

# 2020 CITY YEAR ALUMNI SURVEY



“My time as a City Year AmeriCorps member challenged me in ways beyond what I could have initially imagined when I signed up—each day as a corps member I gained new perspectives on what it means to be a great educator, co-worker, friend and civically engaged American.”

CLAIRE SUTTON (DENVER '16), ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF GAP PROGRAMS AT HIGH MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE

Upon completing their service with City Year, our remarkable alumni continue to serve and lead in our communities, nation and world. Now a network of nearly 35,000 strong, City Year alumni show up to help address the serious challenges of systemic inequity and racial injustice facing our country—in education, healthcare, the economy and the environment. Our alumni are culturally competent, civically engaged and diverse changemakers who have critical skills we need today: experience bringing people together, working in collaborative teams, and taking action for the common good.

In 2020, City Year conducted its second biannual alumni survey and received 4,453 responses, which is statistically significant.<sup>1</sup> Fifty-five percent of survey respondents graduated from City Year between 2015 and 2019; therefore, the data is most reflective of recent alumni sentiments.

## Alumni profile



93% have an undergraduate degree  
40% have a graduate degree



44% live or work in the community in which they served



Based on end-of-year AmeriCorps member data from 2018–2020<sup>2</sup>

57% People of color

34% Black or African American

7% Asian

16% Hispanic or Latino

5% Other

## Diverse leaders and changemakers

Alumni are making a difference where they live and work thanks to their interests and talents, personal commitment to social justice, and critical skills developed during their City Year service—

**91% of alumni said that their City Year experience had a significantly positive impact on their life.**

**93%** said City Year helped them to **develop relationships with people who are from different backgrounds** than their own.

**92%** said that through their City Year experience they **learned about issues of systemic inequity** in ways that have impacted their perspective.

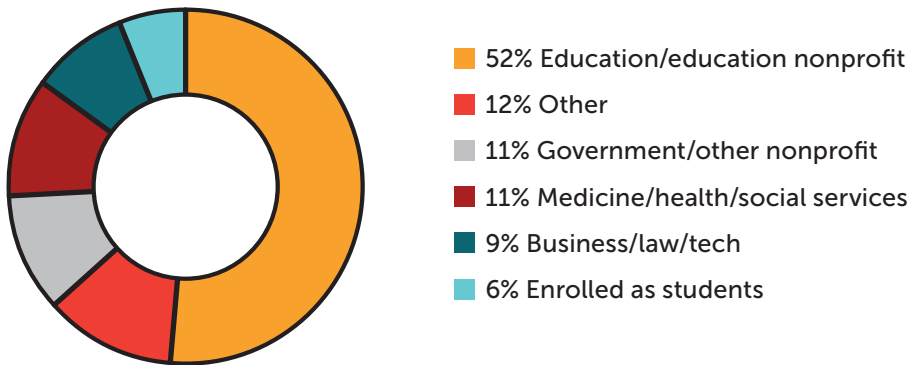
**67%** said they are **more likely to engage in community service.**

# Making a difference across professions

“City Year allowed me to learn foundational skills to support my desire to make a difference... it gave me a self-awareness, and the ability to listen to others without judgment, and acceptance of others’ experiences. I continue to deploy these skills, 20 years later, in my professional roles, as well as my community endeavors.”

MONICA BISWAS (COLUMBIA '98 & '99), DIVERSITY STRATEGY PROGRAM MANAGER AT TUFTS HEALTH PLAN

**City Year alumni are making significant contributions as professionals, leaders and collaborators who can mobilize diverse groups to tackle complex challenges across a wide range of fields.**

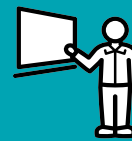


## Nurturing the Next Generation of Educators

Thousands of City Year AmeriCorps alumni are contributing to a more diverse, prepared and committed talent pool for teaching positions and the education sector overall.

“I had adults in my life—teachers, family members, peers—who helped me figure out who I was as a young person, as a black man, and I wanted to pay it forward and help ensure that a quality education is something every student can fully embrace.”

AWARD-WINNING TEACHER KEVIN DUA (BOSTON '10, '11),  
HISTORY TEACHER AT CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



**13%** of City Year alumni are classroom teachers

45% are people of color

45% live/work in the same community they served

29% have taught for 10+ years

1 City Year received a 20% response rate for this survey. Given the size of City Year’s alumni, this rate is a statistically significant sample with a 95% confidence interval and one-point margin of error. Because we chose to seek input from as many alumni as possible, the survey was not designed as a randomized sample. A general limitation of this study design is the potential for natural biases based on who opted to respond. Our analysis of respondents based on alumni demographics did not surface any significant concerns in this area.

2 Demographics from the end-of-year survey are reflective of demographics from alumni survey respondents, which indicated that 45% were people of color: 24% African American or Black; 10% Hispanic or Latino; 5% Asian; 6% Other.