

**Larry S. Helms**  
& Associates  
INSURANCE SERVICES

**704.893.2793**  
[www.LarryHelms.com](http://www.LarryHelms.com)

October 2021

## Thanksgiving Facts



### What do you really know about Thanksgiving?

**Not Turkey?** No one can say for sure whether it was even on the menu back in 1621.

**Annual Holiday.** Presidents originally had to declare Thanksgiving a holiday every year, up until Lincoln made it a national holiday during his tenure.

**"Mary Had a Little Lamb."** Writer and editor Sarah Josepha Hale convinced President Abraham Lincoln to officially declare Thanksgiving a national holiday, after three decades of persistent lobbying.

**Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.** If you can't imagine the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade without giant floats featuring your favorite characters, you'd barely recognize the first parade in the early 1920s.

**Third Thursday?** You might think President Roosevelt could predict the future, as he channeled a "Black Friday" mindset when he decided to move Thanksgiving during his presidency.

**46 Million Turkeys!** Americans prepare 46 million turkeys for Thanksgiving each year.

turkey in 1969 after he noticed the 50-pound bird at his official Thanksgiving proclamation looked a little nervous.

**Leftovers!** Fans of the beloved turkey, stuffing and mashed potato leftover sandwich: You're in the majority. Almost eight in 10 Americans agree that the second helpings of stuffing, mashed potatoes and of course *pie* beat out the big dinner itself...

**100,000 calls for help.** The Butterball Turkey Talk Line answers almost 100,000 calls each season.

**50 Million!** Americans eat an estimated 50 million pumpkin pies on Thanksgiving.

**Snoopy!** Forty-four years after the first Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Snoopy made his debut as a balloon in 1968. Throughout the years, the beagle has had a total of seven balloons, making 39 appearances...

**Football.** The first professional Thanksgiving Day football game was played in 1920.

**Secret dislike?** A whopping 68 percent of Americans dislike Thanksgiving dishes like canned cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie, and even turkey itself, according to a 2019 Instacart survey...

Read More: [goodhousekeeping.com/holidays/thanksgiving-ideas/a35457/thanksgiving-trivia/](https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/holidays/thanksgiving-ideas/a35457/thanksgiving-trivia/), [housebeautiful.com/lifestyle/a22792044/thanksgiving-fun-facts/](https://www.housebeautiful.com/lifestyle/a22792044/thanksgiving-fun-facts/)

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**What's the favorite pie at your  
Thanksgiving table?**

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**Service Consultant/Producer**

📞 704-893-2793 ext 313



**Producer**

📞 704-893-2793 ext 310



**Service Consultant/Producer**

📞 704-893-2793 ext 314



**Producer**

📞 704-893-2793 ext 309



**Paul Kaperonis**



**Producer**

📞 704-893-2793 ext 308



**Ashlyn Lingle**



**Producer**

📞 704-893-2793 ext 316



**Lettie Palmer**



**Service Consultant**

📞 704-893-2793 ext 302



**Robert Ross**



**Producer**

📞 704-893-2793 ext 304



**Dolores Serrano**



**Service Consultant**

📞 704-893-2793 ext 306



**Jim Short**



**Producer**

📞 704-893-2793 ext 312



**Chris Webb**



**Producer**

📞 704-893-2793 ext 305



**Teri Bunch**



**Producer – Personal Lines**

📞 704-893-2793 ext. 301



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& Associates  

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