

# **MN 4-H Youth Development: Program Impacts and Highlights**

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Minnesota House Agriculture Committee**

# Presentation highlights

- **MN 4-H enrollment overview**
  - Regional perspective
  - Local showcases at county fairs
- **Youth development training/education**
- **Program emphases**
  - Agriculture
  - Environment
  - Education and career pathways
  - Youth leadership



# Final enrollment numbers for 2022

4-H youth enrolled

**40,516**

↑ 57% from  
2021



**7,137**  
generation  
members

Up 88% from 2021

New 4-H members

**10,146**

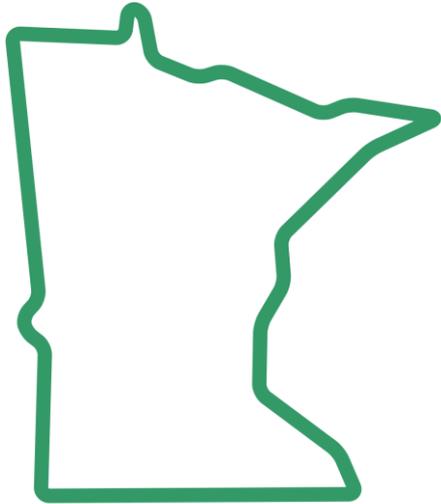
↑ 54% from  
2021



**7,011 4-H volunteers**

Up 5% from 2021

# 4-H is thriving in Minnesota



**40,516** youth

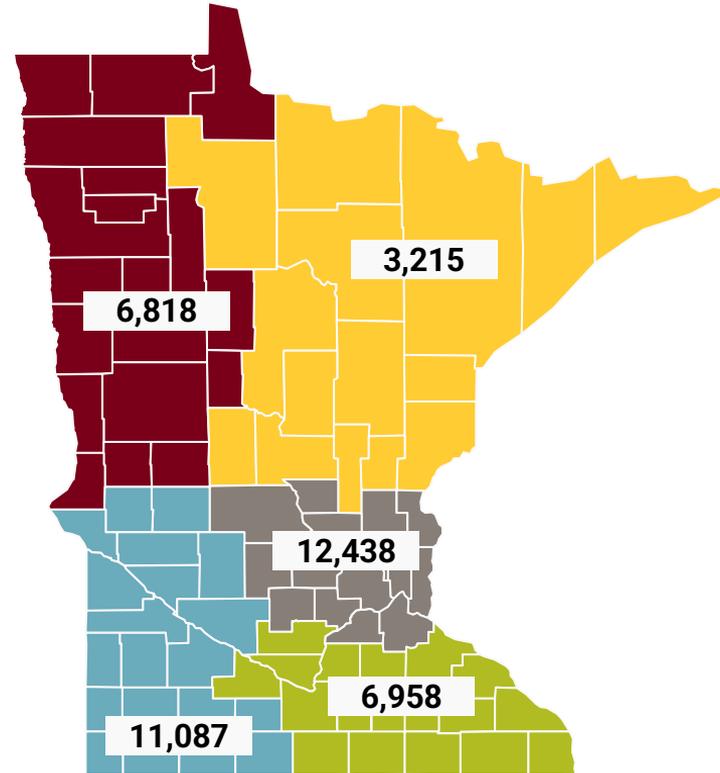
**1,058** clubs

**7,011** volunteers

**21%** BIPOC youth

**1** strong Minnesota

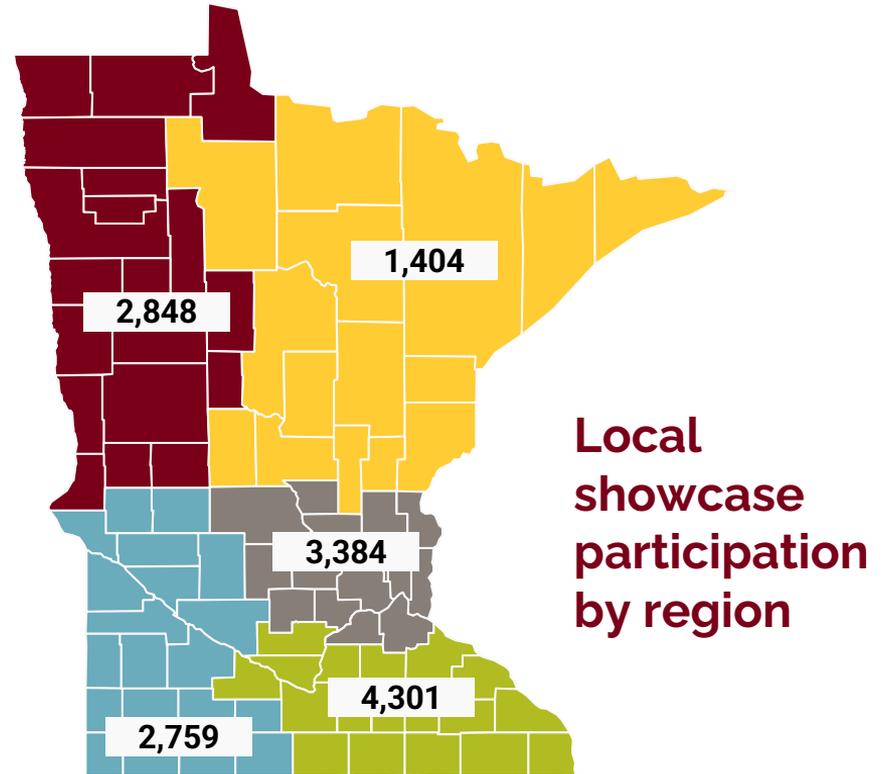
# 2022 MN 4-H youth enrollment by region



# Youth shared their learning at local showcases in 2022

**14,696 youth**  
showcased learning  
statewide

**4-H partners with local  
agricultural societies**



# YD training transcends traditional methods



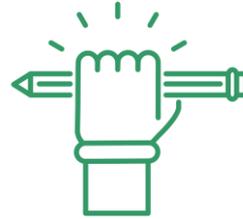
**74** podcasts with over 20,000 downloads



**5,375** youth workers and volunteers trained by YD staff



**75** downloadable curricular resources



**1,781** educational youth programs (in-person, online and hybrid)



**36** blog posts with over 38,000 pageviews



**49** youth worker training events led by YD staff



**program highlights**

# agriculture

emphasis



# Emphasis on agriculture in MN 4-H

- **MN State Ag Ambassadors**  
22 youth, Farmfest, Farm Bureau, soil erosion
- **Clubs, camps and immersions**  
Cargill Foundation grant & contracts
- **\$750,000 ag education/careers**  
AFRI federal grant
- **Bend Don't Break - rural youth stress**  
MN Department of Ag





**environment**  
emphasis

# Environmental education

- Rural and urban farming
- Hydroponics
- Wildlife conservation
- Pollinators
- Native plants and prairie restoration
- Plastics and pollution
- Mentorship, teaching & leadership



A photograph of students in a classroom or meeting room. In the foreground, a student is writing in a notebook. In the background, other students are seated at a long table, some with their hands clasped. The scene is brightly lit, likely from a window. A semi-transparent dark grey banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing white text.

**education and career pathways**  
emphasis

## 4-H = Career connections

- Igniting sparks and building skills
- Campus immersion experiences
- Federal grants
  - AFRI
  - CYFAR
- Trades, 2 year, 4 year
- Tracking youth



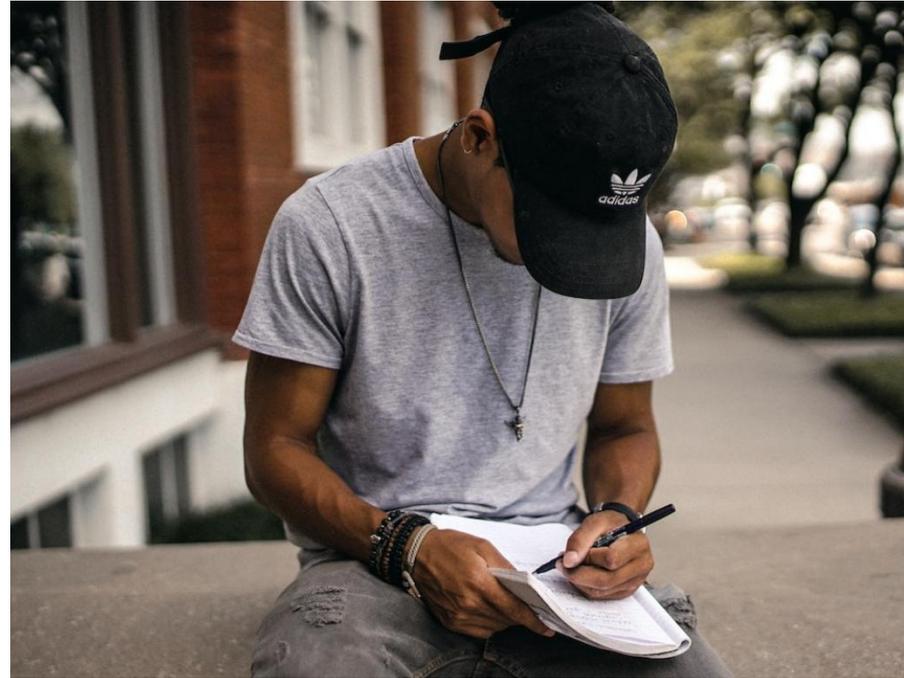
A woman with long dark hair and glasses, wearing a grey t-shirt, stands in a meeting room pointing at a whiteboard. The whiteboard is covered with several clusters of colorful sticky notes (pink, yellow, orange). In the foreground, several people are seated at a table with laptops, looking towards the presenter. The room has large windows on the left side, letting in natural light.

# youth leadership

emphasis

# Shaping the future with youth leadership and voice

- Strategic planning
- Focus groups - local government and elected officials
- MN State Capitol – legislative visits
- Local, regional, state, national and international youth leadership experiences



# Youth explore their sparks through projects



*“4-H gave me the confidence to develop and hone my leadership skills, allowing me to spearhead the creation of something that really makes a difference. My experience in 4-H inspired me to help my team start their own chapter so robotics teams can make similar devices that solve issues that impact their communities.”*

*-Nicole C., Dakota County, 2023 National 4-H Youth in Action STEM Pillar Winner from Minnesota*