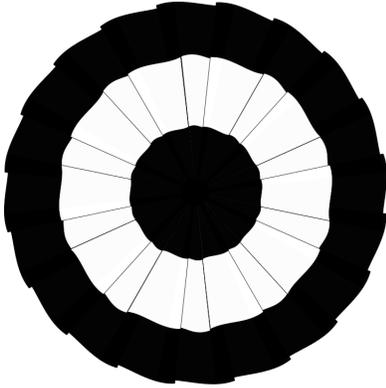


# Historical Timeline of Important Political Parties in the United States

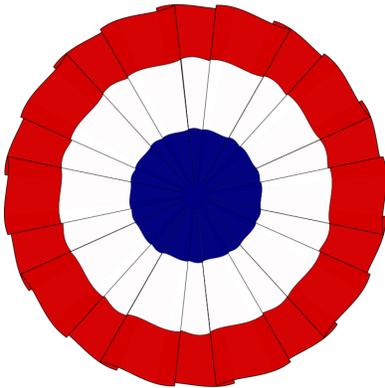
## 1789 - Federalist Party



The Federalist Party, referred to as the Pro-Administration party until the 3rd United States Congress, was the first American political party. It existed from 1789 to 1820. It appealed to business and to conservatives who favored banks, national over state government, manufacturing, and (in world affairs) preferred Britain and opposed the French Revolution.

The Federalists called for a strong national government that promoted economic growth and fostered friendly relationships with Great Britain as well as opposition to revolutionary France. The party controlled the federal government until 1801, when it was overwhelmed by the Democratic-Republican opposition led by Thomas Jefferson.

## 1792 - Democratic-Republican Party



The Democratic-Republican Party was an American political party formed by Thomas Jefferson and James Madison around 1792 to oppose the centralizing policies of the new Federalist Party run by Alexander Hamilton, who was secretary of the treasury and chief architect of George Washington's administration. From 1801 to 1825, the new party controlled the presidency and Congress as well as most states during the First Party System. It began in 1791 as one faction in Congress and included many politicians who had been opposed to the new constitution. They called themselves "Republicans" after their ideology,

republicanism. They distrusted the Federalist commitment to republicanism.

## 1828 - Democratic Party



The Democratic Party is one of the two major contemporary political parties in the United States, along with the Republican Party. Tracing its heritage back to Thomas Jefferson and James Madison's Democratic-Republican Party, the modern-day Democratic Party was founded around 1828 by supporters of Andrew Jackson, making it the world's oldest active political party.

The Democrats' dominant worldview was once social

conservatism and economic liberalism while populism was its leading characteristic in the rural South. In 1912, Theodore Roosevelt ran as a third-party candidate in the Progressive "Bull Moose" Party, leading to a switch of political platforms between the Democratic and Republican Party and Woodrow Wilson being elected as the first fiscally progressive Democrat. Since Franklin D. Roosevelt and his New Deal coalition in the 1930s, the Democratic Party has also promoted a social liberal platform, supporting social justice.

## 1830 – Whig Party



The Whig Party was a political party active in the middle of the 19th century in the United States. Four U.S. Presidents belonged to the party while in office. It emerged in the 1830s as the leading opponent of the Jacksonians. It had links to the upscale traditions of the Federalist Party. Along with the rival Democratic Party, it was central to the Second Party System from the early 1840s to the mid-1860s. Formed in opposition to the policies of President Andrew Jackson, the Whigs supported the supremacy of the United States Congress over the presidency and favored a program of modernization, banking and economic protectionism to stimulate manufacturing.

## 1848 – Free Soil Party

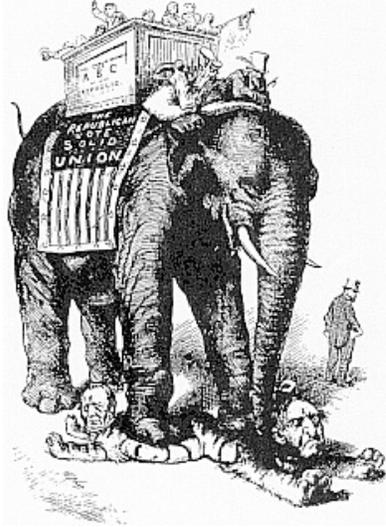


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The Free Soil Party was a short-lived political party in the United States active in the 1848 and 1852 presidential elections as well as in some state elections. A single-issue party, its main purpose was to oppose the expansion of slavery into the Western territories, arguing that free men on free soil constituted a morally and economically superior system to slavery. It also sometimes worked to remove existing laws that discriminated against freed African Americans in states such as Ohio.

The party originated in New York after the state Democratic convention refused to endorse the Wilmot Proviso, a proposed law that would have banned slavery in any territory acquired from Mexico in the Mexican–American

## 1854 – Republican Party



The Republican Party, also referred to as the GOP (abbreviation for Grand Old Party), is one of the two major political parties in the United States, the other being its historic rival, the Democratic Party. The party is named after republicanism, a major ideology of the American Revolution. The Republicans largely dominated politics nationally and in the majority of northern states between 1860 and 1932. Founded in the Northern states in 1854 by anti-slavery activists, modernizers, ex-Whigs and ex-Free Soilers, the Republican Party quickly became the principal opposition to the dominant Democratic Party and the briefly popular Know Nothing Party. The main cause was opposition to the Kansas-Nebraska Act, which repealed the Missouri Compromise by which slavery was kept out of Kansas. The Northern Republicans saw

the expansion of slavery as a great evil.

## 1869 – Prohibition Party



The Prohibition Party, founded in 1869, succeeded in getting communities and many counties in the states to outlaw the production and sale of intoxicating beverages. Its proudest moment came in 1919, with the passage of the 18th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which outlawed the production, sale, transportation, import and export of alcohol.

The era during which alcohol was illegal in the United States is known as "Prohibition". While it declined dramatically after the repeal of Prohibition in 1933, it is still functioning today and is the oldest existing third party in the US. The party's candidate received 518 votes in the 2012 presidential election and 5,617 votes in the 2016 presidential election.

## 1901 – Socialist Party



The Socialist Party of America (SPA) was a multi-tendency democratic socialist and social democratic political party in the United States formed in 1901 by a merger between the three-year-old Social Democratic Party of America and disaffected elements of the Socialist Labor Party of America which had split from the main organization in 1899.

In the first decades of the 20th century, it drew significant support from many different groups, including trade unionists, progressive social reformers, populist farmers and immigrants. However, it refused to form coalitions with other parties, or even to allow its members to vote for other parties. Its candidate, Eugene V. Debs, twice won over 900,000 votes in presidential elections (1912 and 1920).

## 1912 - Progressive Party



The Progressive Party was a third party in the United States formed in 1912 by former President Theodore Roosevelt after he lost the presidential nomination of the Republican Party to his former protégé, incumbent President William Howard Taft. The new party was known for taking advanced positions on progressive reforms and attracting some

leading reformers. After the party's defeat in the 1912 presidential election, it went into rapid decline, disappearing by 1918. The Progressive Party was popularly nicknamed the "Bull Moose Party" since Roosevelt often said that he felt "strong as a bull moose" both before and after an assassination attempt on the campaign trail.

## 1919 - Communist Party



The Communist Party USA is a communist party in the United States, established in 1919, after a split in the Socialist Party of America.

The CPUSA has a long, complex history that is closely tied with the American labor movement and the histories of communist parties worldwide. The party was influential in American politics in the first half of the 20th century and played a prominent role in the labor movement from the 1920s through the 1940s, becoming known for opposing racism and racial segregation. Its membership increased during the Great Depression, but the CPUSA subsequently declined due to events such as the second Red Scare and the

influence of McCarthyism while its support for the Soviet Union increasingly alienated it from the rest of the left in the United States in the 1960s.

## 1936 - American Labor Party



The American Labor Party (ALP) was a political party in the United States established in 1936 which was active almost exclusively in the state of New York. The organization was founded by labor leaders and former members of the Socialist Party of America who had established themselves as the Social Democratic Federation (SDF). The party was intended to parallel the role of the British Labour Party, serving as an umbrella organization to unite New York social democrats of the SDF with trade unionists who would otherwise support candidates of the Republican and Democratic parties.

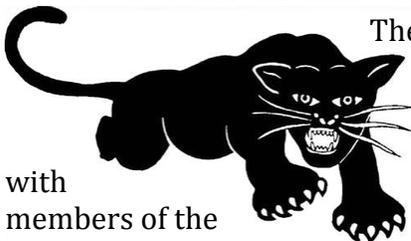
## 1944 - Liberal Party of New York



The Liberal Party of New York is an American political party that has been active only in the state of New York. Its platform supports a set of socially liberal policies including the right to choose on abortion, education reform, and universal health care.

During the 1940's and 1950's the Liberal Party pioneered local and national legislation such as the G.I. Bill of Rights, rent control in New York City, and consumer protection laws, among others. During the 1960's the Liberal Party championed the Civil Rights Act and initiated a suit in the U.S. Supreme Court for Congressional Reapportionment that resulted in the election of Shirley Chisholm, the nation's first African-American congresswoman.

## 1966 - Black Panther Party



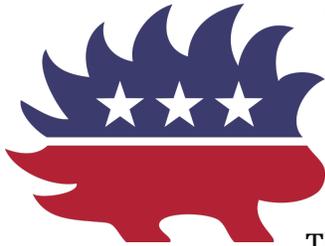
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The Black Panther Party was an anti-racist leftist party founded by Huey Newton in the 1960's and best known as a powerful force in the civil rights and Black Power movements. It should not be confused with the modern day New Black Panther Party which the original organization largely renounce.

Despite a widely held belief among many that the Black Panther Party were violent, historically they implemented a wide variety of social welfare programs in

impoverished neighborhoods in the country's largest cities. Still an issue today, they were founded initially to address to police brutality against black Americans (specifically in Oakland, CA, the city from which the movement spread) by sending armed groups of members out to watch for signs of abuse by the police against their fellow citizens.

### 1971 - Libertarian Party



The Libertarian Party is an ideologically prominent (if not electorally prominent) party based on the idea of individual liberty above all. In practice, this means they support small government and a laissez-faire capitalist economy and are against taxes and regulations on businesses.

Their version of classical liberalism remains popular today among staunch proponents of the Second Amendment and marijuana users - in fact, despite the fact that it has no electoral power in congress, it is the third largest party in America today.

### 1992 - Constitution Party



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Originally called the US Taxpayers' Party, the Constitution Party is a conservative party that supports strict constitutionalism - that is, that the US constitution is a document that should be followed to the letter and remain as unaltered as possible. They believe that any powers not specifically delineated in said document as designated to the federal government should left states or individuals.

They are similar in philosophy to libertarians but they were founded with Christian principles in mind. The party is the fifth most popular nationwide and despite its relative obscurity in many places, their candidates in the last presidential election garnered a surprising amount of votes, once again showing the growing popularity of third parties in America.

### 1995 - Reform Party



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The Reform Party was founded by Ross Perot in 1995 after her won nearly 20% of the popular vote in the 1992 presidential election running as an independent. The success he saw as a third party candidate was unheard of, and despite its decline, no other third party in America has garnered the amount of votes in a single election on the federal level as the Reform Party

This party was seen as a reaction to American political disillusionment and offered what they felt was a viable alternative to Democratic and Republican candidates, and as such is relatively centrist in philosophy. Of note, current president Donald Trump was once a member of this party.

## 2001 - Green Party



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environmental preservation.

Despite various iterations of the party and its environmentalist ideology being around for decades, the current party was founded in 2001 and is known as a left-leaning grassroots party with a focus on

They are probably most well-known for its 2000 presidential candidate Ralph Nader who was partially blamed for splitting the left-wing vote between him and Democrat Al Gore, allowing Republican George W. Bush to win the election. Despite this, they are popular enough to feature in every presidential election despite their low electoral turnout.