



ASSOCIATION OF
PUBLIC &
LAND-GRANT
UNIVERSITIES



THE ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC AND LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITIES

Economic Impact Study
July 2026

Advisory Committee Members



Dennis Becker
Anton Bekkerman
Rich Bonanno
Jacob DeDecker
Bev Durgan
Wendy Fink
Harvey S. James, Jr.
Bridget Krieger
Chandra Reddy
Doug Steele
Elizabeth Stulberg
Stacey Stearns
Jeanette Thurston
Christine Wilson

University of Idaho
University of New Hampshire
Association of Southern Region Extension Directors
University of Nevada
University of Minnesota
APLU
University of Missouri
Lewis-Burke Associates LLC
Tennessee State University
APLU
Lewis-Burke Associates LLC
University of Connecticut
AgInnovation North Central
Purdue University

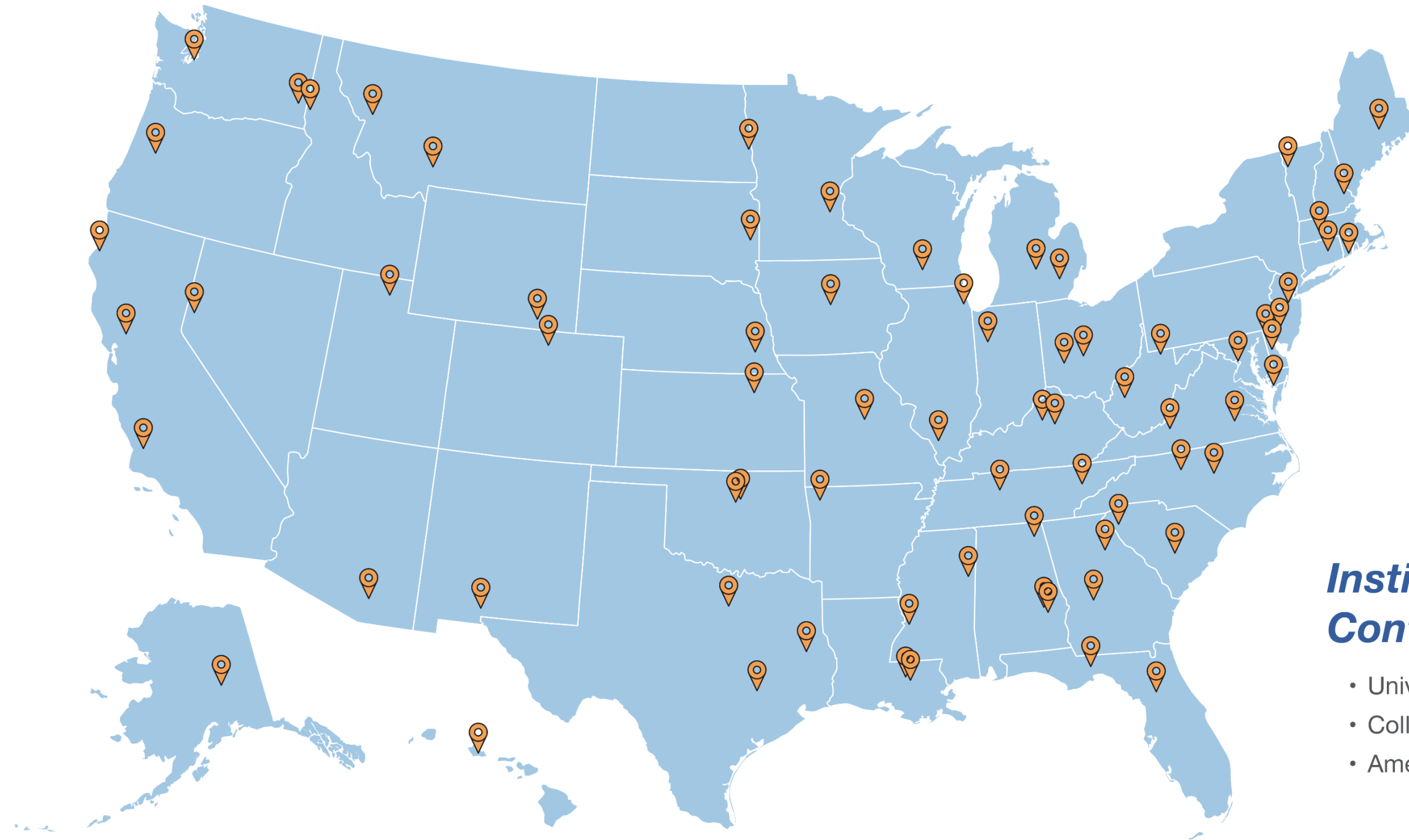
Methodology

- Collaborated with APLU leadership and the project steering committee to establish study objectives, key metrics, and data collection protocols.
- Conducted stakeholder interviews and a review of existing economic impact studies to inform the research methodology and survey design.
- Developed and administered a national survey of APLU member institutions to collect standardized data on funding, operations, research, Extension, workforce, and community engagement.
- Validated and aggregated survey responses to create a comprehensive national dataset for economic impact analysis.

Methodology

- Utilized the IMPLAN input-output model to estimate direct, indirect, and induced economic impacts.
- Quantified employment, labor income, economic output, GDP (value added), and tax revenue impacts.
- Combined economic modeling with survey findings and stakeholder input to develop a comprehensive analysis.
- Delivered findings through a final report, executive summary, data visualizations, and presentation materials.
- Number of responses: 76
 - 1862: 51
 - 1890: 18
 - NLGU: 7

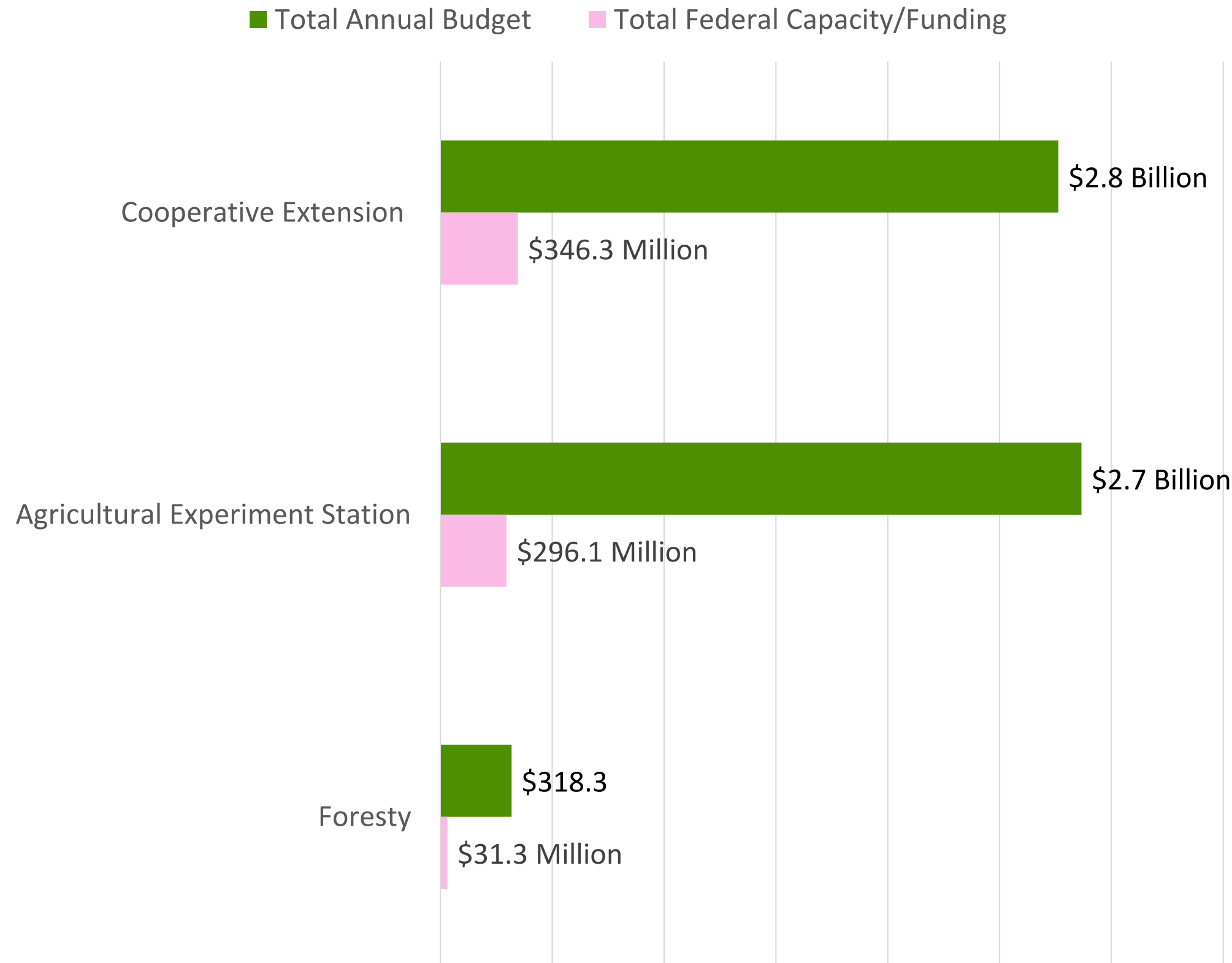
Responding Institutions



Institutions Outside of the Continental United States

- University of Guam
- College of Micronesia Land Grant Program
- American Samoa Community College

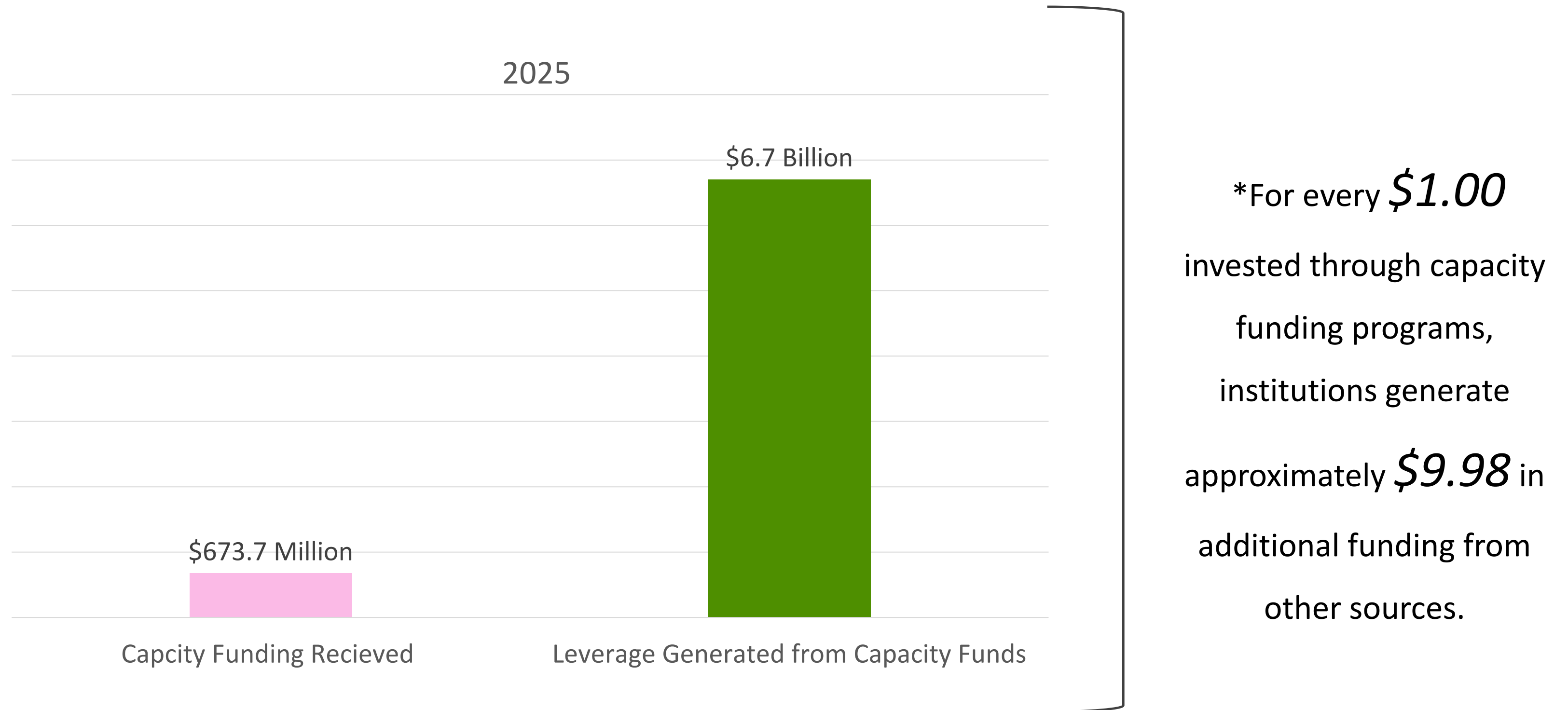
Annual Budget vs. Capacity Funding by Area in FY25



- Cooperative Extension units reported a combined annual operating budget of approximately \$2.8 billion, supported by \$346.3 million in federal capacity funding.
- Agricultural Experiment Stations reported a total annual budget of \$2.7 billion, including \$296.1 million in capacity funding.
- Forestry research units reported a substantially smaller annual budget of \$318.3 million, with \$31.3 million provided through capacity funding.
- Cooperative Extension and AES account for the largest share of institutional funding, reflecting the scale and breadth of these core land-grant programs compared with forestry research.

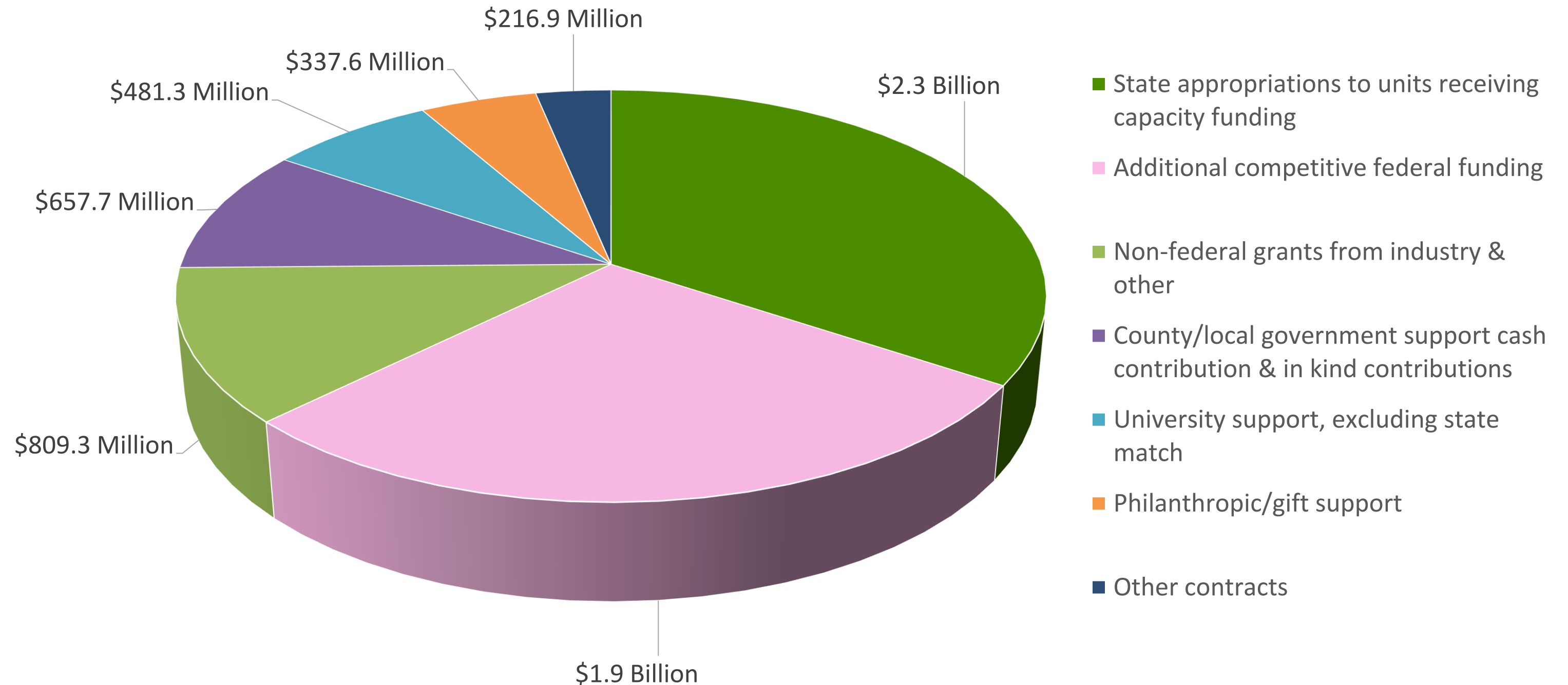
Note: Results are based on responses from survey participants.

Capacity Funding Generates Significant Leverage in FY25



Note: Results are based on responses from survey participants.

In FY25, Capacity Funds Generated \$6.7 Billion in Total Leverage



Capacity Programs Include: Hatch Act, Evans-Allen, McIntire-Stennis, Smith-Lever B & C, and 1890s Extension.

Note: Results are based on responses from survey participants.

Key Insights FY25

- APLU institutions engage hundreds of thousands of individuals annually through direct, face-to-face educational programs and technical assistance.
- Digital programming significantly expands Extension's reach, engaging nearly 900,000 participants through webinars and virtual events.
- Websites, newsletters, and other publications extend the impact of capacity-funded programs to an average audience of more than 221 million individuals, demonstrating the national scale of knowledge dissemination.
- Youth development remains a core mission, with nearly 300,000 total youth served annually in programs (i.e., 4-H, FFA, EFNEP, and similar initiatives).

01

Community Reach

557,000 Direct participants
882,000 Digital participants

02

Public Information Reach

221.0 M through newsletters,
websites, and publications

03

Youth Served

298,000 youth served

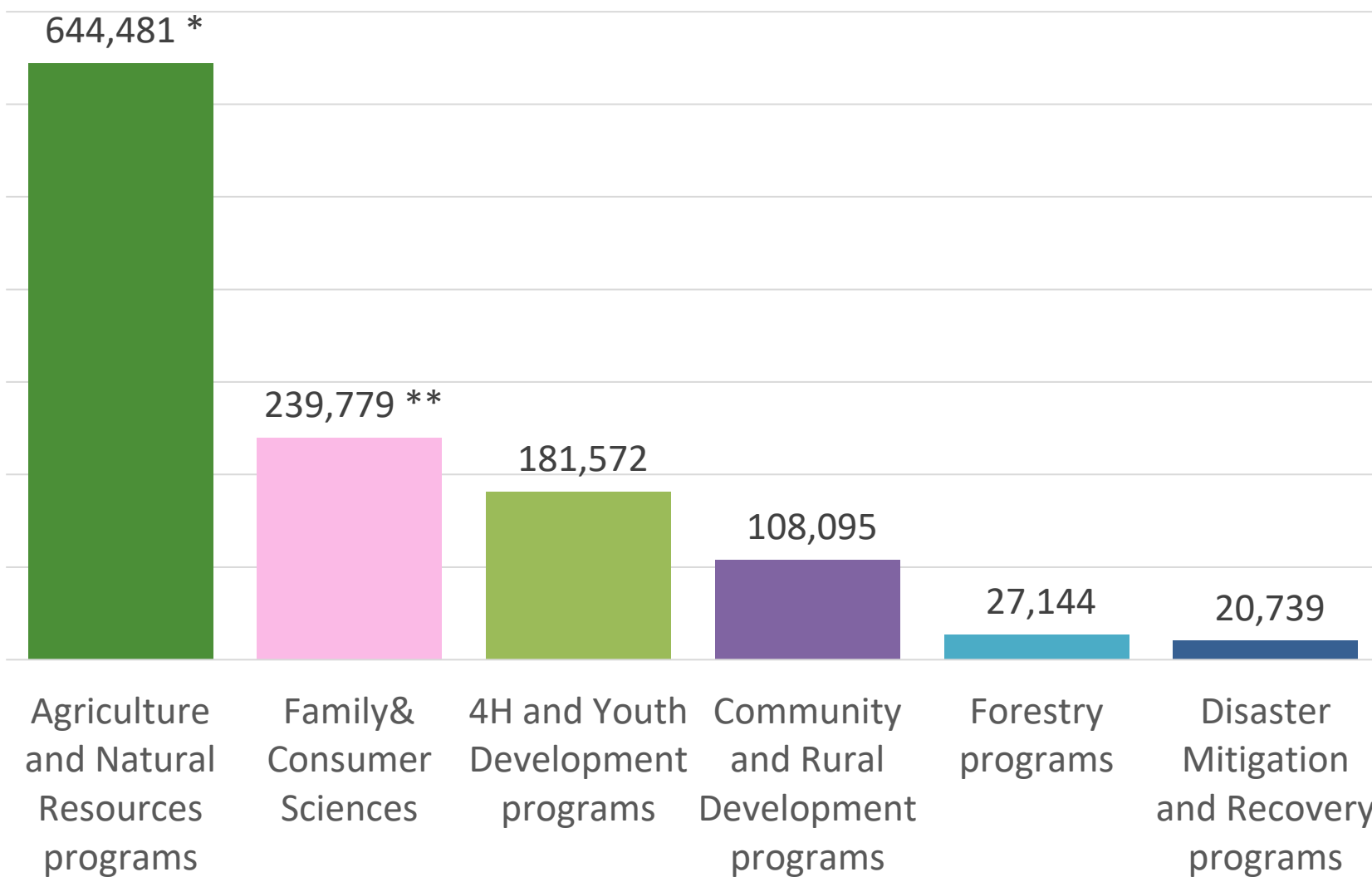
Note: Results are based on responses from survey participants.

Outreach Programs

Key Insights FY25

Number of participants/clients served from outreach activities

Average Number



*Except forestry programs

**Including nutrition and health programs

Note: Results are based on responses from survey participants.

- Agriculture and Natural Resources programs served the largest number of participants, highlighting Extension's central role in supporting producers, landowners, and natural resource management.
- Family and Consumer Sciences reached nearly 240,000 participants through nutrition, health, and family well-being programs, demonstrating a significant contribution to community health.
- 4-H and Youth Development engaged an average of 182,000 youth, reinforcing Extension's long-standing investment in workforce development and leadership training.
- Community and Rural Development programs served more than 108,000 participants, supporting local economic development, community resilience, and quality of life.
- Forestry and Disaster Mitigation and Recovery programs served smaller but strategically important audiences, providing specialized technical assistance and emergency response capabilities in high-impact areas.

Research, Innovation, Technology Transfer & Commercialization Impact

Activities	Total FY25
Online engagement	34,002,189
Outreach, industry, and other non-academic presentations	61,110
Data sets and genetic sequences	59,258
Peer-reviewed publications (capacity-supported)	27,134
Applied field trials/demonstrations	17,895
Active capacity-supported research projects	8,435
Graduate theses/dissertations	6,397
Patents/disclosures/licenses/plant variety protections	2,940
New variety releases	208

Note: Results are based on responses from survey participants.

LGU and NLGU Economic Impact FY25



Economic
Impact

\$19.3 Billion

\$6.4 Billion Direct
\$12.9 Billion Indirect



Employment
Impact

105,443 Jobs

43,285 Direct Jobs
62,158 Indirect Jobs



Tax Impact

\$2.7 Billion

Local Taxes: \$330.7 Million
State Taxes: \$483.7 Million
Federal Taxes: \$1.9 Billion

Note: Results reflect responses from APLU member institutions.

LGU and NLGU Economic Impact ROI FY25



1)

Local
\$28.42

Local ROI: Every \$1 of local investment generates approximately **\$28.42** in economic impact.

2)

State
\$8.42

State ROI: Every \$1 of state investment generates approximately **\$8.42** in economic impact.

3)

Federal
\$50.75

Federal ROI: Every \$1 of federal investment generates approximately **\$50.75** in economic impact.

Note: Results reflect responses from APLU member institutions. ROI quantifies the return generated from an investment by comparing the benefits achieved to the costs incurred.

Agriculture and National Resources Outreach in FY25

The number of businesses, farms, or enterprises assisted by APLU institutions: 1,531,602

- Responding APLU institutions reported assisting more than 1.53 million businesses, farms, and enterprises through research, extension, technical assistance, workforce development, and innovation support activities. This highlights the extensive reach of the land-grant system and demonstrates how federal capacity funding is leveraged into practical solutions that strengthen agricultural productivity.

Note: Results are based on responses from survey participants.

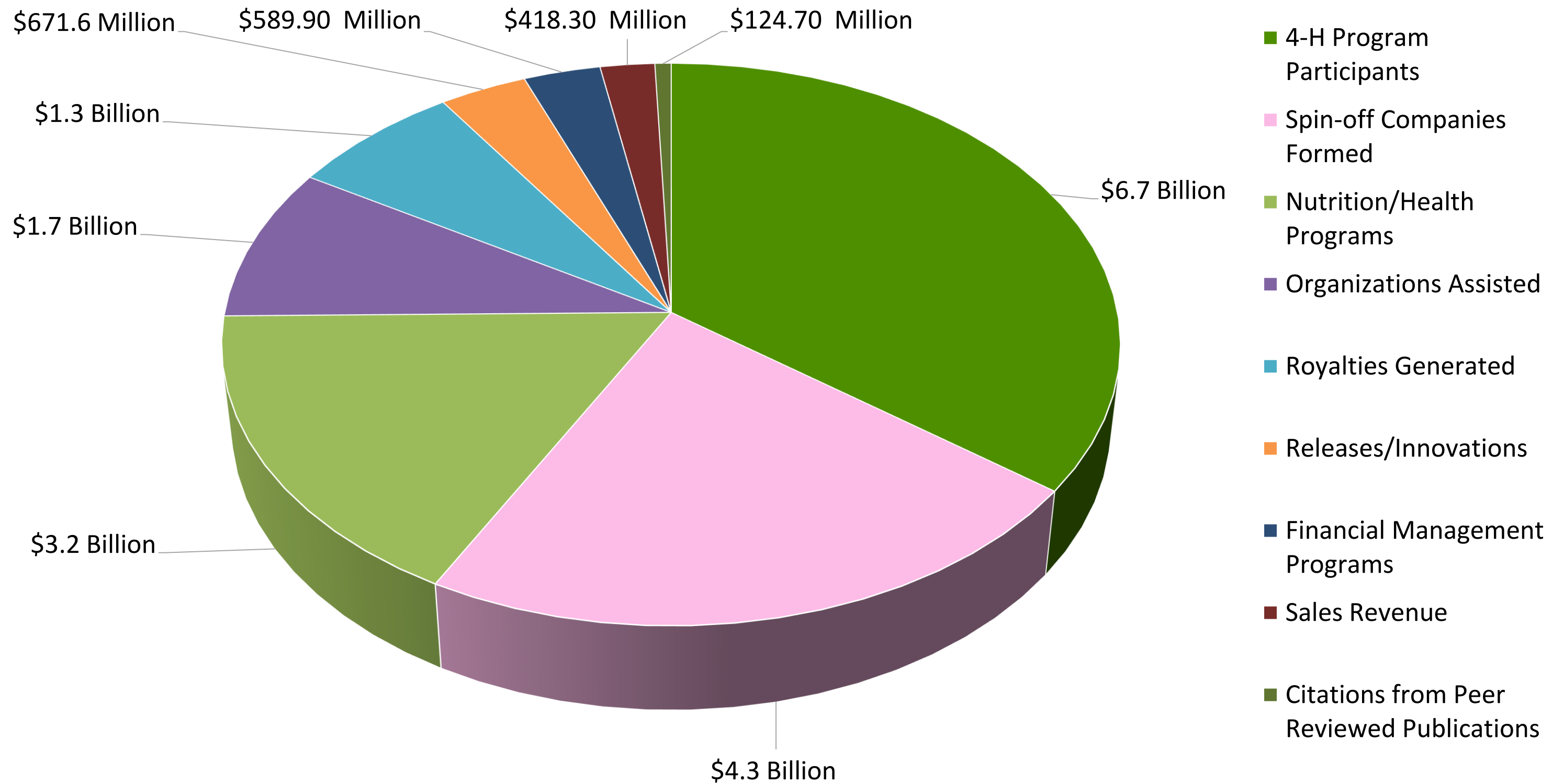
Institutional Impact and Long-Term Outcomes

Activities	Numbers FY25
Youth participants in 4-H programs (4H club enrollment, school enrichment, other)	5,225,540
Nutrition/Health Programs	5,173,560
Citations from Peer Reviewed Publications (Over 5-years)	2,266,414
Organizations Assisted	1,532,374
Financial Management Programs	418,293
Releases/Innovations	6,105
Spin-of Companies Formed (Over 5-years)	983
	Dollars
Sales Revenue (i.e., farm products, such as milk, grains, horticultural products, and other items)	\$165,329,774
Royalties Generated	\$80,350,198

Note: Results are based on responses from survey participants.

Community and Social Program Impacts FY25

Total Impacts \$19.1 Billion



Note: Results reflect responses from APLU member institutions. Tripp Umbach generated the community and social impacts methodology based on models through benchmarking from multiple data sources.

Key Takeaways



For every **\$1** in Federal Capacity Funding, member institutions attract **\$10** in funding from multiple public and private sources.



The total economic impact of Federal Capacity Funding spending on the US economy in FY25 equaled **\$19.3 billion**, supported more than **105,000 jobs**, and generated **\$2.7 billion** in tax revenue for federal, state, and local governments.



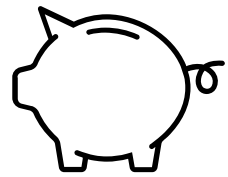
An additional **\$19.1 billion** was generated in community and social benefits to communities nationally for a total impact of **\$38.4 billion** in FY25.



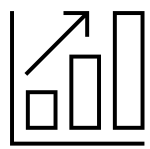
ROI: In total, for every **\$1** in federal capacity funding received by member institutions, approximately **\$57** is returned in economic and community impacts.



Key Takeaways



State investments generated **\$8.42** in economic impact for every **\$1** invested, highlighting the substantial return on public funding for land-grant institutions.



Local investments delivered a strong return of **\$28.42** in economic activity for every **\$1** invested, demonstrating significant community-level benefits.



Community and social programs generated an estimated **\$19.1 billion** in societal value in FY25.

- Led by 4-H programming (\$6.7 billion)
- Spin-off companies (\$4.3 billion)
- Nutrition and health programs (\$3.2 billion)

Open Dialogue



888-910-3044



Paul Umbach
Founder & CEO
pumbach@trippumbach.com

Ha Pham
Senior Principal
hpham@trippumbach.com

www.trippumbach.com

