

Retrospective Study Results Summary

Demographics

- A total of 281 alumni have completed the survey since January 31, 2009.
- Thirty-eight percent of respondents were male and 62% were female.
- The majority of respondents (68%) were age 31 or older.
 - Age 18 and under = 7% (n=20)
 - Age 19-30 = 25% (n=70)
 - Age 31- 42 = 27% (n=76)
 - Age 43-54 = 30% (n=84)
 - Age 55-66 = 9% (n=25)
 - Age 67-78 = 2% (n=5)
 - Age 79 and older = less than 1% (n=1)

JA Involvement

- The overwhelming majority of respondents (80%) recall having JA in high school.
- Respondents between the ages of 43-54 were significantly more likely to have participated in JA during high school.
- The majority of respondents (58%) reported that they participated in JA in an after-school setting. Of those, 46% had participated in JA more than 25 years ago.
- For respondents between the ages of 19-30, the majority (54%) had participated in JA in the classroom.
- Slightly more than half (51%) of the respondents indicated that they were currently involved in JA. Of those, 73% (n=108) volunteer for JA, 24% (n=35) are donors, and 14% (n=20) are a member of the local JA Board.
- Comparatively, respondents between the ages of 43-54 were more likely to be on the board for the local JA office and more likely to be a donor.

Career/Education

- The majority of respondents have a bachelor's degree or higher (69%). Only 27% of the general population has this designation (2007 Census Bureau Projections).
- Twenty-seven percent of respondents hold upper-management positions.
- Eighteen percent of the respondents currently own their own business. In 2007, 9.6% of the U.S. population owned their business (Global Entrepreneurship Monitor, 2006-2007).
- The overwhelming majority (86%) of respondents currently owning a business remember having JA in high school.

JA Impact

- More than eight out of 10 respondents (82%) agreed or strongly agreed that JA helped them compete more effectively in a business environment.
- More than eight out of 10 (86%) agreed or strongly agreed that JA helped prepare them for the world of work.
- More than eight out of 10 (82%) agreed or strongly agreed that JA connected what they learned in the classroom with real life.
- Nearly seven out of 10 (68%) agreed or strongly agreed that JA made them realize the importance of staying in school.
- Nearly six out of 10 (58%) agreed or strongly agreed that JA helped them to more effectively manage their money.
- The majority of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that JA strengthened the following skills:
 - Teamwork – Nearly nine out of 10 (89%).
 - Decision-making – Nearly nine out of 10 (88%).
 - Problem-solving – Nearly nine out of 10 (87%).
 - Interpersonal communication – More than eight out of 10 (84%).
 - Critical thinking – More than eight out of 10 (83%).
 - Budgeting – More than seven out of 10 (71%).
 - Job interviewing – More than five out of 10 (56%).
- The overwhelming majority of respondents (94%) agree that JA positively affected their future. When asked how, multiple responses were given. The following is a sample of responses.
 - *Junior Achievement is a confidence-boosting educational experience that allows you to evaluate yourself and your social skills on a personal level, and to have a lot of fun, too.*
 - *The mentors exposed me to the possibility of college. I was also empowered to develop leadership skills so I could be successful in the workplace. It truly was the most powerful influence in HS that helped pave my future success as an adult.*
 - *It inspired me to think more like an entrepreneur and consider alternative ways of pursuing a future in business.*
 - *Taught me how to have confidence in running my own financial life. Gave me experiences that I would not have had that expanded my horizons. To see others in the world of work made me see that I could do the same.*
 - *My contacts through JA have helped me gain employment and provided lifelong friends.*