

The United States 1950s Timeline

- **January 1950 – Eleven masked men stole \$2.7 million from an armored car in what was known as the Brinks robbery.**
- **June 1950 – North Korea invaded South Korea and began the 3 year Korean War.**
- **November 1950 – The Chinese Communist Army drove the United Nations forces south of the 38th parallel in Korea.**
- **March 1951- Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were convicted of wartime espionage and sentenced to death.**
- **September 1951 – The inauguration of the transcontinental television occurred.**
- **February 1952 – The Winter Olympics began in Helsinki, Finland.**
- **November 1952 – The first Hydrogen bomb was exploded in the Pacific Ocean.**
- **November 1952 – General Dwight D. Eisenhower won the presidential election over Adlai Stevenson in a landslide.**
- **July 1953 – The United Nations, Communist China, and North Korea sign the armistice agreement ending the Korean War.**
- **August 1953 – The United States CIA assisted in the overthrow of the government in Iran and returned the throne to the Shah.**
- **December 1953 – The first color television was put on sale.**
- **February 1954 – The first large-scale vaccination for polio began in Pittsburgh.**
- **April 1954 – Joseph McCarthy began Senate hearing on the communist influence in the U.S. army.**

- **May 1954 - The Supreme Court in the Brown versus the Board of Education ruled that racial segregation violated the 14th Amendment.**
- **September 1954 – Ray Kroc founds the McDonalds Corporation. His first restaurant began in 1940.**
- **February 1955 – The United States began training South Vietnamese troops.**
- **July 1955 – Disneyland opened up its doors for the first time.**
- **December 1955 – Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white man. This led to laws that outlawed bus segregation.**
- **September 1956 – The first transatlantic telephone cable began operation.**
- **October 1956 – Don Larsen pitched the first no-hitter, perfect game, in post-season history.**
- **November 1956 – President Eisenhower beat Adlai Stevenson, in a landslide again, for the presidency.**
- **March 1957 – The FBI arrested labor leader Jimmy Hoffa for bribery.**
- **December 1957 – The U.S. attempted to send up a satellite and it exploded on the launch pad.**
- **January 1958 – Explorer I, the first U.S. satellite was launched at Cape Canaveral. It discovered the Van Allen radiation belt.**
- **December 1958 - Jet airline service began in the U.S. between New York City and Miami.**
- **January 1959 – Alaska became the 49th state to the union.**
- **January 1959 – The U.S. recognizes the Cuban government under Fidel Castro.**

- **February 1959 – The Daytona 500 was run for the first time.**
- **April 1959 – NASA selected the Mercury Seven, who became the first astronauts of the United States.**

Arizona and Peoria 1950s Timeline

- **The 1950s – Widespread use of air conditioning leads to a construction boom.**
- **1952 – Peoria Times Newspaper began operation.**
- **1952 – Barry Goldwater was elected United States Senator.**
- **1952 – Racial segregation is banned at Sky Harbor Airport.**
- **1953 – State courts rule that segregation of schools is illegal.**
- **1955 – The city banned segregation in housing.**
- **1957 – Phoenix Towers were built.**
- **1958 – Arizona State College becomes Arizona State University.**
- **1959 – The Phoenix Art Museum opened its doors.**
- **1959 – Deer Valley airport opened up.**
- **1960 – Del Webb’s Sun City opened up near Peoria.**