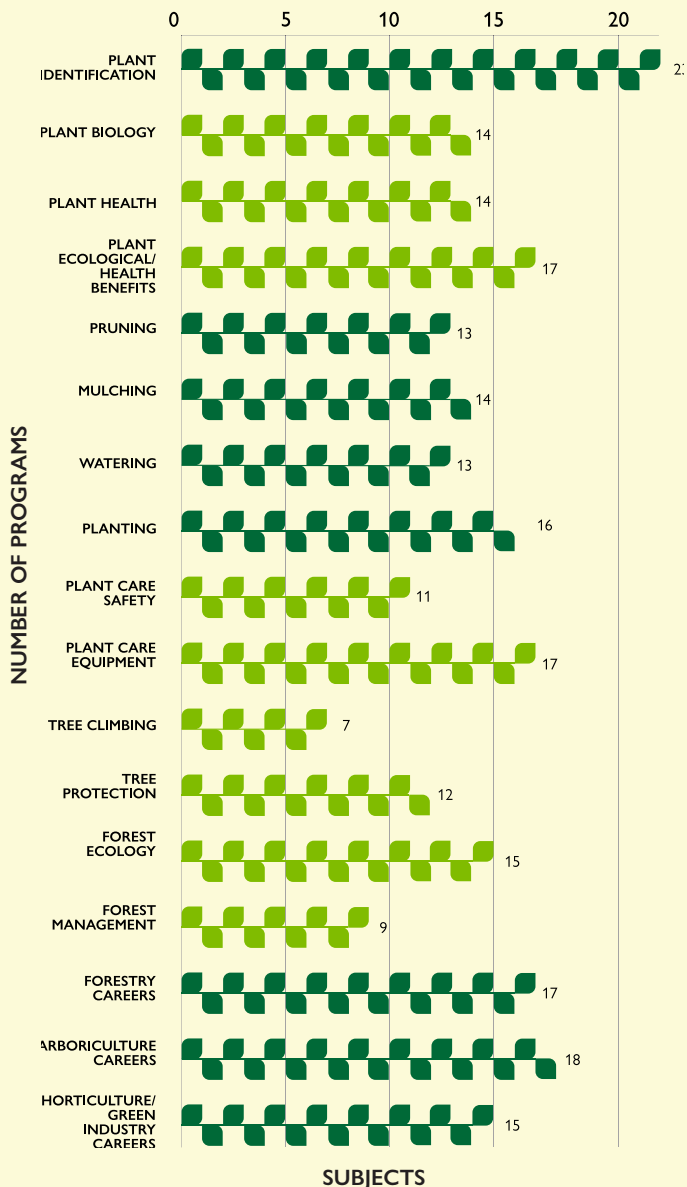


2024 ARBORICULTURE YOUTH + ADOLESCENT PROGRAMS REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS

ISA sought to better understand what U.S. youth and adolescent natural resources programs were available and their arboriculture-related outcomes. As part of the scoping process, UGA Warnell investigated programs that introduce 10-19 year olds to trees, forests, plants (in general), arboriculture, horticulture, forestry, and the green industry, all subjects related to arboriculture.

Several program structures were also investigated in the scoping process, including educational programs, internships/work programs, dual-enrollment programs, and more. UGA Warnell identified approximately 100 U.S. programs that met the above criteria. These programs were offered by various local, state, or national organizations or agencies.

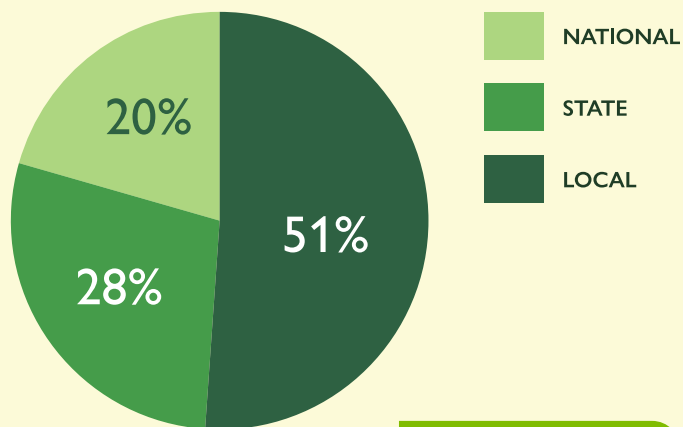
YOUTH PROGRAM SUBJECTS



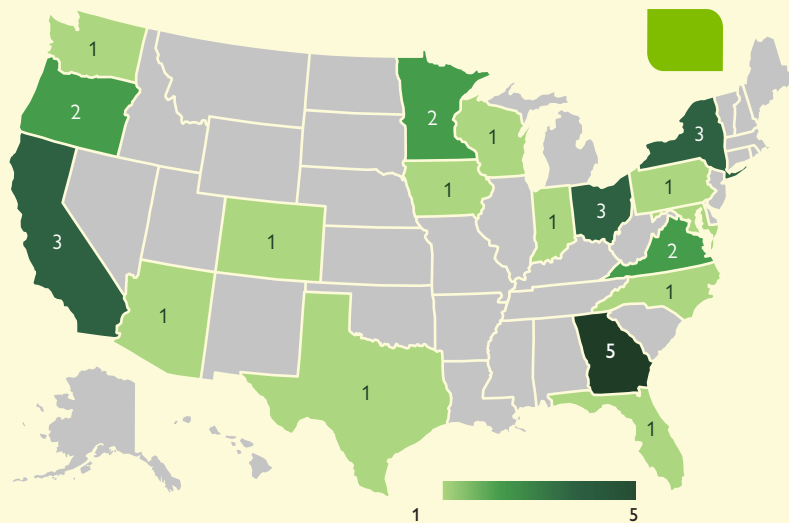
Survey participants were asked to select from a list of subjects offered in their program that may support youth interest in arboricultural careers. The most common subject offered was plant identification. Other common subjects included plant or ecological

health benefits, careers, plant care equipment, and planting. The least common subjects were tree climbing and forest management. The most popular subjects included plant identification, plant-related careers, and plant care.

SCALE AND LOCATION



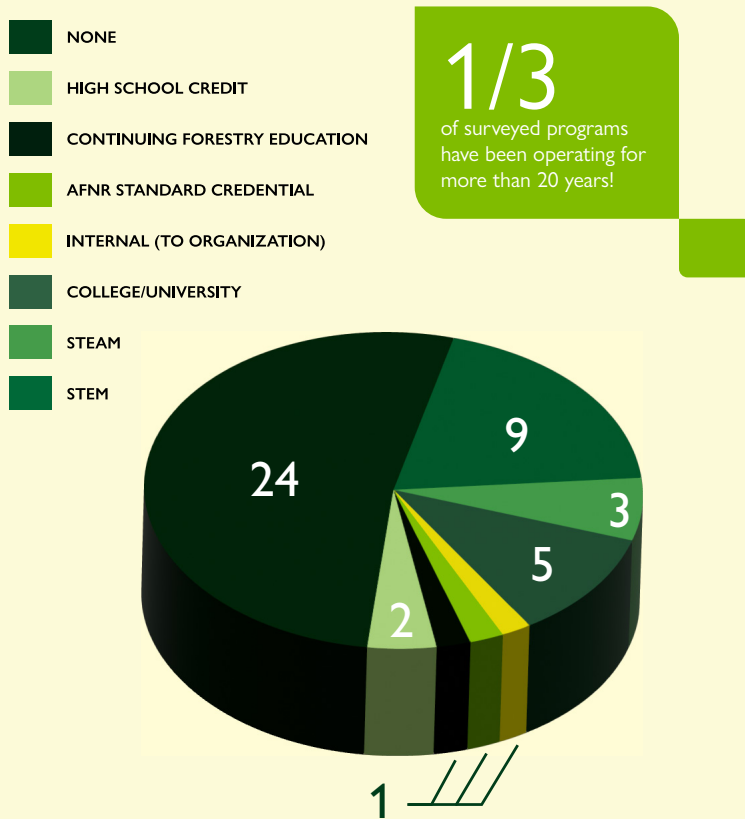
87%
of surveyed programs target 14-19 year olds.



To better understand geographical program reach, organizations were asked whether their program was local (available to youth in a city, county, or other local area), statewide, regional (multi-state), or national (Fig. 6). 51% of surveyed programs were available to youth in certain localities, 28% had statewide availability, and 21% of programs were nationally available.

Programs were distributed across 18 states, in addition to eight nationwide programs (Fig. 7). 67% of local or statewide surveyed programs occurred in the eastern U.S. More programs were identified in Georgia due to the authors' familiarity with the state.

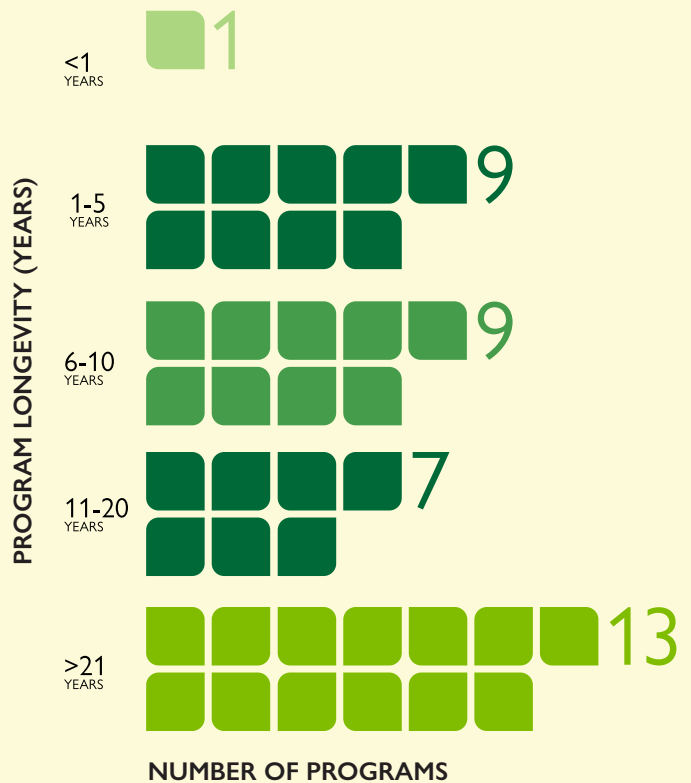
EDUCATIONAL CREDITS



A program that offers standardized and/or continuing education credits may have advantages. When an organization's youth program offers educational or other credits, parents, youth, and/or partner organizations (e.g., public schools) may be more interested in participating in or partnering to host a program.

Although most surveyed programs (62%) did not offer educational credits in their programs, 23% of programs offered STEM, 8% offered STEAM, and 13% offered college or university credits (Fig. 9). Additionally, a few programs offered several credits simultaneously.

PROGRAM LONGEVITY



Survey participants were asked to select from a list of subjects offered in their program that may support youth interest in arboricultural careers. The most common subject offered was plant identification. Other common subjects included plant or ecological

health benefits, careers, plant care equipment, and planting. The least common subjects were tree climbing and forest management. The most popular subjects included plant identification, plant-related careers, and plant care.

GAPS IN YOUTH AND ADOLESCENT PROGRAMMING DISCUSSION

Call participants were asked to reflect on the survey results and their own experience and expertise to explore gaps in youth programming that could better encourage/support career pathways in arboriculture. The following provides a summary of gaps discussed.

- Technical and Community College Arboriculture Programs
- Industry Instructors for Youth Programs
- Arboriculture Industry As Solution to Climate Change and Environmental Justice
- Industry Funding for Programs
- Arboriculture As A Technology Career
- Parents Viewing Arboriculture as a Professional Career
- National Youth Programs and Arboriculture
- Youth Groups Already Involved in Outdoor Activities
- Youth Not Introduced to the Outdoors

POTENTIAL APPROACHES FOR ISA AND PARTNERS FILLING GAPS DISCUSSION

Meeting participants were then asked, based on the survey results, previous discussion on gaps in programming, and their own experience and subject matter expertise, what they think are potential approaches for ISA and partners to fill these gaps. The following provides a summary of approaches discussed.

REACHING YOUTH TARGET AUDIENCE

- Poll ISA Certified Arborists About How They Entered the Industry and Utilize Poll Results to Reach Youth about Arboriculture
- Educate Parents about Arboriculture Careers
- Communicate Arboriculture Career Pathways and Salaries Associated with Each Stage

PROVIDING PROGRAM SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

- Develop a Directory of ISA Certified Arborist AmbassadorsPartner with Existing Youth Programs

FOR MORE INFORMATION, READ THE FULL REPORT AT: