

# FACTS for FEATURES



CB03-FF.12

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Quotes & radio sound bites

## Labor Day 2003: Sept. 1



The first observance of Labor Day is believed to have been a parade on Sept. 5, 1882, in New York, N.Y., probably organized by Peter J. McGuire, a Carpenters and Joiners Union secretary. By 1893, more than half the states were observing Labor Day on one day or another and a bill to establish it as a federal holiday was introduced in Congress. President Grover Cleveland signed the bill in 1894 designating the first Monday in September as Labor Day.

### Who Do We Celebrate Today?



**146.5 million**

Number of people age 16 and over in the nation's labor force as of July 2003.

Among the nation's workers are 78.2 million men and 68.4 million women.

These men and women represent 66 percent of the adult population.

<http://www.bls.gov>

### Another Day, Another Dollar



**\$38,275 and \$29,215**

The annual median earnings for male and female full-time, year-round workers in 2001. <http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/2002/cb02-124.html>

**\$65,926**

Average annual pay in the San Jose, Calif., metropolitan statistical area. San Jose has led all metro areas in this category since 1997. <http://146.142.4.22/news.release/anpay2.nr0.htm>

**\$46,963**

Average annual pay in Connecticut, first among states.

<http://146.142.4.22/news.release/annpay.nr0.htm>



## Our Jobs 7.3 million

Number of workers who hold down more than one job. These workers comprise 5 percent of the workforce. <<http://www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/02statab/labor.pdf>>

## 29

Percentage of workers 16 and over who work more than 40 hours a week. Eight percent work 60 or more hours. <<http://www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/02statab/labor.pdf>>

## 29

Percentage of wage and salary workers 16 and over employed full-time who are on flexible schedules. <<http://www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/02statab/labor.pdf>>

## 3

Percentage of wage and salary workers 16 and over employed full-time who work the night shift. <<http://www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/02statab/labor.pdf>>

## 47

Percentage of employed civilian workers 16 and over in the Corvallis, Ore., metro area who work in management, professional and related occupations. Corvallis is one of six “college towns” among the 10 metro areas with the highest percentages for these occupations. <<http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/2003/cb03-123.html>>



- For service occupations, Las Vegas, Nev., leads all metro areas with 27 percent of its workers employed in such jobs. Most of the other areas in the top 10 in this category also cater to tourists and vacationers. <<http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/2003/cb03-123.html>>
- In Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, N.C., 34 percent of workers are employed in production, transportation and material moving jobs, among the highest rates for the nation’s metro areas. <<http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/2003/cb03-123.html>>

## 16.3 million

Number of labor union members nationwide. About 14 percent of wage and salary workers belong to unions, with New York having the highest rate among states, 27 percent. The lowest rate, 4 percent, belongs to North Carolina. <<http://www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/02statab/labor.pdf>>

## Health insurance



**84**

Percentage of full-time workers ages 18 to 64 with health insurance coverage during all or part of 2001. For part-time workers, the corresponding percentage was 78 percent. <<http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/2002/cb02-127.html>>

## Hot Jobs



**100**

Projected percentage growth this decade in the number of people employed as computer applications software engineers. Forecasters expect this occupation to grow at a faster rate than any other.

<<http://www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/02statab/labor.pdf>>

**673,000**

Projected increase in the number of combined food preparation and serving (e.g., fast food) workers during this decade. This occupation is expected to add more positions than any other.

<<http://www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/02statab/labor.pdf>>

The following is a list of observances typically covered by the Census Bureau's *Facts for Features* series, which can be found at <<http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/factsheets.html>>:

African-American History Month (February)	Back to School (August)
Valentine's Day (Feb. 14)	Labor Day (Sept. 1)
Women's History Month (March)	Grandparents Day (Sept. 7)
St. Patrick's Day (March 17)	Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15-Oct. 15)
Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (May)	Halloween (Oct. 31)
Older Americans Month (May)	American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month
Mother's Day (May 11)	(November)
Father's Day (June 15)	Veterans Day (Nov. 11)
The Fourth of July (July 4)	Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 27)
Anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act (July 26)	The Holiday Season (December)

**Editor's note:** Some of the preceding data were collected in surveys and, therefore, are subject to sampling error. Questions or comments should be directed to the Census Bureau's Public Information Office: telephone: (301) 763-3030; fax: (301) 457-3670; or e-mail: <[pio@census.gov](mailto:pio@census.gov)>.