

# State of Young State Leadership 2021-22

in All 50 U.S. State Legislatures

## Overview

Gen Z and Millennials are bringing a new style of leadership to halls of power. While young people didn't create the problems we're facing, we're idealistic enough to believe we can solve them and pragmatic enough to know that building coalitions is a necessary step to creating effective change.

**32.9%**

*Bipartisan Bills Enacted Were Authored by Young People*

## BIPARTISAN BILLS



**4,380** Bipartisan Bills Introduced by Legislators Under Age 45

**913** *Bipartisan Bills Introduced by Legislators Under Age 35*

**1,945** Bipartisan Laws Enacted by Legislators Under Age 45

**323** *Bipartisan Laws Enacted by Legislators Under Age 35*

## LEADERSHIP



**1,535** Total State Legislators Under Age 45

**20.7%** *Percentage of young people in state legislatures*

**266** Legislators Under Age 45 in At Least One Leadership Position

**48** *Legislators Under Age 35 in At Least One Leadership Position*

*Positions include: Speaker, Senate President, Speaker/President Pro Tempore, Majority/Minority Leader, Majority/Minority Whip/Assistant Leader, Caucus or Conference Leader*

## RANKING POSITIONS



**401** Legislators Under Age 45 in a Committee Chair Position

**72** *Legislators Under Age 35 in a Vice-Chair or Ranking Position*

**444** Legislators Under Age 45 in a Vice-Chair or Ranking Position

**93** *Legislators Under Age 35 in a Vice-Chair or Ranking Position*

## In Contrast

While there's lots of value in having older, experienced lawmakers serve in these roles, it does more harm than good when it's at the expense of uplifting young or diverse leaders who can bring new perspectives to the policymaking process.



**9,210**

Bipartisan bills introduced by legislators over age 45 during the 2021-22 sessions



**3,960**

Bipartisan laws enacted by legislators over age 45 during the 2021-22 sessions