



Facts About Scouting

F A C T S S H E E T

Service

In 2012, service projects were conducted by more than 2.7 million youth members and more than one million volunteers.

- 13,449,017 service hours were reported in 2012 for Journey to Excellence.
- \$297,761,236 of service was provided by Scouts and leaders to communities across America. (Based on the \$22.14 Independent Sector value of volunteer time for 2012)
- Service projects most commonly reported for Journey to Excellence in 2012 include
 - Litter cleanup/community beautification
 - Food collection and distribution
 - Community dimension
 - Conservation projects
 - Military support/appreciation

Scout Activities and Outdoor Adventures

Nearly 1.1 million youth attended a council camp or national high-adventure camp.

- National high-adventure base—Boy Scouts and Venturers
 - 31,432—Philmont
 - 13,309—Florida Sea Base
 - 6,991—Northern Tier

Advancements and Awards

- In 2012, the centennial year of the Eagle Scout Award, 57,976 Scouts earned the [Eagle Scout](#) rank—more than in any previous year.
- About 7 percent of all Boy Scouts earned the Eagle Scout rank in 2012.
- From 1912 to 2012, more than 2 million Boy Scouts have earned the Eagle Scout rank.
- 2,175,878 [merit badges](#) were earned by Boy Scouts in 2012.
 - 115,177,687 merit badges have been earned by Boy Scouts since Scouting was established in 1910.



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FACT SHEET

— The most often earned merit badges since 1910 include:

- First Aid—6,813,506
- Swimming—6,169,318
- Camping—4,549,465
- Cooking—4,193,550
- Citizenship in the Community—3,353,100

(Source: 2012 BSA Local Council Index)

Volunteers

1,067,513 volunteers provided leadership for Scouting programs in 2012.

- On average, Scout volunteers give 20 hours per month in service to Scouting. This equals approximately 256,203,120 hours of volunteer time given to support Scouting in 2012. (Source: Volunteer Outcomes Study, Research & Program Innovation)
- \$5.67 billion of volunteer time was given in 2012 to support Scouting across America. (Based on \$22.14 Independent Sector value of volunteer time for 2012)

Alumni

- 181 NASA astronauts were involved in Scouting (57.4% of astronauts).
 - » 39 are Eagle Scouts.
- 36.4 percent of the United States Military Academy (West Point) cadets were involved in Scouting as youth.
 - » 16.3 percent of cadets are Eagle Scouts.
- 22.5 percent of United States Air Force Academy cadets were involved in Scouting as youth.
 - » 11.9 percent of cadets are Eagle Scouts.
- 25 percent of United States Naval Academy (Annapolis) midshipmen were involved in Scouting as youth.
 - » 11 percent of midshipmen are Eagle Scouts.
- 189 members of the 113th Congress participated in Scouting as a youth and/or adult leader.
 - » 27 are Eagle Scouts.
- 18 current U.S. governors participated in Scouting as a youth and/or adult volunteer.
 - » Four are Eagle Scouts.

(Source: Membership figures from each organization)