

## Spotlight On: “Getting Things Done”

### What is the

#### Member Exit Survey (MES)?

At the end of service, AmeriCorps members are invited to take a survey to capture insights about their experience and attitudes.

Over 350,000 AmeriCorps State and National, AmeriCorps VISTA, and AmeriCorps NCCC members have completed the AmeriCorps MES since April 2015.

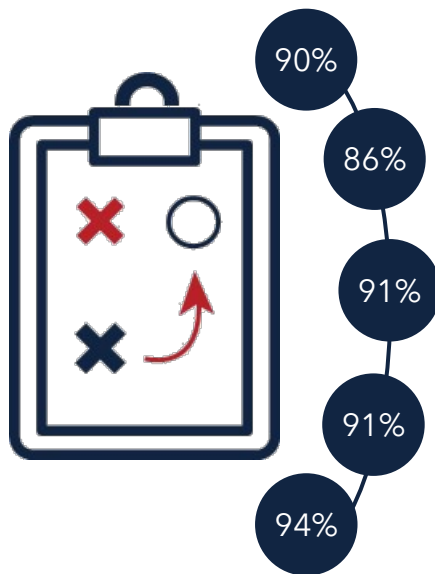
### What do we mean by “Getting Things Done?”

The AmeriCorps MES includes questions that align to four pathways of the AmeriCorps member experience: Bridging Differences, Civic Engagement, Life and Career Skills, and “Getting Things Done.” The Getting Things Done pathway describes members’ ability to self-start, go beyond what is required, and persevere in the face of challenges. This pathway reflects concepts of personal initiative, grit, and confidence in one’s actions, encompassing many requisite traits needed to be successful in creating community change.

Ten survey questions provide information about the Getting Things Done pathway of the AmeriCorps member experience. This fact sheet provides an overview of the findings on this pathway; for more details, read the [full report](#).

### How do AmeriCorps members **get things done**?

From 2017–2022, the majority of departing members agreed they can:



**Handle whatever comes their way.** More than 90 percent of members agreed that they have ability to handle whatever comes their way.

**Stick to aims and accomplish goals.** More than 86 percent of members agreed they show consistent effort to accomplish their goals.

**Deal with unexpected events, confidently.** More than 91 percent of members felt confident in their ability to handle unexpected events.

**Think of solutions when in trouble.** More than 91 percent of members agreed they can develop solutions to arising challenges.

**Invest effort to solve problems.** More than 94 percent of members believed in their ability to solve problems if they invest the necessary effort.

### Consistent Patterns Across AmeriCorps Member Age and Program

Regardless of a members’ age or AmeriCorps program in which they served (AmeriCorps State and National, AmeriCorps NCCC, or AmeriCorps VISTA), the proportion of respondents agreeing with these survey questions remained consistently high across the six years included in this analysis.

### About the Office of Research and Evaluation

The [AmeriCorps Office of Research and Evaluation](#) assists AmeriCorps and its partners in collecting, analyzing, and disseminating data and insights about AmeriCorps programs and civic life in America.

### 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.](#)