



Iowa Youth Say 4-H Membership Increases Their Citizenship, Leadership & Communication Skills

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Iowa 4-H Youth Survey Results....

Great News! Iowa 4-H youth say they have increased skills, knowledge and behavior practices related to citizenship, leadership, and communications as a result of their membership in 4-H.

During 2008, Iowa State University Extension Youth Field Specialists partnered with local County Extension Offices to collect impact data from 508 randomly selected 4-H club members in Iowa.

The 4-H youth self-reported changes in citizenship, leadership, and communication with regard to their skills and behaviors after participating in 4-H. The research showed that after participating in a 4-H club on average:

- 80.1% of 4-H club members indicated an increase in their **citizenship** skills.
- 73.5% of club members indicated an increase in their citizenship behavior/practices.
- 67.4% of 4-H club members indicated an increase in their **leadership** skills.
- 71.5% of club members indicated an increase in their leadership behavior/practices.
- 73.1% of 4-H club members indicated an increase in their **communication** skills.
- 71.5% of club members indicated an increase in communication behavior/practices.

Iowa 4-H member responses from the 2008 Iowa 4-H Youth Citizenship, Leadership, and Communication Self-Assessment Research Study provide evidence that Iowa 4-H club membership provides opportunities for Iowa's youth to:

- Practice citizenship, leadership, and communication skills needed to be successful adults.
- Positively influence and work with others through multiple leadership roles and responsibilities.
- Take ownership of, make a difference in, and be an active citizen within one's community.
- Learn critical work place and team work skills.
- Get things done through entrepreneurial outreach.
- Meet their four basic development needs of belonging, mastery, independence, and generosity.
- Develop the characteristics of competent, caring, contributing, confident, connected, and capable individuals.

For more information on this Iowa 4-H Youth

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