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2017 REPORT TO CONGRESS

NATIONAL

CIVIL AIR PATROL

U.S. AIR FORCE AUXILIARY

NATIONAL STATISTICS 2017

This year, Civil Air Patrol celebrates its 70th anniversary as the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary. Congress passed Public Law 80-557 on May 26, 1948, establishing this partnership.

Volunteer Members
33,659 adult members
25,106 cadets
35,910 voting-age members
6,938 aircrew personnel
32,760 emergency responders

Squadrons
1,445 locations

Aircraft
560 single engine
47 gliders
2 balloons

Vehicles
1,056 vehicles

Interoperable Communications
741 VHF/FM repeaters
9,803 VHF/FM stations
1,990 HF stations

Missions
798 search and rescue missions
110 lives saved
566 finds
34 disaster relief missions
99 other state support missions
117 homeland security missions
81 counterdrug missions
202 air defense missions
68 other DoD missions

Cadet Flying
30,589 cadet orientation flights

Total Hours Flown
100,352

Appropriations
$2.9 million in state funding nationwide
$28 million O&M federal funding

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CAP members provided over $177 million in volunteer services nationwide.

Contact John Swain at jswain@capnhq.gov for more information concerning this Report to Congress. A related national CAP Financial Report will be available in June 2018 and forwarded to all congressional offices.

CIVIL AIR PATROL

STEPS UP AMID HURRICANES' BARRAGE

Lt. Col. Mario Accardo, left, and 1st Lts. Glenn Sorensen, right, and Andy Redhead take off on a photo damage assessment flight near Houston in the wake of Hurricane Harvey. Sorensen and Redhead belong to the Texas Wing's Apollo Composite Squadron; Accardo is a member of the Michigan Wing's Livonia Thunderbolt Squadron.

Civil Air Patrol's Emergency Services mission took center stage in 2017, as members across the U.S. stepped up to serve their communities and their country in the wake of three major hurricanes.

Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria made their catastrophic mark from southeast Texas to the U.S. Virgin Islands, making landfall on American shores from Aug. 25-Sept. 20 and leaving devastation in their wake.

In response, CAP members stepped up as never before. Their efforts, especially in generating aerial imagery of the damage below, eclipsed the massive missions launched after such major disasters as Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in 2010 and Super Storm Sandy in 2012. Collectively, 1,061 CAP personnel from 44 CAP wings and regions flew 118 aircraft on 1,196 sorties and took 498,397 photos for emergency management personnel in the impacted areas.

Before, during and after the hurricane responses, Civil Air Patrol carried out hundreds of other missions that have earned CAP a reputation as one of the nation's premier volunteer organizations. Whether in the air or on the ground, often with the benefit of cutting-edge cell phone and radar forensics, CAP rescuers found lost people and aircraft again and again. These efforts led to 110 lives saved in 2017.

The organization's second core mission, Cadet Programs, celebrated its 75th year of helping shape the nation's future leaders through a wide range of training and activities at the squadron, state and national levels. Continued financial support provided opportunities for cadets to attend encampments and pursue a college education or flight training.

The Aerospace Education program also enjoyed a successful year. Perhaps most significantly, the number of available STEM Kits – provided to educator members free of charge to inspire students' interest in science, technology, engineering and math – grew by 33 percent, to 15 kits. Outside the classroom, a cadet team from the Colorado Springs Cadet Squadron finished first nationally in the All Service Division of the Air Force Association's CyberPatriot National Youth Cyber Defense Competition, securing CAP a third national championship in that activity in seven years.

Meanwhile, CAP marks another milestone anniversary this year: The organization's role as the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary dates back 70 years to May 26, 1948, when President Harry S. Truman signed Public Law 80-557. CAP fulfills its role as a member of the Air Force's Total Force through such vital services as assisting with aerial intercept and unmanned aerial vehicle training, as well as disaster relief aerial reconnaissance and search and rescue.

NATIONAL MISSIONS & TECHNOLOGY

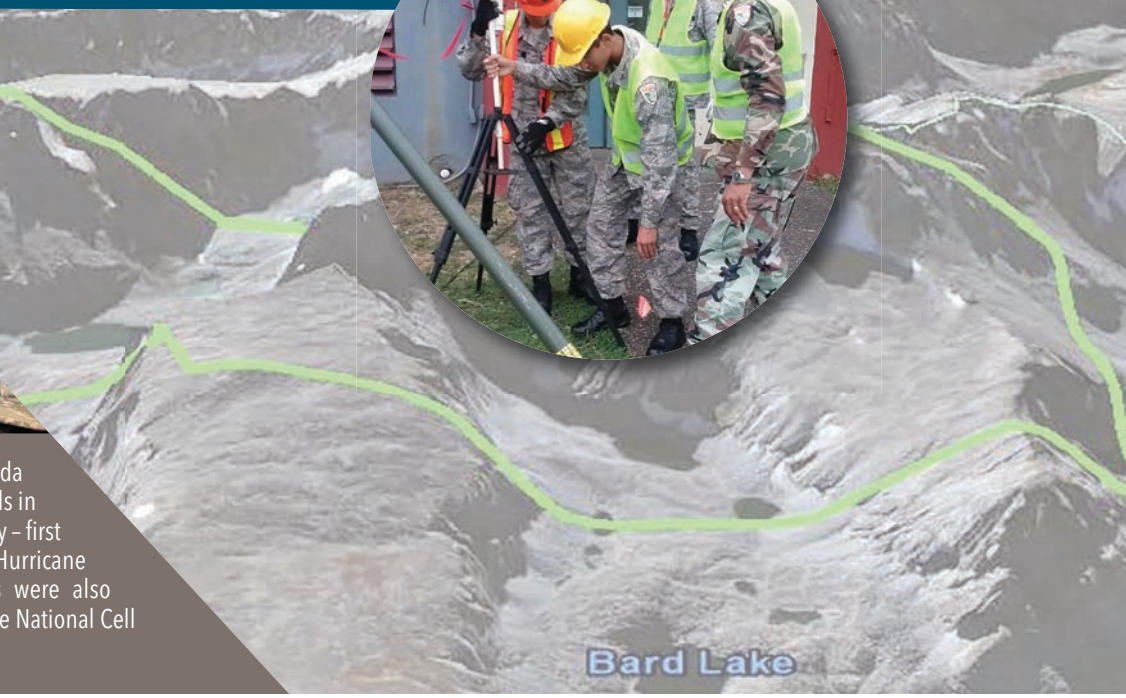
Civil Air Patrol has one of the largest single-engine piston aircraft fleets in the world, operating **560 powered aircraft** that support missions for over **1,400 communities** nationwide every day. Those powered aircraft, as well as **47 gliders** and two hot air balloons, are also used to provide cadet orientation flights for CAP cadets who will play vital roles in the future of American civilian and military aviation. Dedicated CAP pilots work to give youth opportunities to explore aviation and learn how to fly.

CAP also maintains a fleet of over **1,000 ground vehicles** consisting of vans, trucks, sedans and other special-purpose vehicles used to support its missions. CAP's multimillion-dollar interoperable VHF-FM and HF radio communications network consists of over **11,700 fixed, mobile and portable radio stations** used for command and control of resources and to communicate with counterpart agencies at the federal, state and local levels.

HIGH-PROFILE MISSIONS IN 2017

- CAP's **National Cell Phone Forensics Team** participated in its **1,000th mission** in April, helping guide the U.S. Coast Guard in rescuing a missing boater who had gone kitesurfing south of Naples, Florida. That was one of more than **300 lives saved** over the past 11 years with the help of the cell phone team.
- A member of the Total Force, CAP provided support for the Air Force's **Ardent Sentry, a national-level emergency response readiness exercise** held in New York in April. More than **20 planes** from five CAP Northeast Region wings provided damage assessment and evacuation route aerial surveys from a White Plains, New York, mission base as part of the exercise.
- CAP's **remote piloted aircraft shadow escort missions** in support of MQ-9 Reaper training in Syracuse, New York, continued in 2017 with Federal Aviation Administration approval; over **600 hours** were flown in support of this operation last year. To date, CAP has **helped save U.S. taxpayers over $1 million** and has helped increase MQ-9 training by 25 percent. This support earned CAP the National Aeronautic Association's Outstanding Achievement in Advancement of Public Benefit Flying Award in November.
- CAP provided disaster relief in the wake of **hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria** in August and September. Nearly **1,100 volunteers** from 44 CAP wings across the country supported 1,196 CAP sorties involving 118 aircraft that flew 2,840 hours over impacted areas in Texas, Louisiana, Florida, South Carolina, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands to provide **498,397 aerial images** to emergency management agencies to help focus response and recovery efforts. CAP also field-tested a new image browser provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as part of the response to Hurricane Maria.
- CAP provided **wildfire support** to FEMA in northern and southern California in late October and early November, making over **140 flights** over the burn areas to provide roughly **6,000 damage assessment photos**. CAP field-tested an Aeroptic Sensor Pod, a leading-edge tactical aerial imagery system, as part of the mission.

BY THE NUMBERS



Three major storms battered the coastlines of Texas, Louisiana, Florida and the Caribbean shores of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands in the fall of 2017. As expected, Civil Air Patrol responded in a big way – first with Hurricane Harvey (above), then Hurricane Irma and finally Hurricane Maria (team picture, right). CAP's search and rescue efforts were also extraordinarily effective during the year, thanks in large part to the National Cell Phone Forensics Team (see highlighted data plot, center).

- Civil Air Patrol annually conducts **90 percent** of all **inland search and rescue missions** in the continental U.S. as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and other agencies.
- CAP was involved in **798 search and rescue missions** in fiscal year 2017 and was **credited with saving 110 lives.** Of those, the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center credited CAP's National Cell Phone Forensics and National Radar Analysis Teams with 105 lives saved.
- **6,938 aircrew** personnel and **4,215 ground team members** are available for CAP missions.
- **32,760** qualified personnel trained to federal standards supported **331 disaster relief, homeland security, counterdrug and other federal, state and local** agency missions.
- CAP aircrews flew **100,352** hours conducting **search and rescue, disaster relief, air defense, counterdrug** and numerous other critical missions. More than **75 percent** of those flying hours were on Air Force assigned missions.
- CAP's aerial services cost only **$120-$165** per flying hour, **saving millions of dollars** over other aviation options.
- CAP aircrews flew **1,098** hours on **202 air defense exercise missions** helping prepare military fighter units across the country for **homeland security missions**.
- CAP aircrews flew **1,234** hours on **36 Surrogate Unmanned Aerial Systems missions** to train U.S. and coalition forces from around the world.
- CAP pilots flying as mentors to America's future aviation leaders provided **30,589 cadet orientation flights** benefiting the organization's own cadets along with **1,181** Air Force ROTC cadets and **1,895** Junior ROTC cadets.
- In all, CAP members provided over **$177 million** in **volunteer services** nationwide.

NATIONAL CADET PROGRAMS

Core Values
CAP instills the organization's core values in its cadets – integrity, volunteer service, excellence and respect. Cadets are drug-free role models in their communities and schools.

Wreaths Across America
Every December, in all **52 wings** and even overseas, cadets participate in Wreaths Across America observances, presenting the colors and placing wreaths on veterans' graves in national cemeteries and at war memorials.

Career Exploration
Through more than 50 National Cadet Special Activities, cadets annually explore careers in a wide variety of fields. Cadets can choose to investigate flying, aircraft maintenance and manufacturing, cyberspace operations, engineering, robotics and emergency services, among others.

Flying High
The opportunity to fly is a major attraction CAP offers youth. During 2017, CAP's pilots flew **30,589 orientation flights** to introduce our cadets, plus Air Force Junior ROTC and ROTC cadets, to flying in powered aircraft and gliders. CAP instructor pilots also flew another **5,264 hours in powered aircraft** and **3,160 glider sorties** teaching CAP cadets how to fly.

Leadership
Our program offers cadets in-depth training in leadership and enables them to apply classroom principles to real-world needs. With adult supervision, cadets are encouraged to plan events, make decisions and teach and mentor junior-ranking cadets.

Community Service
CAP cadets serve their communities in myriad ways, including collecting and distributing food and clothing to the needy, carrying out cleanup campaigns and meeting the logistical needs for aviation-related events like air shows.

TRANSFORMING YOUTH INTO DYNAMIC AMERICANS AND AEROSPACE LEADERS

NATIONAL AEROSPACE EDUCATION

CAP's Aerospace Education and STEM programs, consisting of over **40 no-cost aerospace education products** and programs, generate interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics careers in over **25,000 cadets** and about **300,000 K-12 students** nationwide.

STEM Kits

Over **300,000 K-12 youth** across the country have been exposed to career exploration programs associated with astronomy, flight simulation, model and remote-control aircraft, robotics, rocketry, weather, hydraulic engineering, computer programming, coding, circuitry and mathematics. After using CAP's STEM Kits, **80 percent** of K-12 youth have **expressed greater interest in pursuing STEM careers.**

Teacher Members

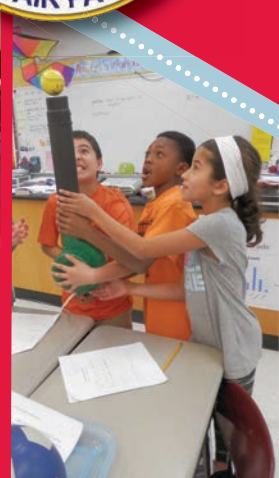
CAP's AE programs extend to adults as well as youth. CAP offers a special membership for teachers promoting AE and STEM in their classrooms. This includes Teacher Orientation Program flights that provide educators with the opportunity to experience firsthand the excitement of flying and to expand their aeronautical knowledge, which also enriches learning for **100,000 students** annually.

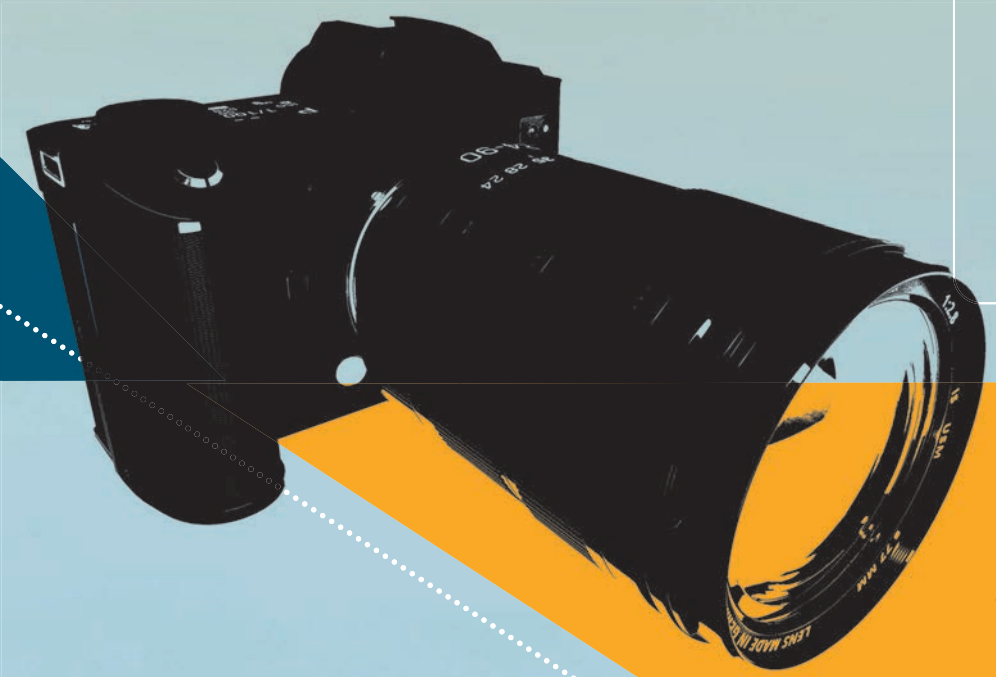
Young Learners

Over **27,000 youth** in **38 states** are K-6 Aerospace Connections in Education program participants. The no-cost program offered by more than **450 teachers** enriches aerospace/STEM academics, character education and physical fitness with an engaging grade-specific curriculum.

Cyber Security

The Air Force Association's National Youth Cyber Defense Competition, complemented by CAP's cyber security educational materials, is grooming participants for future cyber security careers. Civil Air Patrol is a leader in the All Service Division national high school CyberPatriot program, with several past championships in the competition. In 2017 the Colorado Springs Cadet Squadron team placed first nationally.





About the Cover

1,061 members from **44 CAP wings and regions** flew **118 aircraft** on **1,196 sorties** and took **498,397 aerial photos** for emergency management officials in the hurricane-impacted areas. Here, a member takes a photo of Hurricane Maria damage in Puerto Rico.

Our Mission

Supporting America's communities with emergency response, diverse aviation and ground services, youth development and promotion of air, space and cyber power.

HURRICANE HARVEY

626 members from 44 wings and regions flew 71 aircraft on 757 sorties and took 376,000 photos.

HURRICANE IRMA

245 members from 12 wings and regions flew 28 aircraft on 136 sorties and took 40,190 photos.

HURRICANE MARIA

252 members from 14 wings and regions flew 25 aircraft on 303 sorties and took 82,234 photos.