

# Fun Facts: St. Patrick's Day—March 17

## A History of St. Patrick's Day



- In 1991 Congress proclaimed March as Irish – American Heritage Month.
- Originally the holiday was to honor St. Patrick, who introduced Christianity to Ireland in the 5th Century later evolving into a celebration of all things Irish.
- The world's first St. Patrick's Day parade occurred on March 17, 1762, in New York City.

## Golden States of Irish Ancestry

Nearly 1 out of 10 or 31 million - The number of U.S. residents who claimed Irish ancestry in 2018. These states have among the highest percentage of Irish ancestry:

Massachusetts  
**18.9%**

New Hampshire  
**19.4%**

## 4-Leaf Clover Word Search



Find 18 words related to St. Patrick's Day and Irish culture.

U	F	Y	T	M	F	E	X	T	G	C	I	S	S	X	N	ALE
Q	T	H	L	T	D	M	U	G	O	L	D	H	T	G	W	BAGPIPE
N	I	E	L	A	G	G	A	W	T	R	A	J	N	R	A	CABBAGE
L	X	X	R	G	K	D	R	W	C	M	T	V	L	M	Z	CELEBRATE
K	W	A	N	U	A	H	C	E	R	P	E	L	R	V	E	CELTIC
R	P	A	C	U	R	A	O	O	E	S	S	P	N	E	R	CLOVER
Y	K	C	U	L	M	R	C	T	E	N	S	G	T	A	P	DUBLIN
E	Z	M	P	K	Z	K	P	V	N	O	E	A	I	E	C	GAELIC
N	G	C	Q	R	P	Q	A	L	H	Z	R	N	P	E	Z	GOLD
G	G	A	P	A	T	R	I	C	K	B	B	I	L	D	A	GREEN
H	A	R	B	T	F	Z	O	B	E	O	P	T	T	T	K	IRISH
S	R	E	E	B	O	S	P	L	W	G	I	J	N	I	Q	LEPRECHAUN
I	L	U	L	V	A	Z	E	F	A	C	C	I	C	H	J	LUCKY
R	M	M	G	I	O	C	T	B	Y	C	A	W	H	V	F	PARADE
I	D	W	H	E	C	L	H	T	X	S	I	X	F	U	B	PATRICK
M	S	U	A	U	I	P	C	N	I	L	B	U	D	U	Z	RAINBOW
																SAINT
																SHAMROCK

## Lucky Charms

**Educational Attainment** of people of Irish ancestry, 25 years and older:

- **Almost 4 out of 10 or 39%** - Percentage of those with a bachelor's degree or higher
- **Over 9 out of 10 or 95%** - Percentage of those with at least a high school diploma

**Occupations** held by Irish-Americans, 16 years old and older:

- **45%** - Work in management, business, science, and arts occupations
- **22%** - Work in sales and office occupations

## Places with the Luckiest Names



- Dublin City, California (Population - **63,445**)
- Clover town, South Carolina (Population - **6,397**)
- Emerald Isle town, North Carolina (Population - **3,702**)
- Shamrock City, Texas (Population - **1,822**)

## Everything Irish!

- **20,590** - Estimated number of U.S. residents who speak Irish Gaelic
- **42 years old** - Median age of those who claim Irish ancestry
- **146** - The number of synthetic dye and pigment manufacturing companies in the U.S. As an annual tradition to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, the Chicago River is dyed green.
- **Almost \$62 billion** - Value of goods imported from Ireland in 2019

Sources: Data on this page come from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2018 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-Year; Detailed Languages Spoken at Home and Ability to Speak English for the Population 5 Years and Over; ACS 2009-2013; Trade in Goods with Ireland; and 2017 County Business Patterns.