

Serving Our Communities

May 6-12, we'll mark National Nurses Week to honor the critical role nurses play in keeping Americans healthy. The COVID-19 pandemic has only magnified the essential role that nurses play and the immense contributions they've made to our communities.

May 15-21, we'll mark National Police Week. The observance was signed into law in 1962 by President John F. Kennedy to acknowledge the service and its associated risks.

On **May 21**, we'll celebrate Armed Forces Day. President Harry S. Truman led the effort to establish the holiday – a single holiday for us to come together and thank our military members for their patriotic service to our country. On August 31, 1949, U.S. Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force days.

On **May 30**, we'll celebrate Memorial Day to honor those who have died while serving in the United States armed forces. The first official observance of Memorial Day was on **May 30, 1868** when Gen. John Logan ordered that flowers be placed on the graves of both Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery.

Visit our Stats for Stories page on [census.gov](https://www.census.gov) to learn more about these and other important observances.