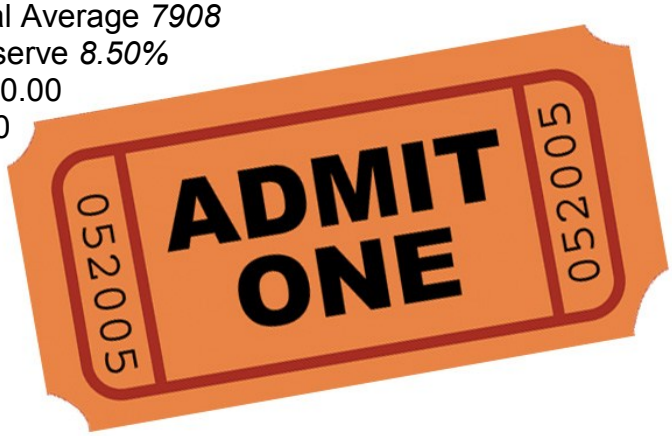
1997 History, Fun Facts & Trivia

How much things cost in 1997

Yearly Inflation Rate USA *2.34 %*
Year End Close Dow Jones Industrial Average *7908*
Interest Rates Year End Federal Reserve *8.50%*
Average Cost of new house $124,100.00
Average Income per year $37,006.00
Average Monthly Rent $576.00
Cost of a gallon of Gas $1.22
Average cost of new car $16,900.00
Loaf of Bread $1.17
Movie Ticket $4.59
1 LB Hamburger meat$1.38
Average House Price 71,248
Gallon of Petrol 2.70



Popular Culture 1997

The Simpsons becomes the longest-running prime-time animated series.

The first book in the award winning Harry Potter series by J. K. Rowling is published "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" released in US in 1998 as "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone"

Diana Princess of Wales is killed in a car crash in Paris August 31st

Microsoft becomes the world’s most valuable company valued at $261 billion dollars

Heaven’s Gate Cult Commits Mass Suicides in California

Tornado hits in Jarrell, Texas killing 27 people

Mike Tyson Bites Evander Holyfield's ear during a match and is suspended from boxing

Louise Woodward a British Au Pair found guilty of second degree murder in Boston for killing the baby in her care

Woolworths closes its remaining discount stores after more than 100 years of trading

A civil jury panel finds OJ Simpson guilty

A series of settlements between tobacco companies and US states is agreed to cover tobacco-related health costs

Tiger Woods at 21 years old became the youngest ever golfer to win the Masters

Steve Jobs returns to run Apple Computers

Andrew Cunanan Commits Suicide after murdering 4 people including fashion designer Gianni Versace

Popular Musicians

- Mariah Carey
- Smashing Pumpkins
- Foo Fighters
- Nine Inch Nails
- The Verve
- Counting Crows
- Lenny Kravitz
- Céline Dion
- Daft Punk
- Sneaker Pimps
- Fleetwood Mac
- Spice Girls
- Radiohead
- Garth Brooks
- Hanson
- The Offspring
- Bryan Adams
- Aerosmith

Popular Films

- Titanic
- The Lost World: Jurassic Park
- Men in Black
- Tomorrow Never Dies
- Air Force One
- As Good as It Gets
- Liar Liar
- My Best Friend's Wedding
- The Fifth Element
- The Full Monty
- Batman & Robin
- The Rainmaker

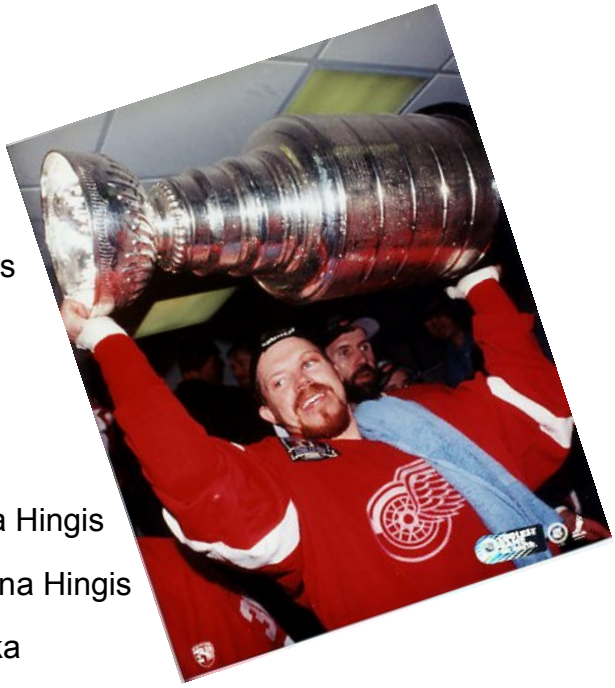
Best Film Oscar Winner:

Titanic

Popular TV Programs

- Seinfeld
- E.R.
- Veronica's Closet
- Friends
- Touched By An Angel
- 60 Minutes
- Union Square
- Frasier
- Home Improvement
- Just Shoot Me

Sports



World Series Champions: Florida Marlins

Superbowl XXXI Champions: Green Bay Packers

NBA Champions: Chicago Bulls

Stanley Cup Champs: Detroit Red Wings

U.S. Open Golf: Ernie Ells

U.S. Tennis: (Men/Ladies) Patrick Rafter/Martina Hingis

Wimbledon (Men/Women): Pete Sampras/Martina Hingis

NCAA Football Champions: Michigan & Nebraska

NCAA Basketball Champions: Arizona

Kentucky Derby: Silver Charm

The Scandal:

Marv Albert went on trial for felony charges of forcible sodomy, which involved the alleged repeated biting of an unnamed female sex partner.

Eddie Murphy was stopped by the police with a transsexual prostitute. He explained that it was all a misunderstanding; he was merely giving the young lady/man a ride.

Airplane Celebrity Death: John Denver

Hip Hop Violent Death: Notorious B.I.G. (gunshot)

Princess Motorcade Death: Princess Diana was killed in a speeding motorcade crash in the Pont e l'Alma tunnel in Paris, France, some say it was a planned assassination/murder.

Movie & TV Star Death: Chris Farley (cocaine and heroin overdose)

Rock Star Death: Michael Hutchence (accidental?) autoerotic asphyxiation

Movie Death: Jimmy Stewart, actor and WW II hero, age 89

Nerd News:

LeAnn Rimes was the youngest person ever to win the 'Best New Artist" Grammy.

Purell was launched as a product for consumers. It had been used by healthcare workers since 1988.

'Titanic' won 11 Oscars.

WebMD went online in 1997.

Pfizer's Lipitor has been reducing cholesterol since 1997.

Cost of a Superbowl ad in 19907: $1,200,000

Scientists in Scotland reveal the first successful cloning of an adult mammal a sheep named Dolly

Internet Explorer version 4 released

The comet Hale-Bopp has its closest approach to earth

Microsoft buys minority stake in Apple Computers for $150 million

ThrustSSC sets the first supersonic land speed record at Black Rock Desert, Nevada at an average speed of 1,227.985 km/h (763.035 mph).

Mars Pathfinder lands on the surface of Mars

Alaska sees more ground ice breaking off due to the greenhouse effect

1997's Most Popular Christmas Gifts, Toys and Presents:

- Beanie Babies
- Teletubbie toys
- Pokémon
- Tamagotchi
- Spice Girls Dolls
- Rapunzel Barbie

1997 Billboard Number One Song

December 7, 1996 - February 21, 1997:
Un-Break My Heart - Toni Braxton

February 22 - May 21:
Wannabe - Spice Girls

March 22 - May 2:
Can't Nobody Hold Me Down - Puff Daddy and Mase

May 3 - May 23:
Hypnotize - The Notorious B.I.G.

May 24 - June 13:
MMMBop - Hanson

June 14 - August 30:
I'll Be Missing You - Puff Daddy/Faith Evans/112

August 30 - September 12:
Mo' Money, Mo' Problems - The Notorious B.I.G. featuring Puff Daddy and Mase

September 13 - October 3:
Honey - Mariah Carey

October 4 - October 10:
4 Seasons of Loneliness - Boyz II Men

October 11, 1997 - January 16, 1998:
Candle In The Wind 1997 - Elton John