Fun Facts: Mother’s Day – May 12

History – How It All Started

- The first Mother’s Day was organized by Anna Jarvis on May 10, 1908, in Grafton, West Virginia, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- It was such a success across the country that Jarvis asked Congress to set aside a day to honor mothers.
- In 1914, Congress made the second Sunday in May Mother’s Day!

What did the mother rope say to her child?
Don’t be knotty.

Celebrating Mom With...

Flowers—13,188 The number of florists nationwide in 2016.
A Special Card—13,842 The number of employees of greeting card publishers in 2016.
Perfume—16,608 The number of cosmetics, beauty supplies, and perfume stores nationwide in 2016. Perfume is a popular gift given on Mother’s Day.
A Piece of Jewelry—21,693 The number of jewelry stores in the United States in 2016—the place to purchase necklaces, earrings, and other timeless pieces for mom.

First-Time Mothers

Age at first birth for mothers aged 15 and over in 2014:
- 22% - Under age 20
- 37% - Age 20-24
- 24% - Age 25-29
- 12% - Age 30-34
- 4% - Age 35-39
- 1% - Age 40 and over

The Masterminds—Education

More than 3 out of 10 (34.1%) The percentage of women giving birth in the last past year who had a bachelor’s degree or higher.
Almost 9 out of 10 (88.4%) The percentage of women giving birth in the last past year who had completed high school or higher.

Number of Children

Out of every 10 women aged 15 and over, approximately...
- 4 out of 10 (43%) have no children
- 2 out of 10 (17%) have one child
- 2 out of 10 (22%) have two children
- 2 out of 10 (18%) have three or more children

Sources: Data on this page come from the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2017 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, 2016 County Business Patterns, and 2014 Survey of Income and Program Participation, Fertility Research Brief.