



Girl Scouts of the USA Fact Sheet

Girl Scout Mission

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

More Than 90 Years

Founder Juliette Gordon Low organized the first Girl Scout Troop on **March 12, 1912**, in Savannah, Georgia.

An American Institution

Girl Scouts of the USA was chartered by the U.S. Congress on **March 16, 1950**.

Still Growing Strong

Today, there are **3.6 million Girl Scouts**—2.7 million girl members and 928,000 adult members working primarily as volunteers.

At Home and Abroad

Girls at home and abroad participate in more than **236,000 troops and groups in more than 90 countries**.

An International Family

Through its membership in the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), Girl Scouts of the USA is part of a worldwide family of **10 million girls and adults in 145 countries**.

A Pivotal Part of Women's History

More than **50 million American women** enjoyed Girl Scouting during their childhood—and that number continues to grow as Girl Scouts of the USA continues to inspire, challenge, and empower girls everywhere.

Legacy

Many women who are leaders in their fields credit Girl Scouting with helping them build the set of skills that paved their road to success. GSUSA commissioned Louis Harris & Associates to see if there was a link between Girl Scout membership and later career achievements. Using Who's Who in American Women as a source, 473 women were surveyed. Of that number, 64 percent said that they had belonged to the Girl Scouts. Today, these women are distinguished professionals, representing such fields as medicine, law, journalism, education, science, politics and finance. Indeed, about 80 percent of women executives and business owners are former Girl Scouts, as are two-thirds of women currently serving in Congress.

Transformation

Since its founding, Girl Scouting has been known and admired for providing girls with vast opportunities for personal growth. Today, Girl Scouting is in the midst of a transformation that will allow it to retain its position as the world's leading organization for girls.

Girl Scout members across the nation have developed a far-reaching strategy focused on five priorities:

- delivering the world's best leadership experience for girls;
- developing a flexible, state-of-the-art volunteer management system;
- establishing a thriving culture of philanthropy;
- creating an efficient and effective organizational structure;
- and re-establishing the Girl Scout brand as the expert on and voice for girls.