

UACE Common Measures: Creating an Evaluation System across Cooperative Extension Program Areas

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Abstract

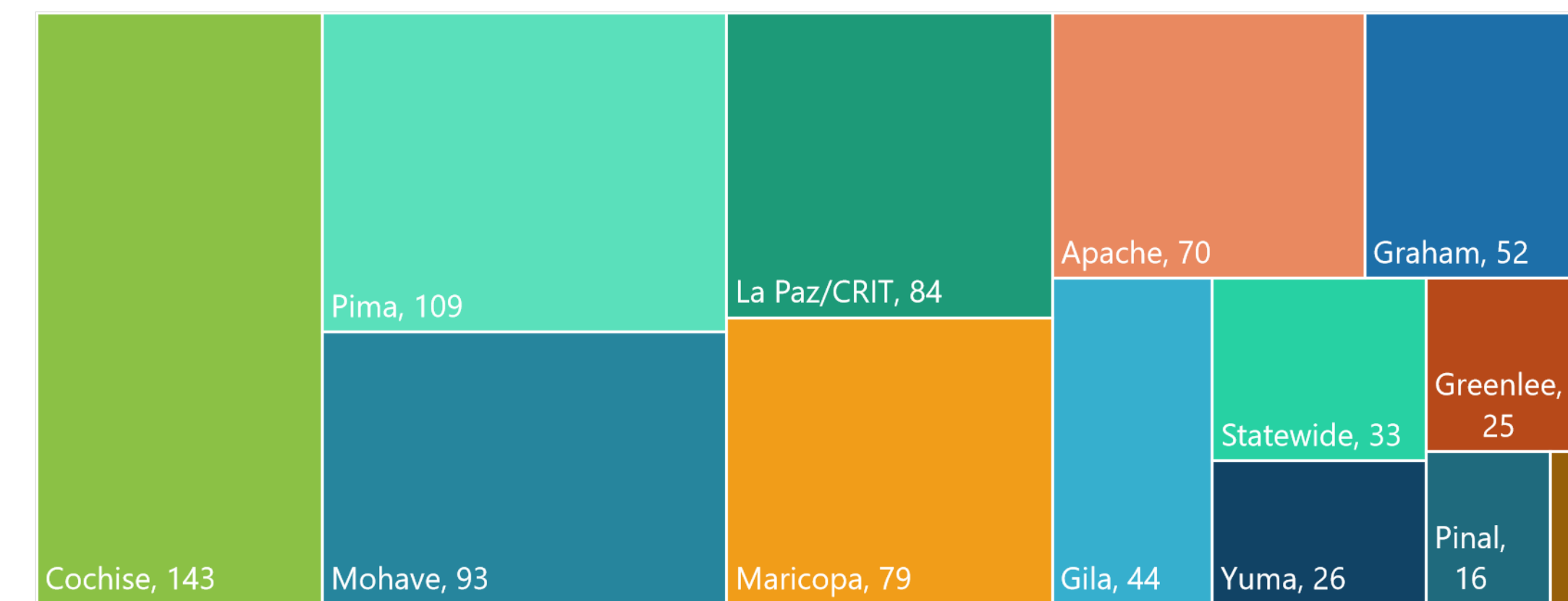
The goal of the UACE Common Measures project is to build organizational capacity to support the collection and use of evaluation data to communicate the value of and improve UACE programs across the state. This project will ultimately allow faculty and staff to collect systematic data across programs and provide the skills and tools for UACE professionals to translate their work into evaluation findings for a broad variety of stakeholders.

Project activities from a National 4-H Challenge Cohort project in 2018 laid the groundwork for the development of the Arizona 4-H Common Measures. In parallel, the CRED team has worked with FCHS faculty and staff to identify key programmatic areas and corresponding common measures and built an innovative web app prototype, the "UACE Survey Builder." This poster presents findings from UACE common measures activities to date and planned activities for the coming year.

Common Measures in UACE

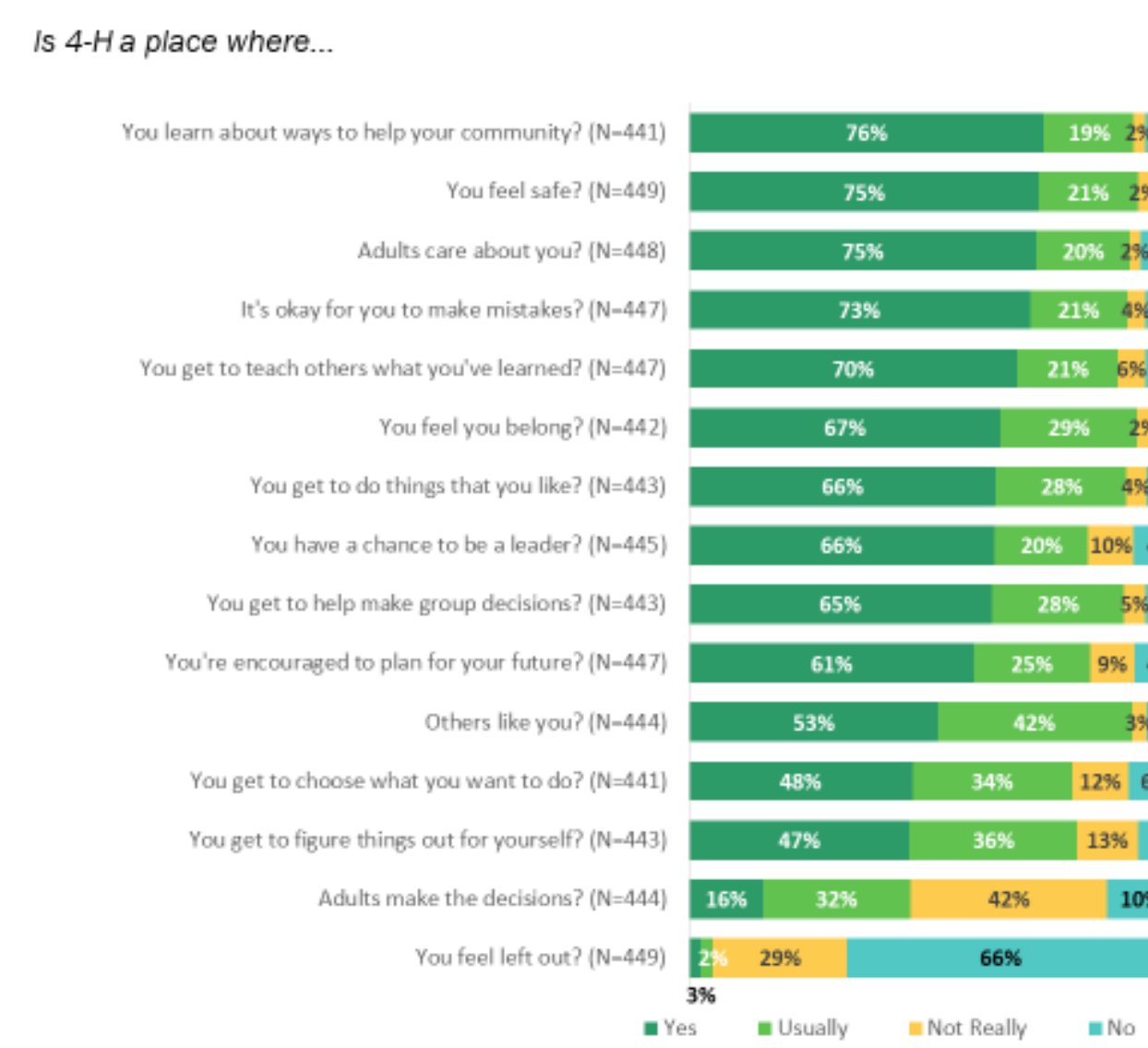
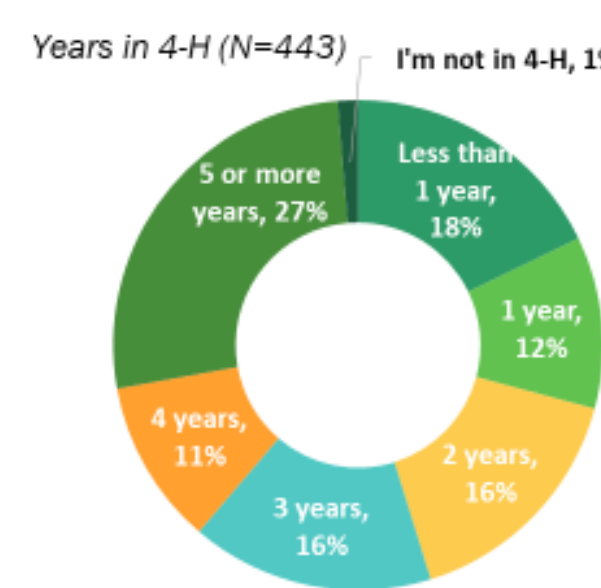


2018 4-H Data

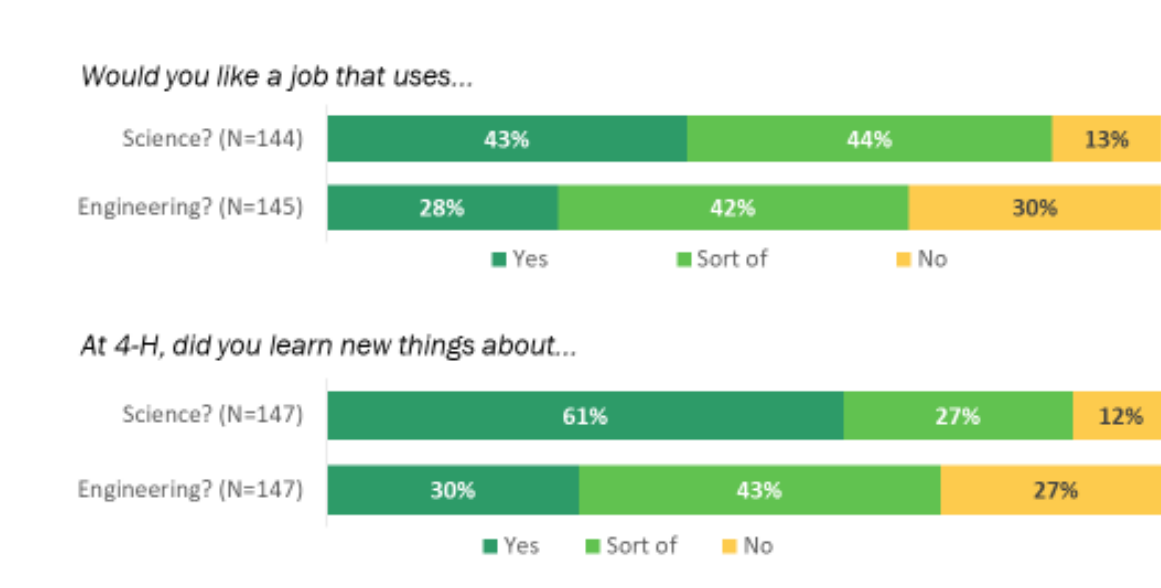


780 respondents
30 programs
11 Counties*
2 Tribal Extension programs

4-H Experience



Science & Engineering



47% of participating youth talked about how science can be used to help solve everyday problems at 4-H
52% of participating youth have shared a science-related project with others

Communicating Data

Data → Outcomes

One way of sharing Common Measures data and linking these data to outcomes our stakeholders care about.

Literature Reviews:
Brief summaries of key research literature linking attitudes and behaviors to longer-term outcomes
Based on meta-analyses, critical reviews, and longitudinal studies

CITIZENSHIP OUTCOMES

COMMUNITY SERVICE

OUTCOMES

Youth who serve and engage with their community tend to have better academic outcomes and stronger civic engagement as adults. Youth from all backgrounds who participate in educational community service opportunities tend to have better grades and civic skills than those who do not. Youth who serve also tend to have higher self-esteem, better social skills, and are more likely to be engaged in their community. Youth who serve also tend to have higher self-esteem, better social skills, and are more likely to be engaged in their community.

REFERENCES

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Data → Outcomes

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Arizona 4-H fosters interest in STEM fields.

There is a pressing need for growing the STEM pipeline. Technology, Engineering, & Health occupations (TEH) jobs grew from 2000 to 2014 at a rate of over 300% jobs between 2000 and 2014. And between 2014 and 2024 there will be a projected 2.6 million TEH job openings.¹

Or youth participating in 4-H programs across Arizona,

- 61%** learned new things about science
- Youth who feel they are good at science & math are more likely to pursue careers in STEM and youth engaged in out-of-school activities involving STEM are more likely to value STEM.²
- 43%** would like a job that uses science

Youth who want to be more likely to graduate from college with a science degree.³

By providing opportunities to participate in STEM activities, Arizona 4-H programs can help increase youth interest in science and STEM careers.

Infographics:
Simple, visual documents connecting common measures items to outcomes from the research literature in an easy-to-read format

FCHS Common Measures Survey Builder

Moving Common Measures Forward

- The 4-H Common Measures Community of Practice will finalize 4-H CM item selection in 6 topic areas plus Animal Science.
- Items for additional FCHS domains will be determined.
- A cover sheet to gather details of programs will be developed to allow assessment of how dosage or other program factors relate to impact.
- A pilot Survey Builder platform for 4-H and FCHS will be developed and tested. The system will go live in 2020.
- In cooperation with 4-H and FCHS leadership, guidelines for use of this CM system will be developed.
- 4-H and FCHS personnel will be trained in the use of the CM system and resources for communicating data.

- Benefits of the Survey Builder CM system:
- Everyone using the same questions allows aggregation about UACE programs across a county or the state,
 - Friendly exporting of electronic and hard copy surveys,
 - Qualtrics-friendly files mean that the UA system will support data collection, storage and sharing.

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