

August Facts of the Day 2012



**DEFENSE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE
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Author Biography

Ms. Dawn Smith is a research editor in the Technology Development & Clearinghouse Management directorate (J-93) at the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI). She was responsible for compiling the information contained in this report. Her main research interests involve communication within a culture and the family. Ms. Smith received her Bachelor Degree in Interpersonal/Organizational Communications from the University of Central Florida.

	August Facts of the Day	
Date	Fact	Source
1	Special observances are conducted to enhance cross-cultural awareness among the Armed Forces, civilian employees, and their families. These observances recognize the achievements and contributions made by members of specific racial, ethnic, or gender groups in our society.	www.deomi.org
2	In 1776, members of Congress affixed their signatures to a copy of the Declaration of Independence. Fifty-six congressional delegates signed the document, including some who were not present at the vote approving the declaration. The delegates signed by state, from the North to the South.	http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/8/2
3	In August 1944, Anne Frank made her last entry in her famous diary. Three days later, after 25 months of seclusion, Anne and her family were arrested, along with two of the people who had helped to shelter them.	http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/8/4
4	August 4th marks the inception of the oldest maritime service in the United States, the United States Coast Guard. The Coast Guard, established in 1790, consists of armed forces whose responsibilities range from search and rescue to national defense.	www.defense.gov/AFD/military/coastgrd.html - Cached
5	In August 1964, civil rights workers Michael Schwerner, Andrew Goodman, and James Chaney, whose disappearance garnered national attention, were found dead in Mississippi. They had hoped to organize civil rights efforts in heavily segregated Mississippi. The disappearance of the three men led to a massive FBI investigation that was code-named MIBURN for "Mississippi Burning."	http://www.mississippiburning.org/
6	On this day in 1945, at 8:16 a.m., an American B-29 bomber, the <i>Enola Gay</i> , dropped the world's first atom bomb on the city of Hiroshima. Approximately 80,000 people were killed as a direct result of the blast, and another 35,000 were injured. Another 60,000 died from the effects of the fallout by the end of the year.	http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/8/6?catId=14

7	<p>In 1782, General George Washington, the Commander in Chief of the Continental Army, created the Badge for Military Merit, a decoration consisting of a purple, heart-shaped piece of silk, edged with silver, with the word <i>Merit</i> stitched across the face in silver. The badge was to be presented to soldiers for "any singularly meritorious action."</p>	<p>http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/washington-creates-the-purple-heart</p>
8	<p>On August 8, 1974, Richard Milhous Nixon announced, that he would resign as the 37th President of the United States. After two years of public debate over the Watergate scandal, President Nixon bowed to pressures from the public, and leaders of his party, to become the first president in American history to resign.</p>	<p>http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/national/longterm/watergate/articles/080974-3.htm</p>
9	<p>The number of women on active duty in the military has risen dramatically since the beginning of the all-volunteer force. The number serving as enlisted personnel has grown from 42,278 in 1973 to 166,729 in 2010. The number serving as commissioned officers has increased from 12,750 to 35,341 over that same period.</p>	<p>http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2011/12/22/women-in-the-u-s-military-growing-share-distinctive-profile/2/#a-snapshot-of-active-duty-women</p>
10	<p>On August 10, 1993, Ruth Bader Ginsburg was sworn in as the second woman and 107th Justice to serve on the United States Supreme Court.</p>	<p>http://www.nwhp.org/news/august.php</p>
11	<p>According to the 2011 Military Service History and VA Benefit Utilization Statistics report, 1.5 million veterans in the United States and Puerto Rico were women. Women represented about 8 percent of the total veteran population in 2009.</p>	<p>http://www.va.gov/vetdata/docs/SpecialReports/Final_Womens_Report_3_2_12_v_7.pdf</p>
12	<p>The first woman to run for U.S. president was Victoria Woodhull, who campaigned for the office in 1872 as part of the National Women's Suffrage Association. Women were not granted the right to vote for nearly another 50 years. However, there were no laws prohibiting a woman from running for the Chief Executive position.</p>	<p>http://facts.randomhistory.com/2009/04/30_women.html</p>

13	According to the U.S. Department of Defense, the total number of active duty women in the military was 205,500, as of September 30, 2010. Of that total, 38,700 women were officers, and 166,800 were enlisted.	http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/cb12-ff05.html
14	On August 14, 1945, it was announced that Japan had surrendered unconditionally to the Allies, effectively ending World War II. Since then, both August 14 and August 15 have been known as Victory over Japan Day, or simply V-J Day.	http://www.history.com/topics/v-j-day
15	Of the total U.S. labor force, 46.5 percent are women today. This number is expected to reach to 47 percent in the year 2016.	http://www.bls.gov/cps/cpsaat2.pdf
16	On August 16, 1965, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act, which significantly changed the status of African Americans throughout the South. The Voting Rights Act prohibited states from using literacy tests, incorrectly interpreting the Constitution, and using other methods of excluding African Americans from voting.	http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/aahtml/exhibit/aopart9b.html
17	According to the U. S. Census Bureau, the 2009 median earnings for male and female full-time, year-round workers were \$47,127 and \$36,278 respectively.	http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/cb11-ff16.html
18	In 1973, the U.S. Civil Service Commission eliminated height and weight requirements, which had previously been used to discriminate against women applying for police, park service, and firefighting jobs.	http://www.pbs.org/itvs/testofcourage/diversity4_5.html
19	In 1982, the Equal Rights Amendment, which would have written "equal pay for equal work" into the Constitution, fell three states short of ratification.	http://www.pbs.org/itvs/testofcourage/diversity4_5.html
20	According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there were 157.2 million females in the United States as of October 1, 2010. The number of males was 153.2 million. At age 85 and beyond, there were more than twice as many women as men.	http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/cb11-ff04.html

21	<p>In 1986, the U.S. Supreme Court declared that sexual harassment is a form of illegal job discrimination. Coined in 1975, the term "sexual harassment" was defined as "uninvited and unwelcome verbal or physical conduct directed at an employee because of his or her sex."</p>	<p>http://www.pbs.org/itvs/testofcourage/diversity4_5.html</p>
22	<p>The Holy Month of Ramadan is observed by more than one billion Muslims around the world. It is a time when Muslims fast during daylight hours to celebrate the time when Allah revealed the first verses of the Qu'ran, the holy book of Islam. Ramadan is a time for spiritual purification through fasting, self-sacrifice, and prayers.</p>	<p>http://www.holidaysmart.com/z_islamiccalendar.htm</p>
23	<p>After a decade of debate about how best to spend a bequest left to America from an obscure English scientist, President James K. Polk signed the Smithsonian Institution Act into law in 1846. Today, the Smithsonian is composed of 19 museums and galleries, nine research facilities throughout the United States and the world, the national zoo, and the recently announced National Museum of African American History and Culture.</p>	<p>http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/smithsonian-institution-created</p>
24	<p>The National Organization for Women (NOW) was established in 1966. NOW's original Statement of Purpose said, "The purpose of NOW is to take action to bring women into full participation in the mainstream of American society now, exercising all privileges and responsibilities, thereof, in truly equal partnership with men."</p>	<p>http://www.pbs.org/itvs/testofcourage/NOWpop.html</p>
25	<p>In 1951, a Native American soldier killed in Korea was refused a burial ceremony in Nebraska, on the grounds of his race. President Harry S. Truman heard about the refusal and offered the widow a plot in Arlington National Cemetery, stating that no person should be refused burial based on race, color or creed.</p>	<p>http://www.thepeoplehistory.com/august30th.html</p>

26	<p>August 26th of each year is designated in the United States as Women's Equality Day. Instituted by Representative Bella Abzug, and established in 1971, the observance of Women's Equality Day not only commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment, but it also calls attention to women's continuing efforts toward full equality.</p>	<p>http://www.nwhp.org/resourcecenter/equalityday.php</p>
27	<p>In 1964, civil rights activists organized a voter registration drive, known as the Mississippi Summer Project or Freedom Summer. The aim was to increase voter registration in Mississippi. Freedom Summer, comprised of Black and White volunteers, and faced constant abuse and harassment. The Ku Klux Klan, police, and state and local authorities carried out a systematic series of violent attacks. These included arson, beatings, false arrests, and the murder of at least three civil rights activists.</p>	<p>http://www.history.com/topics/freedom-summer</p>
28	<p>From the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his, <i>I Have a Dream</i> speech on August 28, 1963. King called for racial equality and an end to discrimination. His speech became a defining moment of the American Civil Rights Movement.</p>	<p>http://facts.randomhistory.com/2009/04/30_women.html</p>
29	<p>According to the 2010 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Current Population Survey, the percentage of females 16 and older who participated in the labor force was 58.6 percent, representing about 71.9 million women.</p>	<p>http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/cb12-ff05.html</p>

30	<p>Title IX declares, "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance." Signed into law by President Richard Nixon in 1972, Title IX changed history for American women (and men). An amendment to the education section of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX is commonly believed to apply only to equal opportunities for women in high school and college sports. However, it is meant to prevent all forms of gender discrimination in all schools that receive federal funding.</p>	<p>http://www.nwhm.org/blog/2012/06/</p>
31	<p>In 2010, the number of women 25 and older with a bachelor's degrees was 30.7 million. The number of men with bachelor's degrees was 29.2 million. Women also had a larger share of high school diplomas, as well as, associate's and master's degrees. However, more men than women had professional or doctoral degrees.</p>	<p>http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/cb12-ff05.html</p>