



UTC-8



UTC-7



UTC-6



UTC-5



USA

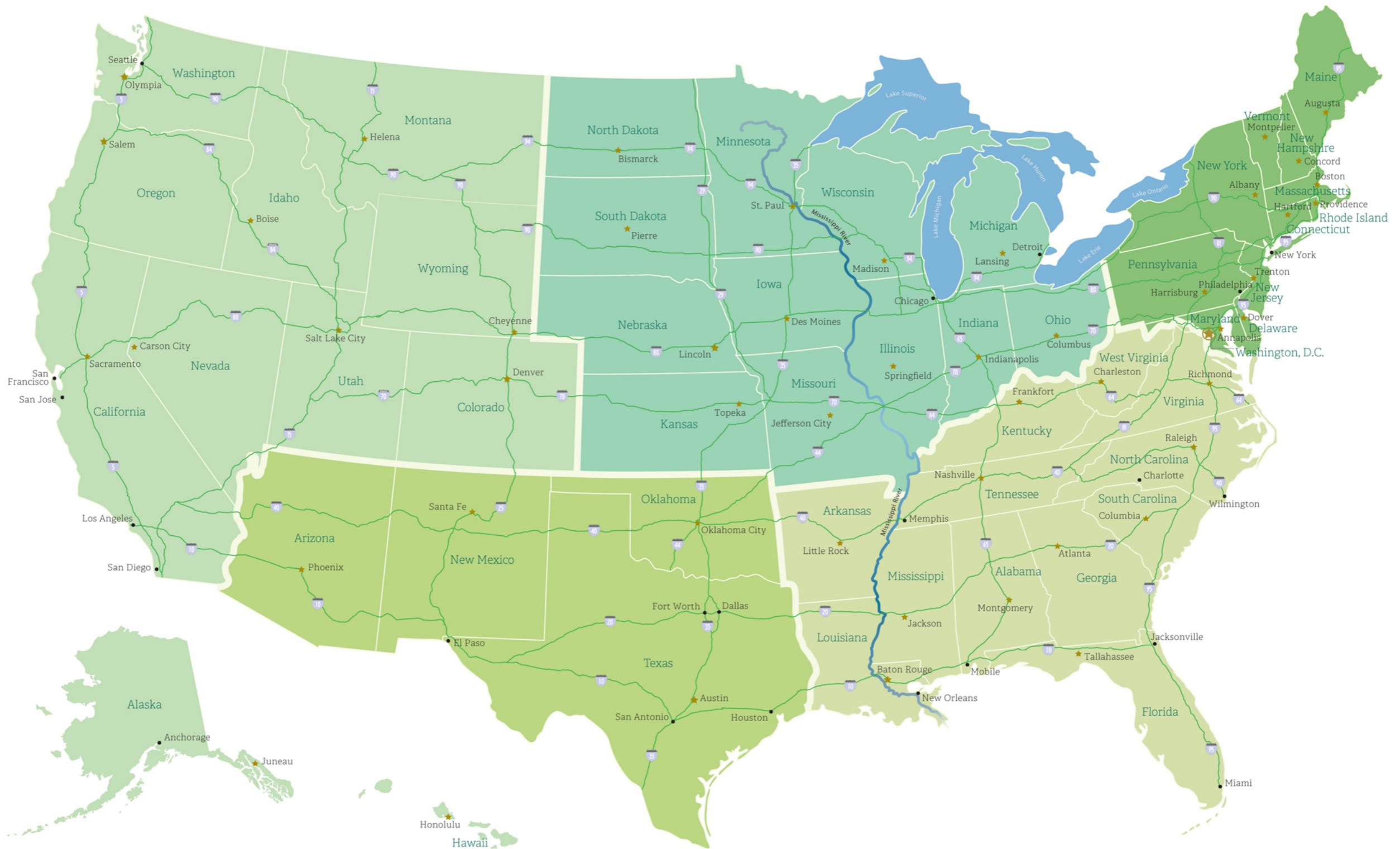
The United States of America

The 50 States

★ National capital ★ State capital ● City

Note: Alaska and Hawaii are not to scale.





USA

The United States of America

Facts & Figures

● National capital
 ★ State capital
 ● City

90 Construction of the U.S. highway system began in 1956 and was completed in the 1980s. It now extends 75,440 kilometers.

Note: Alaska and Hawaii are not to scale.

The West

AREA: 1,516,161 sq mi | 3,926,839 sq km
 POPULATION: 63,494,357
 YOUTH | under 18: 15,783,724
 FOREIGN-BORN: 13,061,139
 NATIVE AMERICANS: 847,239
 MOST POPULOUS CITY: Los Angeles

The Southwest

AREA: 564,719 sq mi | 1,462,615 sq km
 POPULATION: 37,348,108
 YOUTH | under 18: 9,943,176
 FOREIGN-BORN: 5,410,217
 NATIVE AMERICANS: 982,410
 MOST POPULOUS CITY: Houston

The Midwest

AREA: 750,523 sq mi | 1,943,846 sq km
 POPULATION: 66,927,001
 YOUTH | under 18: 16,128,108
 FOREIGN-BORN: 4,461,557
 NATIVE AMERICANS: 458,611
 MOST POPULOUS CITY: Chicago

The Southeast

AREA: 526,874 sq mi | 1,364,597 sq km
 POPULATION: 78,987,346
 YOUTH | under 18: 18,434,538
 FOREIGN-BORN: 7,689,239
 NATIVE AMERICANS: 406,523
 MOST POPULOUS CITY: Jacksonville

The Northeast

AREA: 173,629 sq mi | 449,697 sq km
 POPULATION: 61,988,726
 YOUTH | under 18: 13,819,921
 FOREIGN-BORN: 9,504,811
 NATIVE AMERICANS: 237,465
 MOST POPULOUS CITY: New York



USA

The United States of America

Landmarks & Industry

★ National capital ☆ State capital

Note: Alaska and Hawaii are not to scale.

The West



The Southwest



The Midwest



The Southeast



The Northeast



USA

Landmarks & Industry Key

The West

-  **BALD EAGLES:** About 50,000 bald eagles live in Alaska, which has the largest population in the country. They flourish along the northwest coast of North America, where they can feed on salmon.
-  **POLAR BEARS:** More than 10 percent of the world's polar bear population is found in Alaska.
-  **MOUNT MCKINLEY (DENALI):** At 6,194 meters above sea level, Mount McKinley, also known as Denali, is Alaska's highest mountain peak in the United States and in North America.
-  **OIL PRODUCTION:** The Prudhoe Bay oil field is the largest discovered in North America. The Trans-Alaska Pipeline was completed in 1977 to carry its oil to the contiguous 48 states.
-  **PALM TREES AND PALMETTOS:** Palm trees are found in California, Hawaii and Florida. South Carolina is called the Palmetto State after the Sabal palmetto, its official state tree.
-  **SURFING:** Waves as high as 15 meters between March and October draw the world's best surfers to Hawaii, especially on the north shore of Oahu.
-  **GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE:** This 2,737-meter suspension bridge spans the Golden Gate Strait, which is the entrance to the San Francisco Bay from the Pacific Ocean. The American Society of Civil Engineers designated it one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World.
-  **ROUTE 66:** Completed in 1926 and known as the Main Street of America and the Mother Road, U.S. Highway 66 stretched nearly 4,000 kilometers from Chicago, Illinois, through the states of Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico and Arizona to Los Angeles, California. The first "transcontinental" highway, Route 66 was decommissioned in 1985 in favor of the networked interstate system.
-  **TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY:** Santa Clara County, California, is the heart of "Silicon Valley," a technology business hub nicknamed for the silicon chip manufacturers located there in the 1970s. Cupertino-based Apple Inc. is the most valuable publicly traded company in the world (2012).
-  **MOVIE MAKING:** By 1914, several companies had established studios in and around the Hollywood district of Los Angeles. By the end of World War I, "Hollywood" stood for the style of American cinema.
-  **VINEYARDS:** California is the fourth-largest wine producer in the world, accounting for 90 percent of U.S. wine production.
-  **APPLES:** As the leading apple-growing state, Washington contributes about 60 percent of the apples produced in the United States.
-  **TIMBER:** Forests cover more than 12 million of Oregon's 25 million hectares — almost half of the state's land mass. The United States is the world's leading producer and consumer of forest products, accounting for about one-fourth of the world's production and consumption.
-  **MOUNT ST. HELENS:** Just 250 kilometers south of Seattle, Washington, and 175 kilometers northeast of Portland, Oregon, this 2,550-meter active volcano erupted violently in May 1980, causing significant destruction. In 1982, the 44,500-hectare Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument opened for research and education. The U.S. Geological Survey monitors the volcano for earthquakes, swelling and gas emissions.
-  **ROCKY MOUNTAINS:** Rising more than 4,400 meters, the Rocky Mountain range stretches between the United States and Canada along the Continental Divide, drawing visitors from around the world to climb its peaks, study its wildlife and ski its slopes.
-  **GLACIER NATIONAL PARK:** Since 1910, more than 400,000 hectares of forests, alpine meadows, lakes, rugged peaks and glacier-carved valleys have been preserved in the Northern Rocky Mountains of Montana. Research includes a grizzly bear investigation, studies of sensitive fish populations, post-fire burn assessments and one of the nation's primary global climate change studies.
-  **ELK HERDS:** Rocky Mountain National Park is home to thousands of elk, whose population has recovered after nearly disappearing in the late 1800s.
-  **POTATOES:** Idaho has some of the richest agricultural land in the United States, especially the irrigated region of the Snake River plain. Potatoes have become almost synonymous with Idaho, which contributes about one-third of the country's potato production.
-  **ARCHES NATIONAL PARK:** This 310-square-kilometer desert area of sandstone formations in eastern Utah was established as a national monument in 1929 and as a national park in 1971. The area's red sandstone has eroded into a variety of unusual shapes, including pinnacles, windows and arches.
-  **BARREL RACING:** Traditions and culture of the American West remain part of Wyoming life. The Cheyenne Frontier Days festival has been held annually since 1897. Featured events include bronco riding, bull riding, calf roping and barrel racing.
-  **YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK:** The oldest and probably the best-known national park in the United States, Yellowstone includes the world's greatest concentration of geysers. Congress established the park on March 1, 1872. The park straddles northwestern Wyoming, southern Montana and eastern Idaho.
-  **HISTORIC RAILROAD:** In 1862 Congress authorized the construction of two railroads to link the Mississippi Valley and the Pacific Coast. One was built westward 1,619 kilometers from Omaha, Nebraska, and the other eastward from Sacramento, California. The two were joined at Promontory, Utah, on May 10, 1869, with the last spike made of gold, to form the Transcontinental Railroad.
-  **LAS VEGAS:** The only major city in the American West to have been founded in the 20th century, this desert resort remained the country's fastest-growing metropolis at century's end. Entrepreneurship, access to water, an extensive transportation network and permissive state laws made "Vegas" the home of lavish casinos, elaborate hotels and spectacular entertainment venues.
-  **HOOVER DAM:** Constructed between 1930 and 1936, Hoover Dam is the highest concrete arch dam in the United States. The dam is used for flood and silt control, electric power, agricultural irrigation and domestic water supply. It is also a major sightseeing destination, with almost 1 million visitors annually.

The Southwest

-  **THE GRAND CANYON:** Cut by the Colorado River in the high plateau region of northwestern Arizona, the Grand Canyon is noted for its fantastic shapes and coloration. Between its outer walls, the broad chasm contains a multitude of imposing peaks, buttes, gorges and ravines. It ranges in width from about 160 meters to 29 kilometers and stretches 446 kilometers long.
-  **INDIAN CULTURE:** About one-quarter of Arizona is tribal land that is the home of the Navajo Nation; the Hopi tribe; the Tohono O'odham Nation; the Apache tribes; the Yaqui peoples; and various Yuman tribes, such as the Yavapai people, the Quechan people and the Hualapai people. More than 25 percent of American Indians in the United States live in the Southwest, mostly in Oklahoma and Arizona.
-  **BALLOON FIESTA:** The Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta is a nine-day event held each year in October, featuring mass balloon ascensions, balloon races, fireworks, competitions, shows and other colorful events.
-  **INDIAN PUEBLOS:** The Pueblo culture, also called Anasazi, was a prehistoric civilization that existed generally in the area where Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado and Utah intersect. Their descendants are the modern Pueblo tribes, including the Hopi, Zuni, Acoma and Laguna, many of whom still live in multi-storied adobe homes and ceremonial structures built in the late 13th and early 14th centuries.
-  **BISON HERDS:** Bison, symbolic animals of the Great Plains, are often mistakenly called buffaloes. Formidable beasts, they are the heaviest land animals in North America. Yellowstone claims to be the only place in the United States where bison have lived continuously since prehistoric times; the largest bison population on public land in the country resides there.
-  **THE ALAMO:** This 18th-century Franciscan mission in San Antonio, Texas, was the site of a historic resistance effort by a small group of Texan fighters for independence from Mexico in 1836. Originally the chapel of the Mission San Antonio de Valero, founded between 1716 and 1718, the building had been abandoned by the end of the 1700s. The resistance fighters lost, but in Texas, the Alamo remains a symbol of heroism.
-  **LONGHORN CATTLE:** A living symbol of the Old West, the Texas Longhorn was among the earliest breeds of cattle in America. Nearly extinct by the 1900s, the Longhorn was rescued when the federal government, Texas, Nebraska and Oklahoma established wildlife refuges in 1927 to preserve the breed.
-  **COWBOYS:** Economic growth after the Civil War pushed up demand for beef from the West, where cattle roamed freely and had multiplied quickly in the 1800s. The lone herders who drove the cattle from Texas to markets in the North and East from 1866 to 1886 gave rise to the legend of the American cowboy as a folk hero and symbol of the "Wild West."
-  **OIL PRODUCTION:** Texas is the top oil-producing state in the United States, followed by North Dakota, Alaska and California. In October 2012, Texas produced 2.1 million barrels a day, up from a peak of 1.7 million in 2011. Oil deposits have been found under more than two-thirds of the state.
-  **CATTLE RANCHES:** The "open range" cattle industry ended abruptly in the winter of 1886–1887, when severe blizzards killed thousands of cattle. Taking what cattle were left, investors bought land, and the 1870s invention of barbed wire to enclose the animals on large ranches, and shipped the cattle to market on newly built railroads.

The Midwest

-  **MOUNT RUSHMORE:** Artist Gutzon Borglum, known for his natural stone sculptures, carved the 18-meter heads of Presidents George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln in granite on the southeast side of Mount Rushmore in the Black Hills of South Dakota from 1927 to 1941. Washington represents the country's founding; Jefferson, its expansion across the continent; Roosevelt, its domestic development and global influence; and Lincoln, its preservation through the Civil War.
-  **CHIMNEY ROCK:** Designated a national historic site in 1956, the rock is a 37-meter sandstone "needle" on a 108-meter cone-shaped mound in western Nebraska. A major milestone on the Oregon Trail, the rock signals the end of the Great Plains and the beginning of the Rocky Mountains.
-  **INDIAN HERITAGE:** Intricately constructed ceremonial mounds and copper tools are among vestiges of the numerous Indian cultures that occupied the Upper Midwest for centuries before Europeans arrived in the region. Tribes around the Great Lakes area included the Huron, Ottawa, Chippewa or Ojibwe, Potawatomi, Winnebago or Ho-chunk, Menominee, Sacs, Fox and Miami.
-  **DAIRY PRODUCTS:** Although it ranks 20th in population and 23rd in area, Wisconsin is the top producer of cheese and the second-largest producer of milk (behind California) in the United States. About 85 percent of the state's milk production goes toward making cheese. Minnesota and Michigan also are "dairy belt" states in the Midwest.
-  **RUBBER INDUSTRY:** Known as the "breadbasket" of the country, the Midwest also has a strong manufacturing sector. Ohio serves the auto industry as the country's top producer of rubber products and hosts the world headquarters of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company in Akron.
-  **ROUTE 66:** Under the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program and related efforts, parts of the legendary road's neon legacy have been preserved, and about 85 percent of its stretches are drivable. Pieces of its distinctive roadside culture of diners, motor courts and "kitschy" tourist traps serve as living historical reminders of America's post-World War II collective optimism. The Federal Highway Administration has designated stretches of Route 66 in Arizona, Illinois, New Mexico and Oklahoma as National Scenic Byways.
-  **GATEWAY ARCH:** Also known as the "Gateway to the West," the arch in St. Louis, Missouri, is a monument to the pioneers who settled in the West. It serves as the centerpiece of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial. Rising 192 meters above the west bank of the Mississippi River, the arch also is 192 meters wide and supports a tram that carries visitors to the top. The arch was designed in 1947, built from 1963 to 1965, and opened in 1967.
-  **WHEAT:** The Midwest leads the nation in wheat production. The hardy crop thrives in the drier "wheat belt" of the Great Plains, where Kansas is the top producer and North Dakota is second. South Dakota and Minnesota also are among the top 10 wheat-producing states.

-  **FARMING:** The Midwest boasts eight of the top 10 agriculture-producing states: Iowa, Nebraska, Illinois, Minnesota, Kansas, South Dakota, Ohio and Indiana. The long, hot summers of the Central and Great Plains provide long growing seasons.
-  **CORN:** The states of Iowa and Illinois are the first- and second-largest corn producers in the country. Corn enjoys higher rainfall amounts in these "corn belt" states. The starchy vegetable also grows in large amounts in Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, Minnesota, Nebraska, South Dakota, Kansas and Wisconsin.
-  **SUNFLOWERS:** A major crop in the 1970s that gave way to soybeans in the 1980s, oil-type sunflowers are making a comeback thanks to the potato chip industry and other food processors that are willing to pay a premium for sunflower seed oil over soybean oil for its healthier reputation among consumers. North Dakota accounts for about half of U.S. sunflower production, followed closely by South Dakota.
-  **LOONS:** Claiming to have more than any state except Alaska, Minnesota adopted the common loon as its state bird. Larger than a mallard but smaller than a goose, this water bird has a thick neck, a long black bill and red eyes. Built like a torpedo, it swims in search of prey under water for up to five minutes.
-  **WILLIS TOWER:** Still known to most as the Sears Tower, the 110-floor building opened in 1973. Built for Sears, Roebuck and Company, the structure reaches 442 meters, excluding antennas, and is the tallest U.S. building. In 2009, "The Ledge" — four glass boxes extending 1.3 meters from the building — was added to the 103rd-floor viewing area. Willis Group Holdings, a London-based insurance broker, changed the building's name to Willis Tower in 2009. Sears moved out in 1992.
-  **ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM:** Opened in 1995 in Cleveland, Ohio, the museum celebrates the history and cultural significance of rock music and honors the contributions of those who create and perform the music. Among its offerings are permanent and temporary exhibits, a research library and archives, educational outreach and conferences. The museum is housed in a 14,000-square-meter glass-and-steel building of assorted geometric shapes on the shore of Lake Erie.
-  **MOTOWN MUSEUM:** Considered the most iconic record label in American musical history, Detroit, Michigan-based Motown Records, started in 1959 by songwriter and former autoworker Berry Gordy Jr., is known for its signature blend of pop, soul and blues that radically altered the public's perception of black music. Motown's "Hitsville U.S.A." building at 2648 West Grand Boulevard in Detroit was its headquarters from 1959 until 1968 and became the Motown Museum in 1985.
-  **INDY 500:** One of the oldest and most prestigious auto racing events in the world, the Indianapolis 500 takes place on Memorial Day on a roughly 4-kilometer oval track built in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1909 to allow auto manufacturers to test their cars against each other. With the exception of World War periods, the race has been held since 1911, and its entry rules have evolved into specifications for a type of open-wheel race car known as the Indy Car.
-  **AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY:** American industrialist Henry Ford introduced modern mass production at Ford Motor Company in Detroit, Michigan, in 1913, spurring rapid growth of the auto industry. By 1926, Ford was producing half the cars in the world. Today, Ford is the second-largest car maker in the United States behind General Motors and ahead of Chrysler. In addition, 10 companies based in other countries build cars in the United States.

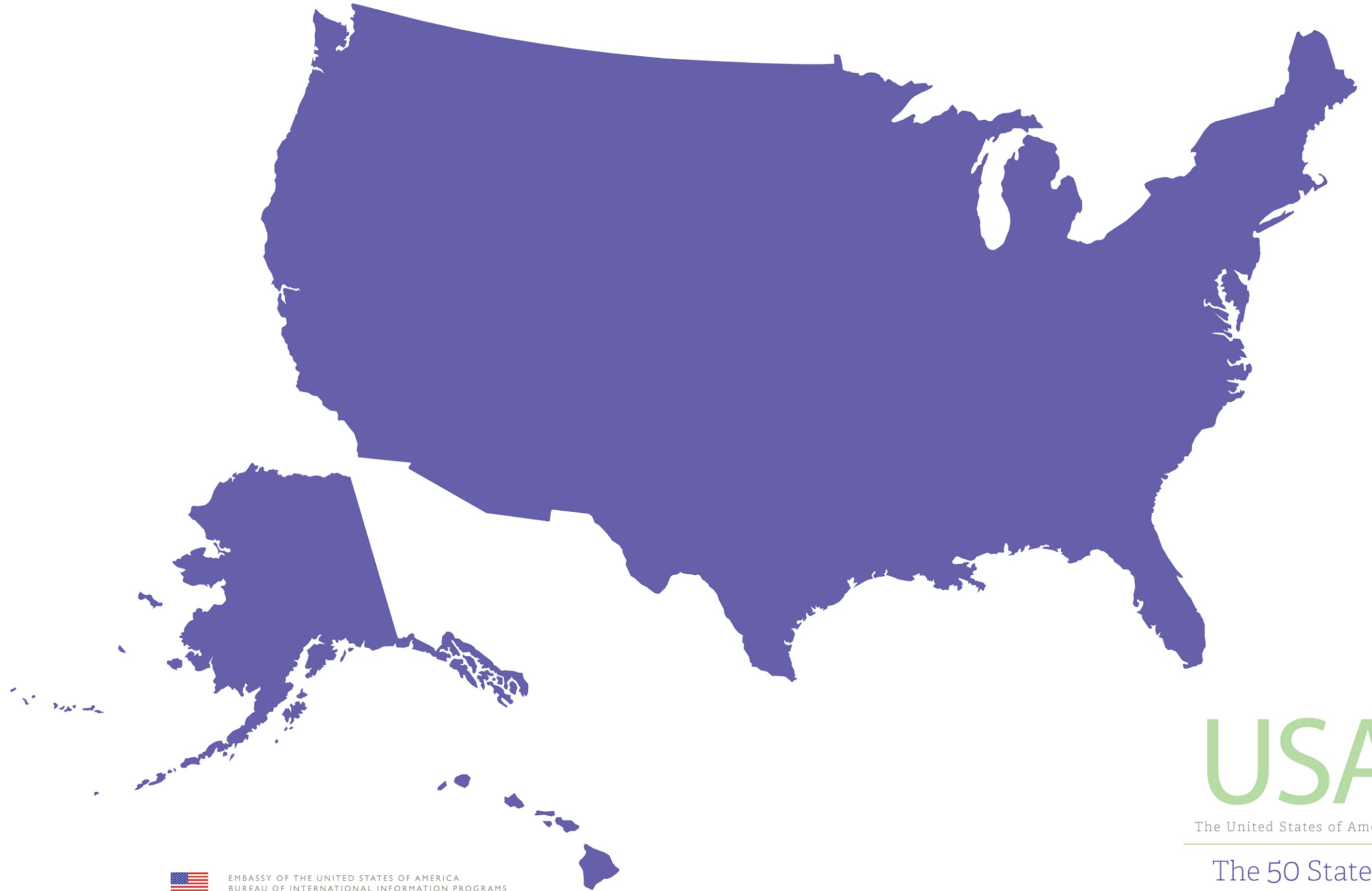
The Southeast

-  **COLONIAL CAPITOL:** When the colony of Virginia moved its capital from Jamestown to the planned city of Williamsburg in 1699, construction of the first building in America for use as a capitol took place from 1701–1704. On December 24, 1779, Virginia's legislature adjourned, reconvening May 1 in its new capitol in Richmond. The Williamsburg building eventually burned down, but many of the city's other 18th-century buildings remained, and starting in 1926 John D. Rockefeller reconstructed the entire Colonial Capitol.
-  **HORSES:** Horses are the ninth-largest agricultural commodity in Virginia. In the 1700s, Virginia colonists began improving the speed of their short, stocky horses by introducing prime English breeds, establishing a horse industry that continues to grow. From 1997 to 2007, the number of farms with horses increased from 10,972 to 13,520 — offsetting a decline in non-horse farms. Virginia's horse country includes scenic trails, elite competitions, races, hunts and Chincoteague's wild ponies.
-  **BLUEGRASS:** As a distinct musical style, bluegrass developed from traditional folk music of the U.S. Appalachian region in the 1940s, but the term was not used until the Blue Grass Boys, led by Bill Monroe of Kentucky — the "Bluegrass State" — gained popularity. Derived from dance music and ballads from Ireland, Scotland and England, as well as African-American gospel and blues, classic bluegrass is associated with the distinct sound of the banjo.
-  **GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS:** The Great Smokies lie between Knoxville, Tennessee, and Asheville, North Carolina. Covering 2,113 square kilometers, Great Smoky Mountains National Park was established in 1934 to preserve the last sizable area of U.S. southern primeval hardwood forest. Designated a UNESCO International Biosphere Reserve in 1976 and a World Heritage site in 1983, the park contains some of the highest peaks in the Appalachian Mountains, including Clingmans Dome at 2,025 meters.
-  **PEANUTS:** The United States grows about 10 percent of the world's peanuts and exports between 200,000 and 250,000 metric tons annually. Georgia is by far the leading producer, followed by Alabama, Florida, Texas, North Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi, Virginia, Oklahoma and New Mexico.
-  **COAL:** The United States holds the world's largest estimated recoverable coal reserves and is a net exporter. More than one-third of the coal produced in the United States comes from the Appalachian Coal Region. West Virginia is the largest coal-producing state in the region and is the second-largest in the country, behind Wyoming.
-  **WRIGHT BROTHERS:** Located in the sand dunes of Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina, the Wright Brothers National Memorial commemorates the first successful, sustained powered flight in a heavier-than-air machine. The park includes a monument on Big Kill Devil Hill, a granite marker at the lift-off spot, markers where each of the first four flights landed, reconstructed 1903 camp buildings, a visitor center, reproductions of the 1902 glider and 1903 flyer, and other exhibits.
-  **KENNEDY SPACE CENTER:** Opened in 1962 at the NASA Launch Operations Center in east Florida, the John F. Kennedy Space Center is the U.S. launch site used for every NASA human spaceflight since 1968. It has an extensive visitor center with exhibits and displays about the history of spaceflight and offers numerous tours and public activities.
-  **CITRUS FARMS:** Florida is the country's leading citrus-growing state, producing about 65 percent of the total crop, including oranges, grapefruit, lemons, tangelos, tangerines and mandarins; California contributes about 32 percent, while Texas and Arizona produce the rest.
-  **OZARK WATERFALLS:** The Ozark region includes northern Arkansas, southern Missouri and parts of Oklahoma, Kansas and Illinois. Technically a set of plateaus carved by many deep valleys, the Ozarks are known for their diverse landscapes, rugged topography, steep rivers, underground streams, hot springs, extensive caverns and abundant natural spring waterfalls.
-  **PEACHES:** Despite its reputation as the "Peach State," Georgia ranks third in the country's peach production, behind California (producing more than 70 percent) and South Carolina. New Jersey and Pennsylvania are other leading producers.
-  **RIVERBOAT:** Memorialized in Mark Twain's *Life on the Mississippi*, the most famous early U.S. riverboats traveled the Ohio, Mississippi and other Midwestern and Southern rivers in the early 19th century, generating economic growth in port cities along their routes. Steam-driven, the boats used paddle wheels that drew little water, allowing them to navigate shallow depths.

-  **LIGHTHOUSE:** Guarding the "Graveyard of the Atlantic," the lighthouse at Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, is the tallest in the country (nearly 59 meters) and one of the tallest brick lighthouses in the world. Completed in 1870, the lighthouse has been recognized as a National Historic Landmark. In 1999, a \$12-million relocation and restoration project moved the light station 885 meters southwest to escape beach erosion.
-  **JAZZ:** New Orleans jazz music was born around the turn of the 20th century, spreading to Chicago and New York in the 1910s. A combination of styles, its originality primarily came from its focus on improvisation. The Dixieland jazz style popular in New Orleans combined brass band marches, French quadrilles, ragtime and blues with improvisation by trumpet or cornet, trombone or clarinet over a "rhythm section" of piano, guitar, banjo, drums, double bass or tuba.
-  **KENTUCKY DERBY:** Held since 1875 and also known as the "Run for the Roses," the Kentucky Derby is a 2-kilometer race for 3-year-old thoroughbreds that is held at Churchill Downs in Louisville on the first Saturday in May. The winning horse is crowned with a blanket of 554 red roses. The Derby, the Preakness Stakes in Maryland and the Belmont Stakes in New York compose the "Triple Crown" of U.S. horseracing.
-  **BASS FISHING:** The modern bass tournament began in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1968 with the incorporation of the Bass Anglers Sportsman Society, which established the first rules for competitive bass fishing. Aimed at fostering ethical angling, conservation and safety, the society's standards still guide tournaments around the world.
-  **THEME PARKS:** Walt Disney World's Magic Kingdom opened on October 1, 1971, in Orlando, Florida. Disney and others have added several new parks since then. The state's year-round warm weather encourages millions of visitors to Disney World and to other parks, including Legoland, Universal Studios and SeaWorld.
-  **BEACHES:** The United States has more than 7,000 coastal beaches; many in the Southeast are warm all year.

The Northeast

-  **THE CAPITOL:** Construction on the U.S. Capitol, home of the U.S. Congress, began in 1793 on Capitol Hill, a plateau 26 meters above the Potomac River. Over the years, the building has been both renovated and expanded. Known for its white cast-iron dome, the Capitol is a symbol of American democracy.
-  **THE LIBERTY BELL:** Originally cast in England in 1752 and weighing more than 900 kilograms, the bell, 3.66 meters in circumference, hung in the Pennsylvania State House — now Independence Hall — and rang to announce government meetings and public events. Bearing the inscription "Proclaim LIBERTY throughout all the Land unto all the Inhabitants thereof," it was renamed the Liberty Bell by 19th-century abolitionists. Today the Liberty Bell is housed at the Independence National Historic Park in Philadelphia.
-  **SAILING:** In 1844, the New York Yacht Club became the first U.S. organization dedicated to sailing and racing sailboats and yachts. Recreational and sport sailing is often associated with the Chesapeake Bay — the largest estuary in the contiguous United States and home of the U.S. Naval Academy.
-  **BLUE CRAB:** The Chesapeake Blue Crab is considered a culinary delicacy. About one-third of the country's blue crab catch typically comes from the Chesapeake Bay. Maryland's colder waters tend to produce a larger, higher-quality soft-shell (molted) blue crab.
-  **OYSTERS:** Oysters are another favorite seafood treat. In the past, overfishing and disease nearly eradicated the oyster population, but stringent protections are helping to restore it. About 25 percent of approved shellfish waters for oysters and clams in the United States are in the Chesapeake Bay.
-  **DAIRY CATTLE:** Though milk is produced in all 50 states, the dairy cow is a symbol of Vermont, where dairy products and cattle are the top two agricultural commodities. Vermont has the highest ratio of dairy cows to people (1 to 3.8), and cows are a recurring motif in Vermont branding, artwork and culture.
-  **STATUE OF LIBERTY:** Rising 93 meters above New York Harbor, the Statue of Liberty was a gift from the people of France to recognize U.S. democratic achievements and call attention to France's democratic causes. It represents a woman holding a torch in her raised right hand and a tablet bearing the adoption date of the Declaration of Independence (July 4, 1776) in her left. Soon after the 1886 dedication, the United States opened nearby Ellis Island as a port of entry for immigrants.
-  **BASEBALL HALL OF FAME:** The lore, mystique and obsession with statistics of America's "national pastime" are captured at this museum in tiny Cooperstown, New York. More than 300,000 visitors annually explore its exhibits and other materials about the leading players and other figures in baseball history.
-  **EMPIRE STATE BUILDING:** Built as the Great Depression started, the Empire State Building in New York City rises 381 meters — not including antennas. Known for its art deco architectural style, it has been named one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World by the American Society of Civil Engineers.
-  **ELECTRIC LAMP:** Working at his laboratory in Menlo Park, New Jersey, Thomas Edison devised the first commercially viable incandescent electric light. Patented in 1880, Edison's electric lamps paved the way for the universal domestic use of electric light.
-  **ROLL FILM CAMERA:** Before he founded Eastman Kodak Company in Rochester, New York, in 1892, George Eastman had started making photography accessible to everyone. In 1888, Eastman released the "roll-holder breast camera" and called it the Kodak camera, which he mass-produced and marketed for recording family events. Eastman Kodak eventually specialized in making film and helped to advance the motion picture industry.
-  **SEWING MACHINE:** Building on earlier inventions, Elias Howe of Massachusetts patented the first "automatic sewing machine" for practical use in 1846. In 1854, Isaac Merritt Singer of Boston patented a sewing machine for home use. Singer Sewing Company continues to make sewing machines today.
-  **NIAGARA FALLS:** Straddling the Canada–United States border, the three Niagara Falls carry the outflow of the five Great Lakes. The falls — American and Bridal Veil in the United States and Horseshoe in Canada — attract 12 million tourists a year. The birthplace of commercial hydroelectric power, the falls provide one-quarter of the electricity used in New York state and the Canadian province of Ontario.
-  **THE MAYFLOWER:** About 40 of the 102 passengers on the Mayflower, which sailed in 1620 from the port of Plymouth, England, were "Protestant Separatists" seeking freedom of religion from the Church of England. They were unaccustomed to the wilderness and harsh weather of what is now Massachusetts, and it is likely that none would have survived without the help of native people, but in time they celebrated their first successful harvest with a festival of thanksgiving.
-  **NEW ENGLAND LIGHTHOUSES:** A 26-meter rubblestone tower, lit in 1764 in New York Harbor at Sandy Hook, New Jersey, is the oldest surviving colonial lighthouse. In the country's northeast corner, the rugged, deeply indented coast of Maine boasts 65 lighthouses. Home to the American Lighthouse Foundation, the state served as a model for the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act of 2000.
-  **MOUNT WASHINGTON:** In the Presidential Range of New Hampshire's White Mountains, Mount Washington is the highest point in the northeastern United States at 1,917 meters. It is known for unexpectedly hazardous conditions, and trail signs warn of danger in bad weather: "Stop. The area ahead has the worst weather in America."
-  **MOOSE:** In the Northeast, the largest population of Eastern moose — about 76,000 — is in Maine, where this impressive beast, the largest species of deer, is the official state animal. In the United States, only Alaska has more moose.



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
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USA

The United States of America

The 50 States

USA

The United States of America

The 50 States

At 9.8 million square kilometers, the United States of America is the third-largest country in the world by size. In addition to nearly 20,000 miles of coastline, its geography features rugged mountains, a vast central plain, broad river valleys and volcanic terrain. The nation's history, economy and assets reflect its diverse international heritage. The enclosed three maps provide snapshots of these distinctive characteristics.



The 50 States: Outlined for easy comparison, including capitals, rivers and mountains



Facts & Figures: An overview of population by region, with an outline of the complex highway system



Landmarks & Industry: A sprinkling of the nation's multifaceted assets in a colorful, illustrated diagram