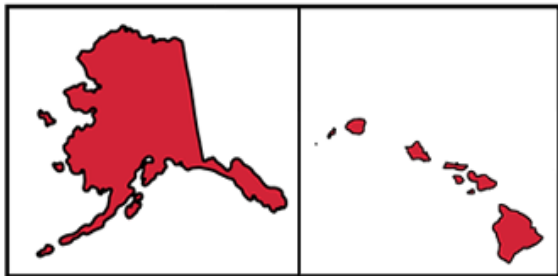




The West Region





ALASKA

Capital City: Juneau

Statehood: January 3, 1959 – It is the 49th State

State Motto: North to the Future

Nickname: The Last Frontier

Population: 736,732 – Rank 48 of 50

Did You Know? The state flag was designed by a 13-year-old student named Benny Benson from Chignik, Alaska. The design was chosen from 142 entrants and was adopted as the territorial flag in 1927.

Alaska is home to the tallest mountain in North America – Mount McKinley.

The name Alaska came from the Aleut word meaning "great land," or "that which the sea breaks against."

Alaska is one-fifth the size of the United States.





CALIFORNIA

Capital City: Sacramento

Statehood: September 9, 1850 – It is the 31st State

State Motto: Eureka

Nickname: The Golden State

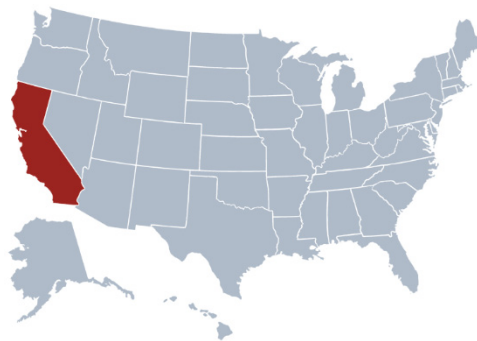
Population: 38,802,500 – Rank 1 of 50

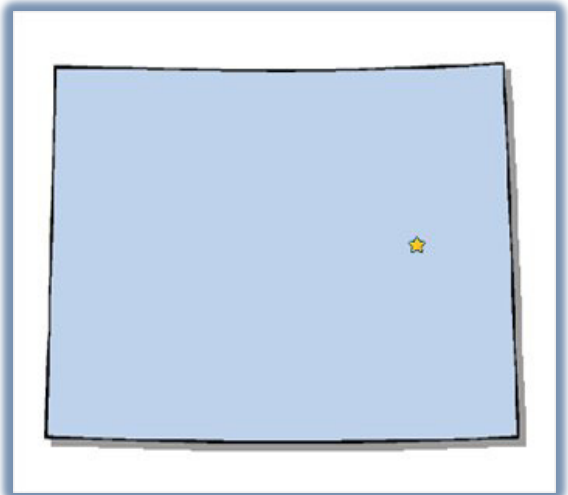
Did You Know? At 282 feet below sea level, Death Valley, CA is the lowest point in the United States.

The "Gold Rush" began in 1848 when gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill.

California is home to an active volcano called Lassen Peak.

Sequoia National Park is located in California. The trees there can grow to over 300 feet tall!





COLORADO

Capital City: Denver

Statehood: August 1, 1876 – It is the 38th State

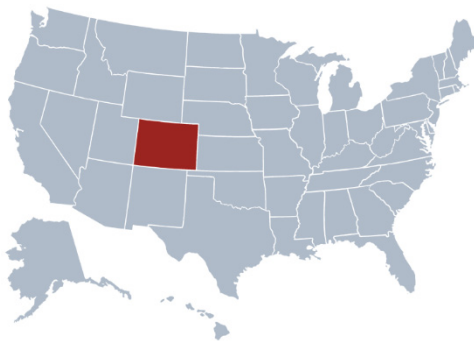
State Motto: *Nil sine numine* – Latin Meaning:
Nothing Without Providence

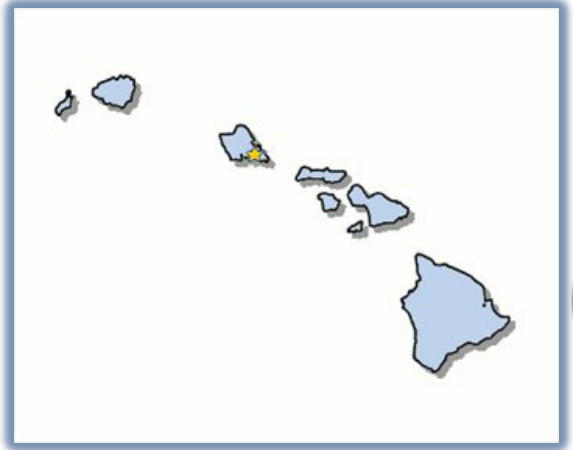
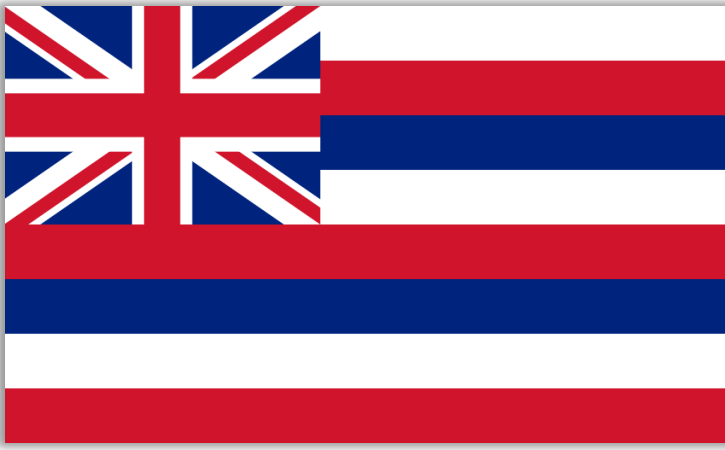
Nickname: The Centennial State

Population: 5,355,866 – Rank 22 of 50

Did You Know? Colorado has the highest elevation of any other state. It has 54 mountain peaks over 14,000 feet tall! And, the 13th step of the state Capitol building in Denver is exactly 1 mile above sea level!

Many dinosaur fossils, like *Triceratops* and *Tyrannosaurus rex*, have been unearthed in Colorado! There is a dinosaur museum in Woodland.





HAWAII

Capital City: Honolulu

Statehood: August 21, 1959 – It is the 50th State

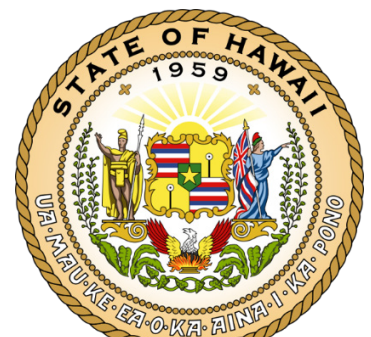
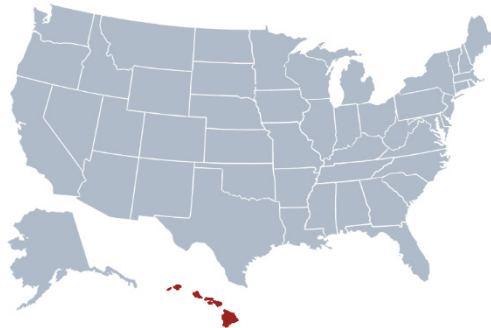
State Motto: *Ua mau ke ea o ka 'āina i ka pono* –
Hawaiian Meaning: The Life of the Land is
Perpetuated in Righteousness

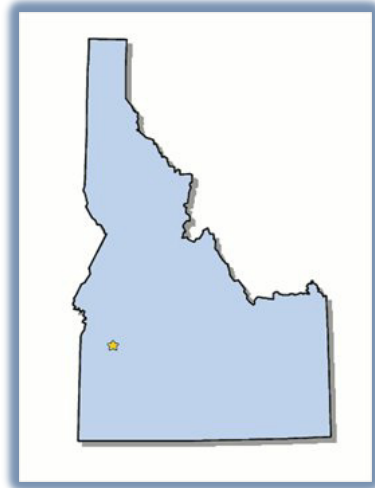
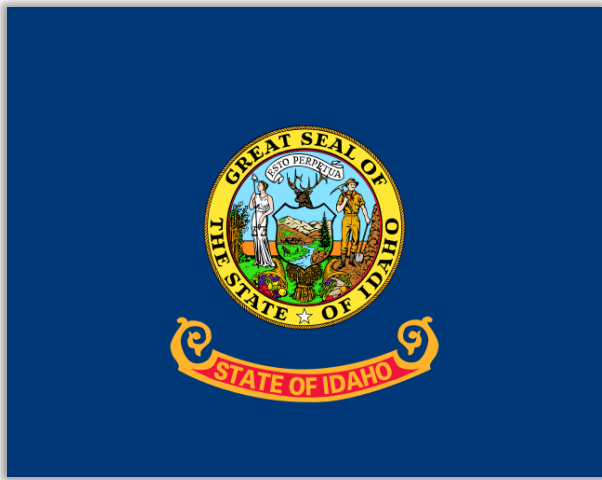
Nickname: The Aloha State

Population: 1,419,561 – Rank 40 of 50

Did You Know? The wettest place on earth is Mt. Waialeale on Kauai.
Average rainfall: 460 inches per year!

Hawaii consists of a chain of 132 islands! Hawaii, Maui, Kahoolawe, Molokai, Lanai, Oahu, Kauai, and Niiahu are the largest. 75% of Hawaii's people live on Oahu.





IDAHO

Capital City: Boise

Statehood: July 3, 1890 – It is the 43rd State

State Motto: *Esto perpetua* – Latin Meaning: Let it be Perpetual

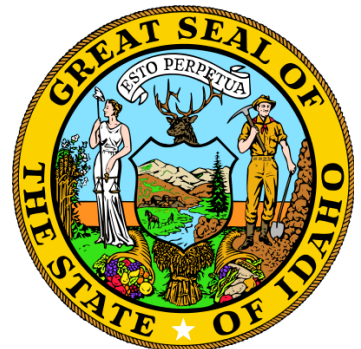
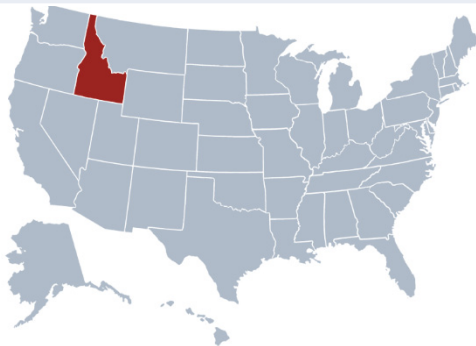
Nickname: The Gem State

Population: 1,634,464 – Rank 39 of 50

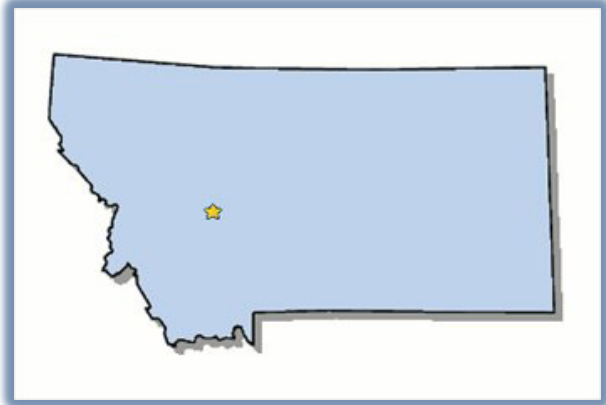
Did You Know? Idaho grows approximately 27 billion potatoes each year!

Idaho ghost towns include Silver City, Yankee Fork, Gold Dredge, and the Sierra Silver Mine.

President Theodore Roosevelt established the Caribou National Forest in 1907. The area now covers more than 1 million acres in southeast Idaho.



MONTANA



MONTANA

Capital City: Helena

Statehood: November 8, 1889 – It is the 41st State

State Motto: *Oro y plata* – Spanish Meaning: Gold and Silver

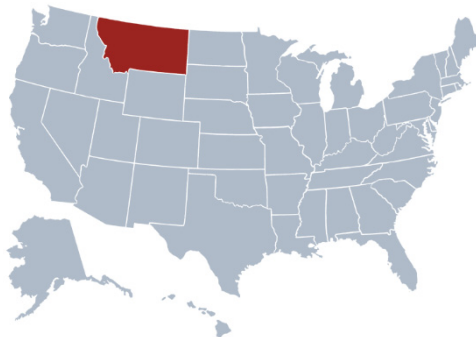
Nickname: The Treasure State

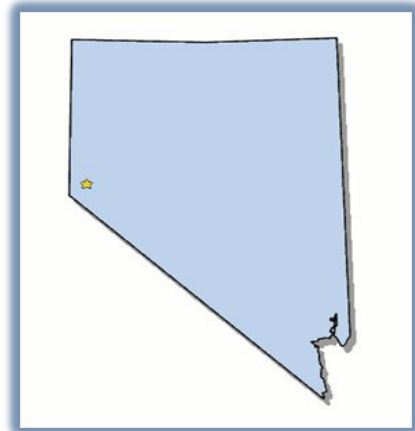
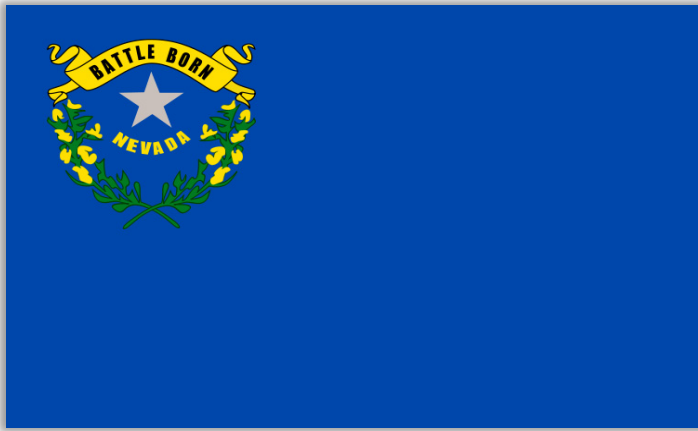
Population: 1,023,579 – Rank 44 of 50

Did You Know? The state has the largest grizzly bear population in the lower 48 states. Its official animal is the grizzly bear.

The population density of the state is six people per square mile.

First explored by the French in the early 1740s, much of the region was acquired by the United States from France as part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. Western Montana was obtained from Great Britain in the Oregon Treaty of 1846.





NEVADA

Capital City: Carson City

Statehood: October 31, 1864 – It is the 36th State

State Motto: All For Our Country

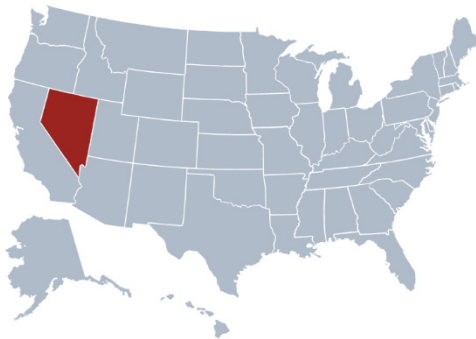
Nickname: The Silver State

Population: 2,839,099 – Rank 35 of 50

Did You Know? Nevada is home to Hoover Dam, the largest single public works project in the history of the United States. It contains 3.25 million cubic yards of concrete, which is enough to pave a two-lane highway from San Francisco to New York!

It is the largest gold-producing state in the nation. It is second in the world behind South Africa.

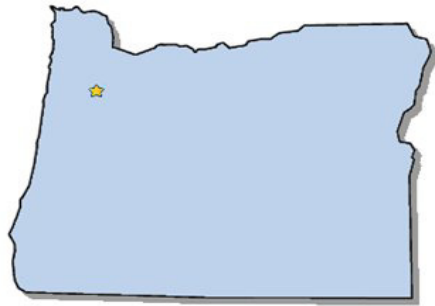
Nevada takes its name from a Spanish word meaning snow-clad.



STATE OF OREGON



1859



OREGON

Capital City: Salem

Statehood: February 14, 1859– It is the 33rd State

State Motto: *Alis volat propriis* – Latin Meaning:
She Flies With Her Own Wings

Nickname: The Beaver State

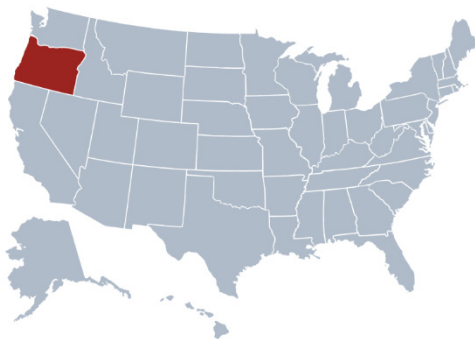
Population: 3,970,239 – Rank 27 of 50

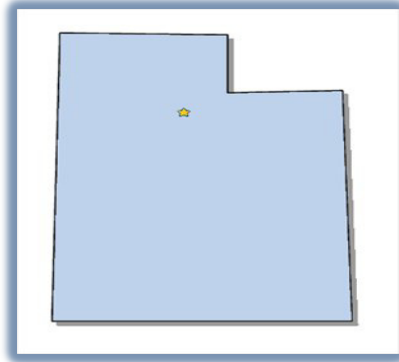
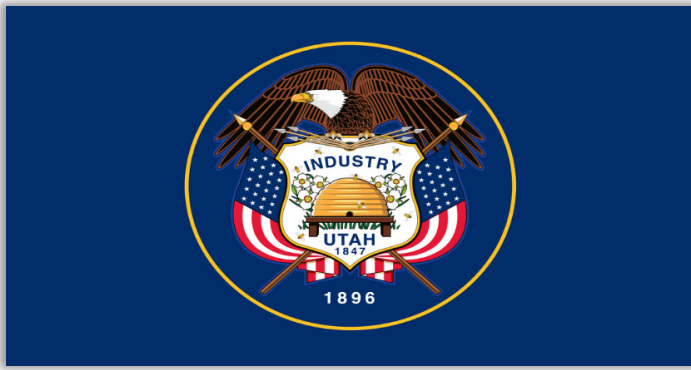
Did You Know? Crater Lake is the deepest lake in the United States. It was formed in the remains of an ancient volcano over 6,500 years ago!

The Oregon Trail is the longest of the overland routes used in the westward expansion of the United States.

Lewis and Clark led the first overland American expedition to Oregon. A replica their 1805-1806 winter outpost is at the Fort Clatsop National Memorial.

The Chinook salmon is Oregon's official state fish.





UTAH

Capital City: Salt Lake City

Statehood: January 4, 1896 – It is the 45th State

State Motto: Industry

Nickname: The Beehive State

Population: 2,942,902 – Rank 33 of 50

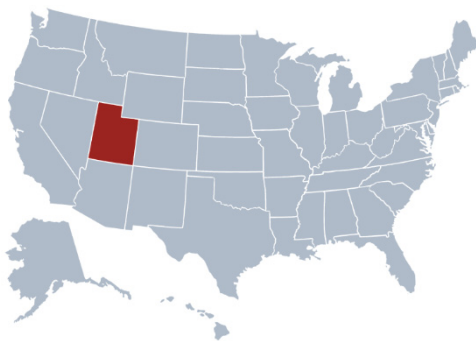
Did You Know? Completion of the world's first transcontinental railroad was celebrated at Promontory where the Central Pacific and Union Pacific Railroads met on May 10, 1869. It is now known as Golden Spike National Historic Site.

The name comes from the Ute tribe word meaning "people of the mountains."

Salt Lake City was the host for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games.

Mormons, fleeing religious prosecution in the east, settled in Utah and started building Salt Lake City in 1847.

Utah has 5 national parks: Arches, Canyonlands, Zion, Bryce and Capitol Reef.





WASHINGTON

Capital City: Olympia

Statehood: November 11, 1889 – It is the 42nd State

State Motto: *Al-ki* – Chinook Meaning: By and By

Nickname: The Evergreen State

Population: 7,061,530 – Rank 13 of 50

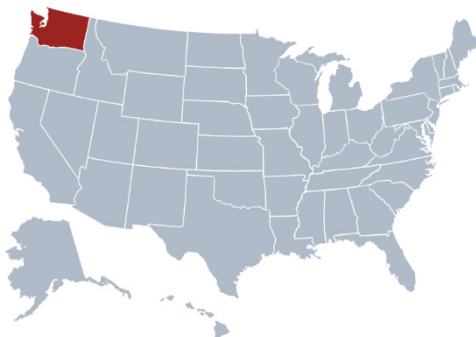
Did You Know? The state of Washington is the only state to be named after a United States president.

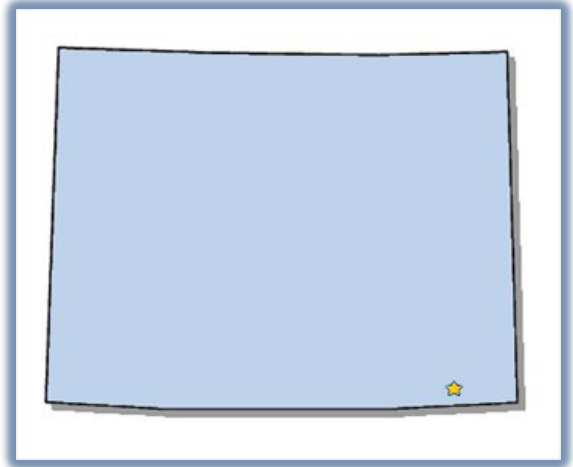
Captain George Vancouver discovered Puget Sound in 1792.

Washington produces more apples than any other state.

Washington's state insect is the Green Darner Dragonfly.

Lewis and Clark explored the Columbia River area of what is now Washington in 1805-06.





WYOMING

Capital City: Cheyenne

Statehood: July 10, 1890 – It is the 44th State

State Motto: Equal Rights

Nickname: The Equality State

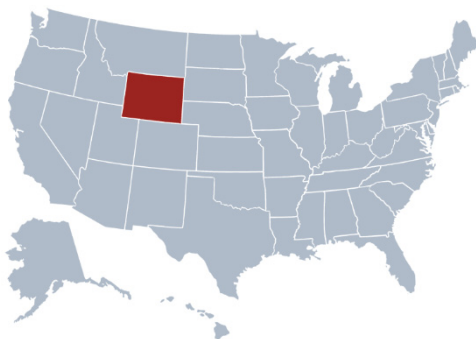
Population: 584,153 – Rank 50 of 50

Did You Know? Wyoming was acquired as part of the Louisiana Purchase.

Nellie Tayloe Ross became the first woman governor in the United States in 1925.

Wyoming was the first state to give women the right to vote.

In 1872, Yellowstone was designated as the first National Park in the nation. The majority of Yellowstone National Park lies within the boundaries of Wyoming.





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