 114 counties and the City of St. Louis report food insecure populations of 12.6% or higher. Multiple interventions that address the root causes of food insecurity can impact this critical public health issue.

Population Living in a Food Desert

11.89%

Jefferson

17.69%

Missouri

Data Source: US Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, USDA - Food Access Research Atlas. 2019.

Rotational Grazing

A planned rotational grazing system allows time for vegetation to rest and recover before being grazed again. In 2017, nearly 16,000 Missouri farms reported practicing rotational or management-intensive grazing. With 11 million acres of row crops and nearly 2 million grazing livestock animals (mainly cattle), Missouri is well suited to capitalize on the grazing potential of cover crops. In addition to generating more income, grazing cover crops can have a positive impact on soil health. Manure, hoof action and the root responses that grazing elicits stimulate soil biological activity and lead to healthier soil and healthier crops.

Percent of Operations Utilizing Rotational Grazing

14.7%

Jefferson

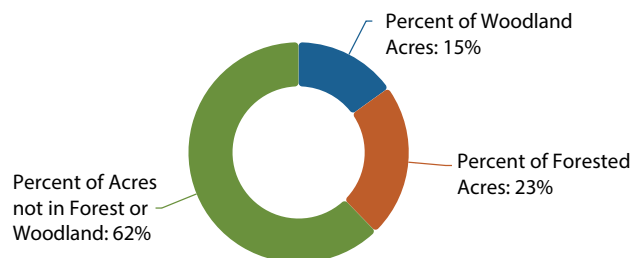
16.76%

Missouri

Data Source: US Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Census of Agriculture. 2017.

Forested, Woodland & Non-forested Acres

Sustainable management of forests and woodlands and harvesting of mature trees support the state's \$10.3 billion forest products industries. Forests have a closed canopy (>80% cover) permitting little light to penetrate to the ground below. They consist of several overlapping layers of trees, with a mid-story and understory comprising a variety of shade-tolerant shrubs and a sparse layer of soft-stemmed plants. Woodlands have a more open canopy (30- 80% cover), and their sparse, woody mid-story allows more sunlight to reach the ground. This light permits the growth of a dense ground cover containing a variety of wildflowers, grasses and sedges. Fire plays a large role in maintaining woodland habitats.



Data Source: Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium, National Land Cover Database.

Value Added

Value-added agriculture refers to production, manufacturing, marketing or other services that increase the value of primary agricultural commodities. In 2021, the total value-added derived from agriculture, forestry and related economic activity was an estimated \$34.9 billion. Meat processing, food processing, animal and pet food manufacturing, and crop production and related industries are Missouri's top value-added products: \$9.5 billion and 155,425 jobs from livestock production and related industries alone.

Percent of Total Value Added from Agriculture

3.9%

Jefferson

21.98%

Missouri

Data Source: Missouri Department of Agriculture, Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority. 2021.



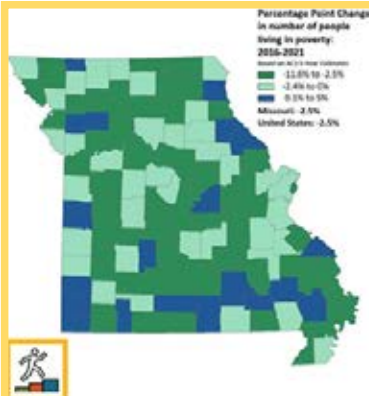
Missouri Small Business Development Centers

Missouri SBDC experts provide in-person and online assistance and host events on a variety of business topics. A program of *MU Extension* along with *Missouri APEX Accelerator* and *Mid-America Trade Adjustment Assistance Center*, *SBDC* specialists help businesses in every stage, from concept to startup, growth to renewal, mature to succession.

In FY2023, *Missouri SBDC* serving Jefferson County supported 109 awards totaling \$6,575,310. Additionally, 27 clients received counseling, 210 jobs were retained or created and 289 countians attended training events.



MU EXTENSION Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU through credible statewide programs Business and Community



The **Missouri Economy Indicators (MEI)** series explores business, industry and workforce topics that affect Missouri's economy. The data is shared through newsletters and on social media. MU Extension faculty and staff receive talking points and collateral to share with local stakeholders.

In 2022, MEI published 15 issues, and MEI online resources were accessed MORE THAN 5,000 TIMES. Two out of five MEI newsletter recipients reported using the information to help guide policy or decision-making in their work.



The **Neighborhood Leadership Academy** provides in-depth leadership training that emphasizes community-building principles, project planning, organizational leadership and personal leadership skills.

"The overall knowledge that I have gained through this course has been amazing. From how to engage stakeholders in the community, to planning events and hosting meetings, these are all tools that I will fully utilize going forward."

2022 NLA graduate

MOSECA

Missouri Supporting Early Childhood Administrators provides child care administrators the knowledge, skills and connections needed to effectively lead and operate sustainable, quality programs. This is a no-cost resource offered in partnership with *MU Extension* and others, and is working to support early childhood care Jefferson County businesses.

Neighborhood Leadership Academy

Each Fall, citizens in and around Jefferson County communities come together at the *MU Extension Neighborhood Leadership Academy*, with a community project idea to the first night of class. **NLA** facilitator Mistti Ritter, *MU Extension's Extension and Engagement Specialist and Field Specialist in Community Development*, works with the group so that implementation may become a reality. Participants of this 10-week course earn a *Chancellor's Certificate* from the **University of Missouri-St. Louis**.

Recent **NLA** projects in Jefferson County included *extending a community garden to prepare and serve meals addressing food insecurity; developing recreational space in a recently improved storm water floodplain; and extending after-school recreation to youth who had aged out of existing programs*. Emerging leaders in Jefferson County received over \$8,000 in mini-grant funding from **NLA** sponsor, *Missouri Foundation for Health*, to support the implementation of their ideas addressing a community need. *Scholarships are also often available*.



DEMOGRAPHIC, ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DATA TRAINING

MU Exceed offers customized data training. Participants learn how to use public data through hands-on exercises and demonstrations.

In 2022, Exceed provided data training to MORE THAN 200 MISSOURIANS. 95% of the attendees said that the information they learned was useful to their work.

UM BROADBAND INITIATIVE

The *University of Missouri System Broadband Initiative* is a coordinated effort to encourage the statewide build-out of reliable high-speed internet (broadband) infrastructure and use of broadband-based applications to improve the lives of Missourians around the state, addressing all three **Grand Challenges**.



Tax School

Jefferson County professionals participated in the **MU Extension Tax School** hosted by the **MU Extension Agriculture Business & Policy Program**. County residents benefit by tax preparers gaining knowledge, including *updates on legislation, rulings and cases, agricultural and natural resources topics, ethics, trusts and estates, business tax issues, IRS issues, penalties & defenses, form 4797 sales of property, retirement taxes, and like-kind exchange issues*. The teaching team included a CPA, attorney, former IRS liaison, an IRS certified ag economics professor, Missouri Department of Revenue representative and a **MU Extension Agriculture Business Specialist** and were approved for continuing education credit by the IRS, Missouri Bar and CFP Continuing Education.

County Engagement

The Jefferson County Extension Council, office support staff, and the MU faculty and program educators that serve the people of Jefferson County would like to thank the following for supporting our work on behalf of University of Missouri Extension in 2023.

Arnold 911 Memorial Garden
Arnold Farmers' Market
Atlas Youth Outreach
Bayer Fund
Big River Alpaca
Big River Grain & Cattle
Brewer & Sons Custom Meats
Buren Chapel AME Church
Buren-Douglass Neighborhood Center
Camp Skullbone of Cedar Hill
Carbon Smart Agriculture
Comtrea
Crystal City Farmers' Market
Crystal City Schools
Crystal City Public Library
Dean Wilson, Auctioneer
De Soto Farmers' Market
De Soto Public Library
De Soto Schools
Devel. Disability Advocates of Jeff Co
Disability Resource Association

Dunklin Schools
Farm & Homestead Equipment
FCS Financial
Festus Schools
Festus Public Library
Fort de Chartres Kitchen Garden
Fox Schools
Fox High School Garden Club
Freddy's Pond—De Soto
Get Healthy—De Soto
Good Shepherd Catholic School
Grandview FFA Chapter
Grandview Schools
Happy Hollow Farm—Jamestown
Healthy Blue
Heem Produce
Helbig Insurance Agency
Herculeum Farmers' Market
High Ridge Fire Dept
Hillsboro Farm Bureau
Hillsboro High School FFA Chapter

Hillsboro Schools
City of Hillsboro
Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce
Hillsboro Community Civic Center
Hillsboro Farmers' Market
Hillsboro Police Dept.
Holy Child Catholic School
Homeless Youth Initiative
Jeff Bonacker Seed
Jefferson Barracks VA Hospital
Jefferson College
Jefferson County Beekeepers Assoc
Jefferson County Cattlemen's Assoc
Jefferson County COAD
Jefferson Co Emergency Management
Jefferson County Farm Bureau
Jefferson County Council
Jefferson County Government
Jefferson County Growth Association
Jefferson County Library
Jefferson County Public Health Dept

Jefferson County Sherriff's Dept
Jefferson Co Soil & Water Cons. District
Jefferson County Stormwater
Jefferson-Franklin Co Action Agency
Jefferson R-7 Schools
JOANNS Fabric & Crafts Store
Kade's Playground
Klondike Bison Farm
Kress Farm Garden Preserve
Leader Publication
Lincoln Univ. Cooperative Extension
Magnolia Farm
McCoy Construction and Forestry
Missouri 4-H Foundation
Missouri Dept of Agriculture
Missouri Dept of Conservation
Missouri Dept of Natural Resources
Missouri Jobs for American Program
Morgan County Seed
Northwest Sports Complex Park
Northwest Schools

Oak Valley Golf Course & Resort
Our Lady Catholic School
Peace Pantry of Cedar Hill
Pony Bird
Rockwood R-VI School District
Rolling Thunder Ranch, LLC
Sho Me MO Stables, LLC
Siebert Insurance Agency, Ltd.
Small Wonders Childcare Center, LLC
St. John's Community Garden
Sunrise Schools
Tractor Supply Co.
Tri-Pointe Farms
Trophy Properties and Auction
USDA—Farm Service Agency
USDA—Natural Resources Cons. District
USDA NIFA—MO Beginning Farmers & Ranchers Development Program
USDA OPPE—Socially Disadvantaged Farmers & Ranchers Program
"The Vault" Pantry-Jefferson College

Digital Ambassadors

Nearly 80% of Missourians are near populations most acutely impacted by the digital divide; **33% of Missourians** lack a computer or tablet, and **18% of Missourians** are completely disconnected from the internet. The Missouri digital divide significantly impacts economic and social development.

Modeled after the **MU Extension Master Gardener** program, the **Digital Ambassador Program** recruits and trains local volunteers to aid others in accessing broadband applications and engage local partners and businesses in affordability and accessibility. Jefferson County piloted the **MU Extension Digital Ambassador Program**, certifying six volunteers to help others navigate the digital economy and improve their lives through online access to education, economic opportunities and telehealth.



The annual **Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities** conference works to increase their communities' potential for entrepreneurship and in 2023, the conference provided **104 ATTENDEES** firsthand insight into the world of entrepreneurial communities.

Strategic Doing™

As part of **MU Extension Community Development's Show-Me Thriving Communities**, **Strategic Doing™** is a new approach to strategy development and implementation centered on collaboration. Along with other programs and technical services such as *Asset Mapping* and *Neighboring*, we support leadership, belonging and contribution for Jefferson Countians who seek to support their community and flex their civic muscle.

In 2023, Mistti Ritter, **MU Extension's Extension and Engagement Specialist and Field Specialist in Community Development** offered **Strategic Doing™** to create an actionable plan to re-engage the **Jefferson County MU Extension Council** with the ag community via the **Jefferson County Fair**, aligned with new organizational priorities and needs. One of the outcomes was retiring the traditional public exhibits competition, which lacked broad public interest, to focus more resources on supporting **4-H** youth fair activities, including the annual youth livestock auction. This process took focused attention to allow all voices in the room to have equitable representation of ideas and concerns and contribute to a collaborative plan in which everyone can move forward.

FOSTERING
YOUR OUTREACH FOR
COMMUNITY BUILDING
ADVOCATE
DEVELOPMENT AND
COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS



MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs **Health and Human Sciences**

Family Nutrition Education Programs

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) brought \$10,874,798 in federal funds to Missouri and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) brought \$1,626,730. During FY2023, the programs reached over 21,068 citizens in Jefferson County and 111 limited-resource families and youth, in addition to other points of contact.



FNEP programs directly reached 1,460 Jefferson Countians.

MU Extension FNEP staff in Jefferson County provided nutrition education instruction to youth and adults around the county in 2023, from teaching nutrition in classrooms to working with food pantries, including Jefferson College's Viking Vault demonstrating and sampling healthy foods at farmers markets and back-to-school fairs. A healthy labor force is critical to attracting and keeping jobs in Missouri and reduces health-care costs, saving taxpayers money in reduced public healthcare benefits and insurance premiums.



Stay Strong, Stay Healthy teaches older adults easy yet powerful exercises to boost strength, balance and daily life capabilities. Participants also gain insights into nutrition for healthy aging and active living.

After eight weeks, Stay Strong, Stay Healthy participants significantly IMPROVED their STRENGTH, BALANCE and SLEEP QUALITY.

Stay Strong, Stay Healthy

MU Extension's *Stay Strong, Stay Healthy* course is a nationally recognized program featuring the latest research in fitness, flexibility and balance designed to help participants live independently longer. In 2023, over 110 sessions were offered online and at the DeSoto Library by a MU Field Specialist in Nutrition.

Food Preservation

In addition to testing canning equipment at the MU Extension office, three food preservation classes held in the DeSoto and Hillsboro, attended by 26 participants.

- Jams & Jellies—steam canning
- Vegetables—pressure canning
- Salsa—boiling water

"This course made me more self-sufficient and improved my family's access to quality food."



MU Extension offers research-based **home food preservation** courses and publications to help people cut food waste and save money.



A Matter of Balance helps older adults overcome their fear of falling, increase their activity levels and reduce their risk of falls. In eight classes, participants learn fall-prevention strategies, develop personal prevention plans, acquire balance-improving exercises and make lifestyle changes to minimize their fear of falling.

"I have cleaned my house of clutter for safety, put non-slip stickers on my tub floor, I'm getting much more regular exercise and I'm feeling stronger."

SNAP-Ed

1449 Countians participated in Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program Education. Those who practice healthy eating and are physically active are more likely to contribute to a healthy labor force and enjoy a higher quality of life.

EFNEP

The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program supports direct nutrition education and meal preparation classes for limited-resource families in Jefferson County. Participants in EFNEP learn to make healthier meals and snacks, trying new foods, and how to increase their physical activity.



Cooking Matters teaches shopping strategies, using nutrition information to make healthier choices and to learn how to cook delicious, affordable meals at home.

"We prepared barley jambalaya in class and one participant mentioned she had never tried barley before. She tried the jambalaya and really enjoyed it. A few days later she excitedly said she made the recipe at home and her whole family enjoyed it!"

Cooking Matters facilitator about a class participant

Community Gardens

EFNEP educators help citizens and local organizations start and expand community gardens and worked to source equipment and supplies for these gardens using federal grant resources via MU Extension.



- Crystal City Elem \$299.97
- DeSoto Farmers Market \$12,850.93
- The Vault \$19,429.97



Missouri Crunch-off

Jefferson County Nutrition Program Assistants supported the **Missouri Crunch-off** at the Jefferson College Trunk-or-Treat, featuring 500 crunches of Missouri-grown popcorn and Missouri apples at Fox 4-H Club and the Jefferson County Extension Council meetings.

FNEP served locations

Athena Elementary
Buren-Douglass
Neighborhood Center
Crystal City Elementary
Crystal City Public Library
De Soto Farmers Market
Festus Public Library
Hillsboro Primary
House Springs Elementary
Jefferson County Library
Immanuel Lutheran
Early Childcare
Maple Grove Elementary
Murphy Elementary
Pevely Elementary
Vineland Elementary
The Vault –
Jefferson College Pantry

Chronic Disease Self-Management programs offer evidence-based information for individuals and their caregivers to boost self-confidence in managing symptoms, enhancing quality of life and even reducing health care expenses.

These programs have undergone rigorous evaluation and are proven to be effective tools for individuals dealing with chronic conditions like arthritis, fibromyalgia, depression and diabetes.

"My doctor is very happy with my health improvements since starting this class."

"I've noticed I feel a lot stronger since I've started using the ankle weights."



Studies show that people with strong family bonds tend to have lower stress levels.

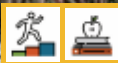
Building Strong Families helps families amplify their strengths, tackle challenges and make confident, informed decisions to build resilient family units.



MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs

Missouri 4-H for ages 8 – 18

4-H's Leadership and Civic Engagement programs foster understanding, confidence and decision-making skills to empower youths to become informed and active young citizens. 4-H civic engagement initiatives prepare young people to become future leaders by engaging them in programs where they have voice and influence.



Jefferson County 4-H

In 2023, Jefferson County welcomed new 4-H Youth Development Specialist Samantha Fomera to support Jefferson County 4-H initiatives, such as classroom-based 4-H program *Youth Futures - Career and College Readiness for All*, serving in sites focusing on youth with barriers to academic and vocational success, such as homelessness, developmental disabilities, juvenile involvement, addiction in their households, and non-traditional family structures, including *Fox High School Bridges*, *Hillsboro High School*, *Hillsboro Jobs for American Graduates [JAG]* program and *New Day Treatment School* in Hillsboro. Additional support for this program came from a \$1000 grant from the *Homeless Youth Initiative*.

4-H County Council Officers 4-H Volunteers

Holle Ritter—President
Josie Althoff—Vice Pres.
Lucas Huskey—Treasurer
Violet Hermann—Secretary
Samantha Ellis—Adult Advisor
Ashley Crull—Adult Advisor

Volunteers are the core of the 4-H Program. They help to create, support, and deliver educational programs and experiences. Jefferson County 4-H members were supported by 95 enrolled, screened and oriented adult volunteers supporting the development of youth. In 2023, Jefferson 4-H volunteers were valued at more than \$302,100. (\$31.80 per hour, Independent Sector, 2023)

Jefferson County 4-H Clubs “Learn by Doing”

- Back Rhodes 4-H Club
Open Projects; Clover Kids
- Big River 4-H Club
Open Project Focus
- Big River CLOVER KIDS!
Clover Kids (Ages 5-7)
- Festus 4-H Club
Open Project Focus & Clover Kids
- Fox 4-H Club
Agriculture & Horticulture
- Junior Leaders Project Club
Leadership Skills
- Junior Master Gardeners
Gardening & Floriculture
- Pro-Farmers
Beef, Swine, Goats, Sheep, Poultry
- Riders in Progress 4-H Club
Horsemanship & Horseless Knowledge
- Exploring 4-H

Missouri Show-Me Quality Assurance

In May 2023, Jefferson County 4-H provided SMQA training to seven county youths, five being newly certified. Food safety is a major concern for consumers and the *Show-Me Quality Assurance (SMQA)* training is designed to teach young producers how to raise a safe, high-quality food product. Participants cover *food animal nutrition, safety, housing, production, food chain and record keeping*. Many fairs require 4-H members ages 8-18 to complete the SMQA training to exhibit food animal livestock. Increased animal health, meat quality and producer awareness have been impacts of the SMQA trainings.



4-H Common Measures Survey in Jefferson County

- Like to learn new things
- Show respect for others' ideas
- Think about others' feelings before saying something
- Treat others the way they want to be treated



4-H YOUTH FUTURES
COLLEGE WITHIN REACH



4-H's Healthy Living

programming teaches skills for healthy choices and lifestyles, enhancing overall well-being and equipping youths to tackle life's challenges. Emphasizing social-emotional health, 4-H fitness, health, nutrition and safety programs cultivate confident, caring young leaders who prioritize mental and physical well-being.



Embryology – Chicks in the Classroom

Other classroom project included *Embryology – Chicks in the Classroom*. During the Embryology program, 730 students from 35 county classrooms learned about the 21-day development occurring within a fertilized, incubated egg that can result in the hatching of a chick. Once the chicks hatch, the students care for them, providing feed, water, warmth, and a calm environment.

Student Nutrition Advisory Council

In 2023, SNAC Clubs involved 146 youth in the Crystal City School District and others participating in leadership projects including posters and displays on eating healthy, staying hydrated, and exercising to share with their school peers using a \$500 Mini-Grant, in collaboration with Healthy Blue, where the funds were used to support the advocacy project supplies and t-shirts for participants who completed the program. Surveys showed 30% of the youth reported eating more vegetables at lunch after completing the SNAC program, and 61% of the youth improve their physical activity practices or gain knowledge.



2023 Offered opportunity for recognition of accomplishments and service.



4-H Day of Service in Jefferson County

Missouri 4-H awarded Jefferson County 4-H a grant for \$1,000 to fund the *4-H Day of Service* project in remembrance of 9/11 and the first responders who protect our schools and communities each day, and 39 Care Kits were distributed to *School Resource Officers, Ambulance Districts, Fire Departments* and *K9 Officers*. In 2023, a team of 17 county 4-H Youth designed the project, assisted in writing the grant, planning and implementing the project, and evaluating the project; and were providing an opportunity for early-leadership and career exploration including interviewing a sample of planned recipients to determine the best items for the care-kits.



Livestock Show and Auction

Jefferson County Cattlemen's Association sponsored an auction for hogs, cattle & goats, raised by 4-H members tracking expenses and profits.

Show-Me Your Best—Open Exhibits

MU Extension coordinated competitions for 4-H youth at the *Jefferson County Fair* with ribbons for a wide variety of 4-H projects.



After-school clubs

These clubs meet after school for periods ranging from a few weeks to a full 4-H program year. These clubs typically focus on a single project at a time but can rotate through more than 100 different project topic areas. Members can elect officers and plan learning activities with options of public speaking, community service and links to career readiness.



Community clubs are organized by volunteer club leaders and teams of recognized volunteers. Members attend club meetings, elect officers, enroll in projects and plan learning and community service activities. Some clubs opt to be single-project clubs, where all members focus on the same project.





MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs **Agriculture and Environment**

East Central Show-Me-Select Heifer Program

MU Extension aids producers in raising and marketing high-quality heifers through the **Show-Me-Select Heifer Program**. Local veterinarians, regional livestock specialists, and producers work together to create a reliable source of replacement heifers in terms of genetics and management. Producers are also given the opportunity to market their heifers in various sales across Missouri. In 2023, Jefferson County consignors and buyers joined others from across Missouri participating in East Central region sales held at the Farmington Regional Stockyards. Gross revenue for the Farmington **Show-Me-Select** sales was \$583,000 in 2023. Kendra Graham, *MU Extension & Engagement Specialist* is Jefferson County's **Show-Me-Select** Specialist.



Participants of the **Show-Me-Select** program gain:

- Increased adoption rate of management practices improve the long-term reproductive efficiency of their herds. Less than 5% of heifers required calving assistance, significantly under the national average of 9.4%, indicating the **Show-Me-Select** breeding guidelines helped reduce calving dystocia and increase survival.
- Working relationships among farmers, livestock specialists and veterinarians across Missouri.
- Improved heifer development programs through a **Total Quality Management** approach.
- Increased marketing opportunities and added value for Missouri-raised heifers.
- Reliable sources of quality replacement heifers.

Agronomic Consultations

Through consultations and farm visits, **MU Extension** provided Jefferson County farmers with assistance interpreting soil test reports and information to make decisions about fertilizing and liming, as well as methods to improve their management of forages, such as improving grazing management, forage weed control and hay harvest management.



Private Pesticide Applicator Training

In Jefferson County, 13 farmers participated in private pesticide applicator training, facilitated by Rusty Lee, *MU Field Specialist in Agronomy*. To purchase or apply restricted use pesticides farmers must attend training to obtain/renew a private pesticide applicator license from the *Missouri Department of Agriculture's Bureau for Pesticide Control*. Participants learn about *labeling, personal protective equipment, environmental concerns, formulations, mixing and application*.

Grateful to have this available in Jefferson County. Great course.

Leaders Honor Roll

Each year, individuals are selected in recognition of time and service in developing and carrying out Extension programs. **Jenny Althoff** of *Tri-Pointe Farm* in Hillsboro was recognized for the **2023 Jefferson County Extension Leaders Honor Roll**. Jenny raises high quality select hogs in addition to valued-added meat products direct to consumer and is active in managing the *Hillsboro Farmers Market*. Jenny is also the club leader **Pro Farmers 4-H Club** and hosts the *Youth Livestock Auction* buyers' dinner at the county fair.

Jenny joins 2022 Honor Roll recipient **Dave Jablonski** of Hillsboro and other past awardees in supporting *MU Extension in Jefferson County*.



Mistti Ritter, MU Extension Engagement Specialist and 2023 Leaders Honor Roll Recipient Jenny Althoff.

"A lot of veterans come right out of the service and may feel disconnected and may be struggling with finding job opportunities. The Heroes to Hives program offers a diversion as well as opportunities."

Eric Work, Heroes to Hives participant



Two programs provide resources to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in Missouri.

The Missouri AgrAbility Project supports the independence of farmers and ranchers with disabilities.

Heroes to Hives offers free professional training in beekeeping to veterans, promoting financial and personal wellness through community development.

Soil testing in Jefferson County

- 1998 agronomic acres
- 211,160 sq. ft. residential lawns and gardens



Jefferson County Agriculture Conference

Come Grow with Us was the theme for the 99th Annual Jefferson County Agriculture Conference, formerly known as the *Soils & Crops Conference*, hosted on March 25, 2023 at Hillsboro High School, in partnership with **MU Extension** in Jefferson County and *Jefferson County Soil & Water Conservation District*. The conference returned with a new name and format reflecting the ongoing changes to agriculture in Jefferson County. The conference features exhibitors, educational sessions, and a luncheon.



Jefferson County
Soil and Water
Conservation District



Additional activities included the Annual Jefferson County SWCD meeting and youth poster award, the 2023 Farm Family, announcing new Century Farms and Bicentennial Farm recognition for county founding farms. In addition to education and resources supporting traditional farming and livestock producers, this year's conference featured several educational presentations for those interested in specialty crops, hobby farms and homesteading. The keynote presentation featured a discussion about how young professionals can serve agriculture.



Farm Tax Workshop

At the **MU Extension Farm Tax Workshop** for businesses and families, topics included *hobby vs. business, employee vs. independent contractor, weather-related sales, sale or trade of business property, legislative updates, 1099s, expiration of provisions, tax issues arising from the death of a farmer and depreciation* so farmers can be better prepared.



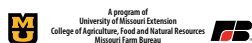
The Missouri Integrated Pest Management Program,

funded by USDA grants, has been an important extension program for 30-plus years. Mizzou IPM distributes articles, pest monitoring data and publications on how to improve the application of integrated pest management strategies and systems.

The MU Soil Testing Program delivers research-based nutrient and lime recommendations to more than 32,500 customers annually.

Missouri Century Farm

Owned by one family
for more than 100 years



Missouri Century Farms

Missouri Century Farms is a program MU Extension, UM College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, and the Missouri Farm Bureau. This program recognizes farms owned by the same family for **100 consecutive years** and can document a line of ownership from the original settler/buyer to date. Farms must be no less than 40 acres and make a financial contribution to the overall farm income. In 2023, a Jefferson County farm was newly designated as a *Missouri Century Farm*:

1866 Schorr Family Farm | Kathleen Schorr, Owner | Established by John Conrad Schorr

Extension Master Gardener Program

In 2023, 57 **Extension Master Gardeners** plus 2 emeriti volunteered and educated the public in Jefferson County by answering gardening and plant questions at area farmers' markets and at eight different volunteer site locations across the County. Fourteen people participated in the *Extension Master Gardener Core Course*, in addition to 883 continuing education hours and advanced training education hours.

10,429
volunteer hours
valued* at
\$331,642

*Independent Sector, 2023
values volunteer time at
\$31.80 per hour.

- 911 Memorial Garden, Arnold
- Jefferson College, Hillsboro
- Kade's Playground, Herculaneum
- Kress Farm Garden Preserve, Hillsboro
- Northwest Sports Complex Park, House Springs
- Pony Bird, Mapaville
- Sunrise School Outdoor Classroom, DeSoto
- St. John's Community Garden, Arnold

Jefferson County Extension Master Gardeners also support two special regional projects at Jefferson Barracks VA Hospital in South St. Louis County and Fort de Chartres Historic Kitchen Garden in Illinois.

A monthly newsletter called **The Garden Path** offers information, educational opportunities and social events. Examples of work included recruiting more support and "proposing re-doing the outside ring of the 9/11 Memorial at the Arnold Rec-Plex with an entirely new approach for better maintenance."

This year, the gardeners noted in response to draught conditions and less time to working in gardens due to extreme heat, native species showed success. *"Once established, they can hold up to drought and even neglect longer than non-native species."*



2023 Jefferson County Master Gardener Chapter

President – Al Macri

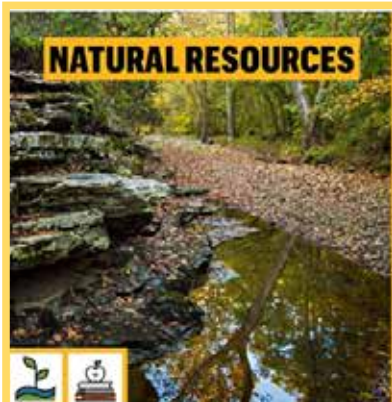
Secretary – Tony William

VicePresident – Karen Kowal

Treasurer – Barb Williams



MU Extension Horticulture Specialist Debi Kelly and the 2023 Jefferson County Extension Master Gardener Class Graduates.



The Missouri Master Naturalist program is a community-based initiative for adults, supported by the Missouri Department of Conservation and MU Extension. It aims to create a group of knowledgeable volunteers who can offer education, outreach and service for the responsible management of natural resources in Missouri communities.

Additionally, the **Missouri Woodland Steward program** offers a short course that equips private landowners with knowledge of woodland management, helping them identify wildlife habitats, develop plans and connect with local natural resource experts.



We Have Data!

We have access to a wide variety of information. Just ask *MU Extension* for the data you are looking for.

Honey Producers

	Missouri 2017	2022	Jefferson
Colonies inventory			
Farms	2,256	2,493	39
Number	16,065	19,833	173
Honey collected			
Farms	1,240	1,466	20
Pounds	655,849	720,693	4,515
Honey sales			
Farms	796	898	17
Value (\$1,000)	1,926	2,700	20

MU Soil Lab Fertility Test Samples for Fields and Pastures

Jefferson County submitted 215 of the 11,825 samples submitted state-wide to the **MU Soil Lab Testing Services**, and *MU Extension* provided additional assistance interpreting the results and recommendations.

Increases in grain yield and forage tonnage are expected when fertility elements are deemed required.

How Does This Work Make Jefferson County and Missouri Better?

- Enables farmers to manage their soil fertility by first knowing current levels and which added elements would generate a return on investment.
- Promotes farm sustainability by keeping land productivity at a high level.
- Reduces unnecessary expenses of applying costly fertilizer at a level above what can be utilized.
- Reduces environmental impact from the off-target movement associated with over-application.
- The nutrient stats would look good with this as a background.

2023 Jefferson County Farm Family

The Dean Wilson (Family) Farm was selected as the **2023 Jefferson County Farm Family** by MU Extension in Jefferson County and the local Farm Bureau. They were recognized at the 100th Annual Jefferson County Ag Conference hosted at Hillsboro High School.

Dean and Patti Wilson, and their son Dallas and family have a five generation-old cow-calf, stocker, and Show-Me Select Heifer operation in Grubville, MO.

Missouri Farm Family is sponsored by: the Missouri Farm Bureau, the Missouri Department of Agriculture, the Missouri State Fair Commissioners, the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, and **MU Extension and Engagement**.



2023 Jefferson County Farm Family (from left to right) Edie, Andi, Dallas, James, Claire, Laine Wilson joined by Sarah Traub, MU Extension; Chris Daubert, MU Vice Chancellor & Dean, CAFNR; Fair Commissioners: Nikki Cunningham, Kevin Roberts, Jerald Andrews, Randy Little, Jamie Johansen; Todd Hayes, Vice-President, MFB; Blake Rollins, MFB.

Sheep & Goat Field Day

6 Jefferson County producers attended the event in Mt. Vernon and learned about production and financial management for sheep and goat farms, including Forage & Pasture Management, Integrated Parasite Management Control, Economic Impact of Low Performing Animals, FAMAHCA system & 5-point Check lecture and hands-on certification.

"It's very interactive; so you're getting valuable information along with real examples."



"Very relevant, everything directly applied to our goat operation!"



Mid-West Goat Producers Course

3 Jefferson County producers attended the four-day course in Sedalia, covering forage & nutrition, economics & marketing, and herd management. On the final day, producers participated in value-added demonstrations that included a carcass meat cutting, goat milk soap making, and goat milk cheese making.

Livestock and Drought in 2023

Emergency issues like drought bring out the best in MU Extension and demonstrates how essential and effective we are to the communities.

- 93 participants attended meetings hosted in Ste. Genevieve, Franklin or Lincoln Counties focusing on managing cattle through the drought.
- 32 quick nitrate tests were performed, and 8 feed rations formulated to help producers feed animals through the drought.
- 43 producers were helped through consultations & farm visits related to the drought.

Additionally, several of these quick nitrate tests on forage grasses were conducted onsite at the **Jefferson County Extension Center** in Hillsboro, MO. This convenient information allowed local farmers to know when to disallow grazing of nitrate-high grasses which is toxic to ruminants. They then can seek further consultation with **MU Extension Livestock or Small Ruminant Specialists** for additional support.



Look Out for these Events

- *Beginning Farmer Resources*
- *Winter High Tunnel Production*
- *Annual Spring Forage Conference*
- *Missouri Grazing School*
- *Raising a Small Flock for Egg Production*
- *Direct Marketing Beef Program*
- *Hay Clinic*
- *Making Informed Lending Decisions: What Agricultural Lenders Need to Know*



MU Extension specialists

play an important role in addressing emergencies and disasters. MU Extension specialists swiftly distribute information so farmers and ranchers can make timely decisions that safeguard their enterprises.

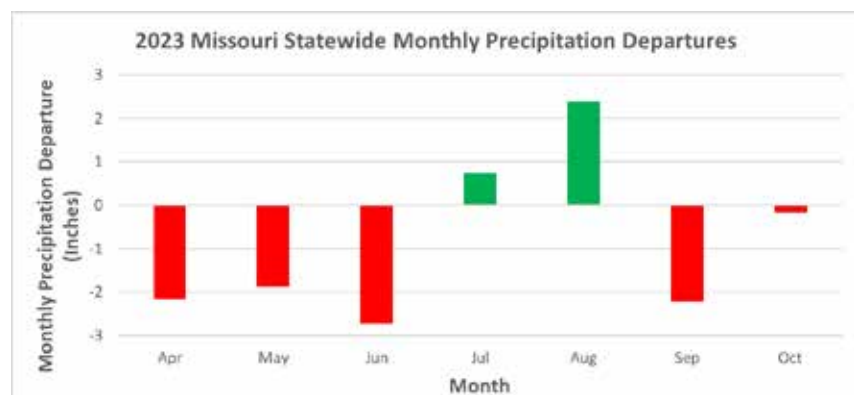


Figure 1. Missouri 2023 average temperatures (green) compared to other years. Data provided by the National Center for Environmental Information (<https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/climate-at-a-glance/>)

Jefferson County Forage Loss Assessment 2023

Cool-season grasses are the predominate forage species in Jefferson County. Much of its annual forage production occurs prior to the summer "slump" and that makes April, May and June the quarter of the calendar to make or break a year's forage production. The 2023 forage production season featured a prominent drought event that continues to impact the State. Drought conditions first emerged in April (Figure 1) when the state recorded its 4th driest April dating back to 1895, and remained below average with average monthly temperatures running 1 to 2 °F above normal.

Assuming soil fertility is adequate, soil moisture is the largest determining factor of forage production. This direct plant response makes tracking rainfall, and its contribution to soil moisture, an excellent barometer of forage production.

During the April - June 2023 period, rainfall for Jefferson County was 6.64 inches below the 1901-2000 average amounts. This represents a 53 % decline in precipitation during this critical period of forage production. My observations of pastures and hay-fields in the county, including conversations with area producers, provided a verification of this expected reduced forage productivity claim.

While there was some short-term relief from a few July and August rains, our cool-season grasses saw April - June temperatures for the county being 3 % above the 100-year average, and more importantly, a lower-than-normal soil moisture level to start the growing season due to our drought actually beginning in the fall of the previous year.

Contact MU Extension in Jefferson County for the full report.

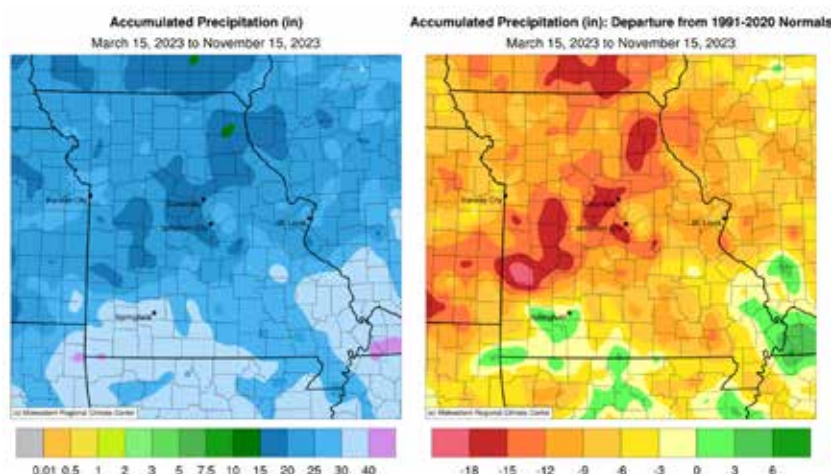


Figure 2. Precipitation accumulation (left) and departures from normal (right) from March 15 to November 15, 2023. Data provided by the Midwestern Regional Climate Center (<https://mrcc.purdue.edu>)

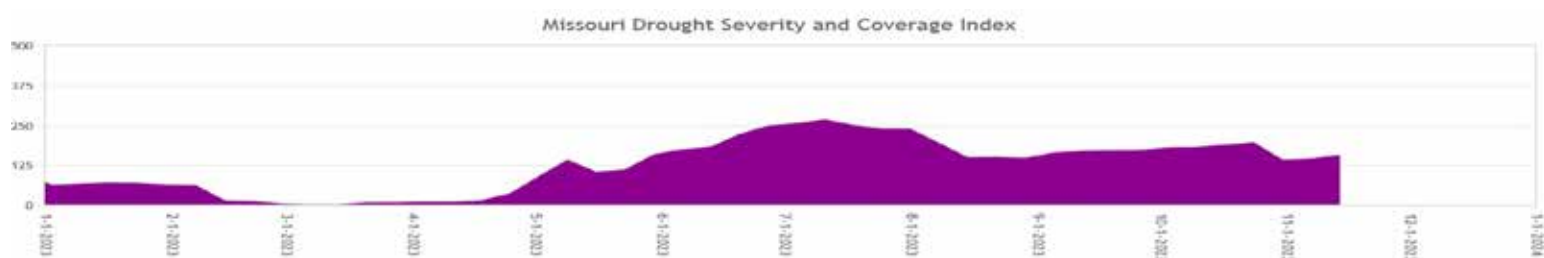


Figure 3. Missouri Drought Severity and Coverage Index (DSCI) from January 1, 2023 to November 14, 2023. DSCI values quantify the combined spatial extent and severity of drought conditions. Data provided by the National Drought Mitigation Center (<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DmData/TimeSeries.aspx>).



MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs **First Responder Education**



The **Missouri Extension Disaster Education Network** provides education and technical assistance to individuals and families, local governments, schools and organizations so they can prepare for and respond to natural and man-made disasters. Because of the unique relationship it maintains with each community, MU Extension is a key resource for the public, emergency services and public officials.



Jefferson County First Responders

MU Fire and Rescue Training Institute provided 15 instructional training sessions and impacted the professional education and improved capacity of 17 Jefferson County first responders.



The programming from the **MU Fire and Rescue Training Institute** (FRTI) is available to all qualified fire and emergency first responders. Seventy percent of courses are held at the local departments or agencies. With most of the state's fire service personnel considered volunteer or part-time, this local access and flexibility assures training opportunities for all firefighters and emergency responders.



LETI's **National Animal Cruelty Investigations School** provides training on investigating abuse and neglect of animals. Multi-level courses prepare future animal care workers to handle most types of incidents. Several jurisdictions throughout the country require the National Animal Cruelty Investigations School's training for employment as animal cruelty investigators.



The LETI **School Protection Officer Program** provides basic training for school faculty and administrators to become school protection officers. The three-week academy typically runs during June and exceeds the hourly requirements for state recognition and certification.



MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs **Community and Professional Health Education**

Rural Stress

MU Extension in Jefferson County is a local resource to connect farmers and growers with technical assistance to address rural stress, supported by the *Farm and Ranch Rural Stress Grant* in partnership with the *University of Missouri Psychological Services Clinic*.



PROSPER is a research-supported approach that promotes positive youth development and strong families through lifeskills education that increase protective factors and reduces risky behaviors among teens. Through a campus-community partnership, PROSPER Teams are created to support the implementation of two evidence-based programs with middle school students and their families.

"They have the old saying it takes a village to raise a child, the more the community comes together the better off the children are going to be in that community."

Peggy Saphian PROSPER Model Participant in Fredericktown, MO



Preschool through junior high youths learn how to maintain healthy lifestyles through information about nutrition, food safety and physical activity. **Show-Me Nutrition** classes support Missouri's Show-Me education standards for health and physical education and the state's School Wellness Policy.

"We have struggled with our daughter's picky eating for years and have tried so many techniques to try and get her to eat new foods. Your influence on her has worked magic this year. She has come home so excited about trying new foods and has now become not only willing but excited to try new things."

Parent of a Show-Me Nutrition participant



The **Missouri Research-Extension (MO-RE) Protocol** program focuses on strengthening the bridge between leading scientific research and community-based practice by creating a dissemination and implementation protocol that will facilitate acceleration of relevant knowledge into the most vulnerable Missouri communities through Community Health Engagement and Outreach.



The **Diabetes Prevention Program** is a CDC-recognized program provided by licensed lifestyle coaches to prevent type 2 diabetes. Through lifestyle coaching participants can achieve sustainable weight loss, increase in physical activity and learn coping skills to manage stress.

**More than 1 IN 3 PARTICIPANTS
have reached the
5 - 7% WEIGHT LOSS GOAL.**



University of Missouri System
COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS

UM System Footprint in 2023

Statewide

Economic and Community Development Highlights

- In 2022, Business Development Specialists worked with small businesses and entrepreneurs statewide to create or retain 81,645 jobs.
- For every dollar invested from 2019 to 2021, the MU Extension Business Development Program has returned \$133 in economic impact for its clients by increasing sales more than \$1.6 billion. For a total impact of \$3.1 billion, the program has generated more than 37,000 jobs and attracted nearly \$451 million in capital investments and \$1.5 billion in government contracts.
- Between FY17 and FY22, UM System brought Missouri more than \$1.46 billion in federal and private research funds, funded primarily from outside the state, but spent within the state.



- In FY23, UM System was issued 33 patents and filed 61 new U.S. patent applications.
- In FY23, the UM System awarded 805 design and construction project contracts throughout Missouri, for a total investment of \$279.2 million in the state.
- In FY23, MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network Show-Me ECHO Program provided 18,381 hours of case-based instruction to 2,938 learners located in 112 of the 114 Missouri counties and the city of St. Louis.



41,992 police, fire fighters, and medical professionals attending continuing education (2022)



Agriculture and natural resource programs served 174,692 farmers and related businesses (2022)



311,749 youth and stakeholder educational contacts in 4-H clubs, schools, camps and other programs (2022)

Education and Training Provided

Education Highlights

- FY23 Financial Aid Awards

MU

UMKC

27,256
students receiving
financial aid

\$536.0M
financial aid
awarded

11,859
students receiving
financial aid

\$217.3M
financial aid
awarded

Missouri S&T

UMSL

6,748
students receiving
financial aid

\$117.7M
financial aid
awarded

8,489
students receiving
financial aid

\$102.8M
financial aid
awarded



- In FY23, 67.3% of the UM System's 80,702 students received financial aid totaling \$973.7 million

- UM System's MOREnet (Missouri Research and Education Network) provides internet connectivity, access, support and training to 58 higher education institutions (230,000 students), 485 K-12 school districts (832,000 students) and 132 public libraries (serving nearly 3 million Missourians) in 2022.
- In 2023, over 10,900 Missourians accessed MOBroadband.org, part of the UM System Broadband Initiative which helped the statewide build-out of high-speed internet infrastructure. MU Extension also supported residents in making individual challenges to the FCC that resulted in \$810,000 in additional funding for the state of Missouri.
- UM System awarded 50.5% of the 32,098 Bachelor's or higher degrees of Missouri four-year public institutions in 2022-23.
- UM System awarded 36.6% of the 1,935 research doctorates and 26.9% of the 3,593 professional doctorates awarded by Missouri public and not-for-profit private institutions in 2022-23.
- In FY23, UM System's \$37.9 million in National Science Foundation (NSF) grants represented 88.3% of all NSF grants made to Missouri public colleges and universities.

Supporting the University of Missouri is an investment in the future of Missouri.

The university advances Missouri citizens and communities through its mission of teaching, research, public service, and economic development across our four campuses and University of Missouri Extension.

Prepared in December 2023, based on the best available and most recent data. Data Sources include: Missouri Office of Administration • UM IR • Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED) • Center for Applied Research and Engagement Systems (CARES) • MU • UMKC • Missouri S&T • UMSL • UM System • UM Health Care • MU Extension • US Census Bureau • US Dept. of Health and Human Services • National Science Foundation



UM System Footprint in 2023

Jefferson County



University of Missouri System
COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS



FY23 county students

2,303 students

- 2,037 Undergraduates
- 266 Graduate students
- 1,152 Full-time students
- 1,151 Part-time students
- 303 Pell grant recipients (2023)



County employees and retirees

123 people employed by UM

- 108 Campus
- 14 UM Health Care
- 1 UM System
- 32 UM retirees/beneficiaries
- UM salary/retirement income: \$3.9 million
- UM state tax revenue: \$107,406
- UM federal tax revenue: \$527,527



County alumni

Selected school alumni

- 35 Medicine
- 544 Nursing
- 225 Health Professions
- 27 Dentistry
- 12 Pharmacy
- 29 Optometry
- 57 Veterinary Medicine
- 393 Agriculture
- 1,227 Engineering
- 73 Law

Alumni teaching K-12

- 577 teachers
(24.1% of all district teachers)
- 27 principals / administrators
(20.9% of all district principals and administrators)



County breakdown

MU

- 607 students
- 2,758 alumni
- 35 employees

UMSL

- 1,365 students
- 5,021 alumni
- 66 employees

Missouri S&T

- 277 students
- 1,162 alumni
- 6 employees

UMKC

- 54 students
- 211 alumni
- 1 employees



County population: 225,913



County offices

MU Extension in Jefferson County



Projects

- \$45,051 remitted to 3 county construction vendors for 5 projects



County services provided

Health care (FY23)

- 325 in-state patients seen at UM Health Care, with \$58,031 of uncompensated care
- 67 in-state patients seen at UMSL Center for Eye Care with a statewide average of \$34.82 per patient in uncompensated care
- 9 in-state patients seen at UMKC School of Dentistry with a statewide average of \$43.61 per patient in uncompensated care
- MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network recorded 115 visits to 50 patients with ZIP codes associated with Jefferson County

Extension

- 7,564 Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of district counties, including:
- 3,715 contacts related to productive farming, better gardening, and managing natural resources
- 3,827 contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, personal finance, or youth development
- 22 contacts related to starting businesses, developing community leaders, or renewing the local economy

Data last updated 12/18/2023

For more information, go to: community.umsystem.edu/impact-report

January 12, 2024

Dear County Council and Friends of MU Extension,

The MU Extension Center in Jefferson County provides a local window for county residents to access the resources and expertise of the University of Missouri System. MU Extension programs improve lives, businesses and community by focusing on solving Missouri's grand challenges around agriculture growth and stewardship, economic opportunity, educational access, and health and well-being.

The Jefferson County Extension Council wishes to express thanks to our publicly elected and appointed Extension Council members, MU Extension Faculty and Educators, office support staff along with program volunteers—all working to serve and support our thriving community.

I would like to thank our current members for revitalizing engagement with county-wide agriculture organizations, supporting meaningful growth in our 4-H youth program and activities, and improving our internal operations and capacity with updated bylaws and committee structures. In 2024, we look forward to working with incoming members to find new ways to demonstrate the value of MU Extension to our community and stakeholders and continue to grow in our commitment to the longevity of support 4-H youth programming through the newly established Jefferson County 4-H Endowment and other future investments.

Respectfully,



Kevin Politte, Chair
Jefferson County Extension Council



MISSOURI 4-H
FOUNDATION



Courtesy of University Archives

Jefferson County 4-H Endowment Fund

As of December 31, 2023 the **Jefferson County 4-H Endowment Fund** has a total of \$29,059.10, with a 2023 fiscal year dividend totaling \$882.82.

This Fund is managed by the University of Missouri 4-H Foundation in agreement with the *Jefferson County Extension Council*. "The use of income from the Fund will be recommended by the Council each year based on the specific needs of the *University of Missouri Extension 4-H Youth Development Program* in Jefferson County, and approved by the Foundation."[‡]

In February of 2023, the *Jefferson County Extension Council* started this endowment as an investment in their ongoing and long-term commitment to 4-H in Jefferson County. In 2023, the total contribution of \$20,526.32 was made by the Extension Council using unrestricted council monies of which \$526.32 served as an inception



fee. Additional monies in the fund are from other outside donors, **Missouri 4-H Foundation** matching dollars, as well as investment interest currently at an average value of 5%.

For more information about contributing to an existing county endowment fund, contact the Missouri 4-H Foundation office at 573-882-2680.

[‡] *Endowment Spending Policy approved by the Missouri 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees on October 2, 2020.*

Extension *...a unique funding partnership*

Budget and more

University of Missouri Extension funding is a three-way partnership of federal, state and county government. Federal and state money, through the University of Missouri system, pay professional faculty and educator salaries, training costs, computers and communication equipment. County funds support the local office, support staff, mileage and Extension Council expenses. The Jefferson County Extension Council, faculty and staff would like to express our appreciation to the Jefferson County Council and County Executive for their continued support of extension programs.

2023 income & expense

Income

County Appropriations	84,700.00
Program Fees	18,115.11
Investment	56.71
Gift/Grants/Contracts	30,794.88
Resales/Educ Services Fees	7,768.50
Other [†]	750.00

Total Income 142,185.20

Expense

Personnel - Wages & Benefits	80,977.13
Programs	18,731.73
Soil Tests	4,788.50
Memberships	555.00
Investment [‡]	20,526.32
Insurance	1,434.37
Advertising	1,311.98
Copy Services	696.83
Supplies/Services	6,094.44
Travel	4,039.70
Postage	2,942.13
Rent/Lease Equipment	2,528.45
Rent/Lease Space	14,400.00
Telephone	1,000.00
Utilities	2,000.00
Repairs/Maintenance	26.08

Total Expense 162,052.66

Net Income for 2023 -19,867.46

[†] includes the Equipment Reserve Fund

[‡] Jefferson County 4-H Endowment



Balance sheet as of Dec 31, 2023

Assets

Checking	108,226.21
Savings	4,752.51
Change Fund	50.00
Total Assets	113,028.72

Liabilities

Accumulated Funds	132,896.18
Net Income	-19,867.46
Total Liabilities	113,028.72

Notes to Financial Statements

By law, the Jefferson County MU Extension Council must annually publish its income & expense financial report for all accounts. Important to note is this financial overview includes monies from all educational engagements and program services at the MU Extension office in Jefferson County, which includes grants and restricted accounts, such as monies for our Extension Master Gardener Chapter, 4-H Clubs and 4-H Council. Most of these chapter, club, grant and project accounts are in restricted funds and can only be spent for their intended purposes, and do not generate profit toward the operation its office.



Local Support

Did you know you can donate directly to Jefferson County Extension with a gift to be used immediately or as an endowment contribution for long term efforts. Monies put into the endowment are left forever to earn interest with the county office benefiting each year. You can also direct your donation to a specific program such as 4-H or Master Gardeners.