



Youth Retention Study

2014-2018



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION



College of Natural
& Applied Sciences
University of Guam | Unibetsedät Guåhan



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And our
State
Leaders!

Retention Rates

Youth=64%

Volunteers=77%



Topics from surveys

Why joined
4-H

How they
heard about
4-H

Intent to re-
enroll

Family history
in 4-H

Expectations (adult
only; open ended)

Best part of 4-H
(open ended)

Changes they'd
make (open ended)

General
experience (scale)

Reasons may not
return (youth only)

Results to Date*



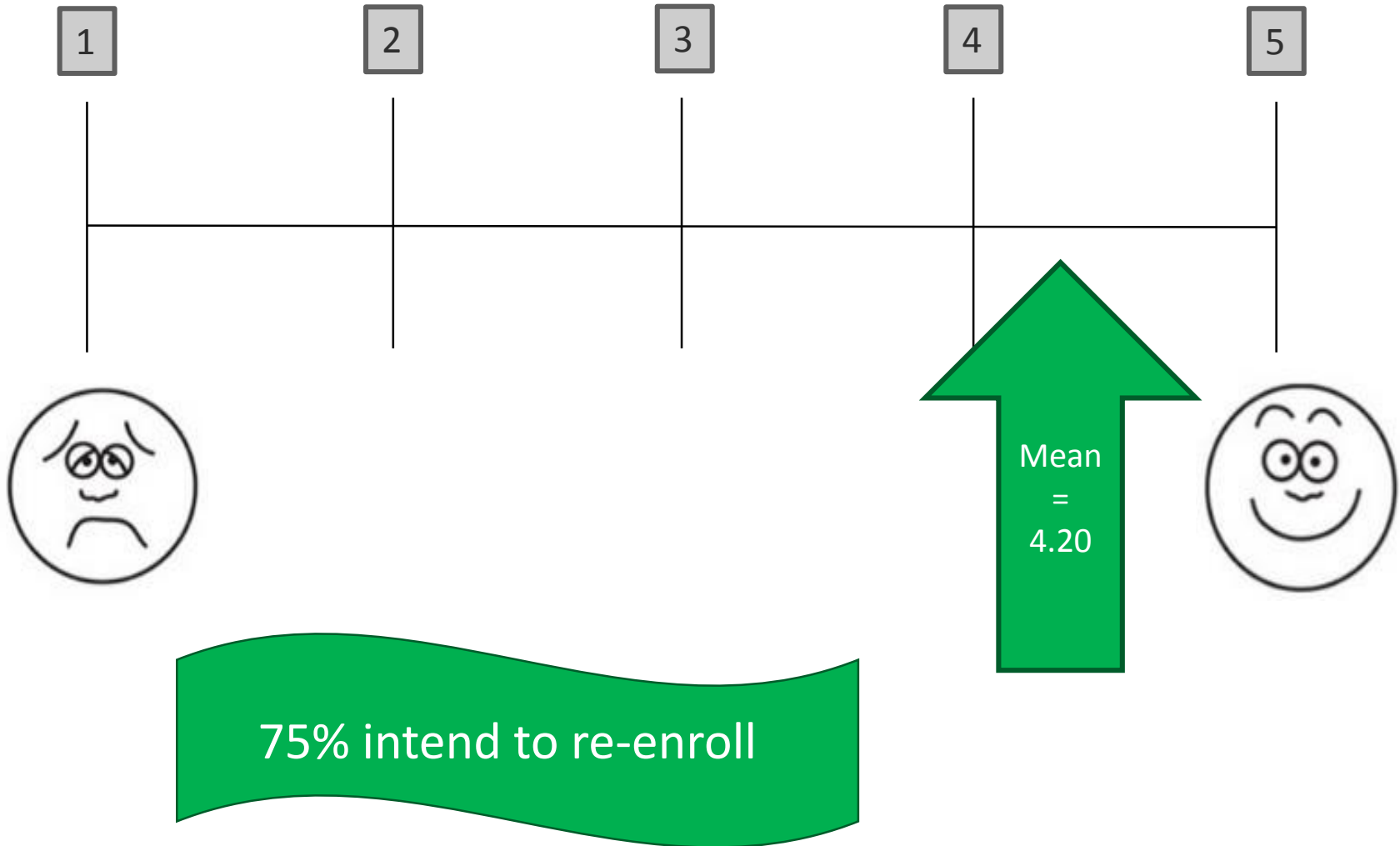
*based on 2016-17 as not all states have completed 2017-18 data collection. Youth results unless specified.

Why did you join 4-H?

- Try new things (58%)
- Have fun (48%)
- Family History (36%)
- Skill Building (32%)



Overall Positive Experience



Why youth might not come back...

- Didn't feel connected to other youth (19%)
- Don't have time (15%)
- Didn't know when club or project met (12%)

% represents % that said "a little true" or "completely true"



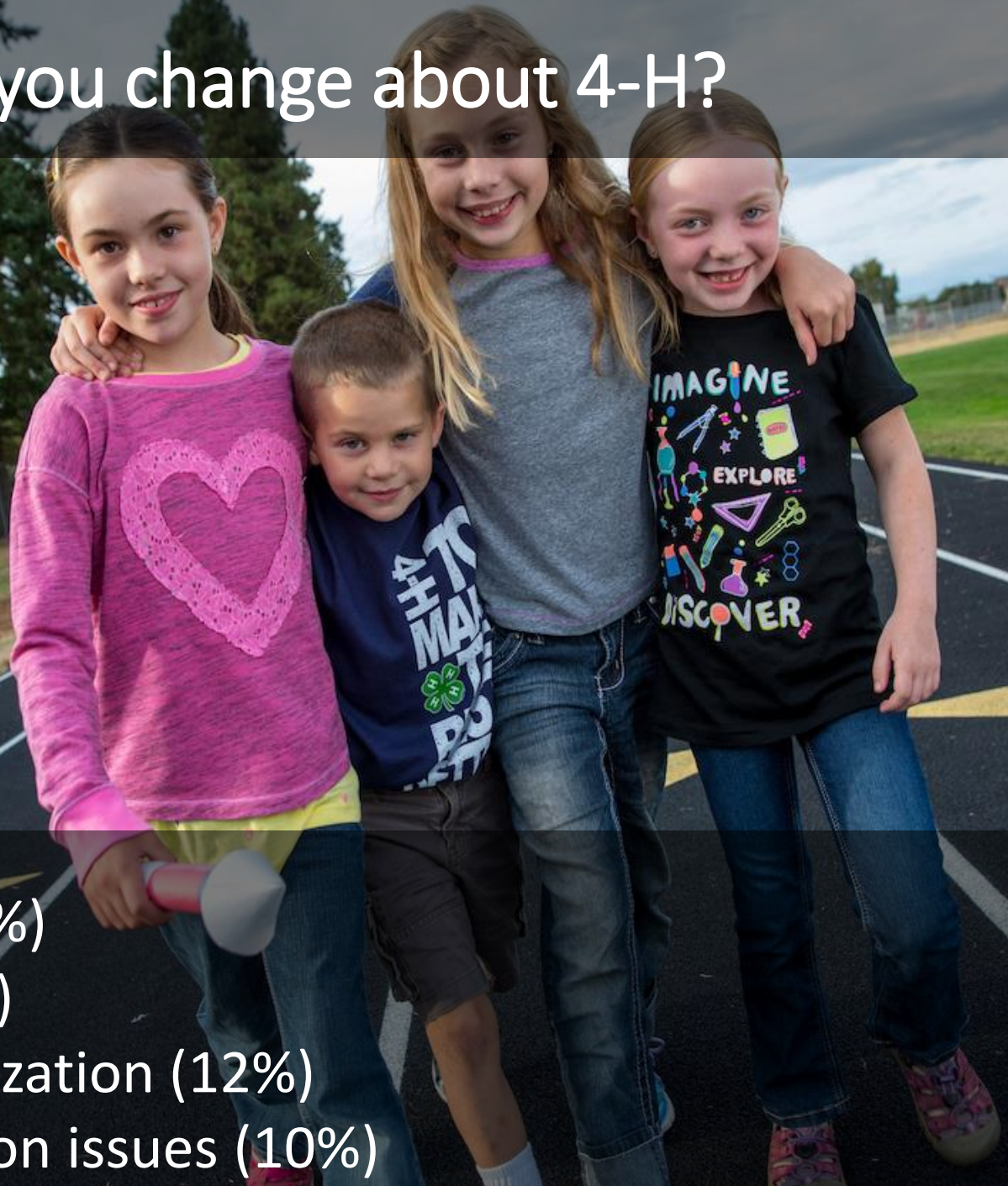
What is the best part about 4-H?

- Project activities (34%)
- Fair/Showing animals (18%)
- New people and friendships (15%)
- Learning opportunities (13%)



What would you change about 4-H?

- Meetings (20%)
- Nothing (19%)
- Lack of organization (12%)
- Communication issues (10%)



Outreach

- Family Handbooks
 - CA (English & Spanish)
 - ID
 - WY (under development)
- Project Leader Checklist (CA)
- County Information Sheet (CA)
- Data Parties
- <http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/271860.pdf>
- <http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/254367.pdf>
- <http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/271859.pdf>
- <https://www.uidaho.edu/-/media/Uidaho-Responsive/Files/Extension/4-H/4-H-Family-Handbook-201607.ashx?la=en&hash=7D1ED98249B0BD5D508464AD34219F70BF73A490>



Limitations & Considerations



- Low response rate
- Who is actually responding?

Next Steps

- Multistate Project Objectives
 - Enrollment data trends
 - Culture of 4-H
 - Perceptions from those that have left or never joined
- Role of family history/involvement in 4-H
- Best practices checklists



Contact Information



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