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Home North America United States Delaware Delaware, one of the Mid-Atlantic states, is situated in the northeastern United States, in the northeastern part of the Delmarva Peninsula. It shares its eastern border, divided by the Delaware River, with New Jersey; its northern border with Pennsylvania; and its southern and western borders with Maryland. The state's eastern coastline runs along the Delaware Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. The capital of Delaware is Dover, whereas Wilmington, with a population of approximately 71,000, is the state's most populous city. Delaware, known as "The First State," was the first colony to ratify the United States Constitution on December 7, 1787, making it the first state of the Union. The state's name honors Thomas West, 3rd Baron De La Warr, an English nobleman and the first governor of the Colony of Virginia. Area Delaware has a total land area of 2,489 square miles (6,446 square kilometers) making it the second smallest state in the country. It is twice the size of Luxembourg and eight times smaller than Switzerland. Compared to U.S. states, it is roughly five times smaller than Massachusetts and 134 times smaller than Texas. Bodies of Water Delaware's largest lakes are Lums Pond, Silver Lake, and Trap Pond. The longest river in the state, the Delaware River, flows along the northeastern border before emptying into the Delaware Bay. In addition to Delaware Bay, Little Assawoman Bay and Rehoboth Bay are inland bays located along the southeastern coastline. Geographical Regions Generally speaking, Delaware is flat, with one of the lowest average elevations in the country. The state comprises two distinct geographical regions: the Atlantic Coastal Plain and the Appalachian Piedmont. Atlantic Coastal Plain The Atlantic Coastal Plain encompasses nearly the entire state of Delaware, rising just 100 feet above sea level. Slow-moving streams drain into the Delaware River and Delaware Bay. Near these streams, saltwater, brackish, and freshwater marshes are found. In the northern part of this region, woodlands are covered with maples, oaks, gums, and American holly trees, while loblolly and Virginia pines become more prevalent moving south. Appalachian Piedmont Although most of Delaware is flat, the northernmost tip of the state features rolling hills, forming the Appalachian Piedmont region. These hills, rising over 400 feet above sea level, are part of the Appalachian Mountain foothills. The superficial rocks of this area are primarily old, metamorphic rocks. The region is characterized by rocky, fast-moving streams and deciduous forests with hickories, oaks, tulip trees, and American beech. Some marshes and vernal pools are also found within the floodplains of the streams. The State of Delaware is divided into 3 counties. In alphabetical order, these counties are: Kent, New Castle, Sussex. With an area of 5,060 sq. km, the State of Delaware is the 2nd smallest state amongst all the 50 states of the USA. Located in Kent County, along the St. Jones River, in the east-central part of the state is Dover the capital city of Delaware. Situated in the New Castle County, along the confluence of the Christina River and the Delaware River is Wilmington the largest and the most populous city in Delaware. It also serves as the chief port and the industrial, financial, and commercial center of Delaware. The State of Delaware is located in the Mid-Atlantic region of the United States. Delaware is bordered by the state of Maryland in the west and south; by Pennsylvania in the north, and by New Jersey in the east. It is also bordered by the Atlantic Ocean, Delaware Bay, and Delaware River in the southeast. Regional Maps: Map of North America This page was last updated on July 29, 2024 Geography & Travel States & Other Subdivisions Delaware, constituent state of the United States of America. The first of the original 13 states to ratify the federal Constitution, it occupies a small niche in the BostonWashington, D.C., urban corridor along the Middle Atlantic seaboard. It ranks 49th among the 50 U.S. states in terms of total area and is one of the most densely populated. The state is organized into three countiesfrom north to south, New Castle, Kent, and Sussexall established by 1682. Its population, like its industry, is concentrated in the north, around Wilmington, where the major coastal highways and railways pass through from Pennsylvania and New Jersey on the north and east into Maryland on the south and west. The rest of the state comprises the northeastern corner of the Delmarva Peninsula, which Delaware shares with Maryland and Virginia (hence its name). Most state government operations are located in Dover, the capital.Historically, geographically, and economically, Delaware has had close ties with Pennsylvania, particularly the city of Philadelphia, where the Delaware River and other transportation arteries direct its commerce. The stability and conservatism that were once characteristics of Delaware, especially in the southern areas that lie adjacent to Marylands Eastern Shore, long maintained a grip on political life vastly out of proportion to their proponents numbers. Capital: Dover Population1: (2020) 989,948; (2024 est.) 1,051,917 Governor: Matt Meyer (Democrat) Date Of Admission: Dec. 7, 17872 State Nickname: First State Diamond State State Motto: "Liberty and Independence" State Bird: blue hen chicken State Flower: peach blossom State Song: Our Delaware Seats In U.S. House Of Representatives: 1 (of 435) Time Zone: Eastern (GMT 5 hours) Total Area (Sq Km): 6,446 Total Area (Sq Mi): 2,489 Over the years Delaware has been called the chemical capital, the corporate capital, and the credit-card capital of the United States. Its liberal incorporation laws and a Court of Chancery that specializes in the most-complex issues of corporate governance and finance have encouraged many American and foreign businesses to make Delaware their nominal home. The preponderance of the states major corporate, banking, and legal enterprise is located in the northern part of the state. Area 2,489 square miles (6,446 square km). Population (2020) 989,948; (2024 est.) 1,051,917. Delaware, located mainly within the Atlantic Coastal Plain, is second only to Florida for having the lowest average elevation. A long sand beach forms the states oceanfront, stretching from the border with Maryland, at Fenwick Island, north to Cape Henlopen, at the mouth of Delaware Bay. Only one major break, Indian River Inlet, occurs along the 23-mile (37-km) length of the beach. Much of the beach is a low bar between the ocean and a series of lagoons or shallow bays, but at Bethany Beach, near the southern boundary, and again at Rehoboth Beach, near the northern end, the mainland reaches directly to the ocean. Much of the shoreline of Delaware Bay is marshy. The mouths of tributaries such as the Murderkill, the Mispillion, and the St. Jones are so shallow that only fishing boats find safe harbors north of Lewes. Farther north, on the banks of the Delaware River, spots of high, dry land appear, as at Port Penn, New Castle, and Edgemoor. The states main port, at Wilmington, is located at the confluence of the Delaware River and the Christina, one of its tributaries. Guess the U.S. State by Its Neighbors MilfordMispillion River at Milford, Delaware.Most of Delaware is drained by streams that run eastward to the Delaware River, Delaware Bay, and the Atlantic Ocean, but the Nanticoke River and its tributaries in southwestern Delaware flow into Chesapeake Bay. So does the Pocomoke River, which drains the Cypress Swamp, or so-called Burnt Swamp, in the extreme south of Delaware, athwart the Maryland line. Most of the Coastal Plain is fertile and level, seldom rising above 60 feet (18 meters) above sea level, but it becomes increasingly sandy to the south. Near its northern edge the plain is intersected by the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, which has been deepened and straightened for ocean shipping. It shortens the water route between Philadelphia and Baltimore, Md., by several hundred miles and also brings Baltimore closer to the ocean than via Chesapeake Bay. The canal is popularly considered to be the boundary between agricultural downstate Delaware and the northern industrial region. Though the land on either side of it is similar, many Delawareans are convinced that even the weather changes at the canal. Several high bridges over the canal, the giant twin bridges crossing the Delaware River north of New Castle, and the refinery stacks at Delaware City are the major landmarks on the horizon below the northwestern corner of the state, where the rolling hills of the Piedmont extend south from Pennsylvania. Until the mid-20th century, farmlands, woodlands, streams, and ponds, interspersed by occasional villages, made up most of the states landscape to the south of Wilmington. Suburban housing has spread out to encompass the area on either side of the canal and has encroached on New Castle countys remaining farmland. The highest point in the statejust off Ebright Road in New Castle county, near the Pennsylvania state lineis only 448 feet (137 meters) above sea level. Peculiar features are Iron and Chestnut hills, which protrude into the plain southwest of Newark and are scarred by open pits where iron ore once was mined. The center of Wilmington lies on hills sloping downward toward the confluence of the Christina and its major tributary, the Brandywine. There, navigable water brought shipping close to falls that provided power for manufacturing. The railroads and highways, which followed this fall line along the east coast, have kept Wilmington on major transportation routes between Philadelphia and Baltimore and have promoted the tendency for the urbanization of open land between Wilmington and other cities. Delaware (/dlwr/ (listen))[11] is a state in the United States. It is sometimes called the First State because it was the first colony to accept the new constitution in 1787.[12] Its capital is Dover and its biggest city is Wilmington. It is the 2nd smallest state in the United States. Delaware is divided into three counties.DelawareStateFlagSealNickname(s):The First State; The Small Wonder;[1] Blue Hen State; The Diamond StateMotto:Liberty and IndependenceMap of the United States with Delaware highlightedCountryUnited StatesBefore statehoodDelaware Colony, New Netherland, New SwedenAdmitted to the UnionDecember 7, 1787 (1st)CapitalDoverLargest cityWilmingtonLargest metro and urban areasDelaware ValleyGovernmentGovernorMatt Meyer (D)Lieutenant GovernorKyle Evans Gay (D)LegislatureGeneral AssemblyUpper houseSenateLower houseHouse of RepresentativesJudiciaryDelaware Supreme CourtU.S. senatorsChris Coons (D)Lisa Blunt Rochester (D)U.S. House delegationSarah McBride (D) (list)AreaTotal2,489[2]sqmi (6,450km2)Rank49thDimensionsLength96mi (154km)Width30mi (48km)Elevation60ft (20m)Highestelevation (Near theEbright Azimuth[3][4])447.85ft (136.50468m)Lowestelevation (Atlantic Ocean[3])0ft (0m)Population(July 1, 2021)Total1,003,384[5]Rank45th[7]Density500/sqmi (190/km2)Median household income$69,100[6]Income rank16thDemonymDelawareanLanguageOfficial languageNoneTime zoneUTC05:00 (EST)Summer (DST)UTC04:00 (EDT)USPS abbreviationDEISO 3166 codeUS-DETraditional abbreviationDel.Latitude3827 N to 3950 NLongitude753 W to 7547 WWebsitedelaware.govDelaware state symbolsFlag of DelawareLiving insigniaBirdDelaware Blue HenButterflyEastern tiger swallowtailWildlife animalGrey foxFishWeakfishFlowerPeach blossomInsect7-spotted ladybugTreeAmerican hollyInanimate insigniaBeverageMilkColorsColonial blue, buffFoodStrawberry, peach custard pieFossilBelemniteMineralSillimaniteSloganEndless Discoveries[10]Formerly: It's Good Being FirstSoilGreenwichState route markerState quarterReleased in 1999Lists of United States state symbolsThe Dutch first settled Delaware. The Swedish then took over in the mid-1600s.Delaware is 96 miles (154km) long and ranges from 9 miles (14km) to 35 miles (56km) across, totaling 1,954 square miles (5,060km2), making it the 2nd-smallest state in the United States after Rhode Island. Delaware is bounded to the north by Pennsylvania; to the east by the Delaware River, Delaware Bay, New Jersey and the Atlantic Ocean; and to the west and south by Maryland.Delaware is on a flat plain, with the lowest mean elevation of any state in the nation.[13] Its highest elevation, located at Ebright Azimuth, near Concord High School, is less than 450 feet (140m) above sea level.[13]The transitional climate of Delaware supports a wide variety of vegetation. In the northern third of the state are found Northeastern coastal forests and mixed Oak forests typical of the northeastern United States.[14] In the southern two-thirds of the state are found Middle Atlantic coastal forests.[14] Trap Pond State Park, along with areas in other parts of Sussex County, for example, support the northernmost stands of bald cypress trees in North America.Delaware provides government subsidy support for the clean-up of property "lightly contaminated" by hazardous waste. The money for this cleanup comes from a tax on wholesale petroleum sales.[15]Delaware's sister state in Japan is Miyagi Prefecture.[16]Lewes Outer HarborOld DelawareState HouseMarket StreetWilmington, DelawareColleges and universities in DelawareList of counties in DelawareList of numbered routes in DelawareList of rivers of Delaware Nann Burke, Melissa (January 5, 2015). "Delaware a Small Wonder no more?". Delaware Online. Archived from the original on April 2, 2015. 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The News Journal. New Castle, Delaware: Gannett. DelawareOnline. Archived from the original on May 18, 2011. Retrieved May 18, 2011. "The first online page is archived: the page containing information related to projects Definition Wiktionary Media from CommonsNews from Wikinewsquotes from Wikiquotestexts from Wikisourcetrivia from Wikitraveltextbook from WikibooksTravel guideWikiversity Wikiversity Wikiversity at the Open Directory Project3900N 7530W / 39N 75.5W / 39; -75.5 This short article about aplace or feature in the United States can be made longer. You can help Wikipedia by adding to it.Retrieved from " Kings' protests planned in Jacksonville, Florida. How to stay safeThe Human Rights Campaign shares tips on how to protect yourself and stay safe while engaging in protests.Several thousand people marched in Wilmington on the morning of June 14 as part of "No Kings" day, a national day of protest planned on President Donald Trump's birthday and the Army's 250th anniversary celebration.Demonstrators began organizing before 9 a.m., when the first speakers addressed the crowd. U.S. Sen. Lisa Blunt Rochester, D-Delaware, was one of the initial speakers, followed by Delaware Gov. Matt Meyer, a Democrat.The attendees at Wilmington's event, many of whom carried signs saying "resist" or "sofa KING unfit" (a shortened way of saying "so [expletive] unfit"), began their rally at North Bancroft Parkway and Pennsylvania Avenue.One of the organizers, Nancy Wahler of Indivisible Highlands and Beyond, said that nearly 1,000 people registered for the event, but their estimates were around 3,000 people."It was amazing," Wahler said. "It was so many. It was more people than we expected."Plenty of Wilmington police officers were in attendance to ensure demonstrators remained safe and peaceful. No counter-protesters appeared to have been present.Meyer served as grand marshal as speakers wrapped up and the "parade" got underway about 9:20 a.m. He walked with attendees just past Woodlawn Avenue, where he broke off from the procession.The governor stirred the crowd by quoting Simon Wiesenthal, an Austrian Holocaust survivor, Nazi hunter and writer:"For evil to flourish, for evil to flourish, it only takes one thing for evil to flourish, for evil to flourish," Meyer quoted. "It only requires that good women and men be silenced for evil to flourish; it only requires that good women and men be silent."Though Meyer served as grand marshal, the march was led by the Andrea Klenotiz of Wilmington.Carrying an American flag, she said she decided to come out after her 7-year-old son heard there was going to be a parade for Trump in Washington, D.C. He decided he didn't want to live in this country anymore, she said."I told him, that's not what we do in America when we feel that the president isn't speaking for the people," she said. "We tell them what direction we want this country to go in."By about 10 a.m., attendees had walked a mile away to the over-street bridge at Tower Hill School and were on their way back. Many waved American flags, and at least one carried drums.Attendees chanted "No dictators," "No kings" along the route. There was also an array of people carrying signs reading: "No hate, racism, Trump," "No kings," "fighting tyranny since 1776" and many more promoting peace.Cars honked, backing marchers.A group of three women donned costumes from "The Handmaid's Tale," an Americandystopiantelevision series about life under atotalitarian,theonomicgovernment in which women are subjugated.Wilmington resident Summer Thompson, one of the three women in the costumes, said the trio came out for "our freedoms and everyone else's freedoms."Her friend Judy Luce added: "On behalf of our rights and to help defeat a fascist."Alicia Bawa, who wore a taco hat a day at the president, given anti-Trumpers call him Taco Bowl, said it's important to come out and have her voice heard."Have to," Bawa said. "It's an obligation for any citizen. We can't let this happen to our country."Despite the poor air quality in Delaware, New Jersey recorded it "code red" over the weekend, with the Delaware State University weather station reporting a 2,369 homeless people in Delaware.It was too hazy in Wilmington which is the largest city in Delaware to be seen. If you looked out over the Wilmington skyline, you could barely see the top of the tallest buildings.Protesters are brought together by a common desire to reject the notion that the country is ruled by a "king" and to show what democracy looks like: "people, united, refusing to be ruled."As of this week,more than 1,800"No Kings" protests were planned in the U.S., the Virgin Islands, Mexico,Canada, Africa and Europe.In Delaware, at least six are scheduled.Here are other protests scheduled throughout Delaware on June 14:Rehoboth: Near the Giant store by Route 1, 9 to 11 a.m.Bethany Beach: Bethany Beachs Central Park, 9 to 10:30 a.m.Dover: Legislative Mall/East Side, 410 Legislative Ave., 10 a.m. to noonGeorgetown: College Park Shopping Center (near Walmart), 301 College Park Drive, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.Newark:South College Avenue and West Main Street, outside Old College at the University of Delaware, 2 to 4 p.m.Lori Comstock with the Mid-Atlantic Connect Team contributed to this report. Discover and explore Delaware's open data today! Total Government Datasets: Review, research, monitor, and interact with Delaware's transparency resources. Welcome To Delaware Moments of excitement, joy and relaxation await in Delaware. Whether its in the softness of a countryside vineyard or being whisked away to a sun-splashed beach oasis, you can find experiences that spark a renewed sense of adventure and the moments weve been waiting for that bring us closer together. Dining Outdoor Activities This article contains one or more duplicated citations. The reason given is: DuplicateReferences detected: //ava.prri.org/#religious/2022/States/religion/m/US-DE (refs: 109, 112) (refs: 131, 135) It is recommended to use named references to consolidate citations that are used multiple times. (June 2025) (Learn how and when to remove this message)This article is about the U.S. state. For other uses, see Delaware (disambiguation).Delaware (/dlwr/ DEL--wair)[10] is a state in the Mid-Atlantic and South Atlantic[11] regions of the United States.[12] It borders Maryland to its south and west, Pennsylvania to its north, New Jersey to its northeast, and the Atlantic Ocean to its east. The state's name derives from the adjacent Delaware Bay, which in turn was named after Thomas West, 3rd Baron De La Warr, an English nobleman and the Colony of Virginia's first colonial-era governor.[13]DelawareStateFlagSealNickname(s):The First State; The Small Wonder;[1] Blue Hen State; The Diamond StateMotto:Liberty and IndependenceAnthem: "Our Delaware"Location of Delaware within the United StatesCountryUnited StatesBefore statehoodDelaware Colony, New Netherland, New SwedenAdmitted to the UnionDecember7, 1787; 237 years ago(1787-12-07) (1st)CapitalDoverLargest cityWilmingtonLargest county or equivalentNew CastleLargest metro and urban areasDelaware ValleyGovernmentGovernorMatt Meyer (D)Lieutenant GovernorKyle Evans Gay (D)LegislatureGeneral AssemblyUpper houseSenateLower houseHouse of RepresentativesJudiciaryDelaware Supreme CourtU.S. senatorsChris Coons (D) Lisa Blunt Rochester (D)U.S. House delegationSarah McBride (D) (list)AreaTotal2,489[2]sqmi (6,450km2)Rank49thDimensionsLength96mi (154km)Width30mi (48km)Elevation60ft (20m)Highestelevation (Near theEbright Azimuth[3][4])447.85ft (136.50468m)Lowestelevation (Atlantic Ocean[3])0ft (0m)Population(2024)Total1,051,917[5]Rank45thDensity500/sqmi (190/km2)Rank6thMedian household income$81,400 (2023)[6]Income rank15thDemonymDelawareanLanguageOfficial languageNoneTime zoneUTC05:00 (EST)Summer (DST)UTC04:00 (EDT)USPS abbreviationDEISO 3166 codeUS-DETraditional abbreviationDel.Latitude3827 N to 3950 NLongitude753 W to 7547 WWebsitedelaware.govState symbols of DelawareList of Delaware's state symbolsLiving insigniaBirdDelaware Blue HenButterflyEastern tiger swallowtailWildlife animalGrey foxFishWeakfishFlowerPeach blossomInsect7-spotted ladybugTreeAmerican hollyInanimate insigniaBeverageMilkColorsColonial blue, buffFoodStrawberry, peach custard pieFossilBelemniteMineralSillimaniteSloganEndless Discoveries[10]Formerly: It's Good Being FirstSoilGreenwichState route markerState quarterReleased in 1999Lists of United States state symbolsInformation on map showing border of Delaware (click to zoom)Delaware occupies the northeastern portion of the Delmarva Peninsula, and some islands and territory within the Delaware River. It is the second-smallest and sixth-least populous state, but also the sixth-most densely populated. Delaware's most populous city is Wilmington, and the state's capital is Dover, the second-most populous city in Delaware. The state is divided into three counties. The fewest number of counties of any of the 50 U.S. states;[b] from north to south, the three counties are: New Castle County, Kent County, and Sussex County. The southern two counties, Kent and Sussex, have historically been predominantly agrarian economies. New Castle is more urbanized and is considered part of the Delaware Valley metropolitan statistical area that surrounds Philadelphia. Delaware is considered part of the Southern United States by the U.S. Census Bureau, but the state's geography, culture, and history are a hybrid of the Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern regions of the country.[14]Before the Delaware coastline was explored and developed by Europeans in the 17th century, the state was inhabited by several Native American tribes, including the Lenape in the north and Nanticoke in the south. The state was first colonized by Dutch traders at Zwaanendael, near present-day Lewes, Delaware, in 1631. Delaware was one of the Thirteen Colonies that participated in the American Revolution against Great Britain, which established the United States as an independent nation. On December 7, 1787, Delaware was the first state to ratify the Constitution of the United States, earning it the nickname "The First State".[15]Since the turn of the 20th century, Delaware has become an onshore corporate haven whose corporate laws are deemed appealing to corporations; over half of all New York Stock Exchange-listed corporations and over three-fifths of the Fortune 500 are legally incorporated in Delaware. Over 90% of all U.S. based companies that went public in 2021 incorporated themselves in Delaware.[16]Delaware was named after its location on the Delaware Bay, which in turn derived its name from Thomas West, 3rd Baron De La Warr (15771618), the first governor of the Colony of Virginia. The Delaware people, a name used by Europeans for Lenape people Indigenous to the Delaware Valley, also derive their name from the same source.The name de La Warr was derived from Sussex and is of Anglo-French origin.[17][18] It came probably from a Norman lieu-dit La Guerre. This toponymic likely derived from Latin ager, the Breton gwern or from the Late Latin varectum (fallow). The toponyms Gara, Gare, Gaire, (the sound [] often mutated in []) also appear in historical texts cited by Lucien Musset, where the word ga(i)ra means gore. It could also be linked with a patronymic from the Old Norse verr.Main article: History of DelawareThis section needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources in this section. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed.Find sources:"Delaware"news newspapers books scholar JSTOR (December 2018) (Learn how and when to remove this message)Before Delaware was settled by European colonists, the present-day state was home to the Eastern Algonquian tribes known as the Unami Lenape, or Delaware, who lived mostly along the coast, and the Nanticoke who occupied much of the southern Delmarva Peninsula. John Smith also shows two Iroquoian tribes, the Kuskarawock and Tockwogh, living north of the Nanticokethey may have held small portions of land in the western part of the state before migrating across the Chesapeake Bay.[19] The Kuskarawocks were most likely the Tuscarora. The Unami Lenape in the Delaware Valley were closely related to the Munsee Lenape tribes along the Hudson River. They had a settled hunting and agricultural society, and they rapidly became middlemen in an increasingly frantic fur trade with their ancient enemy, the Minqua or Susquehanock. With the loss of their lands on the Delaware River and the destruction of the Minqua by the Iroquois, the Unami Lenape became the dominant tribe in the Delaware Valley. Other Lenape groups such as the Munsee, who also lived in the Delaware Valley, seem to have been absorbed into the Unami Lenape. Many of the Lenape left their ancient homelands and moved west to Ohio, where they joined other Lenape groups and neighboring tribes.Main articles: New Netherland, New Sweden, and Delaware ColonyThe Dutch were the first Europeans to settle in present-day Delaware in the middle region by establishing a trading post at Zwaanendael, near the site of Lewes in 1631.[20] Within a year, all the settlers were killed in a dispute with Native American tribes living in the area. In 1638, New Sweden, a Swedish trading post and colony, was established at Fort Christina (now in Wilmington) by Peter Minuit at the head of a group of Swedes, Finns and Dutch. The colony of New Sweden lasted 17 years. In 1651, the Dutch, reinvigorated by the leadership of Peter Stuyvesant, established a fort at present-day New Castle and, in 1655, they conquered the New Sweden colony, annexing it into the Dutch New Netherland.[21][22] Only nine years later, in 1664, the Dutch were conquered by a fleet of English ships by Sir Robert Carr under the direction of James, the Duke of York. Fighting off a prior claim by Cecil Calvert, 2nd Baron Baltimore, Proprietor of Maryland, the Duke passed his somewhat dubious ownership on to William Penn in 1682. Penn strongly desired access to the sea for his Pennsylvania province and leased what then came to be known as the "Lower Counties on the Delaware"[21] from the Duke.Penn established representative government and briefly combined his two possessions under one General Assembly in 1682. However, by 1704 the province of Pennsylvania had grown so large their representatives wanted to make decisions without the assent of the Lower Counties, and the two groups of representatives began meeting on their own, one at Philadelphia, and the other at New Castle. Penn and his heirs remained proprietors of both and always appointed the same person Governor for their province of Pennsylvania and their territory of the Lower Counties. The fact that Delaware and Pennsylvania shared the same governor was not unique; from 1703 to 1738, New York and New Jersey shared a governor.[23] Massachusetts and New Hampshire also shared a governor for some time.[24]Dependent in early years on indentured labor, Delaware imported more slaves as the number of English immigrants decreased with better economic conditions in England. The colony became a slave society and cultivated tobacco as a cash crop, although English immigrants continued to arrive.Main articles: American Revolutionary War, Lee Resolution, United States Declaration of Independence, Philadelphia campaign, Articles of Confederation Ratification, Treaty of Paris (1783), Constitutional Convention (United States), Admission to the Union, and List of U.S. states by date of admission to the UnionA two-shilling, six-pence banknote issued by Delaware in 1777Like the other middle colonies, the Lower Counties on the Delaware initially showed little enthusiasm for a break with Britain. The citizenry had a good relationship with the Proprietary government, and generally were allowed more independence of action in their Colonial Assembly than in other colonies. Merchants at the port of Wilmington had trading ties with the British.New Castle lawyer Thomas McKean denounced the Stamp Act in the strongest terms, and Kent County native John Dickinson became the "Penman of the Revolution". Anticipating the Declaration of Independence, Patriot leaders Thomas McKean and Caesar Rodney convinced the Colonial Assembly to declare itself separated from British and Pennsylvania rule on June 15, 1776. The person best representing Delaware's majority, George Read, could not bring himself to vote for a Declaration of Independence. Only the dramatic overnight ride of Caesar Rodney gave the delegation the votes needed to cast Delaware's vote for independence. Initially held in reserve, the Delaware Regiment was provided with a premier regiment of Continental Army troops when George Washington requested the Delaware Regiment be attached to his command. Known as the "Blue Hens Chicken", the Delaware Regiment fought with Washington throughout the war, including at the Battle of Brandywine, the capture of Germantown, and the Battle of Princeton. Fighting only two engagements in its own state, the Delaware Regiment served in every major battle in the northern and southern theaters of the war, disrupting commerce and providing encouragement to an active Loyalist portion of the population, particularly in Sussex County. Because the British promised slaves of rebels freedom for fighting with them, escaped slaves flocked north to join their lines.[25]Following the American Revolution, statesmen from Delaware were among the leading proponents of a strong central United States with equal representation for each state.Main article: History of slavery in DelawareMany colonial settlers came to Delaware from Maryland and Virginia, where the population had been increasing rapidly. The economies of these colonies were chiefly based on labor-intensive tobacco and increasingly dependent on African slaves because of a decline in working class immigrants from England. Most of the English colonists had arrived as indentured servants (contracted for a fixed period to pay for their passage), and in the early years the line between servant and slave was fluid.[citation needed]Most of the free African-American families in Delaware before the Revolution had migrated from Maryland to find more affordable land. They were descendants chiefly of relationships or marriages between white servant women and enslaved, servant or free African or African-American men.[26] Under slavery law, children took the social status of their mothers, so children born to white women were free, regardless of their paternity, just as children born to enslaved women were born into slavery. As the flow of indentured laborers to the colony decreased with improving economic conditions in England, more slaves were imported for labor and the caste lines hardened.By the end of the colonial period, the number of enslaved people in Delaware began to decline. Shifts in the agriculture economy from tobacco to mixed farming resulted in less need for slaves' labor. In addition local Methodists and Quakers encouraged slaveholders to free their slaves following the American Revolution, and many did so in a surge of individual manumissions for idealistic reasons. By 1810, three-quarters of all blacks in Delaware were free. When John Dickinson freed his slaves in 1777, he was Delaware's largest slave owner with 37 slaves. By 1860, the largest slaveholder owned 16 slaves.[27]Although attempts to abolish slavery failed by narrow margins in the legislature, in practical terms the state had mostly ended the practice. By the 1860 census on the verge of the Civil War, 91.7% of the black population were free;[28] 1,798 were slaves, as compared to 19,829 "free colored persons".[29]An independent black denomination was chartered in 1813 by freed slave Peter Spencer as the "Union Church of Africans". This followed the 1793 establishment in Philadelphia of the African Methodist Episcopal Church by Richard Allen, which had ties to the Methodist Episcopal Church until 1816. Spencer built a church in Wilmington for the new denomination.[30] This was renamed as the African Union First Colored Methodist Protestant Church and Connection, more commonly known as the A.U.M.P. Church. In 1814, Spencer called for the first annual gathering, known as the Big August Quarterly, which continues to draw members of this denomination and their descendants together in a religious and cultural festival.[31]Delaware voted against secession on January 3, 1861, and so remained in the Union. While most Delaware citizens who fought in the war served in the regiments of the state, some served in companies on the Confederate side in Maryland and Virginia Regiments. Delaware is notable for being the only slave state from which no Confederate regiments or militia groups were assembled.[citation needed] Delaware essentially freed the few slaves who were still in bondage shortly after the Civil War(further explanation needed) but rejected the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments on February 12, 1901, decades after they had already come into force.[32]During the Reconstruction Era that followed the Civil War, Democratic Redeemers, the 18th led by the South's Bourbon aristocracy continued to dominate the region and imposed explicitly white supremacist regimes in the former slave states. The Delaware legislature declared Black people to be second-class citizens in 1866, and restricted their voting rights despite the 15th Amendment, ensuring continued Democratic success in the state throughout most of the 19th century.[33] Fearful that the 1875 Civil Rights Act passed by Congress might establish racial equality, Delaware legislators passed Jim Crow laws that mandated segregation in public facilities. The state's educational system was segregated by operation of law.[34] Delaware's segregation was written into the state constitution, which, while providing at Article X, Section 2, that "no distinction shall be made on account of race or color", nonetheless required that "separate schools for white and colored children shall be maintained."[35]Beginning in the late 19th century, the Wilmington area grew into a manufacturing center. Investment in manufacturing in the city grew from $5.5million in 1860 to $44million in 1900.[36] The most notable manufacturer in the state was the chemical company DuPont, which to this day is heavily credited with making the state what it is today in many ways.[37] Because of Wilmington's growth, local politicians from the city and New Castle County pressured the state government to adopt a new constitution providing the north with more representation. However, the subsequent 1897 constitution did not proportionally represent the north and continued to give the southern counties disproportionate influence.[38]As manufacturing expanded, businesses became major players in state affairs and funders of politicians through families such as the Du Ponts. Republican John Addicks attempted to buy a US Senate seat multiple times in a rivalry with the Du Ponts until the passage of the 17th Amendment.[39] The allegiance of industries with the Republican party allowed them to gain control of the state's governorship throughout most of the 20th century. The GOP ensured black people could vote because of their general support for Republicans and thus undid restrictions on Black suffrage.[40]Delaware benefited greatly from World War I because of the state's large gunpowder industry. DuPont, the most dominant business in the state by WWI, produced an estimated 40% of all gunpowder used by the Allies during the war. It produced nylon in the state after the war and began investments into General Motors.[41] Additionally, the company invested heavily in the expansion of public schools in the state and colleges such as the University of Delaware in the 1910s and 1920s. This included primary and secondary schools for Black people and women.[42] Delaware suffered less during the Great Depression than other states, but the depression spurred further migration from the rural south to urban areas.[43]Like in World War I, the state enjoyed a big stimulus to its gunpowder and shipyard industries in World War II. New job opportunities during and after the war in the Wilmington area coaxed Black people from the southern counties to move to the city. The proportion of blacks constituting the city's population rose from 15% in 1950 to over 50% by 1980.[44] The surge of Black migrants to the north sparked white flight, in which middle class whites moved from the city to suburban areas, leading to de facto segregation of Northern Delaware's society. In the 1940s and 1950s, Delaware attempted to integrate its schools, although the last segregated school in the state did not close until 1970.[45] The University of Delaware admitted its first black student in 1948, and local courts ruled that primary schools had to be integrated. Delaware's integration efforts partially inspired the US Supreme Court's decision in Brown v. Board of Education, which found racial segregation in public education illegal throughout the United States. Delaware became fully integrated, although the state did not make the decision until 1954, a year after the Brown ruling was handed down. Delaware became fully integrated, although the state did not make the decision until October 1954, the state's first two-segregation boycotts after the Brown ruling were held in Milford (now Milford High School). Mass protests continued in Milford; the school board eventually ceded to the protestors, expelling the Black students.[47][48][49] The ensuing unrest, which included cross burnings, rallies, and counter-segregation demonstrations, contributed to desegregation in most of Southern Delaware being delayed for another ten years. Sussex County did not start desegregating its segregated schools until 1965, 11 years after the Brown ruling.[50] Throughout the state, integration only encouraged more white flight, and poor economic conditions for the black population led to some violence during the 1960s. Riots broke out in Wilmington in 1967 and again in 1968 in response to the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr, after which the National Guard occupied the city for nine months to prevent further violence.[51]Since WWII, the state has been generally economically prosperous and enjoyed relatively high per capita income because of its location between major cities like Philadelphia, New York, and Washington, DC.[52] Its population grew rapidly, particularly in the suburbs in the north where New Castle county became an extension of the Philadelphia metropolitan area.[53] Americans, including migrants from Puerto Rico, and immigrants from Latin America flocked to the state. By 1990, only 50% of Delaware's population consisted of natives to the state.[54]Main articles: Twelve-Mile Circle, Wedge (border), MasonDixon Line, and Transpeninsular LineSee also: "Counties" section belowThe Twelve-Mile CircleMap of DelawareSunset in Woodbrook, DelawareThe Blackbird Pond on the Blackbird State Forest Meadows Tract in New Castle County, DelawareA field north of Fox Den Road along the Lenape Trail in Middle Run Valley Natural AreaDelaware is 96 miles (154km) long and ranges from 9 to 35 miles (14 to 56km) across, with a land area of 1,982 square miles (5,130km2)[55] and a total area of 2,489 square miles (6,450km2),[56] making it the second-smallest state by either metric in the United States after Rhode Island. Delaware is bounded to the north by Pennsylvania; to the east by the Delaware River, Delaware Bay, New Jersey, and the Atlantic Ocean; and to the west and south by Maryland. Small portions of Delaware are also situated on the eastern side of the Delaware River sharing land boundaries with New Jersey. The state of Delaware, together with the Eastern Shore counties of Maryland and two counties of Virginia, form the Delmarva Peninsula, which stretches down the Mid-Atlantic Coast.The definition of the northern boundary of the state is unusual. Most of the boundary between Delaware and Pennsylvania was originally defined by an arc extending 12 miles (19.3km) from the cupola of the courthouse in the city of New Castle.[57] This boundary is often referred to as the Twelve-Mile Circle.[c] Although the Twelve-Mile Circle is often claimed to be the only territorial boundary in the U.S. that is a true arc, the Mexican boundary with Texas includes several arcs,[58] and many cities in the state also contain circular boundaries.This border extends all the way east to the low-tide mark on the New Jersey shore, then continues south along the shoreline until it again reaches the 12-mile (19km) arc in the south; then the boundary continues in a more conventional way in the middle of the main channel (thalweg) of the Delaware River.On the west, Delaware and Maryland are mostly separated by a line running from the midpoint of the Transpeninsular Line, going slightly west of due north up to its tangent point on the Twelve-Mile Circle. The border follows the Circle for a short distance and then continues in a straight line due north until reaching the southern border of Pennsylvania.[60] The Wedge of land between the northwest part of the arc and the Maryland border was claimed by both Delaware and Pennsylvania until 1921, when Delaware's claim was conf

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L.105124 (text) (PDF), 111Stat.2534, enacted December 1, 1997) were a series of circulating commemorative quarters released by the United States Mint. Minted from 1999 through 2008, they featured unique designs for each of the 50 US states on the reverse.50 State quarterUnited StatesValue0.25 US DollarMass6.25 (Ag); 5.67 (Cu-Ni)gDiameter24.26mm (0.955in)Thickness1.75mm (0.069in)Edge119 reedsComposition91.67% Cu 8.33% Ni (standard)90% Ag 10% Cu (proof only)Years of minting1999200 8Mint marksP, D, S (proof only)ObverseDesignGeorge WashingtonDesignerJohn Flanagan (1932 version) from a 1786 bust by Houdon / William Cousins (modification to Flanagan's design)Design date1999ReverseDesignvarious; five designs per year (latest shown)DesignervariousDesign date19992008The 50 State Quarters Program was started to support a new generation of coin collectors,[1][2] and it became the most successful numismatic program in US history, with roughly half of the US population collecting the coins, either in a casual manner or as a serious pursuit.[3] The US federal government so far has made additional profits of $3 billion from collectors taking the coins out of circulation.[4]In 2009, the US Mint began issuing quarters under the 2009 District of Columbia and US Territories Program. The Territories Quarter Program was authorized by the passage of a newer legislative act, H.R.2764. This program features the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands.[5]The 50 State Quarters program was initially inspired by a 1992 Royal Canadian Mint program, "Canada 125", marking the 125th anniversary of the country's Confederation with a series of commemorative 25-cent pieces representing each of its 12 (at the time) provinces and territories. The Canada 125 program sparked a revival of interest in coin collecting among Canadians, which led American numismatists to advocate for the United States Mint to create a similar series of coins representing U.S. states.[6][7]In 1992, Congress passed the 1996 Atlanta Centennial Olympic Games Commemorative Coin Act. In addition to authorizing a series of commemorative coins marking the 1996 Summer Olympics, the law also established the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee (CCCAC) to consider ideas for future releases.[8] After Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen appointed the committee in December 1993, several of its members, led by David Ganz, urged the committee to endorse a state quarters program. Initially, Ganz found support from only Charles Atherton, from the Federal Commission on Fine Arts, and Dan Hoffman, a young numismatist from South Carolina who also served on the CCCAC. However, by 1995, the CCCAC finally endorsed the idea. The committee then sought the support of Representative Michael Castle (R-Delaware), chairman of the House Banking subcommittee with jurisdiction over the nation's coinage. Castle's initial caution was resolved when Diehl suggested the coins be issued in the order the states entered the Union or ratified the Constitution. Delaware, Castle's home state, was the first state to ratify the Constitution, and would thus get to be the first state to have its quarter released. Castle subsequently held hearings and filed legislation to authorize the program, but the legislation was not passed before the 104th United States Congress adjourned. Castle reintroduced the legislation in the next session of the United States Congress, and it was passed and signed into law in 1997. The program initially was expected to generate $5 billion in additional seignorage and $136.2 million in additional numismatic profits.[4]Diehl worked with Castle behind the scenes to move legislation forward despite the Treasury's opposition to the program.[1][11] However, the Treasury suggested to Castle that the department should conduct a study to determine the feasibility of the program. With Diehl's advice, Castle accepted the Treasury's offer, and the agreement was codified in the United States Commemorative Coin Act of 1996.[12][13] The act also authorized the Secretary to proceed with the 50 States Quarters Program without further congressional action if the results of the feasibility study were favorable.The Treasury Department engaged the consulting firm Coopers and Lybrand to conduct the study in 1997, which confirmed the Mint's demand, seignorage, and numismatic profit projections for the program.[10] Among other conclusions, the study found that 98 million Americans were likely to save one or more full sets of the quarters (at the program's conclusion, the Mint estimated that 147 million Americans collected the 50 state quarters). Nevertheless, the Treasury Department continued to oppose the program and declined to proceed with it without a congressional mandate to do so.[4]In 1997, Congress issued that mandate in the form of S.1228, the 50 States Commemorative Coin Program Act, which was signed into law by President Bill Clinton on December 1, 1997.The 50 State quarters were released by the United States Mint every ten weeks, or five each year. They were released in the same order that the states ratified the Constitution or were admitted to the Union. Each quarter's reverse commemorated one of the 50 states with a design emblematic of its unique history, traditions, and symbols. Certain design elements, such as state flags, images of living persons, and head-and-shoulder images of deceased persons were prohibited.The authorizing legislation and Mint procedures gave each state a substantial role and considerable discretion in determining the design that would represent their state. The majority of states followed a process by which the governor solicited the state's citizens to submit design concepts and appointed an advisory group to oversee the process. Governors submitted three to five finalist design concepts to the Secretary of the Treasury for approval. Approved designs were returned to the states for selection of a final design.States usually employed one of two approaches in making this selection. In 33 states, the governor selected the final recommended design, often based on the recommendations of advisory groups and citizens. In the other 17 states, citizens selected the final design through online, telephone, mail, or other public votes. US Mint engravers applied all final design concepts approved by the Treasury Secretary. The media and public attention surrounding this process and the release of each state's quarter was intense and produced significant publicity for the program.[4][14]In several cases, the process of creating and finalizing a design caused controversy in the represented state, with people and groups expressing disappointment that the design did not properly reflect their state. There were disputes over which state could lay claim to certain design elements that appeared in other states, such as an ear of corn or the Rocky Mountains. The Mint's conversion of each state's proposal into the final design that was used on the quarter also drew criticism for being overly simplified or poorly rendered.[4] Paul Jackson, whose design was chosen for the Missouri quarter and then paared down by the Mint, led a series of protests which included placing stickers with Jackson's original design on the reverses of 250 Mint quarters and distributing them nationwide.[4][15][17] In response to these criticisms, the Mint established the Artistic Infusion Program in 2000, hiring more professional artists and engravers to create better-designed coins.[4]The 50 State quarters Program was the first coin program in the United States history, the United States Mint has issued commemorative quarters every year since 1999.[4] By the end of 2005, all of the original 50 State quarters had been minted and released. Two official total, according to US Mint, was 34,797,600,000 coins. The average mintage was 695,952,000 coins per state, but ranged from Virginia's 1,594,616,000 to Oklahoma's 416,600,000. Demand was stronger for quarters issued early in the program. This was due to weakening economic conditions in later years and the waning of the initial surge of demand when the program was launched. Another factor was the reassertion of the Treasury Department's opposition to the program. When the director's term ended in 2000, the Treasury proceeded to reduce and finally terminate the most effective elements of the Mint's promotional program despite the high return on investment they earned.[citation needed]YearNo.StateRelease date(statehood date)[18]Mintage[19]DesignElements depictedEngraver19991DelawareJanuary 4, 1999(December 7, 1787)774,824,000Caesar Rodney on horsebackCaptions: "The First State", "Caesar Rodney"William Cousins2PennsylvaniaMarch 8, 1999(December 12, 1787)707,332,000Commonwealth statue, state outline, keystone symbolCaption: "Virtue, Liberty, Independence"John Mercanti3New JerseyMay 17, 1999(December 18, 1787)662,228,000Washington Crossing the Delaware, which includes George Washington (standing) and James Monroe (holding the flag)Caption: "Crossroads of the Revolution"Alfred Maletsky4GeorgiaJuly 19, 1999(January 2, 1788)939,932,000Peach, live oak (state tree) sprigs, state outlineBanner with text: "Wisdom, Justice, Moderation" (the state motto)T. James Ferrell5ConnecticutOctober 12, 1999(January 9, 1788)1,346,624,000Charter OakCaption: "The Charter Oak"T. James Ferrell20006MassachusettsJanuary 3, 2000(February 6, 1788)1,163,784,000The Minute Man statue, state outlineCaption: "The Bay State"Thomas D. Rodgers7MarylandMarch 13, 2000(April 28, 1788)1,234,732,000Dome of the Maryland State House, white oak (state tree) clustersCaption: "The Old Line State"Thomas D. Rodgers8South CarolinaMay 22, 2000(May 23, 1788)1,308,784,000Carolina wren (state bird), yellow jessamine (state flower), cabbage palmetto (state tree), state outlineCaption: "The Palmetto State"Thomas D. Rodgers9New HampshireAugust 7, 2000(June 21, 1788)1,169,016,000Old Man of the Mountain, nine stars (representing New Hampshire as the 9th state to join the Union) Captions: "Old Man of the Mountain", "Live Free or Die"William Cousins10VirginiaOctober 16, 2000(June 25, 1788)1,594,616,000Ships Susan Constant, Godspeed, Discovery Captions: "Jamestown, 16072007", "Quadricentennial"Edgar Z. Steever20011New YorkJanuary 2, 2001(July 26, 1788)1,275,040,000Statue of Liberty, 11 stars (representing New York as the 11th state to join the Union), state outline with line tracing Hudson River and Erie CanalCaption: "Gateway to Freedom"Alfred Maletsky12North CarolinaMarch 12, 2001(November 21, 1789)1,055,476,000Wright Flyer, John T. Daniels's iconic photo of the Wright brothersCaption: "First Flight"John Mercanti13Rhode IslandMay 21, 2001(May 29, 1790)870,100,000America's Cup yacht Reliance on Narragansett Bay, Claiborne Pell Newport BridgeCaption: "The Ocean State"Thomas D. Rodgers14VermontAugust 6, 2001(March 4, 1791)882,204,000Maple trees with sap buckets, Camel's Hump MountainCaption: "Freedom and Unity"T. James Ferrell15KentuckyOctober 15, 2001(June 1, 1792)723,564,000Thoroughbred racehorse behind fence, Bardstown mansion, Federal Hill Caption: "My Old Kentucky Home"T. James Ferrell20016TennesseeJanuary 2, 2002(June 1, 1796)648,168,000Fiddle, trumpet, guitar, musical score, three starsBanner with text: "Musical Heritage"Donna Weaver17OhioMarch 18, 2002(March 1, 1803)1,616,448,000Wright Flyer in flight, Wright Brothers' bicycle, state outline, Ohio buckeye leaf, Ohio buckeye nutCaption: "Birthplace of Aviation"Donna Weaver18LouisianaApril 29, 2002(April 30, 1812)1,204,000Brown pelican, state outline, trumpet, magnolia blossomCaption: "Land of Louisiana Purchase"Donna Weaver19IndianaJuly 22, 2002(December 11, 1816)689,800,000IndyCar, state outline, 19 stars (representing Indiana as the 19th state to join the Union) Caption: "Crossroads of America"Donna Weaver20MississippiOctober 15, 2002(December 10, 1817)579,600,000Two magnolia blossoms (state flower)Caption: "The Magnolia State"Donna Weaver2002 11IllinoisJanuary 2, 2003(December 3, 1818)463,200,000Young Abraham Lincoln; farm scene; Chicago skyline; state outline; 21 stars, 11 on left edge and 10 on rightCaptions: "Land of Lincoln;" "21st state/century"Donna Weaver22AlabamaMarch 17, 2003(December 14, 1819)457,400,000Helen Keller, seated, longleaf pine (state tree) branch, magnolia blossomsBanner with text: "Spirit of Courage"Caption: "Helen Keller" in standard print and BrailleNorman E. Nemeth23MaineJune 2, 2003(March 15, 1820)448,800,000Pemaquid Point Lighthouse; the schooner Victory Chimes[20] at seaDonna Weaver24MissouriAugust 4, 2003(August 10, 1821)453,200,000Gateway Arch, Lewis and Clark and York[21] returning down Missouri RiverCaption: "Corps of Discovery 18042004"Alfred Maletsky25ArkansasOctober 20, 2003(June 15, 1836)457,800,000Diamond (state gem), rice stalks, mallard flying above a lakeJohn Mercanti200426MichiganJanuary 26, 2004(January 26, 1837)459,600,000State outline, outline of Great Lakes systemCaption: "Great Lakes State"Donna Weaver27FloridaMarch 29, 2004(March 3, 1845)481,800,000Spanish galleon, Sabal palmetto (state tree), Space ShuttleCaption: "Gateway to Discovery"T. James Ferrell28TexasJune 1, 2004(December 29, 1845)541,800,000State outline, star, lariatCaption: "The Lone Star State"Norman E. Nemeth29IowaAugust 30, 2004(December 28, 1846)465,200,000Schoolhouse, teacher and students planting a tree; based on the Grant Wood painting Arbor Day[22][23]Captions: "Foundation in Education", "Grant Wood"John Mercanti30WisconsinOctober 25, 2004(May 29, 1848)453,200,000Head of a cow, round of cheese and ear of corn (state grain).Banner with text: "Forward"Alfred Maletsky200531CaliforniaJanuary 31, 2005(September 9, 1850)520,400,000John Muir, California condor, Half Dome Captions: "John Muir," "Yosemite Valley"Don Everhart32MinnesotaApril 4, 2005(May 11, 1858)488,000,000Common loon (state bird), fishing, state outlineCaption: "Land of 10,000 Lakes"Charles L. Vickers33OregonJune 6, 2005(February 14, 1859)720,200,000Crater Lake National ParkCaption: "Crater Lake"Donna Weaver34KansasAugust 29, 2005(January 29, 1861)563,400,000American bison (state mammal), sunflowers (state flower)Norman E. Nemeth35West VirginiaOctober 14, 2005(June 20, 1863)721,600,000New River Gorge BridgeCaption: "New River Gorge"John Mercanti200636NevadaJanuary 31, 2006(October 31, 1864)589,800,000Mustangs, mountains, rising sun, sagebrush (state flower) Banner with text: "The Silver State"Don Everhart37NebraskaApril 3, 2006(March 1, 1867)594,400,000Chimney Rock National Historic Site, Conestoga wagonCaption: "Chimney Rock"Charles L. Vickers38ColoradoJune 14, 2006(August 1, 1876)569,000,000Longs PeakBanner with text: "Colorful Colorado"Norman E. Nemeth39North DakotaAugust 28, 2006(November 2, 1889)664,800,000American bison, badlandsDonna Weaver40South DakotaNovember 6, 2006(November 2, 1889)510,800,000Mount Rushmore, ring-necked pheasant (state bird), wheat (state grass)John Mercanti200741MontanaJanuary 29, 2007(November 8, 1889)513,240,000American bison skull in the center with mountains and the Missouri River in the background.Caption: "Big Sky Country"Don Everhart42WashingtonApril 2, 2007(November 11, 1889)516,200,000Salmon leaping in front of Mount Rainier, coast rhododendron (state flower)Caption: "The Evergreen State"Donna Weaver43IdahoJune 25, 2007(July 3, 1890)499,200,000Pygmy Nuthatch (state bird), Mount Hood, Snake River, state outlineCaption: "Gem State"Donna Weaver44WyomingSeptember 24, 2007(July 10, 1890)498,000,000Bucking horse and rider, pronghorn (state animal), Devils Tower, state outlineCaption: "The Equality State"Donna Weaver45UtahNovember 26, 2007(January 4, 1896)508,200,000Golden spike, locomotives Jupiter, No. 119, and the completion of the Transcontinental RailroadCaption: "Crossroads of the West"Joseph F. Menna200846OklahomaJanuary 28, 2008(November 16, 1907)416,600,000Scissor-tailed flycatcher (state bird), with Indian blankets (state wildflower) in backgroundPhebe Hemphill47New MexicoApril 7, 2008(January 6, 1912)488,600,000State outline with relief, Zia sun symbol from flag Caption: "Land of Enchantment"Don Everhart48ArizonaJune 2, 2008(February 14, 1912)509,600,000Grand Canyon, saguaro cactus closeup.Banner with text: "Grand Canyon State"Joseph F. Menna49AlaskaAugust 25, 2008(January 3, 1959)505,800,000Grizzly bear with salmon (state fish) and North StarCaption: "The Great Land"Charles L. Vickers50HawaiiNovember 3, 2008(August 21, 1959)517,600,000Statue of Kamehameha I with state outline and mottoCaption: "Ua Mau ke Ea o ka ina i ka Pono"Don EverhartMain article: District of Columbia and United States Territories quartersAlabama: The Alabama state quarter is the first coin circulated in the US that features Braille writing.[25]Arizona: The banner reading "Grand Canyon State" in the design is intended to split the quarter into two sections and indicate the Grand Canyon and the Saguaro Cactus are in two different Arizona scenes, as the saguaro cactus is not native to the area near the Grand Canyon.[26]Connecticut: The Charter Oak on the back of the Connecticut quarter fell during a storm on August 21, 1856. It also appears on a 1936 half dollar commemorating the 300th anniversary of the state's settlement by Europeans.[27]Georgia: The outline of the state of Georgia on the quarter appears to have accidentally left out Dade County, which is in the extreme northwestern part of the state. In 1860, Dade residents voted to secede from the United States and from the state of Georgia. The county's secession was never legally recognized, and Dade residents chose to "rejoin" the United States in 1945.[28]Hawaii: The Hawaii quarter features a rendition of the statue of King Kamehameha I, who united the Hawaiian Islands in 1810, with the state outline and motto. This is the first business strike US coin to feature royalty or a monarch of any kind.Illinois: The Illinois quarter is the only quarter to directly reference and portray an urban city, with a picture of the Chicago skyline (the Missouri quarter indirectly references the city of St. Louis with its portrayal of the iconic Gateway Arch).Indiana: The Indiana quarterhaving a problem similar to Georgia's quarterts missing part of its northwestern corner. Lake County is either partially or completely missing (where it borders with Lake Michigan). The error did not garner considerable notice.Iowa: When Iowans were debating the design for its state quarter in 2002, there was a grassroots effort to use a design featuring the Sullivan brothers (to honor the five Waterloo siblings who died when the ship they were aboardthe USS Juneau (CL-52)sank during the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal, 1942). The effort was ultimately unsuccessful, and a Grant Wood design was used, but not before some copyright issues were resolved.[29][30]Maryland: The Maryland Statehouse featured on the coin is the country's largest wooden dome built without nails.[31] Some residents complained that the quarter did not feature the state's famous blue crab.Mississippi: The magnolia blossom design, while recognizable at the high levels of magnification at which it was presented for review, appears at production scale as an amorphous mass recognizable only when the accompanying state nickname inscription suggests the image's intended content to the viewer.Missouri: The design contest winner for the Missouri quarter, Paul Jackson, has claimed that the Mint engraver needlessly redesigned Jackson's original submission. The Mint stated that Jackson's design was not coinable, but a private mint later demonstrated that it was. It emerged that Mint engravers may exercise discretion in the final design of US coinage, and the term "design contest" was dropped from solicitations for ideas for later state quarters.[32][33]Nebraska: One of the final concepts for Nebraska had an image of Chief Standing Bear, who, in a landmark court case, successfully argued that Native Americans were citizens entitled to rights under the US Constitution.New Hampshire: The Old Man of the Mountain, featured on the back of the New Hampshire quarter, collapsed in 2003, less than three years after the quarter's release.New Jersey: The first coin in history to ever depict George Washington on both sides.[34]Ohio: Astronauts John Glenn, Neil Armstrong, James Lovell, and Judith Resnik were all natives of Ohio, as were the Wright Brothers.Oregon: Oregon's design features a scene of Crater Lake and Wizard Island. This design was chosen by the Oregon Commemorative Quarter Commission. The Quarter Commission was made up of 18 members, including Governor Ted Kulongoski, State Treasurer Randall Edwards, Columbia Sportswear Chairperson Gert Boyle, numismatist Monte Mensing, and Beaverton High School student Laura Davis, along with state legislators Charles Starr, Joan Dukes, Betsy Johnson, and Betsy Close, among others. The Quarter Commission chose the Crater Lake design from three other finalists: a jumping salmon, the Oregon Trail, and Mount Hood.Rhode Island: With a height of 199ft (61m) the yacht Reliance could not have sailed under the Claiborne Pell Newport Bridge, which has a clearance below of 188ft (57m), although the coin does not show the ship sailing under the bridge. This would also not have happened because Reliance was sold for scrap in 1913 and the Pell Bridge opened in 1969.South Dakota: Although South Dakota has the second highest proportion of Native Americans of any state, the South Dakota quarter features three items that are the result of European settlement. These symbols are Mount Rushmore, which honors four U.S. presidents and is carved into the Black Hills which are seen as sacred by the Lakota, a ring-necked pheasant (an introduced species of Asian origin), and wheat, a Eurasian crop which has replaced much of the state's native grasslands.Tennessee: There has also been some controversy over the Tennessee quarter. Some sources[35] claim that the details on the instruments depicted on the quarter are inaccurate, such as the number of strings on the guitar and the location of the tubing on the trumpet. The number of strings on the guitar-like instrument would be accurate if the instrument was a Mexican vihuela that influenced the country-and-western music prominent in Nashville culture and business.5 strings on the guitar on the Tennessee state quarter. The instrument, however, has six tuning pegs, so is, in fact, a guitar and not a vihuela.West Virginia: During the submission process for the design of the West Virginia quarter, there was an apparent movement to put the famous Mothman on the final design.[36]Wisconsin:Main article: 2004 Wisconsin state quarter misprintA number of the Wisconsin quarters featured a small mint error: the ear of corn features an extra leaf. Some of the affected coins feature a "low leaf", others feature a "high leaf". All of these "error coins" were minted at the Denver mint. It is unclear whether the error was deliberate or accidental, but the error generated considerable initial interest. Sets of the flawed coins once sold on eBay for up to $2,800, although the 2013 edition of R.S. Yeoman's A Guide Book of United States Coins lists considerably lower prices for uncirculated specimens.[37][38]Wyoming: Some Wyoming quarters were released in 2007 with indications of improper quality control. Many persons, upon first seeing the same cowboy outline design used on the state's automobile license plates, have mistakenly believed that the lack of detail is itself a flaw, the result of an incomplete striking. However, evidence of cracks in the die and subsequent hasty repairs have been observed in a few circulation specimens.[39]The following map shows the years each state, federal district, or territory was released as a state quarter.The following table has the quarters grouped by year.ColorYear1st release2nd release3rd release4th release5th release6th release1999Delaware Pennsylvania New Jersey Georgia Connecticut2000Massachusetts Maryland South Carolina New Hampshire Virginia2001New York North Carolina Rhode Island Vermont Kentucky2002Tennessee Ohio Louisiana Indiana Mississippi2003Illinois Alabama Maine Missouri Arkansas2004Michigan Florida Texas Iowa Wisconsin2005California Minnesota Oregon Kansas2006West Virginia Nevada Nebraska Colorado North Dakota2007South Dakota Montana Washington Idaho Wyoming Utah2008Oklahoma New Mexico Arizona Alaska Hawaii2009District of Columbia Puerto Rico Guam American Samoa US Virgin Islands Northern Mariana Islands In 1997, Congress passed the 50 States Commemorative Coin Program Act, which instructed the creation of the 50 State quarters series to "honor the unique Federal Republic of 50 States that comprise the United States, and to promote the diffusion of knowledge among the youth of the United States about the individual states, their history and geography, and the rich diversity of the national heritage...", and to encourage "young people and their families to collect memorable tokens of all of the States for the face value of the coins."[40]Coin with partially rubbed off "In God We Trust" mottoWhile mintage totals of the various designs vary widelyVirginia quarters are almost 20 times as abundant as the Northern Marianas quartersnone of the regular circulating issues are rare enough to become a valuable investment.There was, however, a measure of collector interest over die errors in the Wisconsin quarter. Some designs from the Denver mint feature corn without a smaller leaf, others feature a small leaf pointing upwards, and still others have the leaf bending down.[41] A set of all three quarters sold on eBay in February 2005 for $300 and initially saw significant increases, such as $1500 for individual coins, but as of February 2020 PCGS lists the value of MS-62 specimens from $92 to $130 each.[42]Another die cast error ran with the first Delaware quarters. Being the first model of state quarter made, the mint gave it a disproportionate weight causing vending machines to not accept it. The quarter die was quickly fixed. Some Delaware quarters appeared without the last E, now saying, "THE FIRST STAT".A major error occurred in 2000 when the reverse die of a Sacagawea dollar was combined with the obverse die of a state quarter on dollar-coin planchets to form what is known as a "mule". As of August 2019, only 19 of these specimens, produced on dollar planchets, are known to have escaped from the Mint.[43][44][45]A 2005 Minnesota double die quarter, as well as a 2005 Minnesota quarter with extra trees (another die error), have both triggered numismatic interest. An unusual die break on some 2005 Kansas quarters created a humpback bison.[46] Relatively more common are Kansas quarters bearing the motto "IN GOD WE RUST."[47]The United States produces proof coinage in circulating base metal and, since 1992, in separately sold sets with the dimes, quarters, and half-dollars in silver. For the silver issues, the 1999 set is the most valuable, being the first year of the series and with a relatively small mintage, although prices have significantly decreased since the 50 State Quarters Program ended. The set in base metal, of this or any other year, is worth only a fraction as much. The silver proof sets of later years, while having some intrinsic and collector worth, are also priced far lower. The public is cautioned to research prices before buying advertised state quarter year or proof sets.In general, the program increased interest in quarter and general coin collecting.[48] Large numbers of ads, quarter products and quarter information were available during the years the program ran. Home Shopping Network, Franklin Mint, and Littleton Coin Company were among the most prominent in ad space.Further information: SeigniorageSince the 50 State Quarters Program was expected to increase public demand for quarters which would be collected and taken out of circulation, the Mint used economic models to estimate the additional seigniorage the program would produce. These estimates established a range of $2.6 billion to $5.1 billion. (At the end of the program, the Mint estimated the actual increase in seigniorage to be $3 billion.) The Mint also estimated the program would earn $110 million in additional numismatic profits. (The final, post-program estimate was $136.2 million.) The Mint used these estimates to support the proposed program, and the legislation enacting the 50 States Quarters program cited these estimates.[4]On July 25, 2001, The Onion ran a satirical news story titled "Collecting All 50 State Quarters Senior's Only Reason To Remain Alive".[49] On May 4, 2005, it ran a further story titled "U.S. Mint Gears Up To Issue Commemorative County Pennies".[50]The Late Night with Conan O'Brien television show aired several segments about fictional satirical designs for new state quarters.[51][52][53][54][55][56]Sculptor Daniel Carr, whose designs were used for the New York and Rhode Island state quarters and whose concept was adapted for the Maine state quarter, has created a series of parody quarters making light of the state quarter concept.[57]Money portalNumismatics portalUnited States portal50 State quarter mintage figuresDistrict of Columbia and United States Territories quartersAmerica the Beautiful quartersWestward Journey Nickel SeriesPresidential dollar coinsAmerican Innovation dollarsUnited States Bicentennial coinageGerman BundesInder 2 coinsCanadian 125th Anniversary provincial quarters60th Anniversary of Enforcement of the Local Autonomy Law 500 yen commemorative coins^ a b Muoio, Anna. 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