

Christmas 2018 by the Numbers

As the most widely observed cultural holiday in the world, Christmas produces many things—joy, happiness, gratitude, reverence. And numbers. Lots of peculiar, often large, numbers. Here are a few to contemplate this season:

[\\$75](#) – Average amount U.S. consumers spent on real Christmas trees in 2017.

[\\$107](#) – Average amount U.S. consumers spent on fake Christmas trees in 2017.

[27,400,000](#) – Number of real Christmas trees sold in the U.S. in 2017.

[21,100,000](#) – Number of fake Christmas trees sold in the U.S. in 2017.

[7](#) – Average growing time in years for a Christmas tree.

[350 million](#) – Number of Christmas trees currently growing on Christmas tree farms.

[329.2 million](#) – Current population of the United States.

[\\$27.21](#) – The energy costs of lighting a six-foot Christmas tree, lit 12 hours a day for 40 days, decorated with various light types.

[\\$1,500,000,000](#) – Estimated value of U.S. imports of Christmas tree ornaments from China between January and September 2016.

[\\$22,700,000,000](#) – Estimated retail sales by the nation's department stores (including leased departments) in December 2016. This represents a decrease of \$1 billion in retail sales from December of the previous year.

[42.7 percent](#) – Estimated percentage of charitable giving that occurs between Thanksgiving and New Year's.

[\\$794](#) – Average amount people in the U.S. estimated they'll spend on Christmas presents in 2018.

[108,000,000](#) – Average number of homes Santa Claus has to visit on December 25 (assuming there is at least one “nice” child in each).

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