Timeline

Date	Time	Description	Source, Reference
1916 1917		Suspected Origin #1 France Suspected Origin #2 Vietnam Suspected Origin #3 - Great Britain	
April 6, 1917 June 1917		British Army camps in mainland Europe sometime during the period 1916–1917 United States enters WW I First American Troops deploy to France in WW I	
		Suspected Origin #4 - US Haskell County	
Jan 1918		Haskell County, but we do know that an influenza outbreak struck in January, an outbreak so severe that, although influenza was not then a "reportable" disease, a local physician named Loring Miner—a large and imposing man, gruff, a player in local politics, who became a doctor before the acceptance of the germ theory of disease but whose intellectual curiosity had kept him abreast of scientific developments—went to the trouble of alerting the U.S. Public Health Service.	
		Haskell farmers also raise significant number of hogs Haskell County sits on a major migratory flyway for 17 bird species, including sand hill cranes and mallards. Scientists today understand that bird influenza viruses, like human influenza viruses, can also infect hogs, and when a bird virus and a human virus infect the same pig cell, their different genes can be shuffled and exchanged like playing cards, resulting in a new, perhaps especially lethal, virus. Several Haskell men who had been exposed to influenza went to Camp Funston, in central Kansas.	

	the first soldier known to have influenza reported ill.	
March 4, 1918	Camp Funston, huge Army base was training men for combat in World War I	
mid-March 1918	1,100 soldiers were admitted to the hospital, with thousands more sick in barracks. Thirty-eight died. Military training camps through-out US become	
April 1918	infected Troops in France become sick. The disease is dismissed as "three-day fever."	
April 1918 May 22, 1918	Spain's King Alfonso XIII becomes sick the epidemic was a headline in Madrid's ABC newspaper.	
	Flu becomes known as the Spanish Flu	
	Spain did not censor its news reports, unlike other European countries. And so Spain's flu was no secret, unlike the flu elsewhere.	
May & June 1918	Doctors in the British Grand Fleet, for example, admitted 10,313 sailors to sick bay in May and June, but only 4 died.	
June 30, 1918	British Army's 29th Division attack La Becque called off due to number of soldiers sick	Kolata, Gina. Flu (p. 11). Farrar, Straus and Giroux. Kindle Edition.
July 1918	German offensive ends on Western Front, German officers complain that the "Flanders Sickness"; the German name for the flu was to blame.	
	In fact, more U.S. soldiers died from the 1918 flu than were killed in battle during the war. Forty percent of the U.S. Navy was hit with the flu, while 36 percent of the Army became ill, and troops moving around the world in crowded ships and trains helped to spread the killer virus.	
Summer 1918	Second Wave of Spanish Flu with higher mortality rate	

Seven US Division, 500,000 men begins the

Battle of St. Mihiel

September 12, 1918

September 26, 1918	US Cancels the Draft deciding not to call up 142,000 recruits due to flu outbreaks in US
mid-October 1918	San Francisco alone, there had been more than 20,000 cases of influenza and 1,000 deaths in the city so far
October 25, 1918	mask-wearing orders when the first one was issued by the Board of Supervisors
	In San Francisco businesses, restaurants, and theaters were also closed, and the city's Board of Health advised people to avoid large crowds and gatherings.
October 27, 1918	In San Francisco 110 people were arrested for flouting officials and either refusing to wear masks in public or wearing them improperly. They were sent to jail for "disturbing the peace," and those who could afford it were released under a \$10 bail (\$170 in 2020 dollars)
November 2, 2020	San Francisco Chronicle reported 175 arrests for mask violations. The jails became overcrowded, with officers working double-duty to process cases
November 11, 1918	Germans sign Armistice ending WW I
November 11, 1918	Germans sign Armistice ending WW I San Francisco flu cases begin decline
November 11, 1918 November 16, 1919	
	San Francisco flu cases begin decline San Francisco theaters, entertainment venues, and sporting arenas began reopening, with patrons required by law to wear masks while
	San Francisco flu cases begin decline San Francisco theaters, entertainment venues, and sporting arenas began reopening, with patrons required by law to wear masks while inside for the time being.
November 16, 1919 November 21, 1918 early December 1919	San Francisco flu cases begin decline San Francisco theaters, entertainment venues, and sporting arenas began reopening, with patrons required by law to wear masks while inside for the time being. San Francisco mask ordinance resended. As the San Francisco Chronicle reported at the time, a whistle blew, and people joyfully flooded the streets and flung their masks to the wayside. Flu cases begin to spike in San Francisco
November 16, 1919 November 21, 1918	San Francisco flu cases begin decline San Francisco theaters, entertainment venues, and sporting arenas began reopening, with patrons required by law to wear masks while inside for the time being. San Francisco mask ordinance resended. As the San Francisco Chronicle reported at the time, a whistle blew, and people joyfully flooded the streets and flung their masks to the wayside. Flu cases begin to spike in San Francisco San Francisco re-enacts Mask ordinace
November 16, 1919 November 21, 1918 early December 1919	San Francisco flu cases begin decline San Francisco theaters, entertainment venues, and sporting arenas began reopening, with patrons required by law to wear masks while inside for the time being. San Francisco mask ordinance resended. As the San Francisco Chronicle reported at the time, a whistle blew, and people joyfully flooded the streets and flung their masks to the wayside. Flu cases begin to spike in San Francisco

Early 1919

President Woodrow Wilson reportedly contracted the flu in early 1919 while negotiating the Treaty of Versailles, which ended World War I.

Although the death toll attributed to the Spanish flu is often estimated at 20 million to 50 million victims worldwide, other estimates run as high as 100 million victims—around 3 percent of the world's population. The exact numbers are impossible to know due to a lack of medical record-keeping in many places.

670,000 Americans died.