



**INSIDE THE 2021–2022**  
**WISCONSIN**  
**BLUE BOOK**





The *Wisconsin Blue Book* is the biennial almanac of Wisconsin government. The 2021–22 *Wisconsin Blue Book* includes biographies of elected state officers and legislators, information about the units of state government, a feature article highlighting Wisconsin’s first major political crisis, the text of the Wisconsin Constitution, and statistical and reference information. The *Blue Book* is intended to be readable and usable for civics classes in Wisconsin schools. This study guide is designed for upper elementary students and consists of questions about Wisconsin state government and interesting facts about Wisconsin.



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## THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

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1. Read the overview of the Wisconsin legislature on pp. 131–32 and answer the following:

a. What are the two houses of the legislature?

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b. How many total members make up the Wisconsin legislature?

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c. How many assembly districts are in the territory of each senate district?

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2. Which senate district do you live in?

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3. What is the name and party of your senator?

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4. When will your district hold its next election for senator?

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5. Which assembly district do you live in?

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6. What is the name and party of your representative?

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7. Look at the table of votes for state representatives on pp. 581–85. By how many votes did your representative win in the last election?

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8. List two ways you can contact your representative.

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GREG ANDERSON, LEGISLATIVE PHOTOGRAPHER

There are 99 members of the state assembly, and they are elected for two-year terms.

9. Using the information on pp. 137–42, determine if the following statements are true or false:



JOE KOSHOLLEK, LEGISLATIVE PHOTOGRAPHER

There are 33 members of the state senate, and they are elected for four-year terms.

a. If the governor fails to sign a bill within five days, it is thrown away.

True

False

b. A bill or part of a bill that the governor has vetoed can become a law if both houses of the legislature pass it again with a two-thirds vote, rather than a simple majority vote.

True

False

10. Using the information on legislative committees on pp. 133–35, answer the following:

a. Who appoints the members of committees in each house?

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b. What is the name of a committee that includes members from both houses?

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## THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

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11. According to the table on p. 476, how many governors has Wisconsin had?

12. List two ways you can contact the governor.

13. Who is the lieutenant governor of Wisconsin?

14. Of the six elected officers listed on pp. 4–7, which one is nonpartisan?

15. According to pp. 214–15, which elected executive officer serves as the head of the Wisconsin Department of Justice?

16. According to pp. 237–38, what does the Wisconsin secretary of state do with the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin?



The justices who sit on the Wisconsin Supreme Court are elected but do not represent any political party.

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## THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

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17. Using the information on pp. 271–73, fill in the blanks:

a. The Wisconsin Supreme Court has \_\_\_\_\_ total justices.

b. The term of a Wisconsin Supreme Court justice is \_\_\_\_\_ years.

c. State supreme court justices are elected in the month of \_\_\_\_\_

d. The current chief justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court is \_\_\_\_\_

e. If a seat on the supreme court is vacant, who appoints a temporary replacement?

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18. According to p. 277, which court in Wisconsin is the only court that holds jury trials?

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## U.S. CONGRESS

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19. Read the information about Wisconsin's U.S. congressional delegation on pp. 13–20 and answer the following:

a. Name the two U.S. senators who represent Wisconsin.

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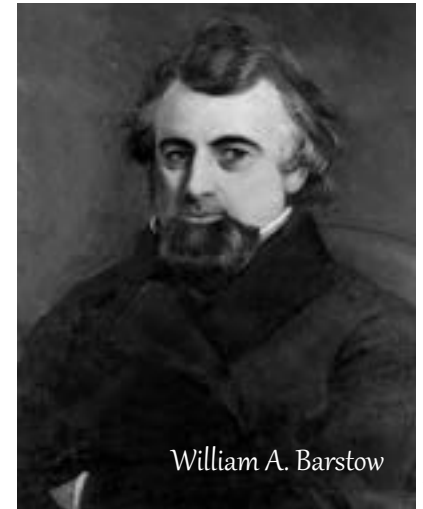
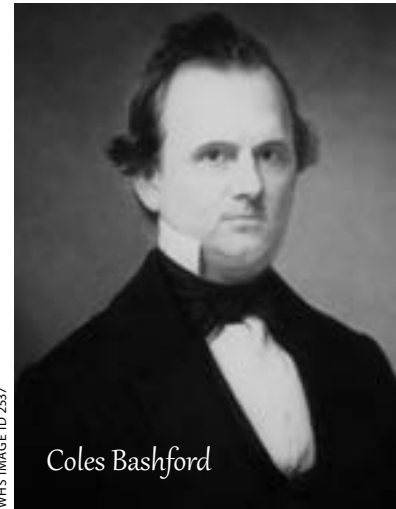
b. What is the name and party of your U.S. representative?

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c. According to the map on p. 15, Wisconsin is divided into how many congressional districts?

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Coles Bashford challenged incumbent William A. Barstow in the gubernatorial election of 1855.

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## THE FEATURE ARTICLE

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20. Who claimed to have won the governorship after the 1855 election?

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21. Which of Wisconsin's two governors filed a lawsuit to unseat his political rival?

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22. Who did the Wisconsin Supreme Court decide was the rightful winner of the 1855 election?

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23. Page 302 describes voting in the 1850s as “chaotic” and notes that a person could vote at a store, saloon, barn, courthouse, hotel, factory, stable, saloon, or even the house of a prominent resident. Draw a picture or tell a story about what casting a vote might have looked like in 1855.

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## STATE SYMBOLS

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24. Look at the state coat of arms and its description on p. 430. Name three things you see in the coat of arms and describe what they represent.

25. For answers to the following, see the spread of state symbols on pp. 432–35.

a. What is the state fossil?

b. What is the state flower?

c. What is the state dog?

d. Which of the following is the state song?

- “On, Wisconsin”
- “Oh Wisconsin, Land of My Dreams”
- “The Wisconsin Waltz”

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### MORE ABOUT WISCONSIN

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26. Use the timeline of significant events in Wisconsin history beginning on p. 436 to answer the following questions:

a. When was the Wisconsin territory transferred from the French to the British?

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b. In the Progressive Era, which Wisconsinite ran for president and won the state of Wisconsin?

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27. Look at the table on p. 496 titled “Wisconsin population since 1840.” What was the rural population of Wisconsin in 1940?

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28. According to the table on p. 659, how many Wisconsinites were killed in World War II?

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29a. Using the information pp. 565–67, list the three parties that qualified for ballot status as of November 2020.

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b. According to p. 332, if a political party has never run a candidate in a statewide election, how many Wisconsin voters must sign a petition for the party to become a “recognized” party?”

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c. According to p. 333, what is the only way for a recognized political party to choose which candidate will be listed on the ballot?

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30. According to the table on p. 669, Wisconsin is the leading state producer for how many agricultural products?

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31. Using the table on p. 676–77, how many elk licenses were issued in 2020?

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## WISCONSIN CONSTITUTION

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32. Find the Wisconsin Constitution starting on p. 692. The constitution is divided into sections called “articles.” How many articles are there?

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33. According to article IV, section 6, of the state constitution, what are the two qualifications required to serve in the legislature?

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34. According to article V, section 8, of the state constitution, if both the governor and lieutenant governor are no longer able to serve, who would become governor?

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35. Which article of the Wisconsin Constitution declares the rights of all citizens?

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## USING THE INDEX

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36. Use the index starting on p. 729 to find the following information:

a. Who is your county’s sheriff?

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b. When was your county created?

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c. How many court of appeals districts are there in Wisconsin?

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d. The name of the senate majority leader is

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e. The name of the speaker of the assembly is

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f. The name of the state treasurer is

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## ANSWER GUIDE

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### The legislative branch

1. See pp. 131–32.
  - a. The assembly and the senate
  - b. 132 (99 in the assembly + 33 in the senate)
  - c. Three
2. Answers will vary. See map of senate districts on p. 20.
3. Answers will vary. See legislative biographies pp. 24–126.
4. Answers will vary.
5. Answers will vary. See map of senate districts on p. 22 and maps in legislative biographies pp. 24–126.
6. Answers will vary. See legislative biographies pp. 24–126.
7. Answers will vary. See district vote for representatives to the assembly, general and special elections, pp. 582–85.
8. Answers will vary, but include his or her email, telephone, or mailing address. See legislative biographies pp. 24–126.
9. See pp. 137–42.
  - a. False
  - b. True
10. See pp. 133–35.
  - a. The assembly speaker in the assembly and the senate majority leader in the senate
  - b. Joint committee



### The executive branch

11. 46 governors. See table p. 476.
12. Answers will vary, but include his email, telephone, or mailing address. See biography on pp. 4–5.
13. Lieutenant Governor Mandela Barnes. See biography on p. 5 and Wisconsin lieutenant governors since 1848 on p. 460.
14. The state superintendent of public instruction. See p. 6.

15. The attorney general

16. The secretary of state affixes the great seal to all official acts.

### **The judicial branch**

17. See pp. 271–73.

- a. Seven
- b. Ten
- c. April
- d. Annette Kingsland Ziegler
- e. The governor

18. The circuit court

### **U.S. Congress**

19. See pp. 13–20.

- a. Senators Tammy Baldwin and Ron Johnson. See pp. 13–14.
- b. Answers will vary. Look at the map on p. 15 to find the congressional district that covers your home, then look at pp. 15–20 to find the representative for that district.
- c. Eight

### **The feature article**

20. William Barstow and Coles Bashford

21. Coles Bashford

22. Coles Bashford

23. Answers will vary.

### **State symbols**

24. Any of the following (see p. 430):

- Plow (in shield): agriculture
- Pick and shovel (in shield): mining
- Arm and hammer (in shield): manufacturing
- Anchor (in shield): navigation
- Small shield: U.S. coat of arms and Wisconsin’s membership in and loyalty to the United States
- Sailor: labor on water
- Yeoman: labor on land
- Horn of plenty: prosperity and abundance
- Pyramid of 13 lead ingots: mineral wealth and the 13 original states of the United States
- Badger: state animal

25. See pp. 432–35.

- a. Trilobite
- b. Wood violet
- c. American water spaniel
- d. “On, Wisconsin”

### **More about Wisconsin**

26. See timeline beginning on p. 436.

- a. 1763. See p. 437.
- b. Robert M. La Follette, Sr. See p. 445.

27. 1,458,443. See p. 496.

28. 8,390. See p. 659.

29a. The Democratic Party of Wisconsin; the Republican Party

of Wisconsin; and the Constitution Party of Wisconsin. See information beginning on p. 565.

b. 10,000. See p. 332.

c. The party must choose the candidate who wins that party's partisan primary. See p. 333.

30. 10. See p. 669.

31. 10. See p. 677.

### **Wisconsin Constitution**

32. 14. See pp. 693–95.

33. A candidate must (1) have resided in the state for one year and (2) be a qualified elector in the district that he or she would represent. See p. 703.

34. The secretary of state. See p. 710.

35. Article I

### **Using the index**

36. See the index starting on p. 729.

a. Answers will vary. See index entry for “sheriffs” and table on pp. 613–14.

b. Answers will vary. See index entry for “counties, creation date” and table on pp. 505–6.

c. Four. See index entry for “appeals, court of” or “courts, appeals, court of.”

d. Senate Majority Leader Devin LeMahieu. See index entry for “senate, Wisconsin, majority leader.”

e. Speaker Robin Vos. See index entry for “assembly, speaker.”

f. State Treasurer Sarah Godlewski. See index entry for “treasurer, state.”



