

# Generating Positive Economic Impacts for Ohio

In 2004, Ohio State University Extension commissioned Technology Partnership Practice of Battelle Institute to conduct an in-depth analysis of impacts of Extension programs and activities on the State of Ohio.

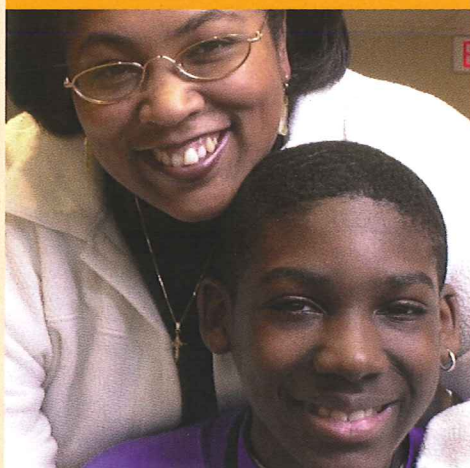
Battelle found “OSU Extension is purpose-designed as an organization for producing positive economic and social impacts.”

For example:

- Every 1% increase in agricultural output through Extension programming brings **\$149 million in output to Ohio, \$29 million in income** for Ohioans and **2,712 jobs**.
- Farmers who read Extension newsletters report significant savings and profit generation. Readers of:
  - CORN **saved \$11.3 million** in pesticides
  - GRAIN reported a **\$3.8 million gain** by following marketing advice
- Extension’s nutrition programs reach thousands of low-income households, families with young children and youth with information on healthy eating habits. More than **90 % report a positive change** in food choices and serving size, and **98 % report an increased knowledge** of nutrition.
- In 2003, Extension’s Family and Consumer Sciences program reached 9,931 Family Nutrition Program recipients and 6,160 Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program recipients with food safety workshops. A 1% reduction in food-borne illnesses in Ohio, results in an estimated **\$2.6 to \$5.3 million cost savings**.
- The 4-H Program’s focus on leadership and integrity reaches **11.7 % of youth in rural and urban Ohio**. If the program encourages just 5 percent of those members to receive a bachelor’s degree, each would receive \$19,100 of additional income per year over and above someone with a high school diploma, increasing this group’s income by \$220.2 million.
- For every 1% of youth dissuaded from crime by a positive 4-H experience, **Ohio could save \$700,000 a year**. This savings could be larger as it is limited by the types of crime reflected in the study.
- The Business Retention and Expansion Initiative has assisted more than 120 Ohio communities. In Putnam County alone, the program encouraged a company with more than **2,000 employees to commit to staying** in the community for 10 years longer and added **130 new jobs**.
- Volunteerism in Ohio is a great resource. In 2003, OSU Extension related volunteers worked 5 million hours —A donation equalling **\$77 million** (using average wage)—an amount exceeding Extension’s annual budget.



These impacts are over and above what Extension brings to the economy of Ohio as a result of doing business. The study found that in 2003, Extension brought \$159 million to the state, nearly 2.5 times its annual operating budget. Extension also provided more than 1,900 jobs, \$64 million in income, and \$4.8 million in state taxes.





According to Battelle, Extension is uniquely designed to produce positive economic and social impacts for the State of Ohio including:

- ❑ Enhanced productivity and profitability for Ohio agriculture and business enterprises.
- ❑ Expanded product lines and new business generation to increase Ohio's economic output.
- ❑ Enhanced state and local government revenues through expansion of the Ohio economy.
- ❑ Increased employment opportunities and enhanced workforce skills.
- ❑ Improved social conditions and quality of life for residents of urban and rural Ohio.
- ❑ Protection of Ohio's environment and the promotion of sustainability in the state.
- ❑ Protection and promotion of the health of Ohioans.

### How the report was conducted

In its study, Battelle reviewed written materials and records, then interviewed internal and external stakeholders. Information came from the following resources:

- ❑ Financial review for impact of expenditures.
- ❑ Interviews with Extension stakeholders.
- ❑ Data from Extension, IMPLAN, Ohio Department of Agriculture, web resources, and individual Extension educators.

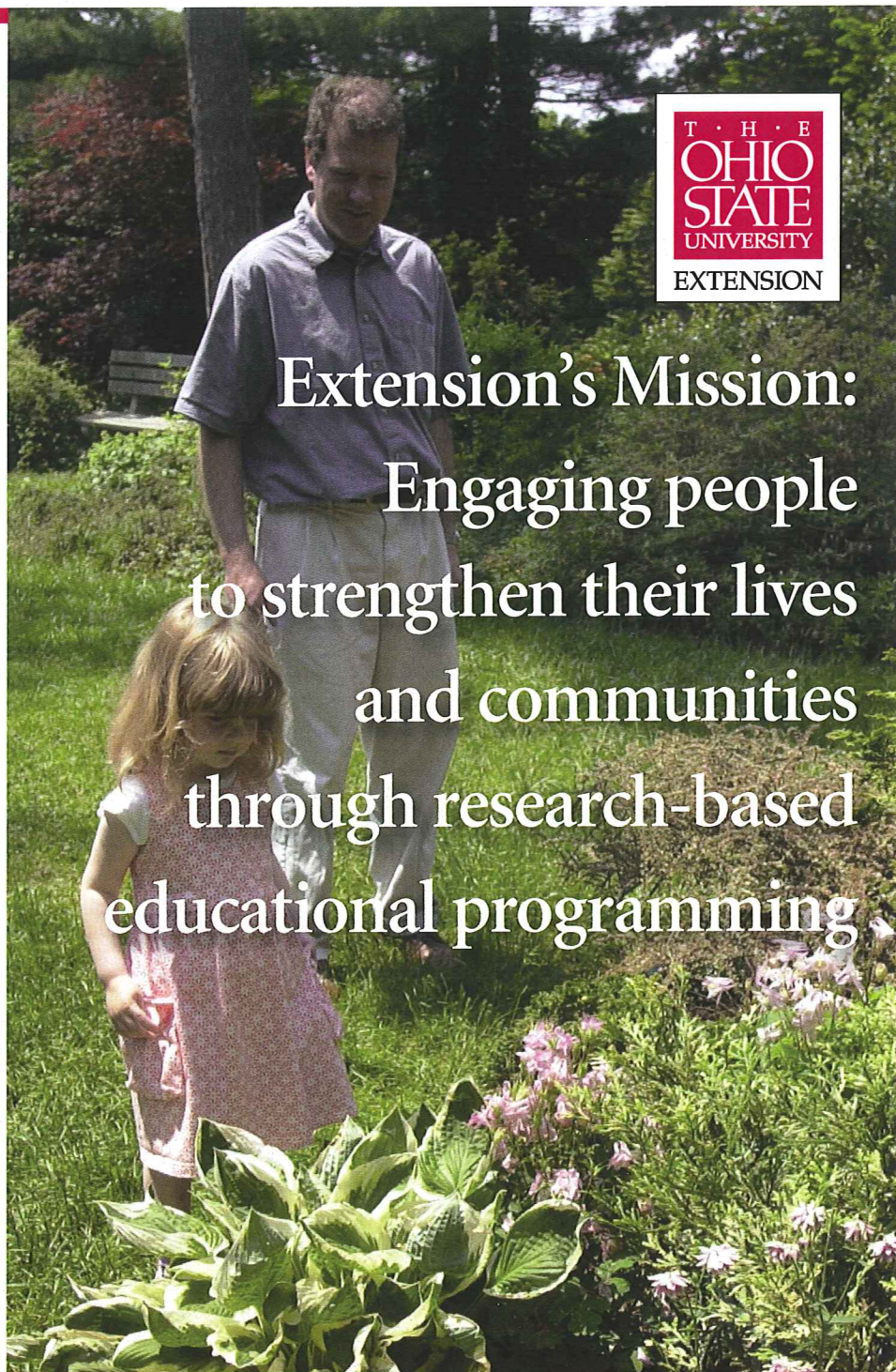
To access an executive summary of the Battelle Report, see:

<http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~extension/>, click on the About Us link, and then on the Economic Impact link.

03/2005



## Extension's Mission: Engaging people to strengthen their lives and communities through research-based educational programming



For information on contacting your county office, visit the web at <http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~extension/> and click the 'Counties' link, or call 614-292-6181.

OSU Extension embraces human diversity and is committed to ensuring that all educational programs conducted by Ohio State University Extension are available to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, age, gender identity or expression, disability, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, or veteran status.

Keith L. Smith, Associate Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Director, Ohio State University Extension

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Source: 2005 Battelle Study