1890 in the United States

Events from the year 1890 in the United States.

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Incumbents

Federal government

- President: Benjamin Harrison (R-Indiana)
- Vice President: Levi P. Morton (R-New York)
- Chief Justice: Melville Fuller (Illinois)
- Speaker of the House of Representatives: Thomas Brackett Reed (R-Maine)
- Congress: 51st
| Governor of Alabama: | Thomas Seay (Democratic) (starting December 1), Thomas G. Jones (Democratic) (starting December 1) |
| Governor of Arkansas: | James Philip Eagle (Democratic) |
| Governor of California: | Robert Waterman (Republican) |
| Governor of Colorado: | Job Adams Cooper (Republican) |
| Governor of Connecticut: | Morgan G. Bulkeley (Republican) |
| Governor of Delaware: | Benjamin T. Biggs (Democratic) |
| Governor of Florida: | Francis P. Fleming (Democratic) |
| Governor of Georgia: | John Brown Gordon (Democratic) (until November 8), William J. Northen (Democratic) (starting November 8) |
| Governor of Idaho: | George L. Shoup (Republican) (until December 18), N. B. Willey (Republican) (starting December 18) |
| Governor of Illinois: | Joseph W. Fifer (Republican) |
| Governor of Indiana: | Alvin P. Hovey (Republican) |
| Governor of Iowa: | William Larrabee (Republican) (until February 27), Horace Boies (Democratic) (starting February 27) |
| Governor of Kansas: | Lyman U. Humphrey (Republican) |
| Governor of Kentucky: | Simon B. Buckner (Democratic) |
| Governor of Louisiana: | Francis T. Nicholls (Democratic) |
| Governor of Maine: | Edwin C. Burleigh (Republican) |
| Governor of Maryland: | Elihu Emory Jackson (Democratic) |
| Governor of Massachusetts: | Oliver Ames (Republican) (until January 7), John Q. A. Brackett (Republican) (starting January 7) |
| Governor of Michigan: | Cyrus G. Luce (Republican) |
| Governor of Minnesota: | William R. Merriam (Republican) |
| Governor of Mississippi: | Robert Lowry (Democratic) (until January 13), John M. Stone (Democratic) (starting January 13) |
| Governor of Missouri: | David R. Francis (Democratic) |
| Governor of Montana: | Joseph Toole (Democratic) |
| Governor of Nebraska: | John Milton Thayer (Republican) |
| Governor of Nevada: | Charles C. Stevenson (Republican) (until September 21), Frank Bell (Republican) (starting September 21) |
| Governor of New Hampshire: | David H. Goodell (Republican) |
| Governor of New Jersey: | Robert Stockton Green (Democratic) (until January 21), Leon Abbett (Democratic) (starting January 21) |
| Governor of New York: | David B. Hill (Democratic) |
| Governor of North Carolina: | Daniel Gould Fowle (Democratic) |
| Governor of North Dakota: | John Miller (Republican) |
| Governor of Ohio: | Joseph B. Foraker (Republican) (until January 13), James E. Campbell (Democratic) (starting January 13) |
| Governor of Oregon: | Sylvester Pennoyer (Democratic) |
| Governor of Pennsylvania: | James A. Beaver (Republican) |
| Governor of Rhode Island: | Herbert W. Ladd (Republican) (until May 26), John W. Davis (Democratic) (starting May 26) |
| Governor of South Carolina: | John Peter Richardson III (Democratic) (until December 4), Benjamin Ryan Tillman (Democratic) (starting December 4) |
Governor of South Dakota: Arthur C. Mellette (Republican)
Governor of Tennessee: Robert Love Taylor (Democratic)
Governor of Texas: Lawrence Sullivan Ross (Democratic)
Governor of Vermont: William P. Dillingham (Republican) (until October 2), Carroll S. Page (Republican) (starting October 2)
Governor of Virginia: Fitzhugh Lee (Democratic) (until January 1), Philip W. McKinney (Democratic) (starting January 1)
Governor of Washington: Elisha Peyre Ferry (Republican)
Governor of West Virginia: Emanuel Willis Wilson (Democratic) (starting February 6), Aretas B. Fleming (Democratic) (starting February 6)
Governor of Wisconsin: William D. Hoard (Republican)
Governor of Wyoming: Francis E. Warren (Republican) (until November 24), Amos W. Barber (Republican) (starting November 24)

Lieutenant Governors

Lieutenant Governor of California: Stephen M. White (Democratic)
Lieutenant Governor of Colorado: William Grover Smith (Republican)
Lieutenant Governor of Connecticut: Samuel E. Merwin (Republican)
Lieutenant Governor of Idaho: N. B. Willey (Republican) (until December), John S. Gray (Republican) (starting December 2)
Lieutenant Governor of Illinois: Lyman Ray (Republican)
Lieutenant Governor of Indiana: Ira Joy Chase (Republican)
Lieutenant Governor of Iowa: John A. T. Hull (Republican) (until February 27), Alfred N. Poyneer (Republican) (starting February 27)
Lieutenant Governor of Kansas: Andrew J. Felt (Republican)
Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky: James William Bryan (political party unknown)
Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana: James Jeffries (Democratic)
Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts: John Q. A. Brackett (Democratic) (until January 4), William H. Haile (Republican) (starting January 4)
Lieutenant Governor of Michigan: vacant
Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota: Albert E. Rice (Republican)
Lieutenant Governor of Mississippi: G. D. Shands (Democratic) (until month and day unknown), M. M. Evans (Democratic) (starting month and day unknown)
Lieutenant Governor of Missouri: Stephen H. Claycomb (Democratic)
Lieutenant Governor of Montana: John E. Rickards (Republican)
Lieutenant Governor of Nebraska: George D. Meiklejohn (Republican)
Lieutenant Governor of Nevada: Frank Bell (Republican) (until September 21), vacant (starting September 21)
Lieutenant Governor of New York: Edward F. Jones (Democratic)
Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina: Thomas M. Holt (Democratic)
Lieutenant Governor of North Dakota: Alfred Dickey (Republican)
Lieutenant Governor of Ohio:
  until January 13: William C. Lyon (Republican)
  January 13-January 31: Elbert L. Lampson (Republican)
  starting January 31: William V. Marquis (Republican)
Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylania: William T. Davies (Republican)
Lieutenant Governor of Rhode Island: Daniel Littlefield (Republican) (until May 27), William T. C. Wardwell (political party unknown) (starting May 27)
Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina: William Mauldin (Democratic) (until December 4), Eugene Gary (Democratic) (starting December 4)
January–June period – George W. Johnson becomes the first African American to record phonograph cylinders, in New York.

January 1 – In Michigan, the wooden steamer Mackinaw burns in a fire on the Black River.[1]

January 2 – Alice Sanger becomes the first female staffer in the White House.[2]

January 22 – The United Mine Workers is founded.

January 25 – Nellie Bly completes her round-the-world journey in 72 days.

February 24 – Chicago is selected to host the Columbian Exposition.

March 2–7 – The Cherry Creek Campaign occurs in Arizona Territory.

March 3 – The first American football game in Ohio State University history is played in Delaware, Ohio against Ohio Wesleyan University; Ohio State wins 20–14.

March 8 – North Dakota State University is founded in Fargo, North Dakota.

March 27 – A tornado strikes Louisville, Kentucky, killing 76 people and injuring 200.


May – National American Woman Suffrage Association established.[3]

May 2 – Oklahoma Territory is organized.

May 31 – The 5-story skylight Cleveland Arcade opens in Cleveland, Ohio.

June 1 – The United States Census Bureau begins using Herman Hollerith's tabulating machine to record census returns using punched card input, a landmark in the history of computing hardware. Hollerith's company eventually becomes IBM.

June 12 – In Michigan, the wooden steamer Ryan is lost near Thunder Bay Island.[1]


July–December

July 2 – The Sherman Antitrust Act becomes United States law.

July 3 – Idaho is admitted as the 43rd U.S. State (see History of Idaho).

July 10 – Wyoming is admitted as the 44th U.S. State (see History of Wyoming).
July 13 – In Minnesota, storms result in the Sea Wing disaster on Lake Pepin killing 98.

August 6 – At Auburn Prison in New York, William Kemmler becomes the first person to be executed in the electric chair.

August 10 – In Boston, Irish-born poet John Boyle O’Reilly dies suddenly, aged 46. The death triggers a mass outpouring of grief and tributes across the country and the world.

September – The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints President Wilford Woodruff issues the "1890 Manifesto" officially advising against any future polygamy in the Church.

September 25 – Sequoia National Park created.

October 1 – Yosemite National Park created.

October 11 – In Washington, D.C., the Daughters of the American Revolution is founded.[4]

October 13

- The Delta Chi Fraternity is founded by 11 law students at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.
- In Michigan, the schooner J. F. Warner is lost at Thunder Bay.[1]

November 29 – In West Point, New York, the United States Navy defeats the United States Army 24-0 in the first Army-Navy football game.

December 24 – The Oklahoma territorial legislature establishes three institutions of higher learning University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, and University of Central Oklahoma.

December 29 – Wounded Knee Massacre: Near Wounded Knee Creek, South Dakota the U.S. 7th Cavalry Regiment tries to disarm a Native American camp and shooting starts. 153 Lakota Sioux and 25 troops are killed; about 150 flee the scene.

Undated

- The United States city of Boise, Idaho drills the first geothermal well.
- The corrugated cardboard box is invented by Robert Gair, a Brooklyn printer who developed production of paper-board boxes in 1879.
- The Demarest Building, a commercial building on Fifth Avenue in New York City, is completed as the first with an electric elevator (installed by Otis).
- The march "High School Cadets" is written by John Philip Sousa.
- Brown trout are introduced into the upper Firehole River in Yellowstone National Park.

Ongoing

- Gilded Age (1869–c. 1896)
- Gay Nineties (1890–1899)
- Progressive Era (1890s–1920s)
**Sport**

- September 30 – The Brooklyn Bridegrooms clinch the National League pennant.

**Births**

- January 4 – Victor Adamson, Western film director, producer, screenwriter and actor (died 1972)
- January 22 – Fred M. Vinson, 13th Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (died 1953)
- January 28 – Robert Franklin Stroud, "Birdman of Alcatraz" (died 1963)
- February 18
  - Edward Arnold, actor (died 1956)
  - Adolphe Menjou, film actor (died 1963)
- February 24 – Marjorie Main, character actress (died 1975)
- February 27
  - Freddie Keppard, jazz cornet player (died 1933)
  - Art Smith, pilot (died in aviation accident 1926)
- March 11 – Vannevar Bush, science administrator (died 1974)
- March 21 – C. Douglass Buck, U.S. Senator from Delaware from 1943 to 1949 (died 1965)
- March 28 – Paul Whiteman, bandleader (died 1967)
- April 7
  - Marjory Stoneman Douglas, conservationist and writer (died 1998)
  - Harry W. Hill, admiral (died 1971)
- April 13 – Frank Murphy, politician and Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States (died 1949)
- May 1 – Laurence Wild, basketball player and 30th Governor of American Samoa (died 1971)
- May 11 – Woodall Rodgers, lawyer and politician, Mayor of Dallas (died 1961)
- May 15 – Katherine Anne Porter, author (died 1980)
- June 1 – Frank Morgan, character actor (died 1949)
- June 26
  - Oscar C. Badger II, admiral (died 1958)
  - Jeanne Eagels, actress (died 1929)
- July 22 – Rose Kennedy, philanthropist and matriarch of the Kennedy family (died 1995)
- July 26 – Daniel J. Callaghan, admiral (killed in action 1942)
- August 20 – H. P. Lovecraft, horror fiction author (died 1937)
- September 20 – Jelly Roll Morton, jazz pianist, composer and bandleader (died 1941)
- September 24 – Allen J. Ellender, U.S. Senator from Louisiana from 1937 to 1972 (died 1972)
- **October 1**
  - Katherine Corri Harris, socialite and actress, first wife of John Barrymore (died 1927)
  - Alice Joyce, silent film actress (died 1955)
  - Blanche Oelrichs, poet, second wife of John Barrymore (died 1950)
- **October 2** – Groucho Marx, comedian (died 1977)
- **October 8** – Eddie Rickenbacker, race car driver and World War I fighter pilot (died 1973)
- **October 13** – Conrad Richter, fiction writer (died 1968)
- **October 14** – Dwight D. Eisenhower, 34th President of the United States from 1953 to 1961 (died 1969)
- **October 20** – Sherman Minton, U.S. Senator from Indiana from 1935 to 1941, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from 1949 to 1956 (died 1965)
- **October 25** – Floyd Bennett, aviator and explorer (died 1928)
- **December 21** – Hermann Joseph Muller, geneticist, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1946 (died 1967)
- **December 25** – Robert Ripley, collector of odd facts (died 1949)
- **December 26** – Uncle Charlie Osborne, Appalachian fiddler (died 1992)

**Deaths**

- **January 2** – George Henry Boker, poet and playwright (born 1823)
- **January 28** – Prudence Crandall, educationist (born 1803)
- **February 22** – John Jacob Astor III, businessman (born 1822)
- **March 2** – James E. English, U.S. Senator from Connecticut from 1875 to 1876 (born 1812)
- **March 19** – John S. Hager, U.S. Senator from California from 1873 to 1875 (born 1818)
- **April 1** – David Wilber, politician (born 1820)
- **April 19** – James Pollock, politician (born 1810)
- **April 30** – Marcus Thrane, author, journalist, and the leader of the first labour movement in Norway (born 1817)
- **May 3** – James B. Beck, U.S. Senator from Kentucky from 1877 to 1890 (born 1822 in Scotland)
- **May 15** – Edward Doane, Protestant missionary in Micronesia (born 1820)
- **June 11** – George Edward Brett, publisher (born 1829)
- **June 30** – Samuel Parkman Tuckerman, composer (born 1819)
- **July 9** – Clinton B. Fisk, philanthropist and temperance activist (born 1828)
- **July 10** – Thomas C. McCrery, U.S. Senator from Kentucky from 1868 to 1871 (born 1816)
- **July 13** – John C. Frémont, soldier, explorer and U.S. Senator from California from 1850 to 1851 (born 1813)
August 6 – William Kemmler, murderer, first person executed in the electric chair (born 1860)
August 10 – John Boyle O'Reilly, poet, novelist, journalist and transportee (born 1844 in Ireland)
September 8 – Isaac P. Christiancy, Chief Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court and U.S. Senator from Michigan from 1875 to 1879 (born 1812)
September 30 – Frederick H. Billings, lawyer and financier (born 1823)
October 7 – John Hill Hewitt, songwriter (born 1801)
October 20 – Alfred B. Mullett, architect (born 1834)
November 7 – Comanche, horse, survivor of Custer's cavalry at the Battle of the Little Bighorn
December 15 – Sitting Bull, Native American chief (born c. 1831)
Ann Leah Underhill, one of the Fox sisters, fraudulent medium (born 1814)

See also
- List of American films of the 1890s
- Timeline of United States history (1860–1899)

References

External links
- Media related to 1890 in the United States at Wikimedia Commons
