

# 1950 in the United States

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Events from the year **1950 in the United States**.

## Contents

- 1 Incumbents
  - 1.1 Federal Government
  - 1.2 Governors
  - 1.3 Lieutenant Governors
- 2 Events
  - 2.1 January–March
  - 2.2 April–June
  - 2.3 July–September
  - 2.4 October–December
  - 2.5 Undated
  - 2.6 Ongoing
- 3 Births
- 4 Deaths
- 5 See also
- 6 References
- 7 External links

## Incumbents

### Federal Government

- President: Harry S. Truman (D-Missouri)
- Vice President: Alben W. Barkley (D-Kentucky)
- Chief Justice: Fred M. Vinson (Kentucky)
- Speaker of the House of Representatives: Sam Rayburn (D-Texas)
- Senate Majority Leader: Scott W. Lucas (D-Illinois)
- Congress: 81st

## Governors and Lieutenant Governors

### Governors

- Governor of Alabama: Jim Folsom (Democratic)
- Governor of Arizona: Dan Edward Garvey (Democratic)
- Governor of Arkansas: Sid McMath (Democratic)
- Governor of California: Earl Warren (Republican)
- Governor of Colorado: William Lee Knous (Democratic) (until April 15), Walter Walford Johnson (Democratic) (starting April 15)
- Governor of Connecticut: Chester Bowles (Democratic)
- Governor of Delaware: Elbert N. Carvel (Democratic)
- Governor of Florida: Fuller Warren (Democratic)
- Governor of Georgia: Herman Talmadge (Democratic)
- Governor of Idaho: C. A. Robins (Republican)
- Governor of Illinois: Adlai E. Stevenson II (Democratic)
- Governor of Indiana: Henry F. Schricker (Democratic)
- Governor of Iowa: William S. Beardsley (Republican)
- Governor of Kansas: Frank Carlson (Republican) (until November 28), Frank L. Hagaman (Republican) (starting November 28)
- Governor of Kentucky: Earle C. Clements (Democratic) (until November 27), Lawrence W. Wetherby (Democratic) (starting November 27)
- Governor of Louisiana: Earl K. Long (Democratic)
- Governor of Maine: Frederick G. Payne (Republican)
- Governor of Maryland: William Preston Lane, Jr. (Democratic)
- Governor of Massachusetts: Paul A. Dever (Democratic)
- Governor of Michigan: G. Mennen Williams (Democratic)
- Governor of Minnesota: Luther W. Youngdahl (Republican)
- Governor of Mississippi: Fielding L. Wright (Democratic)
- Governor of Missouri: Forrest Smith (Democratic)
- Governor of Montana: John W. Bonner (Democratic)
- Governor of Nebraska: Val Peterson (Republican)
- Governor of Nevada: Vail M. Pittman (Democratic)
- Governor of New Hampshire: Sherman Adams (Republican)
- Governor of New Jersey: Alfred E. Driscoll (Republican)
- Governor of New Mexico: Thomas J. Mabry (Democratic)
- Governor of New York: Thomas Dewey (Republican)
- Governor of North Carolina: W. Kerr Scott (Democratic)
- Governor of North Dakota: Fred G. Aandahl (Republican)
- Governor of Ohio: Frank J. Lausche (Democratic)
- Governor of Oklahoma: Roy J. Turner (Democratic)
- Governor of Oregon: Douglas McKay (Republican)
- Governor of Pennsylvania: James H. Duff (Republican)
- Governor of Rhode Island: John Orlando Pastore (Democratic) (until December 19), John S. McKiernan (Democratic) (starting December 19)
- Governor of South Carolina: Strom Thurmond (Democratic)
- Governor of South Dakota: George T. Mickelson (Republican)
- Governor of Tennessee: Gordon Browning (Democratic)
- Governor of Texas: Allan Shivers (Democratic)
- Governor of Utah: J. Bracken Lee (Republican)
- Governor of Vermont: Ernest W. Gibson, Jr. (Republican) (until January 16), Harold J. Arthur (Republican) (starting January 16)
- Governor of Virginia: William M. Tuck (Democratic) (until January 18), John S. Battle (Democratic) (starting January 18)
- Governor of Washington: Arthur B. Langlie (Republican)
- Governor of West Virginia: Okey L. Patteson (Democratic)
- Governor of Wisconsin: Oscar Rennebohm (Republican)
- Governor of Wyoming: Arthur G. Crane (Republican)

### Lieutenant Governors

- Lieutenant Governor of Alabama: James C. Inzer (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Arkansas: Nathan Green Gordon (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of California: Goodwin Knight (Republican)

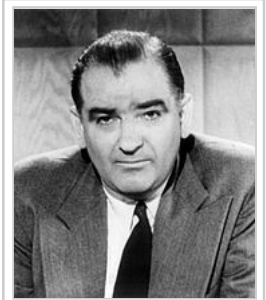
- Lieutenant Governor of Colorado:
  - until April 15: Walter Walford Johnson (Democratic)
  - April 15-month and day unknown: Charles P. Murphy (Republican)
  - starting month and day unknown: Gordon L. Allott (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Connecticut: William T. Carroll (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Delaware: Alexis I. du Pont Bayard (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Georgia: Marvin Griffin (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Idaho: Donald S. Whitehead (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Illinois: Sherwood Dixon (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Indiana: John A. Watkins (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Iowa: Kenneth A. Evans (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Kansas: Frank L. Hagaman (Republican) (until month and day unknown), vacant (starting month and day unknown)
- Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky: Lawrence Wetherby (Democratic) (until November 27), vacant (starting November 27)
- Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana: William J. Dodd (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts: Charles F. Sullivan (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Michigan: John W. Connolly (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota: C. Elmer Anderson (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Mississippi: Sam Lumpkin (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Missouri: James T. Blair, Jr. (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Montana: Paul Cannon (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Nebraska: Charles J. Warner (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Nevada: Clifford A. Jones (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of New Mexico: Joseph Montoya (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of New York: Joseph R. Hanley (Republican) (until end of December 31)
- Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina: Hoyt Patrick Taylor (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of North Dakota: Clarence P. Dahl (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Ohio: George D. Nye (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Oklahoma: James E. Berry (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania: Daniel B. Strickler (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Rhode Island: John S. McKiernan (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina: George Bell Timmerman, Jr. (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of South Dakota: Rex A. Terry (Republican)
- Lieutenant Governor of Tennessee: Walter M. Haynes (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Texas: vacant
- Lieutenant Governor of Vermont: Harold J. Arthur (Republican) (until January 16), vacant (starting January 16)
- Lieutenant Governor of Virginia: Lewis Preston Collins II (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Washington: Victor A. Meyers (Democratic)
- Lieutenant Governor of Wisconsin: George M. Smith (Republican)

## Events

### January–March

- January 5 – U.S. Senator Estes Kefauver introduces a resolution calling for an investigation of organized crime in the U.S.
- January 12 – Cold War: U.S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson delivers his 'Perimeter Speech', outlining the boundary of U.S. security guarantees.
- January 17 – Great Brinks Robbery: 11 thieves steal more than \$2 million from an armored car in Boston, Massachusetts.
- January 21 – Accused communist spy Alger Hiss is convicted of perjury.

- January 24 – Cold War: Klaus Fuchs, German émigré and physicist, walks into London's War Office and confesses to being a Soviet spy: for 7 years, he passed top secret data on U.S. and British nuclear weapons research to the Soviet Union;<sup>[1]</sup> formally charged February 2.
- January 31 – President Harry S. Truman orders the development of the hydrogen bomb, in response to the detonation of the Soviet Union's first atomic bomb in 1949.<sup>[1]</sup>
- February 4 – Ingrid Bergman's illegitimate child arouses ire in the U.S.
- February 9 – Second Red Scare: In his speech to the Republican Women's Club at the McClure Hotel in Wheeling, West Virginia, Senator Joseph McCarthy accuses the U.S. State Department of being filled with 205 Communists.
- February 12 – Albert Einstein warns that nuclear war could lead to mutual destruction.
- February 13
  - The U.S. Army begins to deploy anti-aircraft cannons to protect nuclear stations and military targets.
  - The U.S. Air Force loses a Convair B-36 bomber that carried an Mk-4 atomic bomb off the west coast of Canada, and produces the world's first Broken Arrow.
- February 15 – Walt Disney releases his 12th animated film, *Cinderella* in Hollywood.
- March 1 – Klaus Fuchs is convicted in London of spying against both Britain and the United States for the Soviet Union, by giving to the latter top secret atomic bomb data.
- March 17 – University of California, Berkeley researchers announce the creation of element 98, which they have named "californium".
- March 23 – The 22nd Academy Awards ceremony is held.



February 9: Joseph McCarthy rises to prominence after claiming the State Department employs communists

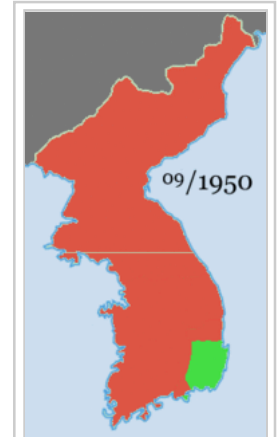
## April–June

- May 9 – L. Ron Hubbard publishes *Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health*.
- May 11 – The Kefauver Committee hearings into U.S. organized crime begin.
- May 14 – *The Huntsville Times* runs the headline, "Dr. von Braun Says Rocket Flights Possible to Moon".
- May 25 – The Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel is formally opened to traffic.
- June 1 – Mauna Loa in Hawaii starts erupting.
- June 25 – Korean War: North Korean troops cross the 38th parallel into South Korea.
- June 27 – Korean War: U.S. President Harry S. Truman orders American military forces to aid in the defense of South Korea.
- June 28 – Korean War: North Korean forces capture Seoul.
- June 29 – United States defeats England 1–0 in the 1950 FIFA World Cup.

## July–September

- August 5 – A bomb-laden B-29 Superfortress crashes into a residential area in California; 17 are killed, 68 injured.
- August 8 – Winston Churchill supports idea of a pan-European army allied with Canada and the U.S.
- August 23 – Legendary singer-actor Paul Robeson, whose passport has recently been revoked because of his alleged Communist affiliations, meets with U.S. officials in an effort to get it reinstated. He is unsuccessful, and it is not reinstated until 1958.
- September 4
  - The comic strip *Beetle Bailey* is created by Mort Walker.

- Darlington Raceway is the site of the inaugural Southern 500, the first 500-mile NASCAR race.
- September 5 – Viking Press publishes *On the Road* by Jack Kerouac.
- September 7 – The game show *Truth or Consequences* debuts on television.
- September 8 – The Defense Production Act is enacted into law in the U.S., shaping American military contracting for the next 60 years.
- September 9 – The U.S. state of California celebrates its centennial anniversary.
- September 15 – Korean War – Battle of Inchon: Allied troops commanded by Douglas MacArthur land in Inchon, occupied by North Korea, to begin a U.N. counteroffensive.
- September 30 – NSC-68 is enacted by President Truman, setting U.S. foreign policy for the next 20 years.



June 25: North Korea invades South Korea beginning the Korean War

## October–December

- October 2 – The comic strip *Peanuts* by Charles M. Schulz is first published in 7 U.S. newspapers.
- October 7 – The Agate Pass Bridge opens for traffic in Washington State.
- October 11 – The Federal Communications Commission issues the first license to broadcast television in color, to CBS (RCA will successfully dispute and block the license from taking effect, however).
- October 15 – The second Tacoma Narrows Bridge opens.
- October 30 – The Jayuya Uprising is started by Puerto Rican Nationalists against the United States.
- November 1 – Puerto Rican nationalists Griselio Torresola and Oscar Collazo attempt to assassinate U.S. President Harry S. Truman, who is staying at the Blair-Lee House in Washington, D.C. during White House repairs.
- November 8 – Korean War: While in an F-80, United States Air Force Lt. Russell J. Brown intercepts 2 North Korean MiG-15s near the Yalu River and shoots them down in the first jet-to-jet dogfight in history.
- November 10 – A U.S. Air Force B-50 Superfortress bomber, experiencing an in-flight emergency, jettisons and detonates a Mark 4 nuclear bomb over Quebec, Canada (the device lacked its plutonium core).
- November 11 – The Mattachine Society is founded in Los Angeles as the first gay liberation organization.
- November 22 – Shirley Temple announces her retirement from show business.
- November 25 – Great Appalachian Storm of November 1950: A phenomenal winter storm ravages the northeastern United States, brings 30 to 50 inches of snow, temperatures below zero, and kills 323 people.
- November 26 – Korean War: Troops from the People's Republic of China move into North Korea and launch a massive counterattack against South Korean and American forces at Chosin, dashing any hopes for a quick end to the conflict.
- November 29
  - Korean War: North Korean and Chinese troops force a retreat of United Nations forces from North Korea.
  - The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA is founded.
- November 30 – Douglas MacArthur threatens to use nuclear weapons in Korea.
- December 12 – Paula Ackerman becomes the first woman in the United States to serve a congregation as a Rabbi.
- December 16 – The Office of Defense Mobilization is established in the United States.

## Undated

- President Harry Truman sends United States military advisors to Vietnam to aid French forces.

- The first TV remote control, Zenith Radio's *Lazy Bones*, is marketed.

## Ongoing

- Cold War (1945–1991)
- Second Red Scare (1947–1957)
- Marshall Plan (1948–1951)
- Korean War (1950–1953)

## Births

- January 4 – John Louis Evans, murderer (executed 1983)
- January 10 – Roy Blunt, U.S. Senator from Missouri from 2011
- January 19 – Jon Matlack, baseball player and coach
- January 23 – Suzanne Scotchmer, economist and academic (d. 2014)
- January 26 – Jack Youngblood, American football player, sportscaster and actor
- January 29 – Max Carl, American singer-songwriter, guitarist and keyboard player
- February 6 – Natalie Cole, singer (d. 2015)
- March 2 – Karen Carpenter, pop singer and drummer (d. 1983)
- March 4 – Rick Perry, 47th Governor of Texas
- April 1 – Samuel Alito, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the U.S. from 2006
- April 29 – Debbie Stabenow, U.S. Senator from Michigan from 2001
- May 11 – Dane Iorg, baseball player
- May 13 – Stevie Wonder, musician, singer, songwriter, record producer, and multi-instrumentalist
- May 14 – Jill Stein, Green Party nominee for President of the United States in the 2012 and 2016 elections
- January 4 – James Warren, journalist and publisher
- May 15 – Jim Simons, golfer (d. 2005)
- June 18 – Mike Johanns, U.S. Senator from Nebraska from 2009
- July 5 – Huey Lewis, actor, musician and songwriter
- July 18 – Mark Udall, U.S. Senator from Colorado from 2009
- August 25 – Charles Fambrough, musician and composer (d. 2011)
- August 31 – Dean Barkley, U.S. Senator from Minnesota from 2002 to 2003
- September 24 – Alan Colmes, TV/radio host and political commentator (d. 2017)
- October 11 – Patty Murray, U.S. Senator from Washington from 1993
- November 12 – Barbara Fairchild, singer-songwriter
- November 23 – Chuck Schumer, U.S. Senator from New York from 1999
- November 28 – Ed Harris, actor, screenwriter and director
- December 2 – Bob Kevoian, radio host
- December 10 – John Boozman, U.S. Senator from Arkansas from 2011

# Deaths

- January 2 – Anthony Prusinski, politician (b. 1901)
- January 15 – Henry H. Arnold, five-star general (b. 1886)
- January 22 – Alan Hale, Sr., actor (b. 1892)
- February 11 – Kiki Cuyler, baseball player (Chicago Cubs) and a member of the MLB Hall of Fame (b. 1898)
- February 25 – George Minot, physician, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine (b. 1885)
- March 11 – Heinrich Mann, German writer, died in Santa Monica, California (b. 1871)
- April 1 – Charles R. Drew, African American physician, pioneer in blood transfusion, died as result of automobile accident (b. 1904)
- April 7 – Walter Huston, actor (b. 1884)
- April 11 – Bainbridge Colby, United States Secretary of State (b. 1869)
- April 16 – Henry J. Knauf, politician (b. 1891)
- April 26 – G. Murray Hulbert, politician (b. 1881)
- April 27 – Hobart Cavanaugh, character actor (b. 1886)
- May 1 – Lothrop Stoddard, eugenicist (b. 1883)
- May 10 – Belle da Costa Greene, librarian, bibliographer, and archivist (b. 1883)
- May 20 – John Gould Fletcher, poet (b. 1886)
- June 22 – Jane Cowl, actress (b. 1883)
- July 7 – Fats Navarro, jazz trumpet player (b. 1923)
- July 8 – Helen Holmes, actress (b. 1893)
- July 10 – Richard Maury, American naturalized Argentine engineer (b. 1882)
- July 11 – Buddy DeSylva, songwriter (b. 1895)
- July 12 – Elsie de Wolfe, socialite and interior decorator (b. 1865)
- July 21 – Rex Ingram, director (b. 1892)
- August 19 – Black Elk, Wičháša Wakháŋ (Medicine Man or Holy Man) of the Ogala Teton Lakota (Western Sioux) (b. 1863)
- August 22 – Kirk Bryan, geologist (b. 1888)
- August 23 – Frank Phillips, oil executive (b. 1873)
- August 26 – Ransom E. Olds, automotive pioneer (b. 1864)
- September 10 – Raymond Sommer, race car driver (b. 1906)
- September 16 – Pedro de Cordoba, actor (b. 1881)
- October 11 – Pauline Lord, actress (b. 1890)
- October 13 – Ernest Haycox, writer (b. 1899)
- October 19 – Edna St. Vincent Millay, poet (b. 1892)
- October 20 – Henry L. Stimson, United States Secretary of State (b. 1867)
- October 23 – Al Jolson, musician and actor (b. 1886)
- October 28 – Maurice Costello, actor (b. 1877)
- November 4 – Grover Cleveland Alexander, baseball player (Philadelphia Phillies) and a member of the MLB Hall of Fame (b. 1887)
- December 4 – Jesse L. Brown, first African-American aviator in the United States Navy (killed in action) (b. 1926)
- December 28 – Max Beckmann, German painter and graphic artist, died in New York City, New York (b. 1884)

## See also

- List of American films of 1950

## References

1. "Year by Year 1950" – History Channel International

## External links

-  Media related to 1950 in the United States at Wikimedia Commons

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=1950\_in\_the\_United\_States&oldid=767022451"

Categories: 1950 in the United States

- 
- This page was last modified on 23 February 2017, at 14:32.
  - Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.