Timeline of the New Deal

*First New Deal (1933-34) & Second New Deal (1935)*

1933

**March 4**FDR inaugurated the 32nd president of the U.S. "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

**March 5**FDR issues a proclamation declaring a four-day ["bank holiday"](http://xroads.virginia.edu/~ma02/volpe/newdeal/banking.html) throughout the nation effective March 6. All banking transactions stop and embargo on exportation of gold, silver, and currency. Summons Congress to special session for March 9.

**March 9-June 16**["Hundred Days" session](http://xroads.virginia.edu/~ma02/volpe/newdeal/hundred_days.html) FDR gets a willing Congress to enact many of the New Deal programs. This first day Congress passes the [Emergency Banking Act](http://xroads.virginia.edu/~ma02/volpe/newdeal/banking.html), giving FDR broad powers over banks and foreign exchange. Bank holiday ends March 10--banks can reopen when they prove that they are solvent. Within three days, 1000 banks will reopen and national confidence picks up.

**March 12**FDR gives first ["fireside chat"](http://xroads.virginia.edu/~ma02/volpe/newdeal/firesides.html).

**March 31**Congress passes the **Reforestation Relief Act**, establishing the **Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)**; it provides work immediately for 250,000 young men (18-25) in reforestation, road construction and developing national parks. Work camps begin to spring up. By the time it eases in 1941, two million people have worked on its projects.

**April 19**FDR takes the nation off of the gold standard.

**May 12**Congress passes the **Federal Emergency Relief Act**, which authorizes immediate grants to states for relief projects. Unemployment has reached 14 million-over one quarter of the nation's work force.

Roosevelt signs the **Agricultural Adjustment Act** to provide immediate relief to farmers by setting prices for agricultural products and paying subsidies to farmers for curtailing production of certain crops that were in surplus.

**May 18**Congress establishes the **Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)** to construct dams and power plants along the Tennessee Valley; electricity will go to residents, many of whom lacked it previously, and fertilizer will be sold.

**May 27**Congress passes the **Federal Securities Act** to monitor and regulate stocks and bonds.

**June 6**Congress passes the **National Employment System Act**.

**June 13**
Congress passes the **Home Owners Refinancing Act** to provide mortgage money and other aid to homeowners. It will go out of business in June 1936 after providing loans for some one million mortgages.

**June 16**The final day of the ["Hundred Days" session](http://xroads.virginia.edu/~ma02/volpe/newdeal/hundred_days.html). Congress passes the [National Industrial Recovery Act (NIRA)](http://xroads.virginia.edu/~ma02/volpe/newdeal/nira.html) establishing the **Public Works Administration (PWA)** and the **National Recovery Administration (NRA)**.

The PWA is authorized to supervise the construction of roads, public buildings and other projects while providing employment. Secretary of the Interior [Harold Ickes](http://xroads.virginia.edu/~ma02/volpe/newdeal/newdealers.html) is tapped to head the PWA.

The NRA's goal is to stimulate competition and benefit producers and consumers by implementing various codes to establish fair trade. Compliance was to be voluntary; those who cooperate received the blue eagle "seal of approval." NRA is to be directed by [General Hugh Johnson](http://xroads.virginia.edu/~ma02/volpe/newdeal/newdealers.html). It will be declared unconstitutional by the [Supreme Court](http://xroads.virginia.edu/~ma02/volpe/newdeal/court.html) in May 1935.

Congress also passes the **Farm Credit Act** and the **Banking Act of 1933** (which establishes FDIC).

**August 5**FDR establishes by executive order, the **National Labor Board** to enforce the right of collective bargaining.

**November 8**FDR establishes by executive order the **Civil Works Administration (CWA)** to provide work for some four million unemployed over the winter months. It ceases operation in March 1934.

**December 5**The **21st Amendment** goes into effect, repealing the 18th Amendment and ending prohibition.

1934

**January 4**In his annual message to Congress, FDR asks for ten and a half billion dollars to advance recovery programs over the next 18 months.

**January 30**Congress passes the **Gold Reserve Act** in order to give government control over fluctuations in the value of the dollar.

**January 31**Roosevelt signs the **Farm Mortgage Refinancing Act** to assist farmers in refinancing their mortgages.

**February 2**Roosevelt establishes by executive order the **Import-Export Bank** of Washington to encourage commerce between the U.S. and foreign nations.

**February 15**Congress passes the **Civil Works Emergency Relief Administration** to run new programs.

**February 23**Congress passes the **Crop Loan Act**, which continues the **Farm Credit Administration**, providing loans to farmers based on crop production and harvesting.

**April 7**Congress passes the **Jones-Connally Farm Relief Act** to extend the number of agricultural products to be controlled by the AAA.

**April 21**Congress passes the **Cotton Control Act**, imposing quotas limiting the cotton production of various areas and individuals.

**May 9
Jones-Costigan Act** authorizes controls on both cane and beat sugar as well as sugar imports.

**June 6**Roosevelt passes the **Securities Exchange Act**, establishing the SEC to regulate security transactions. First chairman is Joseph Kennedy.

**June 7**Congress passes **Corporate Bankruptcy Act**, allowing a corporation facing bankruptcy to reorganize if 2/3 of its creditors agree.

**June 12
Farm Mortgage Foreclosure Act** allowing loans to farmers to recover property lost to foreclosure.

**June 19
Silver Purchase Act** Establishes **National Labor Relations Board** to replace the NLB.

**June 28
National Housing Act** establishing the **Federal Housing Administration (FHA)** to insure loans for construction, renovation or repairs of homes.
**Taylor Grazing Act** setting aside some 8 million acres of public land for grazing.
**Tobacco Control Act** sets mandatory quotas limiting production.
**Federal Farm Bankruptcy Act** placing a moratorium on farm mortgage foreclosures.

1935

**January 4**Roosevelt delivers annual message to Congress effectively beginning phase two of the New Deal. Proposes long-term goals of providing for social security for aged, ill and unemployed, better housing and tax reform.

**April 8
Emergency Relief Appropriation Act** authorizing almost five billion for immediate relief and increased employment on "useful projects," one of which is the **Works Progress Administration (WPA)**.

**May 1**FDR establishes the **Resettlement Administration (RA)** to help farm families relocate and furnish them with loans and new projects.

**May 6**The WPA begins. It will build thousands of roads, public buildings, parks and bridges and provide employment for artists, musicians, actors and writers.

**May 11**FDR establishes the **Rural Electrification Administration** to help bring electricity to areas previously where it was previously unavailable.

**May 27**[Supreme Court](http://xroads.virginia.edu/~ma02/volpe/newdeal/court.html) rules unanimously in ***Schecter Poultry Corp. v. United States*** that the NIRA of 1933 was unconstitutional. A major setback to the New Deal, it is the first of many Supreme Court decisions that will go against FDR and lead to his court-packing proposal of 1937.

**July 5**FDR signs the **National labor Relations Act (Wagner-Connery)**. Upheld as constitutional by Supreme Court in March 1937.

**August 14**FDR signs the **Social Security Act** guaranteeing pensions to those retiring at 65 with contributions from both employees and employers. Also provides financial aid to dependent children and blind people and establishes a system of unemployment insurance.

**August 23**Congress passes the **Banking Act of 1935** that revises the operation of the Federal Reserve System, generally making banks more responsible and responsive to the public.

**August 26**FDR signs the **Public Utilities Act** giving federal agencies new powers of regulating the gas and electric companies.

**August 30**Congress passes the **Revenue Act**, increasing taxes on inheritances, gifts and higher income individuals.