



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION

# Stoddard County

# 2023

## Annual Report

316 South Prairie Street  
PO Box 169  
Bloomfield, MO 63825  
573-568-3344

**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  
PHONE 573-882-2394  
EMAIL: [cchiggins@missouri.edu](mailto:cchiggins@missouri.edu)

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

## Faculty and Staff

### 2023 Stoddard County Extension Staff

Kris Smith, Field Specialist in 4-H Youth Development

Scotty Smothers, Field Specialist in Agronomy

Zenita Smith, 4-H Youth Program Associate

Jeanie Huey, Nutrition Program Associate

Toni Wheatley, County Secretary

Stoddard County has a strong tradition of support for University of Missouri Extension programs and local partnerships are vital to our success. We appreciate the many volunteers, local organizations, and businesses that make our educational programs possible.

Our mission is to provide practical education to help people, businesses and communities solve problems, develop skills, and make informed decisions using science-based knowledge. This report highlights a few of our innovative programs in youth development, agricultural profitability, nutrition and health, building family and individual strengths, affordable housing, environmental quality and business development.

The extension office is your front door to the four campuses of the University of Missouri System and Lincoln University. We invite you to explore learning opportunities and resources available on-line and through our office. Your ideas for improving our educational programs are always welcome as we work together to help the citizens of Stoddard County build a better future.



## Council Members

### 2023 Stoddard County Extension Council

Chairman - Gary Wyman

Vice-Chairman - Chris Rowland

Secretary – Ashley Jarrell

Treasurer – Kelly Midkiff

Member - Anthony Bockhold

Member – James Childers

Member – Pamela Elder

Member – Robinn Daves-Huey

Member – Carol Jarrell  
Regional Council Representative

### County Commissioners



Presiding Commissioner  
Greg Mathis

Commissioner  
Carol Jarrell

Commissioner  
CD Stewart



# Budget and More

## Appropriations Budget

### Income

County Appropriations 52,828

**Total Income 52,828**

### Expenses

Salaries/Benefits 41,494

Travel 3,789

Telephone 2,284

Supplies/Services 4,754

Insurance 507

**Total Expenses 52,828**

## Key Outcomes and Numbers

- ✓ There are 502 active certified private applicators in Stoddard County. Of those, 84 were recertified or newly certified in 2023 [through extension \(MDA database\).](#)
- ✓ 8536 Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of the county, including:
  - ◆ 4881 contacts related to equine management, productive farming, better gardening, woodlands, and grazing
  - ◆ 1249 contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, mental health first aid, and food and nutrition
  - ◆ 1545 contacts in 4-H-related youth development
  - ◆ 777 contacts related to business management, workforce development, and agriculture economy

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



### Local Support

Did you know you can donate directly to Stoddard 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.

# County Highlights

## About Stoddard County, Missouri!

Stoddard County Missouri's pro-business atmosphere offers many economic and growth opportunities to manufacturing, commercial, agricultural and service industries.

Stoddard County is one of the six southeastern Missouri counties known as the "Bootheel." The Industrial Development Authority and the area's city and county leaders invite you to consider Stoddard County and its abundant land, existing buildings, affordable utilities and able workforce. U.S. Highway 60 and Missouri Highway 25 cross through the county and Interstate Highways 55 and 57 are within an easy 30-minute drive. The county's easy access from practically anywhere in the nation makes this region an ideal transportation location.

To look back at Stoddard County's history would be to look back at the strong pioneers that traveled from the east looking for a better place to raise their families. It would also look back at the peaceful Shawnee and Delaware Indian tribes that lived here, but in 1832 moved further west. It would also take in the railroad which, once built, helped to bring prosperity to the area.

Stoddard County was once a land that was wild, uncivilized and featured swamps and heavy forest growth. There were no roads, except for the Indian trails that followed Crowley's Ridge. It took strong-willed pioneers to clear the land, build their homes and bring civilization to this untamed territory.

Bloomfield is the county's oldest town, founded in 1835, and is located on Crowley's Ridge surrounded by scenic rolling hills. Visit our other towns: Advance, Bell City, Bernie, Dexter, Dudley, Essex, and Puxico.

Early transportation was done over navigable waterways but wasn't an adequate system. A road was built from Cape Girardeau to Bloomfield and on to Northeast Arkansas. It was in the early 1850s that leaders in the county began the tedious work of bringing a railroad into the area. The preliminary work was extensive — raising funds, purchasing land and enticing the railroad companies to bring their lines into Stoddard County. It wasn't until the 1870s that the first train made its appearance at Dexter.

Dexter was founded in 1869 and incorporated in 1873. It grew from an area that was once covered with heavy forest. The town itself was laid out by the railroad, which sold lots for as little as \$25 and as much as \$300. Other towns sprang up around the county, filling with people who became teachers, lawyers, bankers and farmers. All came to the area with the strong pioneering spirit to build a new life.

Stoddard County's courthouse was built in 1867 and is on the National Registry of Historic Places. A memorial to Stoddard County veterans who lost their lives serving their country is located on the grounds. Also at the courthouse on the Memorial Monument is a gift plaque from the Armed Forces Information Service designating Bloomfield as the birthplace of the Stars and Stripes, a military newspaper.



# Educational Access & Excellence

## Our Scope

The UM System has a unique and important role in providing teaching, research, service and economic development to the state.

In addition to its four campuses -the University of Missouri-Columbia (MU), the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC), Missouri University of Science and Technology (S&T) and the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL) - the UM System is comprised of a statewide health care system, multiple research parks and incubators, agricultural research stations, and a vast network of small business and technology development centers, extension centers, telehealth network sites and MOREnet sites.

Collectively, the UM System is a \$3.0 billion enterprise that represents one of the greatest asset.

The mission of the University of Missouri System, as a land-grant university and Missouri's only public research and doctoral-level institution, is to achieve excellence in the discovery, dissemination, preservation and application of knowledge.

The mission of the University of Missouri System, as a land-grant university and Missouri's only public research and doctoral-level institution, is to achieve excellence in the discovery, dissemination, preservation and application of knowledge.

With an unwavering commitment to academic freedom and freedom of expression, the university educates students to become leaders, promotes lifelong learning by Missouri's citizens, fosters meaningful research and creative works, and serves as a catalyst for innovation, thereby advancing the educational, health, cultural, social and economic interests to benefit the people of Missouri, the nation, and the world.

We are committed to establishing a diverse and inclusive working environment for our faculty and staff, providing safe, secure working conditions and facilities and ensuring our employees have open, honest and trusting relationships with leadership and their peers.





# Educational Access & Excellence

## Horticulture Programming in the Southeast Region

*Donna Aufdenberg, Field Specialist in Horticulture*

In 2023, there were 1580 direct contacts (participants) through gardening programs where participants were actively engaged in the learning process. Programs were in-person and online. Participants learned about planning the vegetable gardening, planting flower and shrubs, growing and using culinary herbs, native plants, growing specialty crops hydroponically, container gardening, high tunnel and greenhouse basics, seed saving, gardening pests and many more topics.

There was a continued interest in home vegetable gardening in 2023 due to concerns about food security and food costs. Many new gardeners learned about growing their own food, increasing consumption of healthy food, exercising caution in the garden during extreme heat and drought and the diligence required to plant and maintain a garden.



**The Garden Hour with MU Extension**

MU Extension Horticulture Specialists from across the state will answer your garden questions! Topics include vegetables, flowers, lawns, fruit, ornamental, houseplants, trees, and landscapes.

University of Missouri Extension is a registered agent of the Missouri Extension System. MU Extension is a registered agent of the Missouri Extension System.

TO REGISTER OR ASK A QUESTION:  
<https://go.missouri.edu/townhall>  
 Once you register, you will get a weekly reminder email from MU Extension Horticulture

**FREE!!!**

Zoom Or YouTube Livestream

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MUJPM>

Weekly On Wednesdays noon to 1 pm

Online programming remains an important educational tool. This includes MU Extension Garden Hour at noon on Wednesdays during the gardening season, horticulture education meetings, home gardening webinar, farmers market webinar series and commercial vegetable program. Participants who engaged in horticulture programming learned about insects, weeds, diseases, soil health and fertility, general plant care, and variety selection.

## Horticulture

*/'hôrdəˌkælCHər/*

**Noun** 1. the art or practice of garden cultivation and management

**1580+**

Participants in 60+ Programs

**1,000+**

One-on-One Education

- Calls and Emails
- Walk-ins

## Top Gardening Requests

Vegetable Gardening • Growing Berries • Planting Fruit Trees • Composting • Soil Testing • Raised Bed Garden • Hydroponics • Planting Shrubs

A monthly Garden Spade Newsletter reaches over 2,300 subscribers every month with a 20% increase in readership during 2023.

Subscribe to the garden spade at <https://extension.missouri.edu/connections/cape-girardeau> or click the QR code at the right.







# Educational Access & Excellence

## Private Pesticide Applicator Training

Under the Missouri Pesticide Use Act, the University of Missouri Extension provides education to private pesticide applicators in the core competency areas of pest management, environmental stewardship, and personal protection. Specifics include the importance of scouting for pests and evaluating implemented plans, understanding the label, and protecting exposure routes from poisoning with personal protective equipment. A private applicator is defined as any individual who is certified by the director as authorized to use, or to supervise the use of, any pesticide which is classified for restricted use for purposes of producing any agricultural commodity on property owned or rented or on the property of another person, if used without compensation other than trading of personal services between producers of agricultural commodities, on the property of another person.

Anthony Ohmes taught one in-person training event in Stoddard County. Twenty-eight private applicators learned IPM strategies, environmental stewardship, and pesticide safety. Survey of participants indicated an increase in knowledge of IPM, understanding the label and pesticide safety. On a scale of 1 to 7, the knowledge prior to training averaged 5.5 and after training increased to 6.7. When asked if they would use or change due to training the average was 6.7. Overall presentation and presenter rating was 6.7. Additional trainings are provided on-demand at the local extension office. As a result of this information clients have a better understanding of pesticide safety.

Private applicator training and the information provided is vital for the well-being of our producers and our environment.

For information on University of Missouri Pesticide Applicator training contact MU Extension or refer to our website:

<https://extension.missouri.edu/programs/pesticide-applicator-training>

## Fundamentals of Scouting Field Crops and Forages

In February, a scouting workshop was offered in Cape Girardeau County. The workshop provided integrated pest management and crop growth and development education of consultants and producers from Mississippi, Cape Girardeau, Scott, and Stoddard Counties. Specifically, the topics included scouting information for corn, soybean, wheat, and forage crops. Also included were pest identification, the importance of beneficial insects, proper scouting timing based on crop stage, and general crop management. Two MU Agronomy Specialists provided the education.

Overall, the meeting rating of knowledge gained from attending on a scale of 1 to 7, averaged 4.5 before and increased to 6.125 after. The overall rating of the teaching for the workshop was 6.625. Those surveyed on intent of using knowledge was 6.5.

When asked specifically what they learned, the overall comments were wheat and soybean growth and development.

One indicated they learned specifically about insects in corn that they hadn't noticed last year.







# Economic Opportunity

## 2023 MU Extension Commodity Conferences

In 2023 MU Extension hosted three commodity conferences covering corn, soybean, cotton, and rice. The conferences were held in Scott, New Madrid, and Stoddard counties in the months of January and February. David Reinbott, Ag Business Specialist, and Anthony Ohmes, Agronomy Specialist, organized and facilitated the programs. Participants from 11 MO counties, including Stoddard County, and two other states were presented with research-based information on market outlook, commodity organization updates, soybean, corn, cotton, and rice management, weed management, and nutrient management.

Over 200 attendees rated the overall value from the information provided at 8.5 average out of a maximum of 10.

When asked what changes would be made as a result of the information provided, the responses included:

- 1) Marketing crops;
- 2) Herbicide and weed control options;
- 3) Plant soybeans earlier;
- 4) Crop rotations;
- 5) Furrow irrigated rice.

Overall, the research-based education increased overall knowledge in the topic areas which will lead to informed decisions that can help implement changes in management practices. Therefore, improving the economic viability of farm operations.



### MU Crop Conference Meeting

## Fundamentals of Scouting Field Crops and Forages

In February, a scouting workshop was offered in Cape Girardeau County. The workshop provided integrated pest management and crop growth and development education of consultants and producers from Mississippi, Cape Girardeau, Scott, and Stoddard Counties. Specifically, the topics included scouting information for corn, soybean, wheat, and forage crops. Also included were pest identification, the importance of beneficial insects, proper scouting timing based on crop stage, and general crop management. Two MU Agronomy Specialists provided the education.

Overall, the meeting rating of knowledge gained from attending on a scale of 1 to 7, averaged 4.5 before and increased to 6.125 after. The overall rating of the teaching for the workshop was 6.625. Those surveyed on intent of using knowledge was 6.5. When asked specifically what they learned, the overall comments were wheat and soybean growth and development. One indicated they learned specifically about insects in corn that they hadn't noticed last year.





# Economic Opportunity

## Extension Tax Schools

University of Missouri Extension ag economics department and ag business specialists worked together to coordinate one summer and three fall tax schools. The summer school was in person and live online. Fall schools were in Columbia and Springfield and in addition was online. The schools were designed for those who prepare taxes including enrolled agents, tax preparers, CPAs, individuals, and attorneys.

The training included updates on legislation, rulings and cases, individual taxpayer issues, agricultural and natural resources topics, ethics, trusts and estates, agriculture and natural resource tax issues, business tax issues, business entity tax issues, IRS issues, penalties and defenses, form 4797 sales of property, retirement tax issues, like-kind exchange issues. The schools were approved for 8 and 16 hours of continuing education credit by the IRS, Missouri Bar and for CFP continuing education. Total continuing education hours reported to IRS for the schools was 3,336 hours.

The teaching teams included a CPA and former IRS stakeholder liaison, an IRS certified retired ag economics professor, an attorney, Missouri Department of Revenue and extension ag business specialists.

The trainings received positive evaluations and planning is underway to offer trainings in 2024. Local county residents benefit when local tax preparers have the opportunity to gain knowledge, which benefits their clients and communities. The tax schools are a program of the ag business and policy program of MU Extension, coordinated by Mary Sobba with help from a team of ag business specialists throughout the state.

The resources for the schools included the IRS, the National Income Tax Workbook from the Land Grant University Tax Education Foundation, and materials written by the instructors.

The 2023 school attendance totaled three hundred twenty-seven people. The participants were from throughout Missouri.

**Stoddard County had 2 participants.**







## Health & Well-being

### Family Nutrition Education Program

#### SNAP-Ed Public Value Statement 2023

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Education or SNAP-Ed) brought \$10,874,798 in federal funds to Missouri. During FY2023, Missouri's SNAP-Ed program reached over 78,000 Missourians through direct classroom education. Each person participated in an average of 6 hours of education totaling over 15,000 hours. In addition, an additional 760,135 persons participated in indirect education. Direct and indirect education resulted in over 1.8 million total contacts with Missourians.

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.

A total of **771** participants were from **Stoddard** County.

Stoddard County  
Extension Council



Missouri Crunch Off

The Stoddard County Extension Council, Bell City Schools, and Mt. Zion-Walker General Baptist Church participated in Missouri's Crunch Off enjoying the delicious popcorn, that was grown by Fancy Farm Popcorn from Bernie and prepared by D-Dee's Kettle Korn out of Eugene. [#mocrunchoff](https://www.facebook.com/mocrunchoff)

Mt. Zion-Walker  
General Baptist  
Church



Bell City Head Start





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



Insect trapping at 5 locations  
across Stoddard County.  
Area served: 458,876  
agricultural acres



58 soil sample customers  
representing 2300 acres



Conducted 6 PPAT (private  
pesticide applicator) training  
sessions in addition to in-  
office trainings. Certified or  
recertified 84 private  
applicators.

## Legend



Agricultural Growth  
& Stewardship



Economic  
Opportunity



Educational  
Access &  
Excellence



Health  
& Well-Being





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



## **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.**



**"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.

## Legend



Agricultural Growth  
& Stewardship



Economic  
Opportunity



Educational  
Access &  
Excellence



Health  
& Well-Being



# Stoddard County 4-H Rocked 2023



Advance Clovers learning how to make homemade butter.



New 4-H Club Farm and Fun enjoying a hayride in Puxico.

Stoddard County 4-H youth enjoyed huge success with their fair entries at the Stoddard County Fair.



Puxico Warrior members showing off their Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Swine.



Star Banner members enjoying a Community Service Project, playing Bingo with residents from Central Gardens.



Our 4-H members enjoyed camps, movie days, a St. Louis Cardinals ball game, and many more activities.



Stoddard County 4-H members came together on September 9 to help clean the fair grounds.



Not only were 4-H members successful with livestock, but ribbons were also won with photography and other projects.



Spin Clubs were made possible by community volunteers and provided project activities such as art and photography!



During the Stoddard County Extension November board meeting, Regina Halterman presented a \$1,500 matching fund check to Stoddard County 4-H.



A grant of \$250 for Feed America was given to Southeast Missouri during a time that another generous donor was doubling donations making the total \$500.

**Awesome  
job 4-H  
Clubs!!**



SNAC (Student Nutrition Advisory Council) was taught in area schools. Each class has to complete a service project. Richland students made recipe books for each high school staff member.



During Trick or Treat around the Courthouse, Zenita Smith, 4-H YPA & Truman the Tiger, aka community volunteer Harold Wheelley handed out over 300 bags of candy and 4-H information.



During Liberty Days at the Stars and Stripes Museum and Dexter Fall Festival over 900 youth made their own smoothies with the blender bike. Pictured is Stoddard County Extension Board member Kelly Midkiff making a smoothie as EES Amber Childers looks on.





# UM System County Impacts

2024 UM Systemwide Impact Data Sheets

## Stoddard County



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

### UM System Footprint in the county in 2023



#### FY23 county students

##### 66 students

- 59 Undergraduates
- 7 Graduate and professional students
- 51 Full-time students
- 15 Part-time students
- 21 Pell grant recipients (aid year 2023)



#### County employees and retirees

##### 16 people employed by UM

- 16 Campuses
- 13 UM retirees and beneficiaries  
UM salary and retirement income: \$776,877  
UM state tax revenue: \$18,046  
UM federal tax revenue: \$85,653



#### County alumni

##### Selected school alumni

- 5 Medicine
- 15 Nursing
- 36 Health Professions
- 3 Dentistry
- 3 Pharmacy
- 2 Optometry
- 5 Veterinary Medicine
- 69 Agriculture
- 42 Engineering
- 26 Law

##### Alumni teaching K-12

- 10 teachers
- 2.5% of all district teachers
- 5 principals and administrators
- 20.8% of all district principals and administrators



#### County breakdown

##### MU

- 48 students
- 249 alumni
- 16 employees

##### UMKC

- 2 students
- 22 alumni
- 0 employees

##### Missouri S&T

- 13 students
- 35 alumni
- 0 employees

##### UMSL

- 3 students
- 28 alumni
- 0 employees



#### County properties and offices

MU Extension in: Stoddard County



County population: 28,812



#### County services provided

##### Health care (FY23)

- 42 in-state patients seen at MU Health Care, with \$39,200 of uncompensated care
- 4 in-state patients seen at UMSL Center for Eye Care with a statewide average of \$34.82 per patient in uncompensated care
- MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network recorded 29 visits to 15 patients having ZIP codes associated with the county

##### Extension (2022)

- 2,072 Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of the county, including:
- 101 contacts related to productive farming, better gardening, and managing natural resources
- 1,945 contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, personal finance, or youth development
- 26 contacts related to starting businesses, developing community leaders, or renewing the local economy



# UM System County Impacts

2024 UM Systemwide Impact Data Sheets

## Stoddard County



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

### UM System Statewide Footprint

#### Economic and Community Development Highlights

- In 2022, Business Development Specialists worked with small businesses and entrepreneurs statewide to create or retain 81,645 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 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, to improve access to medical and health related services, MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network's Show-Me ECHO program provided 18,381 hrs of case-based instruction to 2,938 learners located in 112 of 114 Missouri counties and the city of St. Louis.

#### Education and Training Provided



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 Highlights

##### FY23 Financial Aid Awards

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

MU		UMKC	
27,256	\$536.0M	11,859	\$217.3M
students receiving financial aid	financial aid awarded	students receiving financial aid	financial aid awarded
Missouri S&T		UMSL	
6,748	\$117.7M	8,489	\$102.8M
students receiving financial aid	financial aid awarded	students receiving financial aid	financial aid awarded



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.

- UM System awarded 50.5% of the 32,098 Bachelor's or higher degrees awarded by 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.
- In 2023, over 10,900 Missourians accessed [mobroadband.org](https://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.

**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 • 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





## Missouri Grand Challenges: Local Solutions

STODDARD COUNTY



### 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 by 2023:**



#### 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 the nation

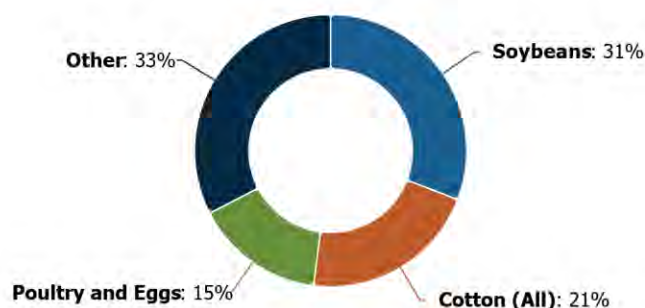
### Knowing Local Challenges



#### CHALLENGE 1: Economic Opportunity: Agricultural Economics

### Leading Agricultural Products

Total Commodity Sales: \$291,909,000



### Net Farm Income

Net farm income (total sales, government payments, and other farm-related income minus total farm expenses) reflects the strength of the local agricultural community and can be an important measure for lenders and policy makers. The report area had a combined net farm income of \$95,342,000 in 2017, an average of \$120,382 per farm. This compares favorably to the statewide average farm income of \$29,485.

Report Area	Total Farms	Average Farm Income
Stoddard	792	\$120,382
Missouri	95,320	\$29,485

Data Source: US Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, [Census of Agriculture](#). 2017.

Data Source: US Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, [Census of Agriculture](#). 2017.



# Grand Challenges



## CHALLENGE 2: Educational Access and Excellence: *Early Childhood Education*

### Access to Early Childhood Education

Head Start is an early childhood education program for at-risk children through age 5. Families utilizing Head Start have better success meeting developmental goals and achieving economic stability. In 2018, there were 3 Head Start programs in the report area, or 16.6 per 10,000 population. Access to head start is higher in this area than in the state.

#### Head Start Programs, Rate (Per 10,000 Children Under Age 5)

16.6

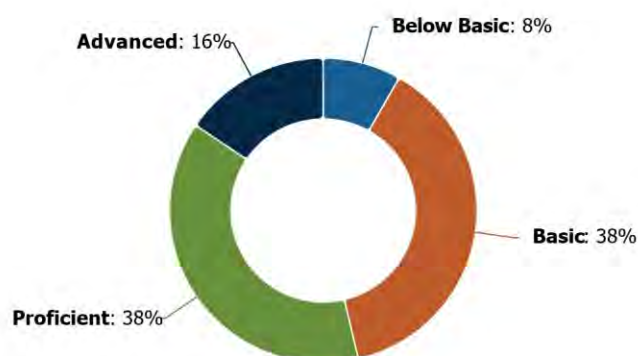
Missouri 11.76

Stoddard

Data Source: US Department of Health & Human Services, [HRSA - Administration for Children and Families](#). 2022.

### English Language Arts Proficiency

Starting in the 4th grade, public schools emphasize proficiency in reading and reading comprehension. The ability to comprehend becomes the foundation to find and process information in later years and it is important to prevent children from falling behind. Of the 354.00 fourth graders tested in 2018, the known total number of students who had a basic level of English Language Arts was 125.00. The number tested as below basic was 27.00, basic was 125.00, proficient was 125.00, and advanced was 51.00.



Data Source: [Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education](#). 2022.



## CHALLENGE 3: Healthy Futures: *Access to Care*

### Mental Health Care Providers

Mental health is a critical public health issue worldwide. Access to mental health services is a challenge across Missouri, which ranks 46 out of 51 states in provider access. In the trio there are approximately 5 credentialed professionals providing mental health care to serve the area's 28,672 residents. The patient-provider ratio in the report area is 5,734 to 1, which means there is 1 provider for every 5,734 persons. The ratio of persons to providers in the report area is higher than the state average of 846:1, which means there are fewer providers per person in this area.

#### Ratio (Population to Providers)

5,734:1

Stoddard

Missouri 846:1

Data Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, [CMS - National Plan and Provider Enumeration System \(NPPES\)](#). January 2024.

### Primary Care Providers

Older adults make up a historically large percentage of the U.S. population and meeting the healthcare needs of an aging population can be challenging. In the report area, there are approximately 11 primary care physicians (MDs and DOs) to serve the area's 5,847 residents over the age of 65. The patient-provider ratio in the report area is 532:1, which means there is 1 provider for every 532 older adults. The ratio of adults to providers in the report area is higher than the state average of 242:1, which means there are fewer providers per person in this area.

#### Ratio (Population to Providers)

532:1

Stoddard

Missouri 242:1

Data Source: US Department of Health & Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, [HRSA - Area Health Resource File](#). January 2024.

# Grand Challenges



## CHALLENGE 4: Agricultural Growth & Stewardship: *Agricultural Economy*

### Jobs Derived

Missouri has a diverse agriculture industry, strong in crops and livestock, as well as food and forestry processing industries. These industries remain a significant part of Missouri's economy, supporting more than 1 in every 10 jobs, on average. In 2021, agriculture, forestry, and related industries in Missouri were estimated to contribute: 456,618 jobs, \$93.7 billion in output and \$31.8 billion in household income. [Learn more about Missouri Agriculture's Economic Impact.](#)

#### Percent of Jobs Derived from Agriculture

49.6%

Stoddard

Missouri

23.55%

Data Source: Missouri Department of Agriculture, [Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority](#). 2021.

### 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. [Learn more about Missouri Agriculture's Economic Impact.](#)

#### Percent of Total Value Added from Agriculture

47.8%

Stoddard

Missouri

21.98%

Data Source: Missouri Department of Agriculture, [Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority](#). 2021.