

April 15

April 15 is the 105th day of the year (106th in leap years) in the Gregorian calendar. 260 days remain until the end of the year.

<<	April	>>				
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

2020

April 15 in recent years

[2019 \(Monday\)](#)

[2018 \(Sunday\)](#)

[2017 \(Saturday\)](#)

[2016 \(Friday\)](#)

[2015 \(Wednesday\)](#)

[2014 \(Tuesday\)](#)

[2013 \(Monday\)](#)

[2012 \(Sunday\)](#)

[2011 \(Friday\)](#)

[2010 \(Thursday\)](#)

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Events

- 769 – The Lateran Council condemned the Council of Hieria and anathematized its iconoclastic rulings.
- 1071 – Bari, the last Byzantine possession in southern Italy, is surrendered to Robert Guiscard.
- 1395 – Timur defeats Tokhtamysh of the Golden Horde at the Battle of the Terek River. The Golden Horde capital city, Sarai, is razed to the ground and Timur installs a puppet ruler on the throne.
- 1450 – Battle of Formigny: Toward the end of the Hundred Years' War, the French attack and nearly annihilate English forces, ending English domination in Northern France.
- 1632 – Battle of Rain: Swedes under Gustavus Adolphus defeat the Holy Roman Empire during the Thirty Years' War.
- 1642 – Irish Confederate Wars: A Confederate Irish militia is routed in the Battle of Kilrush when it attempts to halt the progress of a Royalist Army.
- 1715 – The Pocotaligo Massacre triggers the start of the Yamasee War in colonial South Carolina.
- 1736 – Foundation of the Kingdom of Corsica.
- 1738 – *Serse*, an Italian opera by George Frideric Handel receives its premiere performance in London, England.
- 1755 – Samuel Johnson's *A Dictionary of the English Language* is published in London.
- 1783 – Preliminary articles of peace ending the American Revolutionary War (or American War of Independence) are ratified.
- 1817 – Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet and Laurent Clerc founded the American School for the

Deaf, the first American school for deaf students, in Hartford, Connecticut.

- 1861 – President Abraham Lincoln calls for 75,000 Volunteers to quell the insurrection that soon became the American Civil War.
- 1865 – President Abraham Lincoln dies after being shot the previous evening by actor John Wilkes Booth. Vice President Andrew Johnson becomes President upon Lincoln's death.
- 1892 – The General Electric Company is formed.
- 1896 – Closing ceremony of the Games of the I Olympiad in Athens, Greece.
- 1900 – Philippine–American War: Filipino guerrillas launch a surprise attack on U.S. infantry and begin a four-day siege of Catubig, Philippines.
- 1907 – Triangle Fraternity is founded at the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign.
- 1912 – The British passenger liner RMS Titanic sinks in the North Atlantic at 2:20 a.m., two hours and forty minutes after hitting an iceberg. Only 710 of 2,227 passengers and crew on board survive.
- 1920 – Two security guards are murdered during a robbery in South Braintree, Massachusetts. Anarchists Sacco and Vanzetti would be convicted of and executed for the crime, amid much controversy.
- 1922 – U.S. Senator John B. Kendrick of Wyoming introduces a resolution calling for an investigation of a secret land deal, which leads to the discovery of the Teapot Dome scandal.
- 1923 – Insulin becomes generally available for use by people with diabetes.
- 1924 – Rand McNally publishes its first road atlas.
- 1936 – First day of the Arab revolt in Mandatory Palestine.
- 1941 – In the Belfast Blitz, two-hundred bombers of the German Luftwaffe attack Belfast, killing around one thousand people.
- 1942 – The George Cross is awarded "to the island fortress of Malta: Its people and defenders" by King George VI.
- 1945 – Bergen-Belsen concentration camp is liberated.
- 1947 – Jackie Robinson debuts for the Brooklyn Dodgers, breaking baseball's color line.
- 1952 – First flight of the Boeing B-52 Stratofortress.
- 1955 – McDonald's restaurant dates its founding to the opening of a franchised restaurant by Ray Kroc, in Des Plaines, Illinois.
- 1960 – At Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina, Ella Baker leads a conference that results in the creation of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, one of the principal organizations of the civil rights movement in the 1960s.
- 1969 – The EC-121 shootdown incident: North Korea shoots down a United States Navy aircraft over the Sea of Japan, killing all 31 on board.
- 1970 – During the Cambodian Civil War, massacre of the Vietnamese minority results in 800 bodies flowing down the Mekong river into South Vietnam.
- 1986 – The United States launches Operation El Dorado Canyon, its bombing raids against Libyan targets in response to a bombing in West Germany that killed two U.S. servicemen.
- 1989 – Hillsborough disaster: A human crush occurs at Hillsborough Stadium, home of Sheffield Wednesday, in the FA Cup Semi-final, resulting in the deaths of 96 Liverpool fans.
- 1989 – Upon Hu Yaobang's death, the Tiananmen Square protests of 1989 begin in China.

- **1994** – Marrakesh Agreement relating to foundation of World Trade Organization is adopted.
- **2013** – Two bombs explode near the finish line at the Boston Marathon in Boston, Massachusetts, killing three people and injuring 264 others.
- **2013** – A wave of bombings across Iraq kills at least 75 people.
- **2014** – In the worst massacre of the South Sudanese Civil War, at least 200 civilians were gunned down after seeking refuge in houses of worship as well as hospitals.
- **2019** – The cathedral of Notre-Dame de Paris in France is seriously damaged by a large fire.^[1]

Births

- **68 BC** – Gaius Maecenas, Roman politician (d. 8 BC)
- **1282** – Frederick IV, Duke of Lorraine (d. 1329)
- **1367** – Henry IV of England (d. 1413)
- **1442** – John Paston, English noble (d. 1479)
- **1452** – Leonardo da Vinci, Italian painter, sculptor, and architect (d. 1519)
- **1469** – Guru Nanak, the first Sikh guru (d. 1539)
- **1552** – Pietro Cataldi, Italian mathematician and astronomer (d. 1626)
- **1563** – Guru Arjan Dev, fifth Sikh leader (d. 1606)
- **1588** – Claudius Salmasius, French author and scholar (d. 1653)
- **1592** – Francesco Maria Brancaccio, Catholic cardinal (d. 1675)
- **1641** – Robert Sibbald, Scottish physician and geographer (d. 1722)
- **1642** – Suleiman II, Ottoman sultan (d. 1691)
- **1646** – Christian V of Denmark (d. 1699)
- **1684** – Catherine I of Russia (d. 1727)
- **1688** – Johann Friedrich Fasch, German violinist and composer (d. 1758)
- **1707** – Leonhard Euler, Swiss mathematician and physicist (d. 1783)
- **1710** – William Cullen, Scottish physician and chemist (d. 1790)
- **1741** – Charles Willson Peale, American painter and soldier (d. 1827)
- **1771** – Nicolas Chopin, French-Polish educator (d. 1844)
- **1772** – Étienne Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, French biologist and zoologist (d. 1844)
- **1793** – Friedrich Georg Wilhelm von Struve, German astronomer and academic (d. 1864)
- **1800** – James Clark Ross, English captain and explorer (d. 1862)
- **1808** – William Champ, English-Australian politician, 1st Premier of Tasmania (d. 1892)
- **1809** – Hermann Grassmann, German linguist and mathematician (d. 1877)
- **1817** – William Crowther, Dutch-Australian politician, 14th Premier of Tasmania (d. 1885)
- **1828** – Jean Danjou, French captain (d. 1863)
- **1832** – Wilhelm Busch, German poet, painter, and illustrator (d. 1908)
- **1841** – Mary Grant Roberts, Australian zoo owner (d. 1921)^[2]
- **1841** – Joseph E. Seagram, Canadian businessman and politician, founded the Seagram