

WISCONSIN

The Badger State

Populated mostly by Native American tribes until 1820s
First Europeans, French, under Jean Nicolet, 1634
Under British control, 1763-1783
Under Northwest Ordinance, 1787; separate territory in 1836
Attained statehood on May 29, 1848, 30th state

POPULATION

2010 Census: 5,686,986; a 6.0% increase over 2000
Rank: 18th among states
Based on the 2010 Census: White 86.2%, Black 6.3%, Asian 2.3%,
Native American 1.0%, Hispanic (all races) 5.9%
Median age: 38.0 years

ECONOMY

Percentage of employees in nonagricultural establishments 2014: trade,
transportations and utilities: 18.4%; manufacturing: 16.3%; government,
14.5%; education and health services: 15.1%; other services: 15.6%.

Agriculture: Ranked 1st in cheese production and 2nd in milk
production. Ranked 1st in corn for silage, cranberries, and snap peas for
processing. Rated among the top five producers of oats, forage, potatoes,
tart cherries, maple syrup, and carrots, sweet corn and green peas for
processing; cucumbers for pickles; mink pelts and milk goats. Ranked
10th in farm marketing receipts. 69,000 farms, average size 210 acres,
total net Wisconsin farm income was \$3.9 billion in 2013.

Manufacturing: Concentrated in southeast, Fox River Valley, and Lake
Michigan west to Lake Winnebago. Value added by manufacture in
Wisconsin totaled \$83.7 billion in 2013, leading the state to rank 9th.
Top groups: food, machinery, fabricated metal products, and paper.

Exports: 2013 revenue from Wisconsin exports: \$23 billion. Top 10
markets: Canada, Mexico, China, Japan, Germany, United Kingdom,
Australia, Brazil, Chile, and France. Top 10 categories: industrial
machinery, scientific and medical instruments, electrical machinery,
vehicles (not railway), plastic, paper and paperboard, iron and steel
products, dairy, eggs, honey, etc.; books and newspapers, and furniture
and bedding.

TRANSPORTATION

115,212 miles of road, 3,489 road miles of railroad track, 94 publicly
owned airports, 8 scheduled passenger carriers. Railroad freight: 28
billion ton miles; air carriers 4.9 million passengers, 118 million tons of
cargo; Great Lakes ports 39.4 million tons freight (88% at Superior). 5.7
million registered motor vehicles.

GOVERNMENT

Congress: 2 U.S. Senators, 8 U.S. Representatives

State: Constitutional officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor,
Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General, Superintendent
of Public Instruction are elected to 4-year terms. The legislature:
33-member senate, 99-member assembly. Senators serve 4 years,
Representatives 2 years. Meets in January, odd-numbered years for
2-year session. Judiciary consists of circuit courts, court of appeals,
supreme court. Circuit and appeals judges elected to 6-year terms,
supreme court justices for 10 years, on nonpartisan ballot.

Local: 72 counties, 190 cities, 407 villages, 1,255 towns, 447 school
districts, 16 technical college districts can levy taxes. Counties elect
board supervisors, and may elect or appoint an executive. Cities elect
either a mayor and common council, or operate under a council-
manager system. Villages elect board and board president or operate
under a village manager chosen by the elected board. Towns elect 3- or
5-member town board and the board may appoint a town administrator.

EDUCATION

447 school districts serve over 870,000 K-12 students. Districts elect
a school board. Private schools enroll 123,104 students. UW System:
13 universities, 13 2-year colleges enroll 180,979 students, governed
by an appointed board of regents. 29 private colleges and universities
enroll 65,363 students. Technical College System serves 326,544
students in 16 districts, governed by a state board and district boards.

RECREATION

15,074 lakes, 13,000 miles of trout streams, 6 million acres of hunting
lands. State issues over 665,000 hunting and 707,000 fishing licenses
per year; registers 614,452 boats, 236,248 snowmobiles, and 298,857
ATV's; operates 49 state parks, 14 state forests, 8 recreation areas, and
36 state trails.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau: (608) 266-0341
www.legis.wisconsin.gov for information on state government and
text of *Wisconsin Blue Book*.

Photographs by Greg Anderson, Legislative Photographer September 2015

WISCONSIN

THE BADGER STATE



Dairy Cow
STATE DOMESTIC ANIMAL



Kringles
STATE PASTRY



Galena
STATE MINERAL



Sugar Maple
STATE TREE



Muskellunge
STATE FISH



Badger
STATE ANIMAL



Honey Bee
STATE INSECT



Trilobite
STATE FOSSIL



Mourning Dove
SYMBOL OF PEACE



Robin
STATE BIRD



Antigo Silt Loam
STATE SOIL



STATE TARTAN



Corn
STATE GRAIN



Milk
STATE BEVERAGE



Red Granite
STATE ROCK



STATE FLAG



American Water Spaniel
STATE DOG



White-tailed Deer
STATE WILDLIFE ANIMAL



Wood Violet
STATE FLOWER



Cranberry
STATE FRUIT



Polka
STATE DANCE



The Badger State