

The Wisdom of America's Elders

20th Century American Historical Timeline

Events	1900- 1909	1910- 1919	1920- 1929	1930- 1939	1940- 1949	1950- 1959	1960- 1969	1970- 1979	1980- 1989	1990- 1999	2000
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Wars

World War I	1914-1918
World War II	1939 1945
Korean War	1950-1953
Vietnam War	1959 - 1975
Operation Desert Storm	1/17/90
Yugoslavia	1999

U.S. Social Legislation

Federal Income Tax	1913 Enacted during Taft administration
Women's Suffrage	1919 Enacted during Wilson's administration
Prohibition	1/-/1919 Dec-39 Enacted during Wilson administration, repealed during FDR administration
New Deal: Social Security and Welfare Laws	1935 Enacted during FDR administration
Civil Rights Act	1964 Enacted during Johnson adm.
Medicare Law	1966 Enacted during Johnson adm.
Americans With Disabilities Act	Enacted during Bush administration 1990

Political Leaders

U.S. Presidents	Theodore Roosevelt 1901-09	Wm Howard Taft 1909-13	Warren G. Harding 1921-23	Franklin D. Roosevelt 1933-45	Harry S. Truman 1945-53	Dwight D. Eisenhower 1953-61	John F. Kennedy 1961-63	Richard Nixon 1969-74	Ronald Reagan 1981-89	George Bush 1989-93
		Woodrow Wilson 1913-21	Calvin Coolidge 1923-29				Lyndon Johnson 1963-69	Gerald Ford 1974-77		William Clinton 1994-99
			Herbert Hoover 1929-33					Jimmy Carter 1977-81		

Ghandi (1869-1948)	Developed practice of non-violent disobedience	Assasinated in 1948
Josef Stalin (1879-1953)	1922 USSR Communist Party	1953
Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882-1945)	President of U.S. 1933 1945	Depression, WW II leader, introduced "New Deal": Social Security, Welfare
Winston Churchill (1874-1965)	Prime Minister of Great Britain 1940-45	
Adolph Hitler (1889-1945)	Chancellor of Germany 1933 1945	
Margaret Thatcher (1925-)		Prime Minister of Great Britain 1979 1990
Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968)	Black leader, non-violent protest, assassinated in 1968 1968	Made "I Have A Dream" speech in 1963
Malcolm X (1925-1965)	Black leader, advocated Black pride and separatism 1965	Assasinated in 1965

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Historical Events											
Wright Brothers First Airplane	1903										
San Francisco Earthquake	1906										
Ford Model-T Introduced	1908										
Jet Propulsion Airplane	1st Jet	1910		1st commercial Jet (Boeing 707)	1958			1976	Concorde begins service		
IBM (Founded 1911)		1911	Dominant computer manufacturer								
Titanic Sinks		4/12/12									
1st Transatlantic Radio			1921								
Scopes "Monkey Trial"			1925								
Lindbergh Flies Atlantic			05/21/27								
TV Patent			1927	TV becomes commercially viable							
Depression			1929	-	1940s						
Pharmaceutical Industry			After dev. sulfa drugs in 1930s, penicillin in the '40s, industry became geared to research								
Xerox Copy Process Invention			1938	1947							
Hewlett Packard (Founded 1939)			1939	Dominant computer peripheral equipment manufacturer							
Japanese Attack Pearl Harbor					12/7/41						
First A-bomb Tested					7/16/45						
Hiroshima A-bombed					8/6/45						
Yeager Breaks Sound Barrier					10/14/47						
The Marshall Plan					1947						
Development of Transistor				Solid-state semiconductor electronic device	1948	Used in communications, control, computer systems as a switch, amplifier					
NATO Formed					4/4/49						
McDonald's Restaurants				Propotype for American fast food chain restaurants	1950s						
Brown v Board of Education				Landmark Supreme Court Case re segregated schools	1954						
USSR Launches 1st Sputnik					1957						
Montgomery, Ala bus boycott					1955-56						
The Internet											
Integrated Circuit				Integrated circuit begins to replace transistor in electronic equipment	1960s	Performs the function of 15 to 20 transistors					
Watts Riots					1965						
1st Artificial Heart Implant (DeBakey)					1966						
1st Heart Transplant (Christian Barnard)					1967						

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TV

TV Broadcasting	[Timeline bar]										
Johnny Carson (1925-)	The Tonight Show 1962										
"Wheel of Fortune" 60 Minutes	Game Show - Created by Merv Griffin [Timeline bar]										
"All In The Family" CNN	Original TV Magazine Show 1968										
C-Span	TV Series, cutting edge humor, made fun of ethnic stereotypes 1971										
	24 Hour TV News Channel, founded by Ted Turner 1980										
	Public TV, organized and funded by cable channels [Timeline bar]										

Sports

Jim Thorpe (1888-1953)	1907	1929	Greatest athlete of time: Track, Football, Baseball, 1912 Olympics Gold Medal winner in Track								
Babe Ruth (1895-1948)	1914	1935	Baseball - 1927: 60 Home Runs								
Joe Louis (1914-1981)	Boxing: Heavyweight Champion 1934 1950										
Lou Gehrig (1903-1941)	1925	1939	Baseball: Record for consecutive games played (2,130). Four time MVP.								
Joe DiMaggio (1914-1999)	Baseball 1936 1952										
Jackie Robinson (1919-1972)	Baseball: 1st Black player in Major Leagues 1947 1972										
Muhammad Ali (1945-)	Boxing: Heavyweight Champion 1960 1979										
Cal Ripken (1960-)	Baseball: Record for consecutive games played (2,315) 1981 1999										
Kareem Abdul-Jabbar	Basketball: All-time scorer (38,387 points), most games (1,560) 1969 1989										
Magic Johnson	Basketball: Three time MVP. Became national spokesperson for AIDS awareness 1979 1991										
Gordie Howe (1928-)	Hockey: Hall of Fame, longest career 1945 1980										
Michael Jordan	Basketball: Best player in the game. 1984 1999										
Wayne Gretzky (1961-)	Hockey: 61 Records, "Greatest Player Ever" 1978 1999										
Mark Maguire	Baseball - 1998-99: 70 Home Runs 1998-99										
Tiger Woods (1976-)	1st major Black golfer. 1st golfer to win U.S. Amateur Tournament three years in a row. Turned pro at 20 1998 -										

Other Important Figures

Will Rogers (1879-1935)	1905	1935	Humorist, actor, writer, political commentator								
Rev. Billy Graham (1918-)	World-famous Evangelist 1943										
Lenny Bruce (1926-1966)	Comedian: scathing, obscene humor influenced comedy 1966										

Other Publications

Superman	1938	Comic Book, influenced contemporary film trend toward comic book characters									
Batman	1939	Comic Book, influenced contemporary film trend toward comic book characters									
Playboy Magazine	Founded by Hugh Hefner 1953 Led sexual revolution in America										

Criteria

U.S. Social Legislation	Legislation that changed or significantly affected the course of the nation's history.
Political Leaders	Individuals who led or influenced major events or trends in American history.
Historical Events	Events that caused or represent important trends or changes in the nation's direction.
Music, Art, Architecture, Literature, Playwrites, Entertainers, TV, Other Important Figures	Individuals who created, introduced or are representative of major trends or periods in American culture.
Radio/Movies, Other Publications	Shows, individuals or publications that represent major trends in American culture.
Sports	Athletes who were instrumental in causing major changes or best represent their sports for their time.