



## Summary of Military Teen Adventure Camps 2022

Purdue University Extension is pleased to provide this report of the 12<sup>th</sup> year of Military Teen Adventure Camps from the Summer, 2022! Funded by a partnership between the Department of Defense, Military Community and Family Policy, Office of Military Family Readiness Policy, Children, Youth, and Families, and the United States Department of Agriculture (National Institute of Food and Agriculture), teens (age 13-18) with connections to active duty, guard, reserve, and retired military personnel enjoyed high energy, high experience camps in locations across the United States of America.



Here are some highlights from this summer's Military Teen Adventure Camps:

Host organization	Number of Camps	Number of Campers
University of Arizona	1	42
Colorado State University	4	186
University of Georgia	2	46
University of Hawaii	2	33
University of Kentucky	2	108
Washington State University	2	126
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>541*</b>

\*represents an 83% fill rate – actual campers/camper slots available

### Demographic Information Reported

<b>Gender</b>	Male: 238	Female: 174	Transgender/Other: 7
<b>Race</b>	White/Caucasian: 178	African American: 12	Asian: 11
	Native American: 4	Native Hawaiian: 2	Multiple races: 31
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Hispanic: 31		
<b>Service Branches</b>	Air Force: 199	Army: 159	Navy: 93
	Marines: 29	Coast Guard: 15	Space Force: 4
<b>Military Duty Status</b>	Active: 113	Reserve: 35	Guard: 29
	Retired: 60		

Anecdotal comments received from the camps are included below.

*"This was the best camp ever!" – Colorado camper*

*"This camp has been one of my favorite experiences and I would love to come back if I could. I hope you can still offer it next year. It's really helped me grow (like A LOT)" – Colorado camper*

*"I want to know more about 4-H. What other things can I do after camp." – Hawaii Camper*

*"My kids love camp but we weren't able to afford sending our 3 kids this year. We are so grateful to be selected for this adventure." – Hawaii Parent*

*"This has given me a chance to make friends from different backgrounds that I may never get to make without this camp. I learned things and had experiences I'll never forget and I think they will benefit me in my life." – Georgia camper*

*"I think having this available for us is amazing and that the opportunity should continue to be available to kids even in the future to help build skills, gives us a chance to be away from home in a safe way and learn all while still being a great experience." – Georgia camper*

*"This camp gave us an environment to discuss the recent challenges we both have and develop communication and tools to better support each other at home." – Kentucky Parent participant*

*"I loved the feeling of having some sort of freedom at this camp, but also having participating counselors who watch the kids." – Washington camper*



*"I love camp. I have a purpose here. I feel wanted and needed which is wonderful. I hope to come back next year." – Washington camper*

*"I wanted to take a moment to thank all of you for doing such an amazing job with your camp. My sons had an absolute blast! They made so many memories . . . [my oldest camper] is about to begin his own AF journey. Thank you for allowing my boys to enjoy an amazing week together before he moves out. It was a trip of a lifetime. Thanks to all of you." – Parent of Washington camper*

*"Through the Hawaii 4-H Military Partnership, I was able to have amazing experiences that I can remember for the rest of my life. However, what really stood out to me was instead of just making surfing a fun activity, the 4-H mentors were able to connect it to healthy living and physical and mental wellness. With activities like making healthy drinks and doing surfer yoga, I learned important skills that I can incorporate into my everyday life. Additionally, we did beach clean-ups every day, teaching us that no matter how small or insignificant a piece of trash may seem, they can accumulate over time and harm our earth. I felt that even though we only got to pick up the trash on our beach, picking up a bit of litter everyday eventually accumulates over time into a significant amount and that we can still make a difference." – Hawaii camper*



For more information, visit: <https://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/get-involved/military-teen-adventure-camps/index.html>

Military Teen Adventure Camps are the result of a partnership funded by the Department of Defense between the Military Community and Family Policy, Office of Military Family Readiness Policy, Children, Youth, and Families and the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture through a grant/cooperative agreement with Purdue University.

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