



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF AMERICA

YOUTH RIGHT NOW

Graduation Report

America Graduates WITH Club Kids

Every young person has potential, yet each year, American students are leaving high school feeling unprepared for adulthood. From first grade to their first job, Boys & Girls Clubs empower millions of young people with the necessary support to stay on track, graduate and prepare for the future.

Boys & Girls Clubs of America conducts our annual Youth Right Now survey to better understand the needs of our nation's youth. In this special edition report, we surveyed nearly 2,400 twelfth graders in Boys & Girls Clubs, along with a sample size of young adults — both those who grew up attending a Boys & Girls Club and those who did not. We checked in on how Club high school seniors are preparing for life after graduation and how young Club alumni are progressing in their careers and adult lives compared to their peers generally. Our findings are shared with educators, policymakers and other youth-focused organizations to help inform policies and services that champion a brighter future.

Discover how Boys & Girls Clubs help America's youth graduate and grow into tomorrow's leaders at BGCA.org/Graduation.



America Needs Club Kids

Club Kids Need You.

Learn more about the mission and work of Boys & Girls Clubs and how you can get involved.
[Support Boys & Girls Clubs](#)

Club 12th Graders Outpace their Peers Nationally* When it Comes to...

Academic Success

Eating Healthy

Staying Active

81%

of Club 12th graders
earn mostly A's and B's
compared to 76% of
12th graders nationally.

43%

of Club 12th graders
eat vegetables three
or more times a day
compared to 11% of
12th graders nationally.

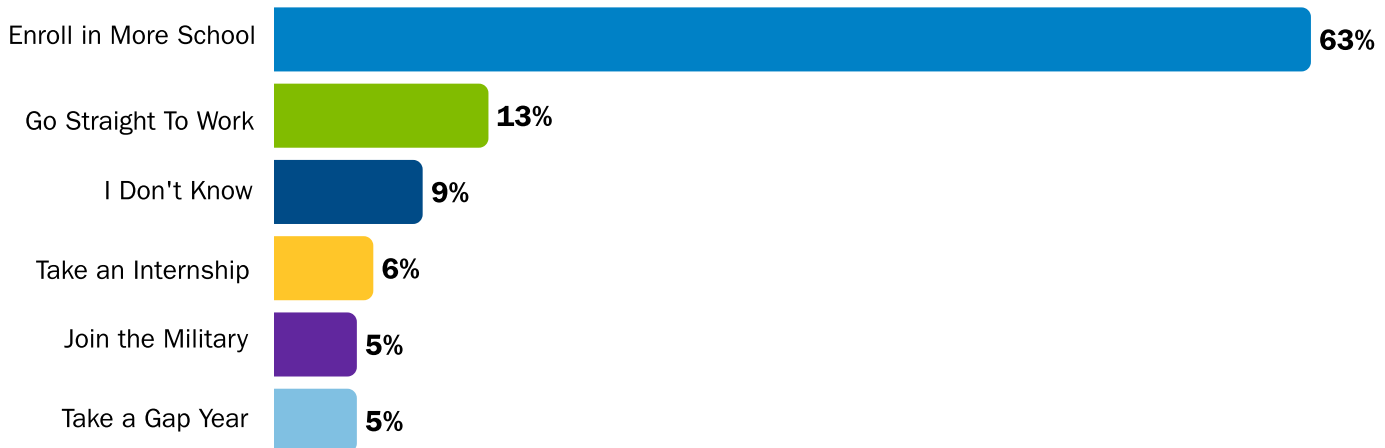
47%

of Club 12th graders
are active for at
least an hour on five
or more days
compared to 43% of
12th graders nationally.

Boys & Girls Club 12th Graders are Prepared for Post-High School

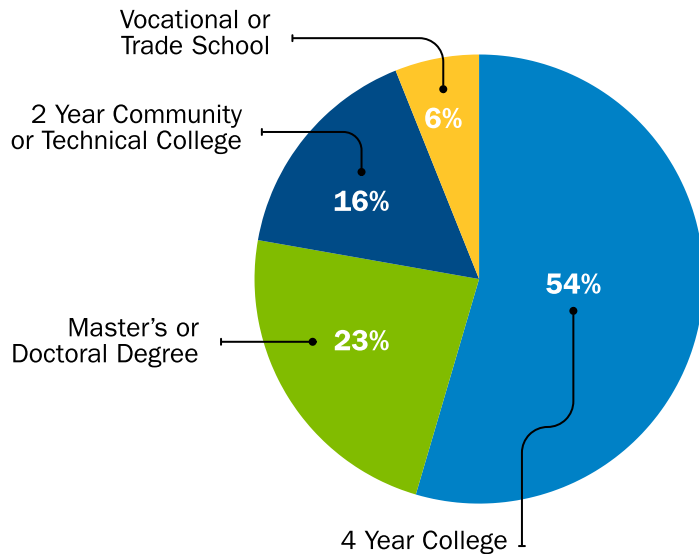
In making post-grad plans, Club 12th graders are looking at a variety of options. **63% said they plan to enroll in more school. Of those, three-quarters (77%) aim to earn a four-year college degree or higher.**

Club 12th Graders' Immediate Plans After High School

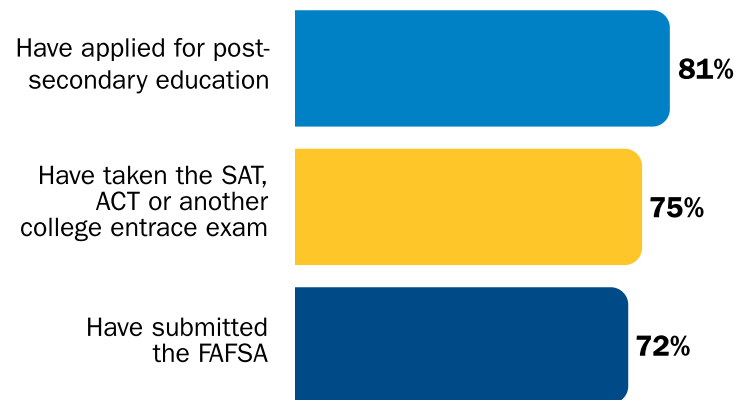


*All national comparison data on page two of this report is sourced from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention, Division of Adolescent and School Health, The Youth Risk Behavior Survey: Data Summary & Trends Report, (2013-2023)

Club 12th Graders' Continued Education Plans



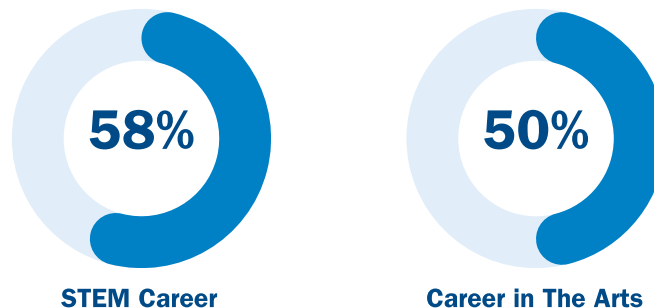
Club 12th Graders' Higher Education Preparation



Career Interests of Boys & Girls Club 12th Graders

Club 12th graders are feeling confident in their career plans. **92% have explored different career paths and already have one in mind.** Among Club 12th graders who answered survey questions about arts and STEM, 50% said they would like to have a career in the arts and 58% said they would like to have a career in STEM in the future.

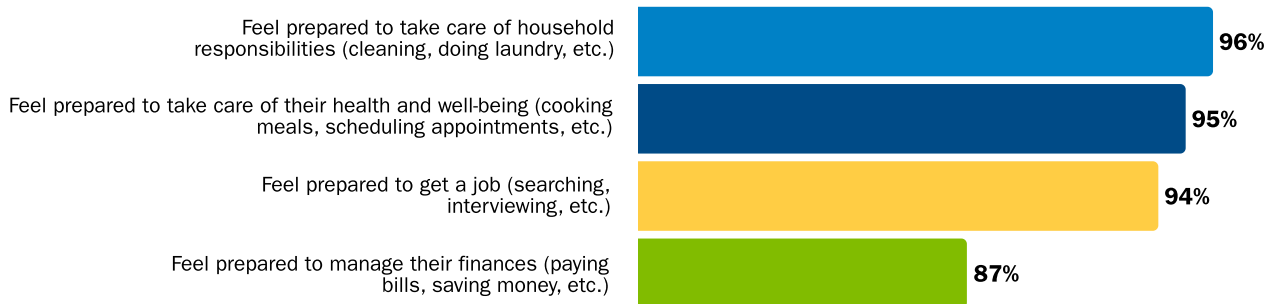
Club 12th Graders' Career Ambitions: STEM vs. the Arts



Boys & Girls Club 12th Graders are Ready for Adulthood

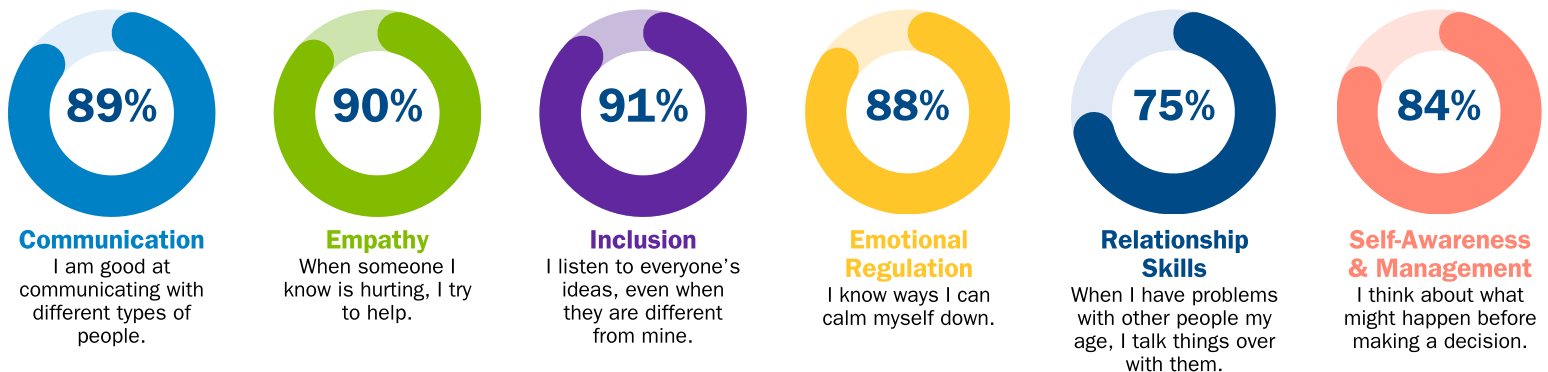
Club 12th graders are feeling equipped for adulthood, including getting a job, daily adult responsibilities and essential “soft” skills.

Club 12th Graders’ Confidence in “Adulthood” Skills



“Mr. Tony at the Club was like a second guardian to me. He taught me life lessons and how to be an adult.”
- Boys & Girls Club young alum

Club 12th Graders’ Confidence in Essential “Soft” Skills



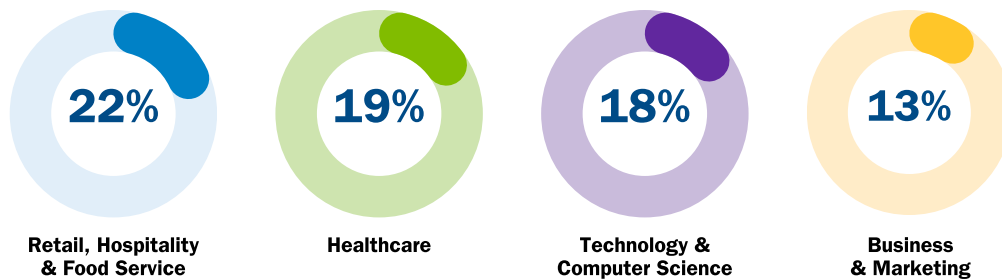
“I learned teamwork and communication skills at the Club that are useful in any career.”
- Boys & Girls Club young alum

Boys & Girls Club Young Alumni are Thriving More than General Young Adults

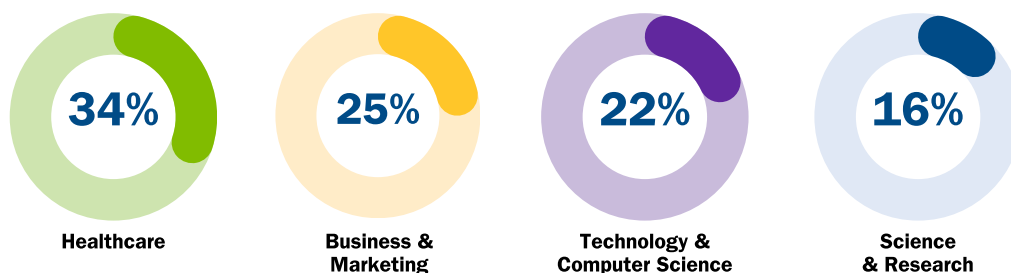
Career Pathways & Progress of Boys & Girls Club Young Alumni

Young Boys & Girls Club alumni are **60% more likely to be working full-time** than other young adults — and **38% less likely to be job searching**.

Where Boys & Girls Club Young Alumni Are Working (multiple selections allowed)



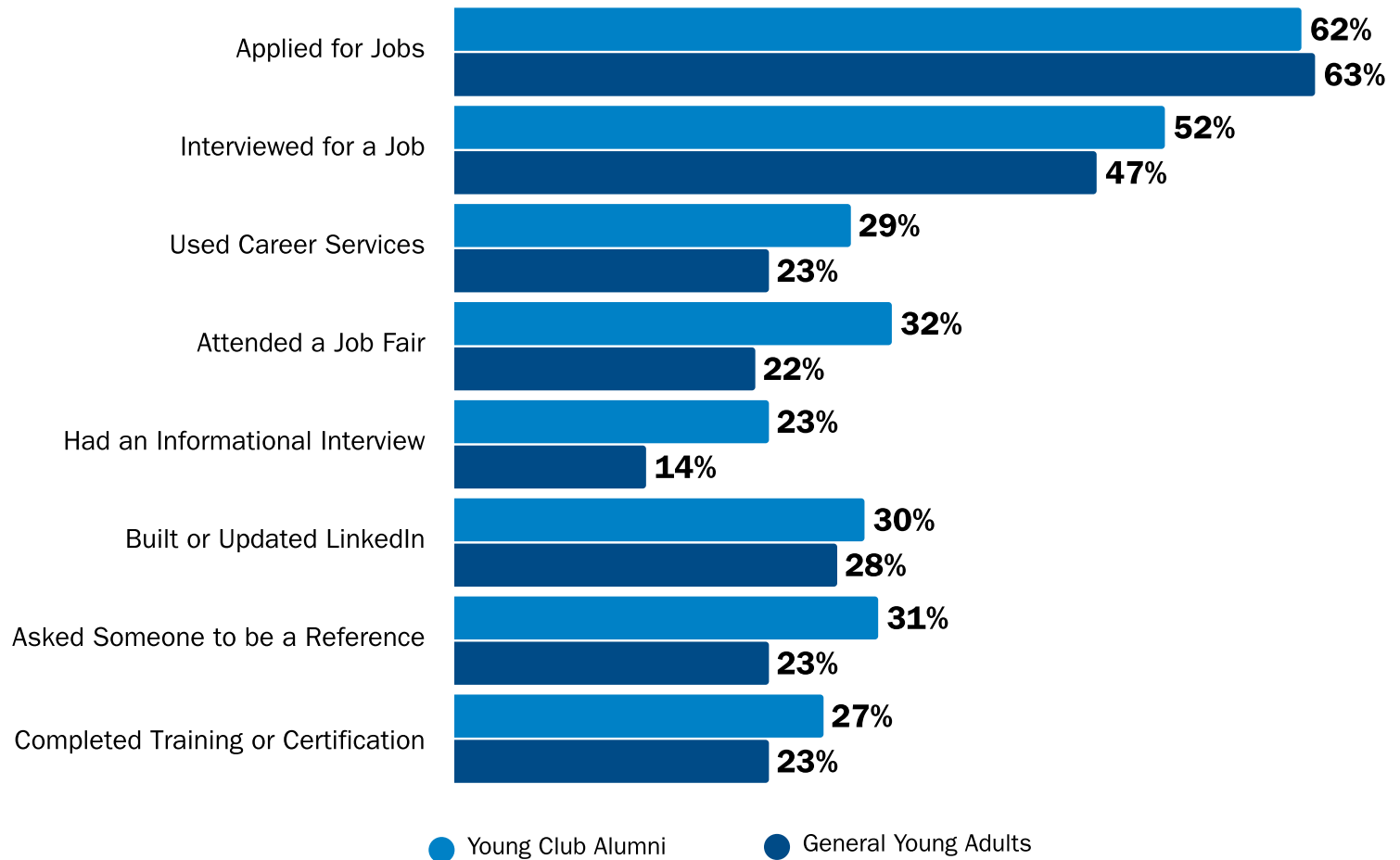
What Boys & Girls Club Young Alumni Are Studying in Continued Education (multiple selections allowed)



**“My Club gave me chances to explore options
outside of a traditional school curriculum.”**
- Boys & Girls Club young alum

Boys & Girls Club young alumni are **surpassing general young adults** in taking steps to progress in their careers.

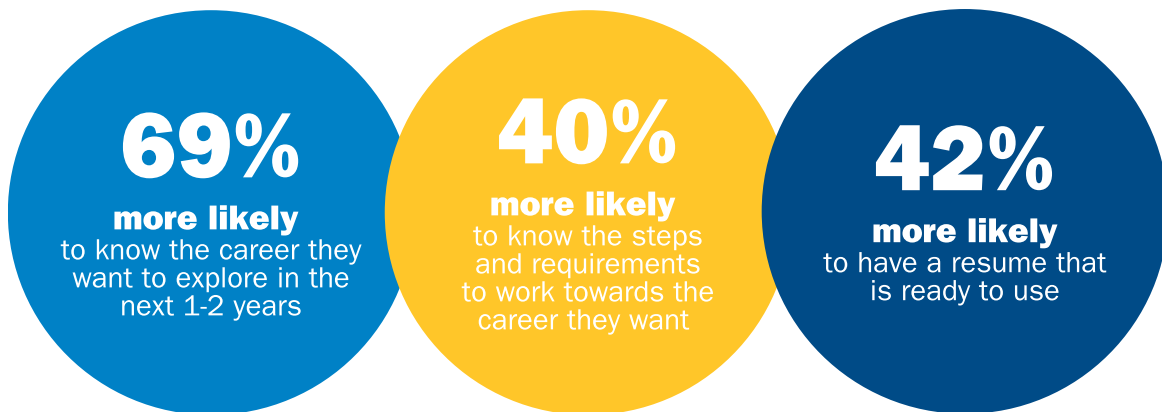
Career Progress in the Past 12 Months
(multiple selections allowed)



**“My Club helped me really know what
it was like to go into the real world.”**
- Boys & Girls Club young alum

Boys & Girls Club Young Alumni are Poised for Job Success

Compared to other young adults, Boys & Girls Club young alumni are **feeling more confident in pursuing their chosen career**, including:



Boys & Girls Club Young Alumni Report High Job Satisfaction

Compared to other young adults, Boys & Girls Club young alumni are more likely to **feel fulfilled by their careers**, including reporting that:

- ✓ Their work feels meaningful (**69% more likely**)
- ✓ Their job uses their skills (**68% more likely**)
- ✓ They earn enough to cover basic needs (**66% more likely**)
- ✓ They report feeling secure in their role (**60% more likely**)
- ✓ They have career advancement opportunities (**40% more likely**)
- ✓ Their current job relates to their job training (**32% more likely**)

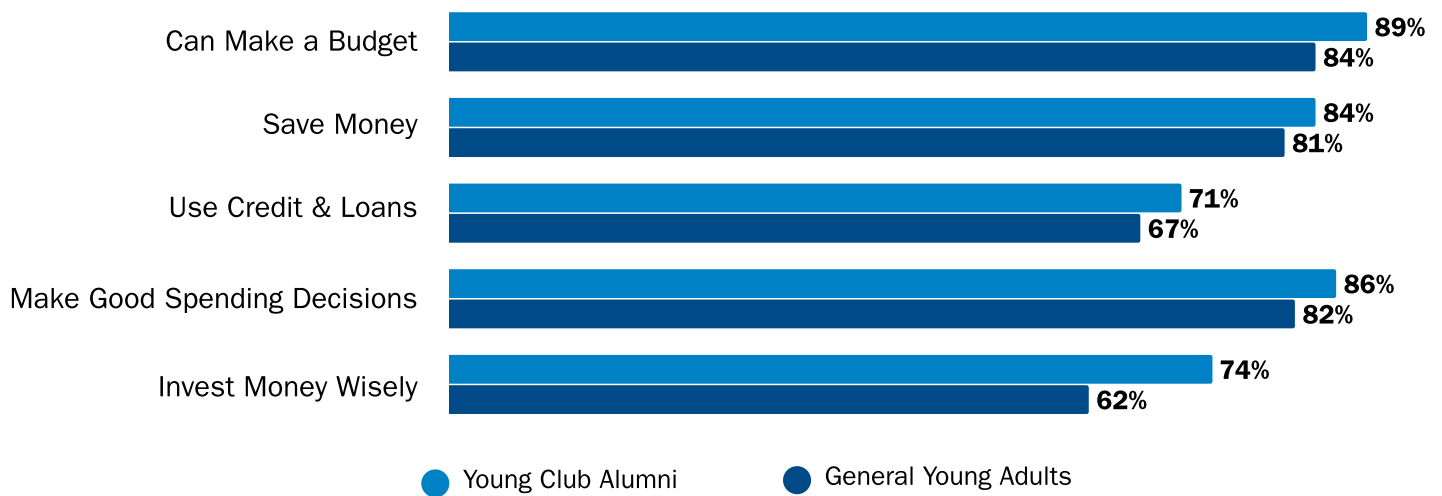
“My Club program director helped me get my first job that got my foot in the door.”

- Boys & Girls Club young alum

Boys & Girls Club Young Alumni Demonstrate Strong Financial Responsibility

Boys & Girls Club young alumni are **35% more likely to feel confident making a budget** and **33% more likely to make good spending decisions** than other young adults.

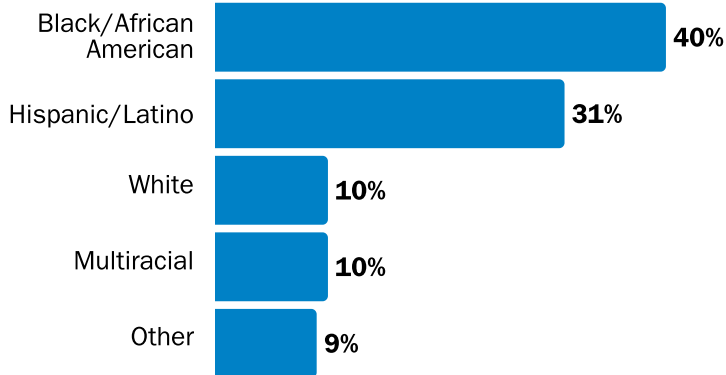
Young Adults' Confidence in Managing Finances



Survey Demographics

Club 12th Graders

Sample Size: 2,400



About Boys & Girls Clubs of America

Boys & Girls Clubs of America is one of the nation's leading youth-serving organizations. For over half of our nation's lifetime, we've kept kids safe, active and learning during out-of-school hours. Today, we serve more than 4 million young people, providing enriching and affordable after-school and summer experiences. With over 5,500 locations nationwide, on Native lands and on U.S. military installations around the world, Boys & Girls Clubs are reaching more young people than ever, especially teens, during the most critical years of their lives. We're committed to offering all youth community, mentorship and opportunities — gaining the skills and experiences to become the leaders who will shape our world. Why? Because **America Needs Club Kids**. Learn more at [BGCA.org](https://www.bgca.org).

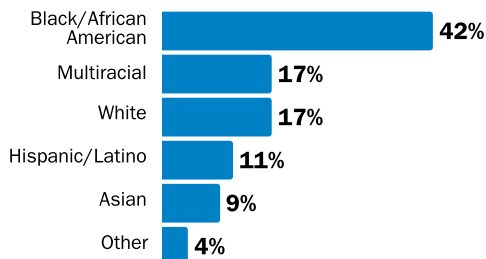
Young Adults (Club Alumni and General)

Sample Size for Young Boys & Girls Club Alumni: 1,091

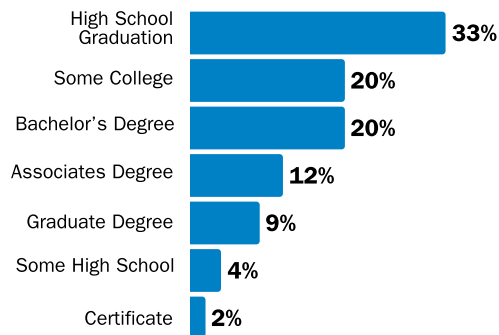
Sample Size for General Population: 774

Age Demographics: 18-30 years old

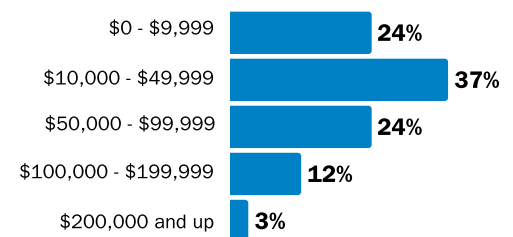
Alumni Race/Ethnicity



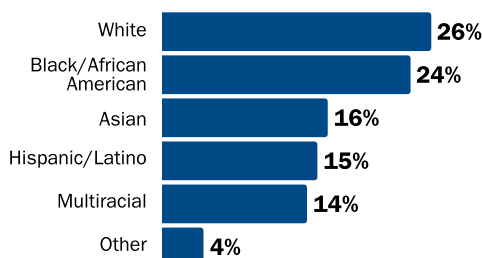
Alumni Highest Level of Education



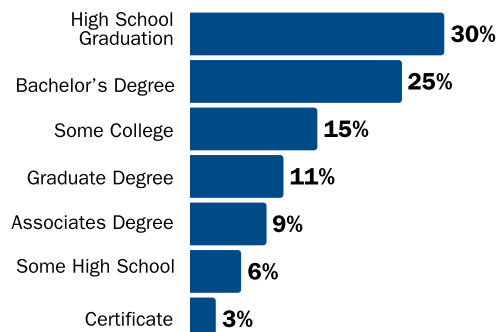
Alumni Household Income



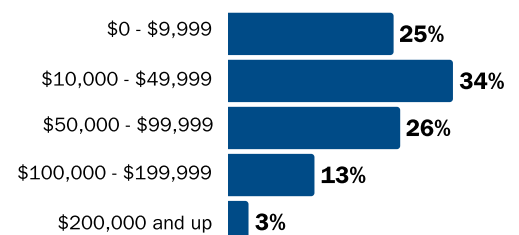
General Race/Ethnicity



General Highest Level of Education



General Household Income





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