

From Skill-Building to Statewide Change:

How NDSU Extension Leadership Programs Change Lives and Communities

NDSU

EXTENSION
LEADERSHIP AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Who responded?

LCE* Program

Participant (n = 174)



Nonparticipant (n = 136)

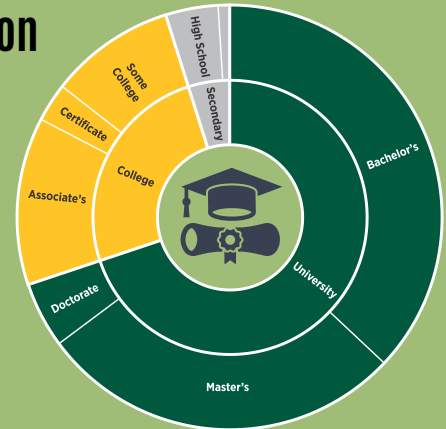


*Leadership and Civic Engagement

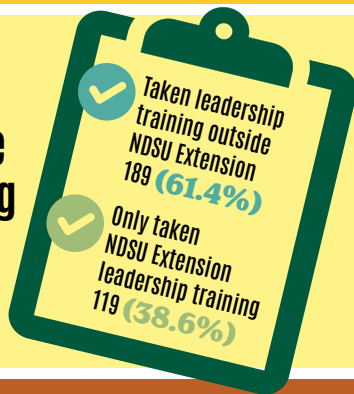
Education Levels

65.8%

hold a bachelor's degree or higher



Outside Training



Community Size

Over **61%** live in places with fewer than 2,500 people

FARM/RANCH
93 (**30%**)



RURAL COMMUNITY
(<2,500)
98 (**31.6%**)

TOWN (2,500-24,999)
45 (**14.5%**)



CITY (25k-50k)
25 (**8.1%**)

LARGE CITY (50k+)
49 (**15.8%**)



Program Dose



2-5 hours
of programming

Example programs include:
Board Management Training
Personality/Work Strength
Community Impressions
Energizing Entrepreneurs



16-30 hours
of programming

Example programs include:
Growing Leaders
Beginning Guide to Grant Writing



~1 hour
of programming

Example programs include:
Personal Skill Development
Publications
Social Media
Webinars
Facilitated Process
Strategic Planning
Podcasts



6-15 hours
of programming

Example programs include:
4-H Volunteer Training
Lead Local
Marketing Hometown America
Leadership Academy



30+ hours
of programming

Example programs include:
Rural Leadership North Dakota (RLND)
Horizons

Participants' SIGNIFICANT LCE Extension Program Experience



Survey Results



DRIVING SKILL DEVELOPMENT

By Gaining Practical Tools and Using Them

What This Means for My Community

Participants leave with stronger leadership, communication, and problem-solving skills. They have the tools that equip them to take action.

- **Participants outperformed** nonparticipants in four key skill areas: problem solving, creating change, communication and decision-making.
- Participants were **2.6x more likely** to adopt new leadership or community practices.
- **More LCE programming** meant more crediting the experience with developing participants' leadership skills.



FUELING COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

With Increased Participant Confidence

What This Means for My Community

Trained individuals are more likely to join boards, organize projects and step into decision-making roles.

- Participants are **1.83x more likely** to participate in community partnerships.
- Participants experienced a **20% increase per program dose** in feeling empowered to run for office.
- Participants are **2.2x more likely** to hold leadership roles.
- Rural participants were **4x more likely** to engage in leadership roles than those from towns with populations of 2,500-24,999.
- Rural participants were **3.4x more likely** to engage in policy development than those from towns with populations of 2,500-24,999.



ACCELERATING COMMUNITY PLANNING

By Turning Learning Into Action

What This Means for My Community

Engaged participants move from conversation to action by getting involved in community planning and strategy.

- Participants are **1.98x more likely** to be involved in community planning.
- Participants experienced a **13% increase per program dose** in the likelihood of being involved in community planning.



AMPLIFYING COMMUNITY IMPACT

With Stronger Voices and Greater Changes

What This Means for My Community

Participants who take part in more LCE programming report greater confidence in creating local change.

- **28% of participants** were involved in community and organizational policy efforts.
- Participants felt they made a **bigger difference** in their communities.
- The more LCE activities participants took part in, the more they felt they were **making a difference** in their communities.