

## Fourth of July

### Introduction

The Fourth of July commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and this nation's official certificate of birth. In July, 1776, the number of people living in the 13 colonies (now United States) was 2.5 million. Two hundred and thirty years later, this July 4th, 2006, the United States population is approaching 300 million (1776 population from Historical Statistics of the United States: Colonial Times to 1970, US Census Bureau).

For most Americans, this holiday is marked by fireworks, parades, and backyard barbecues all across the country. In the midst of all the celebrations and festivities associated with the fourth, it is easy to lose sight of the source and movement of products and people that impact these activities. This monthly brief provides data obtained from the US Census Bureau on selected items related to the fourth of July including cookouts, fireworks, flags, patriotic names, and foreign-born residents.

### Fourth of July Cookouts

- **150 million**

Number of hot dogs (all varieties) expected to be consumed by Americans on this holiday. (That's one frankfurter for every two people.) There's more than a 1-in-4 chance that the hot dogs made of pork originated in Iowa, as the Hawkeye State had a total inventory of 15.2 million market hogs and pigs on March 1, 2006. This represents more than one-fourth of the nation's total. North Carolina (8.5 million) and Minnesota (5.8 million) were the runners-up.

- **7.3 billion pounds**

Total production of cattle and calves in Texas in 2005. Chances are good that the beef hot dogs, steaks and burgers on your backyard grill came from the Lone Star State, which accounted for over one-sixth of the nation's total production. And if they did not come from Texas, they very well may have come from Nebraska (4.5 billion pounds) or Kansas (4 billion pounds).

- **6**

Number of states in which the revenue from broiler chickens was \$1 billion or greater between December 2004 and November 2005. There is a good chance that one of these states — Georgia, Arkansas, Alabama, North Carolina, Mississippi or Texas — is the source of your barbecued chicken.

- **Better than 50-50**

The odds that the beans in your side dish of baked beans came from North Dakota, Michigan or Nebraska, which produced 60 percent of the nation's dry, edible beans in 2005. Another popular July 4th side dish is corn on the cob. Florida, California and Georgia together accounted for 51 percent of the sweet corn produced nationally in 2005.

- **Please Pass the Potato Salad**

Potato salad and potato chips are popular food items at July 4th barbecues. One-half of the nation's spuds were produced in Idaho or Washington in 2005.

- **More than 68 million**

Number of Americans who said they have taken part in a barbecue during the previous year. It's probably safe to assume a lot of these events took place on Independence Day.

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by  
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**Fireworks**

- \$201.9 million  
The value of fireworks imported from China in 2005, representing the bulk of all U.S. fireworks imported (\$211 million). U.S. exports of fireworks, by comparison, came to just \$14.9 million in 2005, with Australia purchasing more than any other country (\$4.4 million).
- \$17.3 million  
The value of U.S. manufacturers' shipments of fireworks in 2002.

**Flags**

- \$5.5 million  
In 2005, the dollar value of U.S. imports of American flags; the vast majority of this amount (\$5 million) was for U.S. flags made in China.
- \$993,000  
Dollar value of U.S. flags exported in 2005. Mexico was the leading customer, purchasing \$529,000 worth.
- \$349 million  
Annual dollar value of shipments of fabricated flags, banners and similar emblems by the nation's manufacturers, according to the latest published Economic Census (2002) data.

**Patriotic-Sounding Names**

- 30  
Number of places nationwide with "liberty" in its name. The most populous one is Liberty, Mo. (28,528). Iowa, with four, has more of these places than any other state: Libertyville, New Liberty, North Liberty and West Liberty.

- Thirty-two places are named "eagle" — after the majestic bird that serves as our national symbol. (Places include cities, towns, villages and census-designated places.) The most populous such place is Eagle Pass, Texas, with 24,847 residents. There is also Eagle County, Colo., with a population of 47,530.
- Eleven places have "independence" in their name. The most populous of these is Independence, Mo., with 111,023 residents.
- Five places adopted the name "freedom." Freedom, Calif., with 6,000 residents, has the largest population among these.
- There is one place named "patriot" — Patriot, Ind., with a population of 195.
- And what could be more fitting than spending the Fourth of July in a place called "America"? There are five such places in the country, with the most populous being American Fork, Utah, population 22,387.

**Coming to America**

- 34 million  
In 2004, the number of foreign-born residents in the United States; they

accounted for 12 percent of the nation's total population. Another 30 million Americans were "second-generation," meaning that at least one of their parents was born abroad.

- 53%  
As of 2004, the percentage of the nation's foreign-born population born in Latin America.
- 946,000  
Number of immigrants granted legal permanent residence in the United States during fiscal year 2004. More than 1-in-4 settled in California.
- 537,000  
Number of people who became naturalized U.S. citizens during fiscal 2004 (Oct. 1, 2003 to Sept. 30, 2004). Mexico contributed the highest number of naturalized citizens in 2004 (63,800), followed by India (38,000), the Philippines (31,400), Vietnam (27,500) and China (27,300).

The District of Columbia Office of Planning, State Data Center joins in wishing you a 'Happy Fourth of July' and reminds you that whatever you do on the fourth will likely add to the body of statistics defining the nation's history.

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