

## Amazing Facts (2024-2025)

- 1 A hummingbird beats its wings between 20 and 80 times a second. It can fly vertically up or down, hover in front of a flower, and even fly backward.
- 2 Whether an olive is black or green has nothing to do with its variety; it depends on when it is harvested.
- 3 The Trans-Canada Highway is the longest national highway in the world, at 7,821 km.
- 4 The longest conflict in history was the Hundred Years' War, fought between France and England. It actually lasted 116 years, from 1337 to 1453.
- 5 Colds and flus are caused by viruses, not the severity of the temperature outside.
- 6  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$  is exactly the same temperature as  $-40^{\circ}\text{F}$ . It is the only point at which the Celsius and Fahrenheit scales intersect.
- 7 A dog's sense of smell is between 10,000 and millions of times as sensitive as that of humans.
- 8 Mount Everest is the world's highest peak, at 8,848 metres.
- 9 Recycling is one part of the waste management strategy known as the "3 Rs": reduce, re-use, recycle.
- 10 Plastic packaging takes between 100 and 1,000 years to degrade. Plastic bags take 100 to 400 years, and aluminum cans, 100 to 500 years.
- 11 If a starfish is cut into pieces, each piece can survive and grow into a new starfish.
- 12 Mercury is the only metal that is a liquid at room temperature.
- 13 Contrary to popular belief, the Great Wall of China is not visible to the naked eye from the Moon.
- 14 The peculiar smell of coins held in your hand actually comes from your skin.
- 15 The record for speed-climbing the 1,576 steps of the Empire State Building in New York City is 9 minutes, 33 seconds.
- 16 Some experts claim that when we sneeze, every bodily function ceases—even the heart stops beating!
- 17 Just like their fingerprints, every person's tongue print is unique.
- 18 It takes 14 muscles to smile, and 43 muscles to frown.

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- 19 Honey contains fewer calories than sugar.
- 20 Bees have no ears. They perceive vibrations thanks to the hairs all over their bodies.
- 21 The popular belief that humans only use 10% of their brains is false. We use all parts of our brains, just not all at the same time.
- 22 The strongest muscle in the body, relative to its size, is the tongue.
- 23 It took a total of 214 crates to ship the Statue of Liberty in pieces from France to the United States.
- 24 Cleopatra wasn't Egyptian; she was of Greek origin.
- 25 The tulip is the most popular flower.
- 26 Table tennis, or ping-pong, is the world's most played sport.
- 27 The brain sends information at more than 380 km/h.
- 28 We blink about 20,000 times a day.
- 29 We breathe 20 times a minute, or more than 10 million times a year, or about 810 million times in a lifetime.
- 30 Your stomach must produce a new lining of mucus every two weeks—otherwise, it would digest itself!
- 31 During a lifetime, the heart pumps the equivalent of a million barrels of blood.
- 32 Your eyelashes keep sweat from your brow from running into your eyes, protect your eyes from the sun and rain, and block dust and sand.
- 33 A human heart beats about 35 million times in one year.
- 34 Identical twins don't have identical fingerprints.
- 35 During the summer months, lightning strikes somewhere in Canada every three seconds.
- 36 A lightning bolt is a million times more powerful than ordinary household current, transporting up to 100 million volts of electricity.
- 37 Dolphins can swim in their sleep.

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- 38 Cows can sleep with their eyes open.
- 39 Fish scales are an essential ingredient in lipstick.
- 40 Decaffeinated coffee contains caffeine.
- 41 A giraffe can drink nearly 15 litres of water in a single swallow.
- 42 An elephant's height at its shoulder is equal to twice the circumference of its foot.
- 43 The distress call S.O.S. is not an acronym for "save our souls." The letters have no particular meaning.
- 44 The speed of a ping-pong ball can reach more than 160 km/h.
- 45 It can take up to six years for an oyster to produce a pearl.
- 46 The Eiffel Tower has been visited by more than 236 million people.
- 47 A male lion can lie down and sleep for up to 20 hours a day. Conversely, an elephant rarely sleeps more than four hours a day.