

1904 in the United States

Events from the year **1904 in the United States**.

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Incumbents

Federal Government

- President: Theodore Roosevelt (R-New York)
- Vice President: *vacant*
- Chief Justice: Melville Fuller (Illinois)
- Speaker of the House of Representatives: Joseph Gurney Cannon (R-Illinois)
- Congress: 58th

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Decades:

1880s • 1890s • **1900s** • 1910s • 1920s

See also:

History of the United States (1865–1918) • Timeline of United States history (1900–1929) • List of years in the United States

Governors

- Governor of Alabama: William D. Jelks (Democratic)
- Governor of Arkansas: Jeff Davis (Democratic)
- Governor of California: George Pardee (Republican)
- Governor of Colorado: James Hamilton Peabody (Republican)
- Governor of Connecticut: Abiram Chamberlain (Republican)
- Governor of Delaware: John Hunn (Republican)
- Governor of Florida: William Sherman Jennings (Democratic)
- Governor of Georgia: Joseph M. Terrell (Democratic)
- Governor of Idaho: John T. Morrison (Republican)
- Governor of Illinois: Richard Yates, Jr. (Republican)
- Governor of Indiana: Winfield T. Durbin (Republican)
- Governor of Iowa: Albert B. Cummins (Republican)
- Governor of Kansas: Willis J. Bailey (Republican)
- Governor of Kentucky: J. C. W. Beckham (Democratic)
- Governor of Louisiana: William Wright Heard (Democratic) (until May 10), Newton Crain Blanchard (Democratic) (starting May 10)
- Governor of Maine: John Fremont Hill (Republican)
- Governor of Maryland: John Walter Smith (Democratic) (until January 13), Edwin Warfield (Democratic) (starting January 13)
- Governor of Massachusetts: John L. Bates (Republican)
- Governor of Michigan: Aaron T. Bliss (Republican)
- Governor of Minnesota: Samuel Rinnah Van Sant (Republican)
- Governor of Mississippi: Andrew H. Longino (Democratic) (until January 19), James K. Vardaman (Democratic) (starting January 19)
- Governor of Missouri: Alexander Monroe Dockery (Democratic)
- Governor of Montana: Joseph Toole (Democratic)
- Governor of Nebraska: John H. Mickey (Republican)
- Governor of Nevada: John Sparks (Silver)
- Governor of New Hampshire: Nahum J. Bachelder (Republican)
- Governor of New Jersey: Franklin Murphy (Republican)
- Governor of New York: Benjamin Barker Odell, Jr. (Republican) (until end of December 31)
- Governor of North Carolina: Charles Brantley Aycock (Democratic)
- Governor of North Dakota: Frank White (Republican)
- Governor of Ohio: George K. Nash (Republican) (until January 11), Myron T. Herrick (Republican) (starting January 11)
- Governor of Oregon: George Chamberlain (Democratic)
- Governor of Pennsylvania: Samuel W. Pennypacker (Republican)
- Governor of Rhode Island: Lucius F. C. Garvin (Democratic)
- Governor of South Carolina: Duncan Clinch Heyward (Democratic)
- Governor of South Dakota: Charles N. Herreid (Republican)
- Governor of Tennessee: James B. Frazier (Democratic)
- Governor of Texas: S. W. T. Lanham (Democratic)
- Governor of Utah: Heber Manning Wells (Republican)
- Governor of Vermont: John G. McCullough (Republican) (until October 6), Charles J. Bell (Republican) (starting October 6)

- Governor of Virginia: Andrew Jackson Montague (Democratic)
- Governor of Washington: Henry McBride (Republican)
- Governor of West Virginia: Albert B. White (Republican)
- Governor of Wisconsin: Robert M. La Follette, Sr. (Republican)
- Governor of Wyoming: Fenimore Chatterton (Republican)

Lieutenant Governors

- Lieutenant Governor of Alabama: Russell M. Cunningham (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of California: Alden Anderson (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Colorado: Warren A. Haggott (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Connecticut: Henry Roberts (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Delaware: Philip L. Cannon (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Idaho: James M. Stevens (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Illinois: William Northcott (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Indiana: Newton W. Gilbert (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Iowa: John Herriott (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Kansas: David J. Hanna (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky: William P. Thorne (political party unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana: Albert Estopinal (Democratic) (until May 10), Jared Y. Sanders, Sr. (Democratic) (starting May 10)
- Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts: Curtis Guild, Jr. (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Michigan: Alexander Maitland (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota: Ray W. Jones (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Mississippi: James T. Harrison (Democratic) (until month and day unknown), John Prentiss Carter (Democratic) (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Missouri: Thomas Lewis Rubey (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Montana: Frank G. Higgins (political party unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Nebraska: Edmund G. McGilton (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Nevada: Lemuel Allen (political party unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of New York: Frank W. Higgins (Republican) (until end of December 31)
- Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina: Wilfred D. Turner (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of North Dakota: David Bartlett (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Ohio: Harry L. Gordon (Republican) (until January 11), Warren G. Harding (Republican) (starting January 11)
- Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania: William M. Brown (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Rhode Island: Adelard Archambault (Democratic) (until month and day unknown), George H. Utter (Republican) (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina: John Sloan (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of South Dakota: George W. Snow (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Tennessee: E. T. Seay (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Texas: George D. Neal (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Vermont: Zed S. Stanton (Republican) (until October 6), Charles H. Stearns (Republican) (starting October 6)
- Lieutenant Governor of Virginia: Joseph Edward Willard (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Washington: vacant
- Lieutenant Governor of Wisconsin: James O. Davidson (Republican)

Events

January–March

- January 12 – Henry Ford sets a new automobile land speed record of 91.37 mph.
- January 16 – The first large-scale bodybuilding competition in America takes place at Madison Square Garden in New York City.
- February 7 – The Great Baltimore Fire in Baltimore, Maryland destroys over 1,500 buildings in 30 hours.
- February 23 – For \$10 million, the United States gains control of the Panama Canal Zone.

April–June

- April 8 – Longacre Square in Midtown Manhattan is renamed Times Square after The New York Times.
- April 30 – The Louisiana Purchase Exposition World's Fair opens in St. Louis, Missouri (closes December 1).
- May 4 – U.S. Army engineers begin work on The Panama Canal.
- May 5 – Pitching against the Philadelphia Athletics, Cy Young of the Boston Americans throws the first perfect game in the modern era of baseball.
- May 30 – Alpha Gamma Delta women's fraternity is founded at Syracuse University in Syracuse, New York.
- June 15 – A fire aboard the steamboat General Slocum in New York City's East River kills 1,021.

July–September

- July 1 – The third Modern Olympic Games opens in St. Louis, Missouri, United States as part of the World's Fair.
- July 23 – In St. Louis, Missouri, the ice cream cone is invented during the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.
- September – Stuyvesant High School opens in New York City as Manhattan's first manual trade school for boys.
- September 25 – The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints President Joseph F. Smith issues a Second Manifesto against polygamy.

October–December

- October – The Daytona Educational and Industrial Training School for Negro Girls, predecessor of Bethune–Cookman University, is opened in Florida by Mary McLeod Bethune.
- October 1 – Phi Delta Epsilon, the international medical fraternity, is founded by Aaron Brown and eight of his friends at Cornell University Medical College.
- October 5 – Alpha Kappa Psi, the co-ed Professional Business fraternity, is founded on the campus of New York University.
- October 15 – Theta Tau, the Professional Engineering Fraternity, is founded at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

- October 17 – Amadeo Giannini founds the Bank of Italy in San Francisco, predecessor of the Bank of America.
- October 19 – Polytechnic University of the Philippines is founded as Manila Business School through the superintendence of the American Gabriel A. O'Reilly.
- October 27 – The first underground line of the New York City Subway opens.
- November 8 – U.S. presidential election, 1904: Republican incumbent Theodore Roosevelt defeats Democrat Alton B. Parker.
- December 10 – The Pi Kappa Phi fraternity is founded at the College of Charleston in South Carolina.
- December 30 – The East Boston Tunnel opens.
- December 31 – In New York City, the first New Year's Eve celebration is held in Times Square.

Undated

- St. Bernard's School is founded in New York City on Manhattan.

Ongoing

- Progressive Era (1890s–1920s)
- Lochner era (c. 1897–c. 1937)
- Black Patch Tobacco Wars (1904–1908)

Births

- January 5 – Jeane Dixon, astrologer (died 1997)
- January 10 – Ray Bolger, actor, singer and dancer, best known for his role in *The Wizard of Oz* (died 1987)
- January 19 – Leo Soileau, Cajun musician (died 1980)
- January 21 – Edris Rice-Wray Carson, medical researcher (died 1990)
- January 26 – Ancel Keys, nutritionist (died 2004)
- February 3 – Pretty Boy Floyd, bank robber (shot 1934)
- February 16 – George F. Kennan, political adviser (died 2005)
- March 1
 - Paul Hartman, actor and dancer (died 1973)
 - Glenn Miller, bandleader (died 1944)
- March 2 – Dr. Seuss, children's author (*The Cat in the Hat*) (died 1991)
- March 20
 - Frank Mills, politician in Ohio legislature (died 1969)
 - B. F. Skinner, behavioral psychologist (died 1990)
- March 23 (possible year) – Joan Crawford, actress (died 1977)
- March 26 – Joseph Campbell, author on mythology (died 1987)
- April 12 – Glen H. Taylor, U.S. Senator from Idaho from 1945 to 1951 (died 1984)

- April 18 – Pigmeat Markham, African American entertainer (died 1981)
- April 20 – Bob Bartlett, U.S. Senator from Alaska from 1959 to 1968 (died 1968)
- April 22 – J. Robert Oppenheimer, physicist (died 1967)
- May 17 – John J. Williams, U.S. Senator from Delaware from 1947 to 1970 (died 1988)
- May 21
 - Robert Montgomery, actor and director (died 1981)
 - Fats Waller, African American jazz pianist and entertainer (died 1943)
- June 3 – Charles R. Drew, African American physician, pioneer in blood transfusion (died 1950)
- June 2 – Johnny Weissmuller, swimmer and actor (*Tarzan*) (died 1984)
- June 24 – Phil Harris, bandleader and comic actor (died 1995)
- July 1 – Mary Calderone, physician and public health advocate (died 1998)
- August 16– Wendell Meredith Stanley, chemist, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1946 (died 1971)
- August 17 – Mary Cain, newspaper editor and politician (died 1984)
- August 21 – Count Basie, African American jazz bandleader (died 1984)
- September 12 – Lou Moore, race car driver and team owner (died 1956)
- October 3 – Charles J. Pedersen, chemist, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1987 (died 1989)
- November 1 – Laura La Plante, silent film actress (died 1996)
- November 17 – Isamu Noguchi, sculptor (died 1988)
- November 25 – Lillian Copeland, Olympic field athlete (died 1964)
- December 7 – Clarence Nash, voice actor (died 1985)
- December 18 – George Stevens, film director (died 1975)
- December 25 – Flemmie Pansy Kittrell, nutritionist (died 1980)
- December 30 – David M. Shoup, general (died 1983)

Deaths

- January 2 – James Longstreet, one of the foremost Confederate generals of the American Civil War (born 1821)
- January 9 – John Brown Gordon, U.S. Senator from Georgia from 1873 to 1880 and from 1891 to 1897 (born 1832)
- January 20 – Maria Louisa Bustill, schoolteacher, mother of Paul Robeson (born 1853)
- February 15 – Mark Hanna, U.S. Senator from Ohio (born 1837)
- March 18 – William Elbridge Sewell, naval officer and Governor of Guam (born 1851)
- June 5 – Olivia Langdon Clemens, editor (born 1845)
- June 28 – Dan Emmett, founder of the Virginia Minstrels (born 1815)
- July 26 – Henry Clay Taylor, admiral (born 1845)
- August 16 – Colonel Prentiss Ingraham, author of dime fiction (born 1843)
- August 22 – Kate Chopin, fiction writer (born 1850)
- October 11 – Trumbull Stickney, classicist and poet (born 1874)

- December 21 – George L. Shoup, U.S. Senator from Idaho from 1890 to 1901 (born 1836)
- Little Joe Monahan, transgender rancher (born 1850)

See also

- List of American films of 1904
- Timeline of United States history (1900–1929)

Further reading

- "Domestic Chronology" (<http://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b3142275?urlappend=%3Bseq=239>), *Statistician and Economist*, San Francisco: Louis P. McCarty, 1905, pp. 227–347 – via HathiTrust. (Covers events May 1898-June 1905.)

External links

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