

STATE HISTORY

Montana became an official state on November 8, 1889 and was the 41st state to join the United States.

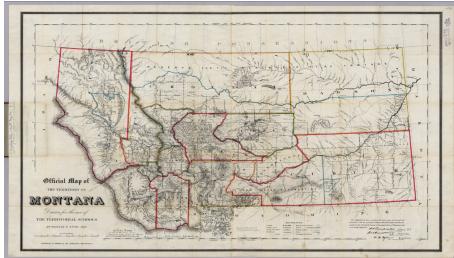


Photo Credit: DavidRumsey.com

Prior to Montana becoming an official state, the land that would become Montana was made up of seven major territories governed by different portions of the United States. In 1864, Congress combined these territories to be known as the Montana Territory, and when the federal government passed the Enabling Act of 1889, Montana became a state.



The first governor of Montana was Joseph K. Toole. He served his first term as governor from 1889 until 1903. Interestingly, Joseph K. Toole was also the fourth governor of Montana, serving another term from 1901 to 1908 until he resigned due to poor health.

Photo Credit: Wikipedia

BUSINESS

Montana's economy is based primarily on agriculture, forestry, and mining.

Major exports of Montana include coal, petroleum, natural gas, milk, beef, wool, and honey. Montana also produces many goods, such as jams, jellies, syrups, and copper. In addition, Montana is also known for manufacturing high-technology goods used in dentistry, environmental cleanup, and even underwater imaging. The service sector is the largest portion of Montana's economy, with it holding nearly 75% of Montana's gross state product. Jobs in the service sector include government jobs, finance jobs, and jobs in hotels and restaurants.

In 1984 Montana started a "Made in Montana" program to help Montana succeed in business.

Photo Credit: Made in Montana USA



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Welcome to MONTANA



Photo Credit: Fodors

"Montana should come with a surgeon general warning that it's addictive. The sky is big and blue, and the air is always fresh and crisp and scented with pine. There's a frontier spirit, but also a calmness, beauty in the landscape that slows your pulse."

-Robin Bielman

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Miss Klewin**

ENTERTAINMENT

Montana is home to two of the most renowned national parks in the United States: Glacier National Park and Yellowstone National Park. Tourists and visitors alike enjoy the beauty, wildlife, and outdoor adventures associated with these historic national parks.

Glacier National Park



Photo Credit: AllGlacier.com

Yellowstone National Park



Photo Credit: 7usa8.com

LOCATION

Montana is located in the Northwest region of the United States.



Photo Credit: Wikimedia

Size: 147,164 square miles

State Comparison: 4th largest state in the U.S., nearly 95 Rhode Islands could fit inside Montana

Neighboring States: Idaho, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota

Neighboring Country: Canada

GEOGRAPHY & CLIMATE

Montana's geography is very diverse, ranging from wide, open plains to mountainous areas with lakes and forests. Montana is divided by the Continental Divide, so its eastern and western regions experience different climates, with the west having a milder climate than the East.

STATE FLAG



Photo Credit: Montanaflag.facts.com

The blue Montana flag has a seal containing a plow, a shovel, and a pick rest to represent the Great Falls of the Missouri River. The flag also contains the state's motto, "Oro y Plato," which is Spanish for "Gold and Silver."

State Tree: Western Yellow Pine

State Flower: Bitterroot

State Song: "Montana"

State Animal: Grizzly Bear