

**Casey Kasem's American Top 40**  
**Top 40 Christmas Songs 1940 - 1971**  
**broadcast on December 25<sup>th</sup>, 1971**

data compiled and edited 2013 by Martin Fürnkranz  
 minor corrections/addenda 2014

chart position	artist (birth-death) - song	year (of peak)	Billboard pop peak position
start of <b>part 1</b>			
<b>40</b>	Elvis Presley (1935-1977) - If Every Day Was Like Christmas	1966	-
<b>39*</b>	The Andrews Sisters <sup>1)</sup> (with Guy Lombardo, 1902-1977, & His Royal Canadians) - Merry Christmas Polka	1949	18
<b>38</b>	Ray Stevens (*1939) - Santa Claus Is Watching You	1962	45
<b>37</b>	Dancer, Prancer & Nervous - The Happy Reindeer	1959	34
<b>extra</b>	Andy Williams (1927-2012) - Little Altar Boy	1965	-
<b>36*</b>	Vic Dana (*1942) - Little Altar Boy	1961	45
<b>35</b>	Buchanan <sup>2)</sup> & Goodman <sup>3)</sup> (with Paul Sherman, 1916-1983) - Santa and the Satellite (Parts I & II) <sup>4)</sup>	1957	32
<b>34</b>	David Whitfield (1925-1980) - Santo Natale (Merry Christmas)	1954	19
<b>33</b>	Connie Francis (*1938) - Baby's First Christmas	1961	26
<b>32</b>	The Beach Boys - Little Saint Nick	1963	-
<b>31*</b>	The Royal Guardsmen - Snoopy's Christmas <sup>5)</sup>	1967	-
<b>30</b>	Roy Orbison (1936-1988) - Pretty Paper	1963	15
<b>29</b>	Stan Freberg (*1926) (with Daws Butler, 1916-1988) - Christmas Dragnet (Parts I & II) <sup>6)</sup>	1953	13
<b>28</b>	Harry Belafonte (*1927) - Mary's Boy Child	1956	12
<b>27</b>	Eartha Kitt (1927-2008) - Santa Baby	1953	4
<b>26</b>	Yogi Yorgesson (1908-1956) (with Johnny Duffy Trio) - I Yust Go Nuts At Christmas	1949	5
<b>extra</b>	Alvin & The Chipmunks <sup>7)</sup> - It's Beginning To Look a Lot Like Christmas	1961	-
<b>25*</b>	Perry Como (1912-2001) & The Fontane Sisters <sup>8)</sup> (with Mitchell Ayres, 1909-1969 & His Orchestra) - It's Beginning To Look a Lot Like Christmas	1951	19
start of <b>part 2</b>			
Casey falsely says "We have [...] 25 hits to go..." instead of "24"!			
<b>24</b>	Perry Como (1912-2001) - (There's No Place Like) Home For The Holidays	1954	8
<b>extra</b>	Bing Crosby (1903-1977) (with John Scott Trotter, 1908-1975 & His Orchestra & Jud Conlon's Rhythmaires) - Christmas In Killarney	1955	-
<b>23*</b>	Dennis Day (1916-1988) - Christmas In Killarney	1950	10
<b>22</b>	Charles Brown (1922-1999) (with Johnny Moore's Three Blazers) - Merry Christmas Baby	1947 <sup>9)</sup>	-
<b>21</b>	Spike Jones (1911-1965) & His City Slickers (sung by George Rock, 1919-1988) - All I Want For Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth	1948 <sup>10)</sup>	1
<b>20</b>	Bing Crosby (1903-1977) (with John Scott Trotter, 1908-1975 & His Orchestra) - I'll Be Home For Christmas (If Only In My Dreams)	1943	3
<b>extra</b>	Floyd Cramer (1933-1997) - I'll Be Home For Christmas (If Only In My Dreams)	1967	-
<b>19*</b>	Frankie Laine (1913-2007) - You're All I Want For Christmas	1948	11
<b>extra</b>	Ricky Zahnd (*1946) & The Blue Jeaners - (I'm Gettin') Nuttin' for Christmas	1955	21

<b>18*</b>	Art Mooney (1911-1993) & His Orchestra ft. Barry Gordon (*1948) - Nuttin' for Christmas	1955	6
<b>17</b>	Brenda Lee (*1944) - Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree	1960 <sup>11)</sup>	14
<b>16</b>	Charles Brown (1922-1999) - Please Come Home For Christmas	1961	76
<b>15</b>	Jimmy Boyd (1939-2009) - I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus	1952	1
<b>14</b>	Gene Autry (1907-1998) - Here Comes Santa Claus (Down Santa Claus Lane)	1948	8
<b>extra</b>	Bob B. Soxx <sup>12)</sup> (1941-2000) & The Blue Jeans - Here Comes Santa Claus (Down Santa Claus Lane)	1963	-
<b>13</b>	Leroy Anderson <sup>13)</sup> (1908-1975) & Boston Pops Orchestra - Sleigh Ride	1949 <sup>13)</sup>	24
<b>extra</b>	The Ronettes <sup>14)</sup> - Sleigh Ride	1963	-
<b>12</b>	Gene Autry (1907-1998) & The Cass County Boys - Frosty The Snowman	1950	7
start of <b>part 3</b>			
<b>extra</b>	Bing Crosby (1903-1977) & The Andrews Sisters <sup>1)</sup> - Jingle Bells	1943	19
<b>11*</b>	Glenn Miller (1904-1944) & His Orchestra <sup>15)</sup> - Jingle Bells	1941	5
<b>10</b>	David Seville (1919-1972) & The Chipmunks - The Chipmunk Song (Christmas Don't Be Late)	1958	1
<b>9</b>	Elvis Presley (1935-1977) - Blue Christmas <sup>16)</sup>	1957	-
<b>8</b>	Bing Crosby (1903-1977) & The Andrews Sisters <sup>1)</sup> - Santa Claus Is Comin' To Town	1947 <sup>17)</sup>	22
<b>extra</b>	The Four Seasons - Santa Claus Is Coming To Town	1962	23
<b>7</b>	The Ray Conniff <sup>18)</sup> Singers - Winter Wonderland <sup>19)</sup>	1959	-
<b>extra</b>	Darlene Love (*1941) - Winter Wonderland	1963	-
<b>extra*</b>	Richard Himber (1900-1966) & His Ritz Carlton Orchestra ft. Joey Nash - Winter Wonderland	1934	-
<b>6</b>	Margaret Whiting (1924-2011) & Jimmy Wakely (1914-1982) - Silver Bells	1951	-
<b>extra</b>	The Supremes <sup>20)</sup> - Silver Bells	1965	-
<b>5</b>	Bobby Helms (1933-1997) - Jingle Bell Rock	1957	6 <sup>21)</sup>
<b>4</b>	The King Cole Trio <sup>22)</sup> - The Christmas Song (Merry Christmas To You)	1946	3
<b>3</b>	The Harry Simeone <sup>23)</sup> Chorale - The Little Drummer Boy	1958	13
<b>2</b>	Gene Autry (1907-1998) & The Pinafores - Rudolph, The Red-Nosed Reindeer	1949	1
<b>1</b>	Bing Crosby (1903-1977) - White Christmas	1942	1
<b>extra</b>	Bing Crosby (1903-1977) - Silent Night, Holy Night <sup>24)</sup>	1935	7

- \* Casey did *not* play the song - added and spoken by myself in 2013
- \* Casey did *not* play the song - added by The Premiere Radio Networks
- <sup>1)</sup> LaVerne Sophia Andrews (1915-1967), Maxine Angelyn Andrews (1916-1995) and Patricia Marie "Patty" Andrews (1918-2013)
- <sup>2)</sup> Bill Buchanan (1930-1996)
- <sup>3)</sup> Dickie Goodman (1934-1989)
- <sup>4)</sup> both sides of the single are played; Casey only names "Dickie Goodman" as artist, but the record was officially released under the name of three artists!
- <sup>5)</sup> Casey falsely says "Snoopy's *First* Christmas"
- <sup>6)</sup> Casey only plays Part I, but I have also added Part II
- <sup>7)</sup> centered around David Seville (1919-1972)
- <sup>8)</sup> Bea Rosse (1915-2002), Marge Rosse (1917-2003) & Geri Rosse (1921-1993)
- <sup>9)</sup> Casey falsely says "1948".
- <sup>10)</sup> Casey falsely says "1949".
- <sup>11)</sup> Casey falsely says that the song was first *released* in 1960, instead of 1958. It peaked two years after its release.
- <sup>12)</sup> Casey says "Bobby" instead of "Bob"; later known as Bobby Sheen
- <sup>13)</sup> Leroy Anderson is the composer. The conductor of the Boston Pops Orchestra was Arthur Fiedler (1894-1979). Casey falsely says "1948".
- <sup>14)</sup> Veronica Yvette Bennett (\*1943, later known as Ronnie Spector), Estelle Bennett (1941-2009) & Nedra Talley (\*1946)
- <sup>15)</sup> with Tex Beneke (1914-2000), Marion Hutton (1919-1987), Ernie Caceres (1911-1971) and - on vocals - The Modernaires
- <sup>16)</sup> Casey says that the song was first a hit by Russ Morgan in 1949, but the first recording is actually from 1948 by Doye O'Dell.
- <sup>17)</sup> Casey says "29 years ago", i. e.  $1971 - 29 = 1942$ . That is wrong because the song was recorded in 1943. It peaked 4 years(!) later in 1947.
- <sup>18)</sup> Ray Conniff (1916-2002)
- <sup>19)</sup> Casey says that the song was "originally done back in the 40s", but the first recording of "Winter Wonderland" was already done in 1934 by Richard Himber - see my extra!
- <sup>20)</sup> feat. Diana Ross (\*1944)
- <sup>21)</sup> Casey falsely says "number 7".
- <sup>22)</sup> feat. Nat King Cole (1919-1965)
- <sup>23)</sup> Harry Simeone (1911-2005)
- <sup>24)</sup> Casey falsely says that the song was "originally performed at a Christmas Eve church service in *Germany* 153 years ago".  $1971 - 153 = 1818$ . Since 1816 the village of Oberndorf bei Salzburg, where Franz Xaver Gruber and Joseph Moor first performed it, belongs to *Austria*! The 1935 version by Bing Crosby was titled "Silent Night, Holy Night", whereas later versions he recorded (e. g. in 1938) were only titled "Silent Night".