



2008 4-H Youth Development Program Talking Points

- 4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills.
- 4-H empowers youth to reach their full potential, working and learning in partnership with caring adults.
- 4-H creates opportunities for youth to experience independence, belonging, generosity, and mastery.
- The Nebraska 4-H Youth Development Program is an entity of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension within the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.
- The Nebraska 4-H Youth Development Program is present in every county across the state.
- The Nebraska 4-H Youth Development Program is among the national leaders in age eligible youth per capita participating in 4-H, involving 135,000 young people.
- Annually, the Nebraska 4-H Youth Development Program reaches nearly 1 in 3 youth across the state.
- Approximately 55% of 4-H youth reside in urban communities and 45% reside in rural communities.
- The majority of Nebraska 4-H youth are in 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade.
- Nearly equal numbers of young people in 4-H are female vs. male (52% vs. 48%).
- The Nebraska 4-H Youth Development Program is for all youth ages 5-19.
- Over 15,000 youth and adult volunteers make a difference through the Nebraska 4-H Youth Development Program each year.
- Current program focus areas within the Nebraska 4-H Youth Development Program include:
 - Science, Engineering, & Technology
 - Life Skill Development
 - Career Development
 - Healthy Lifestyles
- The Nebraska 4-H Youth Development Program uses many methods to reach 21st century youth, including:
 - Traditional 4-H Clubs
 - School enrichment activities
 - Overnight camps and day camps
 - Special interest groups
 - Much more!
- The Nebraska 4-H Youth Development Program youth learn life skills from research-based projects in a variety of curriculum areas, including:
 - Animal Science
 - Communication & Expressive Arts
 - Consumer & Family Science
 - Environmental Education & Earth Sciences
 - Healthy Lifestyles Education
 - Leadership & Citizenship
 - Plant Science
 - Science & Technology
- To learn more about the Nebraska 4-H Youth Development Program in your county, contact your local University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension office or log on to <http://4h.unl.edu>.