

4-H Capitol Experience

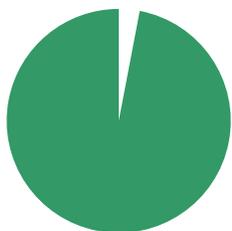
2017 Impact Report



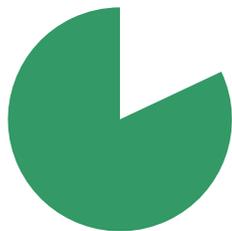
Capitol Experience is an annual four-day conference that helps prepare youth for active citizenship by focusing on civic engagement and public policy. Youth from around the state converge on Lansing, Michigan to experience state government in action and learn how they can influence policy issues. Participants interact with legislators, state agency staff, lobbyists and other resource people to learn

how policy is made.

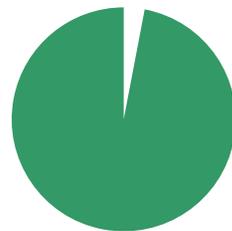
Roughly 80 youth participated in Capitol Experience in 2017. Post-event evaluations revealed statistically significant gains in youth's civic participation, leadership, and facilitation skills. Youth also reported feeling more comfortable and confident in their ability to communicate with others.



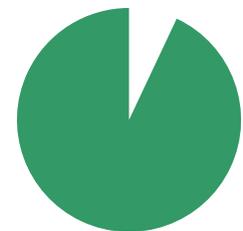
97% of youth recognize the importance of different viewpoints when making decisions.



82% of youth have the confidence to speak in front of groups.



97% of youth plan to vote when they turn 18.

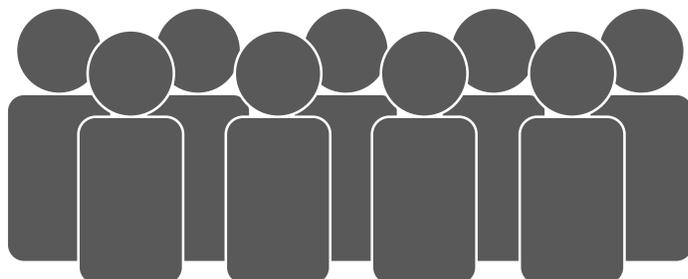


93% of youth feel prepared to work towards change in their community.

"[Capitol Experience] helped me to consider every side of a problem. It has also expanded my leadership and public speaking abilities. But most importantly, **I feel more equipped to be in a team.**"

"Sunday morning I woke up wanting to be an engineer, and now **I want to be a politician that graduates from MSU!**"

"Capitol Experience has **helped me realize how much I can do** to help my government."



DID YOU KNOW?

Youth who participate in Michigan 4-H pre-college programs are more likely to go to college: 63% of youth who participated in Capitol Experience between 2009 and 2016 enrolled in college within six months of finishing high school. That's 9% higher than the Michigan average!