

### Challenges

- > Farmers and ranchers across Texas face ongoing production-related challenges and economic risks.
- > The supply of water and other natural resources in Texas is under tremendous stress from population growth and other factors.
- > Rising health care costs are a burden to Texans (\$239 billion annually).
- > Youth need to develop essential behaviors of character, citizenship and leadership, and valuable life skills to prepare them for college and career opportunities.



### Contact

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### AgriLife Extension Response

AgriLife Extension collaborates with public and private organizations to deliver impactful educational and applied research programs that address critical issues facing Texans.

- > Offers wide-ranging educational programs in agriculture, focused on research-based production and management practices, evaluation of technologies, improved decision-making and job training.
- > Offers many state- and industry-accredited programs to meet continuing education and certification requirements for thousands of people who provide important community services.
- > Delivers researched-based educational resources on water quality and use, soil nutrient management, watershed protection, wildlife and fisheries practices, and ecosystem and parks management.
- > More than 550,000 youth participated in Texas 4-H through program areas in STEM, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Livestock, Leadership and Citizenship and Family and Community Health.
- > Health and wellness programs focus on diabetes education, nutrition, exercise, food safety, child safety seat education and early cancer detection.
- > Conducted 127,600 educational events and reached 18.4 million educational and other contacts in 2019.

### Economic Impacts

- > Programs focused on agricultural production and management practices, evaluation of technologies, and improved decision-making led to economic gains of more than \$486 million for agricultural producers in 2019.
- > Use of the Farm Bill decision aid to analyze 17,305 farm units showed an impact of improved decision-making valued at \$216 million.
- > The economic impact of selected diabetes education, physical activity and nutrition education programs was estimated at \$79.8 million (in lifetime health care cost savings).
- > Programs focused on water conservation and wildlife and ecosystem management led to \$107 million in economic benefits by conserving 3.1 billion gallons of water, reducing wildlife property damage and adopting selected management practices on 1.3 million managed acres.
- > Through its continuing education and certification programs, AgriLife Extension directly supports 79,450 jobs in Texas, with an estimated annual wage base of \$1.5 billion.
- > In 2019, AgriLife Extension engaged more than 93,600 volunteers who contributed a total of 5.5 million hours (2,633 FTEs) valued at an estimated \$139.3 million.