

# Highland County

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## Community Voices



"We have had so many compliments on the raised beds!" Thanks to the Highland Extension Office and Highland Center partnership to rebuild the three raised garden beds at the Highland Farmers Market Pavilion."

**Jen Rattigan**

Programs Coordinator  
The Highland Center

# 174

Youth enrolled in Highland  
4-H programs

## Partners for Solutions



"Connecting farmers with supporting ag organizations is essential Extension work. This winter, 42 producers attended a three-part workshop to connect with the Farm Service Agency, ag lenders, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, forestry departments, and others. VCE also coordinated with FSA to hold eight days of office hours to assist 57 Highland farmers with drought assistance enrollment to save them the time and fuel of having to drive to the Valley."

**Kari Sponaule**

Agent



Livestock exhibitors at the 2024 Highland 4-H & FFA Livestock Show and Sale.

## Sharing Knowledge

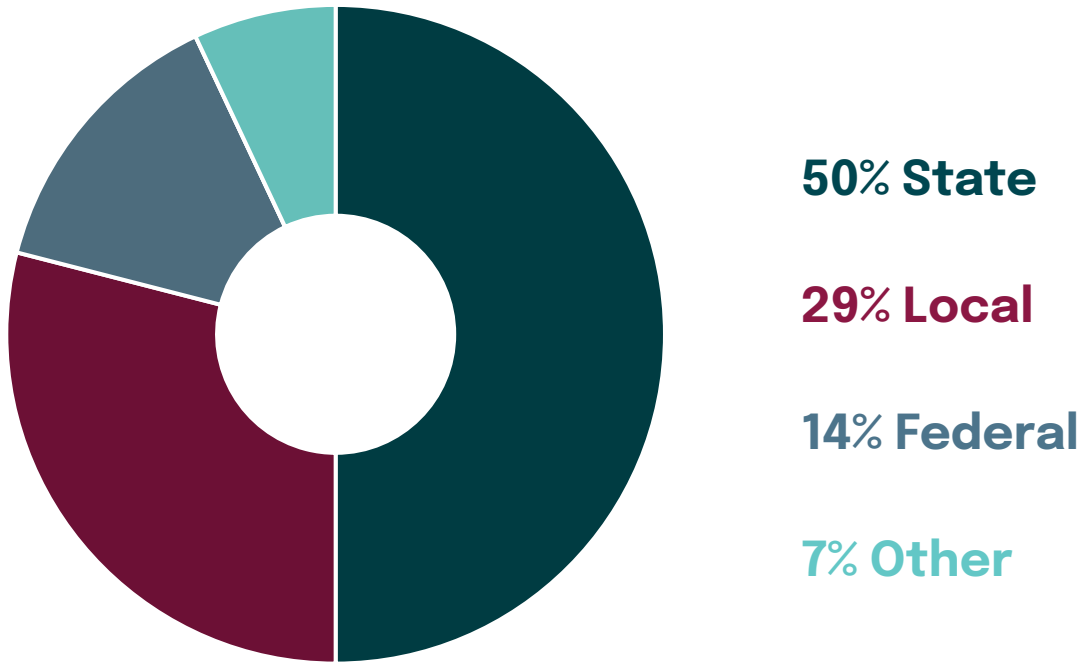
Agriculture is the No. 1 industry in Highland County. Understanding where food and fiber are produced, how, and by whom is essential to local agriculture education and literacy.

The 2024 Highland 4-H & FFA Youth Livestock Show and Sale provided 31 youth with first-hand knowledge through the opportunity to show and sell 104 project animals across four species. The livestock sale grossed just over \$134,000 – a 6.7% increase over 2023.

Participants put knowledge into action by completing project records, helping each other throughout the program year, writing thank-you notes to program supporters, and making sound financial decisions with sales proceeds. Twelve adult volunteers assisted with the program as overall committee supervisors, barn managers, auctioneers, bookkeepers, and judges at a value to the program of \$15,120.

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## Funding by Source



**Total Funding: \$256,681**

**\$2.41**

return on investment  
for every dollar  
invested by **Highland  
County**

**\$56,846**

Value of extension  
volunteer hours in  
**Highland County**

To find out how you can support your local Extension office,  
**visit [www.cals.vt.edu/make-a-gift](http://www.cals.vt.edu/make-a-gift).**