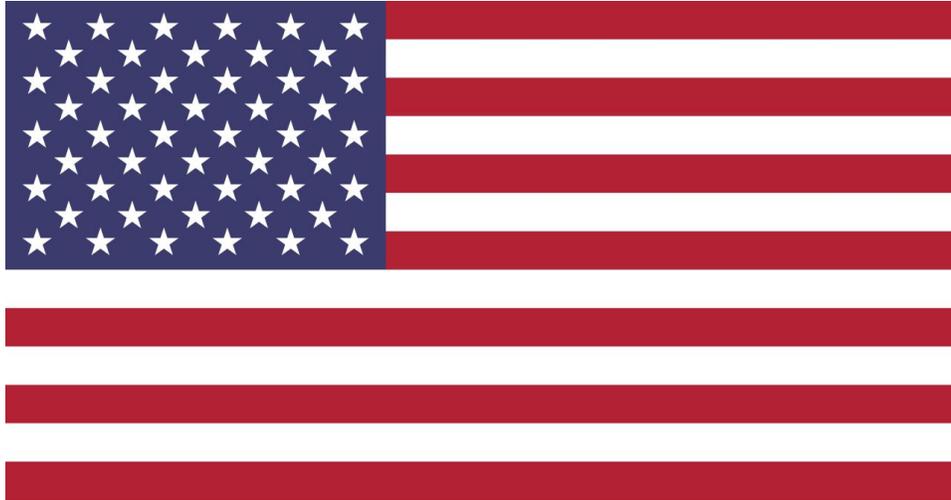


United States of America



Britain's American colonies broke with the mother country in 1776 and were recognized as the new nation of the United States of America following the Treaty of Paris in 1783. During the 19th and 20th centuries, 37 new states were added to the original 13 as the nation expanded across the North American continent and acquired a number of overseas possessions. The two most traumatic experiences in the nation's history were the Civil War (1861-65), in which a northern Union of states defeated a secessionist Confederacy of 11 southern slave states, and the Great Depression of the 1930s, an economic downturn during which about a quarter of the labor force lost its jobs. Buoyed by victories in World Wars I and II and the end of the Cold War in 1991, the U.S. remains the world's most powerful nation state. Since the end of World War II, the economy has achieved relatively steady growth, low unemployment and inflation, and rapid advances in technology. The U.S. has the most technologically powerful economy in the world. It is also one of the world's most ethnically diverse and multicultural nations and is home to the world's largest immigrant population.

Geography

Official Name: [United States of America](#)

Conventional Short Form: [United States](#)

Region: [North America](#)

Area: [9,833,517 sq km](#)

Bordering Countries: [Canada](#), [Mexico](#)

Climate: The United States has a mostly temperate climate, but due to its vast size, different parts of the country can experience very different weather patterns. Hawaii and Florida are tropical, while it is arctic in Alaska. The midwest is semiarid and the southwest is arid.

Physical Features/Terrain: Vast central plain, mountains in west, hills and low mountains in east, rugged mountains and broad river valleys in Alaska and rugged, volcanic topography in Hawaii

Natural Hazards: Earthquake activity around Pacific Basin, hurricanes along the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coast, tornadoes in the Midwest and Southeast, mud slides in California, forest fires in the west, flooding

People and Society

Population: 323,995,528 (3rd in the world)

Ethnic Groups: White (79.96%), Black (12.85%), Asian (4.43%), Amerindian and Alaska Native (0.97%), Native Hawaiian and other Pacific islander (0.18%), Two or more races (1.61%)

Official Language: N/A

Other Languages Spoken: English, Spanish, Hawaiian, other Indo-European

Religions: Protestant (46.5%), Roman Catholic (20.8%), Mormon (1.6%), Jehovah's Witness (0.8%), other Christian (0.9%), Jewish (1.9%), Muslim (0.9%), Buddhist (0.7%), Hindu (0.7%), other (1.8%), unaffiliated (22.8%), don't know/refused (0.6%)

Capital City: Washington D.C.

Other Major Cities: New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Miami, Dallas, Philadelphia

Median Age (*half the people are younger than this age and half are older*)

Male: 36.6

Female: 39.3

Total Population: 37.9 (2016 est.)

Literacy Rate (*percentage of the population 15 and older who can read and write*)

Male: N/A

Female: N/A

Total Population: N/A

Life Expectancy at Birth (*average number of years to be lived by those born in the same year*)

Male: 77.5

Female: 82.1

Total Population: 79.8 (2016 est.)

Government

Country Founded: July 4, 1776 (declared independence from Great Britain)

Type of Government: Constitutional federal republic

Country Leaders

President: Donald J. Trump

Vice President: Mike Pence

Allies: NATO countries, Australia

Enemies: Russia, China, North Korea, Iran

Economy

Currency: US Dollar

GDP: \$18.56 trillion (2016 est.)

Natural Resources: Coal, copper, lead, molybdenum, phosphates, rare earth elements, uranium, bauxite, gold, iron, mercury, nickel, potash, silver, tungsten, zinc, petroleum, natural gas, timber, arable land

*note – the US has the world's largest coal reserves with 491 billion short tons accounting for 27% of the world's total

Unemployment Rate: 4.7% (2016 est.)

Population Below Poverty Line: 15.1% (2010 est.)

Major export and imports

Exports: Agricultural products (soybeans, fruit, corn), industrial supplies (organic chemicals), capital goods (transistors, aircraft, motor vehicle parts, computers, telecommunications equipment), consumer goods (automobiles, medicines)

Imports: Agricultural products, industrial supplies (crude oil), capital goods (computers, telecommunications equipment, motor vehicle parts, office machines, electric power machinery), consumer goods (automobiles, clothing, medicines, furniture, toys)

Biggest trading partners

Exports: Canada, Mexico, China, Japan

Imports: China, Canada, Mexico, Japan, Germany

More information can be found at:

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/us.html>