



### Text Version of Audio Story: Numbers

Numbers — as Americans, we are obsessed with numbers. So allow me to fuel your obsession, won't you.

One one-hundredth of a second — science actually has a name for this unit of time. The correct scientific term is, believe it or not, a jiffy.

The world's first speed limit regulation was in England in 1903. It was 20 miles per hour.

A gold fish has a memory span of three seconds. No jokes about men, Ladies.

Sweat glands can produce up to 3 gallons of sweat each day.

Approximately 2,300 children are reported missing every day.

One in 10 Americans has spent at least one night in jail.

There are 336 dimples on a regulation golf ball.

Snails can sleep for 3 years without eating.

At the height of its power in 400 B.C., the Greek city of Sparta had 25,000 citizens and 500,000 slaves.

More than 20,000 men were killed, wounded or missing in action in the Battle of Antietam — September 18, 1862. This was the bloodiest one day of fighting during the Civil War.

Of the 262 men who have held the title of pope, 33 have died by violence.

The first U.S. minimum wage law was instituted in 1938. The minimum wage was 25 cents per hour.

The Black Death reduced the population of Europe by 1/3 in a period of 4 years.

The Hundred Years' War actually lasted 116 years — 1337 to 1453.

The longest-reigning monarch in history was Pepi II, who ruled Egypt for 90 years. The second-longest was France's Louis XIV, who ruled for 72 years.

The shortest war on record was fought between Zanzibar and England in 1896. Zanzibar surrendered after 38 minutes.

The total number of Americans killed in the Civil War is greater than the combined total of Americans killed in all other wars.

A cough releases an explosive charge of air that moves at a speed of 60 miles per hour. A sneeze can exceed the speed of 100 miles per hour.

A person will die from total lack of sleep sooner than from starvation. Death will occur in about 10 days without sleep, while starvation takes a few weeks.

An average human drinks about 16,000 gallons of water in a lifetime.

Beards are the fastest-growing hairs on the human body. If the average man never trimmed his beard, it would grow to nearly 30 feet long in his lifetime.

Every square inch of the human body has an average of 32 million bacteria on it.

Each square inch of human skin has 20 feet of blood vessels.

Each time you lick a stamp, you're consuming 1/10 of a calorie.

Humans shed about 600,000 particles of skin every hour, about 1.5 pounds a year. By 70 years of age, an average person will have lost 105 pounds of skin.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, millions of human mummies were used as fuel for locomotives in Egypt, where wood and coal was scarce, but mummies were plentiful.

It takes 17 muscles to smile, 43 to frown. Six-year-olds laugh on an average of 300 times a day. Adults only laugh 50 to 100 times a day.

There are 45 miles of nerves in the skin of a human being.

By the time a child finishes elementary school, he or she will have witnessed 8,000 murders and 100,000 acts of violence on television. I think they should listen to more radio.

Broadcasting from the Juniata Valley, I'm the American Storyteller.