

	A	B	C	D
1	Year	Tragedy	Notes	Source
			<p>The "Great September Gale" had a very important legacy, as a New Englander, William Redfield, walked the path of the storm after it moved through Connecticut. By noting the direction trees had fallen, Redfield theorized that hurricanes were great circular whirlwinds. His observations were essentially the beginning of modern hurricane science. Salt spray and salt deposition were noted in many areas after the hurricane. Historical reports recount the rain "tasting like salt", the grapes in the vineyards "tasting like salt", the houses had all turned white, and the leaves on the trees appeared "lightly frosted. The Great September Gale of 1815 was the first major hurricane to impact New England in 180 years. Believed to have originated in the West Indies on September 18, 1815, the hurricane slowly spun northeastward. It struck the Turks Islands in the Bahamas on 20 September as what is believed to have been a Category 4 hurricane. The storm then continued northward, making landfall across Long Island, NY, around 7 AM on the morning of 23 September. The hurricane traveled along the Southern New England coast, making a second landfall near Saybrook, CT at 9 AM. The eye of the hurricane moved through central Massachusetts, passing between Amherst and Worcester, MA, at 11 AM. The storm then passed through New Hampshire, where it quickly dissipated by 2 PM that same day.</p> <p>The Great September Gale produced significant wind damage in Connecticut, Rhode Island, east-central Massachusetts, and southeastern New Hampshire. Parts of Providence, RI, experienced tides 4.3 m (14 ft) greater than usual and in Buzzards Bay, MA, the tide is calculated to have risen 4.8 m (15.9 ft) above normal. At least 38 fatalities were a result of the Great September Gale. The hurricane also caused the destruction of some 500 homes and 35 ships in Narragansett, RI, as a 3.4m (11ft) storm surge funneled up Narragansett Bay. the Great September Gale. The hurricane also caused the destruction of some 500 homes and 35 ships in Narragansett, RI, as a 3.4m (11ft) storm surge funneled up Narragansett Bay.</p>	
2	1815	Great September Gale		New England Historical Society
3	1832	Cholera Epidemic	Americans watched with dread as newspaper reports told how cholera had spread from Asia to Europe, and was killing thousands in Paris and London in early 1832. The horrific disease, which seemed to infect and kill people within hours, reached North America that summer. It took thousands of lives, and nearly half the residents of New York City fled to the countryside.	

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4	1835	Great New York Fire	<p>New York City doesn't have many buildings from the colonial period, and there's a reason for that: an enormous fire in December 1835 destroyed much of lower Manhattan. A huge portion of the city burned out of control, and the blaze was only stopped from spreading when Wall Street was literally blown up. The buildings purposely collapsed with gunpowder charges created a rubble wall that protected the rest of the city from the oncoming flames. Approximately 120 bodies were recovered, but it was estimated that more than 300 people died. It's believed that many bodies were entirely consumed by the intense heat. The cost of destroyed property was estimated at \$190 million. More than 17,000 buildings were destroyed, and more than 100,000 people were left homeless</p>	
5	1854	Wreck of steamship Artic	<p>When we think of maritime disasters, the phrase "women and children first" always comes to mind. But saving the most helpless passengers on a doomed ship was not always the law of the sea, and when one of the greatest ships afloat was going down the ship's crew seized the lifeboats and left most of the passengers to fend for themselves. The sinking of the SS Arctic in 1854 was a major disaster and also a shameful episode which shocked the public.</p>	
6	1871	Great Chicago Fire	<p>The tale of Mrs. O'Leary's cow is probably not true, but that doesn't make the Great Chicago Fire any less legendary. The flames did spread from O'Leary's barn, stoked by the winds and heading into the thriving city's business district. By the next day, much of the great city was reduced to charred ruins and many thousands of people were left homeless.</p>	

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7	1889	Jonestown Flood	The city of Johnstown, a thriving community of working people in western Pennsylvania, was virtually destroyed when a massive wall of water came rushing down a valley on a Sunday afternoon. Thousands were killed in the flood. The entire episode, it turned out, could have been avoided. The flood occurred after a very rainy spring, but what really caused the disaster was the collapse of a flimsy dam built so that wealthy steel magnates could enjoy a private lake. The Johnstown Flood wasn't just a tragedy, it was a scandal of the Gilded Age. The damage to Johnstown was devastating, and photographers rushed to the scene to document it. It was one of the first disasters to be photographed extensively, and prints of the photographs were sold widely.	
8	1900	Galveston Hurricane	The Galveston Hurricane of 1900, also known as the Great Galveston Storm, was a powerful Atlantic tropical cyclone that struck the island city of Galveston, Texas, on the night of September 8, 1900. Coming ashore with an estimated strength of a Category 4 hurricane on the modern Saffir–Simpson scale, the storm claimed between 8,000 and 12,000 lives in Galveston Island and nearby mainland towns. Today, the storm remains the deadliest weather-related natural disaster in U.S. history. By comparison, Hurricane Katrina (2005) killed 1,833 and Hurricane Maria (2017) killed nearly 5,000.	
9	1900	Plague	The beginning of the United States' first plague epidemic, which infected at least 280 people and killed at least 172 over the next eight years (the actual numbers of cases and deaths may be higher). The disease was <u>likely introduced</u> by rat-infested steamships arriving at California's shores from affected areas, mostly from Asia. But instead of alerting the public, city and state officials—including the governor of <u>California</u> —denied there was any plague outbreak at all.	
10	1901	President McKinley Shot	McKinley's is shot by anarchist Leon Czolgosz in Buffalo, N.Y. September 14 He later dies from his wounds and is succeeded by his vice president, Theodore Roosevelt.	
11	1906	San Francisco Earthquake	San Francisco earthquake leaves 500 dead or missing and destroys about 4 sq mi of the city.	

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12	1912	Titanic Sunk	April 1912, ship Titanic struck iceberg nears Newfoundland, Canada, even though had 6 warnings before collision. Sunk in 3 hrs., lost 1,500 lives. There were 2,223 on board, 706 survived; 492 passengers, 214 crew. 2 dogs survived. Temp of water -2c. The search lasted 4-9 days. The cost of the ship was \$7,500,00. Only had 20 life boats aboard. Last survivor died in 2009 at age of 97. Took 73 years to discover wreck site.	
13	1914	World War 1	World War I: U.S. enters World War I, declaring war on Germany (April 6, 1917) and Austria-Hungary (Dec. 7, 1917) three years after conflict began in 1914.	Infoplease.com
14	1918	Flu Epidemic	Worldwide influenza epidemic strikes; by 1920, nearly 20 million are dead. In U.S., 500,000 perish.	Infoplease.com
15	1919	President Wilson stroke	President Wilson suffers a stroke.	Infoplease.com
16	1923	President Harding Dies	President Harding dies suddenly. He is succeeded by his vice president, Calvin Coolidge.	Infoplease.com
17	1929	Stock Market Crash	Stock market crash precipitates the Great Depression	Infoplease.com
18	1941	WW II	U.S. declares war on Japan. Germany and Italy declare war on the United States; U.S. reciprocates by declaring war on both countries.	Infoplease.com
19	1945	President Roosevelt Dies	President Roosevelt dies of a stroke and is succeeded by his vice president, Harry Truman	Infoplease.com