Fun Facts: Constitution Day – September 17

On February 29, 1952, Congress designated September 17 as Constitution Day and Citizenship Day. This day commemorates the signing of the U.S. Constitution on September 17, 1787, and recognizes all American citizens.

Did you know that the census is written into the Constitution? That’s right! Article I, Section 2, of the U.S. Constitution prescribes that a count of the U.S. population be done every ten years.

We the People

3,929,214
U.S. population in 1790

331,449,281
U.S. population in 2020

Freedom of Speech

- Approximately $5.9 billion—The total first quarter revenue of U.S. newspaper publishers in 2022*
- Approximately $6.3 billion—The total first quarter revenue of U.S. magazine (periodical) publishers in 2022*
- Approximately $10.0 billion—The total first quarter revenue of U.S. book and other publishers in 2022*

*Seasonally adjusted

From Founder to President

Number of U.S. counties with names matching the last names of the founders of the Constitution who also served as U.S. presidents.

12—Adams
26—Jefferson
20—Madison
31—Washington

Collecting Taxes

- About $6.23—The amount of state and local government taxes collected per person in 1880.
- About $5,672—The amount of state and local government taxes collected per person in 2020.
- $6.23 in 1880 per capita dollars is equal to $167.07 in 2020 according to the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.

Quartering of Soldiers

- About 217,000—The number of U.S. service members in the American Revolution between 1775-1783.
- Approximately 18 million—The number of veterans in the United States in 2019.

Sources: Data on this page come from the U.S. Census Bureau’s 1790 Census; 2020 Decennial Census; 2020 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates; Nativity and Citizenship Status in the United States; Universe: Total population in the United States; 2021 Gazetteer County; 2022 Quarterly Services Survey; U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; 2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates; 2019 State and Local Government Finance Survey; and Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.