

U.S. Census Bureau News

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Census Bureau News -- Profile America Facts for Features: National Grandparents Day: 2014: Sept. 7 (resend)

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National Grandparents Day 2014: Sept. 7

In 1970, Marian McQuade initiated a campaign to establish a day to honor grandparents. In 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed a federal proclamation, declaring the first Sunday after Labor Day as National Grandparents Day. This day has been celebrated every year since in honor of our nation's grandparents.

7.1 million

The number of grandparents whose grandchildren under 18 years old were living with them in 2012. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey, Table B10050 <http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12_1YR/B10050>

Grandparents as Caregivers

2.7 million

The number of grandparents responsible for the basic needs of one or more grandchildren under age 18 living with them in 2012. Of these caregivers, 1.7 million were grandmothers and 1.0 million were grandfathers. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey, Table B10056 <http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12_1YR/B10056>

603,118

The number of grandparents responsible for grandchildren under age 18 and whose income was below the poverty level in the past 12 months, compared with the 2.1 million grandparent caregivers whose income was at or above the poverty level. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey, Table B10059 <http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12_1YR/B10059>

\$46,081

Median income for families with grandparent householders responsible for grandchildren under age 18. Among these families, where a parent of the grandchildren was not present, the median income was \$35,296. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey, Table B10010 <http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12_1YR/B10010>

1.9 million

The number of married (including separated) grandparents responsible for caring for their grandchildren. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey, Table B10057 <http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12_1YR/B10057>

1.6 million

The number of grandparents in the labor force responsible for their own grandchildren under age 18. Among them, 359,791 were 60 years or older. Source: U. S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey, Table B10058 <http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12_1YR/B10058>

674,936

The number of grandparents who had a disability and were responsible for their grandchildren. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey, Table B10052 <http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12_1YR/B10052>

1.9 million

The number of grandparents responsible for their grandchildren who were living in owner-occupied housing, compared with 850,871 that were living in renter-occupied housing. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012, American Community Survey, Table B10061 <http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12_1YR/B10061>

495,946

The number of foreign-born grandparents responsible for their own grandchildren under age 18. This contrasts with 2.2 million native-born grandparent caregivers. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey, Table B10053 <http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12_1YR/B10053>

2.1 million

The number of grandparents responsible for their grandchildren who speak only English. Another 252,775 speak another language, but speak English “very well”; 398,387 speak another language and speak English less than “very well.” Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey, Table B10054 <http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12_1YR/B10054>

Grandchildren

5.6 million

The number of children under age 18 living with a grandparent householder in 2012. Nearly half, 48 percent or 2.7 million, were under age 6. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey, Table B10001 <http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12_1YR/B10001>

10%

Percentage of children in the U.S. living with a grandparent in 2013, totaling 7.1 million. Source: America’s Families and Living Arrangements: 2013, Table C4 <<https://www.census.gov/hhes/families/data/cps2013C.html>>

2.8 million

The number of children living with both grandmother and grandfather in 2013. Source: America's Families and Living Arrangements: 2013, Table C4 <<https://www.census.gov/hhes/families/data/cps2013C.html>>

It's Official

13,897

The number of nursery, garden center and farm supply businesses with paid employees in the U.S. in 2012. The forget-me-not was named the official flower of National Grandparents Day by the National Grandparents Day Council. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 County Business Patterns, NAICS 444220 <<http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/BP/2012/00A1//naics~444220>>

60,505

The number of musicians, singers and related workers employed full time, year-round, in 2012. "A Song for Grandma and Grandpa" was named the official song of National Grandparents Day in 2004 by the National Grandparents Day Council. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey, Table B24124 <http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12_1YR/B24124>

Editor's note: The preceding data were collected from a variety of sources and may be subject to sampling variability and other sources of error. Facts for Features are customarily released about two months before an observance in order to accommodate magazine production timelines. Questions or comments should be directed to the Census Bureau's Public Information Office: telephone: 301-763-3030; or e-mail: <PIO@census.gov>.