

1932 in the United States

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Events from the year **1932 in the United States**.

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Incumbents

Federal Government

- President: Herbert Hoover (R-California)
- Vice President: Charles Curtis (R-Kansas)
- Chief Justice: Charles Evans Hughes (New York)
- Speaker of the House of Representatives: John Nance Garner (D-Texas)
- Senate Majority Leader: James Eli Watson (R-Indiana)
- Congress: 72nd

Governors and Lieutenant Governors

Governors

- Governor of Alabama: Benjamin M. Miller (Democratic)
- Governor of Arizona: George W. P. Hunt (Democratic)
- Governor of Arkansas: Harvey Parnell (Democratic)
- Governor of California: James Rolph Jr. (Republican)
- Governor of Colorado: Billy Adams (Democratic)
- Governor of Connecticut: Wilbur Lucius Cross (Democratic)
- Governor of Delaware: C. Douglass Buck (Republican)
- Governor of Florida: Doyle E. Carlton (Democratic)
- Governor of Georgia: Richard Russell, Jr. (Democratic)
- Governor of Idaho: C. Ben Ross (Democratic)
- Governor of Illinois: Louis L. Emmerson (Republican)
- Governor of Indiana: Harry G. Leslie (Republican)
- Governor of Iowa: Daniel Webster Turner (Republican)
- Governor of Kansas: Harry H. Woodring (Democratic)
- Governor of Kentucky: Ruby Laffoon (Democratic)
- Governor of Louisiana:
 - until January 25: Huey P. Long (Democratic)
 - January 25-May 10: Alvin Olin King (Democratic)
 - starting May 10: Oscar K. Allen (Democratic)
- Governor of Maine: William Tudor Gardiner (Republican)
- Governor of Maryland: Albert C. Ritchie (Democratic)
- Governor of Massachusetts: Joseph B. Ely (Democratic)
- Governor of Michigan: Wilber Marion Brucker (Republican)
- Governor of Minnesota: Floyd B. Olson (Farmer-Labor)
- Governor of Mississippi: Theodore G. Bilbo (Democratic) (until January 19), Martin Sennett Conner (Democratic) (starting January 19)
- Governor of Missouri: Henry S. Caulfield (Republican)
- Governor of Montana: John E. Erickson (Democratic)
- Governor of Nebraska: Charles W. Bryan (Democratic)
- Governor of Nevada: Fred B. Balzar (Republican)
- Governor of New Hampshire: John Gilbert Winant (Republican)
- Governor of New Jersey: Morgan Foster Larson (Republican) (until January 19), A. Harry Moore (Democratic) (starting January 19)
- Governor of New Mexico: Arthur Seligman (Democratic)
- Governor of New York: Franklin D. Roosevelt (Democratic) (until end of December 31)
- Governor of North Carolina: Oliver Max Gardner (Democratic)
- Governor of North Dakota: George F. Shafer (Republican) (until December 31), William Langer (Republican) (starting December 31)
- Governor of Ohio: George White (Democratic)
- Governor of Oklahoma: William H. Murray (Democratic)
- Governor of Oregon: Julius L. Meier (Independent)
- Governor of Pennsylvania: Gifford Pinchot (Republican)
- Governor of Rhode Island: Norman S. Case (Republican)
- Governor of South Carolina: Ibra Charles Blackwood (Democratic)
- Governor of South Dakota: Warren Green (Republican)
- Governor of Tennessee: Henry Hollis Horton (Democratic)
- Governor of Texas: Ross S. Sterling (Democratic)
- Governor of Utah: George Dern (Democratic)
- Governor of Vermont: Stanley C. Wilson (Republican)
- Governor of Virginia: John Garland Pollard (Democratic)
- Governor of Washington: Roland H. Hartley (Republican)
- Governor of West Virginia: William G. Conley (Republican)
- Governor of Wisconsin: Philip La Follette (Republican)
- Governor of Wyoming: Alonzo M. Clark (Republican)

Lieutenant Governors

- Lieutenant Governor of Alabama: Hugh D. Merrill (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Arkansas: Lawrence Elery Wilson (political party unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of California: Frank Merriam (Republican)

- Lieutenant Governor of Colorado: Edwin C. Johnson (Democratic) (until month and day unknown), vacant (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Connecticut: Samuel R. Spencer (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Delaware: James H. Hazel (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Idaho: G. P. Mix (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Illinois: Fred Sterling (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Indiana: Edgar D. Bush (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Iowa: Arch W. McFarlane (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Kansas: Jacob W. Graybill (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky: Happy Chandler (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana:
 - until January 25: Alvin O. King (Democratic)
 - January 25-May 10: vacant
 - starting May 10: John B. Fournet (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts: William S. Youngman (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Michigan: Luren D. Dickinson (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota: Henry M. Arens (Farmer Labor)
- Lieutenant Governor of Mississippi: Bidwell Adam (Democratic) (until January 19), Dennis Murphree (Democratic) (starting January 19)
- Lieutenant Governor of Missouri: Edward Henry Winter (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Montana: Frank A. Hazelbacker (political party unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Nebraska: Theodore Metcalfe (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Nevada: Morley Griswold (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of New Mexico: Andrew W. Hockenhull (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of New York: Herbert H. Lehman (Democratic) (until end of December 31)
- Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina: Richard T. Fountain (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of North Dakota: John W. Carr (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Ohio: William G. Pickrel (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Oklahoma: Robert Burns (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania: Edward C. Shannon (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Rhode Island: James G. Connelly (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina: Joseph Emile Harley (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of South Dakota: Odell K. Whitney (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Tennessee: Ambrose B. Broadbent (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Texas: Edgar E. Witt (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Vermont: Benjamin Williams (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Virginia: James H. Price (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Washington: John Arthur Gellatly (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Wisconsin: Henry A. Huber (Republican)

Events

January–March

- January 1 – The United States Post Office Department issues a set of 12 stamps commemorating the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth.
- January 12 – Hattie W. Caraway becomes the first woman elected to the United States Senate.
- February 2 – The Reconstruction Finance Corporation begins operations in Washington, D.C.
- February 4 – The 1932 Winter Olympics open in Lake Placid, New York.

- February 15 – *Clara, Lu & Em*, generally regarded as the first daytime network soap opera, debuts in its morning time slot over the Blue Network of NBC Radio, having originally been a late evening program.
- March 1 – Charles Lindbergh, Jr., the infant son of Anne Morrow Lindbergh and Charles Lindbergh, is kidnapped from the family home near Hopewell, New Jersey.
- March 7 – Four people are killed when police fire upon 3,000 unemployed autoworkers marching outside the Ford River Rouge Plant in Dearborn, Michigan.^[1]

April–June

- April 6 – U.S. president Herbert Hoover supports armament limitations.
- May 12 – Ten weeks after his abduction, the infant son of Charles Lindbergh is found dead just a few miles from the Lindberghs' home.
- May 20–21 – Amelia Earhart flies from the USA to Derry, Northern Ireland in 14 hours 54 minutes.
- May 29 – The first of approximately 15,000 World War I veterans arrive in Washington, D.C. demanding the immediate payment of their military bonus, becoming known as the Bonus Army.
- June 6 – The Revenue Act of 1932 is enacted, creating the first gas tax in the United States at 1 cent per US gallon (0.26 ¢/L) sold.
- June 29 – The comedy serial *Vic and Sade* debuts on NBC Radio.

July–September

- July 8 – The Dow Jones Industrial Average reaches its lowest level of the Great Depression, bottoming out at 41.22.
- July 28 – U.S. President Herbert Hoover orders the U.S. Army to forcibly evict the Bonus Army of World War I veterans gathered in Washington, D.C.. Troops disperse the last of the Bonus Army the next day.
- July 30
 - The 1932 Summer Olympics open in Los Angeles.
 - Walt Disney's *Flowers and Trees*, the first animated cartoon to be presented in full Technicolor, premieres in Los Angeles, California. It releases in theaters, along with Eugene O'Neill's experimental play *Strange Interlude* (starring Norma Shearer and Clark Gable), and will go on to win the first Academy Award for Best Animated Short.
- August – A farmers' revolt begins in the Midwestern United States.
- August 7 – Raymond Edward Welch becomes the first one-legged man to scale 6,288 feet (1,917 m) New Hampshire.
- August 10 – A 5.1 kg chondrite-type meteorite breaks into at least 7 fragments and strikes earth near the town of Archie in Cass County, Missouri.
- August 31 – A total solar eclipse is visible from northern Canada through northeastern Vermont, New Hampshire, southwestern Maine, and the Capes of Massachusetts.

October–December

- October 15 – The Michigan Marching Band (then called the Varsity band) debuts Script Ohio at the Michigan versus Ohio State game in Columbus.
- October 23 – Fred Allen's radio comedy show debuts on *CBS*.
- November 1 – The San Francisco Opera House opens.

- November 7 – *Buck Rogers in the 25th Century* airs on American radio for the first time.
- November 8 – U.S. presidential election, 1932: Democratic Governor of New York Franklin D. Roosevelt defeats Republican President Herbert Hoover in a landslide victory.
- November 16 – New York City's Palace Theatre fully converts to a cinema, which is considered the final death knell of vaudeville as a popular entertainment in the United States.
- November 24 – In Washington, D.C., the FBI Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory (better known as the FBI Crime Lab) officially opens.
- December 27 – *Radio City Music Hall* opens in New York City.

Undated

- Unemployment in the USA – c. 33% – 14 million.
- The Republican Citizens Committee Against National Prohibition is established for the repeal of prohibition in the U.S.
- Maxwell House Haggadah first distributed.

Ongoing

- Lochner era (c. 1897–c. 1937)
- U.S. occupation of Haiti (1915–1934)
- Prohibition (1919–1933)
- Great Depression (1929–1933)
- Dust Bowl (1930–1936)

Births

- January 1 – Tzaims Luksus, artist and fashion designer
- January 16 – Dian Fossey, primatologist (killed 1985 in Rwanda)
- January 19 – Harry Lonsdale, chemist, businessman and politician (died 2014)
- February 7 – Gay Talese, literary journalist
- February 8 – John Williams, film music composer
- February 10 – Robert Taylor, computer scientist (died 2017)
- February 22 – Ted Kennedy, U.S. Senator from Massachusetts from 1962 (died 2009)
- February 24 – Zell Miller, U.S. Senator from Georgia from 2000 to 2005
- February 25 – Faron Young, country singer (died 1996)
- February 26 – Johnny Cash, country singer (died 2003)
- February 27 – Elizabeth Taylor, English-born film actress (died 2011)
- March 18 – John Updike, novelist and poet (died 2009)
- March 31 – Thomas Beers, co-founder of the needle-pointing business Sudberry House
- April 1
 - Gordon Jump, television actor (died 2003)

- Debbie Reynolds, actress, singer and dancer (died 2016)
- April 2 – Edward Egan, cardinal (died 2015)
- April 4
 - Richard Lugar, U.S. Senator from Indiana from 1977 to 2013
 - Anthony Perkins, film actor (died 1992)
- April 9 – Carl Perkins, rock singer (died 1998)
- April 11 – Joel Grey, born Joel Katz, musical actor
- April 12 – Tiny Tim, born Herbert Khaury, singer (died 1996)
- May 7 – Pete Domenici, U.S. Senator from New Mexico from 1973 to 2009
- May 11 – John Vasconcellos, lawyer and politician (died 2014)
- May 22 – Robert Spitzer, psychiatrist (died 2015)
- May 25
 - Roger Bowen, comedic actor and novelist (died 1996)
 - John Gregory Dunne, novelist (d. 2003)
 - K. C. Jones, basketball player and coach
- May 29 – Paul R. Ehrlich, biologist
- June 10 – Bennett Johnston, U.S. Senator from Louisiana from 1972 to 1997
- June 15 – Mario Cuomo, Governor of New York from 1983 to 1994 (died 2015)
- June 18 – Dudley R. Herschbach, chemist, winner of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1986
- June 28 – Pat Morita, screen actor (died 2005)
- July 8 – John Pascal, writer (died 1981)
- July 9 – Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense
- July 12 – Otis Davis, runner
- July 17 – Karla Kuskin, children's writer and illustrator (died 2009)
- July 29 – Nancy Landon Kassebaum, U.S. Senator from Kansas from 1978 to 1997
- August 1 – Meir Kahane, American-born Israeli rabbi and ultra-nationalist writer and political figure (died 1990)
- August 8 – John Culver, U.S. Senator from Iowa from 1975 to 1981
- August 15 – Robert L. Forward, science fiction author and physicist (died 2002)
- September 5 – Carol Lawrence, actress, singer and dancer
- September 6 – Marguerite Pearson, baseball player (died 2005)
- September 7 – John Paul Getty Jr., philanthropist (died 2003 in the United Kingdom)
- September 8 – Patsy Cline, country singer (died 1963)
- September 11 – Bob Packwood, U.S. Senator from Oregon from 1969 to 1995
- October 1 – Caroline Harrison, wife of Benjamin Harrison, First Lady of the United States, (died 1892)
- October 12 – Jake Garn, U.S. Senator from Utah from 1974 to 1993
- October 13 – John G. Thompson, mathematician
- October 20 – William Christopher, actor (died 2016)
- October 27 – Sylvia Plath, poet (suicide 1963 in the United Kingdom)
- November 10 – Roy Scheider, film actor and amateur boxer (died 2008)
- November 13 – Willie Edwards, murder victim (killed 1957)
- November 22 – Robert Vaughn, actor (died 2016)

- November 28 – Midge Costanza, social and political activist (died 2010)
- December 5
 - Sheldon Lee Glashow, physicist
 - Little Richard (Penniman), rock singer and evangelist
- December 7 – Paul Caponigro, photographer

Deaths

- January 26 – William Wrigley, Jr., chewing gum manufacturer (born 1861)
- February 8 – Mad Dog Coll, hitman (shot) (born 1908 in Ireland)
- March 1 – Frank Teschemacher, jazz woodwind player (automobile accident) (born 1906)
- March 6 – John Philip Sousa, composer and conductor, "the march king" ("The Stars and Stripes Forever") (born 1854)
- March 14 – George Eastman, photographic inventor (Eastman Kodak) (suicide) (born 1854)
- March 18 – Chauncey Olcott, musical theater actor (born 1858)
- March 31 – Eben Byers, steel tycoon and socialite (radiation poisoning) (born 1880)
- April 2 – Bill Pickett, African American cowboy of slave ancestry (born 1870)
- April 27 – Hart Crane, poet (presumed suicide at sea) (born 1899)
- May 3 – Charles Fort, researcher of the unusual (born 1874)
- May 30 – John Hubbard, admiral (born 1849)
- June 21 – Marshall Taylor, African American racing cyclist (born 1878)
- June 27 – Francis P. Duffy, Roman Catholic priest (born 1871 in Canada)
- July 7 – Henry Eyster Jacobs, Lutheran theologian (born 1844)
- July 22 – Florenz Ziegfeld, Jr., Broadway theatrical impresario (born 1867)
- August 2 – Dan Brouthers, baseball player (born 1858)
- September 5 – Paul Bern, screenwriter (suicide) (born 1889)
- September 25 – Joel R. P. Pringle, admiral (born 1873)
- September 27 – John Sharp Williams, U.S. Senator from Mississippi from 1911 to 1923 (born 1854)
- October 17 – Lucy Bacon, painter (born 1857)
- October 26 – Molly Brown, Denver socialite, survivor of the sinking of the RMS *Titanic* (born 1867)
- November 4 – Belle Bennett, actress (cancer) (born 1891)
- November 15 or 17 – Charles W. Chesnutt, African American author, essayist and political activist (born 1858)
- November 22 – William Walker Atkinson, writer and occultist (born 1862)
- November 23 – Henry S. Whitehead, writer of horror fiction and fantasy (born 1882)
- December 28 – Malcolm Whitman, tennis player (born 1877)
- Joseph Myers (born 1897)


See also

- List of American films of 1932

References

1. "Riding the Rails: Timeline of the Great Depression". *American Experience*. USA: Public Broadcasting Service. Retrieved 23 August 2016.

External links

-  Media related to 1932 in the United States at Wikimedia Commons

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