



TRENDING TOPICS

Annually, National FFA will research and determine 3-5 topics that are trending in the areas of agriculture, education and FFA. These topics will be used throughout the advocacy and literacy platform. The hope is that narrowing down topics within the identified areas we can better provide resources and education to FFA members.

Agriculture

- Food Insecurity transitioning to Nutritional Insecurities
 - Economic shifts due to COVID-19 have caused extreme shifts in food insecurity. More and more people have decreased access to nutritional foods. This change has led to a concentrated focus of providing access to all and shifting the phrasing to include not just food insecurities but nutritional insecurities
 - [Feeding America](#)
 - [The Emergency Food Assistance Program \(USDA\)](#)
 - [Farm Journal Foundation speaker series](#)
 - [National School Lunch Program](#)
- Plant-based foods
 - The plant-based “meat” category has increased in popularity as an option for consumers. However, many questions remain on the regulatory end of food safety. The impact on the animal-based proteins industry hasn’t been measured but the movement is gaining traction.
 - [Successful Farming](#)
- Environment, Sustainability, and Carbon
 - The word Carbon is a commonplace in today’s conservation conversations. With a growing concern for the environment and agriculture’s impact on it, providing information on agriculturalists emphasis on sustainability is important. Further, farm groups and policymakers are engaging in deeper conversation than ever before about how producers can benefit from implementing best management practices (or BMP’s) to support the environment.
 - [Carbon Credits](#)
 - [Cargill Sustainability](#)
 - [Climate Solutions](#)
 - [American Farmland Trust](#)
- Agriculture Labor and Immigration
 - Farmers and ranchers often need reliable, skilled workers and many come from other countries to provide that support.
 - [Agriculture Labor Reform](#)
 - [Economic Impact](#)
 - [Why farms need immigration reform](#)
- BIPOC agriculturalists

- Black, Indigenous, and People of Color pioneered many farming methods that respect and care for the land long before industrial agriculture. With the change in the country's landscape the re-emergence of BIPOC agriculturalists and their contributions are appearing and how to provide a stable plan to allow these groups to thrive and provide resources.
 - [Influential BIPOC agriculturalists](#)
 - [Land Stewardship Project](#)
 - [Purdue roundtable](#)
 - [USDA Committee on Minority Farming](#)

Education

- Broadband access for all
 - Prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic the importance of broadband access had been identified. With the pandemic, it has become obvious that broadband is necessary for education, health and advancing technologies in agriculture.
 - [American Connection Broadband Coalition](#)
 - [American Connection Project](#)
 - [Telehealth](#)
 - [Federal Communications Commission](#)
- CTE
 - Career and Technical Education applies to schools, institutions, and **educational** programs that specialize in the skilled trades, applied sciences, modern technologies, and **career** preparation. The acronym CTE isn't new to those in education, but the way this program is engaged to meet workforce development needs continues to unfold.
 - [ACTE Policy](#)
 - [Perkins V \(Advance CTE\)](#)
 - [STEM](#)
 - [Workforce development](#)
 - Post-pandemic needs and changes
 - SDGs
 - Work-based learning
- Teacher Recruitment and Retention
 - [National Teach Ag Campaign](#)
- Future of Education
 - Hybrid vs. Online vs. In-person learning
 - Learning loss
 - Social and emotional gap

FFA

- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
 - National FFA recognizes the need to be a welcoming place for all. With chapters located in the most suburban to most rural, how can National FFA ensure its membership is representative of the not only the school's population but those in our country.
- [SAE for All](#)
 - Supervised agricultural experiences (SAE) are an integral part of the three-component model of agricultural education. The experiential service and/or work-based learning program allows members to explore their passions and career interests. The roadmap includes launching a foundational SAE and eventually transitioning to an immersion

SAE. These changes in the program have initiated conversations with the National FFA staff and delegates about making programmatic adjustments to the following:

- American Degree
- Proficiency Awards
- Post-pandemic changes
 - The ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic has forced multiple changes throughout the world, including changes to the way programming has been delivered to members of National FFA. From virtual to hybrid programming the changes have resulted in increased access and opportunities for students.
 - Awards and Recognition events
 - Leadership activities and trainings
- Student Involvement
 - Student involvement is the driving source for participation in FFA, however involvement has steadily declined recently. Whether its ongoing effects from the COVID-19 pandemic, the shift to affiliate memberships in states or student burnout, advisors in a recent survey mentioned items they'd like assistance with. They include:
 - Student motivation
 - Recruitment and retention
 - Chapter officer training

