

# 1933 in the United States

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Events from the year **1933 in the United States**.

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## Incumbents

### Federal Government

- President: Herbert Hoover (R-California) (until March 4), Franklin D. Roosevelt (D-New York) (starting March 4)
- Vice President: Charles Curtis (R-Kansas) (until March 4), John Nance Garner (D-Texas) (starting March 4)
- Chief Justice: Charles Evans Hughes (New York)
- Speaker of the House of Representatives: John Nance Garner (D-Texas) (until March 4), Henry Thomas Rainey (D-Illinois) (starting March 9)
- Senate Majority Leader: James Eli Watson (R-Indiana) (until March 4), Joseph Taylor Robinson (D-Arkansas) (starting March 4)
- Congress: 72nd (until March 4), 73rd (starting March 4)

## Governors and Lieutenant Governors

### Governors

- Governor of Alabama: Benjamin M. Miller (Democratic)
- Governor of Arizona: George W. P. Hunt (Democratic) (until January 2), Benjamin Baker Moeur (Democratic) (starting January 2)
- Governor of Arkansas: Harvey Parnell (Democratic) (until January 10), Junius Marion Futrell (Democratic) (starting January 10)
- Governor of California: James Rolph Jr. (Republican)
- Governor of Colorado: Billy Adams (Democratic) (until January 10), Edwin C. Johnson (Democratic) (starting January 10)
- Governor of Connecticut: Wilbur Lucius Cross (Democratic)
- Governor of Delaware: C. Douglass Buck (Republican)
- Governor of Florida: Doyle E. Carlton (Democratic) (until January 3), David Sholtz (Democratic) (starting January 3)
- Governor of Georgia: Richard Russell, Jr. (Democratic) (until January 10), Eugene Talmadge (Democratic) (starting January 10)
- Governor of Idaho: C. Ben Ross (Democratic)
- Governor of Illinois: Louis L. Emmerson (Republican) (until January 9), Henry Horner (Democratic) (starting January 9)
- Governor of Indiana: Harry G. Leslie (Republican) (until January 9), Paul V. McNutt (Democratic) (starting January 9)
- Governor of Iowa: Daniel Webster Turner (Republican) (until January 12), Clyde L. Herring (Democratic) (starting January 12)
- Governor of Kansas: Harry H. Woodring (Democratic) (until January 9), Alfred M. Landon (Republican) (starting January 9)
- Governor of Kentucky: Ruby Laffoon (Democratic)
- Governor of Louisiana: Oscar K. Allen (Democratic)
- Governor of Maine: William Tudor Gardiner (Republican) (until January 4), Louis J. Brann (Democratic) (starting January 4)
- Governor of Maryland: Albert C. Ritchie (Democratic)
- Governor of Massachusetts: Joseph B. Ely (Democratic)
- Governor of Michigan: Wilber Marion Brucker (Republican) (until January 1), William Comstock (Democratic) (starting January 1)
- Governor of Minnesota: Floyd B. Olson (Farmer-Labor)
- Governor of Mississippi: Martin Sennett Conner (Democratic)
- Governor of Missouri: Henry S. Caulfield (Republican) (until January 9), Guy Brasfield Park (Democratic) (starting January 9)
- Governor of Montana: John E. Erickson (Democratic) (until March 13), Frank Henry Cooney (Democratic) (starting March 13)
- 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: A. Harry Moore (Democratic)
- Governor of New Mexico: Arthur Seligman (Democratic) (until September 25), Andrew W. Hockenhull (Democratic) (starting September 25)



Presidents Hoover and Roosevelt at FDR's Inauguration, March 4, 1933

- Governor of New York: Herbert H. Lehman (Democratic) (starting January 1)
- Governor of North Carolina: Oliver Max Gardner (Democratic) (until January 5), John C. B. Ehringhaus (Democratic) (starting January 5)
- Governor of North Dakota: William Langer (Republican)
- 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) (until January 3), Theodore Francis Green (Democratic) (starting January 3)
- Governor of South Carolina: Ibra Charles Blackwood (Democratic)
- Governor of South Dakota: Warren Green (Republican) (until January 3), Tom Berry (Democratic) (starting January 3)
- Governor of Tennessee: Henry Hollis Horton (Democratic) (until January 17), Harry Hill McAlister (Democratic) (starting January 17)
- Governor of Texas: Ross S. Sterling (Democratic) (until January 17), Miriam A. Ferguson (Democratic) (starting January 17)
- Governor of Utah: George Dern (Democratic) (until January 2), Henry H. Blood (Democratic) (starting January 2)
- Governor of Vermont: Stanley C. Wilson (Republican)
- Governor of Virginia: John Garland Pollard (Democratic)
- Governor of Washington: Roland H. Hartley (Republican) (until January 9), Clarence D. Martin (Democratic) (starting January 9)
- Governor of West Virginia: William G. Conley (Republican) (until March 4), Herman G. Kump (Democratic) (starting March 4)
- Governor of Wisconsin: Philip La Follette (Republican) (until January 2), Albert G. Schmedeman (Democratic) (starting January 2)
- Governor of Wyoming: Alonzo M. Clark (Republican) (until January 2), Leslie A. Miller (Democratic) (starting January 2)

## Lieutenant Governors

- Lieutenant Governor of Alabama: Hugh D. Merrill (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Arkansas: Lawrence Elery Wilson (political party unknown) (until month and day unknown), William Lee Cazort (political party unknown) (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of California: Frank Merriam (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Colorado: vacant (until January 10), Raymond Herbert Talbot (Democratic) (starting January 10)
- Lieutenant Governor of Connecticut: Samuel R. Spencer (Republican) (until month and day unknown), Roy C. Wilcox (Republican) (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Delaware: James H. Hazel (Republican) (until January 17), Roy F. Corley (Republican) (starting January 17)
- Lieutenant Governor of Idaho: G. P. Mix (Democratic) (until January 2), George E. Hill (Democratic) (starting January 2)

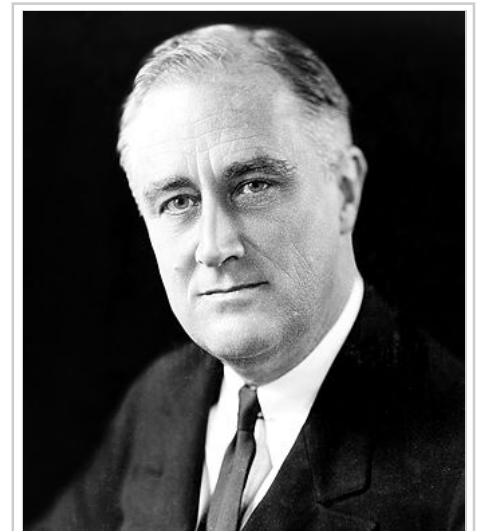
- Lieutenant Governor of Illinois: Fred Sterling (Republican) (until January 9), Thomas Donovan (Democratic) (starting January 9)
- Lieutenant Governor of Indiana: Edgar D. Bush (Republican) (until January 9), M. Clifford Townsend (Democratic) (starting January 9)
- Lieutenant Governor of Iowa: Arch W. McFarlane (Republican) (until January 12), Nelson G. Kraschel (Democratic) (starting January 12)
- Lieutenant Governor of Kansas: Jacob W. Graybill (Republican) (until month and day unknown), Charles W. Thompson (Republican) (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky: Happy Chandler (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana: John B. Fournet (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts: William S. Youngman (Republican) (until month and day unknown), Gaspar G. Bacon (Republican) (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Michigan: Luren D. Dickinson (Republican) (until month and day unknown), Allen E. Stebbins (Democratic) (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota: Henry M. Arens (Farmer Labor) (until January 3), Konrad K. Solberg (Farmer Labor) (starting January 3)
- Lieutenant Governor of Mississippi: Dennis Murphree (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Missouri: Edward Henry Winter (Republican) (until January 9), Frank Gaines Harris (Democratic) (starting January 9)
- Lieutenant Governor of Montana:
  - until month and day unknown: Frank A. Hazelbacker (political party unknown)
  - month and day unknown: Frank Henry Cooney (Democratic)
  - starting month and day unknown: Tom Kane (political party unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Nebraska: Theodore Metcalfe (Republican) (until month and day unknown), Walter H. Jurgensen (Democratic) (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Nevada: Morley Griswold (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of New Mexico: Andrew W. Hockenhull (Democratic) (until September 25), vacant (starting September 25)
- Lieutenant Governor of New York: M. William Bray (Democratic) (starting January 1)
- Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina: Richard T. Fountain (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of North Dakota: John W. Carr (Republican) (until month and day unknown), Ole H. Olson (Republican) (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Ohio: William G. Pickrel (Democratic) (until January 9), Charles W. Sawyer (Democratic) (starting January 9)
- Lieutenant Governor of Oklahoma: Robert Burns (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania: Edward C. Shannon (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Rhode Island: James G. Connelly (Republican) (until January 3), Robert E. Quinn (Democratic) (starting January 3)
- Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina: Joseph Emile Harley (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of South Dakota: Odell K. Whitney (Republican) (until January 3), Hans Ustrud (Democratic) (starting January 3)

- Lieutenant Governor of Tennessee: Ambrose B. Broadbent (Democratic) (until January 17), Albert F. Officer (Democratic) (starting January 17)
- Lieutenant Governor of Texas: Edgar E. Witt (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Vermont: Benjamin Williams (Republican) (until month and day unknown), Charles M. Smith (Republican) (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Virginia: James H. Price (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Washington: John Arthur Gellatly (Republican) (until January 9), Victor A. Meyers (Democratic) (starting January 9)
- Lieutenant Governor of Wisconsin: Henry A. Huber (Republican) (until January 2), Thomas J. O'Malley (Democratic) (starting January 2)

## Events

### January–March

- January 5
  - Construction of the Golden Gate Bridge begins in San Francisco Bay.
  - Calvin Coolidge, 30th President of the U.S (1923–1929) dies of coronary thrombosis in Northampton, Massachusetts.
- January 17 – The U.S. Congress votes favorably for Philippines independence, against the view of President Herbert Hoover.
- January 23 – The Twentieth Amendment to the United States Constitution is ratified, changing Inauguration Day from March 4 to January 20.
- January 30 – *The Lone Ranger* debuts on American radio.
- February 6 – The Twentieth Amendment to the United States Constitution goes into effect.
- February 6–7 – Officers on the USS *Ramapo* record a 34-meter high sea-wave in the Pacific Ocean.
- February 10 – The New York City-based Postal Telegraph Company introduces the first singing telegram.
- February 15 – In Miami, Florida, Giuseppe Zangara attempts to assassinate President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt, but instead fatally wounds Chicago Mayor Anton J. Cermak.
- February 17 – The Blaine Act ends Prohibition in the United States.
- February 25 – USS *Ranger* (CV-4), the first ship of the United States Navy designed as an aircraft carrier, is launched at Newport News, Virginia.
- March 2 – The original film version of *King Kong*, starring Fay Wray, premieres at Radio City Music Hall and the RKO Roxy Theatre in New York City.
- March 3 – Mount Rushmore National Memorial is dedicated.
- March 4
  - U.S. President Herbert Hoover is succeeded by Franklin D. Roosevelt, who in reference to the Great Depression, proclaims "The only thing we have to fear, is fear itself" in his inauguration speech. He is sworn in by Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes. Franklin D. Roosevelt's



March 4: Franklin D. Roosevelt begins the first of four terms as President

paralytic illness is never publicly acknowledged during what will be the four terms of his Presidency. This is the last time Inauguration Day in the U.S. occurs on this date.

- Frances Perkins becomes United States Secretary of Labor, and the first female member of the United States Cabinet.
- March 5 – Great Depression: President Franklin D. Roosevelt declares a "bank holiday", closing all United States banks and freezing all financial transactions (the 'holiday' ends on March 13).
- March 6 – Mayor Anton Cermak of Chicago dies of the wound he received on February 15.
- March 9 – Great Depression: The U.S. Congress begins its first 100 days of enacting New Deal legislation.
- March 10 – 1933 Long Beach earthquake: An earthquake in Long Beach, California, kills 117 people.
- March 12 – Great Depression: Franklin D. Roosevelt addresses the nation for the first time as President of the United States, in the first of his "Fireside Chats".
- March 15 – The Dow Jones Industrial Average rises from 53.84 to 62.10. The day's gain of 15.34%, achieved during the depths of the Great Depression, remains to date as the largest 1-day percentage gain for the index.

## April–June

- April - Civilian Conservation Corps established.<sup>[1]</sup>
- April 4 – The U.S. airship *Akron* crashes off the coast of New Jersey, leaving 73 dead.
- April 5
  - U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt declares a national emergency and issues Executive Order 6102, making it illegal for U.S. citizens to own gold.
  - Emergency Conservation Work founded.
- April 7 – Sale of some beer is legalized in the U.S. under the Cullen-Harrison Act of March 22, 8 months before the full repeal of Prohibition in December.
- April 19 – The United States officially goes off the gold standard.
- April 26 – Editors of the *Harvard Lampoon* steal the Sacred Cod of Massachusetts from the State House (it is returned two days later).
- May 3 – Nellie Tayloe Ross becomes the first woman to be named director of the United States Mint.
- May 5 – The detection by Karl Jansky of radio waves from the center of the Milky Way Galaxy is reported in the *New York Times*. The discovery leads to the birth of radio astronomy.
- May 12 – Agricultural Adjustment Act is enacted in the USA.
- May 18 – New Deal: President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs an act creating the Tennessee Valley Authority.
- May 27
  - New Deal: The Federal Securities Act is signed into law, requiring the registration of securities with the Federal Trade Commission.
  - The *Century of Progress* World's Fair opens in Chicago.
  - Walt Disney's classic *Silly Symphony* cartoon *The Three Little Pigs* is first released.
- June 5 – The U.S. Congress abrogates the United States' use of the gold standard by enacting a joint resolution (48 Stat. 112) nullifying the right of creditors to demand payment in gold.
- June 6 – The first drive-in theater opens in Camden, New Jersey.
- June 15 – National Guard Bureau founded.



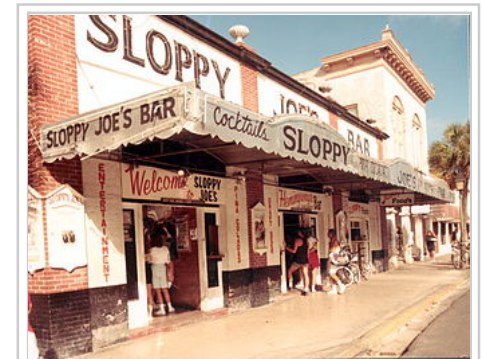
- June 17 – Union Station Massacre: In Kansas City, Missouri, Pretty Boy Floyd kills four unarmed FBI agents and accidentally kills fugitive Frank Nash in an attempt to free Nash.
- June 26 – The American Totalisator Company unveils its first electronic pari-mutuel betting machine at the Arlington Park Racetrack near Chicago.

## July–September

- July 6 – The first Major League Baseball All-Star Game is played at Comiskey Park in Chicago.
- July 22 – "Machine-Gun" Kelly and Albert Bates kidnap Charles Urschel, an Oklahoma oilman, and demand \$200,000 ransom.
- July 24 – Several members of the Barrow Gang are injured or captured during a running battle with local police near Dexter, Iowa.
- August 10
  - Division of Investigation founded.
  - Shipping Board Bureau and Merchant Fleet Corporation founded.
- August 14 – Loggers cause a forest fire in the Coast Range of Oregon, later known as the first forest fire of the Tillamook Burn. It is extinguished on September 5, after destroying 240,000 acres (971 km<sup>2</sup>).

## October–December

- October 10 – A United Airlines Boeing 247 is destroyed near Chesteron, Indiana by a bomb. This is the first proven case of air sabotage in commercial airline history.
- October 12 – The United States Army Disciplinary Barracks on Alcatraz is acquired by the United States Department of Justice, which plans to incorporate the island into its Federal Bureau of Prisons as a federal penitentiary.
- October 17 – Albert Einstein arrives in the United States as a refugee from Nazi Germany.
- November 8 – New Deal: – U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt unveils the Civil Works Administration, an organization designed to create jobs for more than 4 million of the unemployed.
- November 11 – Dust Bowl: In South Dakota, a very strong dust storm strips topsoil from desiccated farmlands (one of a series of disastrous dust storms that year).
- November 16 – The United States and the Soviet Union establish formal diplomatic relations.
- December 5 – The 21st Amendment to the United States Constitution, repealing Prohibition, goes into effect.



December 5, 1933: Sloppy Joe's Bar opens in Key West, Florida (1986 photo)

## Undated

- Business Plot: Gerald MacGuire allegedly organizes a coup to overthrow President Franklin D. Roosevelt. It becomes public in 1934.
- US President Roosevelt rejects socialism and government ownership of industry.
- The first doughnut store under the Krispy Kreme name opens on Charlotte Pike in Nashville, Tennessee.<sup>[2]</sup>
- 15 million unemployed in the USA.

## 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)
- New Deal (1933–1938)

## Births

- January 2 – Dan Duncan, businessman, oil company executive and billionaire (died 2010)
- January 5 – Leonard Marsh, businessman, co-founded Snapple (died 2013)
- January 16 – Susan Sontag, novelist (died 2004)
- January 20 – Ronald Townson, singer (died 2001)
- January 23 – Chita Rivera, actress and dancer
- January 29 – Paul Sally, mathematician and academic died 2013)
- February 1 – Wendell Anderson, U.S. Senator from Minnesota from 1976 to 1978
- February 2 – M'el Dowd, actress and singer (died 2012)
- February 3 – Paul Sarbanes, U.S. Senator from Maryland from 1977 to 2007
- February 13
  - Kim Novak, film actress
  - Peter L. Pond, clergyman and philanthropist (died 2000)
- February 21 – Nina Simone, singer (died 2003)
- February 23 – Donna J. Stone, poet and philanthropist (died 1994)
- February 27 – Raymond Berry, football player
- March 3 – Lee Radziwill, socialite
- March 6 – Ted Abernathy, baseball player (died 2004)
- March 13 – Mike Stoller, songwriter
- March 14 – Quincy Jones, music producer and composer
- March 15 – Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from 1993
- March 16 – Sandy Weill, financier and philanthropist
- March 18 – Uita Blackwell, civil rights activist
- March 19 – Philip Roth, novelist
- March 28 – Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senator from Alaska from 1981 to 2002
- April 13 – Ben Nighthorse Campbell, U.S. Senator from Colorado from 1993 to 2005
- April 15
  - Roy Clark, country musician
  - Elizabeth Montgomery, television actress (died 1995)
- April 19 – Jayne Mansfield, film actress (died 1967)



1933: 12 new Chevrolet pickup trucks for the Civilian Conservation Corps, Yellowstone National Park.



- April 24
  - Patricia Bosworth, actress, journalist, and author
  - Freddie Scott, singer-songwriter (died 2007)
- April 25
  - Jerry Leiber, popular music composer (d. 2011)
  - Joyce Ricketts, baseball player (AAGPBL) (died 1992)
- April 26 – Carol Burnett, actress, singer and comedian
- April 30 – Willie Nelson, country singer-songwriter
- May 3
  - James Brown, African American soul musician (died 2006)
  - Steven Weinberg, physicist, Nobel Prize laureate
- June 2 – Jerry Lumpe, baseball player and coach (d. 2014)
- June 7 – Herb Score, American baseball player and sportscaster (d. 2008)
- June 8
  - Rommie Loudd, American football player and coach (died 1998)
  - Joan Rivers, comedian (died 2014)
- June 11 – Gene Wilder, comic film actor (died 2016)
- June 22 – Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Senator from California from 1992
- August 16 – Julie Newmar, actress, dancer and singer
- August 20 – George J. Mitchell, U.S. Senator from Maine from 1980 to 1995
- August 23 – Pete Wilson, U.S. Senator from California from 1991 to 1999
- September 17 – Chuck Grassley, U.S. Senator from Iowa from 1981
- September 18 – Bob Bennett (politician), U.S. Senator from Utah from 1993 to 2011
- October 5 – Billy Lee Riley, rockabilly musician (died 2009)
- November 3
  - Ken Berry, actor
  - Aneta Corsaut, actress (died 1995)
  - Michael Dukakis, American politician and 1988 Democratic Presidential candidate
- November 10 – Ronald Evans, astronaut (died 1990)
- November 15 – Jack Burns, actor
- November 19 – Larry King, television and radio host
- December 2 – Mike Larrabee, athlete (died 2003)
- December 30 – Jean Carnahan, U.S. Senator from Missouri from 2001 to 2002

## Deaths

- January 5 – Calvin Coolidge, 30th President of the United States from 1923 till 1929, 29th Vice President of the United States from 1921 till 1923. (born 1872)
- March 6 – Anton Cermak, Former Mayor of Chicago (born 1873)

- March 30 – Giuseppe Zangara, attempted assassin of president-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt, killer of Mayor Anton Cermak of Chicago (born 1900)
- April 13 – Adelbert Ames, Governor of Mississippi from 1868 till 1870 and from 1874 till 1876 and United States Senator from Mississippi from 1870 till 1874. (born 1835)
- April 20 – William Henry Holmes, anthropologist, archaeologist, geologist and museum director (born 1846)

## See also

- List of American films of 1933

## References

1. "Riding the Rails: Timeline of the Great Depression". *American Experience*. USA: Public Broadcasting Service. Retrieved 23 August 2016.
2. "First Krispy Kreme doughnut shop found home in Nashville". *The Tennessean*.

## External links

-  Media related to 1933 in the United States at Wikimedia Commons

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