



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION

# Ray County

## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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The Ray County Extension Center is located in  
the Thomas Eagleton Civic Center.



Office of Extension  
and Engagement  
*University of Missouri*

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December 2024

Dear county commissioners, elected leaders and friends of MU Extension and Engagement,

As we reflect on the past year, I want to express my deep gratitude for your support of MU Extension and for your partnership in enhancing the lives of Missourians.

Your support for MU Extension fuels Missouri's agriculture, strengthens families, prepares our youth and promotes the health, well-being and vitality of our communities. Over the past year, our programs have focused on addressing key needs throughout the state:

- **Expanding access to 4-H:** To make 4-H more accessible, we've introduced more in-school and after-school clubs, reducing barriers and creating opportunities for young Missourians to develop essential skills and leadership abilities.
- **Supporting agriculture and land stewardship:** We're addressing critical issues such as succession planning for family farms, rural mental health, agricultural business management and land stewardship. These initiatives are helping Missouri's farmers plan for the future and preserve the health of our land for future generations.
- **Advancing health initiatives:** Our team of community health field specialists, covering every region of the state, works directly with local leaders to assess health needs and bring UM System resources and expertise to these communities, supporting healthier lives and stronger communities.
- **Promoting economic development:** MU Extension is helping to create economic opportunities by working with individuals, supporting businesses in their growth and collaborating with communities to enhance local vibrancy. Through these efforts, we help bring new jobs, skills and possibilities to Missourians across the state.
- **Providing essential training:** Our continuing education programs prepare Missouri's firefighters and health care workers to meet the demands of their roles with the latest skills and knowledge, ensuring they are well-prepared to serve our communities.

As you read through this annual report, I hope you feel as proud as I do of the accomplishments we've achieved together. The dedication and professionalism of MU Extension's faculty and staff are inspiring, and I am grateful to work alongside them—and each of you—as we make Missouri a stronger, healthier and more vibrant place. Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we are serving Missouri by delivering the University *for* Missouri.

Warm regards,

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



# Who we are

## Faculty and staff



**Emily Bergsieker**

Field Specialist in 4-H Development

**Chelsea Corkins**

Extension Engagement Specialist

**Amanda Cringn**

Youth Program Associate – 4-H

**Travis Harper**

Field Specialist in Agronomy

**Jim Humphrey**

Field Specialist in Livestock

**Kathi Mecham**

Field Specialist in Horticulture

**Katie Neuner**

Field Specialist in Agricultural Business



**Jim Crawford**

Field Specialist in Agri Systems  
Technology

**Sue Robison**

Field Specialist in Nutrition and Health

**Carla Wayland-White**

Nutrition Program Associate

**Jessica Trussell**

Field Specialist in Human Development

**Not Pictured:**

**Pam Bullock**, Office Support Staff

## County commissioners



Sheila Tracy, Presiding Commissioner

Dave Powell, Eastern Commissioner

Gary Wilhite, Western Commissioner

## Council members

Allen Dale – Chairperson

Kaitlyn Rowan, Secretary

Grant Wheeler, Treasurer

Andrea Wierzbicki - Member

Clayton Wierzbicki - Member

# Budget and more

## 2024 Appropriation Financials

### Income

County Appropriations	30,000.00
Ray County Senior Services Board	9,600.00
4-H Council YPA Offset	2,084.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>41,684.00</b>

### Expenses

Office Admin Salary	21,084.00
Payroll Expenses	6,622.22
YPA Salary	8,022.77
Travel	4,152.00
Advertising	55.60
Postage/Box Rental	102.00
Copy Services	1,220.96
Office Supplies/Copy Services	368.74
Insurance (Work Comp)	275.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>41,903.29</b>

## Key Outcomes

- 657 (256 in office) contacts made in Ray County in 2024 thru events held in and out of county.
- 956 people were affected indirectly thru MU Extension activities.
- Programming emphasized nutrition, youth and agriculture.



Extension services could be found at various farmer's market events throughout the season.

**Serve** **Deliver**  
**MISSOURI** **MIZZOU**

## MU Extension is a unique funding partnership.

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 staff salaries, training costs, computers and communication equipment. County funds support the local office, secretarial and youth assistant salaries, staff mileage and council expenses.

The Ray County Extension Council, faculty and staff would like to express our appreciation to the Ray County Commissioners for their continued support of extension programs.



## Local Support

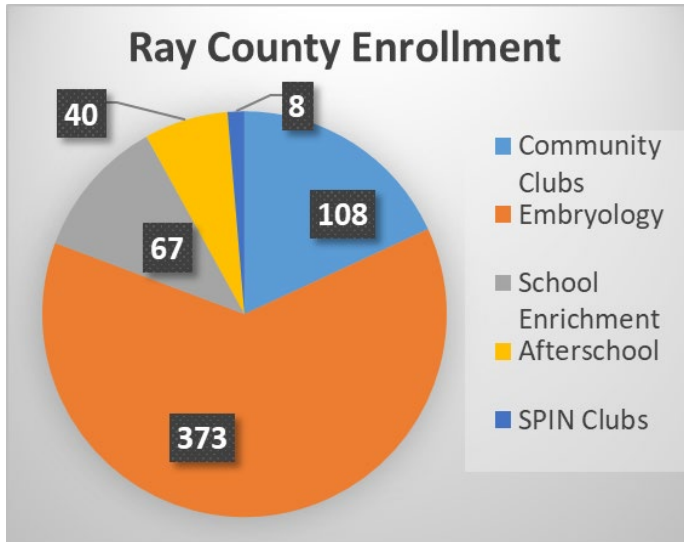
Did you know you can donate directly to Ray County Extension with a gift to be used immediately or as an endowment contribution for long term efforts. Monies put into the endowment are left forever to earn interest with the county office benefiting each year. You can also direct your donation to a specific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





# Missouri 4-H Positive Youth Development

## 2023-24 Ray County Overview



### Ray County 4-H

Ray County 4-H served more than 590 youth through seven community clubs, embryology school enrichment, Summer Enrichment at the Ray County Library, Richmond Afterschool, 4-H and Clover Kid Camp and STEM Kits for summer school.

Volunteers are the core of the 4-H program. They help create, support and deliver educational programs and experiences. Through dedicated volunteers, our top programs include Clover Kids, Arts & Crafts and County Cured Hams. Ray County is proud to have 60 volunteers help youth “Learn by Doing.”

Gwen Gilbow was honored by receiving the Frank Graham Volunteer Award and Wrisinger Auctions were inducted into the 4-H Hall of Fame.



### KEY SUCCESSSES FOR RAY COUNTY

- ✓ 4 youth participated in the Missouri 4-H Equine Tour
- ✓ 2 youth attended Teen Conference
- ✓ 12 campers, 4 counselors and 2 volunteers attended 4-H Camp at Knob Noster State Park
- ✓ 4-H Council held their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Barn Dance. The cornhole tournament and tag games were very popular.
- ✓ 247 animal class entries took place during the Ray County fair
- ✓ 57 ham and bacon were entered
- ✓ 339 4-H projects were exhibited
- ✓ Fashion Show: 10 youth participated
- ✓ Demonstrations – 5 class entries
- ✓ Rocket Shoot Off – 8 entries
- ✓ Auctions in Ray County sold 29 animals for \$78,753.75 and 25 hams for \$16,535.25.
- ✓ 6 youth participated in State Shooting Sports Competition
- ✓ 6 youth attended the 4-H Officer Training



Brycen Ward, Lawson 4-H Club, welding project was selected as Best of Show at the Missouri State Fair. The clover was donated to the 4-H Building and will be on display for years to come.



# Missouri 4-H Positive Youth Development

## Chick it out Embryology Project

Ray County has 20 classrooms participated in the Spring Embryology sessions for a total of 373 youth. Each classroom received an incubator, a dozen eggs, and an educational binder and a live presentation by 4-H staff.

Teachers expressed how they enjoyed the educational resources we provided to be able to answer questions easily for their students. Students shared how they have learned about the chick life cycle.

A special thanks to our partners Jamie & Jo Farmers for donating the fertilized eggs for this program.



**Emily Bergsieker, 4-H Specialist, and Amanda Cringan, Youth Program Associate, presents an Embryology lesson to elementary youth about the parts of an egg.**

## After School Programming

Ray County Afterschool programming serves roughly 40 youth. Classes are held once per month and include STEM activities. Some subjects included have been learning about plant life cycles, building kites, reading the Five Little Pumpkins poem followed with building wooden fences to balance candy pumpkins, and invisible ink turkey projects.



Two members from after school sent pictures of their plant people, which they had to give haircuts.

The Richmond FFA invited 4-H to be part of their 1st grade field trip day, that was hosted at the Richmond High School. Each class learned from a variety of volunteers and FFA students. Emily Bergsieker, 4-H Specialist, and Amanda Cringan, 4-H Youth Associate present a plant life cycle lesson to 105 elementary youth followed by making their own greenhouse to grow beans. 4-H was glad to be a partner in this fun trip for these youth.







# Missouri 4-H Positive Youth Development

## School Enrichment

With leadership from the MU Extension 4-H team, Ray & Lafayette Counties were jointly awarded \$3,740 through a Summer Enrichment Grant offered by DESE to help add or enhance summer programming. Through this grant, we were able to purchase a SPIN Bike with a blender attachment and supplies for STEAM activities at various sites in Ray county. The bike is pictured right.

Through this program, Extension Services reached a total of 32 new youth and enhanced programming for an additional 135 young people at camp.

## County Fair Booth

During the 2024 Ray County Fair, the Extension Council hosted an information booth with Poison Look-a-Like Display (bottom right), information on resources, and 4-H club information. This was an interactive educational opportunity for youth and adults.



**Emily Bergsieker, 4-H Specialist, works with youth to introduce spin bike activities at library programming.**



**Kids in the Kitchen lesson utilizes hands-on recipe techniques such as Banana pudding to teach cooking and nutrition skills.**



## Student Nutrition Advocacy Clubs (SNAC)

The SNAC program utilizes in-school curriculum to highlight program areas such as nutrition, physical activity and how to start plants from seeds.

In the Kids in the Kitchen series (left), students learn the importance of making healthier meal and snack choices, eating breakfast, getting more physical activity, and making/ trying new foods to increase healthier food choices. This fall, 68 Ray County high school youth participated in the Kids in the Kitchen program, presented by Amanda Cringan, Youth Programming Associate.



# Agriculture & Environment

## One-on-one Counseling Continues to Make Impacts

Individualized consultations supported ag producers across the state throughout 2024. Many clients were in specialty crop production and lacked resources and information needed to be successful. One-on-one support in 2024 included:

- Missouri Ag Food and Forestry Innovation Center
- Missouri Socially Disadvantaged Farm and Rancher 2501 Team to One Coaching
- Heartland Regional Food Center Technical Assistance Provider

Katie Neuner, Agriculture Business Specialist, undertook efforts resulting in 127 counseling sessions totaling 60 hours of contact time, and over \$500,000 in requested grant funds. This resulted in realized financial gains of \$43,480 to producers with other grants still pending.



In 2024, MU Extension Livestock Specialist Jim Humphrey was able to enroll seven cooperators from northwest Missouri in the Grasslands Partnership with University of Tennessee. Through this partnership, MU Extension brings over \$140,000 to support these seven operations in enhancing their grazing operations over the next four years.



## Soil Testing in Ray County

More than 44 Agricultural and 24 Horticulture soil samples representing more than 2,200 acres were submitted through the Ray County Extension office for analysis at University of Missouri Extension's soil testing laboratory in 2024.

Soil sampling provides Ray County's forage and row crop producers with an accurate analysis of exactly what is in their soil and provides them with recommended fertilizer application rates for the crop they are trying to grow.

Ray County's agronomist reviews the soil sample results with the producers, fine-tuning the recommendations for their particular situation and needs. Soil sampling and accurate fertilizer application increases crop production, reduces input cost, maximizes profit, and reduces the environmental impact of fertilizer loss from fields through leaching and runoff.



**Soil testing provides forage and row crop producers with an accurate analysis of exactly what is in their soil**





# Agriculture & Environment

## Hydroponics & Companion Gardening



Horticulture Specialist, Kathi Mecham, emphasized her interest in Hydroponics in spring 2024. Hydroponics is a popular method for producing vegetables at home or for commercial growers. Pictured is a unit set up at a nearby MU Extension office that allowed for in-person, hands-on learning. Attendees at multiple events also learned how companion planting helps support natural pest control, attracts beneficial insects, and improves soil fertility and & structure.

### MISSOURI RETIRED TEACHER ASSOCIATION IN LAWSON LEARNED ABOUT CONTAINER AND RAISED BED GARDENING

#### Comments from attendees included:

*"Thank you for your design presentation."*

*"I learned so much! You are the best presenter on this subject I have heard in 5 years."*

## JUMPSTART YOUR FARM WEBINAR

MU interactive webinar for those interested in learning more about starting or expanding an agriculture operation. Webinar topics included:

- Considerations for buying farm property.
- Developing a realistic business plan for a small acreage farm.
- Using Intel for Ag to help identify a sustainable ag enterprise, explore local marketing options, assess management skills and generate a checklist to start a farm business.

## MU Feedlot School Events

- Presented information on Livestock Safety, Handling Facilities and Stockmanship at the MU Feedlot Schools
- MU Feedlot School attendees received education on nutrition, health, marketing, economics, facilities and financing
- Tours to new and existing cattle finishing facilities allowed participants a firsthand view of cattle feeding in Missouri
- Funding from the Missouri Agricultural Small Business Development Administration was key to this educational program



Area beef producers listening to Tim Saunders of King City, MO explain his cattle feeding operation on the Northwest Missouri Cattle Feeders Tour.



# Business & Community

## Weatherization & Renewable Energy

Jim Crawford, Field specialist in Agricultural Engineering, spends a lot of time responding to inquiries regarding:

- Energy conservation /weatherization –
- Steps and processes people can use to reduce their energy costs at home.
- Renewable energy – home and commercial scale wind and solar energy production systems. People want to know about these systems, can they reduce their electric bills, estimated paybacks and how does a large, commercial scale solar or wind farm being constructed near me affect my property values, my family and my lifestyle.

Additionally, Jim provides unbiased, research-based data to inquiries on both of these sometimes complex topics.



**71 Ray County Seniors were enrolled in this growing program!**

## Senior Farmer's Market Program

Several enrollment events were held throughout Ray county to distribute \$50 vouchers good for the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables from approved Farmer's Markets, Fresh Markets, and road stand sites to SNAP-eligible seniors. Benefits are good May through October 31. New this year were produce bags delivered to 5 recipients who did not have a local shopping option.

This is the 4th year for enrollment to this growing program and Extension representatives could be

found at the Ray County Senior Center, the Lawson Farmer's Market, and the Ray county Extension office.

## Neighborhood Leadership Academy

Neighborhood Leadership Academy (NLA) is a 10-week community development leadership program that provides participants with the skills, confidence, and strategies to plan and implement projects in their own communities. Participants come from across the entire state and meet virtually using Zoom. The program provides participants with 30 hours of educational instruction, group and individual coaching that will assist them with completing their project. Participants that complete the program are eligible to apply for mini-grants to support their projects.



### What participants said about NLA:

*"I enjoyed the breakout sessions. Although we are from all different backgrounds, communities, we all want the same things in our communities."*





# Health & Human Sciences

## MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

In 2024, Jessica Trussell, Human Development Specialist, served 82 individuals through Mental Health First Aid training, including both Youth and Adult modules offered virtually across all nine counties in her coverage area. Mental Health First Aid equips participants with the knowledge to recognize risk factors and warning signs of mental health challenges and provides an overview of common treatments. The program has been proven to:

- Improve understanding of mental health conditions
- Reduce stigma surrounding mental illness
- Increase the amount of support provided to those in need

Participants were included from Daviess: 2, Lafayette: 4, | Livingston: 1, Mercer: 1 | Ray: 1  
By delivering this training, I contributed to fostering healthier communities and empowering individuals to provide critical mental health support when it is needed most



## WITS WORKOUT

In 2024, the WITS Workout program was offered both in-person in Mercer, Lafayette, and Ray counties and virtually. This interactive brain health program promotes cognitive engagement through activities designed to stimulate mental agility and enhance memory, problem-solving, and creative thinking skills. It also fosters social connection, providing participants with opportunities to interact and share experiences, which can help combat social isolation and loneliness.

Participants came from the counties of Caldwell: 1, Lafayette: 3, Livingston 1, Mercer: 6, and Ray: 7

By delivering this training, contributions were made to decrease social isolation, improved cognitive health and enhance emotional well-being by engaging participants in interactive activities that stimulate memory, problem-solving, and mental agility while fostering meaningful social connections.





# Health & Human Sciences

## SNAP-Ed in 2024

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Education or SNAP-Ed) brought \$11,145,237 in federal funds to Missouri. The funds support engagement with 74,864 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients and eligible citizens of Missouri who learned about being active and healthy eating on a budget. This year we had 1,164,143 indirect educational contacts through newsletter, health fairs, food pantries, and the Shoe Me Nutrition helpline.

**A total of 1605 direct and indirect contacts were made in Ray County in 2024.**

Participants in SNAP-Ed learn the importance of making healthier meals and snack choices, eating breakfast more often, are more willing to try new foods, increase their physical activity, and make healthier food choices. Those who practice healthy eating and are physically active are more likely to contribute to a healthy labor force and enjoy a high quality of life throughout the lifespan. This vital programming effort also reduces healthcare costs over the participant's lifetime, saving taxpayer money in reduced public healthcare benefits and insurance premiums.

### 2024 Agencies

Richmond Head Start

Ray County Fellowship Center

Lawson Farmer's Market

Lawson Housing Authority

Richmond Farmers Market

**Various recipe brochures and cards were included in Pantry distribution at the Ray County Fellowship center throughout 2024. Recipes helped better utilize food donations and distributions, especially for fresh produce items included in monthly boxes.**



### SUCCESS STORY!

Senior residents of Lawson were given the opportunity to see if they would qualify to receive \$50 in produce funded by the Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program. Many people commented about what a wonderful program this is and were thankful to be able

to participate. It is rewarding to be able to help improve the lives of Missouri's senior residents!





# Health & Human Sciences

## Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention

By addressing the fall risk through education, MU Extension Fall Prevention programs enhance well-being, reduce medical expenses, preserve quality of life and contributes to supporting the local economic well-being of the community through support of local business and volunteerism.

Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention is a gentle, low-impact program that teaches 12 Tai Chi movements designed to improve flexibility, balance, reduce pain and enhance mental well-being.

**In 2024, the program was offered Ray county and had 16 participants at the Thomas Eagleton Civic and Senior Center.**

Impact: Fall prevention programs make a difference, saving participants and average of \$1,024 each year in healthcare costs. By helping reduce the risk of falls, these programs help people stay healthier, more independent and potentially lowers healthcare cost. Many older adults worry about falling and losing their independence. Not being active enough can make them more likely to fall and cause other health problems. In, Ray county, about 20% of the population is 65 years or older. Less than half of these older adults have places to go for exercise. Isolation is another concern, with 50-85% of older adults at risk of social isolation.



**Ray County Tai Chi participants demonstrate their newly learned positions with instructors Sue Robison and TJ Sethi, Nutrition & Health Specialists**

## Community Partnerships

Community partnerships help communities grow and thrive by bringing together and sharing resources. Local partners understand their community needs and look for ways to support their local citizens. MU Extension Health and Human Sciences staff are on the front lines providing education, programs, and resources, and advocating for improving the lives of all Missourians.

A few of Ray County Health & Nutrition partners for 2024 are:

- ✓ Area Agencies on Aging
- ✓ Care Connection
- ✓ Missouri Regional Area Agency on Aging
- ✓ Mid America Regional Council
- ✓ Ray County Regional Hospital





## County highlights

### Heroes to Hives

Heroes to Hives is a statewide program offered through Michigan Food and Farming Systems (MIFFS) and University of Missouri Extension that seeks to address financial and personal wellness of veterans through professional training and community development centered around beekeeping. It features online training through MIFFS coupled with hands-on training from University of Missouri Extension at our teaching apiaries in Warrensburg and Mt. Vernon.

More than 1200 veterans from across Missouri have participated in the program, with numerous participants coming from Ray County



**Heroes to Hives addresses financial and personal wellness of veterans through professional training and community development centered around beekeeping.**

### Agr-Ability

In 2024, contact was made through the Heroes to Hives program with a veteran beekeeper and farmer in Ray County. This producer deals with a number of health issues due to service-connected disabilities, making it difficult to manage a farm and business. Ray County agronomist, Travis Harper, along with the Missouri Agr-Ability program and other entities such as the VA, worked closely with the producer to develop a number of strategies and secure equipment to make a farming-based business a reality.

### Private Applicator Training

Private Pesticide Applicator Training teaches producers how to safely store, handle, and use restricted-use pesticides in agricultural production. Proper application of pesticides results in greater safety for both the applicator and their neighbors. Proper application of pesticides results in reduced exposure of pesticides to the environment, ultimately leading to safer living conditions for all Missourians.

23 Ray County residents received or renewed a license in 2024. There are currently 127 active private pesticide applicators in Ray County. These producers manage in excess of 8,500 acres in the county.

**Private Pesticide Applicator Training sessions highlight proper application techniques.**







# County highlights

## Ray County Fair Highlights

### Ray County Fair Results

#### Livestock Shows:

- Goats - 31 class entries (+1)
- Beef - 49 class entries (-5)
- Cats - 2 class entry (+1)
- Dogs - 10 class entries (-2)
- Horse – 12 youth participated (-7)
- Poultry - 35 class entries (+6)
- Rabbits – 47 class entries (+16)
- Sheep - 29 class entries (-33)
- Swine - 59 class entries (-18)
- Ham - 55 class entries (+12)
- Bacon – 2 class entries (-1)
- Clover Kid Pet Show – 5 class entries (+2)

#### Exhibits Entered:

- 339 4-H projects were exhibited (+91)
- 24 class entry (+18) FFA projects were exhibited.
- Fashion Show: 10 youth participated (+3)
- Demonstration – 5 class entries (+1)
- Public Speaking - 0 class entries (0)
- Rocket Shoot Off – 8 entries held in Lafayette County (0)

#### Shooting Sports

- 28 class entries (-7)

#### Missouri State Fair

- 63 projects in the 4-H Building
- 1 Best of Show selected
- 4 Demonstrations
- Coy Honeycutt participated in the Youth in Ag Auction with his Grand Champion Lamb Carcass.



### Fun Fair Facts:

- ✓ Ray County had a successful fair with fairly good weather.
- ✓ Auctions in Ray County sold 29 animals for \$78,753.75 and 25 hams for \$16,535.25
- ✓ Ray county youth had 1 “Best of Show” exhibit selected at the State Fair and several demonstration awards.



# Ray County



## UM System Footprint in the county in 2024



### FY24 county students

**103 students**

- 85 Undergraduates
- 18 Graduate and professional students
- 74 Full-time students
- 29 Part-time students
- 18 Pell grant recipients (aid year 2024)



### County employees and retirees

**13 people employed by UM**

- 10 Campuses
- 3 MU Health Care (includes additional employees gained via the recent integration of Capital Region Medical Center)

7 UM retirees and beneficiaries  
 UM salary and retirement income: \$445,735  
 UM state tax revenue: \$14,690  
 UM federal tax revenue: \$62,127



### County alumni

**Selected school alumni**

- 8 Medicine
- 18 Nursing
- 25 Health Professions
- 10 Dentistry
- 14 Pharmacy
- 5 Veterinary Medicine
- 71 Agriculture
- 49 Engineering
- 20 Law

**Alumni teaching K-12**

- 22 teachers
- 8.1% of all district teachers
- 1 principal or administrator
- 5.3% of all district principals and administrators



### County breakdown

**MU**

- 49 students
- 258 alumni
- 6 employees

**UMKC**

- 38 students
- 199 alumni
- 4 employees

**Missouri S&T**

- 8 students
- 32 alumni
- 0 employees

**UMSL**

- 8 students
- 1 alumna or alumnus
- 0 employees



### County properties and offices

MU Extension in: Ray County



County population: 23,122



### County services provided

**Health care (FY24)**

- 84 in-state patients seen at MU Health Care, with \$50,187 of uncompensated care
- 50 in-state patients seen at UMKC School of Dentistry with a statewide average of \$52.57 per patient in uncompensated care
- MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network recorded 251 visits to 97 patients having ZIP codes associated with the county

**Extension (2023)**

- 970 Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of the county, including:
- 42 contacts related to productive farming, better gardening, and managing natural resources
- 727 contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, personal finance, or youth development
- 93 contacts related to starting businesses, developing community leaders, or renewing the local economy



# Ray County



University of Missouri System

COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS

## UM System Statewide Footprint

### Economic and Community Development Highlights

- In FY23, Business Development Specialists worked with small businesses and entrepreneurs statewide to create or retain 98,527 jobs.

**\$3.1 billion**

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 FY18 and FY23, UM System brought Missouri more than \$1.58 billion in federal and private research funds, funded primarily from outside the state, but spent within the state.



In FY24, UM System was issued 29 patents and filed 69 new U.S. patent applications.

- In FY24, the UM System awarded 707 design and construction project contracts throughout Missouri, for a total investment of \$287.3 million in the state.



In FY24, to improve access to medical and health related services, MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network's Show-Me ECHO program provided 16,687 hrs of case-based instruction to 3,113 learners located in 105 of 114 Missouri counties and the city of St. Louis.

### Education and Training Provided



40,542 police, fire fighters, and medical professionals attending continuing education (2023)



Agriculture and natural resource programs served 369,077 farmers and related businesses (2023)

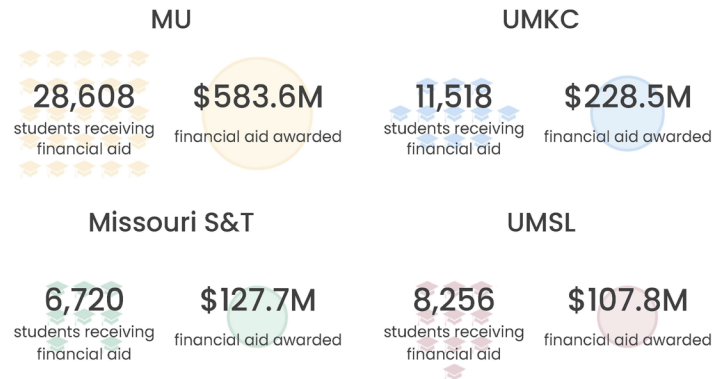


210,577 youth and stakeholder educational contacts in 4-H clubs, schools, camps and other programs (2023)

### Education Highlights

#### FY24 Financial Aid Awards

In FY24, 69.7% of the UM System's 79,014 students received financial aid totaling \$1.048 billion



UM System's MOREnet (Missouri Research and Education Network) provides internet connectivity, access, support and training to 58 higher education institutions (230,000 students), 484 K-12 school districts (830,000 students) and 134 public libraries (serving nearly 3 million Missourians) in 2023.

- UM System awarded 50.5% of the 31,689 Bachelor's or higher degrees awarded by Missouri four-year public institutions in 2023-24.
- UM System awarded 35.0% of the 1,776 research doctorates and 26.8% of the 3,796 professional doctorates awarded by Missouri public and not-for-profit private institutions in 2023-24.
- In FY24, UM System's \$30.7 million in National Science Foundation (NSF) grants represented 96.9% of all NSF grants made to Missouri public colleges and universities.
- In 2024, over 12,400 Missourians accessed mobroadband.org, part of the UM System Broadband Initiative which helped the statewide build-out of high-speed internet infrastructure.

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 2024, based on the best available and most recent data. Data Sources include: Missouri Office of Administration • UM IR • MU Institute for Public Policy • 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

