



NORTH CENTRAL REGION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EXTENSION IMPACT REPORT 2025



ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report showcases remarkable impacts achieved through Extension programming across the North Central Region, with institutions generating over \$190 million in grants and resources, reaching more than 469,000 individuals through educational contacts, and supporting the development of over 1,400 plans and policies that strengthen our regional fabric.

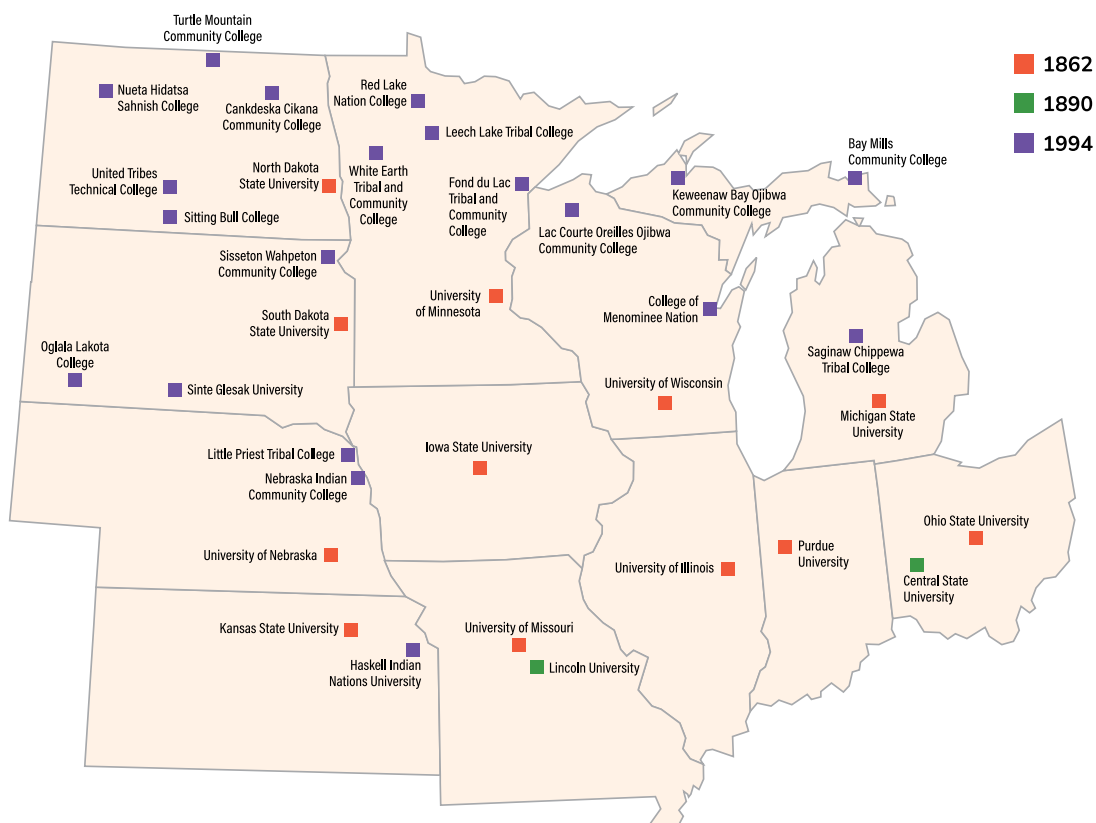
The strength of these efforts continues to be anchored in the exceptional contributions of our 1890 and 1994 land-grant institutions. Our 1890 institutions have been actively sharing their success stories through the [AEA Annual Impact Report](#) and the [AEA Newsletter](#), both of which highlight how Extension programs bring research-based knowledge to areas nationwide, helping address local challenges and improve quality of life through workshops, training sessions, and direct consultation.

Meanwhile, our 1994 institutions recently celebrated three decades of transformative impact through their [Standing on Tradition Report](#), demonstrating how these twenty tribal colleges in our North Central Region — a remarkable increase from the eight that existed when NCRCRD was founded — continue to provide vital research, education, and extension programs.

Extension impact measurement extends beyond our region, with our sister centers across the nation also documenting their transformative work. For example, the [Southern Rural Development Center compiles and publishes regional impact statistics](#), adding to the national picture of Extension's reach and effectiveness.

Together, these partnerships demonstrate how effective Extension work brings lasting change by creating resilient communities and economies, developing leadership and civic engagement, and promoting community health and wellness which continues to inform and enhance the broader Extension system's capacity to serve all areas with excellence.

North Central Region Land Grant Colleges and Universities



NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL CENTER
FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Report compiled by the North Central Regional Center for Rural Development.

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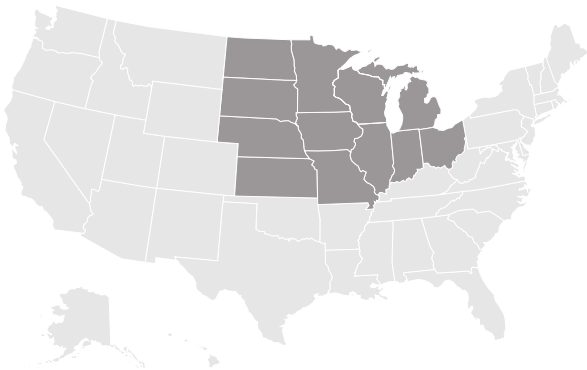


National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NORTH CENTRAL REGION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EXTENSION

The National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (NACDEP) defines community development as “a practice-based profession and an academic discipline that promotes participative democracy, sustainable development, rights, equality, economic opportunity, and social justice, through the organization, education, and empowerment of people within their communities, whether these be of locality, identity or interest, in urban and rural settings.”

Community Development Extension programs can be found in all twelve states in the North Central Region. Given the breadth of community development as a field, Community Development Extension programs are implemented in a variety of ways.



2025 North Central Program Leaders and Liaisons

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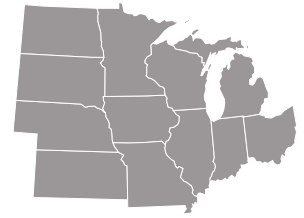
NCRCRD Thematic Area Color Coding

The impact statements in the report are color coded to recognize their connection to the thematic areas of NCRCRD’s mission. The color of the line above the impact statement title indicates the thematic area.

- Creating Resilient Communities & Economies
- Developing Leadership & Civic Engagement
- Promoting Community Health & Wellness

2025 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

of North Central Region Community Development Extension Impacts



North Central Region
 Illinois, Indiana, Iowa,
 Kansas, Michigan,
 Minnesota, Missouri,
 Nebraska, North Dakota,
 Ohio, South Dakota,
 Wisconsin

In 2009, University Extension leaders from the twelve North Central 1862 land-grant universities (LGUs) originally developed common indicators for reporting the impacts of community and economic development educational programs. In 2024, the North Central Region led an effort to revise these impact indicators with the support of the [North Central Cooperative Extension Association](#) (NCCEA), the [Southern Rural Development Center](#) (SRDC), and the [North Central Regional Center for Rural Development](#) (NCRCRD).

For this report, thirteen North Central program leaders reported their program's outcomes utilizing both sets of impact indicators. Below are the region's cumulative impacts for the top nine indicators reported. *Note not all programs collect all the indicators listed which is reflected in the LGU reporting number.*

