

**EVIDENCE SNAPSHOT** 

# National Service Members in Puerto Rico

2023 Member Exit Survey Overview



BUNDLED EVALUATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT

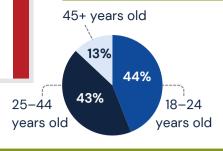
### **Exploring the AmeriCorps Member Experience in Puerto Rico**

In 2023, 1,048 members and volunteers served in Puerto Rico across 97 service locations, for a total investment of over \$12 million in federal funding. Since 1994, more than 7,600 Puerto Rico residents have served approximately 15 million hours. Thirteen organizations received fiscal year (FY) 2023 AmeriCorps State and National grants under the purview of the Puerto Rico service commission. Of those, six of the organizations also had VISTA projects. Awarded projects set out to tackle community issues across a range of AmeriCorps focus areas, including disaster services, economic opportunity, education, environmental stewardship, and healthy futures.

AmeriCorps member exit survey data from the 2023 cohort of national service members in Puerto Rico (which includes members from AmeriCorps State and National, VISTA, and NCCC programs) provides some insights regarding member experience in Puerto Rico. Overall, most members reported positively contributing to their communities and that their service experience supported their professional endeavors.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> AmeriCorps' Puerto Rico – At a Glance Report: 2023 Year in Review

# ABOUT NATIONAL SERVICE MEMBERS IN PUERTO RICO



69% Women

90% Hispanic or Latino



2 in 4 were college graduates or had a graduate degree 1 in 4 had a high school diploma/GED

# **PROFESSIONAL OUTCOMES**

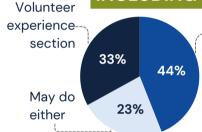


Agreed service furthered their professional goals and endeavors



Agreed service was a **defining professional experience** 

### **INCLUDING SERVICE ON RESUME**



Professional experience section

Nearly all members planned to include their service on their resume.

# **VOLUNTEER OUTCOMES**



Felt they contributed to the community



Gained an **understanding of the community** where they served



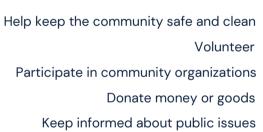
Plan to become **actively involved in issues** that affect the community



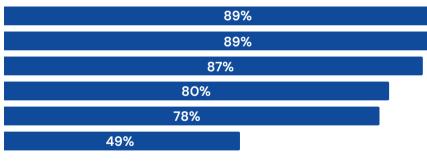
Feel a **personal obligation to contribute** to the community



Are **aware of the important needs** in the community



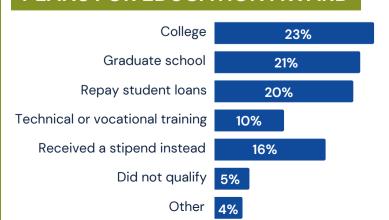
Vote in elections



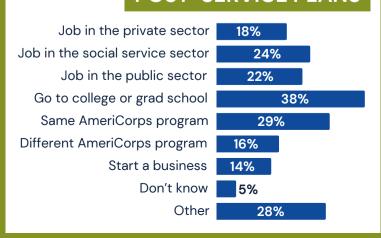
After serving, most members were more likely to engage in civic activities other than voting.

# **CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

# PLANS FOR EDUCATION AWARD



# **POST-SERVICE PLANS**



### Acknowledgements

The ICF evaluation team would like to acknowledge the many members of the AmeriCorps Office of Research and Evaluation (ORE), the Comisión de Voluntariado y Servicio Comunitario, and the participating AmeriCorps-supported organizations who are contributing to this study. The evaluation team looks forward to continued collaboration with ORE on high-quality evaluation work that can inform policy and practice regarding how national service may be used to address national priorities.

We also want to thank BCT Partners for their external evaluation of the evaluation technical assistance component of the project. Their outside perspective is vital in supporting the outcomes of the work.

### **About AmeriCorps**

AmeriCorps, the federal agency for national service and volunteerism, provides opportunities for Americans to serve their country domestically, address the nation's most pressing challenges, improve lives and communities, and strengthen civic engagement. Each year, the agency places more than 200,000 AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers in intensive service roles and empowers millions more to serve as long-term, short-term, or one-time volunteers. Learn more at AmeriCorps.gov.

#### About the Office of Research and Evaluation

The <u>AmeriCorps Office of Research and Evaluation</u> assists AmeriCorps and its partners in collecting, analyzing, and disseminating data and insights about AmeriCorps programs and civic life in America.

This report was commissioned by AmeriCorps' Office of Research and Evaluation under Contract #GSOOQ14OADU209 and Order #95332A20F0075. Information in this report is in the public domain.

#### **Suggested Citation**

Spinney, S., Mazuelas Quirce, S., & Holbrook, B. (2024). *National service members in Puerto Rico*: 2023 member exit survey overview. ICF.

### **Photo Credit**

AmeriCorps

#### **About ICF**

ICF (NASDAQ:ICFI) is a global consulting and digital services company with over 9,000 full- and part-time employees, but we are not your typical consultants. At ICF, business analysts and policy specialists work together with digital strategists, data scientists and creatives. We combine unmatched industry expertise with cutting-edge engagement capabilities to help organizations solve their most complex challenges. Since 1969, public and private sector clients have worked with ICF to navigate change and shape the future. Learn more at icf.com. For additional information about ICF, please contact:

**ICF** 

1902 Reston Metro Plaza, Reston, VA 20190 Phone: 703-934-3603 or 1-800-532-4783 Fax: 703-934-3740 Email: info@icf.com





linkedin.com/company/icf-international



facebook.com/ThisIsICF



#thisisicf