THE HARVARD IMPACT STUDY is a university-wide research study to explore and quantify the economics and social impact of founder activity, board service and volunteerism by Harvard alumni. The findings described below are specific to Harvard Business School alumni.

FOUNDERS

55,508 → 5,550

Alumni Surveyed

54% of all alumni

48% for Profit

16% Nonprofit

10% Both for Profit & Nonprofit

Active Ventures Founded:

43,500

Employees:

10.6 m.

Revenues (2014):

$2.4 trillion*

Roughly equivalent to the GDP of France

* In addition to the annual revenue generated by organizations founded by HBS alumni, graduates of the School have founded financial services firms that manage over $10 trillion.

Serial Founders:

organizations founded

1 2 3 4+

49% 29% 12% 10%

Headquarter Countries:

108

Median Founder Age:

60

Top For-Profit Industry Segments:

- Professional, scientific & technical services: 9,384
- Finance & insurance: 8,453
- Manufacturing: 4,095
- Media & information: 3,904
- Management of companies & enterprises: 2,975

Top Nonprofit Industry Segments:

- Business, professional, labor, political & similar: 1,195
- Schools/universities & libraries: 1,136
- Civic & social organizations: 856
- Arts, culture & humanities: 673
- Economic development programs: 516
BOARD SERVICE

CURRENTLY SERVING ON BOARDS
63,649 Founders
40,047 Non-Founders

HAVE SERVED ON A BOARD
83% of all alumni

FOR PROFIT BOARDS
48,740

NONPROFIT BOARDS
55,240

BOTH FOR PROFIT & NONPROFIT BOARDS
103,697

HIGHEST LEVEL ACHIEVED (CURRENT BOARDS ONLY)
29% BOARD CHAIR
22% COMMITTEE CHAIR
49% BOARD MEMBER

VOLUNTEERISM

NON-FOUNDER VOLUNTEERS
19,841

24% of all alumni

51% EDUCATION
20% BUSINESS / ECONOMY
20% HUMAN SPIRITUALITY / RELIGION
16% PUBLIC GOVERNANCE / SERVICE
14% MEDICINE / PUBLIC HEALTH
12% POPULAR CULTURE / PERFORMING ARTS

HOURS/MONTH VOLUNTEERING (NON-FOUNDERS)
295,394