

**Answer Key****A Math Riddle to Learn History**

How many U.S. Presidents were under 40 years old when they started their terms?  
Read and follow the directions to find out.

1. Start with the number of senators in the U.S. Senate.  
Subtract the number of stars on the U.S. flag.

There are 100 Senators,  
and there are 50 stars  
on the U.S. flag.

$$100 - 50 = 50$$

2. Divide that number by the number of letters in the last  
name of the first president of the United States.

There are 10 letters in  
the last name Washington.

$$50 \div 10 = 5$$

3. Use that total and add the number of letters of  
the largest state in the United States.

The largest state in the U.S.  
is Alaska. Alaska has 6 letters.

$$5 + 6 = 11$$

4. Subtract the number of letters of the smallest  
state in the United States.

The smallest state in the U.S.  
is Rhode Island. Rhode Island  
has 11 letters.

$$11 - 11 = 0$$

5. You will now have the number of U.S. presidents  
that were under the age of 40 when they started  
their terms.

The final answer is zero.