1987 History, Fun Facts & Trivia

How much things cost in 1987

Yearly Inflation Rate USA *3.66%*
Year End Close Dow Jones Industrial Average *1938*
Interest Rates Year End Federal Reserve *8.75%*
Average Cost of new house $92,000
Median Price Of and Existing Home $85,500
Average Income per year $24,350.00
Private 1st Class Army Per Year $9.385.20
Average Monthly Rent $395.00
Average Price for new car $10305.00
1 gallon of gas 89 cents
1 LB of Bacon $1.80
US Postage Stamp 24 cents
Dozen Eggs 65 cents
Average House Price 44,040
Gallon of Petrol 1.89

Popular Culture 1987

Prozac makes its debut in the United States

Televangelist Jim Bakker Scandal

The Simpsons seen on TV for the first time

British Government Stops Publication in Britain of Spycatcher Book

Search for Nessie reveals no evidence after 1.6 million dollar investment

Spuds Mackenzie first appeared in Bud Light beer advertisements.

Popular Musicians

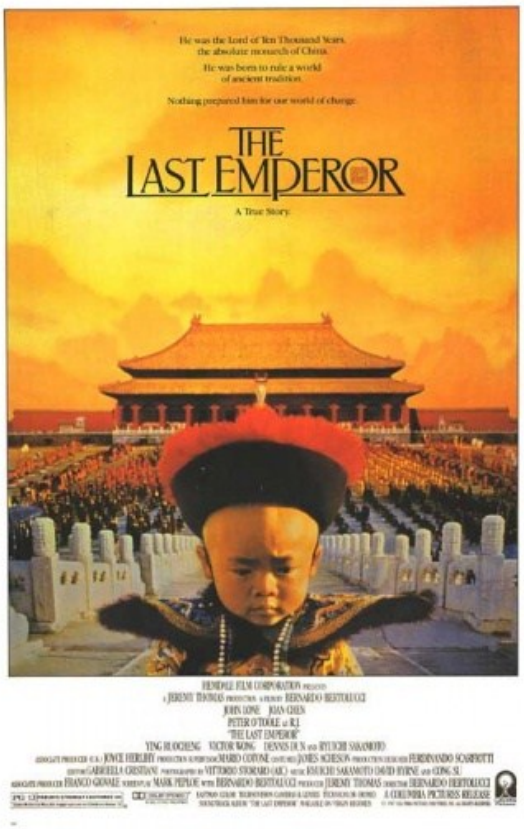
- Michael Jackson
- Lionel Richie
- Fleetwood Mac
- Peter Gabriel
- Janet Jackson
- Heart
- Whitney Houston
- Bruce Hornsby with The Range
- George Michael
- Bryan Adams
- Los Lobos
- Bananarama
- U2

Popular TV Programs

- The Cosby Show
- Roseanne
- A Different World
- Cheers
- 60 Minutes
- The Golden Girls
- Who's the Boss?
- Murder, She Wrote
- Empty Nest
- Anything But Love

Popular Films

- Three Men and a Baby
- Fatal Attraction
- Beverly Hills Cop II
- Good Morning, Vietnam
- The Untouchables
- Stakeout
- Lethal Weapon
- The Witches of Eastwick
- The Last Emperor
- Wall Street
- Dirty Dancing
- RoboCop
- Moonstruck



Best Film Oscar Winner:

The Last Emperor

Sports

World Series Champions: Minnesota Twins

Superbowl XXI Champions: New York Giants

NBA Champions: Los Angeles Lakers

Stanley Cup Champs: Edmonton Oilers

U.S. Open Golf: Scott Simpson

U.S. Tennis: (Men/Ladies) Ivan Lendl/Martina Navratilova

Wimbledon (Men/Women): Pat Cash/Martina Navratilova

NCAA Football Champions: Miami

NCAA Basketball Champions: Indiana

Kentucky Derby: Alysheba

The Scandal:

Jim Bakker resigned as host of the PTL (Praise the Lord) Club in 1987, after a scandal involving former secretary Jessica Hahn.

Gary Hart, Democrat, abandoned his 1988 campaign for U.S. president after details of his alleged affair with Donna Rice became public. Prior, he challenged reporters to "Follow me" around, and they did.

Robert "Budd" Dwyer was a former Pennsylvania politician who, on January 22, committed suicide by shooting himself in the mouth with a handgun during a live televised press conference.
I (pc-us Editor Joe) happened to be home from school and watched it live as it happened.
It was very, very surreal to witness. I remember the news people saying "no! no!..."

Iran-Contra - Reagan security advisor Ollie North was part of a plan to help anti-communist Contra guerrillas in Nicaragua with funds from Iran which directly (or indirectly) got hostages out of Iran. Israel may or may not have been involved as well. It was much more confusing than it sounds here.

Nerd News:

Eli Lilly & Company's Prozac was first sold to the public.

1987 was the year that Red Bull started accelerating parties.

A new word, "Borked" came into the political arena, meaning "railroaded through an interview, with no chance of being approved"

Cost of a Superbowl ad in 1987: $600,000

The Food and Drug Administration approves anti-AIDS drug AZT.

The First Criminal convicted using DNA Evidence Robert Melias in England

Work on the Channel Tunnel joining UK and France begins

Clive Sinclair launches the Z88 Portable Computer weighing less than 2 LBS

1987 is shortened by 1 second to adjust to the Gregorian calendar

Disposable Contact Lenses became available for commercial distribution

1987's Most Popular Christmas Gifts, Toys and Presents:

- Double Loves transforming plush animals
- Jenga
- Koosh ball
- Pictionary

1987 Billboard Number One Songs

December 20, 1986 - January 16, 1987:
Walk Like an Egyptian - The Bangles

January 17 - January 23:
Shake You Down - Gregory Abbott

January 24 - February 6:
At this Moment - Billy Vera and The Beaters

February 7 - February 13:
Open Your Heart - Madonna

February 14 - March 13:
Livin' On a Prayer - Bon Jovi

March 14 - March 11:
Jacob's Ladder - Huey Lewis & the News

March 21 - April 3:
Lean On Me - Club Nouveau

April 4 - April 17:
Nothing's Gonna Stop Us Now - Starship

April 18 - May 1:
I Knew You Were Waiting (For Me) - Aretha Franklin & George Michael

May 2 - May 15:
(I Just) Died In Your Arms - Cutting Crew

May 16 - June 5:
With Or Without You - U2

June 6 - June 12:
You Keep Me Hangin' On - Kim Wilde

June 13 - June 19:
Always - Atlantic Starr

June 20 - June 6:
Head to Toe - Lisa Lisa & Cult Jam

June 27 - July 10:
I Wanna Dance With Somebody (Who Loves Me)- Whitney Houston

July 11 - July 31:
Alone - Heart

August 1 - August 7:
Shakedown - Bob Seger

August 8 - August 21:
I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For - U2

August 22 - August 28:
Who's That Girl - Madonna

August 29 - September 18:
La Bamba - Los Lobos

September 19 - September 25:
I Just Can't Stop Loving You - Michael Jackson

September 26 - October 9:
Didn't We Almost Have It All - Whitney Houston

October 10 - October 16:
Here I Go Again - Whitesnake

October 17 - October 23:
Lost In Emotion - Lisa Lisa & Cult Jam

October 24 - November 6:
Bad - Michael Jackson

November 7 - November 20:
I Think We're Alone Now - Tiffany

November 21 - November 27:
Mony Mony "Live" - Billy Idol

November 28 - December 4:
(I've Had) The Time Of My Life - Bill Medley & Jennifer Warnes

December 5 - December 11:
Heaven Is a Place On Earth - Belinda Carlisle

December 12, 1987 January 8, 1988:
Faith - George Michael