



AUGUST 2019 **MEMBERSHIP IMPACT REPORT**

A Report from American Legion National Headquarters



VOICES

"Recognizing the service of these wartime veterans is the right thing to do and it is long overdue. The families of those who were killed or wounded during these wartime acts should take pride in knowing that we recognize their sacrifice and service. Moreover, we are proud to welcome any of the six million living veterans from the previously unrecognized periods into our organization and call them 'Legionnaires.'"

-American Legion National Commander Brett P. Reistad following the July 30 signing of the Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service Act, also known as the LEGION Act, which expands membership eligibility in the organization to all who served honorably since Dec. 7, 1941



1,298

Number of cases prepared by American Legion national staff experts for VA hearings in July.



3

New American Legion posts chartered in July: Arkansas No. 2021, Colorado No. 1882 and Montana No. 140.



\$131,855.18

Amount in American Legion youth scholarships disbursed in July from National Headquarters, led by \$51,525 in American Legion Samsung Scholarships.



40

Percent of young adults nationwide with a military veteran parent in 1995.



15

Percent of young adults nationwide who have a military veteran parent today.



11

The percentage increase of visits and sessions in 2019 through the end of July as compared to the same time frame of the previous year.



196

Number of American Legion, Sons of the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary members who completed the Basic Training online leadership education module on legion.org during the month of July.



612,020

Number of unique visitors to legion.org, The American Legion's national website, in July 2019, an all-time record.



61

Number of Boys Nation Senate resolutions passed at the 2019 program in Washington, D.C., believed to be a record number.



ROAR

The American Legion Regional Office Action Review task force conducted a site visit July 22-24 at Newark, N.J.

CENTENNIAL MOMENT

July 24, 1963: Future two-term U.S. President Bill Clinton, then a 16-year-old student at Hot Springs, Ark., High School, famously meets and shakes hands with Legionnaire President John F. Kennedy at the White House during American Legion Boys Nation. Clinton had been chosen as a delegate to Boys Nation after participation in Arkansas American Legion Boys State. The experience that summer, and the opportunity of meeting JFK, helped inspire Clinton to begin a life of public service and elected office.



75.7

Percentage of 1,347 VA appeals dispositions determined that either came out favorable to the veteran or were sent back for more documentation in July.



73

Number of years American Legion Boys Nation has now taught young men the way government works in a democracy.



2nd

Place held by Makenzie Sheffield of Granbury, Texas, until the seventh shot in the 10-shot final round of the precision match of the American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Championship, when she moved into first place and held the lead for the final three shots, claiming the 2019 crown.



10.9

The best single-shot score a competitor can get in the American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Championship, which Lilly Polakovic of Roseville, Calif., notched twice in the precision competition July 27 in Colorado Springs, en route to a seventh-place finish.



10

Number of American Legion departments nationwide that reported 100 percent completion of their Consolidated Post Reports for 2018-19, by July 31.



\$2,500

Amount in scholarships award by the Southern Company, a leading energy company serving more than 9 million customers, awarded each to American Legion Boys Nation President Lou Acevedo and Vice President Thomas Penley of Montana on July 27.