



# Facts About Scouting

## F A C T S S H E E T

### Service

In 2011, service projects were conducted by more than 2.7 million youth members and more than one million volunteers.

- 11,963,746 service hours were reported in 2011 for Journey to Excellence.
- \$206,690,025 of service was provided by Scouts and leaders to communities across America. (Based on the \$21.79 Independent Sector value of volunteer time for 2011)
- Service projects most commonly reported for Journey to Excellence in 2011 include
  - Food collection and distribution
  - Litter cleanup/community beautification
  - Conservation projects
  - Military support/appreciation
  - Serving food

### 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
  - 29,090—Philmont
  - 12,680—Florida Sea Base
  - 7,949—Northern Tier
- Other outdoor adventures
  - 88,584—COPE
  - 151,774—Climbing and Rappelling

### Advancements and Awards

- 51,473 youth earned the rank of [Eagle Scout](#) in 2011.
- From 1912 to 2011 more than 2 million Boy Scouts have earned the Eagle Scout rank.
- Eagle Scout rank is earned by only 5 percent of Boy Scouts each year.
- 2,164,366 [merit badges](#) were earned by Boy Scouts in 2011.
  - 113,001,809 merit badges have been earned by Boy Scouts since Scouting was established in 1910.



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— The most often earned merit badges since 1910 include:

- First Aid—6,721,194
- Swimming—6,088,942
- Camping—4,488,693
- Cooking—4,170,166
- Citizenship in the Community—3,295,149

(Source: 2011 BSA Local Council Index)

### Volunteers

1,074,775 volunteers provided leadership for Scouting programs in 2011.

- On average, Scout volunteers give 20 hours per month in service to Scouting. This equals approximately 257,946,000 hours of volunteer time given to support Scouting in 2011. (Source: Volunteer Outcomes Study, Research & Program Innovation)
- \$5,620,643,340 of volunteer time was given in 2011 to support Scouting across America. (Based on \$21.79 Independent Sector value of volunteer time for 2011)

### Alumni

- 181 NASA astronauts were involved in Scouting (57.4% of astronauts).
  - » 39 are Eagle Scouts.
- 35.4 percent of the United States Military Academy (West Point) cadets were involved in Scouting as youth.
  - » 14.7 percent of cadets are Eagle Scouts.
- 23 percent of United States Air Force Academy cadets were involved in Scouting as youth.
  - » 12 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.
- 206 members of the 112th Congress participated in Scouting as a youth and/or adult leader.
  - » 29 are Eagle Scouts.
- 15 current U.S. governors participated in Scouting as a youth and/or adult volunteer.
  - » Four are Eagle Scouts.