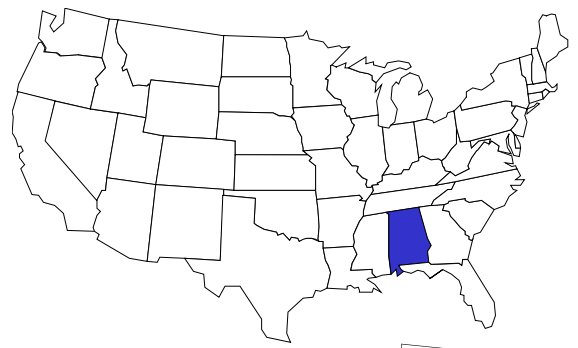


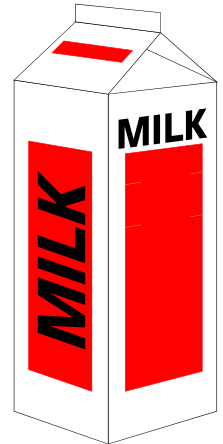
DIXIE

**HEART
OF**

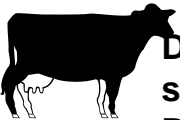


State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

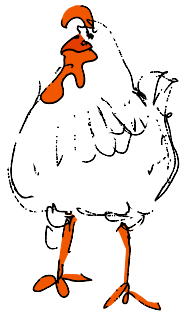
Alabama
Montgomery
Heart of Dixie
Camellia
Yellowhammer
Southern Pine
"Alabama"
December 14, 1819 (22)



The first permanent European settlement in Alabama was founded by the French at Fort Louis de la Mobile in 1702. The British gained control of the area in 1763 by the Treaty of Paris, but had to cede almost all of the Alabama region to the U.S. after the Revolution. The Confederacy was founded at Montgomery in February 1861 and for a time, the city was the Confederate Capital.



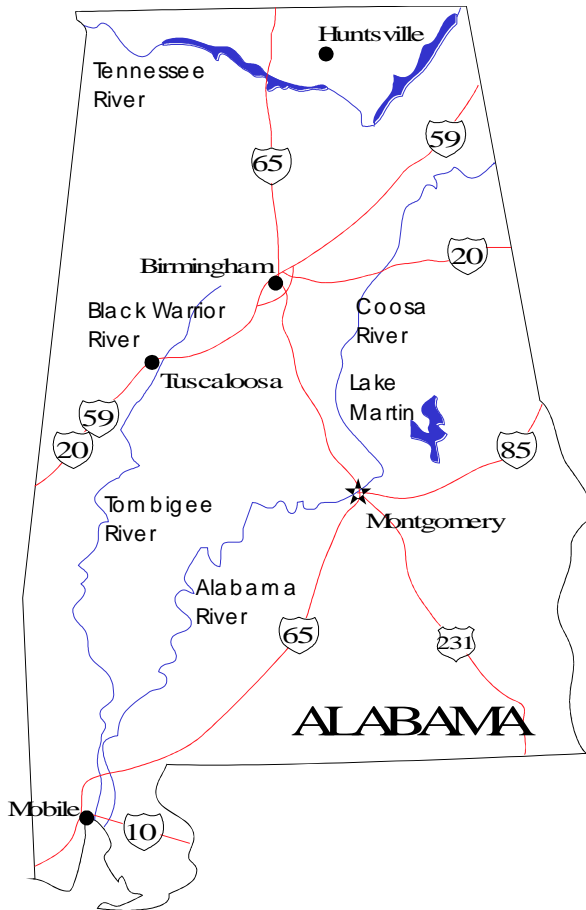
During the last part of the 19th century, the economy of the state slowly improved. At Tuskegee Institute, founded in 1881 by Booker T. Washington, Dr. George Washington Carver carried out his famous agricultural research.



In the 1950's and 60's, Alabama was the sight of such landmark civil rights actions as the bus boycott in Montgomery (1955-1956) and the "Freedom March" from Selma to Montgomery (1965).



Today paper, chemicals, rubber, plastics, apparel, textiles, and metals such as iron and steel are the leading industries. The state ranks high in the production of poultry, soybeans, milk, vegetables, livestock, wheat, cattle, cotton, peanuts, fruits, hogs and corn.



The LARGEST State Alaska



STATE Alaska

CAPITAL Juneau

NICKNAME The Last Frontier

STATE FLOWER Forget-Me-Not

STATE BIRD Willow Ptarmigan

STATE TREE Sitka Spruce

STATE SONG "Alaska's Flag"

ENTERED UNION & RANK Jan. 3, 1959 (49)



Vitus Bering, a Dane working for the Russians, and Alexei Chirikov discovered the Alaskan mainland and the Aleutian Islands in 1741. Alaska, which equals one-fifth of the continental U.S., was unexplored in 1867 when Secretary of State William Seward arranged for its purchase from the Russians for \$7,200,000. Despite a price of about two cents an acre, the purchase was widely ridiculed as "Seward's Folly". Since then, Alaska has returned billions of dollars' worth of products to the U. S.

The Gold Rush of 1898 resulted in a mass influx of more than 30,000 people to Alaska.

In 1968, a large oil and gas reservoir near Prudhoe Bay on the Arctic Coast was found. The Prudhoe Bay reservoir, with an estimated 10 billion barrels of oil and 27 trillion cubic feet of gas, is twice as large as any other oil field in North America. The Trans-Alaska pipeline was completed in 1977 at a cost of \$7.7 billion. On June 20, oil started flowing through the 800-mile long pipeline from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez.

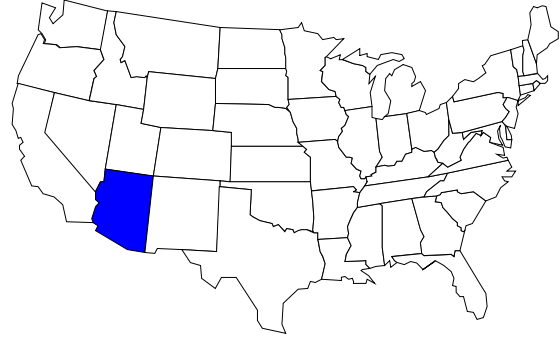
Other industries important to Alaska's economy are fisheries, wood and wood products, furs, and tourism.



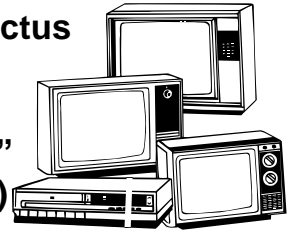


GRAND CANYON STATE

ARIZONA



State:	Arizona
Capital:	Phoenix
Nickname:	Grand Canyon State
State Flower:	Flower of Saguaro Cactus
State Bird:	Cactus Wren
State Tree:	Palo Verde
State Song:	"Arizona March Song"
Entered Union & Rank:	February 14, 1912 (48)

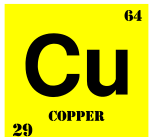


Marcos de Niza, a Spanish Franciscan friar, was the first European to explore Arizona. He entered the area in 1539 in search of the Seven Cities of Gold. In 1775 the Spanish established Fort Tucson. In 1848, after the Mexican War, most of the Arizona territory became part of the U.S., and the southern portion of the territory was added by the Gadsden Purchase in 1853.



Arizona history is rich in legends of the Old West. It was here that the great Indian chiefs Geronimo and Cochise led their people against the frontiersmen. Today, Arizona has the largest U.S. Indian population; more than 14 tribes are represented on 20 reservations. Tombstone, Arizona, was the sight of the West's most famous shoot-out, the Gunfight at the O.K. Corral.

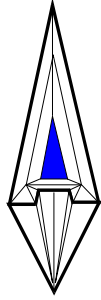
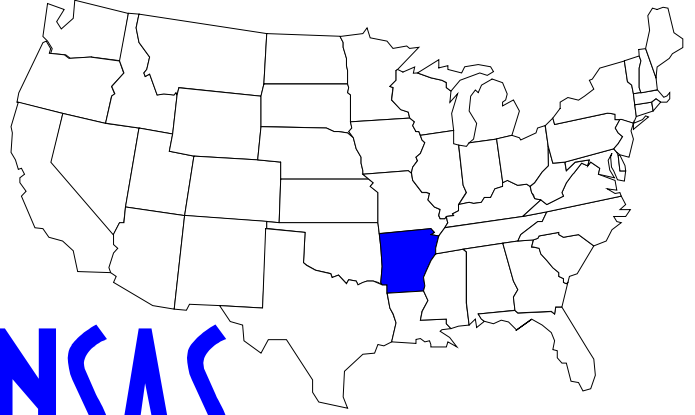
Manufacturing has become Arizona's most important industry. Principal products include electrical, communications and aeronautical items. The state produces over half the country's copper.



State attractions include such famous scenery as the Grand Canyon, the Petrified Forest, the Painted Desert, Hoover Dam, Fort Apache and the reconstructed London Bridge.



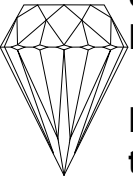
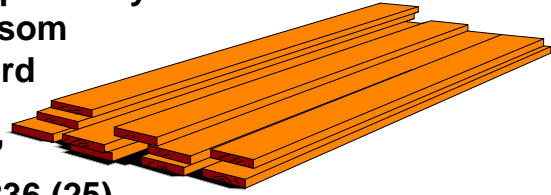




ARKANSAS

State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

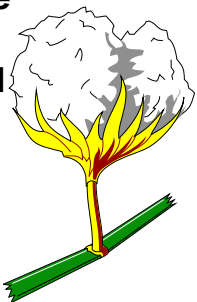
Arkansas
Little Rock
Land of Opportunity
Apple Blossom
Mocking Bird
Pine
"Arkansas"
June 15, 1836 (25)

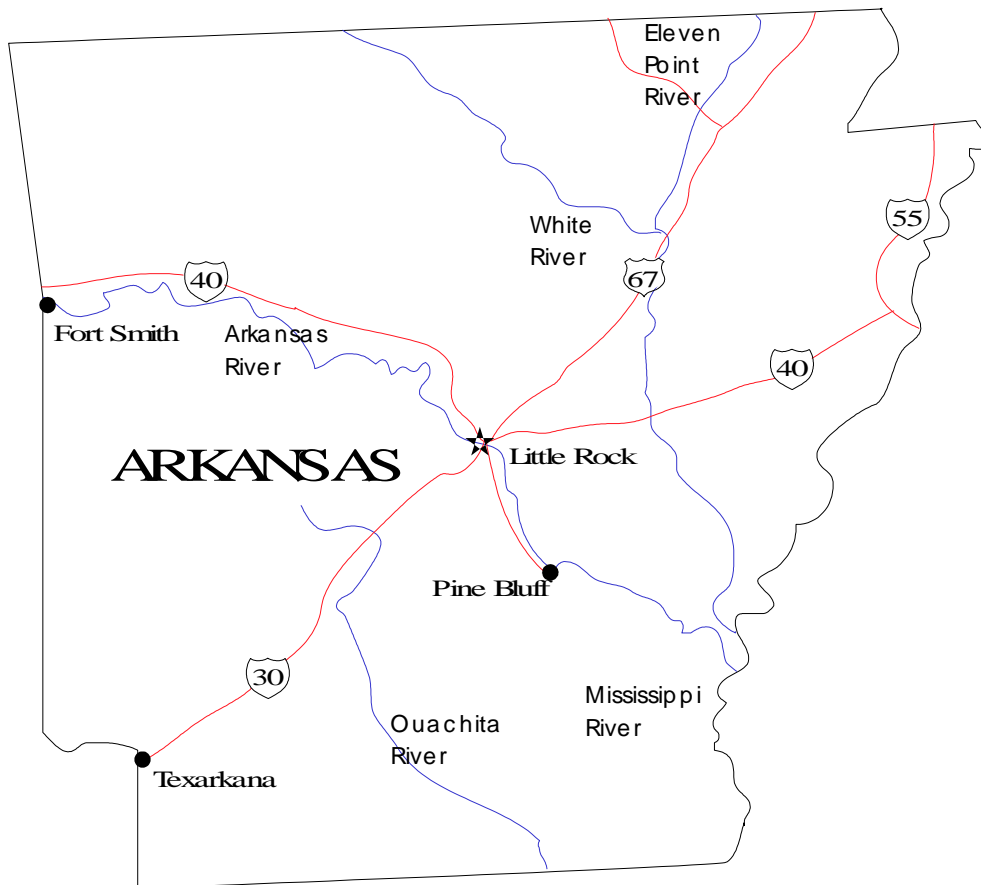


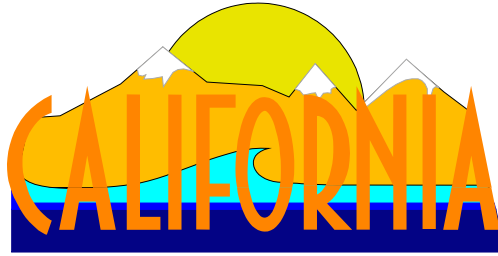
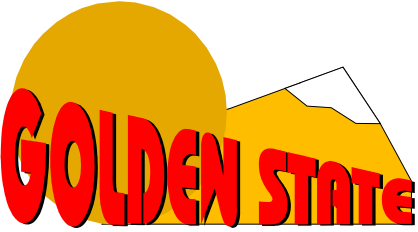
Hernando de Soto, in 1541, was among the early European explorers to visit the territory. It was a Frenchmen, Henri de Tonti, who in 1686 founded the first permanent white settlement -- the Arkansas Post. In 1803 the area was acquired by the U.S. as part of the Louisiana Purchase.



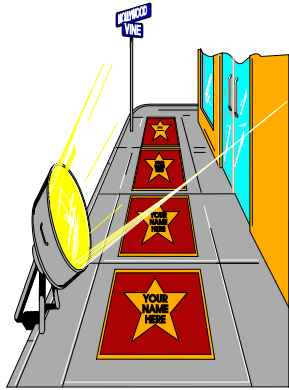
Food products are the state's largest employment sector, with lumber and wood products a close second. Arkansas is also a leader in the production of cotton, rice and soybeans. It also has the country's only active diamond mine; located near Murfreesboro, it is operated as a tourist attraction. Hot Springs Caverns and Buffalo National River in the Ozarks are also major state attractions.







State:	California
Capital:	Sacramento
Nickname:	Golden State
State Flower:	Golden Poppy
State Bird:	California Valley Quail
State Tree:	California Redwood
State Song:	"I Love You, California"
Entered Union & Rank:	September, 9, 1850 (31)

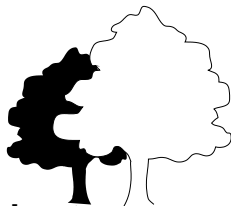
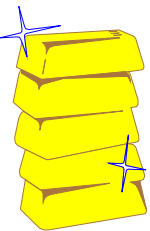


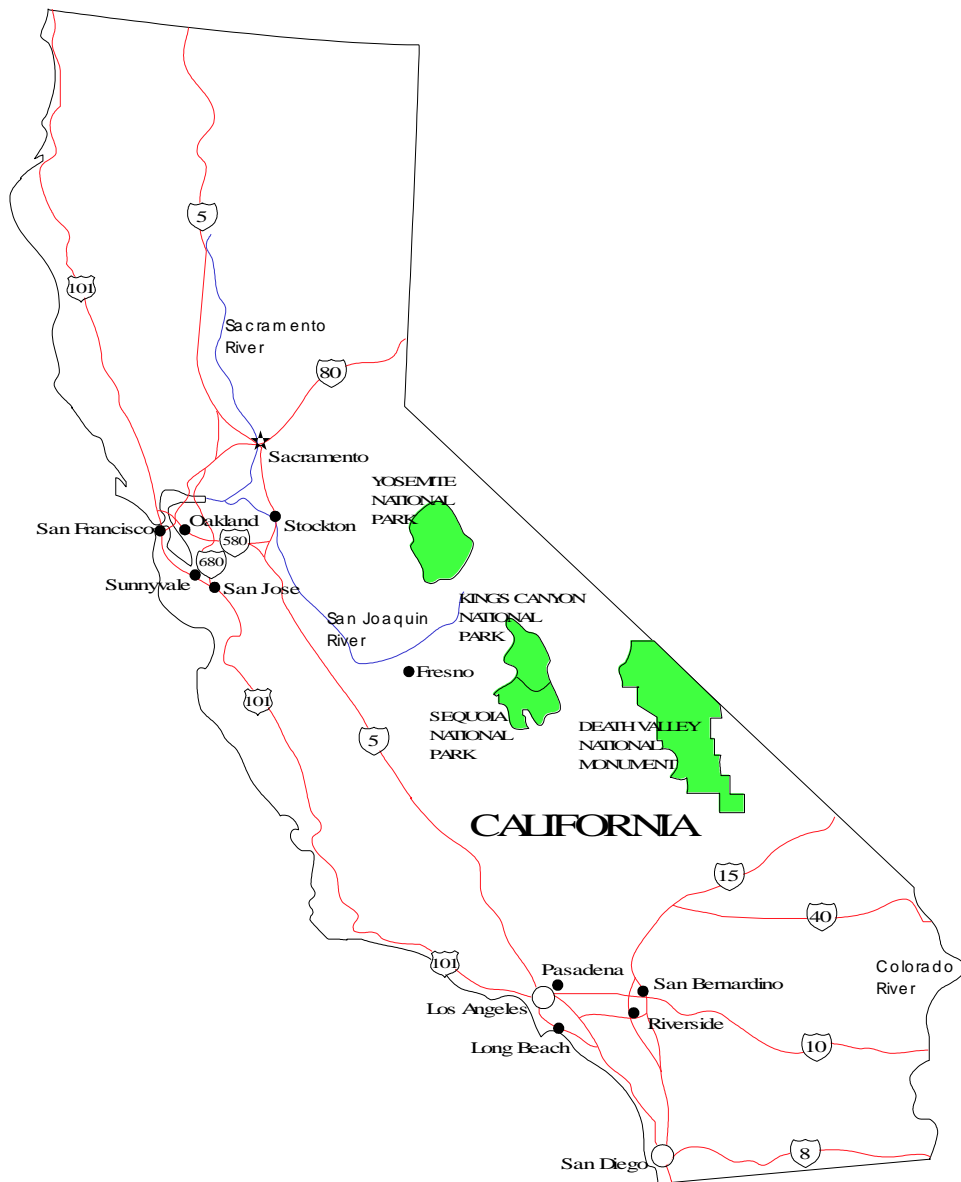
Although California was sighted by Spanish navigator Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo in 1542, its first Spanish mission was not established until 1779. California became a U.S. Territory in 1847 when Mexico surrendered it to John C. Fremont.

On January 24, 1848, James W. Marshall discovered gold at Sutter's Mill, starting the California Gold Rush and bringing settlers to the state in large numbers.

Leading industries include manufacturing (transportation equipment, machinery and electronic equipment), agriculture, biotechnology and tourism. Principal natural resources include timber, petroleum and natural gas.

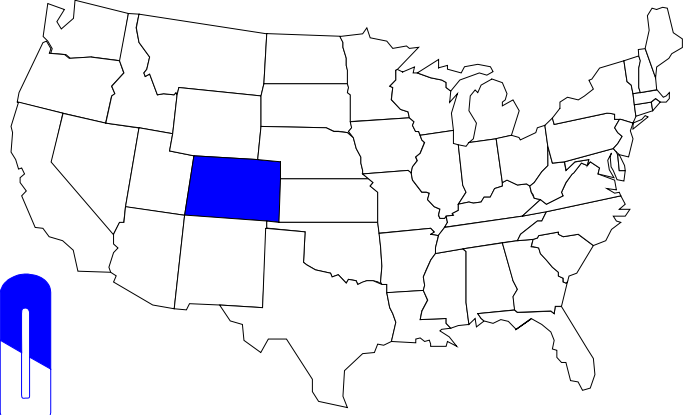
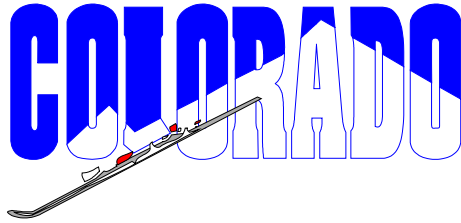
Death Valley, in the southeast, is 282 feet below sea level, the lowest point in the nation; and Mt. Whitney (14,491 ft) is the highest point in the contiguous 48 states. The General Sherman Tree in Sequoia National Park is estimated to be about 3,500 years old, and a stand of bristle cone pine trees in the White Mountains may be over 4,000 years old.





100

CENTENNIAL STATE

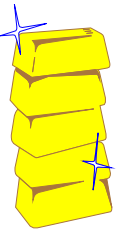


State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

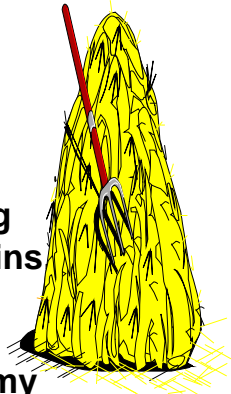
Colorado
Denver
Centennial State
Rocky Mountain Columbine
Lark Bunting
Colorado Blue Spruce
"Where the Columbines Grow"
August 1, 1876 (38)



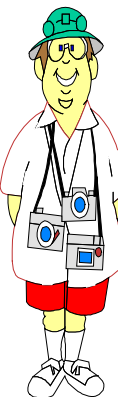
The U.S. obtained eastern Colorado as part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, the central portion in 1845 with the admission Texas as a state, and the western part in 1848 as a result of the Mexican War.



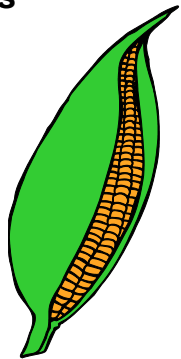
Colorado has the highest mean elevation of any state, with more than 1,000 rocky mountain peaks over 10,000 feet and 54 towering above 14,000 feet. Pikes Peak, the most famous of these mountains was discovered by U.S. Army Lt. Zebulon M. Pike in 1806.

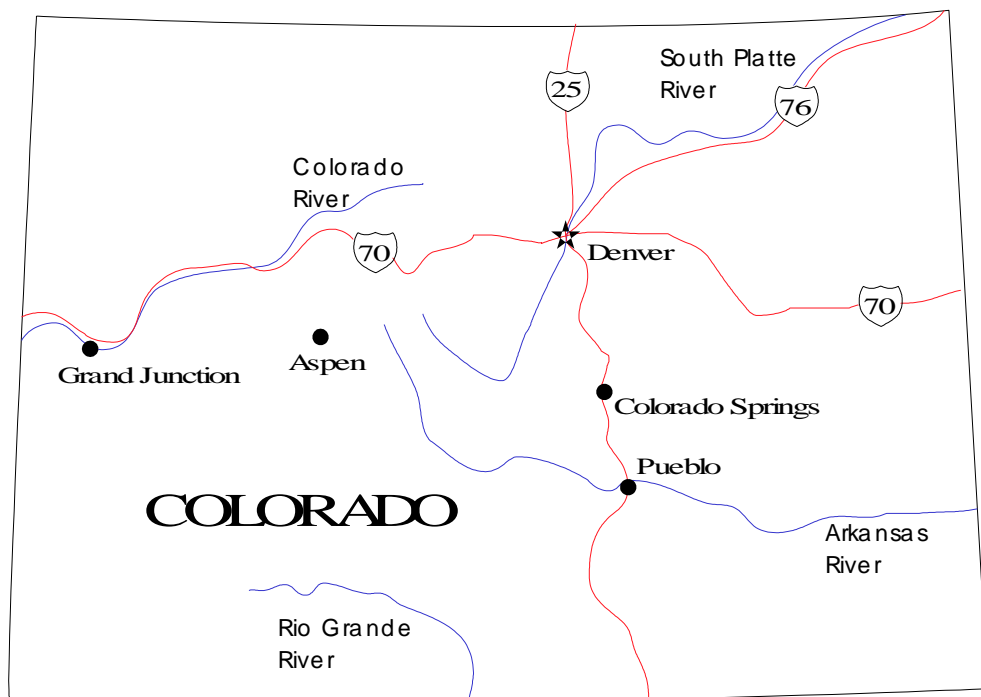


Once primarily a mining and agricultural state, Colorado's economy is now driven by the service-producing industries. Tourism accounts for approximately \$6 billion annually. The ski industry accounts for about \$1.8 billion of the tourist industry.

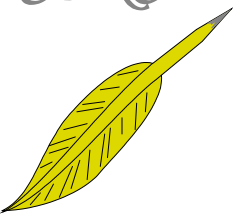


The two primary facets of Colorado's manufacturing industry are food and printing and publishing. The primary crops include corn, hay and wheat. Denver is home to companies that control half of the nations gold production.

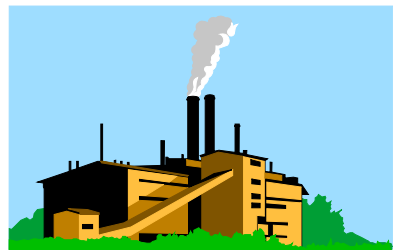




CONSTITUTION STATE



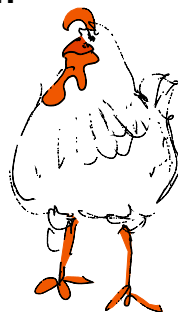
State: Connecticut
Capital: Hartford
Nickname: Nutmeg State
State Flower: Mountain Laurel
State Bird: American Robin
State Tree: White Oak
State Song: "Yankee Doodle"
Entered Union & Rank: January 9, 1788 (5)



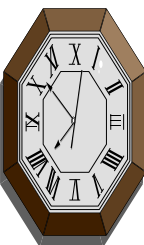
In 1633, Dutch colonists built a fort and trading post near present day Hartford, but soon lost it to English Puritans migrating south from the Massachusetts Bay colony. English settlements, established in the 1630's at Windsor, Wethersfield and Hartford, united in 1639 to form the Connecticut Colony and adopted the Fundamental Orders, considered the world's first written constitution.



Connecticut played a prominent role in the Revolutionary War, serving as the Continental Army's major supplier. Sometimes called the "Arsenal of the Nation," the state became one of the most industrialized in the nation.

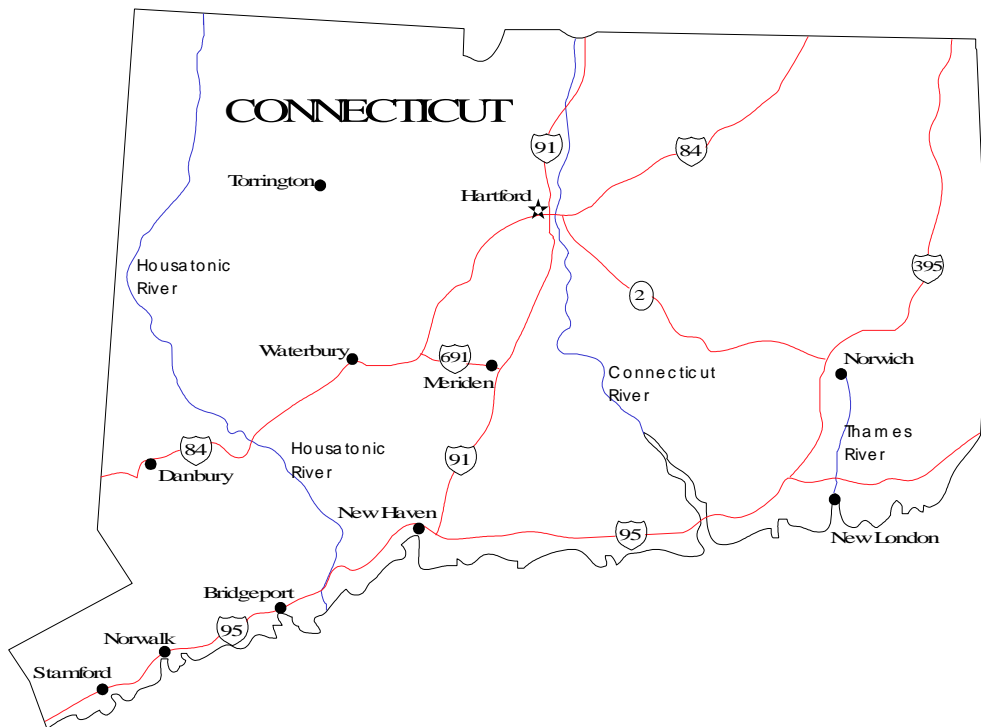


Today factories produce weapons, sewing machines, jet engines, helicopters, motors, hardware and tools, cutlery, clocks, locks, silverware and submarines. Hartford, which has the oldest U.S. newspaper still being published -- the Hartford Courant, est. 1754 -- is the insurance capital of the nation.



Poultry, fruit and dairy products account for the largest portion of the farm income, and Connecticut's shade-grown tobacco is acknowledged to be the state's most valuable crop per acre.



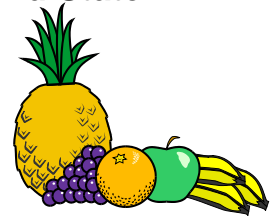
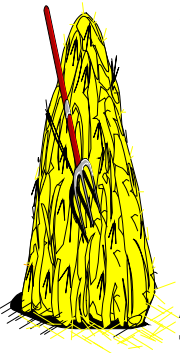


1ST STATE

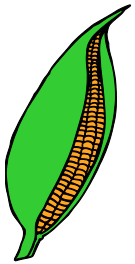


State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

Delaware
Dover
First State, the Diamond State
Peach Blossom
American Holly
"Our Delaware"
December 7, 1787 (1)



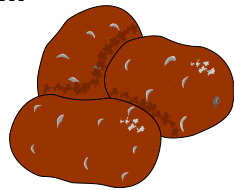
Henry Hudson, sailing under the Dutch flag, is credited with Delaware's discovery in 1609. The following year, Capt. Samuel Argall of Virginia named Delaware for his colony's governor, Thomas West, Baron De La Warr. The English took over the area in 1664 and it was transferred to William Penn as the southern Three Countries in 1682.



Delaware fought as a separate state in the American Revolution and became the first state to ratify the constitution. During the Civil War, although a slave state, Delaware did not secede from the Union.

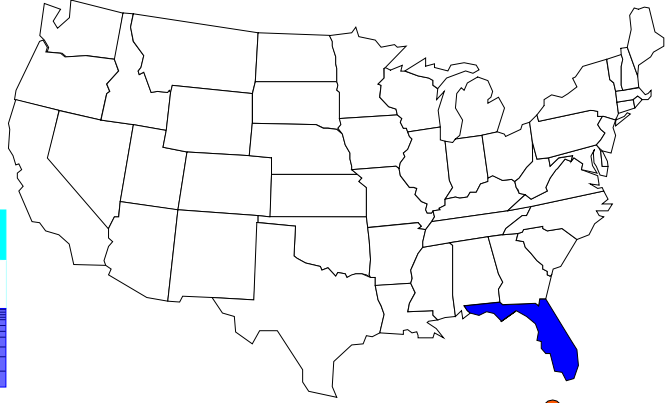
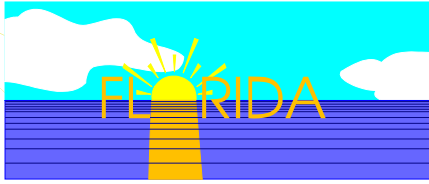


In 1802, Eleuthere Irenee du Pont established a gunpowder mill near Wilmington that laid the foundation for Delaware's huge chemical industry. Today Delaware manufactures products, machinery, machine tools and automobiles. Delaware also grows a great variety of fruits and vegetables and is a U.S. pioneer in the food canning industry. Corn, soybeans, potatoes and hay are the important crops. Delaware's broiler chicken farms supply the big Eastern markets, and fishing and dairy products are other important industries.

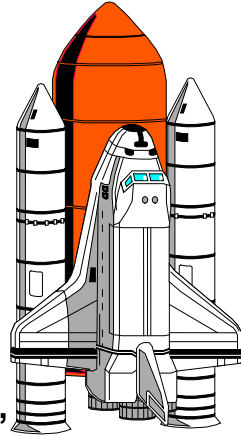




THE
SUNSHINE
STATE



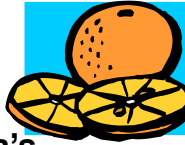
State:	Florida
Capital:	Tallahassee
Nickname:	Sunshine State
State Flower:	Orange Blossom
State Bird:	Mocking Bird
State Tree:	None
State Song:	"Suwannee River"
Entered Union & Rank:	March 3, 1845 (27)



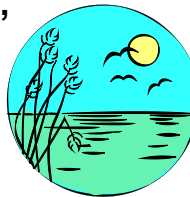
In 1513, Ponce De Leon, seeking the mythical "Fountain of Youth," discovered and named Florida for Spain. It was sold to the United States in 1819. Florida's early 19th century history as a U.S. territory was marked by wars with the Seminole Indians that did not end until 1842.

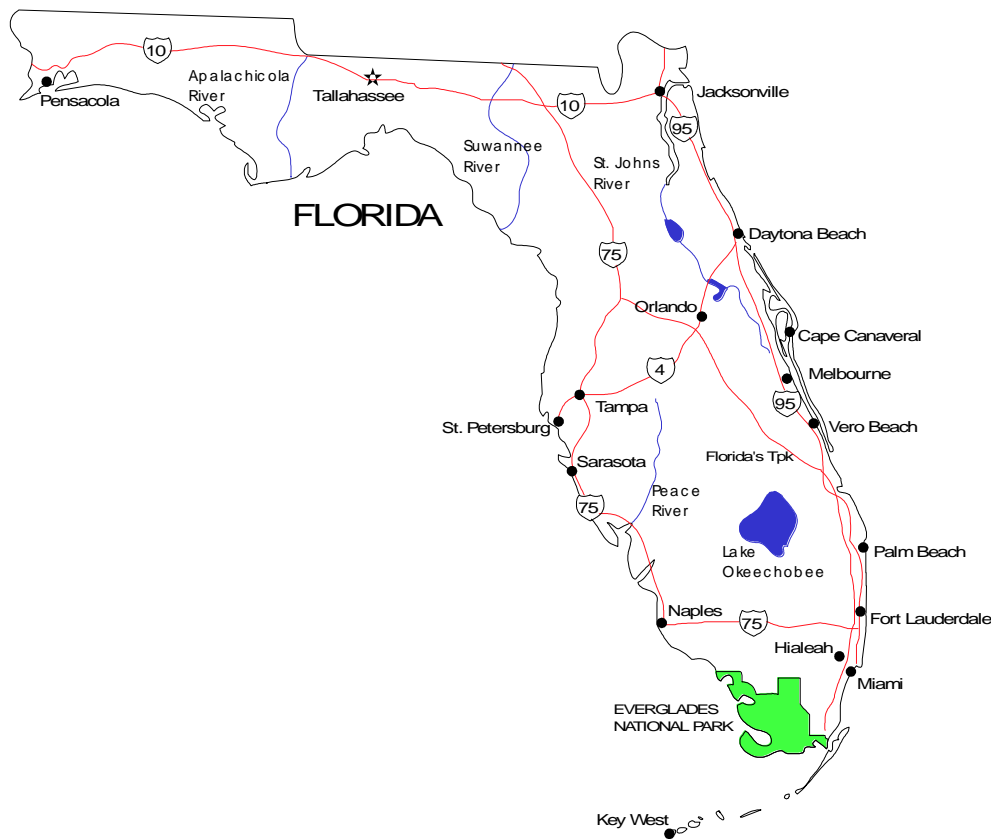


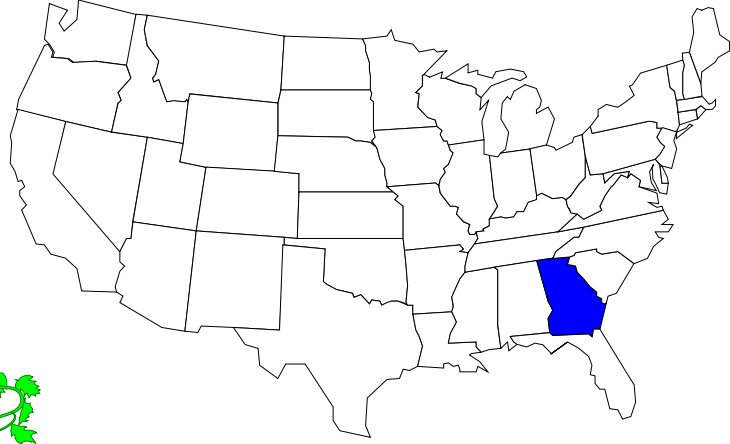
One of the fastest growing states in the U.S., Florida's population grew from 2.8 million in 1950 to more than 12.9 million in 1990. Florida's economy rests on a solid base of tourism (in 1992 more than 40.5 million visitors from all over the world), manufacturing, agriculture and international trade. In recent years, oranges, grapefruit and tomatoes lead Florida's crop list followed by vegetables, potatoes, melons, strawberries, sugar cane, dairy products, cattle and forest products.



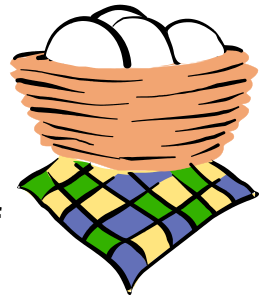
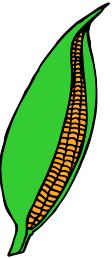
Major tourist attractions include Miami Beach, Palm Beach, Daytona Beach, St. Augustine (founded in 1565, the oldest permanent city in the U.S.), Key West, Disney World and NASA Kennedy Space Center.



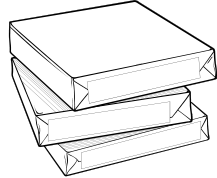




State:	Georgia
Capital:	Atlanta
Nickname:	Peach Tree State
State Flower:	Cherokee Rose
State Bird:	Brown Thrasher
State Tree:	Live Oak
State Song:	"Georgia on My Mind"
Entered Union & Rank:	January 2, 1788 (4)



Hernando de Soto, the Spanish explorer, first traveled to parts of Georgia in 1540. British claims later conflicted with those of Spain. After obtaining a royal charter, Gen. James Oglethorpe established the first permanent settlement in Georgia in 1733 as a refuge for English debtors.



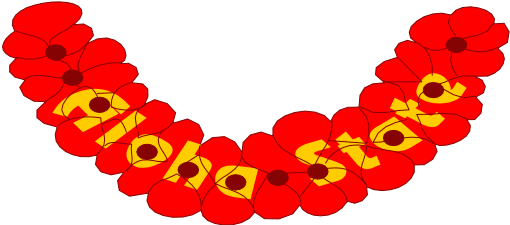
A confederate stronghold, Georgia was the scene of extensive military action during the Civil War. Union General William T. Sherman burned Atlanta and destroyed a 60-mile-wide path to the coast to capture Savannah in 1864.



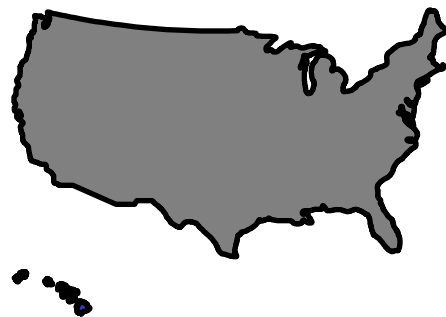
The largest state east of the Mississippi, it is the communications and transportation center for the southeast and the area's chief distributor of goods. Georgia leads the nation in the production of paper and board, tufted textile products, and processed chicken. Important agricultural products are corn, cotton, tobacco, soybeans, eggs and peaches. Georgia produces twice as many peanuts as the next leading state. From its vast stands of pine come more than half the world's resins and turpentine.







HAWAII



State:

Capital

Nickname:

State Flower:

State Bird:

State Tree:

State Song:

Entered Union & Rank:

Hawaii

Honolulu

Aloha State

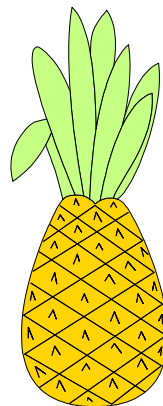
Yellow Hibiscus

Nene (Hawaiian Goose)

Kukui (Candlenut)

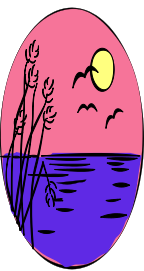
"Hawaii Pono"

August 21, 1959 (50)



First settled by Polynesians sailing from other Pacific islands between 300 and 600 A.D., Hawaii was visited in 1778 by British Captain James Cook who called the group the Sandwich Islands.

Hawaii was a native kingdom throughout most of the 19th century when the expansion of the vital sugar industry (pineapple came after 1898) meant increasing U.S. business and political involvement. Hawaii became a U.S. Territory in 1900. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, was directly responsible for the United States entry into World War II.



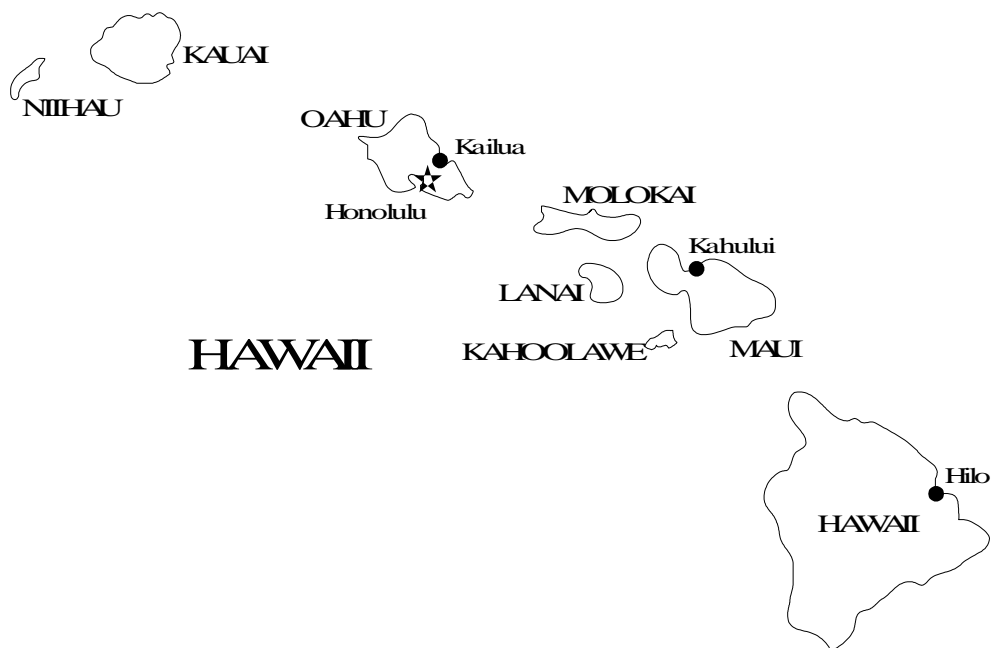
Hawaii, 2,397 miles west-southwest of San Francisco, is a 1,523 mile chain of islets and eight main islands -- Hawaii, Kahoolawe, Maui, Lanai, Molokai, Oahu, Kauai, and Nihau.



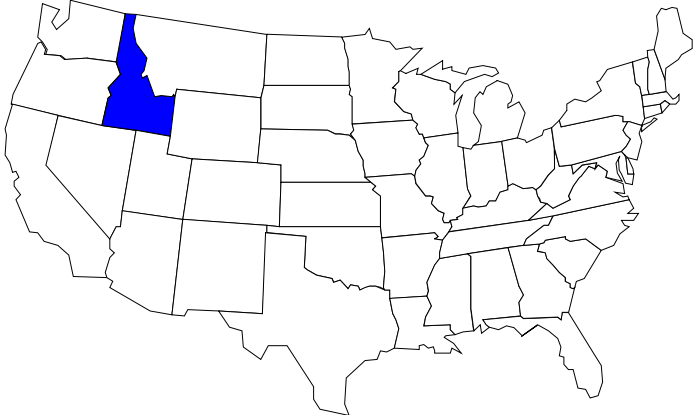
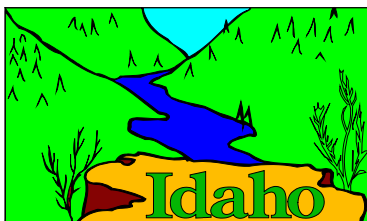
The temperature is mild and Hawaii's soil is fertile for tropical fruits and vegetables. Cane sugar and pineapples are the chief products. Hawaii also grows coffee, bananas and nuts. The tourist business is Hawaii's largest source of outside income.

Hawaii's highest peak is Manuna Keal (13,796 ft.). Mauna Loa (13,679 ft.) is the largest volcanic mountain in the world in cubic content.





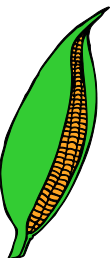
GEM State



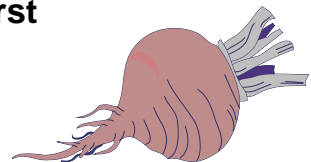
State:	Idaho
Capital:	Boise
Nickname:	Gem State, Spud State
State Flower:	Syringa
State Bird:	Mountain Bluebird
State Tree:	White Pine
State Song:	"Here We Have Idaho"
Entered Union & Rank:	July 3, 1890 (43)



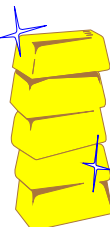
After it's acquisition by the U.S. as part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, the region was explored by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark in 1805-06. Northwest boundary disputes with Great Britain were settled by the Oregon Treaty in 1846, and the first permanent U.S. settlement in Idaho was established by the Mormons at Franklin in 1860.



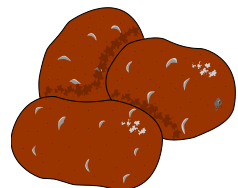
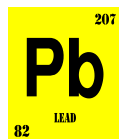
In the 1870's growing white occupation of Indian lands led to a series of battles between U.S. forces and the Nez Perce, Bannock and Sheepeater tribes.

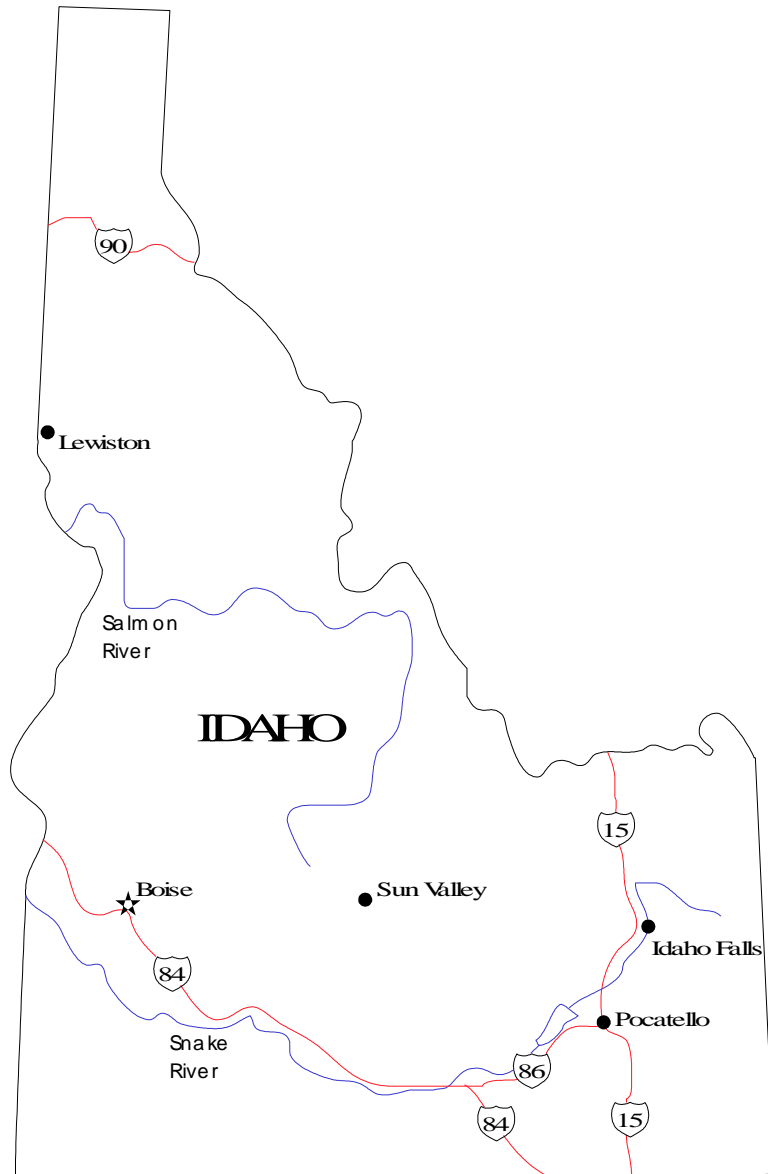


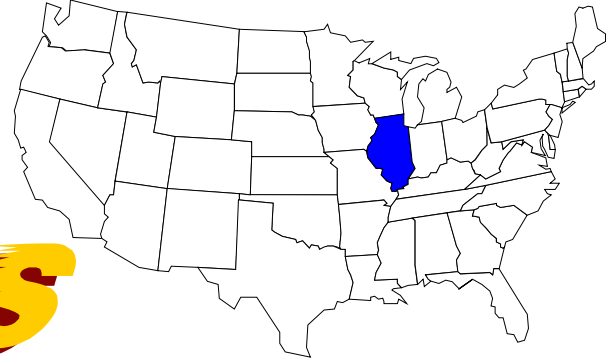
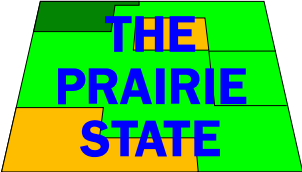
Mining, lumbering and irrigation farming have been important for years. Idaho produces more than one fifth of all the silver mined in the United States. It also ranks high among the states in lead, cobalt, garnet, phosphate rock, zinc, mercury and gold.



Idaho's most impressive growth began when World War II military needs made processing agricultural products a big industry, particularly the dehydrating and freezing of potatoes. The state produces about one fourth of the nation's potato crop as well as wheat, apples, corn, barley, sugar beets and hops.





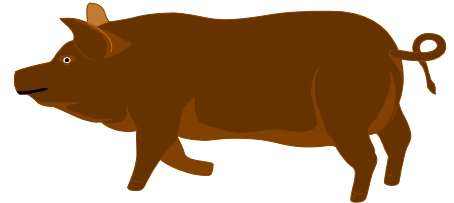


ILLINOIS



State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

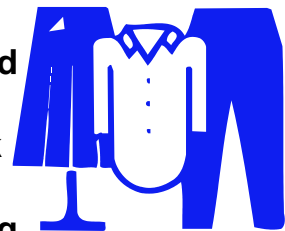
Illinois
Springfield
Prairie State
Violet
Cardinal
White Oak
"Illinois"
December 3, 1818 (21)



French explorers Marquette and Joliet, in 1673, were the first Europeans of record to visit the region. In 1699 French settlers established the first permanent settlement at Cahokia, near present day East St. Louis. Great Britain obtained the region at the end of the French and Indian War in 1763. The area figured prominently in frontier struggles during the Revolutionary War and Indian wars during the 19th century.

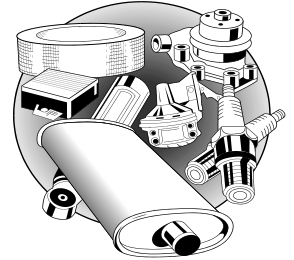
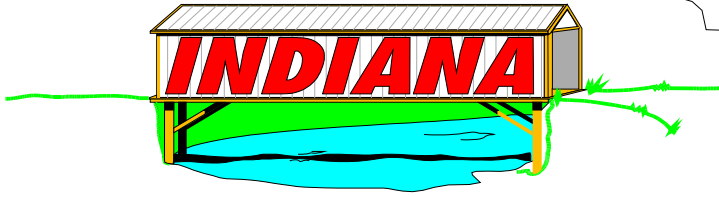
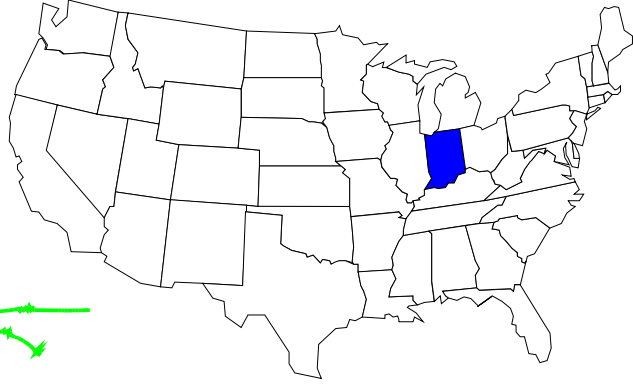
Significant episodes in the state's early history include the growing migration of Eastern settlers following the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825; the Black Hawk War; and the rise of Abraham Lincoln from farm laborer to President-elect.

Today, Illinois stands high in manufacturing, coal mining, agriculture and oil production. It ranks third in the nation in export of agricultural products, first in soybeans, and second in corn and hog production. An important dairying state, Illinois is also a leader in corn, oats, wheat, barley, rye, truck vegetables and nursery products. The state manufactures a great variety of industrial and consumer products including railroad cars, clothing, furniture, tractors, liquor, watches and farm equipment.





HOOSIER STATE



State:

Capital:

Nickname:

State Flower:

State Bird:

State Tree:

State Song:

Entered Union & Rank:

Indiana

Indianapolis

Hoosier State

Peony

Cardinal

Tulip Tree

"On the Banks of the Wabash, Far Away"

December 11, 1816 (19)



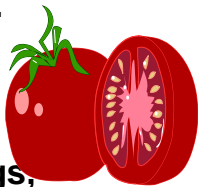
First explored for France by La Salle in 1679-1680. The region figured importantly in the Franco-British struggle for North America that culminated with British victory in 1763. George Rogers Clark led American forces against the British in the area during the Revolutionary War. Prior to becoming a state, Indiana was the scene of frequent Indian uprisings until the victory of Gen. William Henry Harrison at Tippecanoe in 1811.

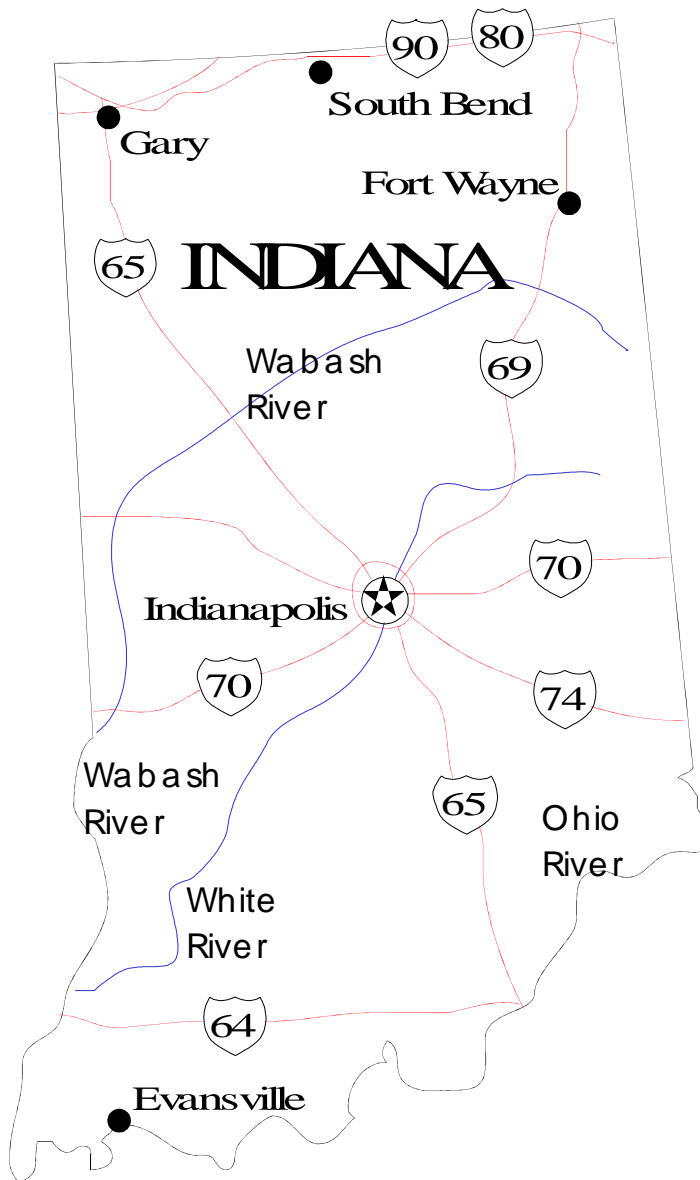


Indiana's 41 mile Lake Michigan waterfront -- one of the world's great industrial centers -- turns out iron, steel and oil products. Other products include automobile parts and accessories, mobile homes and recreational vehicles, truck and bus bodies, aircraft engines and farm machinery. Phonograph records, wood office furniture and pharmaceuticals are also manufactured.

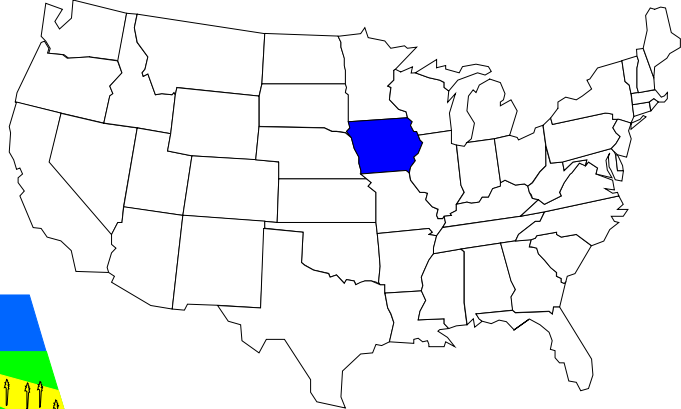
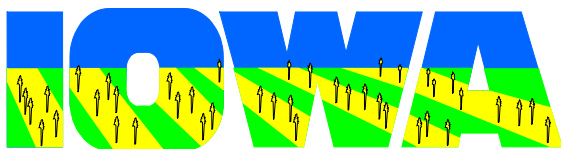


The state is a leader in agriculture, with corn the principal crop. Hogs, soybeans, wheat, oats, rye, tomatoes, onions and poultry also contribute heavily to Indiana's agricultural output. Much of the building limestone used in the U.S. is quarried in Indiana.



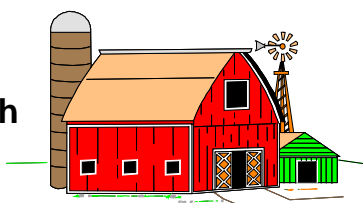


Hawkeye State



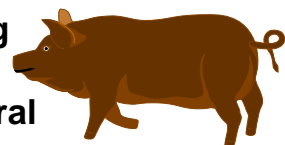
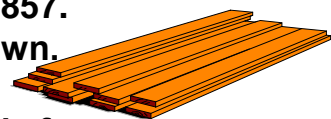
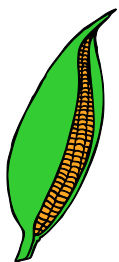
State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

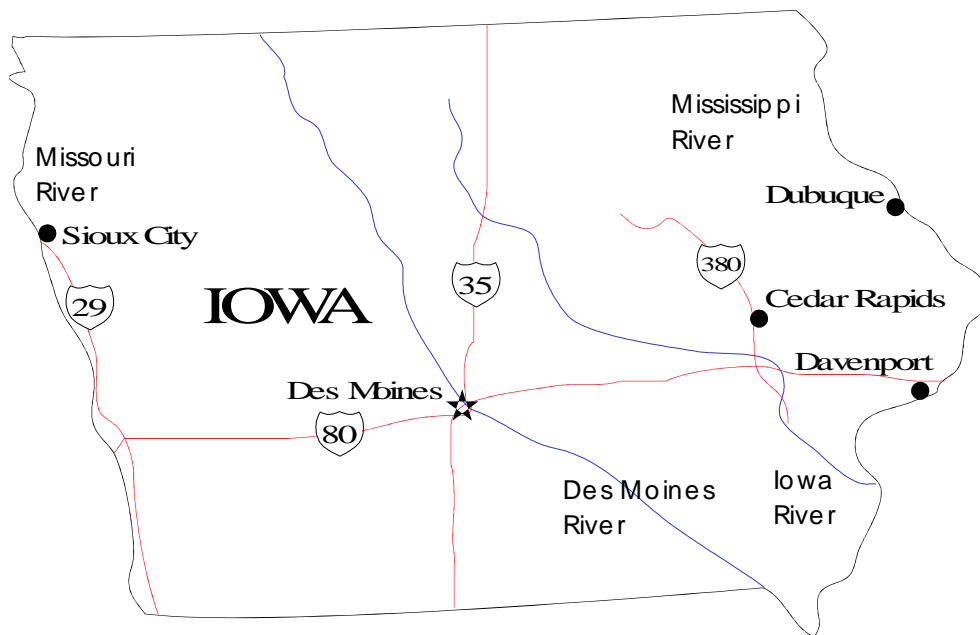
Iowa
Des Moines
Hawkeye State
Wild Rose
Eastern Goldfinch
Oak
"Song of Iowa"
December 28, 1846 (29)



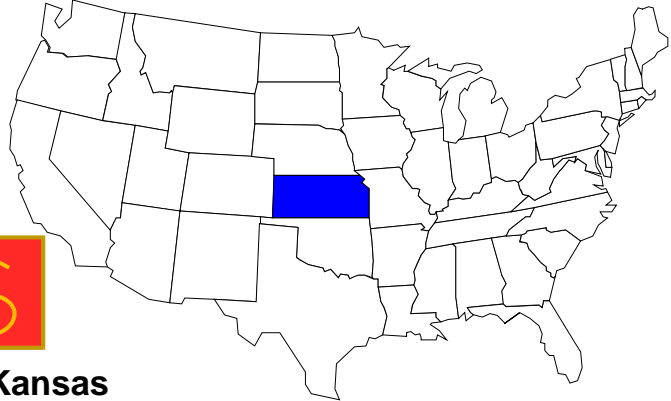
The first Europeans to visit the area were the French explorers, Marquette and Joliet in 1673. The United State obtained control of the area in 1803 as part of the Louisiana Purchase. When Iowa became a state in 1846, its capital was Iowa City; the more centrally located Des Moines became the new capital in 1857. At that time, the state's present boundaries were also drawn.

Iowa stands in a class by itself as an agricultural state. Its farms sell over \$10 billion worth of crops and livestock annually. Iowa leads the nation in all corn, soybean, livestock and hog marketing, with about 25% of the pork supply. Its forests produce hardwood lumber, particularly walnut, and its mineral products include cement, limestone, sand, gravel, gypsum and coal.



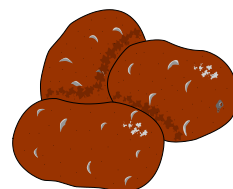


"SUNFLOWER STATE"



State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

Kansas
Topeka
Sunflower State, Jayhawk State
Sunflower
Western Meadowlark
Cottonwood
"Home on the Range"
January 29, 1861 (34)



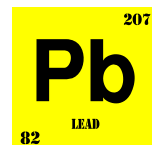
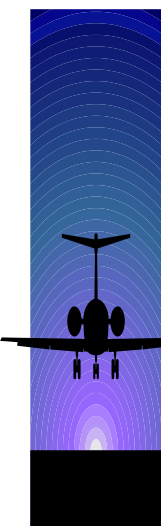
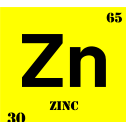
La Salle's extensive land claims for France (1682) included present day Kansas. Ceded to Spain by France in 1763, the territory reverted back to France in 1800 and was sold to the U.S. as part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. Lewis and Clark, Zebulon Pike and Stephen H. Long explored the region between 1803 and 1819. The first permanent settlements in Kansas were outposts -- Fort Leavenworth (1827), Fort Scott (1842), and Fort Riley (1823) -- established to protect travelers along the Santa Fe and Oregon Trails.

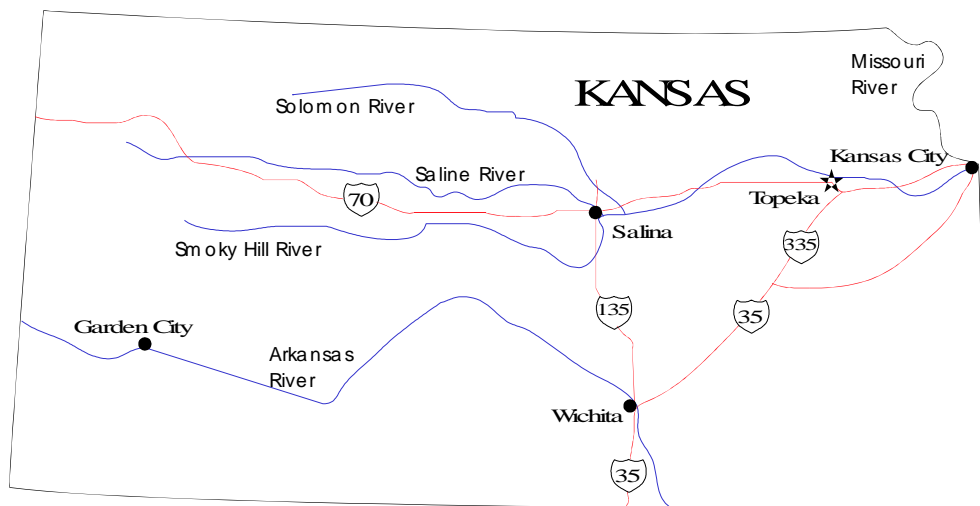


Just before the Civil War, the conflict between the pro- and anti-slavery forces earned the region the grim title, "Bleeding Kansas."

Today wheat fields, oil well derricks, herds of cattle, and grain storage elevators are chief features of the Kansas landscape. A leading wheat-growing state, Kansas also raises corn, sorghums, oats, barley, soybeans and potatoes. Kansas stands high in petroleum production and mines zinc, coal, salt and lead. It is also the nation's leading producer of helium.

Wichita is one of the nation's leading aircraft manufacturing centers, ranking first in production of private aircraft. Kansas City is an important transportation, milling and meat packing center.





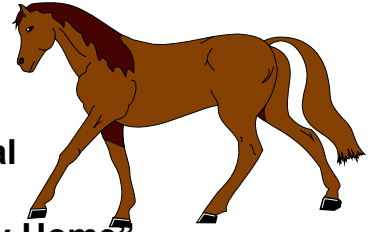
BLUE GRASS STATE

KENTUCKY



State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

Kentucky
Frankfort
Bluegrass State
Goldenrod
Kentucky Cardinal
Coffeetree
"My Old Kentucky Home"
June 1, 1792 (15)



Kentucky was the first region west of the Allegheny Mountains settled by American pioneers. James Harrod established the first permanent settlement at Harrodsburg in 1774; the following year Daniel Boone, who had explored the area in 1767, blazed the Wilderness Trail and founded Boonesboro.

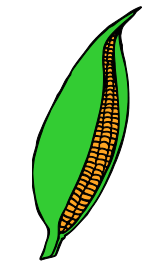


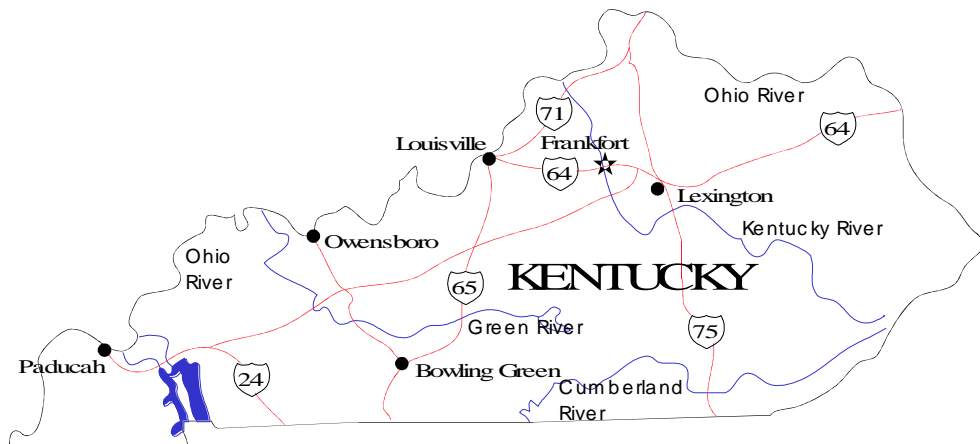
During the Civil War, as a slave holding state with a considerable abolitionist population, Kentucky was caught in the middle of the conflict, supplying both Union and Confederate forces with thousands of troops.

Kentucky prides itself on producing some of the nation's best tobacco, horses, and whiskey. Corn, soybeans, wheat, fruit, hogs, cattle and dairy farming are also important. Manufactured items include furniture, aluminum ware, brooms, shoes, lumber products, machinery, textiles and iron and steel products.



Louisville, the largest city, famed for the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs, is also the location of a large state university, whiskey distilleries and cigarette factories.



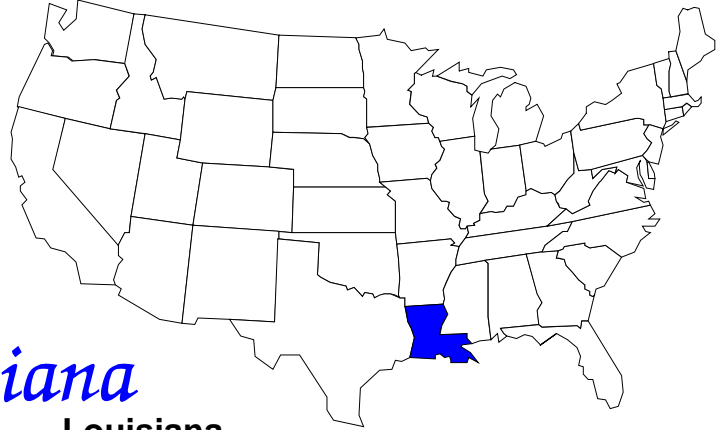




PELICAN STATE

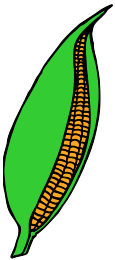
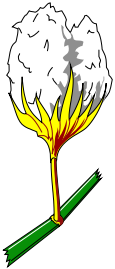
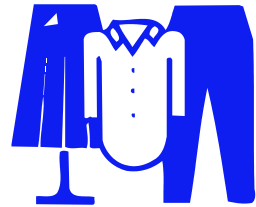


ouisiana



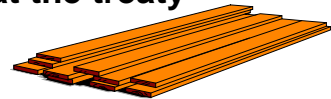
State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

Louisiana
Baton Rouge
Pelican State, Creole State
Magnolia
Pelican
Bald Cypress
"You Are My Sunshine"
April 30, 1812 (18)

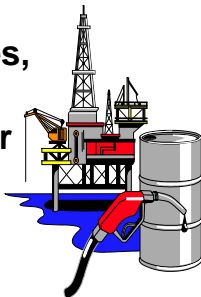


Louisiana has a rich, colorful historical background. La Salle reached the mouth of the Mississippi River and claimed all the land drained by it and its tributaries for Louis XIV of France in 1682. Louisiana became a French crown colony in 1731, was ceded to Spain in 1763, returned to France in 1800 and sold to the U.S. as part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803.

In 1815, Gen. Andrew Jackson's troops defeated a larger British army in the Battle of New Orleans, neither side aware that the treaty ending the War of 1812 had been signed.



Louisiana is a leader in natural gas, salt, petroleum and sulfur production. Much of the oil and sulfur comes from offshore deposits. The state also produces large crops of sweet potatoes, rice, sugar cane, pecans, soybeans, corn and cotton. Leading manufactures include chemicals, processed food, paper, lumber and wood products, transportation equipment and apparel. Louisiana's marshes supply most of the nation's muskrat fur as well as that of opossum, raccoon, mink and otter, and large numbers of game birds.





PINE TREE STATE



State:

Capital:

Nickname:

State Flower:

State Bird:

State Tree:

State Song:

Entered Union & Rank:

Maine

Augusta

Pine Tree State

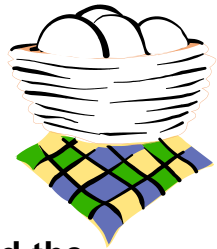
White Pine Cone & Tassel

Chickadee

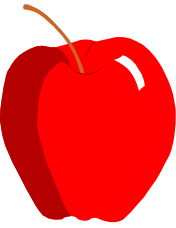
White Pine

"State of Maine Song"

March 15, 1820 (23)



John Cabot and his son, Sebastian, are believed to have visited the Maine coast in 1498. However, the first permanent English settlements were not established until more than a century later, in 1623. Long governed by Massachusetts, Maine became the 23rd state as part of the Missouri Compromise in 1820.

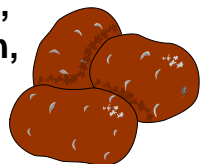


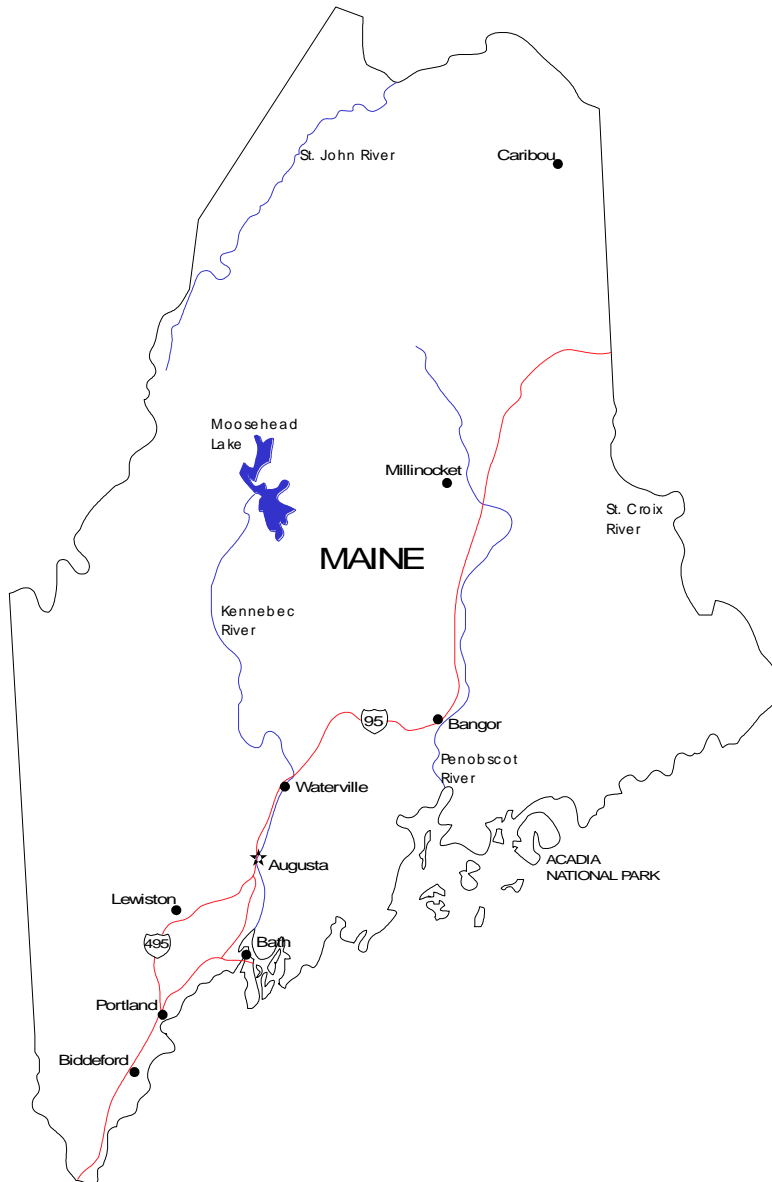
Main produces 98% of the nation's low-bush blueberries. Farm income is also derived from apples, potatoes, dairy products and vegetables, with poultry and eggs the largest items. The state is one of the world's largest pulp-paper producers. With almost 89% of its area forested, Maine turns out wood products from boats to toothpicks. It also ranks second in boot and shoe manufacturing.



Maine leads the world in the production of the familiar flat tins of sardines, producing more than 75 million of them annually. Lobster men normally catch 50% of the nation's lobsters.

A scenic seacoast, beaches, lakes, mountains and resorts make Maine a popular vacation land. There are more than 2,500 lakes, 5,000 streams, plus 26 state parks, to attract hunters, fishermen, skiers and campers.





OLD LINE STATE



State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

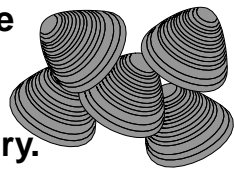
Maryland
Annapolis
Free State, Old Line State
Black-Eyed Susan
Baltimore Oriole
White Oak
"Maryland! My Maryland!"
April 28, 1788 (7)



In 1608, Captain John Smith explored the Chesapeake Bay. Charles I granted a royal charter for Maryland to Cecil Calvert, Lord Baltimore, in 1632, and English settlers, many of whom were Roman Catholic, landed on St. Clement's Island in 1634. From 1763 to 1767, Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon surveyed Maryland's northern boundary line with Pennsylvania. In 1791, Maryland ceded land to the District of Columbia.



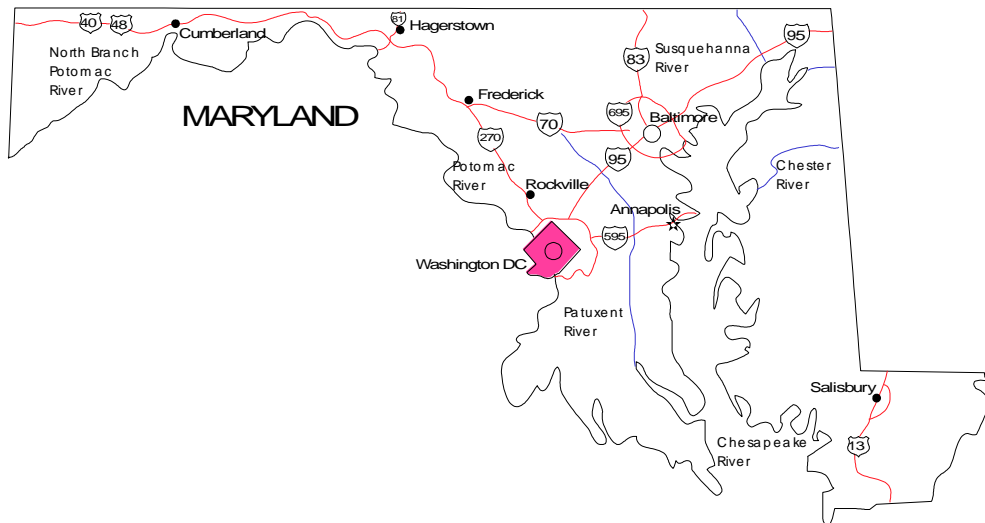
In 1814, when the British unsuccessfully tried to capture Baltimore, the bombardment of Fort McHenry inspired Francis Scott Key to write "The Star Spangled Banner."



The Baltimore clipper ship trade developed during the 19th century. During the Civil War, Maryland remained a Union state even while the battles of South Mountain (1862) and Monocacy (1864) were fought on her soil.



Maryland's Eastern and Western shores embrace the Chesapeake Bay. The Bay produces more seafood -- oysters, crabs, clams, fin fish -- than any comparable body of water. Important agricultural products are chickens, dairy products, cattle, soybeans, eggs, corn, hogs, vegetables and tobacco. Sand, gravel, lime and cement stone, coal and clay are chief mineral products.

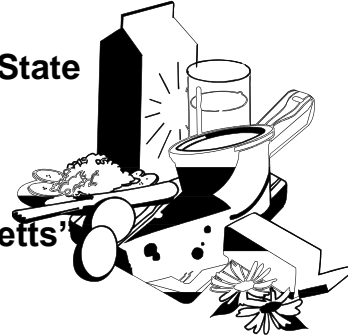


BAY STATE

Massachusetts



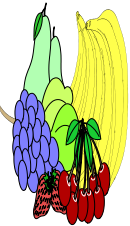
State:	Massachusetts
Capital:	Boston
Nickname:	Bay State, Old Colony State
State Flower:	Mayflower
State Bird:	Chickadee
State Tree:	American Elm
State Song:	"All Hail to Massachusetts"
Entered Union & Rank:	February 6, 1788 (6)

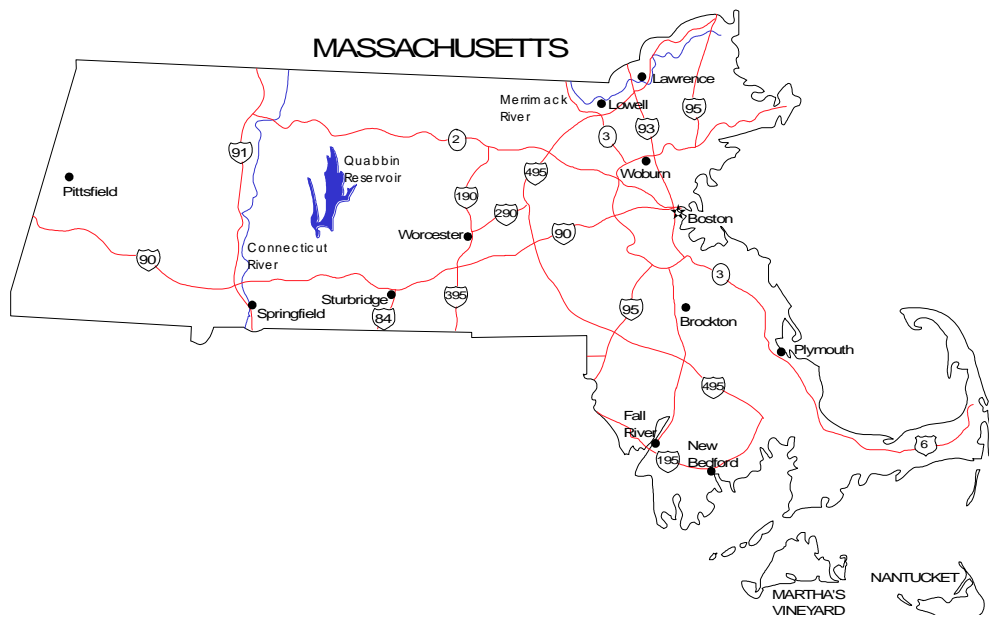


Massachusetts has played a significant role in American history since the Pilgrims, seeking religious freedom, founded Plymouth colony in 1620. As one of the most important of the 13 colonies, Massachusetts became a leader in resisting British oppression. In 1773, the Boston Tea Party protested unjust taxation. The Minutemen started the American Revolution by battling British troops at Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775.

During the 19th century, Massachusetts was famous for the vigorous intellectual activity of famous writers and educators and for its expanding commercial fishing, shipping and manufacturing interests. Massachusetts pioneered in the manufacture of textile and shoes. Today, these industries have been replaced in importance by activity in the electronics and communications equipment fields.

The state's cranberry crop is the nation's largest. Also important are dairy and poultry products, nursery and greenhouse produce, vegetables and fruit. Tourism has become an important factor in the economy of the state because of its numerous recreational areas, such as Cape Cod, and historical landmarks.





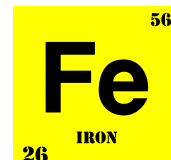
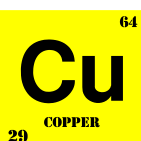
GREAT LAKE STATE

MICHIGAN

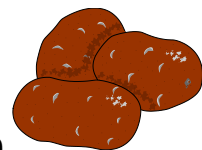


State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

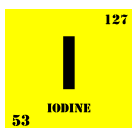
Michigan
Lansing
Wolverine State
Apple Blossom
Robin
White Pine
None
January 26, 1837(26)



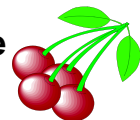
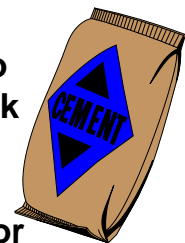
Indian tribes were living in the Michigan region when the first European, Etienne Brule of France, arrived in 1618. Other French explorers, including Marquette, Joliet and La Salle, followed, and the first permanent settlement was established in 1668 at Sault Ste. Marie. France was ousted from the territory by Great Britain in 1763, following the French and Indian War.



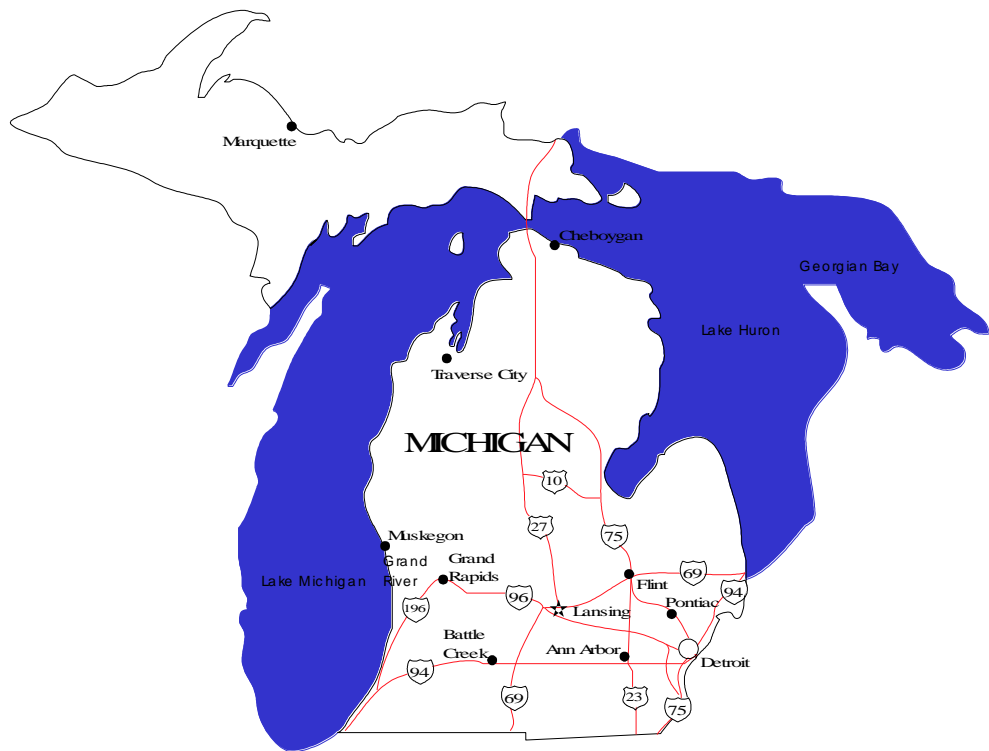
After the Revolutionary War, the U.S. acquired most of the region, which remained the scene of constant conflict between the British and U.S. forces and their respective Indian allies through the War of 1812.



Bordering on four of the five Great Lakes, Michigan is divided into Upper and Lower Peninsulas by the Straits of Mackinac, which link Lake Michigan and Lake Huron.

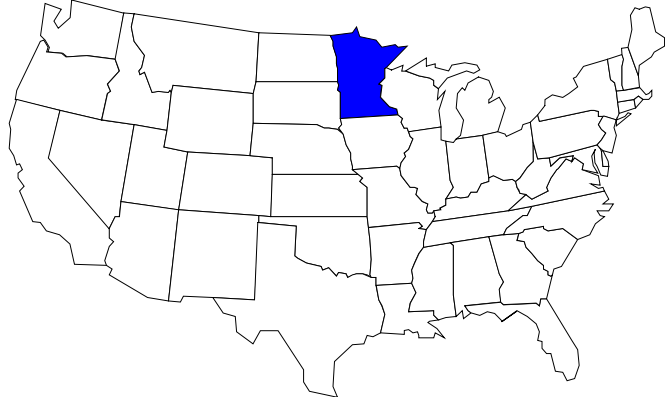


While Michigan ranks first among the states in production of motor vehicles and parts, it is also a leader in other manufacturing and processing lines, including prepared cereals, machine tools, airplane parts, refrigerators, hardware, steel springs and furniture. The state produces important amounts of iron, copper, iodine, gypsum, bromine, salt, lime, gravel and cement. Michigan's farms grow apples, cherries, beans, pears, grapes, potatoes and sugar beets. Its forests contribute to the economy by producing wood products and supporting tourism.

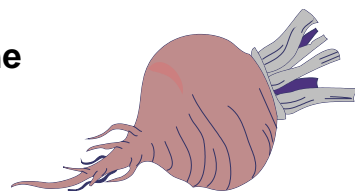


NORTH STAR STATE

MINNESOTA



State:	Minnesota
Capital:	St. Paul
Nickname:	North Star State
State Flower:	Showy Lady Slipper
State Bird:	Common Loon
State Tree:	Red or Norway Pine
State Song:	"Hail Minnesota"
Entered Union & Rank:	May 11, 1858 (32)

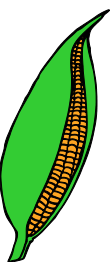


The region was claimed for Louis XIV by Daniel Greysolon, Sieur Duluth, in 1679. The U.S. acquired the eastern portion from Great Britain after the Revolutionary War and 20 years later bought the western portion from France in the Louisiana Purchase.

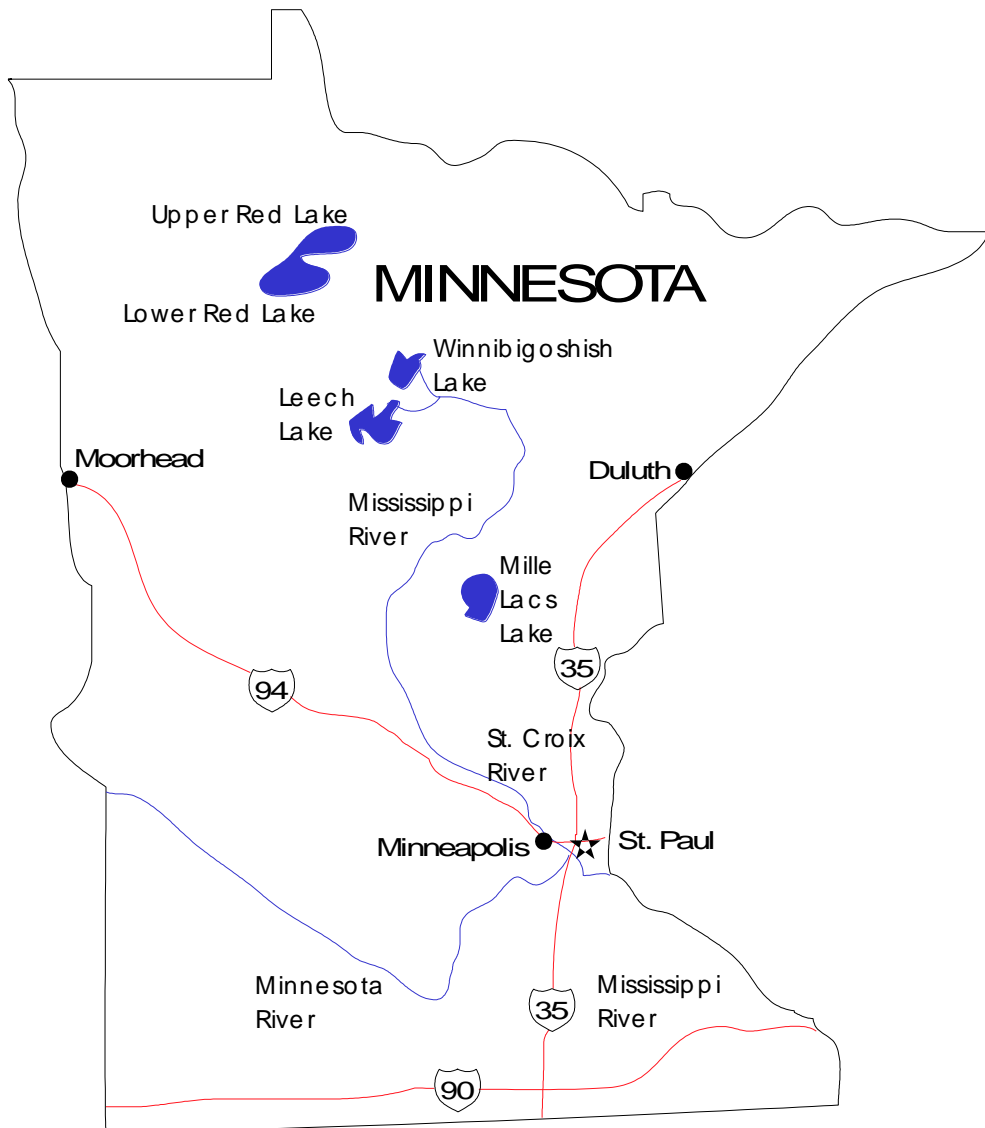


The state is rich in natural resources. It produces more than 75% of the nation's iron ore. The state's farms rank high in yields of corn, wheat, rye, alfalfa and sugar beets. Other leading farm products include butter, eggs, milk, potatoes, green beans, barley, soybeans, oats, and livestock.

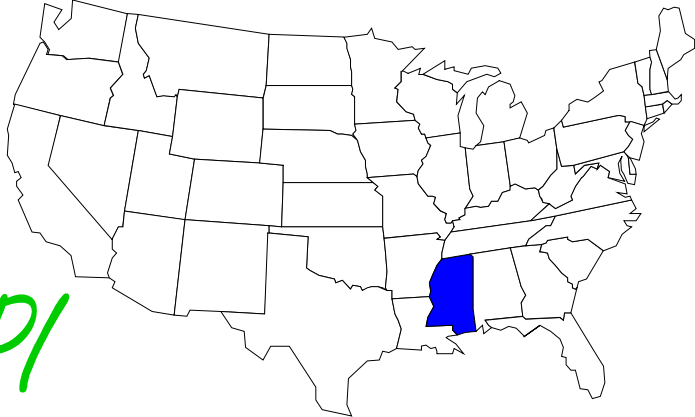
Minnesota's factory production includes non-electrical machinery, fabricated metals, flour mill products, plastics, computers, scientific instruments and processed foods. Minneapolis is the trade center of the Northeast and the headquarters of the world's largest super computer and grain distributor. St. Paul is the nation's biggest publisher of calendars and law books.



Today, tourism is a major revenue producer in Minnesota, with fishing, hunting and water sports in more than 10,000 lakes bringing millions of visitors each year.



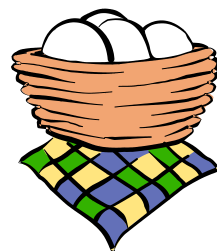
MAGNOLIA STATE



MISSISSIPPI

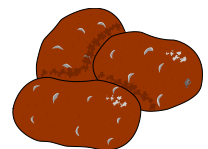
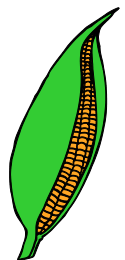
State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

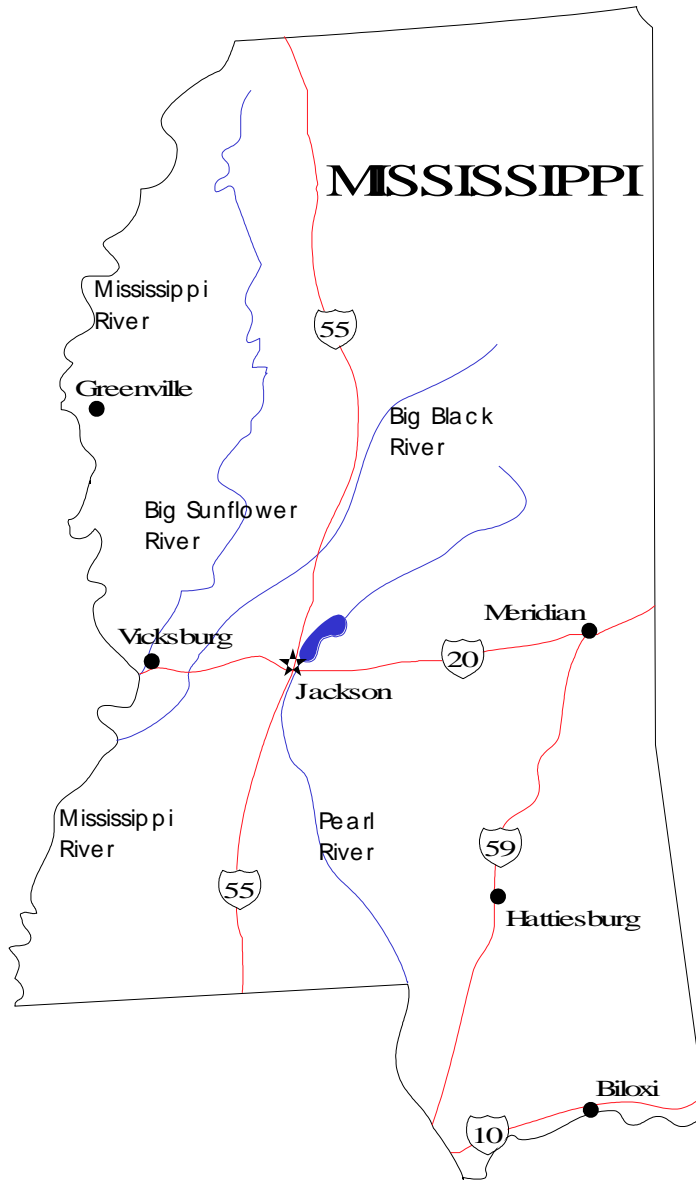
Mississippi
Jackson
Magnolia State
Magnolia Blossom
Mocking Bird
Magnolia Tree
"Go Mississippi"
December 10, 1817 (20)



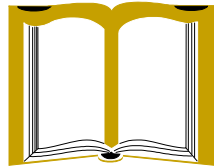
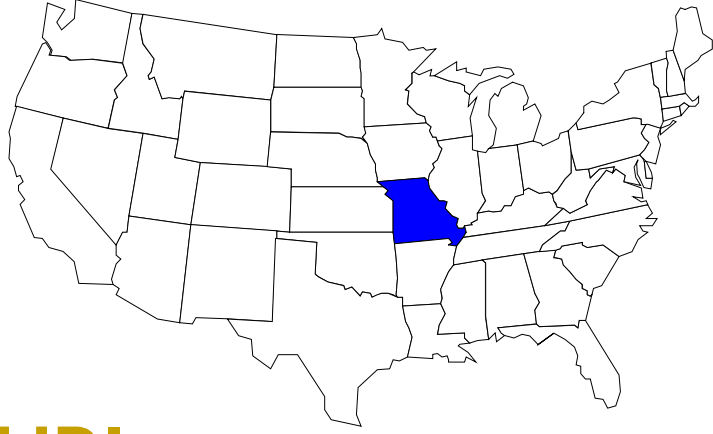
In 1699, a French group under Sieur d'Iberville established the first permanent settlement near present day Ocean Springs. Great Britain took over the area in 1763, after the French and Indian War, ceding it to the U.S. in 1783 after the Revolution.

For a little more than one hundred years, from shortly after the state's founding through the great Depression, cotton was the undisputed king of Mississippi's economy. Today, agriculture continues as a major segment of the state's economy. While the most acreage is devoted to soybeans, cotton is the largest cash crop -- Mississippi remains third in the nation in cotton production. The state's farmlands yield important harvests of corn, peanuts, pecans, rice, sugar cane, soybeans, sweet potatoes and food grains. Poultry, eggs, meat animals and dairy products are also produced on the farms. The state remains the world's leading producer of pond-raised catfish.





SHOW ME STATE



MISSOURI

State:

Capital:

Nickname:

State Flower:

State Bird:

State Tree:

State Song

Entered Union & Rank:

Missouri

Jefferson City

Show Me State

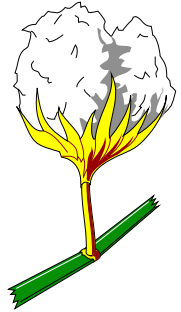
Hawthorn

Bluebird

Flowering Dogwood

"Missouri Waltz"

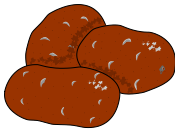
August 10, 1821 (24)



De Sota visited the Missouri area in 1541. France's claim to the entire region was based on La Salle's travels in 1682. French fur traders established Ste. Genevieve in 1735, and St. Louis was first settled in 1764. The U.S. gained Missouri from France as part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, and the area was admitted as a state following the Missouri Compromise in 1820.



Historically, Missouri played a leading role as a gateway to the West, St. Joseph being the eastern starting point of the Pony Express, while the much traveled Santa Fe and Oregon Trails began in Independence.

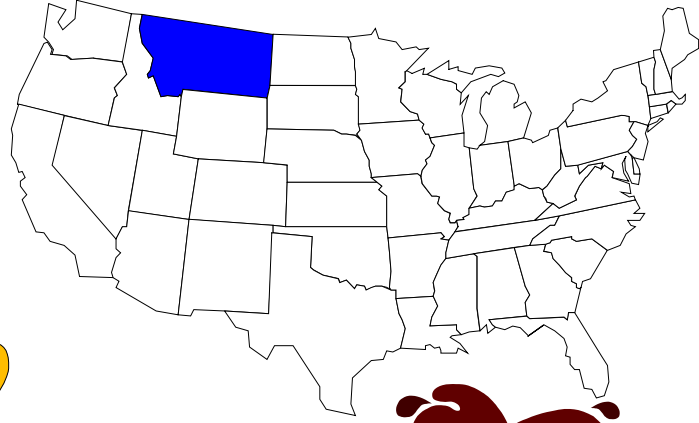
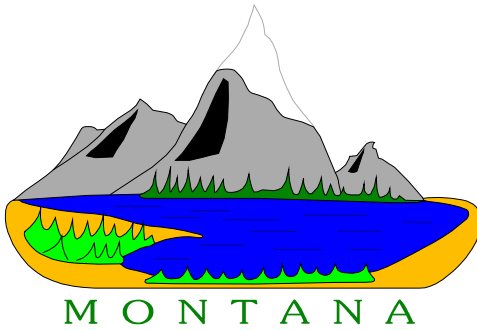


Manufacturing, paced by the aerospace industry, provides more income and jobs than any other segment of the economy. Missouri is also a leading producer of transportation equipment, shoes, lead and beer. Among the major crops are grain, sorghum, hay, corn, soybeans, wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, tobacco, grapes, rice and cotton. The state also ranks second in the nation in cattle production.





TREASURE STATE



State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

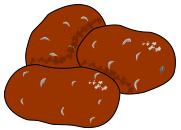
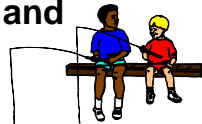
Montana
Helena
Treasure State
Bitterroot
Western Meadowlark
Ponderosa Pine
"Montana"
November 8, 1889 (41)



Much of the region was acquired by the U.S. from France as part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. Before western Montana was obtained from Great Britain in the Oregon Treaty of 1846, American trading posts and forts had been established in the area.

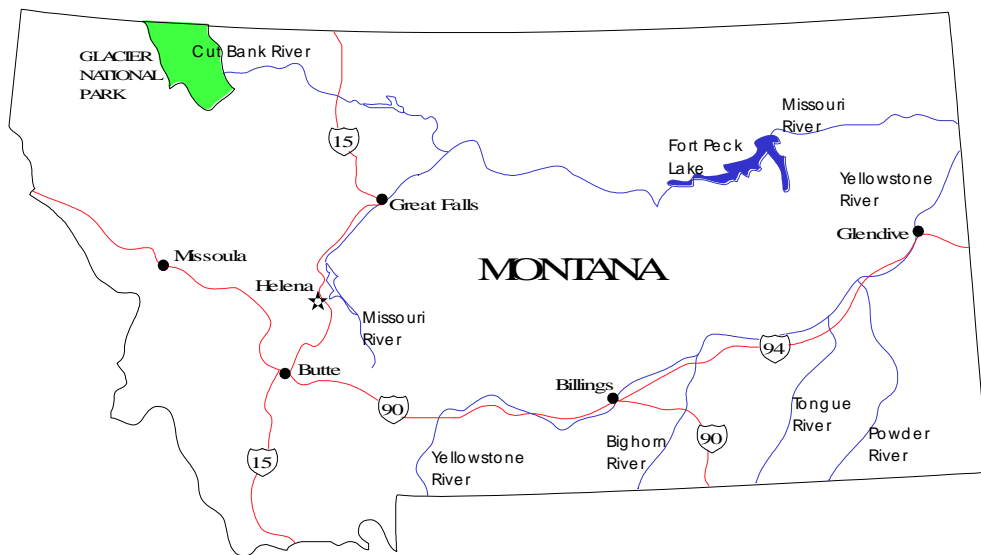


The major Indian wars (1867-1877) here included the famous 1876 Battle of the Little Big Horn, also known as "Custer's Last Stand." George Armstrong Custer and more than 200 of his men were slain in this battle with the Cheyenne and Sioux in the southeastern area of the state.



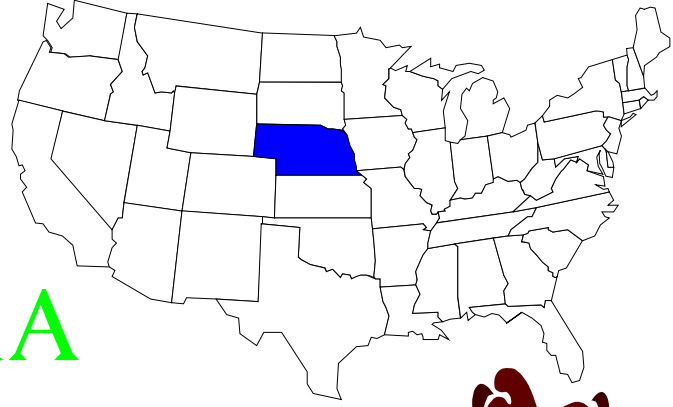
Much of Montana's early history was concerned with mining, with copper, lead, zinc, silver, coal and oil as principal products. Fields of grain cover much of Montana's plains; it ranks high among the states in wheat and barley, with rye, oats, flaxseed, sugar beets and potatoes as other important crops. Sheep and cattle raising make significant contributions to the economy. Tourist attractions include hunting, fishing, skiing and dude ranching. Glacier National Park, on the Continental Divide, is a scenic and vacation wonderland with 60 glaciers, 200 lakes and many streams.





CORNHUSKER STATE

NEBRASKA



State:	Nebraska
Capital:	Lincoln
Nickname:	Corn Husker State
State Flower:	Goldenrod
State Bird:	Western Meadowlark
State Tree:	Cottonwood
State Song:	"Beautiful Nebraska"
Entered Union & Rank:	March 1, 1867 (37)



French fur traders first visited Nebraska in the early 1700's. Part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, Nebraska was explored by Lewis & Clark in 1804-1806. Robert Stuart pioneered the Oregon Trail across Nebraska in 1812-1813, and the first permanent settlement was established in Bellevue in 1823. Western Nebraska was acquired by treaty following the Mexican War in 1848. The Union Pacific began its transcontinental railroad at Omaha in 1865.

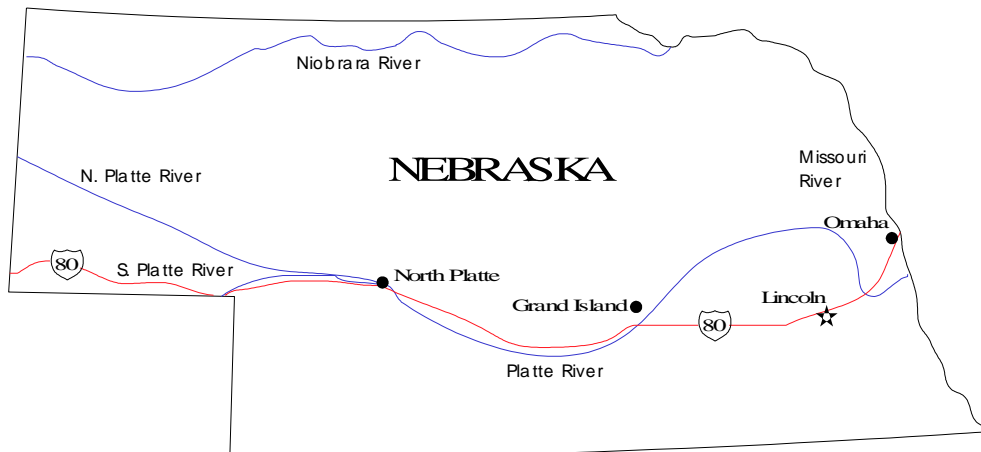


Nebraska is a leading grain-producer with bumper crops of rye, corn and wheat. More varieties of grass, valuable for forage, grow in this state than any other in the nation. The state's sizable cattle and hog industries make Dakota city and Lexington among the nation's largest meat-packing centers.

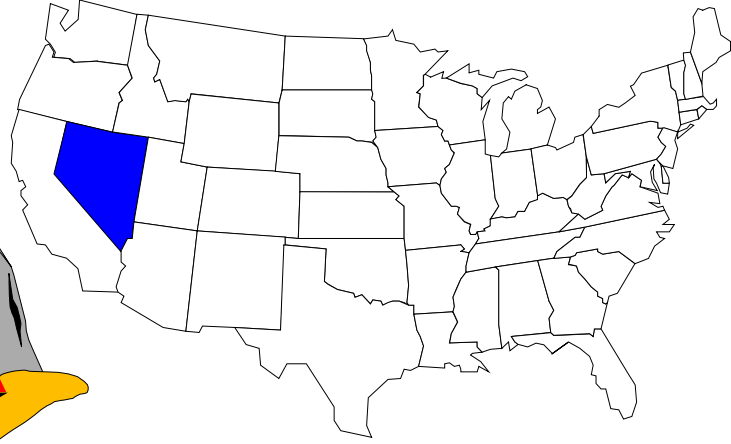


Manufacturing has become diversified in Nebraska, strengthening the state's economic base. Firms making electronic components, auto accessories, pharmaceuticals and mobile homes have joined such older industries as clothing, farm machinery, chemicals and transportation equipment. Oil was discovered in 1939 and natural gas in 1949.





SILVER STATE



State:

Capital:

Nickname:

State Flower:

State Bird:

State Tree:

State Song:

Entered Union & Rank:

Nevada

Carson City

Sagebrush State, Silver State

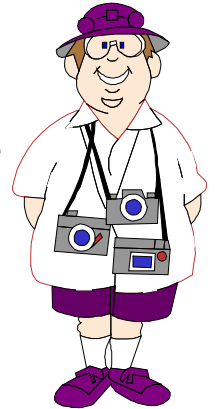
Sagebrush

Mountain Bluebird

Single-Leaf Pinon

"Home Means Nevada"

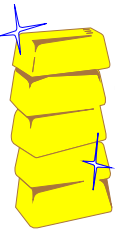
October 31, 1864 (36)



Trappers and traders, including Jedediah Smith and Petre Skene Ogden, entered the Nevada area in the 1820's. In 1843-1845, John C. Fremont and Kit Carson explored the Great Basin and Sierra Nevada. In 1848 following the Mexican War, the U.S. obtained the region and the first permanent settlement was a Mormon trading post near present day Genoa.



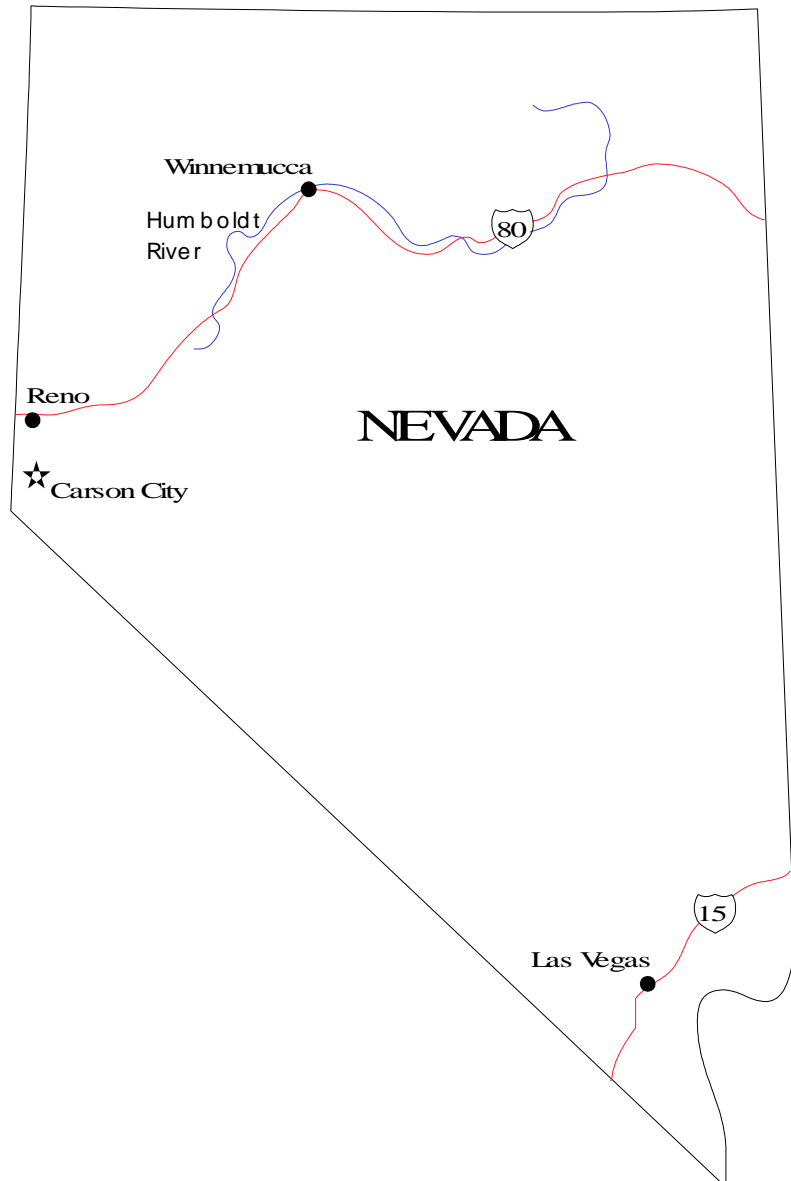
The driest state in the nation (an average annual rainfall of just 7 inches) much of Nevada is uninhabited, sagebrush-covered desert.



Nevada was made famous by the discovery of the fabulous Cornstock Lode in 1859, and its mines have produced large quantities of gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, mercury, barite and tungsten. Gold now far exceeds all other minerals in value of production. Oil was discovered in 1954.



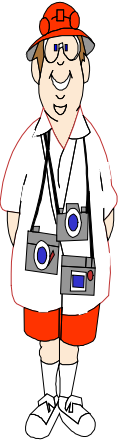
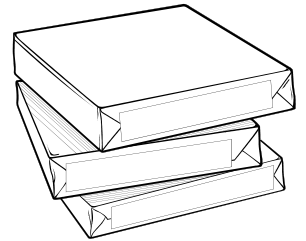
The state's agricultural crop consists mainly of hay, alfalfa seed, barley, wheat and potatoes. Nevada manufactures gaming equipment, lawn and garden irrigation devices, titanium products and machinery monitoring devices. Tourism is a major source of income for the state.



GRANITE STATE



State: New Hampshire
Capital: Concord
Nickname: Granite State
State Flower: Purple Lilac
State Bird: Purple Finch
State Tree: White Birch
State Song: "Old New Hampshire"
Entered Union & Rank: June 21, 1788 (9)



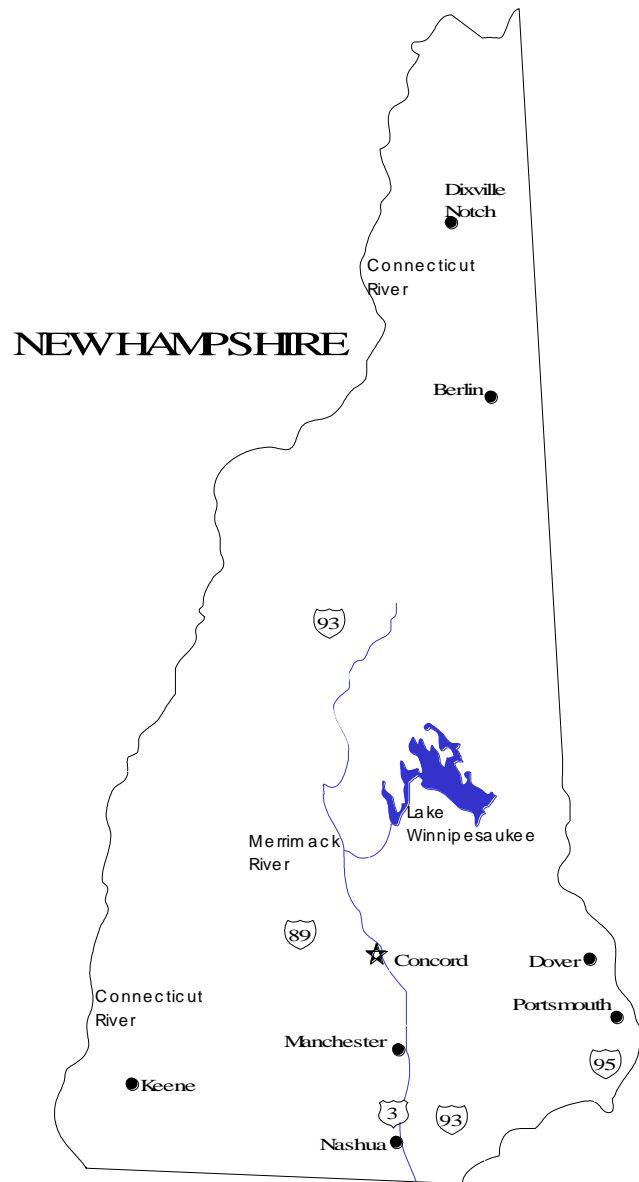
Under an English land grant, Capt. John Smith set settlers to establish a fishing colony at the mouth of the Piscataqua River, near present day Ryue and Dover in 1623. Capt. James Mason, who helped in the founding of Portsmouth in 1630, gave New Hampshire its name. After a 38-year period of union with Massachusetts, New Hampshire was made a separate royal colony in 1679. As leaders in the revolutionary cause, New Hampshire delegates received the honor of being the first to vote for the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.



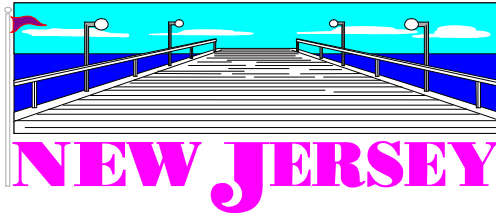
Abundant water power early turned the state into an industrial force, and manufacturing is the principal source of income in the state. The most important industrial products are electrical and other machinery, textiles, pulp and paper products, and stone and clay products.



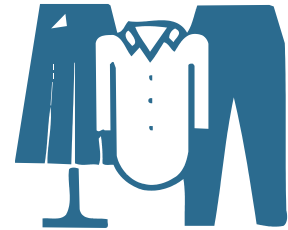
Dairy and poultry farming and growing fruit, truck vegetables, corn, potatoes and hay are the major agricultural pursuits. Tourism, because of New Hampshire's scenic and recreational resources, now brings over \$3.5 billion into the state annually.



STATE GARDEN



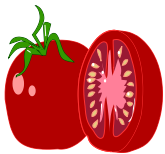
State:	New Jersey
Capital:	Trenton
Nickname:	Garden State
State Flower:	Purple Violet
State Bird:	Eastern Goldfinch
State Tree:	Red Oak
State Song:	None
Entered Union & Rank:	December 18, 1787 (3)



New Jersey's early colonial history was involved with that of New York, of which it was a part. One year after the Dutch surrender to England in 1664, New Jersey was organized as an English colony under Governor Phillip Carteret. In the late 1600's the colony was divided between Carteret and William Penn; later it would be administered by the royal governor of New York. Finally, in 1738, New Jersey was separated from New York under it's own royal governor, Lewis Morris.



Today New Jersey, an area of wide industrial diversification, is known as the Crossroads of the East. Products from over 1,500 factories can be delivered overnight to almost 60 million people, representing 12 states and the District of Columbia. The greatest single industry is chemicals, and New Jersey is one of the foremost research centers in the world. Many large oil refineries are located in northern New Jersey, and other important manufactures are pharmaceuticals, instruments, machinery, electrical goods and apparel.

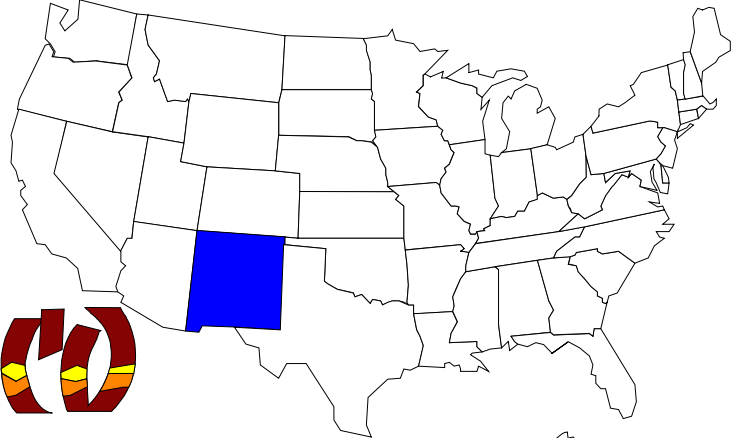


The state ranks high in production of garden vegetables. Tomatoes, asparagus, corn and blueberries are important crops. Poultry farming and dairying make significant contributions to the state's economy.



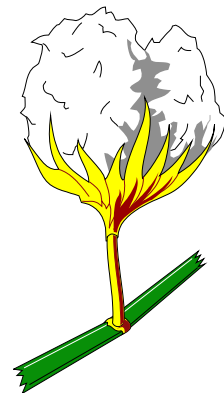
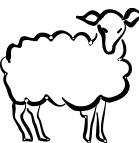


LAND OF ENCHANTMENT



NEW MEXICO

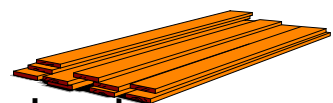
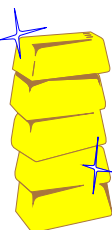
State:	New Mexico
Capital:	Santa Fe
Nickname:	Land Of Enchantment
State Flower:	Yucca
State Bird:	Roadrunner
State Tree:	Pinon
State Song:	"O Fair New Mexico"
Entered Union & Rank:	January 6, 1912 (47)



In 1598, the first Spanish settlement was established on the Rio Grande River by Juan de Oñate. In 1610 Santa Fe was founded and made the capital of New Mexico.

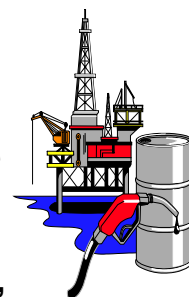


The U.S. acquired most of New Mexico in 1848, as a result of the Mexican War, and the remainder in the 1853 Gadsden Purchase. Union troops captured the area from the Confederates during the Civil War. With the surrender of Geronimo in 1886, the Apache Wars and most of the Indian troubles in the area ended.



Since 1945, New Mexico has been a leader in energy research and development with tests in nuclear, solar and geothermal areas.

Minerals are the state's richest natural resources with petroleum, natural gas, copper, gold, silver, zinc, and lead contributing to the state's income. The principal manufacturing industries include food products, chemicals, transportation equipment, lumber, electrical machinery and stone-clay products. More than two thirds of the state's farm income comes from livestock production, especially sheep. Cotton, pecans and sorghum are the most important field crops.





Empire State



NEW YORK

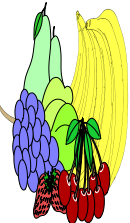


State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

New York
Albany
Empire State
Rose
Bluebird
Sugar Maple
"I Love New York"
July 26, 1788 (11)



In 1609 northern New York was explored and claimed for France by Samuel de Champlain. In 1624 the first permanent Dutch settlement was established as Fort Orange (now Albany). One year later Peter Minuit is said to have purchased Manhattan Island from the Indians for trinkets worth about \$24 and founded the Dutch Colony of New Amsterdam (now New York City), which was surrendered to the English in 1664.



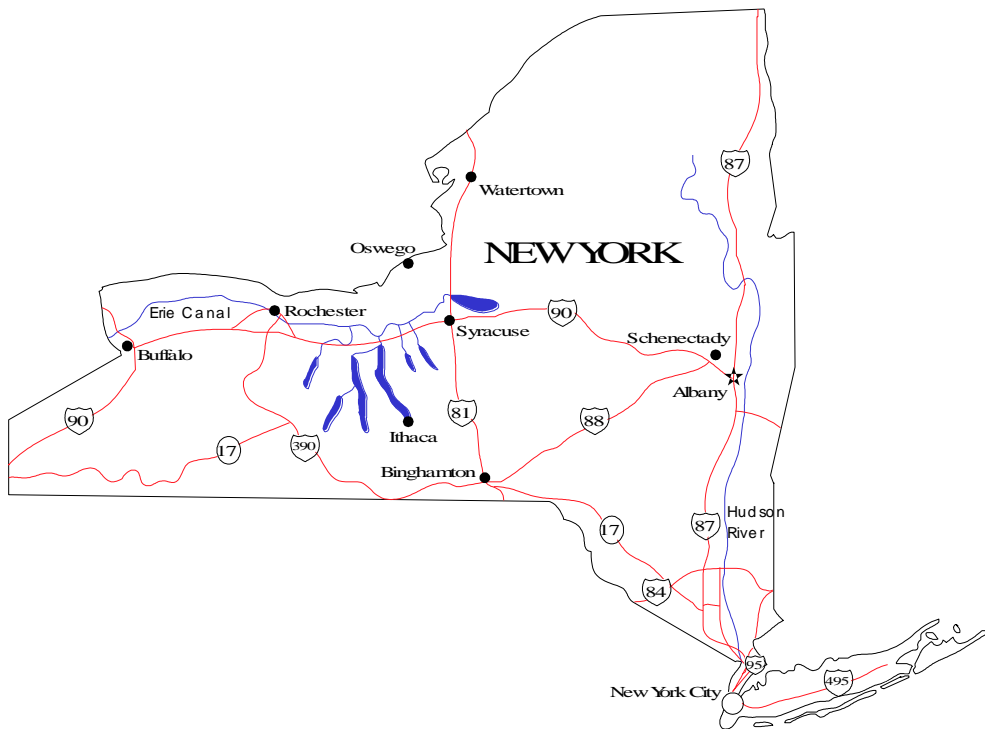
For a short time New York City was the U.S. capital and George Washington was inaugurated there as the first President on April 30, 1789.

New York is the spectacular nerve center of the nation. It is a leader in manufacturing, foreign trade, commercial and financial transactions, book and magazine publishing and theatrical production. New York City is not only a national but an international leader. In addition to it's leading seaport, John F. Kennedy International Airport is one of the busiest airports in the world.

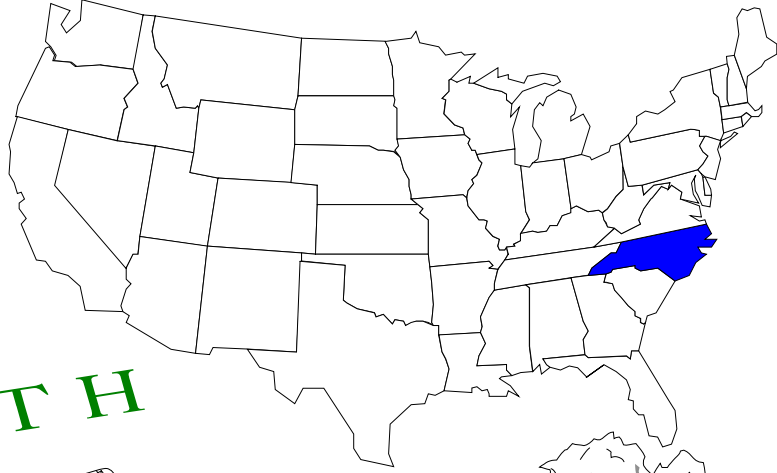


The state ranks third in the nation in manufacturing. The principal industries are apparel, printing and publishing, leather products, instruments and electronic equipment. New York farms are famous for raising cattle and calves, producing corn for grain, poultry, and raising fruits and vegetables. The state is also a leading wine producer.

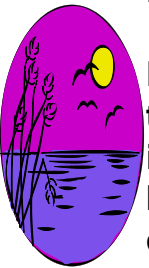
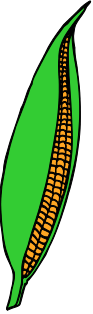




TAR HEEL STATE



NORTH CAROLINA



State:

Capital:

Nickname:

State Flower:

State Bird:

State Tree:

State Song:

Entered Union & Rank:

North Carolina

Raleigh

Tar Heel State

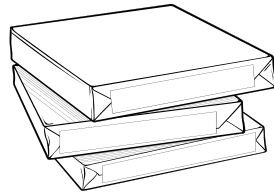
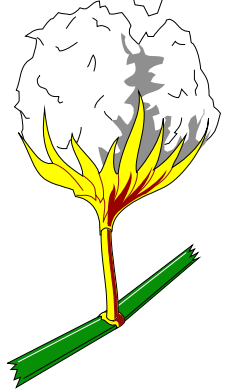
Dogwood

Cardinal

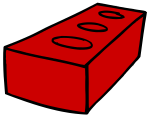
Pine

"The Old North State"

November 21, 1789 (12)



English colonists, sent by Sir Walter Raleigh, unsuccessfully attempted to settle Roanoke Island in 1585 and 1587. Virginia Dare, born there in 1857, was the first child of English parentage born in America. In 1653 the first permanent settlements were established by English colonists from Virginia near the Roanoke and Chowan Rivers.



North Carolina is the nation's largest furniture, tobacco, brick and textile producer. The production is highly diversified, with metal working, chemicals and paper constituting enormous industries. Tobacco, corn, cotton, hay, peanuts and truck vegetable crops are of major importance.

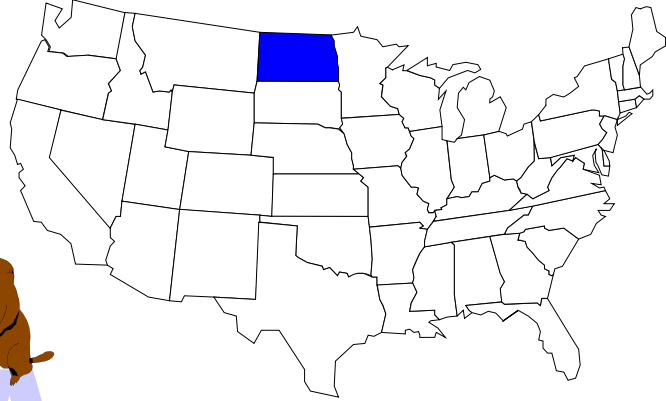


With the Great Smoky Mountains, the Blue Ridge Parkway and miles of sandy beaches along the Atlantic Ocean, tourism is also important to the state, with travelers spending more that \$1 billion annually.



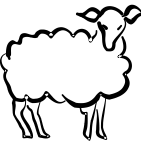
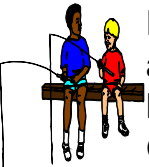
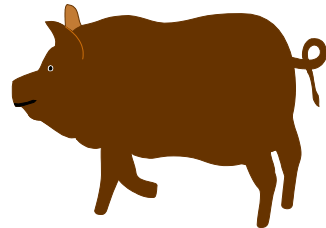
The Sioux State

NORTH DAKOTA



State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

North Dakota
Bismarck
Sioux State
Wild Prairie Rose
Western Meadowlark
American Elm
"North Dakota Hymn"
November 2, 1889 (39)



In 1803, the U.S. acquired most of North Dakota from France in the Louisiana Purchase. Lewis and Clark explored the region in 1804-1806, and the first settlements were made at Pembina in 1812 by Scottish and Irish families while the area was still in dispute between the U.S. and Great Britain. In 1818, the U.S. obtained the northeastern part of North Dakota by treaty with Great Britain and took possession of Pembina in 1823.

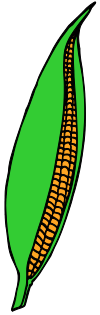
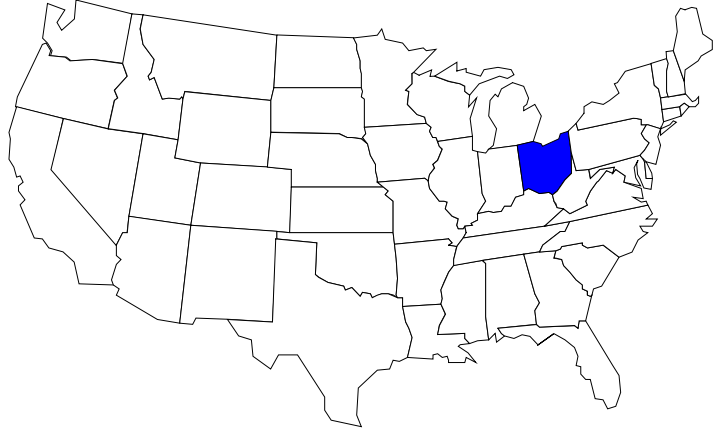
North Dakota is the most rural of all the states, with farms covering more than 90% of the land. North Dakota ranks first in the nation with the production of spring and durum wheat. Other agricultural products include barley, rye, sunflowers, dry edible beans, honey, oats, flaxseed, sugar beets and hay. Beef cattle, sheep and hogs are also raised. The state also produces natural gas, salt, clay, sand and gravel.

The state is known for its waterfowl, grouse and deer hunting and bass, trout and northern pike fishing. North Dakota has 20 state parks and recreation areas.



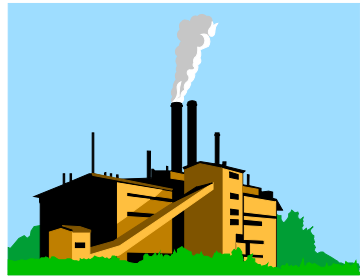
Buckeye State

OHIO

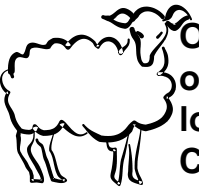


State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

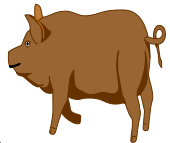
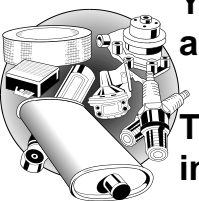
Ohio
Columbus
Buckeye State
Scarlet Carnation
Cardinal
Buckeye
"Beautiful Ohio"
March 1, 1803 (17)



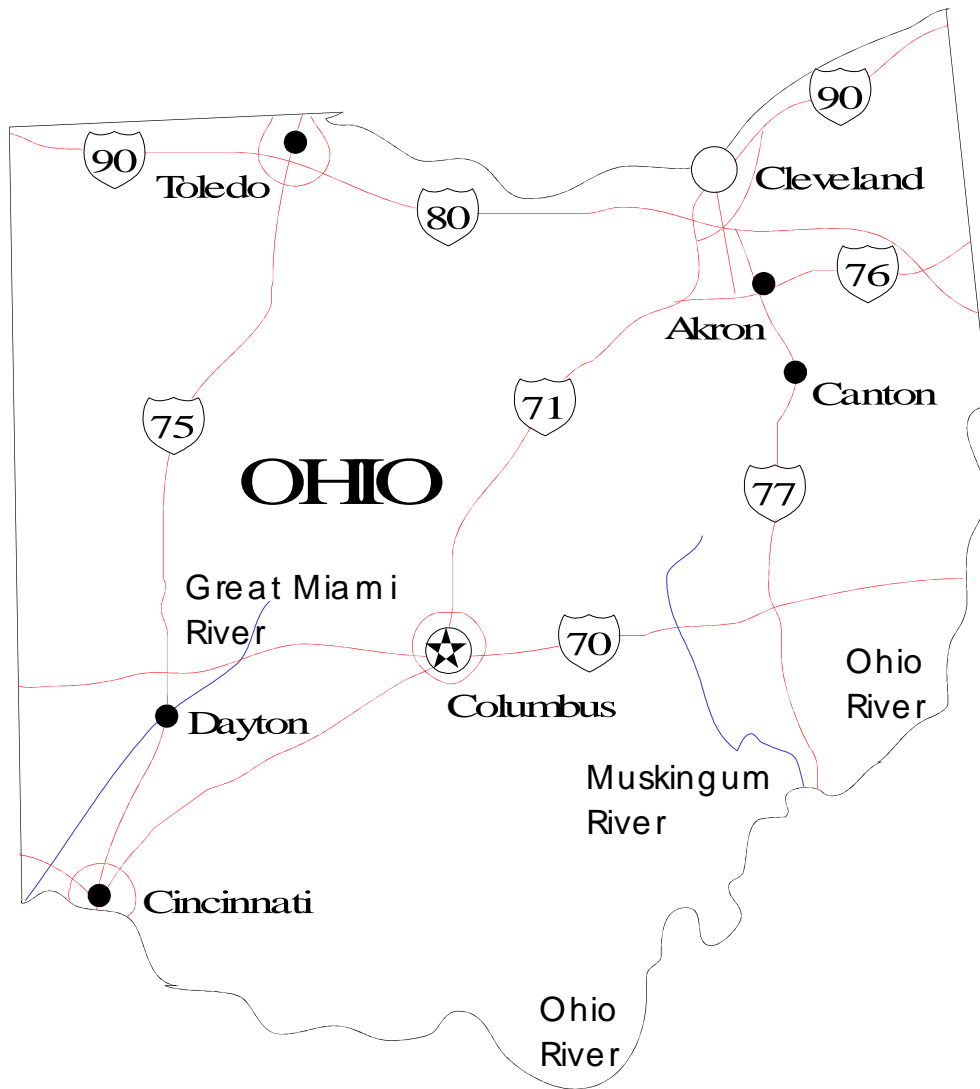
First explored for France by La Salle in 1669, the Ohio region became British property after the French and Indian War. Ohio was acquired by the U.S. after the Revolutionary War in 1783, and in 1788 the first permanent settlement was established at Marietta, capital of the Northwest Territory.



Ohio is one of the nation's industrial leaders, ranking third in the value of manufactured products. Important manufacturing centers are located in or near Ohio's major cities. Akron is known for rubber, Canton for roller bearings, Cincinnati for jet engines and machine tools, Cleveland for auto assembly and parts, refining and steel, Dayton for office machines, refrigeration, and heating and auto equipment, Youngstown and Steubenville for steel and Toledo for glass and auto parts.



The state's thousands of factories almost overshadow its importance in agriculture and mining. Its fertile soil produces soybeans, corn, oats, grapes and clover. More than half of Ohio's farm receipts come from dairying, sheep and hog raising. Ohio is the top state in lime production and among the leader in coal, clay, salt, sand and gravel.



SOONER STATE

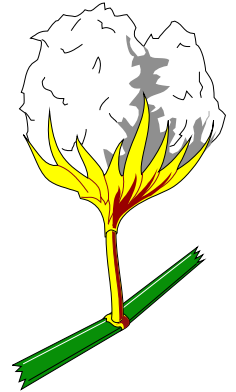


OKLAHOMA



State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

Oklahoma
Oklahoma City
Sooner State
Mistletoe
Scissortail Flycatcher
Redbud
"Oklahoma"
November 16, 1907 (46)



Francisco Vasquez de Coronado first explored the region for Spain in 1541. The U.S. acquired most of Oklahoma in 1803 in the Louisiana Purchase from France; the Western Panhandle region became U.S. territory with the annexation of Texas in 1845.



Set aside as Indian Territory in 1834, the region was divided into Indian Territory and Oklahoma Territory on May 2, 1890. The two combined to form a new state, Oklahoma, on November 16, 1907.

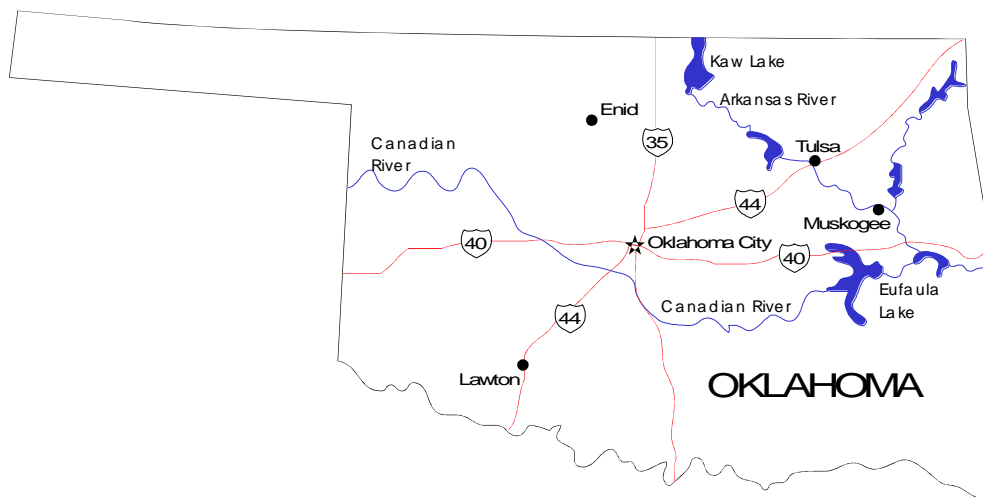
On April 22, 1889, the first day homesteading was permitted, 50,000 people swarmed into the area. Those who tried to beat the noon starting gun were called "Sooners," hence the state's nickname.



Oil made Oklahoma a rich state, but natural gas production has now surpassed it. Oil refining, meat packing, food processing and machinery manufacturing (especially construction and oil equipment) are important industries.



Oklahoma's rich plains produce bumper crops of sorghum, hay, cotton and peanuts. More than half of Oklahoma's annual farm receipts are contributed by livestock products, including cattle, dairy products and broilers.



Beaver State



OREGON



State:

Capital:

Nickname:

State Flower:

State Bird:

State Tree:

State Song:

Entered Union & Rank:

Oregon

Salem

Beaver State

Oregon Grape

Western Meadowlark

Douglas Fir

"Oregon, My Oregon"

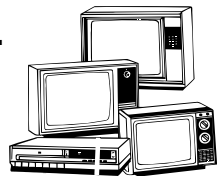
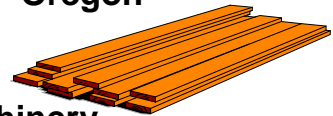
February 14, 1859 (33)

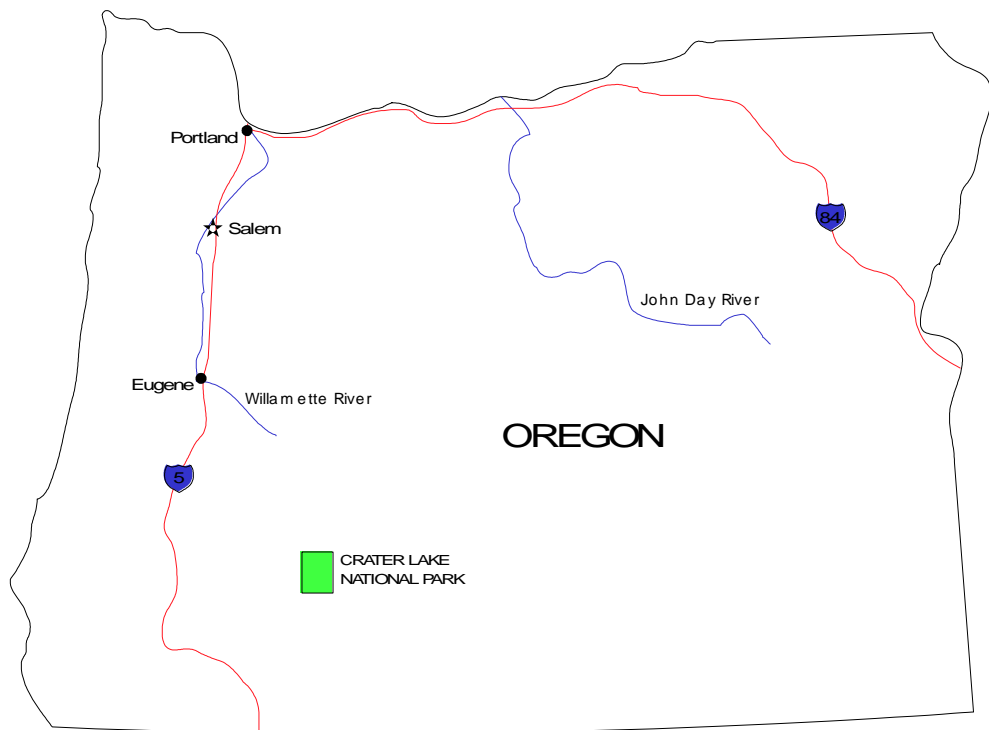


In 1805 the Lewis and Clark expedition explored the area, and John Jacob Astor's fur depot, Astoria, was founded in 1811. Disputes for control of Oregon between American settlers and the Hudson Bay Company were finally resolved in the 1846 Oregon Treaty in which Great Britain gave up all claims to the region.

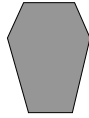
Oregon has a \$3.1 billion lumber and wood products industry. Its salmon fishing industry is one of the world's largest. In agriculture, the state leads in growing peppermint, winter pears, fresh plums, prunes, blackberries, boysenberries, filberts, blue lake beans, cover seed crops, strawberries, hops, wheat, grains, sugar beets, potatoes, green peas, fiber flax, dairy products, livestock, poultry, apples, pears and cherries. Oregon is the source of all the nickel produced in the U.S.

Leading manufactures are lumber, plywood, metal work, machinery, aluminum, chemicals, paper food packing and electronic equipment.

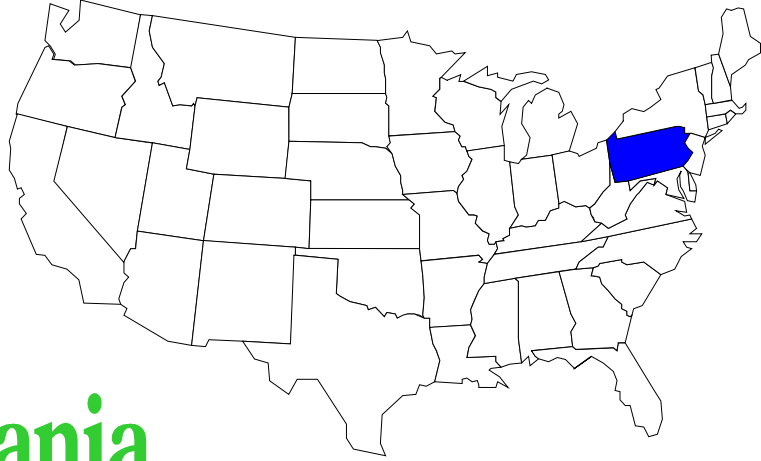




KEYSTONE STATE

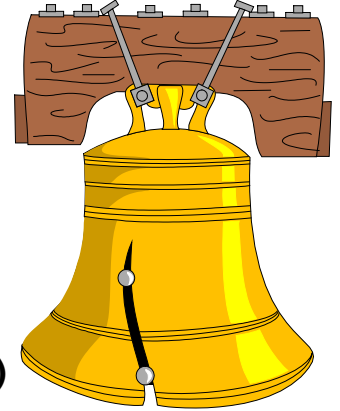


ennsylvania



State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

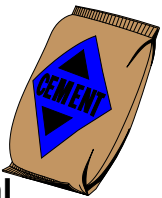
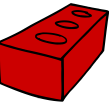
Pennsylvania
Harrisburg
Keystone State
Mountain Laurel
Ruffed Grouse
Hemlock
"Pennsylvania"
December 12, 1787 (2)

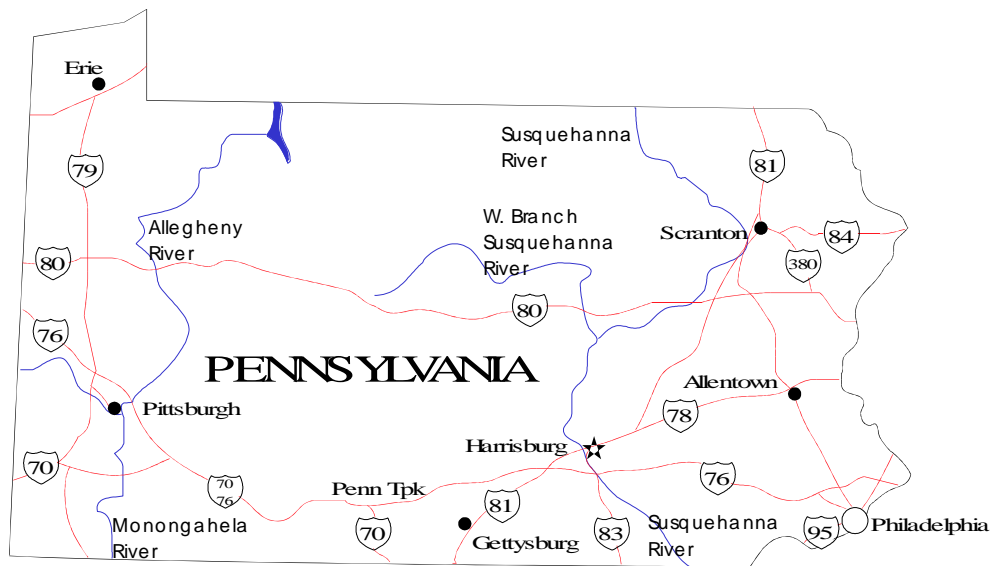


Rich in historic lore, Pennsylvania territory was disputed in the early 1600's among the Dutch, the Swedes and the English. English acquired the region in 1664 with the capture of New York, and in 1681 Pennsylvania was granted to William Penn, a Quaker, by King Charles II.

Philadelphia was the seat of the federal government almost continuously from 1776 to 1800; there the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776 and the U.S. Constitution was drawn up in 1787. Valley Forge, of Revolutionary War fame, and Gettysburg, the turning point of the Civil War, are both located in Pennsylvania. The Liberty Bell is located in a glass pavilion across from Independence Hall in Philadelphia.

The state is a leader in the production of chemicals, food and electrical machinery, and produces about 10% of the nation's cement. Also important are brick and tiles, glass, limestone and slate. Pennsylvania is the country's largest producer of specialty steel. Leading agriculture products include milk, poultry, eggs, fruit, sweet corn, potatoes, mushrooms, cheese, beans, hay, maple syrup and Christmas trees. Tourists spend approximately \$6 billion in Pennsylvania annually.



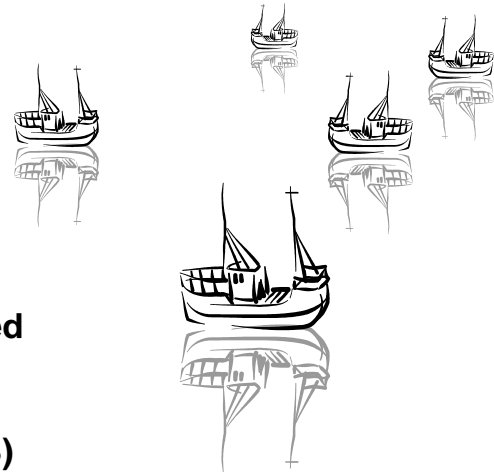


Ocean State

*RHODE
ISLAND*



State:	Rhode Island
Capital:	Providence
Nickname:	Ocean State
State Flower:	Violet
State Bird:	Rhode Island Red
State Tree:	Red Maple
State Song:	"Rhode Island"
Entered Union & Rank:	May 29, 1790 (13)



From its beginnings, Rhode Island has been distinguished by its support for freedom of conscience and action, started by Roger Williams, who was exiled by the Massachusetts Bay Colony of Puritans in 1636, and was the founder of the present state capital, Providence.



Rhode Island, the smallest of the 50 states, is densely populated and highly industrialized. It is the primary jewelry center for the U.S. Electronics, metal, plastic products and boat and ship construction are other important industries.



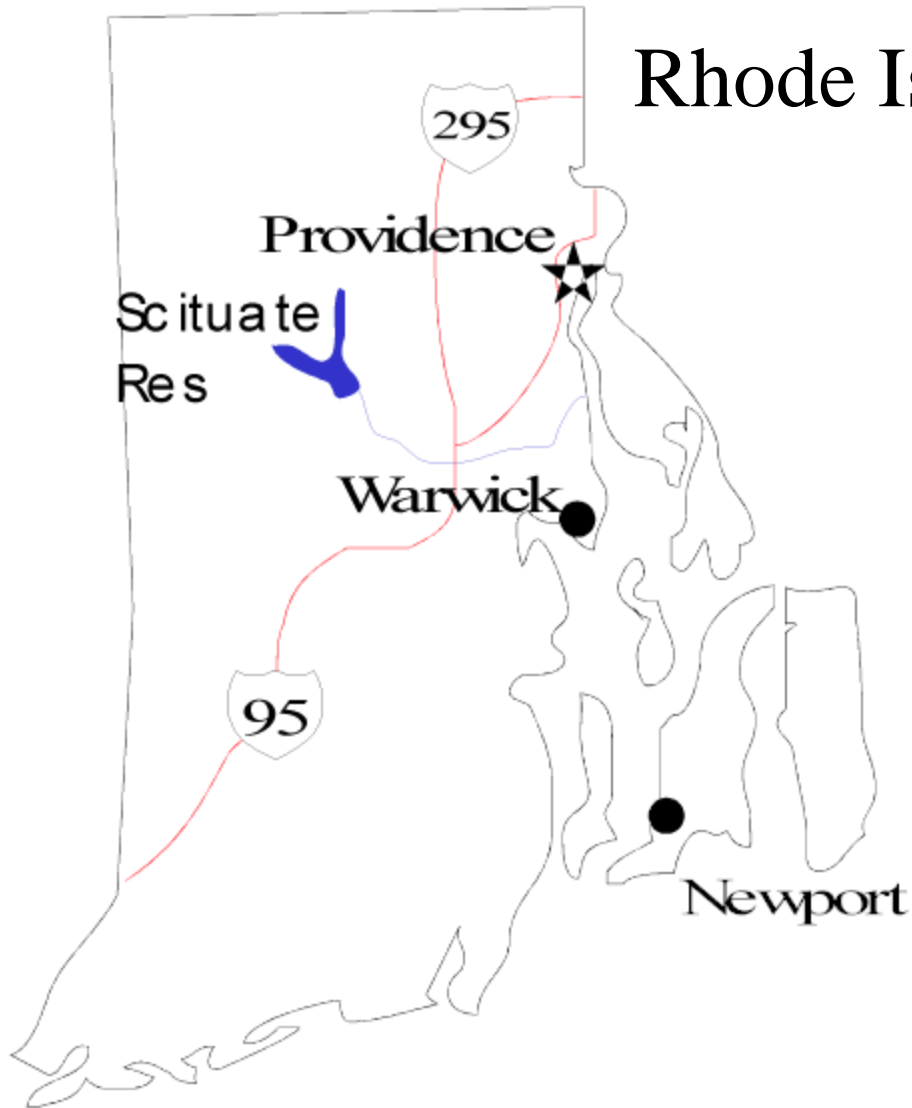
Two of New England's fishing ports are at Galilee and Newport. Rural areas of the state support small scale farming, including grapes for local wineries, turf grass and nursery stock.



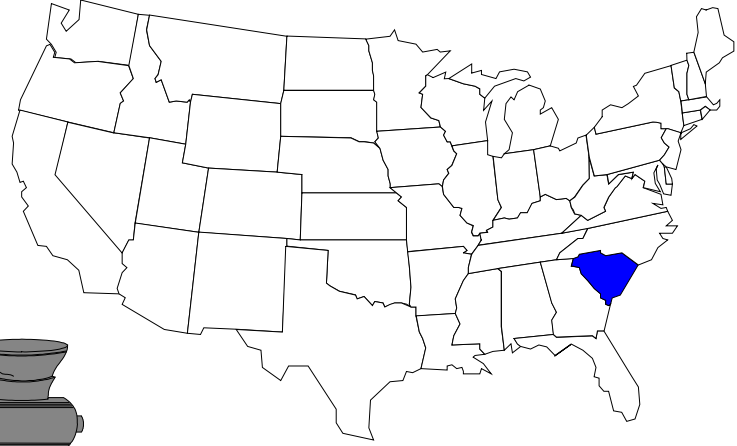
Newport became famous as the summer capital of society in the mid-19th century. Many large mansions still stand today and are a favorite vacation spot for tourists.



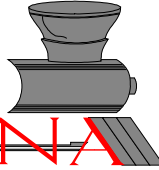
Rhode Island



The PALMETTO State

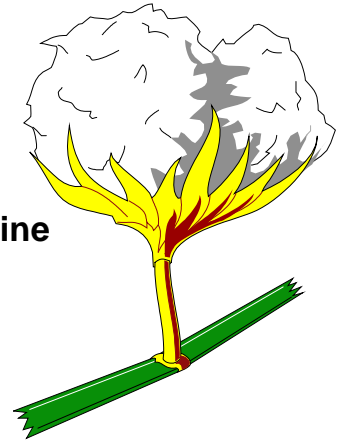


SOUTH CAROLINA

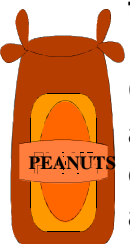


State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

South Carolina
Columbia
Palmetto State
Carolina Yellow Jasmine
Carolina Wren
Palmetto Tree
"Carolina"
May 23, 1788 (8)



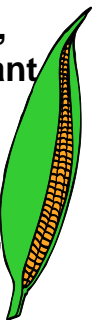
The first permanent English settlement was made in 1670 at Albemarle Point on the Ashley River, but poor conditions drove the settlers to the site of Charleston (originally called Charles Town). South Carolina, officially separated from North Carolina in 1729, was the scene of extensive military action during the Revolution and again during the Civil War. The Civil War began in 1861 as South Carolina troops fired on federal Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor, and the state was the first to secede from the Union.

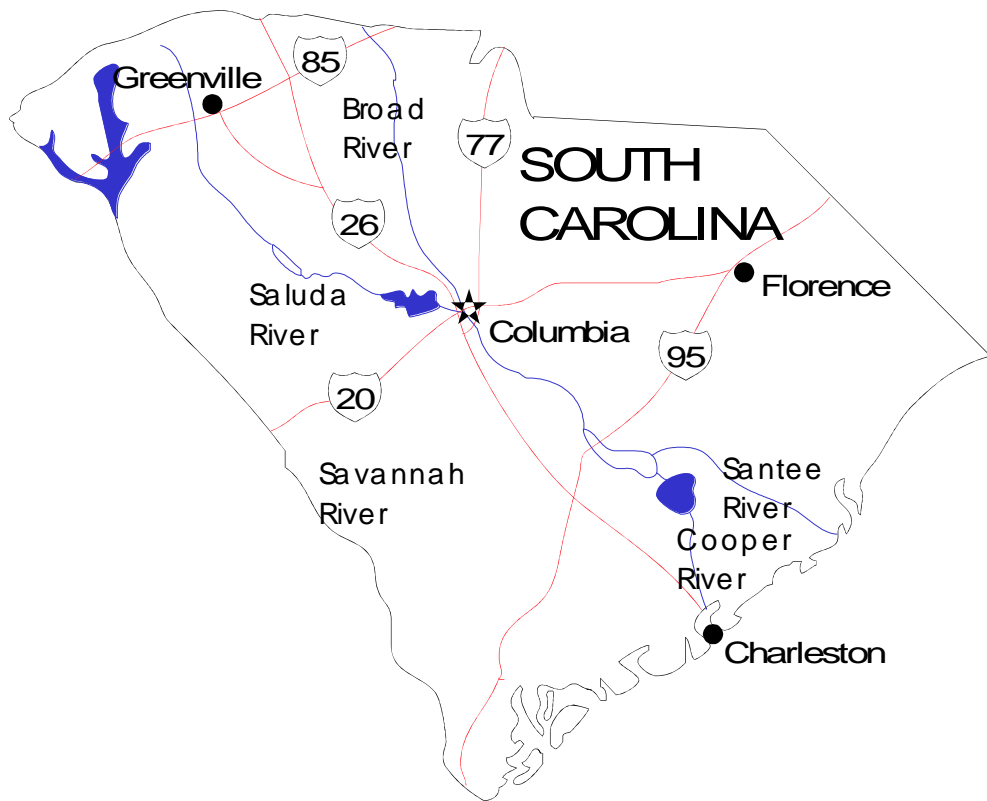


Once primarily agricultural, South Carolina has built so many large textile and other mills that today its factories produce eight times the output of its farms in cash value. Charleston makes asbestos, and wood, pulp, and steel products. Chemicals, machinery and apparel are also important

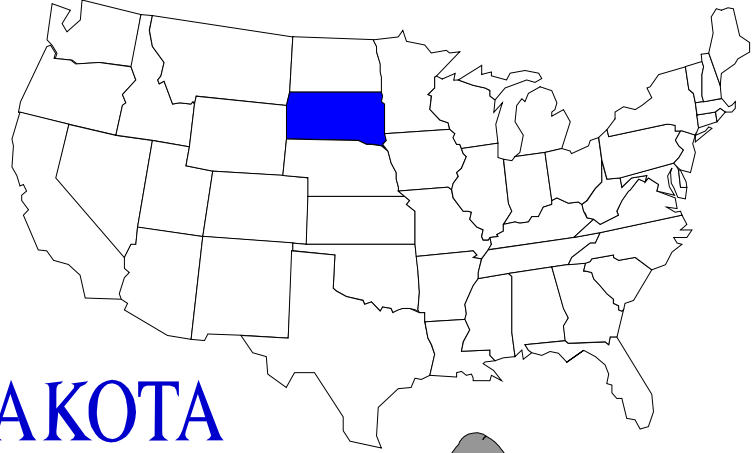


Farms have become fewer but larger in recent years. South Carolina grows more peaches than any other state except California; it ranks fifth in overall tobacco production. Other farm products include cotton, peanuts, sweet potatoes, soybeans, corn and oats.





Coyote State

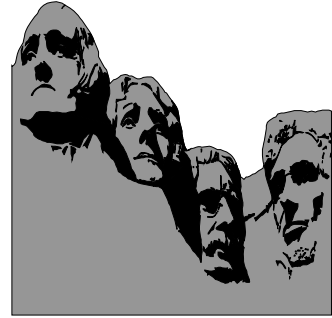


SOUTH DAKOTA

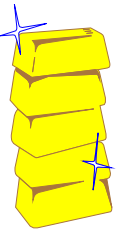


State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

South Dakota
Pierre
Coyote State
American Pasqueflower
Ring-Necked Pheasant
Black Hills Spruce
"Hail! South Dakota"
November 2, 1889 (40)

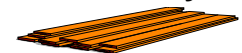


Exploration of the area began in 1743 when Louis-Joseph and Francois Verendrye came from France in search of a route to the Pacific. The U.S. acquired the region as part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, and it was explored by Lewis and Clark in 1804-1806. Fort Pierre, the first permanent settlement, was established in 1817. In 1831 the first Missouri River steamboat reached the fort.



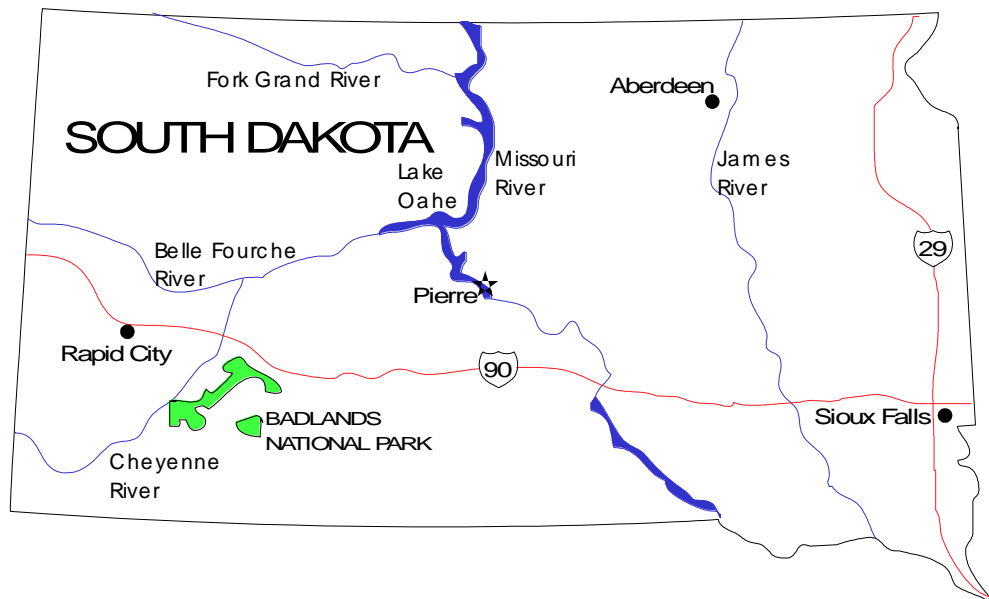
Settlement of South Dakota did not begin in earnest until the arrival of the railroad in 1873 and the discovery of gold in the Black Hills the following year.

Agriculture is the state's leading industry. South Dakota leads the nation in production of oats and ranks second among the states in production of rye, flaxseed and sunflower seed.

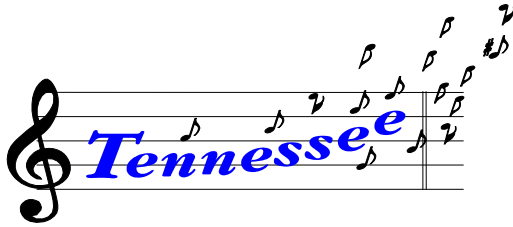
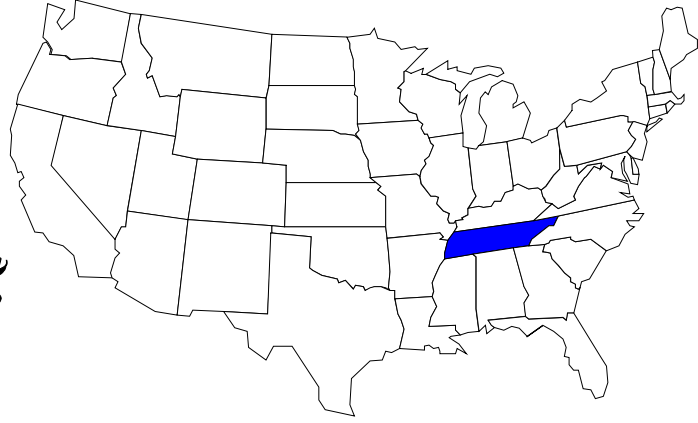


The state is the nation's second leading producer of gold and the Homestake Mine is the richest in the U.S. Processing of food produced by farms and ranches is the largest South Dakota manufacturing industry, followed by lumber, wood products and machinery.





VOLUNTEER STATE



State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

Tennessee
Nashville
Volunteer State
Iris
Mockingbird
Tulip Poplar
"Tennessee Waltz"
June 1, 1796 (16)



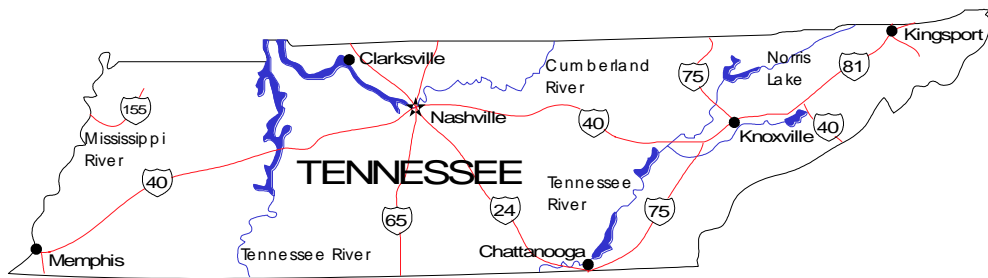
First visited by the Spanish explorer de Sota in 1540, the Tennessee area would later be claimed by both France and England as a result of the 1660's and 1680's explorations of Marquette and Joliet, La Salle and the Englishmen James Needham and Gabriel Arthur.

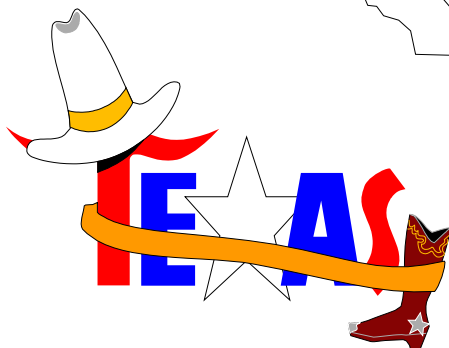
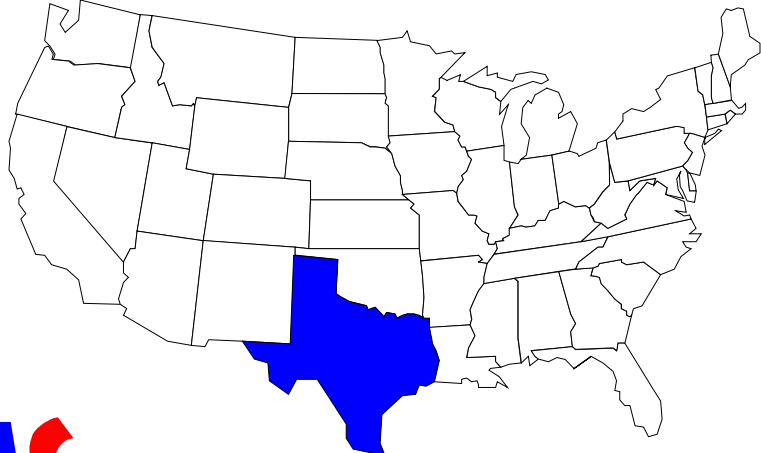
Great Britain obtained the region following the French and Indian War in 1763, and it was rapidly occupied by settlers moving from Virginia and the Carolinas. In 1790 Congress organized the territory south of the Ohio River and Tennessee joined the Union in 1796.

Among the most important products are chemicals, textiles, apparel, electrical machinery, furniture and leather goods. Other lines of industry include food processing, lumber, primary metals and metal products. The state is known as the U.S. hardwood flooring center. It also ranks first in the production of marble, zinc, pyrite and ball clay.

Tennessee is one of the leading tobacco-producing states in the nation. Its farming income is also derived from livestock and dairy products as well as corn, cotton and soybeans.







State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:



Texas
Austin
Lone Star State
Bluebonnet
Mockingbird
Pecan
"Texas, Our Texas"
December 29, 1845 (28)



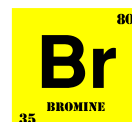
Spanish explorers, including Cabeza de Vaca and Coronado, were the first to visit the region in the 16th and 17th centuries, settling at Ysleta near El Paso in 1682. Americans, lead by Stephen F. Austin, began to settle along the Brazos River in 1821 when Texas was controlled by Mexico. In 1836, following a brief war between American settlers in Texas and the Mexican government, and famous battles of the Alamo and San Jacinto, the Independent Republic of Texas was proclaimed with Sam Houston as president.

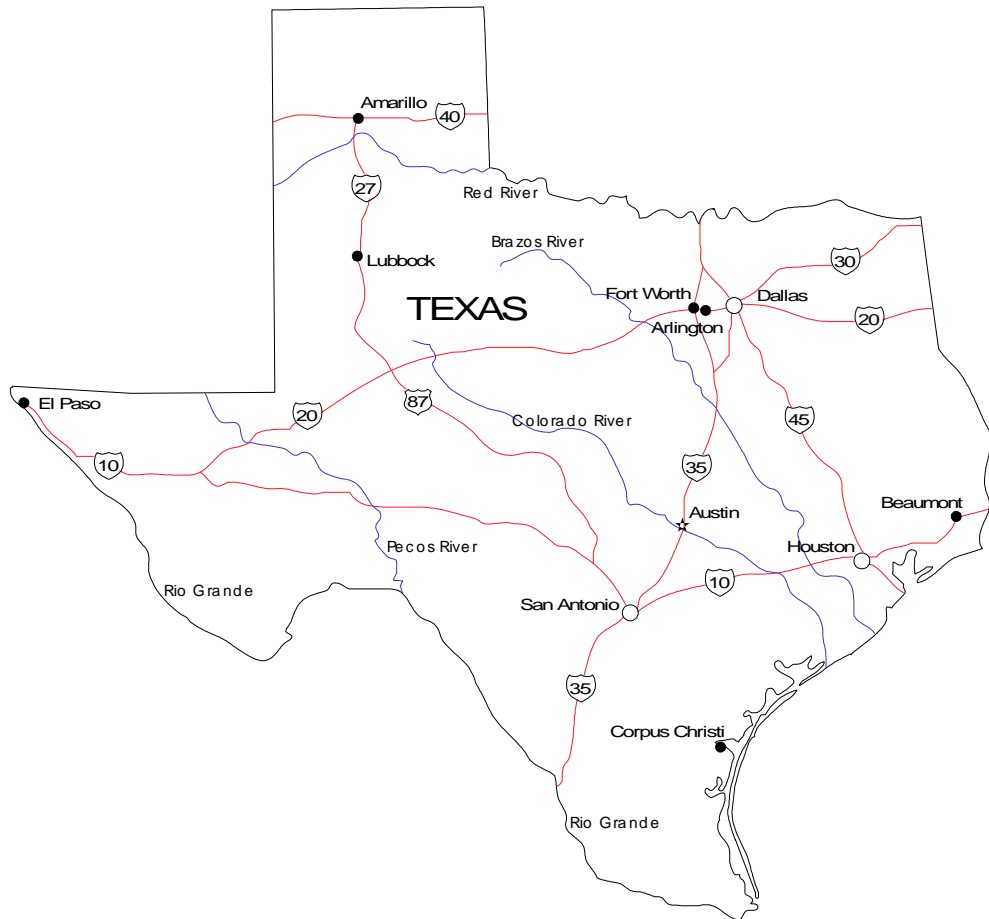


Processing enormous natural resources, Texas is a major agricultural and industrial giant. Sulfur, salt, helium, asphalt, graphite, bromine, natural gas, cement and clays give Texas first place in mineral production. Chemicals, oil refining, food processing, machinery and transportation equipment are among the major manufacturing industries.

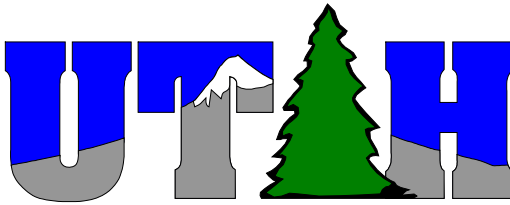
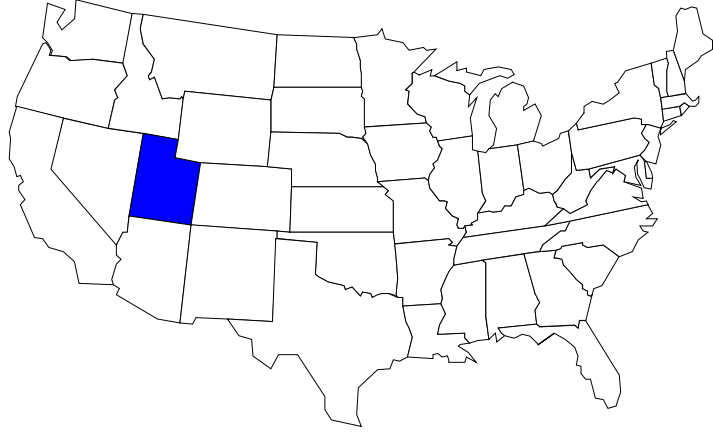


Texas ranches and farms produce beef cattle, poultry, rice, pecans, peanuts, sorghum and an extensive variety of vegetables and fruits.





Beehive State



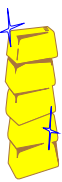
Ag
47
SILVER

State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

Utah
Salt Lake City
Beehive State
Sego Lily
Seagull
Blue Spruce
"Utah, We Love Thee"
January 4, 1896 (45)



The region was first explored for Spain by Franciscan Friars in 1776. In 1824 the famous American frontiersman Jim Bridger discovered the Great Salt Lake.



Feeling the religious persecution encountered in eastern and middle-western states, the Mormons reached the Great Salt Lake in 1847 and began to build Salt Lake City. The U.S. acquired the Utah region in the treaty ending the Mexican War in 1848, and the first transcontinental railroad was completed with the driving of the golden spike at Promontory Summit in 1869.



Rich in natural resources, Utah has long been a leading producer of copper, gold, silver, zinc and lead. Oil has become a major product.

Cu
29
COPPER

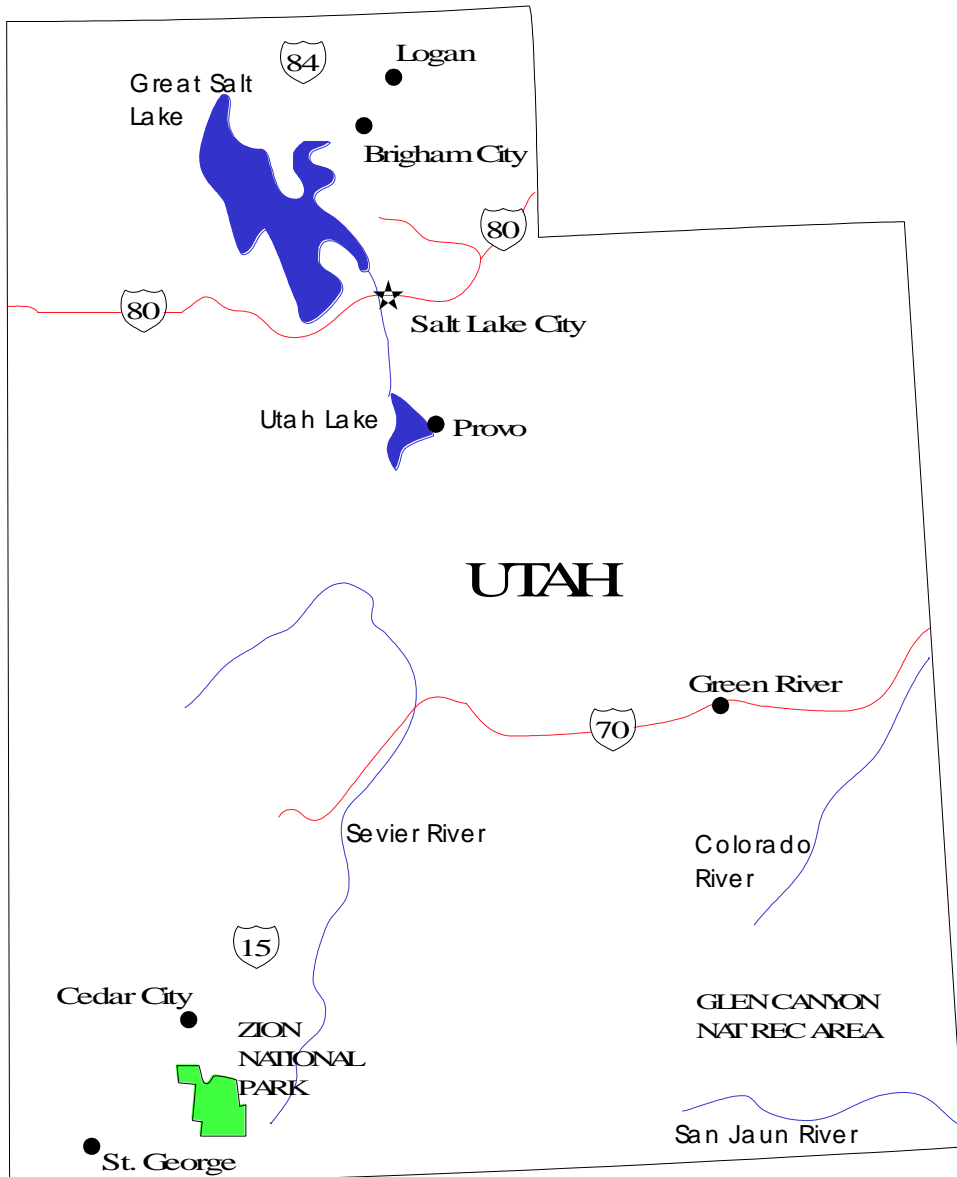
Ranked eighth among the states in the number of sheep, Utah also produces large crops of alfalfa, winter wheat and beans.

Pb
82
LEAD

Zn
30
ZINC

Utah's traditional industries of agriculture and mining are being complemented by increased tourism business and growing aerospace, biomedical and computer-related business.





GREEN MOUNTAIN STATE

VERMONT



State:	Vermont
Capital:	Montpelier
Nickname:	Green Mountain State
State Flower:	Red Clover
State Bird:	Hermit Thrush
State Tree:	Sugar Maple
State Song:	"Hail! Vermont"
Entered Union & Rank:	March 4, 1791 (14)

PUBLISHER



The Vermont region was explored and claimed for France by Samuel de Champlain in 1609, with the first French settlement established at Fort Ste. Anne in 1666. The first English settlers moved into the area in 1724 and built Fort Drummer on the site of present day Brattleboro.



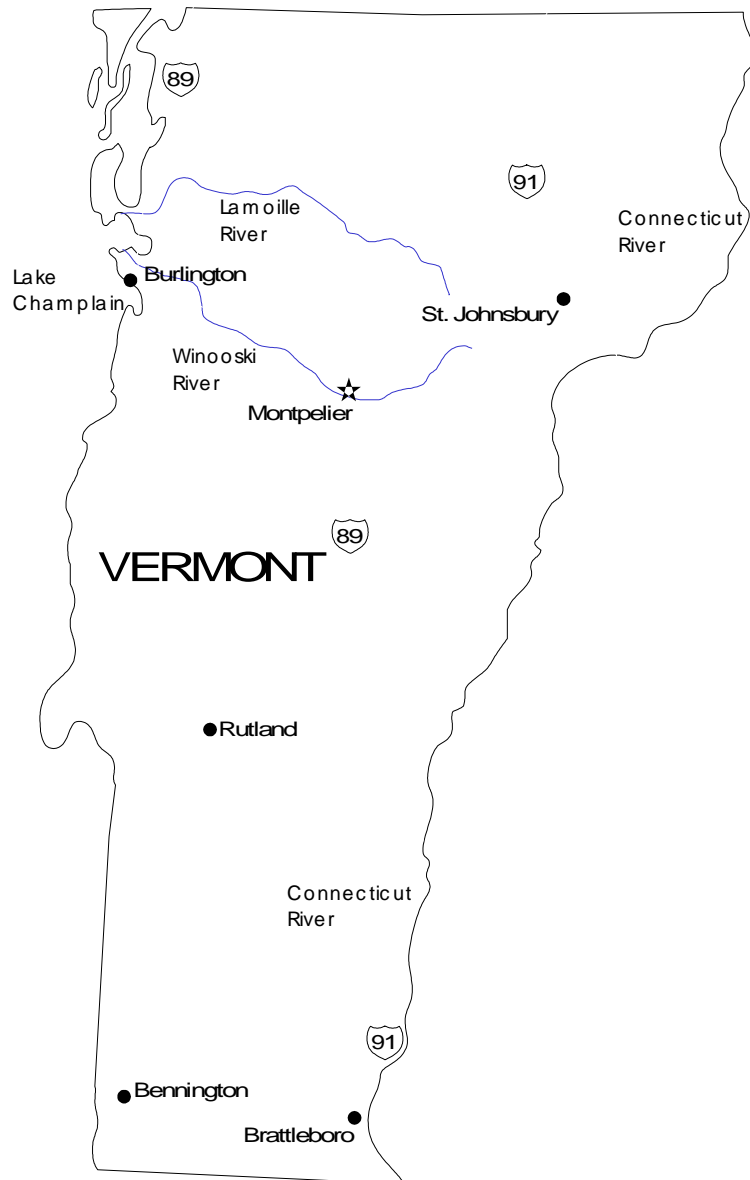
First organized to drive settlers from New York out of Vermont, the Green Mountain Boys, led by Ethan Allen, won fame by capturing Fort Ticonderoga from the British on May 10, 1775, in the early days of the Revolution.



Vermont leads the nation in the production of monument granite, marble and maple syrup. It is also a leader in the production of talc. In ratio to population, Vermont keeps more dairy cows than any other state. The state's soil is devoted to dairying, truck farming and fruit growing.

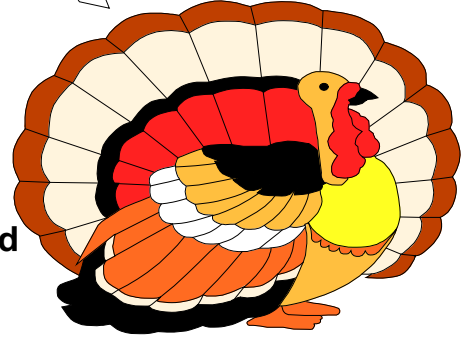
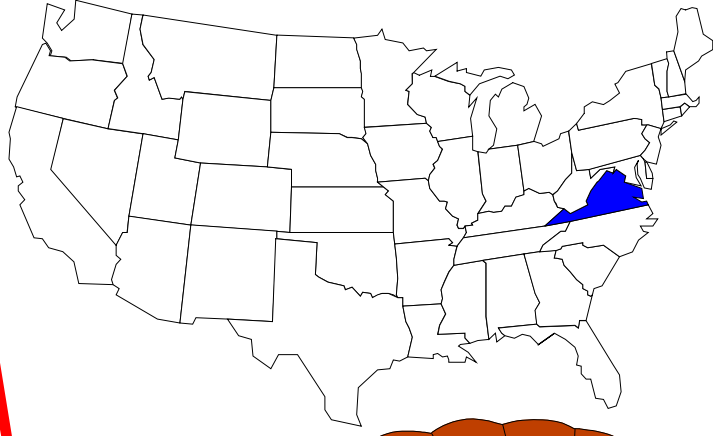


Principal industrial products include electrical equipment, fabricated metal products, printing and publishing and paper. With its many ski resorts, tourism plays a major part in the states economy.



Old Dominion

VIRGINIA



State:	Virginia
Capital:	Richmond
Nickname:	Old Dominion
State Flower:	American Dogwood
State Bird:	Cardinal
State Tree:	None
State Song:	"Carry Me Back to Old Virginia"
Entered Union & Rank:	June 25, 1788 (10)



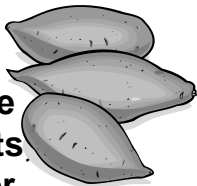
The history of America is closely tied to that of Virginia, particularly in the Colonial period. Jamestown, founded in 1607, was the first permanent English settlement in North America, and slavery was introduced there in 1619. The surrenders ending both the American Revolution (Yorktown) and the Civil War (Appomattox) occurred in Virginia. The state is called the "Mother of Presidents" because eight chief executives of the U.S. were born there.

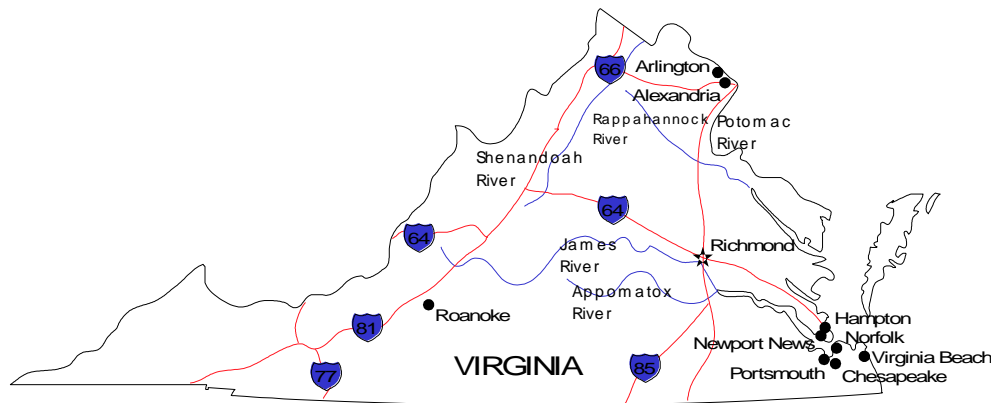


Today, Virginia has a large number of diversified manufacturing industries, including transportation equipment, textiles, food processing and printing. Other important lines of industry are electronic and other electric equipment, chemicals, apparel, lumber and wood products, furniture and industrial machinery.



Agriculture remains an important sector in Virginia's economy and the state ranks among the top 10 in the U.S. in tomatoes, tobacco, peanuts, summer potatoes, turkeys, apples, broilers and sweet potatoes. Other crops include corn, vegetables and barley. Virginia is famous for its Smithfield hams.



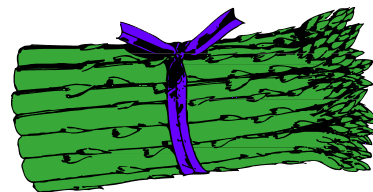


The EVERGREEN State



WASHINGTON

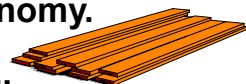
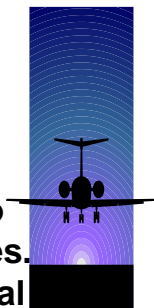
State:	Washington
Capital:	Olympia
Nickname:	Evergreen State
State Flower:	Coast Rhododendron
State Bird:	Willow Goldfinch
State Tree:	Western Hemlock
State Song:	"Washington, My Home"
Entered Union & Rank:	November 11, 1889 (42)



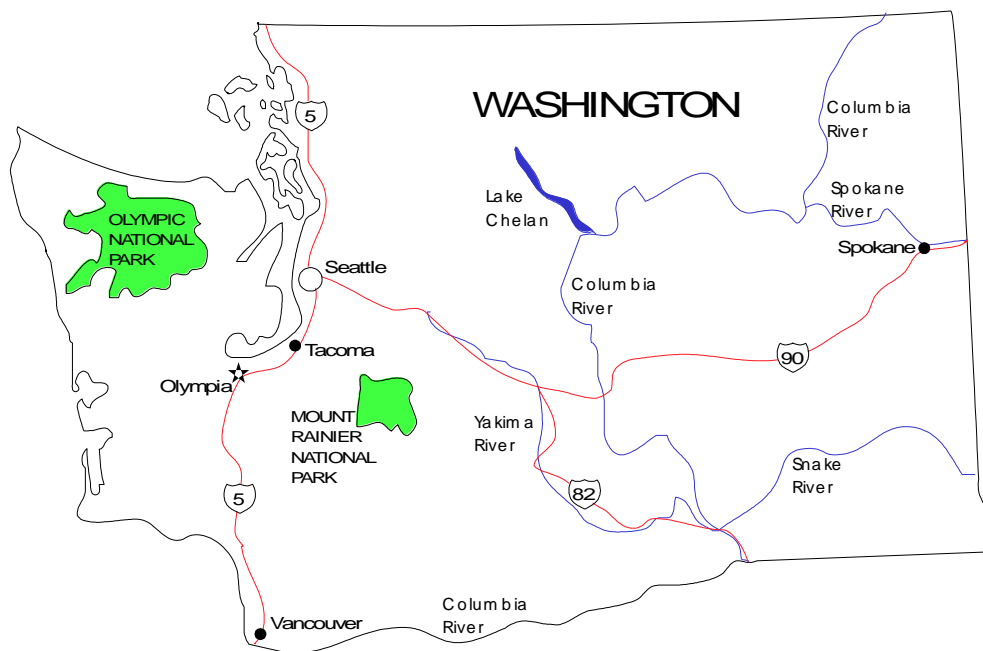
As part of the vast Oregon Country, Washington was visited by Spanish, American and English explorers. Lewis and Clark explored the region and coastal areas for the U.S. in 1805-1806. Rival American and British settlers and conflicting territorial claims threatened war in the early 1840s. However, in 1856 the Oregon Treaty set the boundary at the 49th parallel and war was averted.



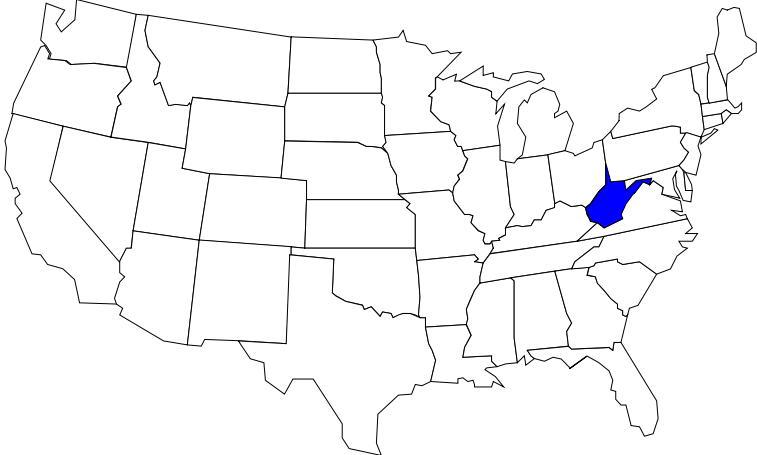
Washington is a leading lumber producer. Its rugged surface is rich in Douglas fir, hemlock, ponderosa and white pine, spruce, larch and cedar. The state holds first place in apples, lentils, dry edible peas, hops, pears, red raspberries, spearmint oil and sweet cherries. It also ranks high in apricots, asparagus, grapes, peppermint oil and potatoes. Livestock and livestock products make important contributions to total farm revenue, and the commercial fishing catch of salmon, halibut and bottomfish makes an important contribution to the state's economy.



Manufacturing industries in Washington include aircraft, missiles, shipbuilding, other transportation equipment, lumber, food processing, metal, metal products, chemicals and machinery.

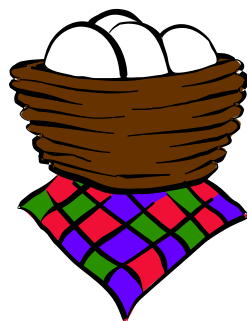


MOUNTAIN STATE



State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

West Virginia
Charleston
Mountain State
Rhododendron
Cardinal
Sugar Maple
"This Is My West Virginia"
June 20, 1863 (35)



West Virginia's early history from 1609 until 1863 is largely shared with Virginia, of which it was a part until Virginia seceded from the Union in 1861. Then the delegates of 40 western counties formed their own government, which was granted statehood in 1863.



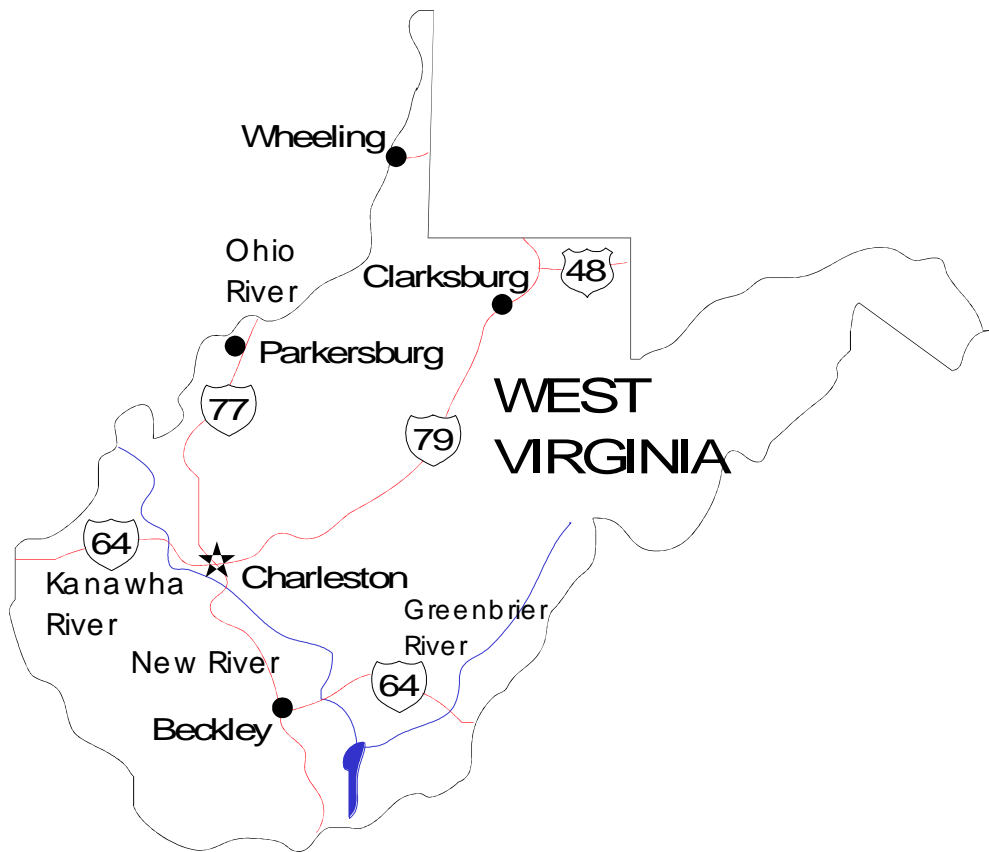
The first permanent settlement dates from 1731 when Morgan Morgan founded Mill Creek. In 1742 coal was discovered on the Coal River, an event that would be of great significance in determining West Virginia's future.

The state usually ranks third in total coal production and is also a leader in steel, glass, aluminum and chemical manufacturing, natural gas, quarry products and hardwood lumber.



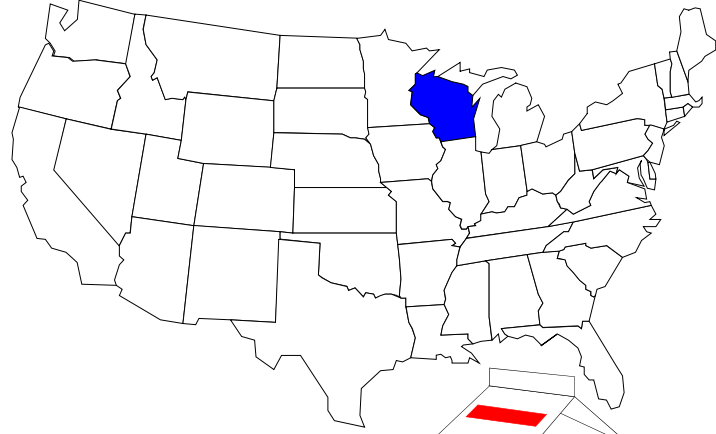
Major cash farm crops are poultry, eggs, dairy products, apples and feed crops. Nearly 80% of the state is covered with forests.

Tourism is increasingly popular in mountainous West Virginia. More than a million acres have been set aside in 35 state parks and recreation areas and in nine state forests and national forests.

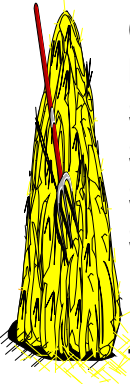
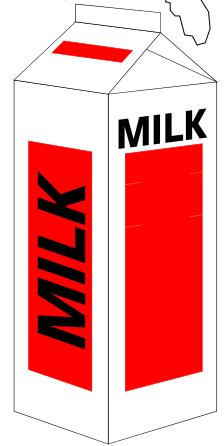


BADGER STATE

WISCONSIN



State:	Wisconsin
Capital:	Madison
Nickname:	Badger State
State Flower:	Wood Violet
State Bird:	Robin
State Tree:	Sugar Maple
State Song:	"On Wisconsin"
Entered Union & Rank:	May 29, 1848 (30)



The Wisconsin region was first explored for France by Jean Cicolet, who landed at Green Bay in 1634. In 1660 a French trading post and Roman Catholic mission were established near present day Ashland. Great Britain obtained the region in settlement of the French and Indian War in 1763. The U.S. acquired Wisconsin in 1783 after the Revolutionary War.

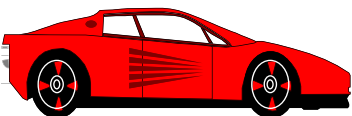
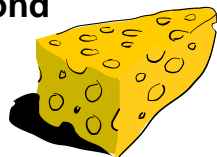
Wisconsin leads the nation in milk and cheese production. Other important farm products are peas, beans, corn, potatoes, oats, hay and cranberries.



The chief industrial products of the state are automobiles, machinery, furniture, paper, beer and processed foods. Wisconsin ranks second among the 47 paper-producing states.



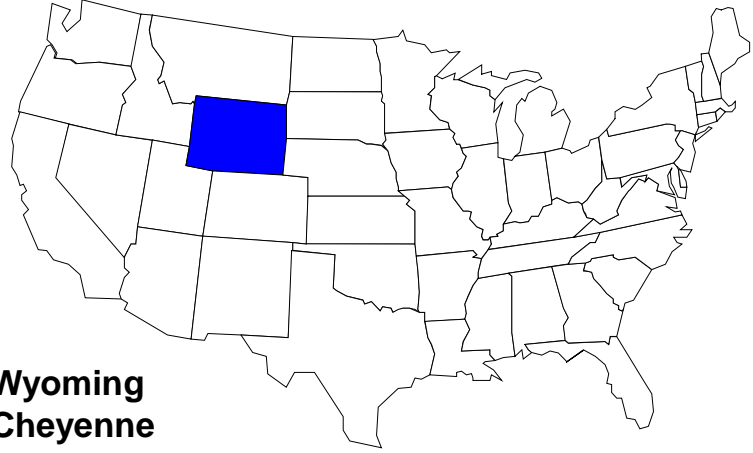
The state has over 8,500 lakes, of which Winnebago is the largest. Water sports, ice boating, fishing, skiing and hunting are popular.



Wisconsin is a pioneer in social legislation, providing pensions for the blind (1907), aid to dependent children (1913) and old-age assistance (1925). In labor legislation, the state was the first to enact an unemployment compensation law (1932) and the first in which a workman's compensation law actually took effect.

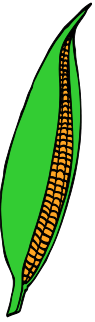


EQUALITY STATE



State:
Capital:
Nickname:
State Flower:
State Bird:
State Tree:
State Song:
Entered Union & Rank:

Wyoming
Cheyenne
Equality State
Indian Paintbrush
Meadowlark
Cottonwood
"Wyoming"
July 10, 1890 (44)



The U.S. acquired the territory from France as part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. John Colter, a fur trapper, is the first white man known to have entered present Wyoming. In 1807 he explored the Yellowstone area and brought back news of its geysers and hot springs. Robert Stuart pioneered the Oregon Trail across Wyoming in 1812-1813 and in 1834 Fort Laramie, the first permanent trading post in Wyoming, was built. Western Wyoming was obtained by the U.S. in the 1846 Oregon Treaty with Great Britain.

When the Wyoming Territory was organized in 1869 Wyoming women became the first in the nation to obtain the right to vote. In 1925 Mrs. Nellie Tayloe Ross was elected first woman governor in the U.S.



Wyoming's towering mountains and vast plains provide spectacular scenery, grazing lands for sheep and cattle and rich mineral deposits.



Wyoming ranks second among the states in wool production. In 1991, its sheep numbered 830,000 and its cattle 1,190,000. Principal crops include wheat, oats, sugar beets, corn, potatoes, barley and alfalfa.



Wyoming has many tourist attractions that are important to its economy. Attractions include Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Tetons, the Cheyenne "Frontier Days" celebration, Fort Laramie National Historic Site and Devils Tower National Monument. Fishing and big game hunting draw outdoor sports people from around the world to Wyoming.

