

FACT OR FICTION: EASTER EDITION

- 1. Good Friday is an official state holiday in all but 6 states. (FICTION – it is an official holiday in 12 states – Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Tennessee & Texas)**
- 2. The largest chocolate Easter egg is taller than a giraffe and weighs more than an elephant . (FACT – the egg is 34' tall & weighs 15873lbs)**
- 3. Americans buy more than one billion marshmallow peeps during the Easter holiday. (FICTION – but we do buy more than 700 million!)**
- 4. The White House hosts an Easter Egg Roll on the front lawn each year. The tradition was started by Abraham Lincoln in 1863. (FICTION – Rutherford B Hayes started the tradition in 1878)**
- 5. Jelly beans were a popular snack for those fighting in the Civil War. (FACT – Candy maker, William Schrafft, started the craze by urging people to send jelly beans to soldiers)**
- 6. Before Easter egg hunts, children used to search for pretzels. (FACT – hundreds of years ago, pretzels were strongly associated with Easter, with many noting that the twists of the pretzel resembled arms crossing in prayer)**
- 7. The popular Easter game of egg-throwing or “egg-tossing” originated in the church. (FACT – the priest would throw a hard-boiled egg to one of the choir boys, who would then toss it to the next choir boy and so on; when the clock struck 12, the person holding the egg was the winner)**

8. If you dye chicks Easter colors in Florida, it could land you in jail. (FACT – in 2012, repealed a law prohibiting the dying of chicks, but by 2013, they reinstated the law, which carries a maximum sentence of 60 days in jail)
9. It is estimated that 76% of people eat the ears off a chocolate bunny first. (FACT – yes, they actually did a study!)
10. Americans eat enough jelly beans to circle the earth three times. (FACT – over 16 million jelly beans!)
11. After Halloween & Valentine's Day, Easter is the biggest candy consuming holiday . (FICTION – it ranks second behind Halloween, but ahead of Valentine's Day)
12. Easter is the fourth largest holiday for exchanging cards. (FICTION – it actually ranks at number 5, behind Christmas, Valentine's Day, Mother's Day & Father's Day)
13. 70% of all Easter candy purchased is chocolate. (FACT)
14. At one time, Easter eggs substituted as birth certificates. (FACT – in the 1880's, some Germans dyed an egg a solid color and placed a design with the child's name and birth date; they were actually honored by courts as evidence of identity and age!)
15. The most popular chocolate egg in the world is the Cadbury Crème Egg . (FACT – if all the crème eggs were piled on top of each other, it would be 10x higher than Mount Everest!)

TIE-BREAKER

Q: How many chocolate bunnies are produced each year in America?

A: 90 million