

# Congress first recognized Mother's Day in 1914

The driving force behind Mother's Day was Anna Jarvis, who organized observances in Grafton, W.Va., and Philadelphia on May 10, 1908. As the annual celebration became popular around the country, Jarvis asked members of Congress to set aside a day to honor mothers. She finally succeeded in 1914, when Congress designated the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

In 2008, figures showed an estimated 85.4 million mothers in the United States.

In 2004, 94 percent of the 37.8 million mothers living with children younger than 18 were living with their biological children only. In addition, 3 percent lived with stepchildren, 2 percent with any adopted children and less than 1 percent with foster children.

There were 4.13 million births registered in the United States in 2009. Of this number, 409,840 were to teens 15 to 19 and 7,934 to mothers 45 to 54.

The average age of women in 2008 when they gave birth for the first time was 25.1, up from 25 years in 2006 and 2007.

Number of births in 2008 that were the mother's eighth or more was 18,986.

July is the month with the highest number of births, with 375,384 in 2008.

Jacob and Isabella were the most popular baby names in 2009.