

# Summary of the 2008 Graduate Survey

## By FCAE Staff

### Where are Agricultural/Horticultural Students after High School Graduation?

Since 1996, the FCAE Staff has collected data from Agriculture/Horticulture teachers regarding high school seniors who were enrolled in at least one Agriculture/Horticulture course during their high school career. Agriculture/Horticulture teachers, with help from guidance counselors, are instrumental in providing this data through the annual graduate survey.

It is encouraging to see a significant increase in the number of students reported (11,235 from 8810) through the agricultural education graduate survey. In 2008, 96% (306 of 320) of the schools statewide with Agriculture/Horticulture programs submitted data.

Noteworthy observations and trends are listed below with detailed data included on the following graphs.

- 62% of the students reported (6969 of 11,235) have enrolled in programs of study at post-secondary institutions. This is a 2% decrease from 2007.
- 72% of the high school agricultural education students enrolled in post-secondary education (5028 of 6969) chose to continue their education at a community college; substantiating that high school Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs are key components in community college enrollment. A 1% increase for this percentage.
- 22% of agricultural education students reporting (1556 of 6969) are entering an agricultural/horticultural major of study. A 3% decrease from 2007.
- 2.8% of the high school agricultural education graduates with an agricultural/horticultural major (44 of 1556) expressed interest in pursuing a career in Agricultural Education. A 4.7% decrease from 2007.
- Increased enrollment in Agricultural Education Teacher Certification Programs continues to be a necessity for the future of agriculture education and the agriculture industry. Quality Agricultural Education teachers are still needed with an average of 9 retirements, 6 new programs, and 68 vacancies per year since 2000.
- 57% of the agriculture graduates that expressed interest in agricultural education (25 of 44) are beginning their post-secondary education through community colleges or technical schools. A 12% decrease from 2007.
- 38% of agricultural education graduates are entering directly into the workforce (4266 of 11,235); showing a continued need for workforce preparation. This is a 2% increase from 2007.
- 1.1% of agriculture graduates (119 of 11,235) are going directly into farming; verifying the training in agricultural education programs is not strictly for farming. A small decrease of .2% from 2007.

# 2008 Graduate Survey Data by IAVAT District

*Where are Illinois' High School Agricultural/Horticultural Students after Graduation?*

	DIST. I	DIST. II	DIST. III	DIST. IV	DIST. V	TOTALS
Total Schools Reporting	59	60	58	62	67	306
Total Students Reporting	2282	3064	1853	1854	2182	11235
Total Students Entering Post-Secondary Education	1448	1933	1202	1103	1283	6969

## Graduates Entering the Workforce

	DIST. I	DIST. II	DIST. III	DIST. IV	DIST. V	TOTALS
Agribusiness	44	30	60	61	38	233
Horticulture	7	33	8	14	11	73
Farming	21	33	19	27	19	119
Military	84	41	77	88	92	382
Employed Outside Ag/Hort	678	994	487	561	739	3459
Total	834	1131	651	751	899	4266

## Institution Selected by Agricultural/Horticultural Majors

	DIST. I	DIST. II	DIST. III	DIST. IV	DIST. V	TOTALS
Community College	263	217	217	278	250	1225
University	61	98	80	51	41	331
Total	324	315	297	329	291	1556

## Institution Selected by Non-Agricultural/Horticultural Majors

	DIST. I	DIST. II	DIST. III	DIST. IV	DIST. V	TOTALS
Community College	777	981	631	585	829	3803
University	347	637	274	189	163	1610
Total	1124	1618	905	774	992	5413

## Graduates Interested in Agricultural Education

	DIST. I	DIST. II	DIST. III	DIST. IV	DIST. V	TOTALS
Community College	5	4	1	5	10	25
University	3	3	2	4	7	19
Total	8	7	3	9	17	44

Data Reported by Illinois High School Agricultural/Horticultural teachers regarding 11,235 2008 High School graduates who have taken one or more Agriculture Education courses.

# Summary of Annual Totals

## *Where are Illinois' High School Agricultural/Horticultural Students after Graduation?*

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Total Schools Reporting</b>	268	282	264	295	298	293	309	306
<b>Total Students Reporting</b>	4000	4398	4653	5447	5344	6092	8810	11235

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Agribusiness</b>	226	207	183	170	162	147	217	23
<b>Horticulture</b>	38	27	27	31	33	39	51	73
<b>Farming</b>	78	92	67	89	78	100	117	119
<b>Military</b>	258	268	246	305	234	303	321	382
<b>Employed Outside Ag/Hort</b>	643	707	653	825	804	1257	2453	3459
<b>Total</b>	<b>1246</b>	<b>1299</b>	<b>1176</b>	<b>1418</b>	<b>1311</b>	<b>1846</b>	<b>3159</b>	<b>4266</b>

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Ag/Hort Major</b>	833	922	970	1040	1027	1126	1425	1556
<b>Non-Ag/Hort Major</b>	1921	2175	2507	2989	3006	3120	4226	5413
<b>Total Students</b>	<b>2754</b>	<b>3097</b>	<b>3477</b>	<b>4029</b>	<b>4033</b>	<b>4246</b>	<b>5651</b>	<b>6969</b>

<b>Ag/Hort Major</b>	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Community College</b>	582	650	718	741	732	860	1083	1225
<b>University</b>	251	272	252	299	295	266	342	331
<b>Total</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>922</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>1040</b>	<b>1027</b>	<b>1126</b>	<b>1425</b>	<b>1556</b>

<b>Non-Ag/Hort Major</b>	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Community College</b>	1190	1407	1695	2126	2151	2168	2986	3803
<b>University</b>	731	768	812	863	855	952	1240	1610
<b>Total</b>	<b>1921</b>	<b>2175</b>	<b>2507</b>	<b>2989</b>	<b>3006</b>	<b>3120</b>	<b>4226</b>	<b>5413</b>

<b>Ag Ed Major</b>	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Community College</b>	10	25	29	35	31	58	26	25
<b>University</b>	2	35	16	15	12	26	21	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>44</b>

Data Reported by Illinois High School Agricultural/Horticultural teachers regarding 11,235 2008 High School graduates who have taken one or more Agriculture Education courses.

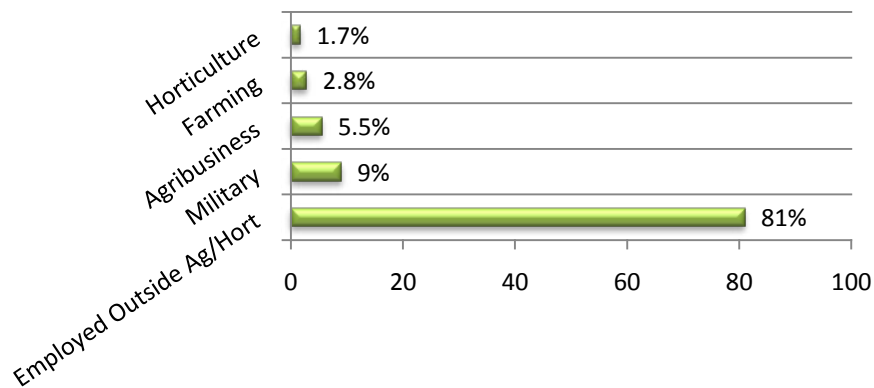
# Where Are Agriculture/Horticulture Students After High School Graduation?

**Workforce Option**  
38%

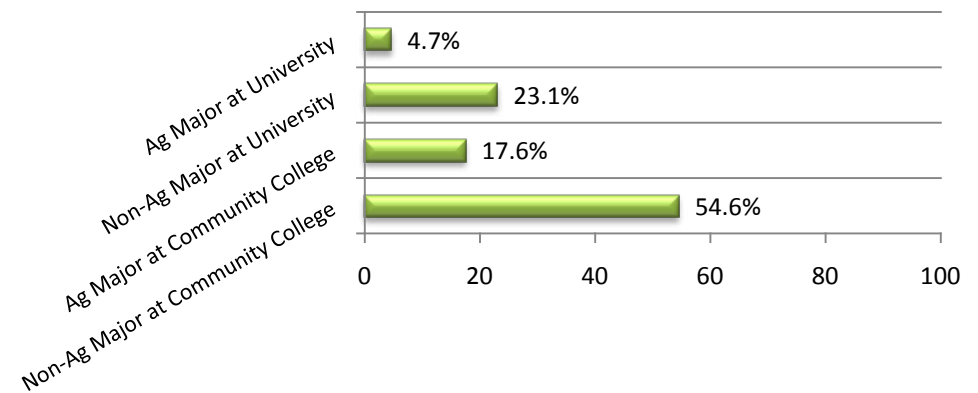


**Post-Secondary Education Option**  
62%

## Workforce Option

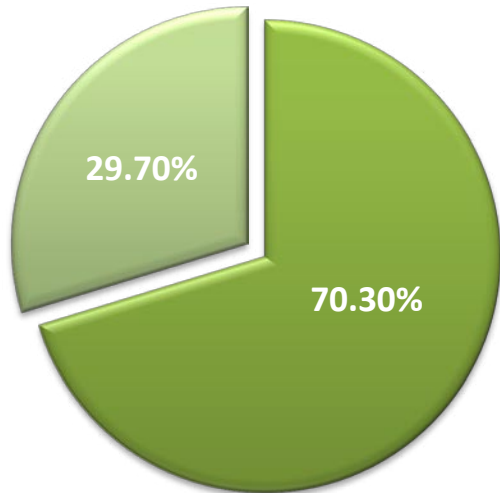


## Post-Secondary Education Option



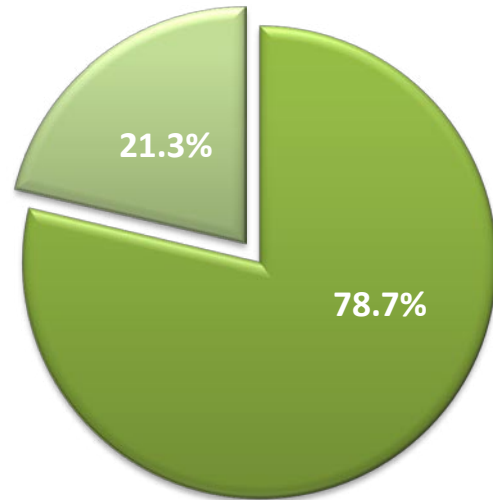
# Post-Secondary Education Statistics

**2008 Graduates Studying Non-Agriculture/Horticulture**



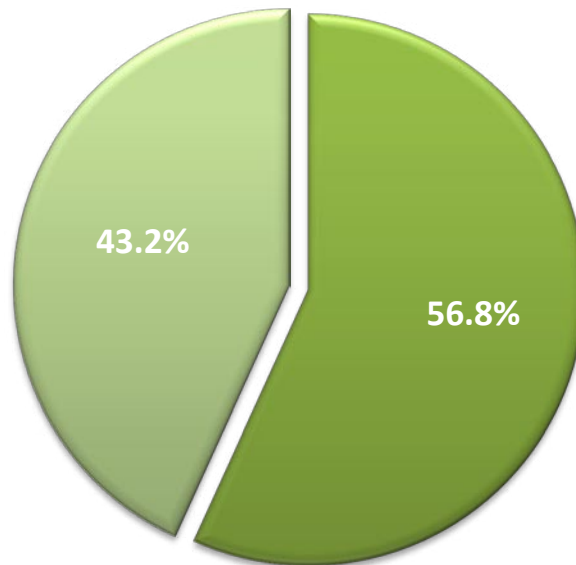
- Community College - 3803 students
- University - 1610 students

**2008 Graduates Studying Agriculture/Horticulture**



- Community College - 1225 students
- University - 331 students

**2008 College Freshman Interested in Ag Education Teacher Certification Program**



- Community College Transfer Program - 25 students
- University - 19 students

Data reported by Illinois high school agriculture teachers regarding 11,235 2008 graduates who have taken one or more agriculture courses.