[HARPER’S INDEX](https://harpers.org/departments/harpers-index/) — From the January 2019 issue

**Harper’s Index**

Factor by which the number of Americans who identify as “former Catholics” has increased since 1975 : 4

Percentage of US Christians who say they have had fewer than ten spiritual conversations over the past year : 74

Who say they quoted Bible passages in spiritual conversations in 1993 : 59

Who say they do so today : 37

Number of Western European countries in which a majority say they would accept Muslims as family members : 14

Of Central or Eastern European countries : 1

Percentage increase in US tourists traveling to Slovenia in the year following   
Donald Trump’s election : 26

Amount the US government spent on advertisements dissuading Central Americans from migrating north last year : $1,300,000

Percentage of Afghan adults who report that their standard of living is improving : 4

Who report laughing or smiling the previous day : 36

Number of countries that have seen cutbacks in health programs as a result of the Trump Administration’s foreign-aid policy : 60

Percentage of Democrats who prefer that the congressional majority and the president be from the same party : 30

Of Republicans : 59

Portion of first-year US college students who experienced “clinical distress” as a result of the 2016 presidential election : 1/4

Factor by which US women are more likely than men to suffer from migraines : 3

Percentage of US cancer patients diagnosed between 2000 and 2012 who depleted all their assets within two years : 42

Average value of those assets : $92,000

Factor by which a millennial is more likely than a baby boomer to claim they have a food allergy : 2

Factor by which the portion of US children under two who have not received any vaccinations has increased since 2001 : 4

Average number of Americans who died from the flu each year between 2010 and 2017 : 36,714

Who died from the flu last year : 79,400

Average number of years that a Danish convict sentenced to life serves in prison : 17

Minimum number of years a convict sentenced to life in Tennessee must serve before they become eligible for parole : 60

Number of US states in which either “slavery” or “involuntary servitude” is a legal form of punishment : 23

Portion of US cell phones that weren’t reached by the national Wireless Emergency Alerts system in its inaugural test : 1/4

Average number of increased residents per square mile of hurricane-vulnerable US coastline since 1980 : 160

Of increased residents per square mile in the rest of the US mainland : 26

Amount of money the federal flood insurance program has paid to homeowners since 1978 : $67,900,000,000

Percentage of this money that has gone to “severe repetitive loss properties” : 11

Average number of times these homes have flooded : 5

Average percentage state and local tax rate paid by the poorest 20 percent of Oklahomans : 13.2

By the richest 1 percent : 6.2

Average amount a white American in the top 1 percent of earners will receive in tax cuts this year : $52,400

That a black American in the top 1 percent will : $19,290

Percentage of the global population that is white of European descent : 16

Percentage of participants in genetics research studies who are : 79

Chance that a kicker on a Division I historically black college’s football team is black : 1 in 7

Number of Americans’ fifty favorite athletes who are baseball players : 3

Number of those players who are dead : 1

Number of dead people Americans have elected to Congress : 6

**January Index Sources**

1 Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (Washington)  
2–4 Barna Group (Ventura, Calif.)  
5, 6 Pew Research Center (Washington)  
7 Slovenia Department of Transport Statistics (Ljubljana)  
8 US Customs and Border Protection  
9, 10 Gallup (Atlanta)  
11 Human Rights Watch (Washington)  
12, 13 Gallup  
14 Melissa Hagan, San Francisco State University  
15 Dawn Buse, Albert Einstein College of Medicine at Yeshiva University (NYC)  
16, 17 Grant Skrepnek, University of Oklahoma (Oklahoma City)  
18 YouGov (NYC)  
19–21 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Atlanta)  
22 Kriminalforsorgen (Copenhagen, Denmark)  
23 The Sentencing Project (Washington)  
24 American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado (Denver)  
25 Federal Emergency Management Agency  
26, 27 National Historical Geographic Information System (Minneapolis)  
28–30 National Resources Defense Council (Chicago)  
31, 32 Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (Washington)  
33, 34 Prosperity Now (Washington)  
35, 36 Broad Institute (Cambridge, Mass.)  
37 *Harper’s*research  
38, 39 Luker on Trends (St. Petersburg, Fla.)  
40 Office of the House Historian/Senate Historical Office

Source: <https://harpers.org/archive/2019/01/harpers-index-january-2019/>