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## United States



**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA** AREA: 9,372,614 sq km (3,618,770 sq mi).

POPULATION: 260,341,000. CAPITAL: Washington, D.C., pop. 570,000. RELIGION: Protestant, Roman Catholic. LANGUAGE: English. LITERACY: 97%. LIFE EXPECTANCY: 76 years. ECONOMY: Industry: transportation equipment, food processing, machinery, chemical products, electric equipment, fabricated metal products, printing and publishing, paper products, mining, tourism. Agriculture: cattle, dairy products, poultry and eggs, hogs, soybeans, corn, nursery stock, wheat, cotton. PCI: \$24,750.



One of the world's most venerable democracies, the United States is just two centuries old as a nation. In 1776, after 169 years of British rule, the 13 Atlantic colonies declared independence. With its Constitution of 1787, the fledgling nation of four million people embarked on a bold political experiment: a federal system with a built-in balance of power among executive, legislative, and judicial branches.

Less than a century later, unresolved political issues—slavery and states' rights—were referred to the battlefields of the Civil War, which raged from 1861 to 1865. After Reconstruction, the economy boomed and railroads opened more markets. Before immigration restrictions were enacted in 1924, more than a hundred million people had arrived in the U.S.

The Depression of the 1930s closed factories and bankrupted farmers. President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal increased the federal government's social responsibility. Boom times returned after World War II, as people continued to abandon farms for cities.

Since the first census in 1790, the center of U.S. population has steadily edged westward, then south. The trend continued during the 1980s, as populations grew by 22 percent in the West and 13 percent in the South. The nation has also become more

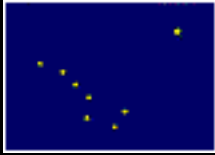
urban: Three-quarters of Americans live in metropolitan areas, where poverty and ethnic tensions are problems.

Roughly one in four U.S. citizens belonged to a minority in 1994, including 33 million African Americans, 26 million Hispanics, and 9 million Asians and Pacific Islanders, the fastest growing group.

*Text source: National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Alaska (United States)



**GREAT LAND AREA:** 1,530,700 sq km (591,004 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 606,000.

**CAPITAL:** Juneau, pop. 28,400.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: petroleum and natural gas, gold and other mining, food processing, lumber and wood products, tourism. Agriculture: seafood, nursery stock, dairy products, vegetables, livestock. PCI: \$23,790. Admission: 1959 as 49th state.



In 1867 Secretary of State William H. Seward paid Russia 7.2 million dollars for a huge region derided as “Seward’s Icebox.” Today this land of overwhelming beauty, abundant resources, and few people is a battleground between conservationists and energy and mining interests. More than a third of the mineral-rich state is forested; a quarter is set aside as parks, refuges, and wilderness. Fisheries teem with salmon, halibut, and shellfish, staples of indigenous peoples for millennia. Alaska natives, who number 102,000, administer 13 regional corporations established under the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

Oil has been piped from the North Slope to the supertanker terminal at Valdez since 1977. In March 1989 the 30,000-ton *Exxon Valdez* ran aground in Prince William Sound, spilling 11 million gallons of crude oil—the nation’s largest tanker spill. The disaster raised new concerns about opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, with its herds of 180,000 caribou, to petroleum exploration.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Hawaii (United States)



**ALOHA STATE AREA:** 16,759  
sq km (6,471 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 1,179,000.

**CAPITAL:** Honolulu, pop. 371,300. **ECONOMY:**  
Industry: tourism, food processing, apparel,  
fabricated metal products, stone, clay, and glass  
products. Agriculture: sugarcane, pineapples,  
nursery stock, livestock, macadamia nuts. **PCI:**  
\$24,060. Admission: 1959 as 50th state.



Six million vacationers, most of them from the continental U.S. or Japan, spend close to nine billion dollars a year in this tropical archipelago. Defense, centered on U.S. military bases at Pearl Harbor, is the second largest moneymaker. Descendants of Asians, who immigrated in the 19th and early 20th century to work on sugar plantations, add to the mix of people in this only state with no ethnic majority: Caucasians constitute 33 percent; Japanese, 22 percent; Filipino, 15 percent. The remainder includes ethnic Chinese and those of Hawaiian ancestry. Ecologists estimate that 95 percent of Hawaii's flowering plants and 97 percent of its animals—among them the world's only predatory caterpillars—exist nowhere else on earth.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## New Jersey (United States)



**GARDEN STATE AREA:** 20,169 sq km (7,787 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 7,904,000.

**CAPITAL:** Trenton, pop. 87,800.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: chemical products, food processing, electric equipment, printing and publishing, tourism. Agriculture: nursery stock, horses, vegetables, fruits and nuts, seafood, dairy products. PCI: \$28,040. **ADMISSION:** 3rd of 13 original states.



Wedged between Philadelphia and New York City, New Jersey has long been a distributor of goods and a giant of industry. The state ranks first in production of pharmaceuticals. Along a narrow strip—part of the megalopolis stretching from Boston to Washington, D.C.—population density far exceeds that of India, yet 60 percent of the state remains forested or in farms. In million-acre Pinelands National Reserve, a model of pragmatic environmental management, development is diverted from the most fragile areas. Ocean resorts from Cape May to Asbury Park were fashionable by the late 19th century. Today taxes collected from Atlantic City casinos are used to benefit the state's elderly and handicapped.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Maine (United States)



**PINE TREE STATE AREA:**

86,156 sq km (33,265 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 1,240,000.

**CAPITAL:** Augusta, pop. 20,500.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: paper, lumber, and wood products, electric equipment, food processing, leather products, textiles, tourism. Agriculture: seafood, poultry and eggs, potatoes, dairy products, cattle, blueberries, apples. PCI: \$19,660. Admission: 1820 as 23rd state.



Timber-products companies own more than half of Maine's forests. Potatoes, apples, and blueberries are other offerings of the land. From the sea comes as much as 30 million pounds of lobster a year, a delicacy enjoyed by many of the almost nine million annual visitors. As development edges north, the state and conservation groups are buying up pristine lands. French speakers predominate in many towns along the state's border with Canada's Quebec Province.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Maryland (United States)



**OLD LINE STATE AREA:**

27,092 sq km (10,460 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 5,006,000.

**CAPITAL:** Annapolis, pop.

34,100. **ECONOMY:** Industry: electric equipment, food processing, chemical products, printing and publishing, transportation equipment, machinery, primary metals, coal, tourism.

**Agriculture:** seafood, poultry and eggs, dairy products, nursery stock, cattle, soybeans, corn.

**PCI:** \$24,930. **Admission:** 7th of 13 original states.



“An immense protein factory,” wrote Baltimorean H. L. Mencken of Chesapeake Bay. One of the world’s greatest estuaries, the Chesapeake contains thousands of species, many threatened by agricultural runoff, sewage, and toxic wastes. Baltimore, with its revitalized Inner Harbor, remains a major transshipper of coal. The state capital of Annapolis, an East Coast sailing hub, preserves the nation’s largest concentration of 18th-century buildings and is home to the U.S. Naval Academy. The Delmarva Peninsula draws pleasure seekers to Ocean City, where high-rise condominiums cast shadows over beaches. Hilly western Maryland is still largely rural. Elsewhere commuter suburbs, interstate highways, and shopping malls continue to spread an urban imprint.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*





## Connecticut (United States)



### CONSTITUTION STATE

AREA: 12,997 sq km (5,018 sq mi). POPULATION: 3,275,000. CAPITAL: Hartford, pop.

132,000. ECONOMY: Industry: transportation equipment, machinery, electric equipment, fabricated metal products, chemical products, scientific instruments. Agriculture: nursery stock, eggs, dairy products, cattle. PCI: \$29,400. Admission: 5th of 13 original states.



The industrious colonial Yankee would be at home today in this business-minded state, with the nation's second highest per capita income. Many firms, whose products include robotic and fiber-optic equipment, have their corporate headquarters in Stamford. Hartford, the nation's insurance capital, rises above the cleaned-up Connecticut River, again a spawning ground for Atlantic salmon.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Massachusetts (United States)



**BAY STATE AREA:** 21,456 sq km (8,284 sq mi). **POPULATION:** 6,041,000. **CAPITAL:** Boston,

pop. 551,700. **ECONOMY:** Industry: machinery, electric equipment, scientific instruments, printing and publishing, tourism. Agriculture: seafood, nursery stock, dairy products, cranberries, vegetables. **PCI:** \$25,620. **ADMISSION:** 6th of 13 original states.



From Cape Cod in the east and the Berkshires in the west, all roads lead to Boston. Described as “the thinking center of the continent” by Oliver Wendell Holmes in 1859, the Boston area is home to some 50 degree-granting institutions. A historic park in Lowell recalls the 19th-century heyday of the textile industry. Medical researchers in Worcester, the state’s second largest city, developed the birth-control pill during the 1950s. Recession hit the state hard in the late 1980s after a biomedical and high-tech boom earlier in the decade. Cleanup of polluted Boston Harbor, where Puritans landed in 1630, is projected to cost 3.5 billion dollars.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Rhode Island (United States)



**OCEAN STATE AREA:** 3,140 sq km (1,212 sq mi). **POPULATION:** 997,000. **CAPITAL:** Providence, pop. 155,400. **ECONOMY:**

**Industry:** fashion jewelry, fabricated metal products, electric equipment, machinery, shipbuilding and boatbuilding, tourism.

**Agriculture:** nursery stock, vegetables, dairy products, eggs. **PCI:** \$22,250. **ADMISSION:** 13th of 13 original states.



This smallest state is the second most densely populated, after New Jersey. Entrepreneurs in Pawtucket launched New England's textile industry soon after the American Revolution. Today Rhode Island is known for making silverware and fine jewelry. Providence, a manufacturing center and seaport, lies at the head of Narragansett Bay and is home to one in six Rhode Islanders. Newport is famous for its yacht races, jazz festivals, and oceanside mansions.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## New Hampshire (United States)



**GRANITE STATE AREA:**

24,032 sq km (9,279 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 1,137,000.

**CAPITAL:** Concord, pop. 35,600.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: machinery, electric equipment, rubber and plastic products, tourism. Agriculture: dairy products, nursery stock, cattle, apples, eggs. PCI: \$23,430. **ADMISSION:** 9th of 13 original states.



“Representation without taxation” could be this state’s motto, as one of only two states with neither general sales nor personal income taxes. Revenues come mainly from corporate income, real estate, tourism, and liquor sales. Property taxes, set at town meetings, fund schools and community services. A once favorable business climate lured computer companies to southern areas, but recession has hit most industries, yielding the highest levels of unemployment in years. The White Mountains offer skiing and hiking, and lakes and seacoast regions attract summer vacationers. New Hampshire boasts more forests and wildlife today than a century ago.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Vermont (United States)



### GREEN MOUNTAIN STATE

AREA: 24,900 sq km (9,614 sq mi). POPULATION: 580,000.

CAPITAL: Montpelier, pop.

8,100. ECONOMY: Industry: electronic equipment, fabricated metal products, printing and publishing, paper products, tourism. Agriculture: dairy products, cattle, hay, apples, maple products. PCI: \$20,220. ADMISSION: 1791 as 14th state.



Strict environmental guidelines, including a billboard ban and a 1988 law requiring towns to join in regional planning, aim to protect the rustic beauty of this least populous state in the East. The forests of the Green Mountains, Vermont's backbone, turn crimson and gold in the autumn; sugar maples, whose syrup sweetens the economy, highlight the glorious display of color. In winter, when snow blankets hillsides, skiers descend on more than 50 resorts. Tourism and a high-tech boomlet create jobs but cause traffic congestion and loss of farmland.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Delaware (United States)



**FIRST STATE AREA:** 5,294 sq km (2,044 sq mi). **POPULATION:** 706,000. **CAPITAL:** Dover, pop. 28,200. **ECONOMY:** Industry:

chemical products, food processing, paper products, rubber and plastic products, scientific instruments, printing and publishing. **Agriculture:** poultry, nursery stock, soybeans, dairy products, corn. **PCI:** \$22,830. **Admission:** 1st of 13 original states.



E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., the chemicals and plastics giant, established a gunpowder plant near Wilmington in 1802. Today more than 200,000 companies are incorporated in Delaware, which offers liberal tax laws. The favorable business climate has also spurred growth in banking and financial services. In 1971, in an effort to protect beaches and wetlands, the state legislature passed the nation's first coastal-zone act banning waterfront industries that pollute.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Florida (United States)



**SUNSHINE STATE AREA:**  
151,939 sq km (58,664 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 13,953,000.  
**CAPITAL:** Tallahassee, pop.

130,400. **ECONOMY:** Industry: tourism, electric equipment, food processing, printing and publishing, transportation equipment, machinery. Agriculture: citrus, vegetables, nursery stock, cattle, sugarcane, dairy products. PCI: \$21,680. Admission: 1845 as 27th state.



An art-deco image of palm trees etched against a setting sun helps make this subtropical playground—long favored by retirees—one of the fastest growing states. But nature suffers as life-giving wetlands are drained, overbuilding accelerates coastal erosion, and the drawing down of the water table causes saltwater intrusion and sinkholes.

Miami, the bilingual gateway for Latin America, is half Hispanic—mostly Cuban. In central Florida, Sea World, Universal Studios, and Walt Disney World make big money. High-tech industry—near Cape Canaveral, around Tampa and St. Petersburg, and in a corridor running from West Palm Beach to Miami—supplements tourism and agriculture, mainly citrus and vegetable growing. Much of the cocaine smuggled into the U.S. comes through south Florida.

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## South Carolina (United States)



**PALMETTO STATE AREA:**  
80,582 sq km (31,113 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 3,664,000.  
**CAPITAL:** Columbia, pop.

98,800. **ECONOMY:** Industry: textile goods, chemical products, paper products, machinery, tourism. Agriculture: tobacco, poultry, cattle, dairy products, soybeans, hogs. PCI: \$17,700.  
**ADMISSION:** 8th of 13 original states.



Rice, indigo, and cotton cultivated by a large slave population enriched tidewater planters before 1860. Shattered by the Civil War, which raged from 1861-65, South Carolina came to depend on textile goods and tobacco. Historic Charleston, battered by Hurricane Hugo in 1989, evokes the Old South. Retirement communities and resorts such as Myrtle Beach and Hilton Head line the fast-developing seacoast. Since 1984 incentive programs in public schools have rewarded educational excellence.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*





## North Carolina (United States)



**TAR HEEL STATE AREA:**

136,413 sq km (52,669 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 7,070,000.

**CAPITAL:** Raleigh, pop. 220,500.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: tobacco products, textile goods, chemical products, electric equipment, machinery, tourism. Agriculture: poultry and eggs, tobacco, hogs, milk, nursery stock, cattle, soybeans. PCI: \$19,670. **ADMISSION:** 12th of 13 original states.



Manufacturing employs nearly a third of North Carolina's mainly non-unionized workforce. Textiles, the largest manufacturing employer, has sustained the economy for more than a century. The state, much of it rural, leads in tobacco cultivation. It is also well-known for furniture making. Near Durham, Research Triangle Park, with links to several major universities, spurs high-tech enterprise. The Outer Banks, long a favored summer destination for vacationers, is suffering from a development boom, and beach erosion continues to be a major concern.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Virginia (United States)



**OLD DOMINION AREA:**  
105,586 sq km (40,767 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 6,552,000.  
**CAPITAL:** Richmond, pop.

202,300. **ECONOMY:** Industry: transportation equipment, textiles, food processing, printing, electric equipment, chemicals. Agriculture: cattle, poultry, dairy products, tobacco, hogs, soybeans. PCI: \$22,590. **ADMISSION:** 10th of 13 original states.



In 1607 English pioneers established the first permanent English settlement in America at Jamestown. Almost 400 years later officials in many Tidewater towns strive to balance development with conservation of wetlands. Busy ports cluster around the nation's leading coal exporter, Hampton Roads—Norfolk is home base for the U.S. Navy's Atlantic Fleet, and shipbuilding thrives at Newport News. In northern Virginia the booming Washington metropolitan area invades rolling countryside.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Pennsylvania (United States)



**KEYSTONE STATE AREA:**

117,348 sq km (45,308 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 12,052,000.

**CAPITAL:** Harrisburg, pop.

53,400. **ECONOMY:** Industry: food processing, chemical products, machinery, electric equipment, tourism. Agriculture: dairy products, poultry, cattle, nursery stock, mushrooms, hogs, hay. PCI: \$22,320. **ADMISSION:** 2nd of 13 original states.



In 1681 William Penn, an English Quaker, received a royal proprietorship to what became Pennsylvania. Almost a century later his capital, Philadelphia, witnessed the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the framing of the U.S. Constitution. European immigrants, many of them iron- and steelworkers, founded trade unions that evolved into the American Federation of Labor (AFL) and Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO). German, Slav, and Italian neighborhoods enliven Pittsburgh today.

Still heavily industrialized, Pennsylvania produces much of the nation's steel, but health care and other services employ more workers. Tourism revolves around Philadelphia, the Pocono and Allegheny Mountains, and Pennsylvania Dutch country, home to the plain-living Amish and Mennonites. Forests cover 60 percent of the state and yield the Northeast's largest supply of hardwood timber products.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## New York (United States)



**EMPIRE STATE AREA:**  
127,190 sq km (49,108 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 18,169,000.

**CAPITAL:** Albany, pop. 99,700. **ECONOMY:**  
Industry: printing and publishing, scientific instruments, electric equipment, machinery, chemical products, tourism. Agriculture: dairy products, cattle and other livestock, vegetables, nursery stock, apples. PCI: \$26,000.  
**ADMISSION:** 11th of 13 original states.



Historic gateway to the New World, New York City welcomed millions of immigrants ashore at Ellis Island from the 1890s to the 1920s. The nation's most populous metropolis—still a major entry point—is a world center of finance, communications, fashion, and culture. Commerce has long flourished along the Hudson River, and the completion of the Erie Canal in 1825 opened up a key trade route to the interior. Here industrial centers strung from east to west have helped rank the state second only to California in manufacturing. Syracuse makes electronic parts; Rochester, photographic equipment; and Buffalo, motor vehicles and parts.

Although it has been applauded for its environmental efforts, New York has been beset by various forms of pollution: raw sewage in New York Harbor, medical waste on Long Island beaches, and acid rain in the Adirondack Mountains. Adirondack State Park, largest in the U.S. outside Alaska and a popular tourist destination, faces threats from commercial development. The wine-producing Finger Lakes region, shaped by glaciers during the last Ice Age, and Niagara Falls also draw crowds. Dairy farming and livestock raising are the state's most widespread agricultural activities.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Georgia (United States)



**EMPIRE STATE OF THE SOUTH** AREA: 152,576 sq km (58,910 sq mi). POPULATION: 7,055,000. CAPITAL: Atlanta,

pop. 394,800. ECONOMY: Industry: textiles and apparel, transportation equipment, food processing, paper products, chemical products, electric equipment, tourism. Agriculture: poultry and eggs, peanuts, cattle, hogs, dairy products, vegetables. PCI: \$20,250. Admission: 4th of 13 original states.



Atlanta began as a railhead in 1837, was burned to the ground in the Civil War, and rose again to become the transportation hub of the new South. The city's progressive image helped to realize its dream of hosting the 1996 Summer Olympics. Savannah, an industrial port and resort, was the nation's first planned city, laid out in 1733. In the northeastern uplands, tourism now supersedes textile manufacturing and farming, while pine forests in the southeast make Georgia a leading supplier of pulp. Farmers on the fertile Coastal Plain grow almost half the nation's peanuts.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## West Virginia (United States)



**MOUNTAIN STATE AREA:**

62,758 sq km (24,231 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 1,822,000.

**CAPITAL:** Charleston, pop. 57,100.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: chemical products, mining, primary metals, stone, clay, and glass products, tourism. Agriculture: cattle, dairy products, poultry, apples. PCI: \$17,210.

**ADMISSION:** 1863 as 35th state.



Bituminous coal, natural gas, oil, and silica underlie this rugged Appalachian state. Only Wyoming and Kentucky produce more coal. Mechanization of the industry in the 1980s, until then one of the state's largest employers, shrank the workforce by 50 percent. Declines in steel and chemical manufacturing prompted the adoption of corporate tax incentives to diversify the economy; as a result the service sector is burgeoning. Large stands of hardwoods feed lumber mills, but forests also shelter wildlife—including an endangered species of flying squirrel—and offer refuge for the city weary.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Ohio (United States)



**BUCKEYE STATE AREA:**  
107,044 sq km (41,330 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 11,102,000.

**CAPITAL:** Columbus, pop. 643,000. **ECONOMY:** Industry: transportation equipment, fabricated metal products, machinery, food processing, electric equipment. Agriculture: soybeans, dairy products, corn, hogs, cattle, poultry and eggs. **PCI:** \$20,930. **ADMISSION:** 1803 as 17th state.



Blessed with the navigable waters of Lake Erie and the Ohio River—a thousand kilometers open to barge traffic—Ohio enjoyed an early boom in manufacturing and commerce. Today the industrial cities of Toledo, Akron, and Cleveland turn out rubber, automobiles, glass, and steel. As ports, Cleveland and Toledo benefit from foreign trade-zone status. Worked by only 5 percent of the labor force, farms cover 60 percent of Ohio, which lies within the bountiful midwestern grain belt. Because of bans on phosphates and controls on toxic effluent, Lake Erie, proclaimed “dead” in the 1960s, is cleaner than it has been for decades.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Alabama (United States)



**HEART OF DIXIE AREA:**

133,915 sq km (51,705 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 4,219,000.

**CAPITAL:** Montgomery, pop.

192,100. **ECONOMY:** Industry:

paper, lumber, and wood products, mining, rubber and plastic products, transportation equipment, apparel. Agriculture: poultry and eggs, cattle, nursery stock, peanuts, cotton, vegetables, milk, soybeans. PCI: \$18,010. Admission: 1819 as 22nd state.



Fertile soils made this home of the Creek Indians the heart of the “cotton kingdom” before the Civil War. Today Alabama lies at the center of a revitalized Deep South. Birmingham, the state’s largest city, has become a focus for medical research. The George C. Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville is a magnet for high-tech industry and space-related projects. Alabama’s Supercomputer Network, the first such state-funded network in the U.S., links 28 sites.

The 377-kilometer Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway, an environmentally controversial project that was opened in 1985, provides access from the interior to the port of Mobile for soybeans, coal, and timber. Nine million hectares of forests supply the leading industry—pulp and papermaking.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*





## Tennessee (United States)



**VOLUNTEER STATE AREA:**

109,152 sq km (42,144 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 5,175,000.

**CAPITAL:** Nashville, pop. 495,000.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: chemicals, transportation equipment, rubber, plastics. Agriculture: soybeans, cotton, tobacco, livestock and livestock products, dairy products, cattle, hogs. PCI: \$19,480. **ADMISSION:** 1796 as 16th state.



Foreign companies drawn by nonunionized labor and access to U.S. markets are invigorating Tennessee. The Tennessee River, whose dams generate abundant electricity, trisects the state. In the west biomedical, telecommunications, and transportation industries lead an economic resurgence centered on Memphis. Soybean and cotton growers in this region struggle to conserve easily eroded soils. Nashville, in the middle of the state, is America's country-music capital. In the east Great Smoky Mountains National Park draws more visitors than any other national park in the U.S.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Kentucky (United States)



**BLUEGRASS STATE AREA:**  
104,659 sq km (40,409 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 3,827,000.

**CAPITAL:** Frankfort, pop. 27,200. **ECONOMY:**  
Industry: transportation equipment, chemical products, electric equipment, machinery, food processing, tobacco products, coal, tourism.  
Agriculture: horses, cattle, tobacco, dairy products, hogs, soybeans, corn. PCI: \$17,810.  
Admission: 1792 as 15th state.



Bluegrass and the music named for it are rooted here. In 1769 Daniel Boone entered the region through the Cumberland Gap. Today Kentucky ranks with Wyoming and West Virginia as a leading coal producer. A quarter of its farm receipts come from tobacco. The state distills about half the nation's whiskey—although 75 of the 120 counties are dry. Derby Day has drawn horse racing enthusiasts to Churchill Downs every year since 1875.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*





## Michigan (United States)



**GREAT LAKES STATE AREA:**  
151,586 sq km (58,527 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 9,496,000.  
**CAPITAL:** Lansing, pop. 126,700.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: motor vehicles and parts, machinery, fabricated metal products, food processing, chemical products, mining, tourism. Agriculture: dairy products, cattle, vegetables, hogs, corn, nursery stock, soybeans. PCI: \$22,330. **ADMISSION:** 1837 as 26th state.



Service industries led an economic surge in the late 1980s, but auto-industry job losses helped push the unemployment rate to one of the nation's highest. Automakers, still a principal employer in the state, struggle with a fickle market, although sales were up in the early 1990s. The need for diversification has driven Michigan to invest in new enterprises such as robotics. Grand Rapids has been a furniture-making center since the late 19th century, while Battle Creek remains America's breakfast-cereal capital.

The Upper Peninsula, long a major source of iron ore, banks increasingly on the beauty of its lakes and forested hills. The recreation industry depends on a clean, healthy environment, but even around Lake Superior's remote Isle Royale National Park fish contain traces of toxic chemicals.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Mississippi (United States)



**MAGNOLIA STATE AREA:**

123,515 sq km (47,689 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 2,669,000.

**CAPITAL:** Jackson, pop. 196,200.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: apparel, furniture, lumber and wood products, food processing, electrical machinery, transportation equipment. Agriculture: cotton, poultry, cattle, catfish, soybeans, dairy products, rice. PCI: \$15,840. **ADMISSION:** 1817 as 20th state.



Mississippi ranks first in world production of catfish and third among states in cotton. Between 1950 and 1980 soaring demand for soybeans prompted reclamation of more than four-fifths of the almost five million acres of wetlands. Federal laws have now made it less profitable to convert critical waterfowl habitat to cropland. A new heritage corridor along the Mississippi River includes antebellum houses and Civil War battlefields. With improving test scores and high school graduation rates, Mississippi continues to raise its once low scholastic standing in the U.S.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Illinois (United States)



**LAND OF LINCOLN AREA:**  
145,934 sq km (56,345 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 11,752,000.

**CAPITAL:** Springfield, pop. 106,400.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: machinery, food processing, electric equipment, chemical products, printing and publishing, fabricated metal products, transportation equipment, petroleum, coal. Agriculture: corn, soybeans, hogs, cattle, dairy products, wheat. PCI: \$22,780.

Admission: 1818 as 21st state.



Carl Sandburg's image of Chicago as "City of the Big Shoulders" once evoked clanging stockyards and steel mills. Now metropolitan Chicago is one of the nation's biggest manufacturing and mail-order centers, home to more than half of all Illinoisans. No other U.S. city moves more freight by train and truck, and O'Hare is the world's busiest airport. Linked to the Atlantic via the St. Lawrence Seaway, Chicago shoulders cargo into the U.S. interior; canals and the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers extend its reach to the Gulf of Mexico.

Manufacturing of farm equipment is a major industry downstate. Farmland covers four-fifths of Illinois, one of the top five states in export of soybeans and feed grains. Legislation calls for farmers to greatly reduce topsoil loss by the year 2000.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Wisconsin (United States)



**BADGER STATE AREA:**  
145,436 sq km (56,153 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 5,082,000.  
**CAPITAL:** Madison, pop.

195,200. **ECONOMY:** Industry: machinery, food processing, paper products, electric equipment, fabricated metal products, tourism. Agriculture: dairy products, cattle, hogs, vegetables, corn, cranberries. **PCI:** \$21,020. **ADMISSION:** 1848 as 30th state.



Once home to more than a dozen Indian tribes, Wisconsin received an influx of Scandinavians, Germans, and other northern Europeans in the late 1800s. The state's glacial soils are used for growing fodder crops, and today farmers lead the nation in production of milk, butter, and cheese. Some 14,000 lakes and 64 state parks and forests stimulate tourism. In 1854 the Republican Party was born here. In 1900 Robert M. LaFollette's election as governor ushered in the nation's Progressive era, and legislators introduced trailblazing measures such as direct primary elections and unemployment compensation.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Louisiana (United States)



**PELICAN STATE AREA:**  
123,675 sq km (47,751 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 4,315,000.

**CAPITAL:** Baton Rouge, pop. 224,700. **ECONOMY:** Industry: chemical products, petroleum and coal products, food processing, transportation equipment, paper products, tourism. Agriculture: seafood, cotton, soybeans, cattle, sugarcane, poultry and eggs, dairy products, rice. PCI: \$17,650. Admission: 1812 as 18th state.



The 1980s petroleum slump took a heavy toll, offset in part by a lucrative seafood industry. Louisiana leads the U.S. in salt production. Petrochemical plants line the Mississippi from New Orleans—the country's busiest port—to Baton Rouge, and huge amounts of toxins are discharged into area waters. Another environmental challenge is to slow the loss of marshes—40 percent of the nation's coastal wetlands.

Vibrant New Orleans preserves its Creole heritage in the architecture and foods of the French Quarter. In Lafayette, the heart of Cajun country, descendants of Acadians expelled from eastern Canada in the mid-18th century still speak French.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Arkansas (United States)



**NATURAL STATE AREA:**  
137,754 sq km (53,187 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 2,453,000.  
**CAPITAL:** Little Rock, pop.

176,900. **ECONOMY:** Industry: food processing, electric equipment, fabricated metal products, machinery, paper products, bromine, vanadium. Agriculture: poultry and eggs, soybeans, sorghum, cattle, cotton, rice, hogs, milk. PCI: \$16,900. Admission: 1836 as 25th state.



Migrants from the southern Appalachians settled the forested Ozark Plateau and Ouachita Mountains in the early 19th century. Meanwhile, rich black soils along the Mississippi River attracted cotton planters to the east and south. Cotton has declined somewhat, but Arkansas now leads the nation in rice and broiler chickens and ranks high in soybeans and sorghum. No other place in the world produces more bromine and no other state more vanadium, used in metal alloys. Hot Springs National Park and the scenic Ozarks attract a growing number of visitors.

The number of urban residents only recently exceeded that of country dwellers; Little Rock and Fort Smith are the largest cities.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Missouri (United States)



**SHOW ME STATE AREA:**  
180,516 sq km (69,697 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 5,278,000.

**CAPITAL:** Jefferson City, pop. 37,100.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: transportation equipment, food processing, chemical products, electric equipment, fabricated metal products.

Agriculture: cattle, soybeans, hogs, dairy products, corn, poultry and eggs. PCI: \$20,720.

**ADMISSION:** 1821 as 24th state.



Frenchmen began mining lead in the early 1700s; today southeastern Missouri is the country's foremost lead producer. In 1764 French traders founded St. Louis near the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers. River access and a central location in the lower 48 states confer advantages: Both St. Louis and Kansas City thrive as transport hubs. Agribusiness centers on Kansas City. St. Louis, the locus of aerospace and automobile manufacturing, is headquarters of the world's largest brewing company. Six million tourists a year enjoy live country music in Branson's celebrity theaters.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Iowa (United States)



**HAWKEYE STATE AREA:**

145,753 sq km (56,275 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 2,829,000.

**CAPITAL:** Des Moines, pop.

194,500. **ECONOMY:** Industry: food processing, machinery, electric equipment, chemical products, printing and publishing, primary metals. Agriculture: hogs, corn, soybeans, oats, cattle, dairy products. PCI: \$20,270. Admission: 1846 as 29th state.



Bracketed by the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, the territory that became Iowa was part of the Louisiana Purchase of 1803. Today almost 95 percent of this heartland state, blessed with fine prairie soil, is under cultivation. Farm income suffered during most of the 1980s, forcing many Iowa farmers out of business. Yet in 1994 the state still led the nation in corn and soybean production and hogs and was third in oats. Manufacturing of farm machinery and electronic goods has helped diversify the economy.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*





## Texas (United States)



**LONE STAR STATE AREA:**

691,030 sq km (266,807 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 18,378,000.

**CAPITAL:** Austin, pop. 492,300.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: chemical products, petroleum and natural gas, food processing, electric equipment, machinery, mining, tourism. Agriculture: cattle, cotton, dairy products, nursery stock, poultry, sorghum, corn, wheat. PCI: \$19,860. **ADMISSION:** 1845 as 28th state.



The Old West and the New South meet in this sprawling land of cowboys, oil wells, and skyscrapers. Largest of the 48 contiguous states, Texas grew rich—and hooked—on oil. Texas pumps more than 600 million barrels of oil annually, making it the nation's leading onshore producer. Vast cattle ranches fatten more beef than in any other state, and rich black soils yield the largest cotton crop. Texas is the second most populous state, and Hispanic citizens, who wield growing political clout, constitute more than a fourth of the population. Illegal immigration from Mexico continues. Hard-driving Houston and Dallas are among America's ten largest metropolitan areas.

Despite the superlatives, this Sunbelt mecca has fallen on hard times. Collapsing oil prices in the early 1980s prompted savings and loan failures and plunging property values. Companies lured by low taxes and liberal zoning laws laid off workers. Even longtime oilmen favor efforts to wean Texas from "black gold" and instead nurture high-tech and service industries. Slower growth helps Texas restore aquifers, estuaries, and wildlife habitats strained by relentless development during the era of "big oil."

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Oklahoma (United States)



**SOONER STATE AREA:**

181,186 sq km (69,956 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 3,258,000.

**CAPITAL:** Oklahoma City, pop.

454,000. **ECONOMY:** Industry: transportation equipment, machinery, electric products, rubber and plastic products, food processing.

Agriculture: cattle, wheat, milk, poultry, cotton.

**PCI:** \$17,740. **ADMISSION:** 1907 as 46th state.



Descendants of more than 60 tribes make Oklahoma second only to California in Indian population. In the early 1800s the region was designated Indian Territory, a vast reserve for displaced Native Americans. Eventually land-hungry farmers swallowed up Indian Territory, and Oklahoma was born. This state of “soil, oil, and toil” has weathered hard times. The droughts and dust storms of the Depression years forced Okies westward in desperate search of work. Today the economy is recovering from the effects of the nationwide farm crisis and the 1980s global oil bust.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Kansas (United States)



**SUNFLOWER STATE AREA:**  
213,098 sq km (82,277 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 2,554,000.

**CAPITAL:** Topeka, pop. 120,300. **ECONOMY:**  
Industry: transportation equipment, food processing, printing and publishing, chemical products, machinery, apparel, petroleum, mining. Agriculture: cattle, wheat, sorghum, soybeans, hogs, corn. PCI: \$20,900. Admission: 1861 as 34th state.



Cattle-droving towns such as Abilene have long since given way to manufacturing centers. Wichita turns out half the world's general-aviation aircraft; Kansas City makes automobiles. Among the top ten states in crude-oil production, Kansas also banks on one of the nation's largest natural gas fields. Salt deposits near Hutchinson are the remnant of a shallow sea that once submerged the Great Plains. Although no other state grows more wheat—Mennonites from Europe introduced a hardy winter variety in the 1870s—livestock earns more for Kansas.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Nebraska (United States)



**CORNHUSKER STATE AREA:**

200,350 sq km (77,355 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 1,623,000.

**CAPITAL:** Lincoln, pop. 197,500.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: food processing, machinery, electric equipment, printing and publishing. Agriculture: cattle, corn, hogs, soybeans, wheat, sorghum. PCI: \$20,490.

**ADMISSION:** 1867 as 37th state.



During the mid-1800s one visitor called Nebraska's prairies "fat indeed compared to your New England pine plains." Today more than 90 percent of the land is in farms and cattle ranches. In the Sand Hills many spreads are so large that herds are tracked from the air. Corn and soybeans cover rolling eastern prairies; wheat grows on the drier central and western plains. Here the Ogallala aquifer irrigates corn, sugar beets, and alfalfa. A third of Nebraskans live in the cities of Omaha and Lincoln.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*





## South Dakota (United States)



### **MOUNT RUSHMORE STATE**

**AREA:** 199,730 sq km (77,116 sq mi). **POPULATION:** 721,000.

**CAPITAL:** Pierre, pop. 13,200. **ECONOMY:**

**Industry:** food processing, machinery, lumber and wood products, tourism. **Agriculture:** cattle, hogs, wheat, soybeans, milk, corn. **PCI:** \$19,580.

**ADMISSION:** 1889 as 40th state.



Ranchers raise cattle and sheep on the Great Plains west of the Missouri; east of the river, where most South Dakotans live, farmers grow corn and other grains. Sioux Falls, with 106,000 people, is the state's largest city. The mineral-rich Black Hills, spiritual homeland of the Sioux, contain one of North America's largest gold mines, the Homestake. Rapid City, once the gateway to mining camps, now channels tourists to Mount Rushmore and Custer State Park, which protects a publicly owned herd of 1,400 buffalo. Nearby Badlands National Park preserves fossils in ancient floodplains.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## North Dakota (United States)



**FLICKERTAIL STATE AREA:**

183,121 sq km (70,703 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 638,000.

**CAPITAL:** Bismarck, pop. 51,300.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: food processing, machinery, mining, tourism. Agriculture: wheat, cattle, barley, sunflowers, milk, sugar beets. PCI: \$18,550. **ADMISSION:** 1889 as 39th state.



Vast Dakota Territory, at the geographic center of the continent, was divided into North and South Dakota in 1889. Rich loess soils favor agriculture, but the draining of glacier-formed prairie potholes to increase cropland destroys critical habitat for migrating birds. Extremes in weather and in world markets subject wheat farmers to cycles of boom and bust, but petroleum and lignite production assists the economy. North Dakota stocks a huge share of the U.S. nuclear arsenal.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## New Mexico (United States)



### LAND OF ENCHANTMENT

AREA: 314,925 sq km (121,593 sq mi). POPULATION: 1,654,000.

CAPITAL: Santa Fe, pop. 59,000.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: electric equipment, petroleum and coal products, food processing, printing and publishing, stone, glass, and clay products, tourism. Agriculture: cattle, dairy products, hay, nursery stock, chilies. PCI: \$17,110. **ADMISSION:** 1912 as 47th state.



Diverse cultures—Indian, Spanish, and Mexican—have shaped New Mexico, which ranks fifth in area but 36th in population.

Most New Mexicans, more than a third of whom are Hispanic, live along the Rio Grande, many in the Albuquerque area. Income from uranium and potash supplements earnings from crude oil and natural gas. The boom in weapons and energy-related research brought scientists to Los Alamos and Sandia National Laboratories. Santa Fe, seat of government since 1610 when it was a dusty Spanish outpost, beckons artists, writers, and tourists.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Colorado (United States)



**CENTENNIAL STATE AREA:**

269,596 sq km (104,091 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 3,656,000.

**CAPITAL:** Denver, pop. 483,900.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: scientific instruments, food processing, transportation equipment, machinery, chemical products, gold and other mining, tourism. Agriculture: cattle, wheat, dairy products, corn, hay. PCI: \$22,330. Admission: 1876 as 38th state.



“What a splendid field it is for new expeditions,” wrote 19th-century mountaineer Frederick Chapin. Gold and silver drew mining expeditions in the early days. Today some 26 million visitors a year make excursions to the highest state. As ski resorts and tourist centers expand, wildlife habitat and the “splendid field” suffer. In Aspen and Telluride particulate pollution, mainly from wood-burning stoves, can be worse than in Denver; regulations limit fireplaces in new homes.

Pueblo, once dependent on steel, has broadened its industrial base; the city is also the gateway to rafting and camping in the southern mountains. Without tourism Colorado’s economy, long reliant on energy and minerals, would be in the doldrums. Near Denver, energy capital of the mountain West, the Rocky Flats weapons plant, which once pumped 300 million dollars a year into state coffers, no longer manufactures nuclear arms.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Wyoming (United States)



**EQUALITY STATE AREA:**  
253,326 sq km (97,809 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 476,000.

**CAPITAL:** Cheyenne, pop.

51,900. **ECONOMY:** Industry: mining, chemical products, lumber and wood products, printing and publishing, machinery, tourism. Agriculture: cattle, sugar beets, sheep, hay, wheat. PCI: \$20,440. **ADMISSION:** 1890 as 44th state.



Ninth largest state in area, Wyoming ranks 50th in population. Oil, natural gas, coal, and uranium are plentiful, but fickle markets cause drastic swings in demand. In 1869 this frontier territory pioneered women's suffrage in the U.S. In 1924 Wyoming became the first state to elect a woman governor. Yellowstone, the first national park in the U.S., was established in 1872. Today neighboring Grand Teton National Park's alpine peaks attract almost as many visitors as Yellowstone's geysers, hot springs, and mud pots. Increased logging, mining, and commercial development threaten the Yellowstone ecosystem, home to about 200 grizzlies.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Montana (United States)



**TREASURE STATE AREA:**  
380,848 sq km (147,046 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 856,000.  
**CAPITAL:** Helena, pop. 25,700.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: mining, lumber and wood products, food processing, tourism. Agriculture: cattle, wheat, barley, sugar beets, hay, hogs. PCI: \$17,870. **ADMISSION:** 1889 as 41st state.



Only Texas has more land devoted to agriculture than Montana, which celebrated its statehood centennial in 1989. In the Rocky Mountains—scene of a gold rush before statehood—mining of copper, gold, and silver is still profitable. Coal reserves of 120 billion tons are the nation's largest, but strip mining arouses opposition from ranchers and environmentalists. Some 16 million acres of national forest land bristle with fir trees in Big Sky Country. Conservationists press for stricter logging limits; opponents argue the need for jobs.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Arizona (United States)



### GRAND CANYON STATE

AREA: 295,260 sq km (114,000 sq mi). POPULATION: 4,075,000.

CAPITAL: Phoenix, pop.

1,012,200. ECONOMY: Industry: copper and other mining, electric equipment, transportation equipment, machinery, printing and publishing, food processing, electronics, tourism. Agriculture: cattle, cotton, dairy products, lettuce, nursery stock, hay. PCI: \$19,000. Admission: 1912 as 48th state.



Ghostly cliff dwellings, such as Canyon de Chelly, contrast sharply with booming Phoenix and Tucson, where one out of three Arizonans live. The state's population has tripled during the past 30 years, and today smog often shrouds Phoenix, once favored by asthmatics for its clean, dry air. Service industries and high-tech and aerospace manufacturing have eclipsed the traditional "three C's"—copper, cattle, and cotton; irrigated agribusiness remains important. The multibillion-dollar Central Arizona Project, a river diversion criticized by some as environmentally destructive, helps slake Arizona's thirst.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Utah (United States)



**BEEHIVE STATE AREA:**  
219,889 sq km (84,899 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 1,908,000.

**CAPITAL:** Salt Lake City, pop. 165,800. **ECONOMY:** Industry: machinery, aerospace, mining, food processing, electric equipment, tourism. Agriculture: cattle, dairy products, hay, turkeys. PCI: \$17,040.  
**ADMISSION:** 1896 as 45th state.



Mormon religious refugees settled along Great Salt Lake in 1847. Today Mormons make up 70 percent of Utah's population. Family values are strong, and the birthrate far exceeds that of the U.S. as a whole. Manufacturing of aerospace equipment and computer software buoys the economy; former mainstays such as oil, gas, coal, and uranium remain depressed. Attracted by five national parks and Salt Lake City—financial, retail, and transportation hub of the western Rockies and site of the 2002 Winter Olympics—15 million visitors a year enjoy Utah's scenic diversity. The U.S. government owns two-thirds of the land; conservationists and developers disagree over its use.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*





## Idaho (United States)



**GEM STATE AREA:** 216,432 sq km (83,564 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 1,133,000.

**CAPITAL:** Boise, pop. 135,500.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: food processing, lumber and wood products, machinery, chemical products, paper products, silver and other mining, tourism. Agriculture: cattle, potatoes, dairy products, wheat, sugar beets, barley. PCI: \$18,230. Admission: 1890 as 43rd state.



Mountains dominate Idaho, whose irrigated valleys yield more than a quarter of the nation's potatoes. The Snake River alone waters a million hectares of farmland. Cascading through Hells Canyon, at 2,408 meters (7,900 feet) the deepest gorge in the lower 48, the Snake also powers hydroelectric turbines. Second in silver mining, Idaho taps more antimony than any other state. Visitors are drawn to Sun Valley, a glittery resort, and to Craters of the Moon National Monument, a scene of cindery desolation.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## California (United States)



**GOLDEN STATE AREA:**  
411,049 sq km (158,706 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 31,431,000.

**CAPITAL:** Sacramento, pop.

382,800. **ECONOMY:** Industry: electronic components and equipment, aerospace, film production, food processing, petroleum, computers and computer software, tourism.

Agriculture: vegetables, fruits and nuts, dairy products, cattle, nursery stock, grapes. PCI:

\$22,500. Admission: 1850 as 31st state.



“Eureka, I have found it” is the apt motto for the nation’s most populous state, home to one in eight Americans. The gold rush of 1849 created California’s image as a promised land. By 1900 almost half the population was clustered around San Francisco and Los Angeles, each the focus of intense competition for water.

In 1913 the Los Angeles Aqueduct began tapping water from Owens Valley to feed the city’s continued unchecked growth. In 1934 San Francisco satisfied its thirst with water from Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a project that spawned the modern conservation movement. The Colorado River Aqueduct eased the water cravings of burgeoning southern California in the 1940s. The state’s largest water transfer—the Central Valley Project—greens 128,000 square kilometers in the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys, where migrant farm laborers find seasonal work.

Near San Francisco, Silicon Valley forms the core of the U.S. microelectronics industry. Freeways symbolize California’s on-the-go lifestyle, but smog, gridlock, and sprawl paralyze some urban areas. The 1992 riots in Los Angeles, in which 750 businesses were burned down, highlighted the problems and pressures of this ethnically diverse area, whose population grew by 26 percent during the 1980s.

In January 1994 the costliest earthquake in U.S. history hit the Los Angeles area with a price tag of 20 billion dollars and 60 lives lost.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Nevada (United States)



**SILVER STATE AREA:** 286,352 sq km (110,561 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 1,457,000.

**CAPITAL:** Carson City, pop.

42,800. **ECONOMY:** Industry: tourism, mining, machinery, printing and publishing, food processing, electric equipment. Agriculture: cattle, hay, dairy products, potatoes. PCI: \$24,020. **ADMISSION:** 1864 as 36th state.



No rivers flow to the sea from the Great Basin, whose high ridges and alkali sinks dominate this driest state. In 1859 prospectors struck the Comstock Lode in western Nevada. Today gold and silver mines are reopening, but casino gambling, legalized in 1931, is Nevada's ace. Every year millions of optimists add some six billion dollars of gaming revenues to the economy—more than agriculture, manufacturing, and mining combined. The sparse year-round population clusters in and around Las Vegas, Reno, and Carson City. More than 85 percent of Nevada is federally owned, including Great Basin National Park, created in 1986.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Oregon (United States)



**BEAVER STATE AREA:**  
251,419 sq km (97,073 sq mi).  
**POPULATION:** 3,086,000.

**CAPITAL:** Salem, pop. 112,100. **ECONOMY:**  
Industry: lumber and wood products, tourism, food processing, paper products, machinery, scientific instruments. Agriculture: cattle, vegetables, nursery stock, fruits and nuts, dairy products, wheat. PCI: \$20,420. **ADMISSION:** 1859 as 33rd state.



The end of the road for wagon trains bound westward over the Oregon Trail, the Pacific Northwest became more accessible after completion of a transcontinental railroad line to Portland in 1883. Today location on the Pacific Rim is one of Oregon's greatest assets: Most of its international trade is with Asia, and Portland serves as a large distribution center for Japanese autos.

Hydroelectricity generated by dams on the Columbia River has powered industry since World War II. Heavily forested, the state produces 15 percent of America's softwood lumber and plywood. Fruits and vegetables grow in the Willamette Valley, wheat east of the Cascades. Natural resources are managed carefully, and Oregon's land-use and recycling laws set standards for the nation.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*



## Washington (United States)



**EVERGREEN STATE AREA:**

176,477 sq km (68,138 sq mi).

**POPULATION:** 5,343,000.

**CAPITAL:** Olympia, pop. 36,800.

**ECONOMY:** Industry: aerospace, food processing, paper products, lumber and wood products, chemical products, tourism.

Agriculture: seafood, dairy products, apples, cattle, wheat, potatoes, nursery stock. PCI:

\$22,610. **ADMISSION:** 1889 as 42nd state.



Western hemlock and Douglas fir support the oldest industry—timber. Clear-cutting of old-growth forests, which imperils the rare northern spotted owl, has slowed as environmentalists and loggers argue in court. Snowfall from the Cascade Range helps water the Yakima Valley, which grows bumper crops of apples. The highly controlled Columbia River irrigates the Columbia Basin, an oasis of wheat, fruits, and vegetables. Deep harbors in Puget Sound, where pollution threatens salmon stocks and oyster beds, favor maritime commerce with Asia. During the past decade the population of the Seattle-Tacoma area grew by nearly 25 percent.

Text source: *National Geographic Atlas of the World Revised Sixth Edition, 1995*