

1923 in the United States

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Events from the year **1923 in the United States**.

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Incumbents

Federal Government

- President: Warren G. Harding (R-Ohio) (until August 2), Calvin Coolidge (R-Massachusetts) (starting August 2)
- Vice President: Calvin Coolidge (R-Massachusetts) (until August 2), *vacant* (starting August 2)
- Chief Justice: William Howard Taft (Ohio)
- Speaker of the House of Representatives: Frederick H. Gillett (R-Massachusetts)
- Senate Majority Leader: Henry Cabot Lodge (R-Massachusetts)
- Congress: 67th (until March 4), 68th (starting March 4)

Governors and Lieutenant Governors

Governors

- Governor of Alabama: Thomas Kilby (Democratic) (until January 15), William W. Brandon (Democratic) (starting January 15)
- Governor of Arizona: Thomas Edward Campbell (Republican) (until January 1), George W. P. Hunt (Democratic) (starting January 1)
- Governor of Arkansas: Thomas Chipman McRae (Democratic)
- Governor of California: William Stephens (Republican) (until January 9), Friend Richardson (Republican) (starting January 9)
- Governor of Colorado: Oliver Henry Shoup (Republican) (until January 9), William Ellery Sweet (Democratic) (starting January 9)
- Governor of Connecticut: Everett J. Lake (Republican) (until January 3), Charles A. Templeton (Republican) (starting January 3)
- Governor of Delaware: William D. Denney (Republican)
- Governor of Florida: Cary A. Hardee (Democratic)
- Governor of Georgia: Thomas W. Hardwick (Democratic) (until June 30), Clifford Walker (Democratic) (starting June 30)
- Governor of Idaho: D. W. Davis (Republican) (until January 1), Charles C. Moore (Republican) (starting January 1)
- Governor of Illinois: Len Small (Republican)
- Governor of Indiana: Warren T. McCray (Republican)
- Governor of Iowa: Nathan E. Kendall (Republican)
- Governor of Kansas: Henry J. Allen (Republican) (until January 8), Jonathan M. Davis (Democratic) (starting January 8)
- Governor of Kentucky: Edwin P. Morrow (Republican) (until December 11), William J. Fields (Democratic) (starting December 11)
- Governor of Louisiana: John M. Parker (Democratic)
- Governor of Maine: Percival Proctor Baxter (Republican)
- Governor of Maryland: Albert C. Ritchie (Democratic)
- Governor of Massachusetts: Channing H. Cox (Republican)
- Governor of Michigan: Alex Groesbeck (Republican)
- Governor of Minnesota: J. A. O. Preus (Republican)
- Governor of Mississippi: Lee M. Russell (Democratic)
- Governor of Missouri: Arthur M. Hyde (Republican)
- Governor of Montana: Joseph M. Dixon (Republican)
- Governor of Nebraska: Samuel R. McKelvie (Republican) (until January 3), Charles W. Bryan (Democratic) (starting January 3)
- Governor of Nevada: Emmet D. Boyle (Democratic) (until January 1), James G. Scrugham (Democratic) (starting January 1)
- Governor of New Hampshire: Albert O. Brown (Republican) (until January 4), Fred H. Brown (Democratic) (starting January 4)
- Governor of New Jersey: Edward I. Edwards (Democratic) (until January 15), George Sebastian Silzer (Democratic) (starting January 15)
- Governor of New Mexico: Merritt C. Mechem (Republican) (until January 1), James F. Hinkle (Democratic) (starting January 1)
- Governor of New York: Al Smith (Democratic) (starting January 1)
- Governor of North Carolina: Cameron Morrison (Democratic)
- Governor of North Dakota: Ragnvald A. Nestos (Republican)
- Governor of Ohio: Harry L. Davis (Republican) (until January 8), A. Victor Donahey (Democratic) (starting January 8)
- Governor of Oklahoma:
 - until January 8: James B. A. Robertson (Democratic)
 - January 8-November 19: Jack C. Walton (Democratic)
 - starting November 19: Martin E. Trapp (Democratic)
- Governor of Oregon: Ben W. Olcott (Republican) (until January 8), Walter M. Pierce (Democratic) (starting January 8)
- Governor of Pennsylvania: William Cameron Sproul (Republican) (until January 16), Gifford Pinchot (Republican) (starting January 16)
- Governor of Rhode Island: Emery J. San Souci (Republican) (until January 2), William S. Flynn (Democratic) (starting January 2)
- Governor of South Carolina: Wilson Godfrey Harvey (Democratic) (until January 16), Thomas Gordon McLeod (Democratic) (starting January 16)
- Governor of South Dakota: William H. McMaster (Republican)
- Governor of Tennessee: Alfred A. Taylor (Republican) (until January 16), Austin Peay (Democratic) (starting January 16)
- Governor of Texas: Pat Morris Neff (Democratic)
- Governor of Utah: Charles R. Mabey (Republican)

- Governor of Vermont: James Hartness (Republican) (until January 4), Redfield Proctor, Jr. (Republican) (starting January 4)
- Governor of Virginia: Elbert Lee Trinkle (Democratic)
- Governor of Washington: Louis Folwell Hart (Republican)
- Governor of West Virginia: Ephraim F. Morgan (Republican)

Lieutenant Governors

- Lieutenant Governor of Alabama: Nathan Lee Miller (Democratic) (until January 15), Charles S. McDowell (Democratic) (starting January 15)
- Lieutenant Governor of California: Clement Calhoun Young (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Colorado: Earl Cooley (Republican) (until January 9), Robert F. Rockwell (Republican) (starting January 9)
- Lieutenant Governor of Connecticut: Charles A. Templeton (Republican) (until January 3), Hiram Bingham (Republican) (starting January 3)
- Lieutenant Governor of Delaware: J. Danforth Bush (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Idaho: Charles C. Moore (Republican) (until January 1), H. C. Baldrige (Republican) (starting January 1)
- Lieutenant Governor of Illinois: Fred E. Sterling (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Indiana: Emmett Forrest Branch (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Iowa: John Hammill (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Kansas: Charles S. Huffman (Republican) (until January 9), Ben Sanford Paulen (Republican) (starting January 9)
- Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky: S. Thruston Ballard (Republican) (until December 11), Henry Denhardt (Democratic) (starting December 11)
- Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana: Hewitt Bouanchaud (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts: Alvan T. Fuller (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Michigan: Thomas Read (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota: Louis L. Collins (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Mississippi: Homer H. Casteel (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Missouri: Hiram Lloyd (Republican)
- Governor of Wisconsin: John J. Blaine (Republican)
- Governor of Wyoming: Robert D. Carey (Republican) (until January 1), William B. Ross (Democratic) (starting January 1)
- Lieutenant Governor of Montana: Nelson Story, Jr. (political party unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Nebraska: Pelham A. Barrows (Republican) (until January 3), Fred G. Johnson (Republican) (starting January 3)
- Lieutenant Governor of Nevada: Maurice J. Sullivan (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of New Mexico: William H. Duckworth (Republican) (until January 1), Jose A. Baca (Democratic) (starting January 1)
- Lieutenant Governor of New York: George R. Lunn (Democratic) (starting January 1)
- Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina: William B. Cooper (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of North Dakota: Howard R. Wood (Republican) (until month and day unknown), Frank H. Hyland (Republican) (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Ohio: Clarence J. Brown Sr. (Republican) (until January 8), Earl D. Bloom (Democratic) (starting January 8)
- Lieutenant Governor of Oklahoma: Martin E. Trapp (Democratic) (until November 19), vacant (starting November 19)
- Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania: Edward E. Beidleman (Republican) (until January 20), David J. Davis (Republican) (starting January 20)
- Lieutenant Governor of Rhode Island: Harold Gross (Republican) (until month and day unknown), Felix A. Toupin (Republican) (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina: vacant (until January 16), E. B. Jackson (Democratic) (starting January 16)
- Lieutenant Governor of South Dakota: Carl Gunderson (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Tennessee: William West Bond (Democratic) (until month and day unknown), Eugene J. Bryan (Democratic) (starting month and day unknown)

- Lieutenant Governor of Texas: Lynch Davidson (Democratic) (until January 16), Thomas Whitfield Davidson (Democratic) (starting January 16)
- Lieutenant Governor of Vermont: Abram W. Foote (Republican) (until January 4), Franklin S. Billings (Republican) (starting January 4)
- Lieutenant Governor of Virginia: Junius Edgar West (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Washington: William J. Coyle (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Wisconsin: George F. Comings (Republican)

Events

January–March

- February 5 – *United States v. Bhagat Singh Thind*: The Supreme Court decides that Bhagat Singh Thind cannot become a naturalized U.S. citizen because, as a Punjabi Sikh, he is not a "white person".
- March 1 – The USS *Connecticut* is decommissioned.
- March 2 – The first issue of *Time* magazine is published.
- March 23 – The governor of Oklahoma signs House Bill 197 with the Montgomery amendment outlawing the theory of evolution in public school textbooks purchased by the state, the first anti-Darwinian legislation passed in the U.S.^[1]

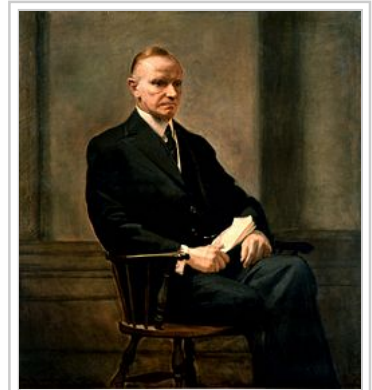
April–June

- April 18 – The first Yankee Stadium opens its doors in the Bronx, New York City.
- May 9 – Southeastern Michigan receives a record 6 inches (15 cm) of snow after temperatures plummeted from 62 °F (17 °C) to 34 °F (1 °C) degrees between 1 and 6 pm on the previous day.^[2]
- May 27 – The Ku Klux Klan defies a law requiring publication of its members.

July–September

- July 13 – The Hollywood Sign is inaugurated in California (originally reading *Hollywoodland*).
- August 2 – Vice President Calvin Coolidge becomes the 30th President of the United States, upon the death of President Warren G. Harding.
- September 4 – The United States Navy's first home-built rigid airship USS *Shenandoah* makes her first flight at Naval Air Station Lakehurst (New Jersey); she contains most of the world's extracted reserves of helium at this time (named and commissioned October 10).^[3]
- September 8 – Honda Point Disaster: Seven U.S. Navy destroyers run aground off the California coast.
- September 17 – A major fire in Berkeley, California erupts, consuming some 640 structures, including 584 homes in the densely built neighborhoods north of the campus of the University of California.
- September 18–26 – Newspaper printers strike in New York City.

October–December



August 2: Calvin Coolidge becomes President following the death of Warren G. Harding

- October 16 – Roy and Walt Disney found The Walt Disney Company.
- December 10 – Sigma Alpha Kappa is founded at Loyola University New Orleans (making it the first social fraternity at a Jesuit college in the United States).

Undated

- The Moderation League of New York becomes part of the movement for the repeal of Prohibition in the U.S.
- Soledad C. Chacón is elected Secretary of State of New Mexico; all subsequent holders of this office through 2011 will also be women.
- The American Law Institute is established.
- War Resisters League organized.^[4]
- Rainbow trout introduced into the upper Firehole River in Yellowstone National Park.

Ongoing

- Lochner era (c. 1897–c. 1937)
- U.S. occupation of Haiti (1915–1934)
- Prohibition (1919–1933)
- Roaring Twenties (1920–1929)

Births

- January 1 – Daniel Gorenstein, mathematician (died 1992)
- January 16 – Anthony Hecht, poet (died 2004)
- January 29
 - Jack Burke, Jr., golfer and coach
 - Paddy Chayefsky, writer (died 1981)
- January 31 – Norman Mailer, writer (died 2007)
- February 2
 - James Dickey, poet and author (died 1997)
 - Liz Smith, gossip columnist
- February 13
 - James Abdnor, U.S. Senator from South Dakota from 1981 to 1987 (died 2012)
 - Chuck Yeager, pilot
- February 28
 - Jean Carson, actress (died 2005)
 - Charles Durning, actor (died 2005)
- March 9 – James L. Buckley, judge and U.S. Senator from New York from 1971 to 1977
- March 10 – Val Logsdon Fitch, nuclear physicist, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physics (died 2015)
- March 14 – Diane Arbus, photographer (died 1971)

- April 3 – Daniel Hoffman, poet (died 2013)
- April 23 – Walter Pitts, logician and cognitive psychologist (died 1969)
- April 25 – Albert King, blues guitarist and singer (died 1992)
- May 1 – Joseph Heller, novelist (died 1999)
- May 16 – Merton Miller economist, recipient of the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences (died 2000)
- May 27 – Henry Kissinger, U.S. Secretary of State, recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize
- July 14 – Robert Zildjian, musical instrument manufacturer (Sabian) (died 2013)
- July 22
 - Bob Dole, U.S. Senator from Kansas from 1969 to 1996
 - The Fabulous Moolah, wrestler (died 2007)
- July 31 – Stephanie Kwolek, polymer chemist (died 2014)
- August 3 – Jean Hagen, actress (died 1977)
- August 20 – Jim Reeves, country singer (died 1969)
- September 1 – Rocky Marciano, boxer (died 1969)
- September 9 – Daniel Carleton Gajdusek, virologist (died 2008)
- September 17 – Hank Williams, country musician (died 1953)
- September 26 – John Ertle Oliver, geophysicist (died 2011)
- October 4 – Charlton Heston, film actor (died 2008)
- October 20 – Robert Craft, orchestral conductor
- October 27 – Roy Lichtenstein, pop artist (died 1997)
- November 6 – Robert P. Griffin, U.S. Senator from Michigan from 1966 to 1979
- November 8 – Jack Kilby, electrical engineer, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physics (died 2005)
- November 9 – James Schuyler, poet (died 1991)
- November 18 – Ted Stevens, U.S. Senator from Alaska from 1968 to 2009 (died 2010)
- November 18 – Alan Shepard, astronaut (died 1998)
- November 23 – Daniel Brewster, U.S. Senator from Maryland from 1963 to 1969 (died 2007)
- November 26 – Nat Allbright, sports commentator (died 2011)
- December 10 – Harold Gould, actor (died 2010)
- December 11
 - Betsy Blair, film actress (died 2009)
 - Lillian Cahn, Hungarian-American businesswoman, co-founder of Coach, Inc. (died 2013)
- December 12 – Bob Barker, game show host (*The Price Is Right*)
- December 13
 - Philip Warren Anderson, physicist, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physics
 - Larry Doby, baseball player (died 2003)
- December 23 – James Stockdale, U.S. Navy admiral and vice presidential candidate (died 2005)
- December 24 – George Patton IV, U.S. Army general (died 2004)
- December 29 – Dina Merrill, actress, heiress, socialite, and philanthropist

Deaths

- February 26 – George Clement Perkins, United States Senator from California from 1893 till 1915. (born 1839)
- April 28 – Knute Nelson, Norway-born Governor of Minnesota from 1893 till 1895 and United States Senator from Minnesota from 1895 till 1923. (born 1843)
- August 2 – Warren G. Harding, 29th President of the United States from 1921 till 1923. (born 1865)

References

1. Larry O'Dell. "Anti-Evolution Movement". *Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History & Culture*. Oklahoma Historical Society. Archived from the original on October 18, 2010. Retrieved September 13, 2010.
2. "May Snow Storm". National Weather Service. Retrieved October 27, 2009.
3. Hayward, John T. (August 1978). "Comment and Discussion". *United States Naval Institute Proceedings*.
4. Powers, Roger S. (2012). *Protest, Power, and Change: An Encyclopedia of Nonviolent Action*. Routledge. ISBN 978-1-136-76482-0.

See also

- List of American films of 1923

External links

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