



EVIDENCE SNAPSHOT

Survey Highlights from Members Serving in AmeriCorps–Supported Climate Change Programs

2024



BUNDLED EVALUATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT

Introduction

AmeriCorps contracted with ICF to conduct a “bundled” evaluation that synthesizes information about climate change approaches and models across funding streams.* This profile provides a summary of select findings from a survey administered in spring 2023 to 1,993 AmeriCorps national service members serving in 13 AmeriCorps State and National and 2 AmeriCorps VISTA programs that had a focus on climate change (e.g., disaster response, conservation, wildfire mitigation, energy efficiency). Surveys were received from 432 current members and recent alumni (a 22 percent response rate).

* The evaluation seeks to help AmeriCorps better understand its programs and projects that explicitly connect their work to climate change. Programs and projects across AmeriCorps with similar program models and outcomes are being “bundled” together to better understand their work, but also to encourage knowledge sharing and capacity building around evaluation.

About the Survey Respondents

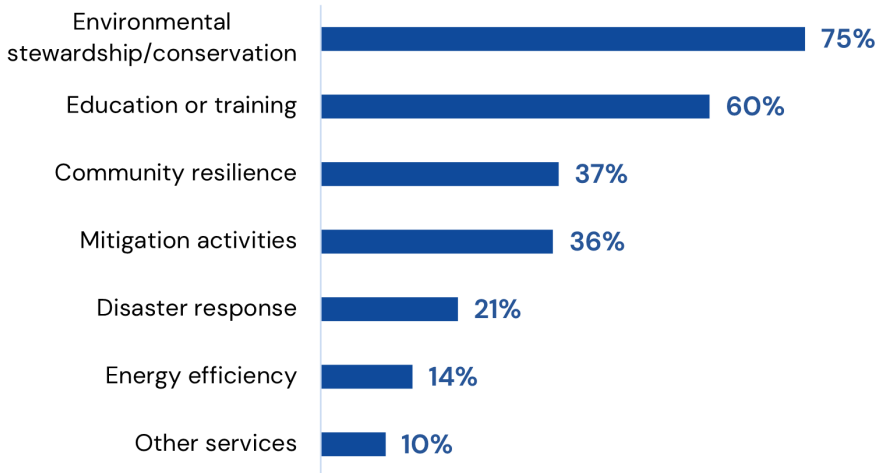
85% 18–29 years old

20% non-White

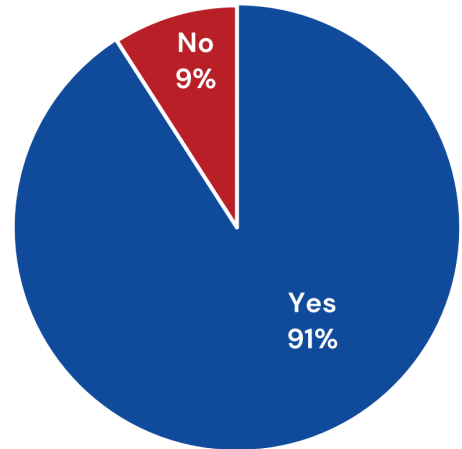
53% female

71% college graduate or more education

Services Provided Designed to Impact Climate Change (n=358)*

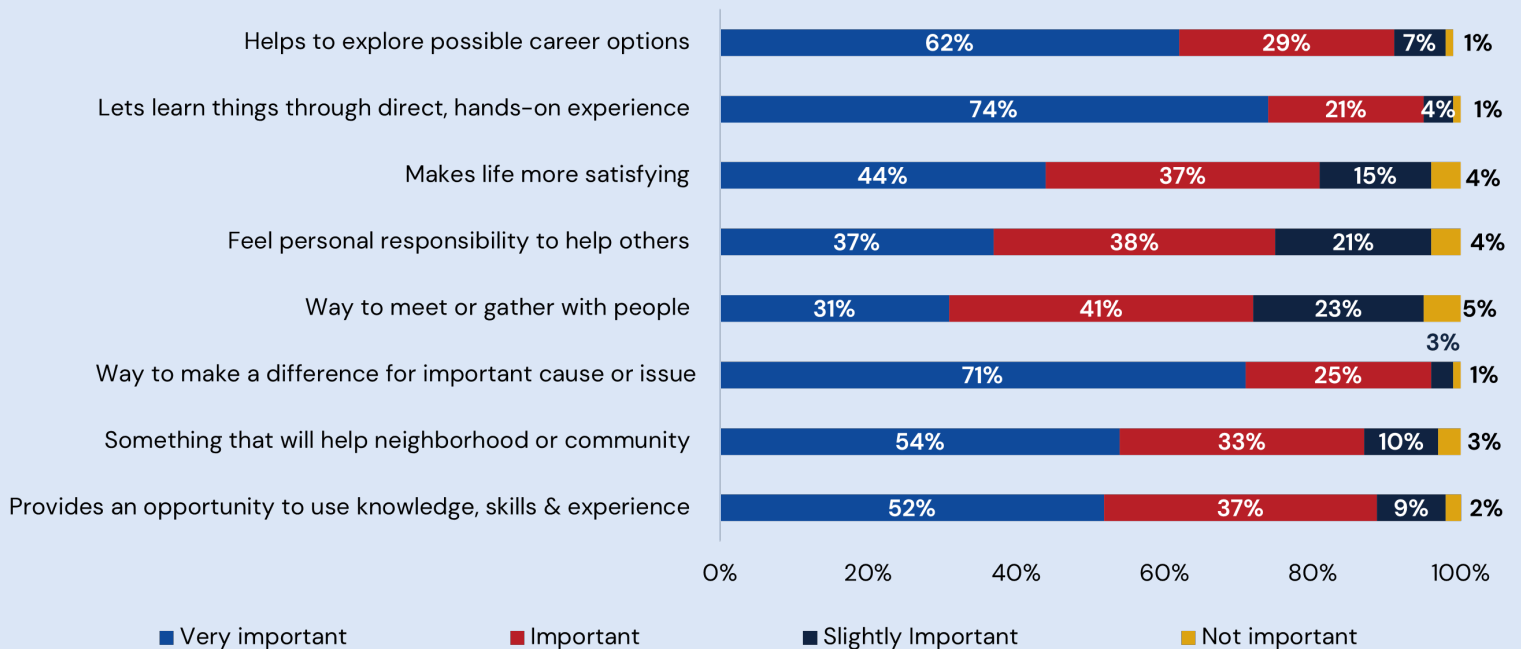


Interest in Obtaining a Job Related to Climate Change (n=342)



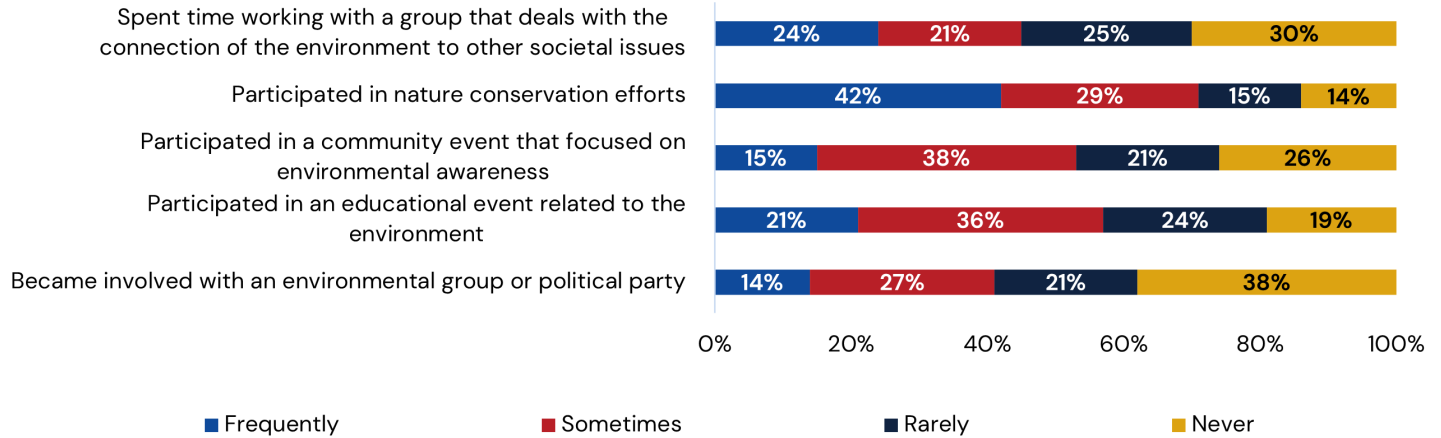
*Respondents could select more than one response. Ninety percent of respondents reported serving thirty hours or more a week.

Reasons to Volunteer (n=425–432)**

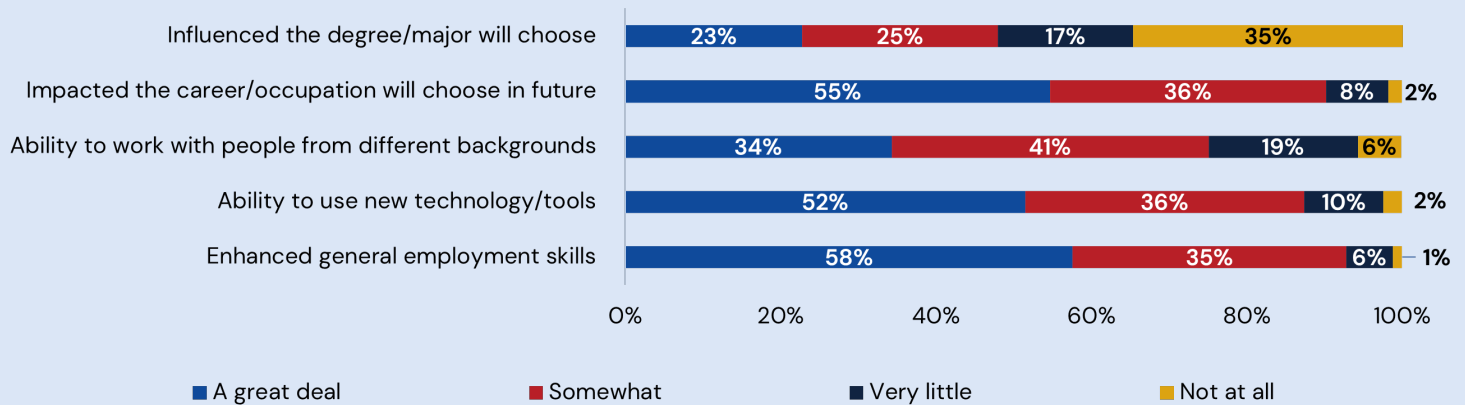


**Items adapted from Civic Engagement Volunteer Experience Survey & Volunteer Motivation Scale.

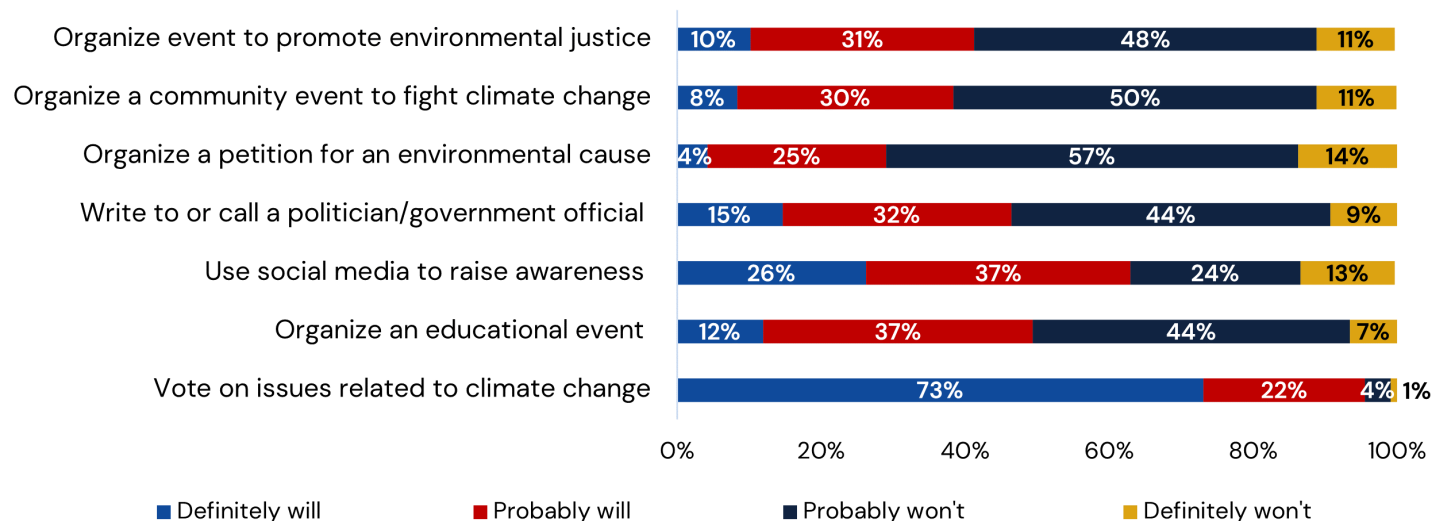
Engagement in Climate Change Activities in Last 6 Months (n=335–337)*



Impact of Program on Future Education and Career Goals (n=334–338)



Likelihood to Take Climate Change Actions (n=332–338)*



*Items adapted from the Environmental Action

Acknowledgements

The ICF evaluation team would like to acknowledge the many members of the AmeriCorps Office of Research and Evaluation (ORE) and the participating AmeriCorps-supported organizations, as well as the AmeriCorps members and VISTAs and community partners who are contributing to this study. They have provided valuable information and feedback to ensure the evaluation team is able to fully capture varied approaches to tackling climate change and how programs are able to leverage AmeriCorps national service models to address this critical priority. 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. Finally, we would like to thank the esteemed members of the Technical Working Group—Rachel Bruns, Dr. Leslie Goodyear, Dr. Kathryn Newcomer, Gabriel Rhoads, Dr. Herbert Turner, Dr. Abraham Wandersman—who advise and provide feedback to improve the quality and clarity of this evaluation.

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](https://www.americorps.gov).

About the Office of Research and Evaluation

The [AmeriCorps Office of Research and Evaluation](https://www.americorps.gov/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.

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Photo Credit

AmeriCorps

About ICF

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