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AP Photo/Rich Pedroncelli, POOL Gov. Gavin Newsom Saturday afternoon issued a proclamation declaring "Juneteenth National Freedom Day: A Day of Observance" in the state of California. California will celebrate Juneteenth as a state holiday for the first time this June under legislation enacted into law this year. The proclamation begins, "Each year on June 19, we look back to this day in 1865, on which Union General Gordon Granger led troops into Galveston, Texas, to announce the end of the Civil War and the insidious institution of slavery." The proclamation goes on to note that thousands of enslaved people in Texas, among the last to learn of their independence, were freed more than two years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. "Over the next several decades, Black Americans who journeyed out of the South seeking better lives brought Juneteenth celebrations with them. The thousands who settled in California, especially in Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area, taught our state that America's struggle for freedom did not end in 1776 or 1865, but continues to this day," the proclamation reads, in part. The proclamation concludes, "This Juneteenth, I urge all Californians to reflect on the ongoing cause of freedom for Black Americans - remembering that, though General Granger's announcement in 1865 called for 'absolute equality,' that vision was, and remains, far from complete. Let us celebrate how far we have come and take stock of how far we must go to truly realize our nation's founding ideals." JuneteenthCaliforniaGavin Newsom The newest federal holiday, Juneteenth National Independence Day, celebrates the end of slaveryin the United States. But at the state level, governments vary considerably in whether they commemorate it as an official holiday, a day of observance or something in between. This year, at least 28 states and the District of Columbia will legally recognize Juneteenth as a public holiday meaning state government offices are closed and state workers have a paid day off according to a Pew Research Center analysis of state human resources websites, state legislation and news articles. Connecticut, Minnesota, Nevada and Tennessee have made Juneteenth a public holiday at the state level starting this year. Juneteenth is the newest federal holiday in the United States, and one that is celebrated differently across the states. Pew Research Center took a look at how each state commemorates the day. We focused on states that observe Juneteenth as an official public holiday meaning state offices are closed and state workers get a paid day off. Our main sources for this analysis were state administrative, personnel and human resources websites, most of which post lists of official state holidays. We supplemented those lists with an analysis of news reports about local observances of Juneteenth and, where relevant, state legislation. New Mexicos Legislature added Juneteenth as an official state holiday in 2006, observed on the third Saturday of June;it became a paid holidayfor state workers for the first time in 2022. In Illinois, state workers get a paid holiday for Juneteenth only if it falls on a weekday. Governors in Alabama and West Virginia authorized Juneteenth as a holiday for state workersthis year, last year and in 2021. Legislatures in each state must pass a law for it to become a permanent official state holiday. The governors proclamations must be issued annually in the absence of permanent legislation. In most of these states, Juneteenth is designated as a permanent state holiday and commemorated annually. In Alabama and West Virginia, Juneteenth has been authorized as a state holiday for this year by a governors proclamation; the holiday can become permanent in these states if their legislatures pass bills to make it so. In addition to D.C. and the states where Juneteenth is an official public holiday, other states give certain government workers the day off but havent declared Juneteenth a holiday at the state level. Starting this year, California state employees can choose to take Juneteenth off in lieu of a personal holiday. In Pennsylvania, the day is designated as an official annual observanceand a paid day off for state employees under the governors jurisdiction. And in North Carolina, some state workers canchoose to take a floating holidayon a day of cultural, religious or personal significance, including Juneteenth. Juneteenth is a combination of the words June and nineteenth. It commemorates the day more than two months after the end of the Civil War and more than two years after Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation when enslaved Black Americans in Galveston, Texas, were informed of their freedom. It is one of 11official federal holidays or 12 for federal workers in the District of Columbia and surrounding areas during presidential inauguration years meaning that federal workers get a paid day off and theresno mail delivery. Most federal offices are closed on federal holidays,along with most banksand the bond markets that trade in U.S. government debt. Thestock marketsgenerally remain open, as do most retailers and other businesses, though these vary by federal holiday. Most states where Juneteenth is a public holiday added it to their calendars in 2020 or later. The exception is Texas,where the holiday originatedand where it is also known as Emancipation Day. Juneteenth has been celebrated locally in Texas since the 1860s and became an official state holiday there in 1980. Publicawareness of Juneteenthgrew in 2020 amid nationwide protests after the police killings of several Black Americans, including George Floyd and Breonna Taylor. President Joe Bidensigned the legislationthat made Juneteenth a federal holiday in June 2021. Every state has at some point passed a resolution recognizing Juneteenth at least as a day of observance even those that do not count Juneteenth among their official public holidays. An observance is a day of awareness that isnt accompanied by a day off. In fact, except for Texas, all states that currently recognize Juneteenth as a public holiday commemorated it as a day of observance years before it became an official state holiday. Florida, Oklahoma and Minnesota were the first states outside Texas to commemorate Juneteenth as a day of observance in the 1990s. New Mexico has recognized Juneteenth as a state holiday since 2006, observed on the third Saturday of June;it became a paid holidayfor state workers for the first time in 2022. South Dakota, North Dakota and Hawaiiwere the last states to give Juneteenth any formal recognitionas an important date. The day was not observed in South Dakota until 2020, when the governor proclaimed it a state holiday. InHawaiiandNorth Dakota, Juneteenth has been a day of observance since 2022 but is not considered a state holiday. Juneteenth is catching on as a holiday in major U.S. cities as well. Last year, cities includingNew York,Los AngelesandPhoenixdeclared the day an official paid holiday for city workers. In addition to Juneteenth, the District of Columbia celebrates Emancipation Dayon April 16 in honor of the day Lincoln freed the enslaved people living in D.C., almost nine months before the Emancipation Proclamation. Note: This is an update of a post originally published June 17, 2022.What is Juneteenth? The holiday's history and significance, explained.Here's why this once local celebration is significant to U.S. history.With summer comes a slew of holidays and observances, including one central to Black communities across the nation.This will be the third year that Juneteenth is celebrated widely as a federal holiday, but the holiday itself has been celebrated for more than a century-and-a-half.Here's everything you need to know about Juneteenth, including when it is and the meaning behind the day.The Juneteenth holiday is celebrated this year on Wednesday, June 19, 2024.Juneteenth is a holiday commemorating the final end of slavery in the rebelling states just after the end of the Civil War.While the Emancipation Proclamation freed all African American slaves in the Confederate states in 1863, it was not enforced in areas still under confederate control, according to Britannica. The Civil War ended in April 1865, and on June 19, 1865, Union soldiers delivered the message in Galveston, Texas, that the war was over and the Emancipation Proclamation was now enforceable.The first celebrations took place the next year in Texas, and eventually spread to other states. Today, celebrations typically include prayer and religious services, speeches, educational events, family gatherings and picnics, and festivals with music, food, and dancing.Though ithas long been celebrated inBlack communities, Juneteenth became a federal holiday when President Joe Biden signed a bill on June 17, 2021.The holiday's history gained more attention during the summer of2020, after the Minneapolis police killing of George Floyd.Banks, the postal service and the stock market will be closed for Juneteenth.Most major retailers will likely remain open, like Walmart and Target, as they did in 2023.However, Target recognizes Juneteenth as a company holiday. Eligible employees have the option of taking the day off with full pay, or getting paid time and a half for working that day. SACRAMENTO Governor Gavin Newsom today issued a proclamationdeclaring Juneteenth National Freedom Day: A Day of Observancein the State of California.California will celebrate Juneteenth as a state holiday for the first time this June underlegislationenactedinto law this year.The text of the proclamation anda copy can be found below:PROCLAMATIONAmerica does not only celebrate our independence on July 4. Each year on June 19, we look back to this day in 1865, on which Union General Gordon Granger led troops into Galveston, Texas, to announce the end of the Civil War and the insidious institution of slavery. Thousands of enslaved people in Texas, among the last to learn of their independence, were finally freed more than two years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation.Over the next several decades, Black Americans who journeyed out of the South seeking better lives brought Juneteenth celebrations with them. The thousands who settled in California, especially in Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area, taught our state that Americas struggle for freedomdid not end in 1776 or 1865, but continues to this day.For the first time this year, California will celebrate Juneteenth as a state holiday, honoring the centuries of struggles and triumphs that have brought us to this moment. Amid misguided efforts to rewrite our nations history, California is committed to confronting the dark chapters of our past to continue moving forward in pursuit of a more perfect union.This Juneteenth, I urge all Californians to reflect on the ongoing cause of freedom for Black Americans remembering that, though General Grangers announcement in 1865 called for absolute equality, that vision was, and remains, far from complete. Let us celebrate how far we have come and take stock of how far we must go to truly realize our nations founding ideals.NOW THEREFORE I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim June 17, 2023, as JuneteenthNational Freedom Day: A Day of Observance.IN WITNESS WHEREOFI have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 17thday of June 2023.GAVIN NEWSOMGovernor of California SACRAMENTO Governor Gavin Newsom today issued a proclamationdeclaringJune18, 2022, asJuneteenth National Freedom Day: A Day of Observancein the State of California.The text of the proclamation anda copy can be found below: America does not only celebrate our independence on July 4. On June 19 each year, we look back to this day in 1865, on which Union General Gordon Granger led troops into Galveston, Texas, to announce the end of the Civil War and the insidious institution of slavery. Thousands of enslaved people in Texas among the last to learn of their independence tasted hard-won freedom for the first time.Over the next several decades, African-Americans who journeyed out of the South seeking better lives broughtJuneteenthcelebrations with them. The thousands who settled in California, especially in Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Area, taught our state that Americas struggle for independence did not end in 1776 or 1865, but continues to this day.ThisJuneteenth,I urge all Californians to reflect on the ongoing cause of freedom for Black Americans remembering that, though General Grangers announcement in 1865 called for absolute equality, that vision was, and remains, far from complete.With theJuneteenthflag proudly raised over the State Capitol,let us celebrate how far we have come and take stock of how far we must go, and honor all those who have lived and died in pursuit of a more perfect union.NOW THEREFORE I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim June 18, 2022, as JuneteenthNational Freedom Day: A Day of Observance.IN WITNESS WHEREOFI have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 17thday of June 2022.GAVIN NEWSOMGovernor of California2025 and 2026 holiday dates with federal observance dates. There are eleven Federal and ten California holidays observed by the United States and California governments. Not all eleven are the same between the U.S. government and State of California. States and private companies are not required to observe federal holidays, but most state and local governments as well as many private businesses are also closed on these days.Aside from celebrating all federal holidays, California observes:Lunar New Year (Chinese New Year) January 29, 2025Rosa Parks Day February 4Csar Chvez Day March 31 * CA Paid HolidayGenocide Remembrance Day April 24Juneteenth June 19Native American Day September22California also considers the day after Thanksgiving a paid holiday.New Years Day (Federal/California Holiday): Wednesday, January 1, 2025; Observed Wednesday, January 1, 2025 * CA Paid HolidayMartin Luther King, Jr.s Birthday (Federal Holiday/California)*1: Monday, January 20, 2025; Third Monday in January * CA Paid HolidayLunar New Year: Sunday, January 29, 2025Rosa Parks Day (California Holiday): Tuesday, February 4, 2025Valentines Day: Friday, February 14, 2025Washingtons Birthday aka Presidents Day*2 (Federal Holiday/California): Monday, February 17, 2025; Third Monday in February * CA Paid HolidaySt. Patricks Day: Monday, March 17, 2025Csar Chvez Day (California Holiday)*3: Monday, March 31, 2025 * CA Paid HolidayRamadan: Saturday, March 1 to Sunday, May 30, 2025Easter: Sunday, April 20, 2025Tax Day*4: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 (filing date)Earth Day: Tuesday, April 22, 2025Genocide Remembrance Day: Thursday, April 24, 2025Cinco de Mayo: Monday, May 5, 2025Mothers Day: Sunday, May 11, 2025; Second Sunday in MayMemorial Day (Federal Holiday/California): Monday, May 26, 2025; Last Monday in May * CA Paid HolidayD-Day: Friday, June 6, 2025Juneteenth (Federal Holiday): Thursday, June 19, 2025Fathers Day: Sunday, June 15, 2025; Third Sunday in JuneIndependence Day (Federal/California Holiday): Friday, July 4, 2025 * CA Paid HolidayLabor Day (Federal/California Holiday): Monday, September 1, 2025; First Monday in September * CA Paid HolidayPatriot Day: Thursday, September 11, 2025Native American Day: Friday, September26, 2025Columbus Day (Federal Holiday)*5: Monday, October 13, 2025Indigenous Peoples Day: Monday, October 13, 2025Halloween: Friday, Oct. 31, 2025Election Day: Tuesday, November 4, 2025; Always on a TuesdayVeterans Day (Federal/California Holiday): Tuesday, November 11, 2025; Observed Tuesday, November 11, 2025 * CA Paid HolidayThanksgiving Day (Federal/California Holiday): Thursday, November 27, 2025; Fourth Thursday in November * CA Paid HolidayDay After Thanksgiving (California Holiday): Friday, November 28, 2025 * CA Paid HolidayBlack Friday: Friday, November 28, 2025; Fourth Friday in NovemberCyber Monday: Monday, December 1, 2025; Monday after Black FridayGiving Tuesday: Tuesday, December 2, 2025; Tuesday after ThanksgivingPearl Harbor: Sunday, Dec. 7, 2025Christmas Eve: Wednesday, December 24, 2025Christmas Day (Federal/California Holiday): Thursday, December 25, 2025 * CA Paid HolidayNew Years Eve: Wednesday, December 31, 2025For Federal and California, when a holiday falls on a Saturday, employees shall receive holiday credit.For the Federal and California, when a holiday falls on a Sunday, the holiday is observed on the following Monday.An Observed Holiday is when a public federal, state, or local holiday is celebrated on a date that is not the actual events anniversary date.Private employers almost universally observe six holidays. The standard six are New Years Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. After the standard six, the Friday after Thanksgiving, Good Friday, and Presidents Day are the next most commonly observed.New Years Day (Federal/California Holiday): Thursday, January 1, 2026; Observed Thursday, January 1, 2026 * CA Paid HolidayMartin Luther King, Jr.s Birthday (Federal Holiday/California)*1: Monday, January 19, 2026; Third Monday in January * CA Paid HolidayRosa Parks Day (California Holiday): Wednesday, February 4, 2026Valentines Day: Saturday, February 14, 2026Washingtons Birthday aka Presidents Day*2 (Federal Holiday/California): Monday, February 16, 2026; Third Monday in February * CA Paid HolidayLunar New Year: Sunday, February 17, 2026Ramadan: Tuesday, February 17 to Wednesday, March 18, 2026St. Patricks Day: Tuesday, March 17, 2026Csar Chvez Day (California Holiday)*3: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 * CA Paid HolidayEaster: Sunday, April 5, 2026Tax Day*4: Wednesday, April 15, 2026 (filing date)Earth Day: Wednesday, April 22, 2026Genocide Remembrance Day: Friday, April 24, 2026Cinco de Mayo: Tuesday, May 5, 2026Mothers Day: Sunday, May 10, 2026; Second Sunday in MayMemorial Day (Federal Holiday/California): Monday, May 25, 2026; Last Monday in May * CA Paid HolidayD-Day: Saturday, June 6, 2026Juneteenth (Federal Holiday): Friday, June 19, 2026Fathers Day: Sunday, June 21, 2026; Third Sunday in JuneIndependence Day (Federal/California Holiday): Saturday, July 4, 2026 * CA Paid HolidayLabor Day (Federal/California Holiday): Monday, September 7, 2026; First Monday in September * CA Paid HolidayPatriot Day: Friday, September 11, 2026Native American Day: Saturday, September26, 2026Columbus Day (Federal Holiday)*5: Monday, October 12, 2026Indigenous Peoples Day: Monday, October 12, 2026Halloween: Saturday, Oct. 31, 2026Election Day: Tuesday, November 3, 2026; Always on a TuesdayVeterans Day (Federal/California Holiday): Wednesday, November 11, 2026; Observed Wednesday, November 11, 2026 * CA Paid HolidayThanksgiving Day (Federal/California Holiday): Thursday, November 26, 2026; Fourth Thursday in November * CA Paid HolidayDay After Thanksgiving (California Holiday): Friday, November 27, 2026 * CA Paid HolidayBlack Friday: Friday, November 27, 2026; Fourth Friday in NovemberCyber Monday: Monday, November 30, 2026; Monday after Black FridayGiving Tuesday: Tuesday, December 1, 2026; Tuesday after ThanksgivingPearl Harbor: Monday, Dec. 7, 2026Christmas Eve: Thursday, December 24, 2026Christmas Day (Federal/California Holiday): Friday, December 25, 2026 * CA Paid HolidayNew Years Eve: Thursday, December 31, 2026In addition to the above state paid holiday, effective January 1, 2023, the Governor proclaimed the following holidays, which may be taken in lieu of receiving a personal holiday.Lunar New Year: February 10, 2024Genocide Remembrance Day: April 24Juneteenth: June 19Native American Day: September22New Years DayMartin Luther King, Jr. Day or the Monday or Friday in the week in which January 15 fallsThe Monday or Friday of the week in which Lincoln Day fallsWashington DayMemorial DayJuly 4thLabor DayVeterans DayThanksgiving DayChristmas DayAny other day designated by the president or governorAny other day designated by the governing school boardMartin Luther King Jr. Day is celebrated to mark the birthday of Dr. King, and is observed on the third Monday in January. His actual birthday is January 15.According to the federal government, the holiday observed on the third Monday in February is officially Washingtons Birthday. Butmany Americans believe that this holiday is called Presidents Day, in honor of both Presidents Washington and Lincoln, whose birthdays are Feb. 22 and Feb. 12, respectively.Cesar Chavez Day (March 31) is not a Holiday observed statewide. Although State of California employees get the day off, most school districts, businesses and federal employees still have to work.April 15th of each year is National Tax Day. The Federal income tax filing deadline is midnight on April 15th of every year, with extensions occurring when the 15th lands on a Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday.Columbus Day isnota paid holiday for State of California employees. Juneteenth National Independence Day is a US federal holiday. It was signed into law by President Joe Biden on Thursday June 17th 2021.Juneteenth is a state holiday observed in 28 states and D.C. on June 19th each year.If June 19th falls on a weekend, the federal holiday and most state holidays will observe a holiday on the closest working weekday. In New Jersey, Juneteenth is observed as a state and public holiday on the third Friday in June.All other states officially recognize Juneteenth and have an official observance of the day, and most states hold celebrations.Nearly 4 in 10 employers (39%) offer June 19th as a paid holiday, according to 2023 data from Mercer. That's up from the 30% of employers that offered Juneteenth as a paid holiday last year, according to survey data from the Wisconsin-based International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans; and up significantly from the 9% that offered it in 2021, when it became an officially recognized federal holiday. Officially known as Emancipation Dayand also calledJuneteenth Independence Day and Freedom Day, Juneteenth is a portmanteau word for June and nineteenth and commemorates the June 19th 1865 announcement of the abolition of slavery in Texas and the emancipation of African-American slaves throughout the Confederate South. History of Juneteenth On January 1st 1863, Abraham Lincoln declared the end of slavery with the Emancipation Proclamation. Two and half years later, and two months after the end of the Civil War, Union troops arrived in Galveston on June 19th 1865 to find that news of the proclamation had not yet reached Galveston and that people were still being held as slaves in Texas. The leader of the Union Troops, General Gordon Granger then formally announced the emancipation from the balcony of the former Confederate Army headquarters.Grangers order was based loosely on Abraham Lincolns Emancipation Proclamation. (The Thirteenth Amendment, which made slavery unconstitutional, wasnt ratified until December 6, 1865.) The order first declared that the formerly enslaved were free based on absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between Black people and those who had presumed legal ownership of them. The reason why the news about the emancipation took so long to reach Texas is subject to speculation. One theory is that the messenger who was originally sent with the news had been killed before he reached Texas. A more likely scenario is that the local slave owners simply held onto the information, ignoring the emancipation order. Although the news of the emancipation reached towns at different times across the South, there was a collective decision to recognize 19th June as the date of the emancipation. The date of the proclamation itself (January 1st) wasn't considered as the people wanted to mark the date when the slaves' lives were actually affected by the new freedom.In 1866, thousands of former slaves traveled back to Galveston on June 19 in recognition of their newfound freedom, calling the gathering Jubilee Day. In 1872, when faced with backlash for their pilgrimage back to the island city, a group of Black Americans purchased 10 acres of land in Houston and named it Emancipation Park. It was devoted specifically as a Juneteenth celebration site and is still around to this day. The annual commemoration of June 19th, which became known as Juneteenth, was seen as a stabilizing and motivating presence in the lives of African-Americans in Texas, who despite their newly-acquired freedom, still faced many uncertainties and challenges.Celebrations include parades, storytelling, barbecue and baseball. Strawberry soda pop is the drink of choice and the building from which General Granger read the Proclamation is now a historic landmark. While Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States, it wasn't until 1980 that it was made an official state paid holiday in Texas, through the efforts of Texas state Rep. Al Edwards, D-Houston. Note that state offices are not closed, but are staffed by a "skeleton crew."When Juneteenth was officially named a national federal holiday in June 2021, the city of Galveston dedicated a 5,000 square-foot mural titled Absolute Equality near the location where General Granger announced the news of freedom.Juneteenth flagThe Juneteenth flag was created in 1997 by Ben Haith, the founder of the National Juneteenth Celebration Foundation.Each element represents a facet of freedom for Black Americans:The bursting outline around the star is inspired by a nova - a new star, representing a new beginning for the newly freed slaves. The white star in the center of the flag has a dual meaning, Haith said. It represents both Texas, the Lone Star State, but also the freedom of all Black Americans in all 50 states. The curving arc across the width of the flag represents a new horizon: the opportunities and promise that lay ahead for Black Americans. The red, white and blue represents the American flag, a reminder that the enslaved people and their descendants were and are Americans. Juneteenth QuizTest your knowledge and celebrate Juneteenth with our multiple-choice quiz! Discover the rich history, significance, and cultural impact of Juneteenth as you answer eight thought-provoking questions. Dive into the past and embrace the journey of freedom and equality. Challenge yourself and unlock fascinating insights about this important holiday. Join us in honoring Juneteenth by taking this captivating quiz today! Sources Juneteenth, commemorating the end of slavery in the United States, holds significant cultural and historical importance. Its recognition as a holiday varies across different states, including California, where its observance has gained attention in recent years.Understanding Juneteenths legal status and how it is observed within California provides insight into its role in acknowledging African American history and promoting inclusivity. Legal Status of Juneteenth in CaliforniaIn California, the recognition of Juneteenth as a state holiday has been a focus of legislative action. Assembly Bill 1655, introduced by Assemblymember Reggie Jones-Sawyer, proposed making Juneteenth a paid state holiday. The bill passed through the legislative process and was signed by Governor Gavin Newsom in 2022. This aligned California with the federal recognition of Juneteenth, established when President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act in 2021.The enactment of AB 1655 amended Section 6700 of the California Government Code, which lists the states public holidays. By including Juneteenth, California acknowledges the historical importance of June 19, 1865, and emphasizes a commitment to recognizing the diverse cultural heritage of its residents. This legislative move reflects a societal shift towards inclusivity and recognition of African American contributions and struggles. Implications for State EmployeesThe inclusion of Juneteenth as a paid state holiday in California has implications for state employees. This change mandates that employees receive a day off with pay on June 19th, aligning with other state holidays. It reinforces the importance of work-life balance and provides an opportunity to engage with the cultural and educational aspects of the holiday.For state agencies, the observance of Juneteenth requires adjustments in scheduling and resource allocation. Departments must ensure essential services remain uninterrupted while allowing employees to observe the holiday. This may necessitate alternative staffing plans or rotational schedules. Effective communication within agencies is crucial to managing workflow and maintaining operational efficiency during public holidays.Comparison with Other State HolidaysJuneteenths designation as a paid state holiday places it alongside significant observances in California, such as Independence Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and Csar Chvez Day. Each holiday carries its own historical and cultural significance, reflecting different aspects of the American experience. While Independence Day celebrates the founding principles of the United States, Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Csar Chvez Day honor individuals who championed civil rights and social justice, echoing themes central to Juneteenth.The integration of Juneteenth into Californias roster of state holidays underscores a growing recognition of African American history and its role in shaping the nation. Unlike more established holidays, Juneteenths recognition is relatively recent, inviting both state institutions and the public to engage with its historical context through educational initiatives and community events that foster understanding and dialogue. What is Juneteenth? The holiday's history and significance, explained.Here's why this once local celebration is significant to U.S. history.If you need to visit a bank or post office this week, you may want to consider going before or after Wednesday.That's because Wednesday, June 19 is Juneteenth, a holiday that commemorates the day when Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston Bay, Texas in 1865 with 2,000 Union troops to proclaim that more than 250,000 enslaved Black people in the state were free two and a half years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on Jan. 1, 1863.Juneteenth, known as American's Second Independence Day, has been commemorated as a federally-recognized holiday since 2021, providing millions of Americans with a paid day off and the opportunity to commemorate the end of slavery.While most restaurants, grocery and retail stores will be open on the holiday, banks and the United States Postal Service will be closed.Here's what you need to know about banks, post offices and shipping services, and whether or not they'll be open on Juneteenth.What's open and closed on Juneteenth?: Details on Costco, Walmart, Starbucks, Target, moreWhite House Juneteenth celebration: The White House's Juneteenth celebration includes a concert: Who will perform?Juneteenth is always celebrated on June 19. This year, the date falls on a Wednesday.All post offices will be closed for retail transactions and there will be no regular residential or business mail deliveries on Wednesday, June 19, the USPS confirmed to USA TODAY.Priority Mail Express is available 365 days a year, including federal holidays.Branches of Capital One, Bank of America, PNC, Truist, CitiBank and JPMorgan Chase will be closed on Juneteenth, the companies confirmed to USA TODAY. Capital One Cafes will remain open.UPS pickup and delivery services will be available on Juneteenth, according to the company's website. UPS Store locations will also be open.Check with your local store for specific hours of operation.FedEx pickup and delivery services will be available on June 19, according to the company's website. FedEx Office locations will also be open.Contributing: Eric Lagatta, USA TODAYGabe Hauari is a national trending news reporter at USA TODAY. You can follow him on X@GabeHauarior email him at Gdhauari@gannett.com.Juneteenths history and meaning explained by African American Civil War Museum directorFrank Smith, director of the African American Civil War Museum, explains the origin of Juneteenth and its journey to becoming a national holiday.An important federal holiday commemorating the end of slavery in the United States nears this month.Juneteenth is on June 19, which is the reason for the holidays name. This year, the holiday falls on a Thursday.In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring that enslaved people within areas rebelling against the Union during the American Civil War were free, according to the National Archives. But the proclamation came with limitations, including that it applied only to states that had seceded from the Union, said the National Archives.Another limitation was that it couldnt be implemented in places under Confederate control, said the National Museum of African American History and Culture, meaning that enslaved people werent freed until Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, and announced as much.That occurred on June 19, 1865, two years after the Emancipation Proclamation.The History Channel said that emancipation didnt happen overnight for everyone, citing instances in which that information was withheld until after the harvest season.But another important moment in Americas history came later that year the ratification of the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery in the U.S.While its long been recognized and celebrated, its only in recent years that it became a federal holiday. In 2021, former President Joe Biden signed a bill establishing Juneteenth National Independence Day as a federal holiday, CNN reported that year."Juneteenth celebrations then, like now, recognize the ongoing fight for human rights and equality and are commemorated through family cookouts, faith services, musical performances and storytelling," according to the National Museum of African American History and Culture. "Today, Juneteenth celebrates African American resilience and achievement, while preserving history and community traditions.The Emancipation Proclamation was issued on Jan. 1, 1863, according to the National Archives.Juneteenth is a federal holiday. The U.S. Office of Personnel Management lists the holiday schedule for this year. The remaining federal holidays of 2025 are:Juneteenth, June 19Independence Day, July 4Labor Day, Sept. 1Columbus Day, Oct. 13Veterans Day, Nov. 11Thanksgiving, Nov. 27Christmas, Dec. 25There will be no regular delivery service on Juneteenth, according to the U.S. Postal Service. UPS locations will be open, and pickup and delivery services will be available on holidays, according to the company.Last year, most restaurants, grocery, and retail stores were open on the holiday, USA TODAY reported.Branches of Chase and Wells Fargo will be closed on Juneteenth, according to their holiday schedules. Last year, branches of Capital One, PNC, Citibank, Bank of America, and more were closed for the holiday, according to USA TODAY.Paris Barraza is a trending reporter covering California news at The Desert Sun. Reach her atpbarraza@gannett.com. In 2021, the federal government recognized Juneteenth as a federal holiday, and California followed suit in 2022. Many events are scheduled across the state to celebrate Juneteenth, but what are California employers obligations for this upcoming holiday? There may be a couple, depending on their holiday policy. Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day, commemorates the day in history, June 19, 1865, when slavery in the United States officially came to end after enslaved individuals in Texas finally heard that they were free two and a half years after then-President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation. And on Juneteenth this year, which falls on a Wednesday, there are countless events to celebrate including more than 20 in the Bay Area alone, many across Southern California and at least 11 in Los Angeles County. Many celebrations take place the weekends before and after the official day, some are weeklong extravaganzas, and many are held on the actual holiday itself: Wednesday, June 19. In California employers are neither required to offer employees time off for federal or state holidays, nor pay for time for holidays granted and employers that do offer paid holidays choose the holidays that are observed. So, if an employer recognizes such holidays as Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Cesar Chavez Day and Veterans Day, for instance, it may want to also recognize Juneteenth as a paid holiday in the name of not only consistency, but also inclusion. And for employers that already recognize Juneteenth as a holiday, remember that if an employee is required to work on this day, the employer must make up the lost benefit in one of the following ways: Paying for all hours worked, plus eight hours of holiday pay at straight time. Paying for all hours worked and providing another day off in lieu of the holiday pay. Paying for all hours worked at a premium rate of pay (not because it is overtime, but because the employee is working on a paid holiday), plus providing:Eight hours of holiday pay at straight time; or Another day off in lieu of the holiday pay. Also, because Juneteenth is both a holiday listed in the California Government Code and is a banking holiday observed by the Federal Reserve, most major banks (such as, Bank of America, Chase, TD Bank and Wells Fargo) will be closed. So, if payday happens to fall on Juneteenth, employers may pay wages on the next business day: Thursday, June 20, 2024. Jessica Mulholland, Managing Editor, CalChamber CalChamber members can learn more about the ins and outs of Holidays and Timely Payment in the HR Library. CalChambers California Harassment Prevention Training can be bundled with our Foundations of Diversity, Equity & Inclusioncourse whichwill not only help employers fulfill their California harassment prevention training but also help participants become more self-aware as they learn to identify behaviors that ensure a welcoming workspace for all individuals. CalChamber Preferred Members and above receive a 20 percent discount. Not a member? Learn how to power your business with aCalChamber membership.

Is juneteenth a california holiday in 2022. Is juneteenth a state holiday in california. Is juneteenth a national or federal holiday. Is juneteenth a public holiday in california. Is juneteenth a california holiday.