

## How Many Turkeys Does It Take?

**How many turkeys does it take to feed Americans on thanksgiving?** Before you grab your phone to Google that let me make this a multiple choice question. Is the answer,

- A. 41 million,
- B. 51 million or
- C. 61 million?

How many say A? How many say B? How many say C? How many of you cheated and Googled it?

The correct answer according to one study is 51 million. In fact the actual number of turkeys consumed is 51,650,000. That is a lot of turkey!

Turkey while the main dish for most is just one of many food choices we will consume over Thanksgiving weekend. In fact the average household spending for Thanksgiving weekend is projected to be \$342. In total Americans will spend almost \$3 billion dollars on food for Thanksgiving.

Clearly we love Thanksgiving. It might be more accurate to say we love to eat and Thanksgiving gives us an excuse to splurge on our diets. I will do my fair share of splurging.

In the midst of all this eating we can lose sight of the reason we hold Thanksgiving. It is supposed to be a time of reflection and, well, thanksgiving, for the blessings we have received from God. So, take some time out of your feasting and stop to truly thank the Lord for all of His blessings in our lives. You might even ask those at your table to share one blessing they are thankful for.

Did you realize that your offering today is an act of thanksgiving? Throughout Scripture we see that the people of God would often bring what was called an offering of thanks. Psalm 50:23 says, "He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors me." Psalm 116:17 says, "To You I shall offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and call upon the name of the Lord."

These acts of worship reminded them of God's provision and protection. It was a way of showing thankfulness. When we view our gifts as an expression of thanksgiving it changes our view of giving. So, let's used today's offering as an expression of our thanksgiving to God for all he has done for us

Statistics from: <http://www.statisticbrain.com/thanksgiving-statistics/>