1972 History, Fun Facts & Trivia

How much things cost in 1972

Yearly Inflation Rate USA *3.27%*
Yearly Inflation Rate UK *6.4%*
Year End Close Dow Jones Industrial Average *1020*
Average Cost of new house $27,550.00
Average Income per year $11,800.00
Average Monthly Rent $165.00
Cost of a gallon of Gas 55 cents
Roxanne Ladies Swimsuit $30.00
Kodak Pocket $28.00
Wrangler Jeans $12.00
Ladies Timex Watch From $30.00
Average House Price 7,374
Gallon of Petrol 0.35

US Events in 1972

Hurricane Agnes on June 13th kills 117 in US east coast.

Andes Mountain Range / South America

16 survivors from plane crash survive and are rescued after practicing cannibalism

In Late June Hurricane Agnes (Category 1 hurricane) wreaks havoc on the state of Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland and Virginia causing the death of 128 , In the worst hit state of Pennsylvania 48 people die due to the hurricane.

The Black Lung Benefits bill signed into law by President Nixon

The Equal Rights Amendment which provided for the legal equality of the sexes passed by the U.S. Senate on 22nd March

The world's leaders agree to banning biological warfare

Antiwar demonstrations draw 100,000 demonstrators in US cities

The Dow Jones closes above 1000 for the first time in history

The Largest Diamond The Star of Sierra Leone is unearthed it is 969.8 carats

Flash Flood caused by dam burst in Rapid City, South Dakota kills over 200

Governor George Wallace is shot three times in an attempted assassination attempt by Arthur Bremer which leaves him paralyzed.

Richard Nixon Visits China

A dam In West Virginia's Buffalo Creek Valley collapses killing 118 people

American Swimmer Mark Spitz wins a record 7 gold medals in the Summer Olympics in Munich

Federal Water Pollution Control Amendments come into force

Popular Musicians

- ABBA
- Roxy Music
- The Eagles
- John Lennon
- Paul Simon
- Simon and Garfunkel
- Rod Stewart
- Don Mclean
- Michael Jackson
- Don McLean
- Elton John
- The Moody Blues
- David Bowie
- Led Zeppelin

Popular Films

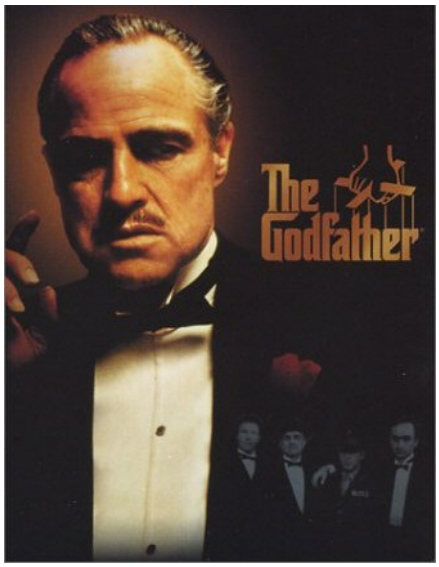
- The Godfather
- Fiddler on the Roof
- Diamonds Are Forever
- What's Up, Doc?
- Dirty Harry
- The Last Picture Show
- A Clockwork Orange
- Cabaret

Best Film Oscar Winner:

The Godfather

Popular TV Programs

- Monty Python's Flying Circus
- Sesame Street
- The Benny Hill Show
- The Brady Bunch
- Dad's Army
- Hawaii Five-O
- Here's Lucy

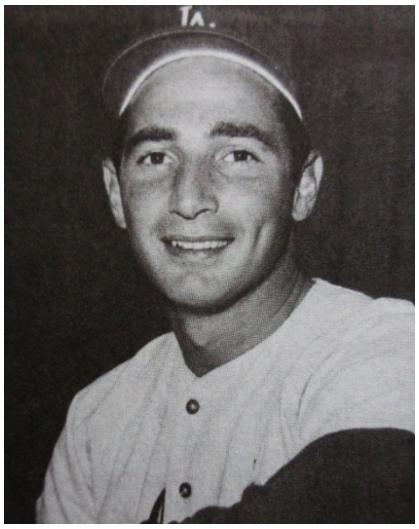


Sports

World Series Champions: Oakland Athletics

Superbowl VI Champions: Dallas Cowboys

NBA Champions: Los Angeles Lakers



Stanley Cup Champs: Boston Bruins

U.S. Open Golf Jack Nicklaus

U.S. Tennis: (Men/Ladies) Ilie Nastase/Billie Jean King

Wimbledon (Men/Women): Stan Smith/Billie Jean King

NCAA Football Champions: USC

NCAA Basketball Champions: UCLA

Kentucky Derby: Riva Ridge

Sports Highlights: Sandy Koufax was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame, the youngest player ever elected, at age 36.

The Scandal:

On June 17, agents of the Richard Nixon (Republican) White House and the Nixon reelection campaign were arrested while breaking into the office of the Democratic National Committee (DNC), which at the time was located in Washington D.C.'s Watergate Complex.

Jane Fonda visited North Vietnam, supporting the communist side of the war, earning the nickname "Hanoi Jane".

Bloody Sunday in Derry, Northern Ireland, 14 unarmed protestors and civilians were shot by British paratroopers. U2's 'Sunday Bloody Sunday' was based on this event.

Nerd News:

HBO launched in US as the first subscription cable service

Richard Nixon orders the start for the space shuttle program

Apollo 16 lands on the moon where the Lunar Rover is tested by astronauts John W Young and Charles M Duke

Apollo 17 lands on the moon and the last men to walk on the moon are Harrison Schmitt and Eugene Cernan

Digital Watches are introduced

First scientific hand-held calculator (HP-35) introduced (price $395).

The Volkswagen Beetle becomes the most popular car ever sold with in excess of 15 million sold.

Atari kicks off the first generation of video games with the release of PONG, the first game to achieve commercial success

Artificial Heart USA Willem J Koiff

Optical Fiber USA

1972's Most Popular Christmas Gifts, Toys and Presents:

- Pong
- Dawn dolls
- Hacky Sack
- Nerf Football

1972 Billboard Number One Songs

December 25, 1971 - - January 14, 1972:
Brand New Key - Melanie

January 15 - February 11:
American Pie - Don McLean

February 12 - February 18:
Let's Stay Together - Al Green

February 19 - March 17:
Without You - Nilsson

March 18 - March 24:
Heart of Gold - Neil Young

March 25 - April 14:
A Horse With No Name - America

April 15 - May 26:
The First Time I Ever Saw Your Face - Roberta Flack

May 27 - June 2:
Oh Girl - Chi-Lites

June 3 - June 9:
I'll Take You There - The Staple Singers

June 10 - June 30:
The Candy Man - Sammy Davis, Jr.

July 1 - July 7:
Song Sung Blue - Neil Diamond

July 8 - July 30:
Lean on Me - Bill Withers

July 29 - August 25:
Alone Again (Naturally) - Gilbert O' Sullivan

August 26 - September 1:
Brandy (You're A Fine Girl) - Looking Glass

September 2 - September 15:
Alone Again (Naturally) - Gilbert O'Sullivan

September 16 - September 22:
Black and White - Three Dog Night

September 23 - October 13:
Baby, Don't Get Hooked On Me - Mac Davis

October 14 - October 20:
Ben - Michael Jackson

October 21 - November 3:
My Ding-A-Ling - Chuck Berry

November 4 - December 1:
I Can See Clearly Now - Johnny Nash

December 2 - December 8:
Papa Was a Rollin' Stone - The Temptations

December 9 - December 15:
I Am Woman - Helen Reddy

December 16, 1972 - January 5, 1973:
Me and Mrs. Jones - Billy Paul