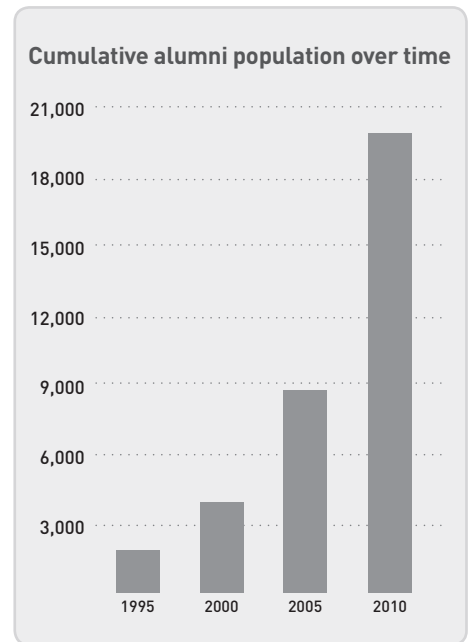


The Role of Teach For America Alumni in Fueling the Movement to Eliminate Educational Inequity

Alumni Impact Report - 2010

More than 20,000 Teach For America alumni comprise a growing force of leaders working to expand educational opportunity from a wide range of sectors. Armed with a deep conviction about the potential of children from low-income communities to achieve at the very highest levels, these leaders are making their impact felt at the classroom, community, state, and national levels. Many of our alumni are leading the charge in the country's most promising school reform efforts, bringing their talent, energy, and innovation to the front lines of this important work, while others are making a difference by tackling challenges outside of school systems.

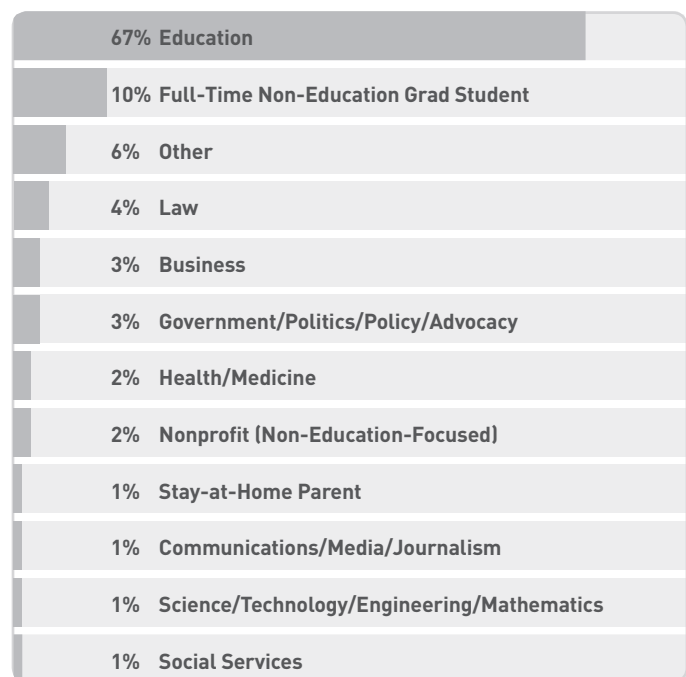
In high-need areas such as Houston, New Orleans, and Washington, D.C.—regions with some of our largest groups of alumni and in which Teach For America has been placing teachers since the early 1990s—we are seeing evidence of transformational change that is inspiring a new sense of possibility about how and when we as a nation can deliver an excellent education to every child.



COMMITMENT TO OUR MISSION

The vast majority of our alumni, regardless of career path, remain committed to our mission of ensuring educational equity for all children.

- » Nearly two-thirds of Teach For America alumni work in the field of education, and half of those in education are teachers. Teaching remains the most common profession among our alumni.
- » 90 percent of alumni working in schools serve low-income communities, and 74 percent of all alumni report that their work still impacts such communities.¹
- » Nearly half of our corps members stay in their initial low-income placement schools for more than two years, and more than a third stay in the teaching profession for more than four years, even though fewer than 10 percent had been considering a career in teaching when they entered the corps.²
- » Between October 2009 and September 2010, nearly 7,600 alumni gave more than 21,500 hours and \$600,000 to Teach For America.

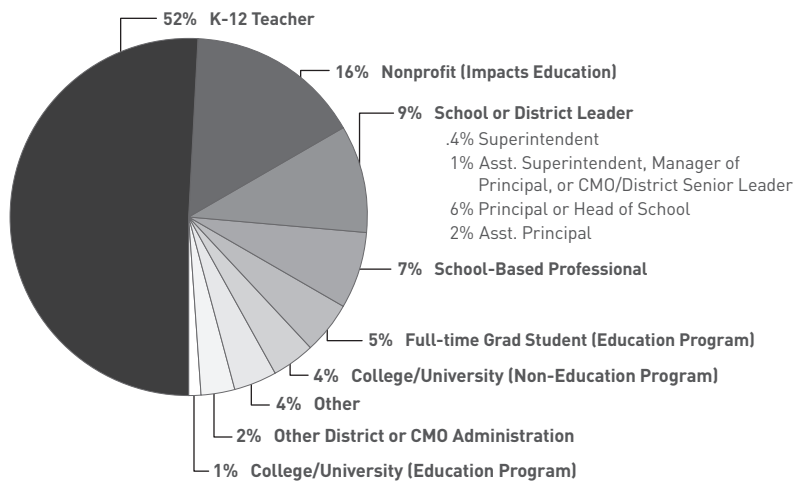


Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

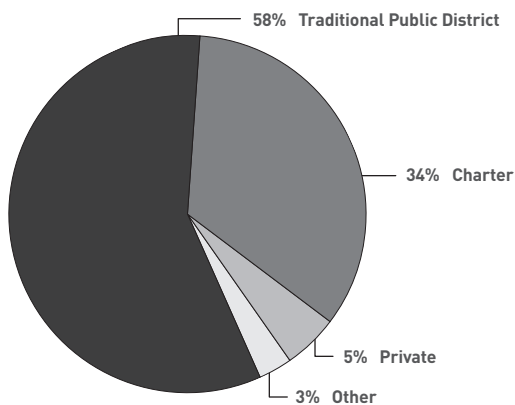
Alumni who work outside of education bring their unique experience and perspective to a great variety of sectors—including law, business, and medicine — to increase opportunities in low-income communities.

ALUMNI IN EDUCATION

Of the 67 percent of alumni in education, more than half are teachers.



Ninety-two percent of our alumni teachers work in district or charter public schools.



Our more than 6,000 alumni teachers—33 percent of all alumni—teach an estimated 400,000 students in classrooms. Our more than 500 principals and more than 40 school system leaders impact more than 500,000 students in schools nationwide. Among these leaders in education:

More than 200 alumni report that they are among the two percent of teachers in the nation who have received National Board Certification as Teachers, including

- » Phoebe Hanshaw (New York '01), English as a New Language
- » Renee Purdy McKenna (Phoenix '00), English as a New Language
- » Margaret Troyer (Baltimore '03), English Language Arts

Hundreds of alumni have been honored as teachers of the year at the national, state, district, and school levels, including

- » Jennifer Coughlin (North Louisiana '95), 2008 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching
- » Stephanie Day (D.C. Region '05), 2010 D.C. Teacher of the Year
- » Jason Kamras (D.C. Region '96), 2005 National Teacher of the Year
- » Robert Kelty (New Mexico '01), 2008 New Mexico Teacher of the Year
- » Emily Masengale (St. Louis '06), 2009 St. Louis Public Schools Teacher of the Year

SPOTLIGHT: EDUCATION LEADERSHIP

» **Chris Barbic** (Houston '92) founded YES Prep, a network of charter schools in Houston that has seen every one of its students enroll in college upon graduation. **JoAnn Gama** (Rio Grande Valley '98) and **Tom Torkelson** (Rio Grande Valley '97) founded and lead a similarly successful network of charter schools in the Rio Grande Valley, IDEA Public Schools. In 2010, high schools in both networks were rated in the top 100 nationwide (without considering the socioeconomic background of the students enrolled) by *US News & World Report*.

» **Jeremy Beard** (Los Angeles '95) and **Ann Best** (Houston '96) both hold significant leadership positions in the Houston Independent School District. As the head of the district's Office of Human Resources, Best is charged with improving the overall talent level of the district. Beard manages, coaches, and mentors the principals of four high schools and five middle schools in the district as the school improvement officer for the district's Apollo 20 program.

» **Joseph Negron** (New York '01) leads KIPP Infinity, a charter middle school in New York that Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Chancellor Joel Klein rated the best of 1,000 New York middle and elementary schools that were evaluated. Eighty-five percent of Negron's staff members are alumni.

More than 40 alumni are leading charter networks or are superintendents, chancellors, or cabinet members of superintendents and chancellors in traditional public school districts, including

- » Cami Anderson (Los Angeles '93), Superintendent, District 79 – Alternative Schools and Programs in the New York City Department of Education
- » Mike Feinberg (Houston '92) and Dave Levin (Houston '92), co-founders, KIPP Schools
- » Kaya Henderson (New York '02), Interim Chancellor, District of Columbia Public Schools
- » Aurora Lora (Houston '00), Executive Director of K-12 Education, Seattle Public Schools
- » Brian Osborne (New York '91), Superintendent, South Orange/Maplewood, New Jersey Public School District
- » Marc Sternberg (New York '95), Deputy Chancellor, Division of Portfolio Planning, New York City Department of Education
- » John White (Newark '99), Deputy Chancellor, New York City Department of Education

ALUMNI IN CIVIC AND POLICY LEADERSHIP

Hundreds of Teach For America alumni are also pursuing politics, policy, and advocacy as avenues for change. Among these civic leaders:

More than 60 alumni have declared their candidacies for office since October 2009, including two for state senate. More than 40 alumni currently hold elected office, including

- » Sekou Biddle (New York '93), D.C. State Board of Education Member
- » Tina Hone (Bay Area '92), Fairfax County, Va., School Board
- » Jeremy Ly (Chicago '06), Grundy, Ill. County Board Member

More than 90 alumni work in leadership roles in policy, advocacy, or government at the local, state, and federal levels, including

- » Jason Unger (Los Angeles '98), Senior Policy Advisor for Education, U.S. Senator and Majority Leader Harry Reid
- » Rachel Hicks (Mississippi Delta '04) and Sanford Johnson (Mississippi Delta '03) Co-Founders, Mississippi First
- » Mark Fraley (South Louisiana '92), lead organizer at the Industrial Areas Foundation's Common Ground Milwaukee
- » Carl Zaragoza (Phoenix '04), Arizona Deputy Director, Stand For Children

ALUMNI IN SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Many alumni are launching bold, innovative efforts to end educational inequity and expand opportunity. Among this group:

- » Nick Ehrmann (D.C. Region '00) founded Blue Engine, an organization that aims to get students from all academic backgrounds to complete college by helping them succeed in advanced coursework as high school students.
- » Dominique Lee (Newark '07) founded Building Responsible Intelligent Creative Kids (BRICK), an education nonprofit created to help turn around chronically failing schools
- » Stephanie Saroki (Bay Area '98) founded Seton Education Partners, an organization that helps struggling urban Catholic schools explore alternatives to school closure and ensures that children in schools that close have access to high-quality educational options.

SPOTLIGHT: CIVIC LEADERSHIP

» As president of The New Teacher Project, **Tim Daly** (Baltimore '99) has fundamentally shifted the national dialogue on education, catapulting teacher effectiveness and evaluation to the forefront of federal and state policy discussions through the organization's landmark study, *The Widget Effect: Our National Failure to Acknowledge and Act on Differences in Teacher Effectiveness*. All four of the report's major policy recommendations have been incorporated in the U.S. Department of Education's *Race to the Top* competition, and the report is driving other policy changes at the local, state, and federal levels.

» **Michael Johnston** (Mississippi Delta '97), a state senator in Colorado, led a successful effort to pass a groundbreaking law that links teacher evaluation to student academic growth and changes tenure and hiring practices to give school leaders more autonomy. In drafting the bill, Johnston relied in part on the findings in the *The Widget Effect* and on testimony from Daly, teachers **Amy Spicer** (Baltimore '99) and **Zach Rowe** (Colorado '09), and several other alumni.

ALUMNI IN THE NONPROFIT AND PRIVATE SECTORS

Many alumni hold leadership roles in other fields and continue to have an impact on students in low-income communities. Among these leaders:

More than 1,200 alumni work in nonprofits that impact education, including

- » Andy Shin (Bay Area '99), Executive Director, Breakthrough San Francisco
- » Elisa Villanueva Beard (Phoenix '98), Chief Operating Officer, Teach For America
- » Peter Kannam (Baltimore '93), Executive Director, Maryland, New Leaders for New Schools
- » Keecia Broy (Eastern North Carolina '96), Vice President, DonorsChoose.org

Many alumni work in education-focused for-profit companies, including

- » Alex Grodd (Atlanta '04), CEO, BetterLesson
- » Benjamin Politzer (Seattle '94), Vice President of Development and CIO, Extreme Learning
- » Steven Francisco (New York '03), President, Innovation Teaching

Approximately 800 alumni are members of boards of directors of organizations in their communities, including

- » Seth Reynolds (Los Angeles '94), Excel Academy Charter School, Boston
- » Veronica Nolan (D.C. Region '98), DC Alliance for Youth Advocates
- » Hunter Pierson (Bay Area '01), Teach For America Atlanta

ALUMNI ACCOLADES

Alumni have received hundreds of other prestigious awards over the years. Among them are at least:

- » 32 Fulbright Scholars
- » 19 Presidential Management Fellows
- » Nine Aspen Institute Fellows
- » Seven Broad Fellows in Urban Education

This report illustrates the cumulative impact of Teach For America alumni.

Data is self-reported and reflects 72 percent of our total alumni population. Unless otherwise noted, data is drawn from alumni surveys and internal tracking from the past two years (as of August 2010) including employment and other information reported directly to Teach For America staff and submitted on our corps member and alumni website.

Specific numbers of alumni teachers, school leaders, elected officials, policy and advocacy leaders, nonprofit leaders, and accolade winners reflect all available data (not limited to two years). The total number of alumni teachers is estimated based on the percentage of alumni teachers reported to Teach For America.

SPOTLIGHT: LEADERSHIP IN GREATER NEW ORLEANS

» **Sarah Usdin** (South Louisiana '92) is founder and CEO of New Schools New Orleans, which helped fill 25 percent of the teaching vacancies following Katrina and helped create more than two dozen of the highest performing charter schools in the city.

» **Ramsey Green** (South Louisiana '01) and **Michael Galdi** (Mid-Atlantic '03) both play key roles in the New Orleans Recovery School District. Green currently works as the chief operating officer for the New Orleans Recovery School District, and he previously helped oversee the distribution of \$11 billion in federal funding as education policy director for the state of Louisiana Recovery Authority. Galdi leads the district's efforts to hire and support great teachers and other staff as director of recruitment and human capital for the district.

» **Chris Meyer** (Greater New Orleans '04), **Jacob Landry** (Hawaii '06), and **Elizabeth Shaw** (Rio Grande Valley '03) are playing key roles at the state level in Louisiana. Meyer and Landry are special advisors to the state superintendent of education, and Shaw is the director of human capital for the Department of Education.

¹Statistic reflects data from our 2009 alumni survey only. This data was not collected in 2008.

²Morgaen L. Donaldson and Susan Moore Johnson, "The Price of Misassignment: The Role of Teaching Assignments in Teach For America Teachers' Exit From Low-Income Schools and the Teaching Profession," Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, June 2010; Teach For America Pre-induction Survey, 2007.