Thanksgiving

In the fall of 1621, the Pilgrims — early settlers of Plymouth Colony — held a three-day feast to celebrate a bountiful harvest. Many regard this as the nation's first Thanksgiving. The legacy of thanks and the feast have survived for centuries, with the event becoming a national holiday as of October 3, 1863.

Did you know? Thanksgiving is observed on the fourth Thursday of November. That’s November 24th this year.

There are 4 places named Turkey in the U.S. – a traditional main course.

There are 5 places named Cranberry in the U.S. – a popular side dish.

The six largest turkey producing states account for 69% of all turkeys produced according to the U.S Department of Agriculture.

Minnesota leads the way. The state was projected to raise 37.5 million turkeys in 2022.

Visit the Statistics in Schools Thanksgiving Fun Facts page on census.gov to learn more.