

# Global look: The world's top stories during the last decade

The Observer scanned major news outlets, such as the New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Guardian and MSN to compile a list of top national and international news stories of the last decade.

## 2010

### HAITI EARTHQUAKE

A catastrophic 7.0-magnitude earthquake the afternoon of Jan. 12 struck Haiti. The quake collapsed some 250,000 homes and another 30,000 commercial buildings. The quake reportedly killed between 100,00 and 316,000 people, depending on the source of the data.

### TABLET COMPUTERS BECOME REALITY

Apple co-founder and company frontman Steve Jobs on Jan. 27 introduced the iPad, the tablet computer.

### "OBAMACARE" BECOMES LAW

President Barack Obama on March 23 signed the Affordable Care Act into law.

### DEEPWATER HORIZON DISASTER

The Deepwater Horizon oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico exploded April 20, killing 11 people. Some 4.9 million barrels of oil flowed from the damaged pipe for 87 days before crews could cap it. The spill damaged Gulf ecosystems and fishing and tourism industries.

### FINANCIAL REFORM

Congress on July 15 passed the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, more plainly known as Dodd-Frank. The changes the new law made to financial regulations affected most Americans.

### WIKILEAKS REVEALS CLASSIFIED CABLES

WikiLeaks — the nonprofit organization that publishes whistle-blower submissions — on Nov. 28 began releasing more than 250,000 classified cables between the U.S. State Department and its embassies, consulates and diplomats. The documents revealed a trove of sensitive international situations, including the U.S. spying on United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan leading up to the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

## 2011

### ARAB SPRING

Anti-government uprisings spread across the Arab world in beginning in January in Tunisia, where the



President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama stand with President-elect Donald Trump and his wife Melania Trump at the White House Jan. 20, 2017.

people ousted the president. Social media and smartphones played key roles in the movement.

The Arab Spring led to a violent civil war in Libya and the overthrow of Muammar Gaddafi. Opposition forces on Oct. 20 dragged the dictator through the streets and executed him.

Libya's civil war continues to rage and contributed to the worldwide refugee crisis with more than 5.6 million Syrians fleeing the country. Thousands seeking refuge have died in the Mediterranean while trying to enter Europe.

### TOHOKU QUAKE

A record 9.0 earthquake on March 11 struck off the coast of Tohoku, Japan. The quake was the most powerful recorded in Japan and caused a massive tsunami, killed nearly 20,000 people and damaged nuclear power plants.

### TAKING OUT BIN LADEN

U.S. Special Forces on May 2 killed Osama bin Laden, mastermind of the 9/11 terrorists attack, in an assault on a compound in Pakistan.

### APPLE CO-FOUNDER DIES

Steve Jobs died on Oct. 5. He was 56. The Apple co-founder revolutionized computer technology and media and built one of the world's most valuable companies.

### NORTH KOREAN LEADER DIES

Kim Jong Il died Dec. 17 from a heart attack at age 69. The North Korean dictator had isolated the county, ruined its economy and starved its people. His death, however, also caused uncertainty on the international front during the transition to a new leader.



Kelly McGee, owner of Marie Josephine, A Mercantile, left, and Carole Halvorson of Zion Lutheran Church's women's group are collecting shoes in March 2010 for Haiti earthquake victims.



U.S. Rep. Greg Walden, R-Hood River, discusses the opioid crisis in September 2018 with Wallowa County law enforcement. Walden authored key legislation to help fight the epidemic of opioid addiction.

### 2012 SANDY ROCKS EAST COAST

Superstorm Sandy hit

the East Coast on Oct. 29, causing enough flooding to float cars in streets of Lower Manhattan. The storm killed

85 people in the U.S. Sandy would be the deadliest, most destructive and strongest hurricane of the 2012 Atlantic hurricane season.

### BENGAZI CONSULATE ATTACK

An angry mob on Sept. 11 and 12 attacked the U.S. diplomatic compound in Benghazi, Libya, setting facilities aflame and killing four Americans, including the U.S. ambassador to Libya. The initial report was the attack was a response to an American video that mocked Islam and the Prophet Mohammed. The investigation, however, revealed it was a terrorist attack.

### OBAMA WINS SECOND TERM

President Barack Obama on Nov. 6 won a second term.

A shooter on Dec. 14 killed 26 people — 20 of them children 6-7 years old — at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut.

## 2013

### BLACK LIVES MATTER LAUNCHES

A jury in Florida on Oct. 13 acquitted neighborhood watch volunteer George Zimmerman of the 2012 shooting death of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin, an African American. The Black Lives Matter movement began in the wake of the verdict with the hashtag BlackLivesMatter. The movement would continue to grow with street protests and demonstrations over police and others killing African Americans.

### THE NEW POPE

Pope Benedict XVI resigned Feb. 28, and on March 13 the Papal conclave elected Pope Francis. The election process did not follow Catholic tradition.

### BOSTON MARATHON BOMBING

Two homemade bombs detonated in a terrorist attack April 15 near the finish line of the Boston Marathon, killing three people and injuring hundreds more, including 16 who lost limbs. A massive police manhunt ensued to capture two suspects. One died in a shootout with police, and the other ended up in federal prison on 30 charges, including the use of a weapon of mass destruction resulting in death.

### DEADLY RANA PLAZA BUILDING COLLAPSE

The Rana Plaza building in Dhaka, Bangladesh,

which housed five garment factories, collapsed April 24, killing more than 1,100 people and injuring at least 2,500.

### NSA LEAKS HIT THE MEDIA

The Guardian on June 8 published top-secret documents showing the U.S. National Security Agency used a data mining tool to collect volumes of information from computer and telephone networks. The next day, Edward Snowden revealed he was the source of the leak.

## 2014

### GM RECALLS HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF VEHICLES

GM in February recalled almost 777,000 older-model Chevrolet Cobalt and Pontiac G5 compact cars in North America because ignition problems could turn off air bags and other components.

### MALAYSIA AIRLINES JET GOES MISSING

Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 left Kuala Lumpur on March 8 for Beijing but never landed. The missing airliner had 227 passengers and 12 crew onboard.

### THE ANNEXATION OF CRIMEA

Citizens of Kiev in Ukraine protested their government accepting help from Russia. The people ousted the pro-Russian president, but before a pro-Western interim government could take charge, Russia in March used military force to annex the Crimean Peninsula.

### THE RISE OF ISIS

The terrorist organization ISIS — Islamic State of Iraq and Syria — gained worldwide attention for its public executions, beheadings, rapes and more, and for posting the crimes online. ISIS kidnapped and killed journalists and international aid workers and often broadcasted the slayings on YouTube. ISIS set up an Islamic state in Iraq and Syria and imposed the strict religious code of sharia law.

### DEATH OF UNARMED AFRICAN AMERICAN TEEN SPARKS PROTESTS

Police officer Darren Wilson, who is white, in August in Ferguson, Missouri, shot and killed Michael Brown, an unarmed 18-year-old African American. The local prosecutor did not charge Wilson with any crime. That decision set off protests, some violent.

## Top grossing films each year of the decade

— according to Box Office Mojo

2010— Toy Story 3 (\$1.1 billion)  
2011— Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 2 (\$1.3 billion)  
2012— The Avengers (\$1.5 billion)  
2013— Frozen (\$1.3 billion)  
2014— Transformers: Age of Extinction (\$1.1 billion)  
2015— Star Wars:

Episode VII - The Force Awakens (\$2.1 billion)  
2016— Captain America: Civil War (\$1.2 billion)  
2017— Star Wars: Episode VIII - The Last Jedi (\$1.3 billion)  
2018— Avengers: Infinity War (\$2 billion)  
2019— Avengers: Endgame (\$2.8 billion)

## NPR's top 25 songs of the decade

— based on listener nominations

1. Bon Iver: "Holocene" from Bon Iver  
2. Robyn: "Dancing On My Own" from Body Talk Pt. 1  
3. Sufjan Stevens: "Fourth of July" from Carrie & Lowell  
4. Lorde: "Royals" from Pure Heroine  
5. Kanye West: "Runaway" from My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy  
6. Beyoncé: "Formation" from Lemonade  
7. M83: "Midnight City" from Hurry Up, We're Dreaming  
8. LCD Soundsystem: "Dance Yrself Clean" from This is Happening  
9. Kendrick Lamar: "Alright" from To Pimp a Butterfly

10. Mark Ronson and Bruno Mars: "Uptown Funk" from Uptown Special  
11. Childish Gambino: "This is America" (Single)  
12. Adele: "Rolling in the Deep" from 21  
13. Taylor Swift: "All Too Well" from Red  
14. Lucy Dacus: "Night Shift" from Historian  
15. Carly Rae Jepsen: "Run Away with Me" from E.M.O.TION  
16. Mitski: "Your Best American Girl" from Puberty 2  
17. Frank Ocean: "Self Control" from Blonde  
18. Hozier: "Take Me to Church" from

Hozier  
19. Alabama Shakes: "Hold On" from Boys & Girls  
20. Janelle Monáe: "Make Me Feel" from Dirty Computer  
21. Lana Del Rey: "Video Games" from Born to Die  
22. Brandi Carlile: "The Joke" from By the Way, I Forgive You  
23. Radiohead: "Daydreaming" from A Moon Shaped Pool  
24. Courtney Barnett: "Depreston" from Sometimes I Sit and Think, and Sometimes I Just Sit  
25. Fleet Foxes: "Helplessness Blues" from Helplessness Blues

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