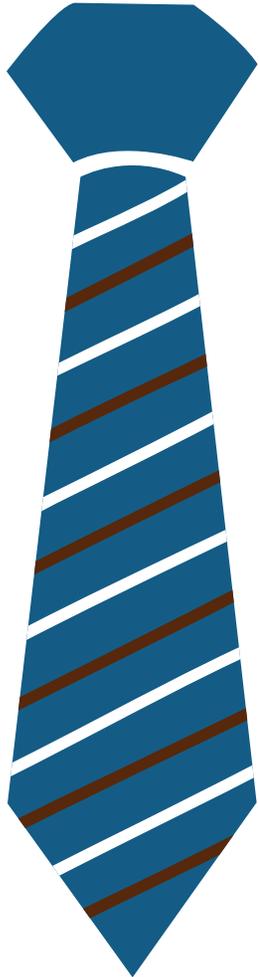


Fun Facts: Father's Day—June 21



History of Father's Day

The idea of Father's Day was conceived more than a century ago by Sonora Dodd of Spokane, Washington.

Dodd wanted a special day to honor her father, William Smart, a widowed Civil War veteran who was left to raise his six children on a farm.

June 19 was chosen for the first Father's Day celebration in 1910.

Father's Day has been celebrated annually since 1972 when President Richard Nixon signed the public law that made it permanent.

Why do golfers carry an extra pair of socks?

In case they get a hole in one!



Fathers by the Numbers

72 million*

The estimated number of fathers across the nation.

29 million*

The number of fathers who are also grandfathers.

24 million

The number of fathers living in married-couple family groups with children younger than age 18 in 2019.

2 million

The number of single fathers (without a spouse or partner present) in 2019 living with their children under age 18; **18 percent** of single parents were men.

191,000

The estimated number of stay-at-home dads in 2019.

*2014 is the most recent year for which these data are available.

Gift Ideas for Dad

- **21,000** - The number of sporting goods stores in 2017. These stores are good places to purchase traditional gifts for dad, such as fishing rods and golf clubs.
- **15,000** - The number of hardware stores in 2017, a place to buy hammers, wrenches, screwdrivers, and other items high on the list of Father's Day gifts. Additionally, there were **6,000** home centers across the country in 2017.
- **7,000** - The number of men's clothing stores across the country in 2017, a good place to buy dad a tie or shirt.



Services for Dad

- **104,000** - The number of businesses that provide landscaping services nationwide in 2017.
- **83,000** - The number of general automotive repair businesses nationwide in 2017.
- **5,000** - The number of barber shops nationwide in 2017.



Sources: Data on this page come from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2014 Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2019 Current Population Survey (Stay-at-home Parents: [Table SHP-1](#)), Annual Social and Economic Supplement, and 2017 County Business Patterns.