

Wisconsin Briefs

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Reference Bureau

Brief 95-9

September 1995

AN INTRODUCTION TO WISCONSIN

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Office	Officer	Party	Term Expires	Salary*
Governor	Tommy G. Thompson	Republican	January 4, 1999	\$101,861
Lieutenant Governor	Scott McCallum	Republican	January 4, 1999	54,795
Secretary of State	Douglas J. La Follette	Democrat	January 4, 1999	49,719
State Treasurer	Jack C. Voight	Republican	January 4, 1999	49,719
Attorney General	James E. Doyle	Democrat	January 4, 1999	97,756
Superintendent of Public Instruction	John Benson	Nonpartisan	July 7, 1997	80,984

*Salaries are established by the legislature. The officer may draw a lesser amount but cannot receive a salary increase during the term he or she was elected (or appointed) to fill.

STATE GOVERNMENT State Capital: Madison

The U.S. and Wisconsin Constitutions are the foundation of Wisconsin's legal system. The state constitution was ratified by the voters on March 13, 1848, and Wisconsin subsequently became a state on May 29, 1848. Since then 135 out of 186 proposals to amend the state constitution have been ratified. The *Wisconsin Blue Book* contains the current text of the Wisconsin Constitution.

The state constitution guarantees the liberties of the people through a "Declaration of Rights", creates elected state offices, establishes the framework of the three branches of state government (executive, legislative, and judicial), provides for a system of local government, and includes provisions for state finance and public education.

Executive Branch. Executive authority and the responsibility for management of the executive branch rest primarily with the governor who is authorized to appoint state agency heads and members of commissions, boards and councils; grant official pardons and executive clemency; develop the budget bills for legislative action; and veto entire bills or, in the case of appropriation measures, parts of bills.

The executive branch itself is composed of the Offices of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, and State Treasurer; 16 administrative departments (including two

headed by the Attorney General and Superintendent of Public Instruction, respectively, who are constitutional officers); 19 independent agencies; three state authorities; and one nonprofit corporation. Many agencies and departments have attached councils and boards which perform specific tasks or serve as advisory bodies. The principal responsibilities of these departments and agencies relate to commerce, education, environmental resources, human relations and resources, and general executive functions.

Legislative Branch. The Wisconsin Legislature is a bicameral institution consisting of a 33-member senate and a 99-member assembly. Senators serve four-year terms and representatives to the assembly serve two-year terms. The 16 senators who represent even-numbered districts are elected in presidential election years; the 17 from odd-numbered districts are elected in gubernatorial election years.

The new legislature is sworn into office in January of each odd-numbered year to meet for a two-year period called a "biennium". During the biennium, the legislature is in continuous session with a schedule of alternating floorperiods and committee work periods.

The senate and assembly elect their own officers from their membership. The presiding officer of the senate is the "president"; in the assembly it is the "speaker".

During the 1993-94 session, legislators introduced 2,156 bills, of which 497 became law. A total of 212 joint resolutions were offered in the senate and assembly, and 80 were adopted.

Members of the 1995 Legislature receive an annual salary of \$38,056. All members are entitled to compensation for mileage, office expenses, and daily living expenses while on legislative business in Madison.

Several legislative agencies assist the legislature by providing reference and research services, bill drafting, statute and administrative code revision, fiscal analysis, and financial and program auditing services.

Judicial Branch. The state judiciary consists of a Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, and 69 circuit courts. In addition, as authorized by state law, 203 local government units have created municipal courts. All judges are elected on a nonpartisan basis in the April election.

The seven-member Wisconsin Supreme Court is the final authority on the Wisconsin Constitution and the highest tribunal for all cases begun in the state, except those involving federal issues. Supreme court justices are elected for 10-year terms, and the justice with the greatest seniority (length of service) usually serves as chief justice.

The Court of Appeals, established in 1978, has only appellate jurisdiction, which means the cases it hears must first be tried in a lower court. The court is divided into four appellate districts covering the state. It consists of 16 judges, with one district having five judges, two districts having four each and one district having three. Appellate judges are elected to six-

year terms. They generally sit in three-judge panels, but in certain matters one judge alone may hear a case.

Every county is a circuit with the exception of three combined districts (Buffalo-Pepin, Shawano-Menominee, and Forest-Florence). Among the 69 circuits, 37 have multiple branches for a total of 233 judgeships. Circuit court judges are elected to six-year terms. The circuit court is the trial court of general jurisdiction in Wisconsin. It has "original jurisdiction" in civil and criminal matters, which means it is usually the first court to hear a case. The circuit court is the only court in which jury trials are held. It takes testimony from witnesses, whereas the higher courts usually accept only written or oral arguments from attorneys.

Wisconsin municipalities (cities, towns, and villages) may create municipal courts. Municipal judges are elected to terms of two to four years, as specified by the municipality, and candidates need not be attorneys unless the municipality stipulates such a requirement. The jurisdiction of these courts is limited to violations of local ordinances.

WISCONSIN LEADERSHIP

Wisconsin takes great pride in its historic role as a leader in forward-looking political, educational, and economic reforms. Among the innovative programs the Badger State either initiated or early advocated are the direct primary election law, unemployment compensation, worker's compensation, comprehensive civil service legislation, prohibition of legal discrimination against women, an income tax, regulation of public utilities and railroads, and minimum wage laws. Other progressive Wisconsin legislation resulted in a statewide building code, university correspondence and extension teaching, an educational radio network, development of vocational, technical and adult education, preservation of natural areas, consumer credit legislation, marital property reform, and a statewide recycling program.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Local units of government in Wisconsin consist of 72 counties, 189 cities, 394 villages, and 1,265 towns. In addition, the state has 427 school districts, 16 technical college districts, and 399 special districts (such as metropolitan sewerage districts, lake rehabilitation districts and housing and community development authorities).

Counties. Counties do not have self-governing powers (known as "home rule") under the Wisconsin Constitution, but the state has granted them administrative home rule by statute. This allows counties the discretion to determine their organization and administration. The state also grants powers to counties to perform specific tasks, if they choose, and mandates that they provide certain services.

The governing body for each county is an elected board of supervisors. Other elected officials may include the district attorney, sheriff, clerk, treasurer, register of deeds, clerk of circuit court, coroner, and surveyor. Instead of electing coroners and surveyors, counties are per-

mitted to appoint medical examiners and registered land surveyors. Milwaukee County is required to appoint these officers.

Milwaukee County must elect a county executive as its chief administrator. Other counties may elect a county executive or appoint an administrator. State law requires counties having neither an executive nor an administrator must designate an "administrative coordinator". The county board chairperson or county clerk is usually the officer chosen to serve as coordinator.

Cities and Villages. In Wisconsin, cities and villages are incorporated under general law. Based on a constitutional amendment ratified in 1924, they have home rule powers to determine their own affairs. City government may be organized in one of three forms: mayor-council, council-manager, or commission. There currently are no city commissions in Wisconsin. As a result, the governing body in every Wisconsin city is an elected common council. Only 10 cities operate through an elected council-appointed manager structure; the vast majority have an elected mayor as their chief executive and administrator. Other elected city officials include the clerk, attorney, and treasurer.

In Wisconsin villages, the governmental authority is an elected village board of trustees and a president. Villages may also operate under a manager or commission form of government. Currently, nine villages use the manager form, and none uses a commission. Other elected village officials typically include the clerk, treasurer, assessor, and constable.

Towns. Town governments do not have home rule, so they have only those powers granted by state law. A 1993 law granted towns many of the powers that cities and villages already had. The governing body is the town board, usually composed of three supervisors elected at the biennial town meeting in which all voters of the town can participate. Other town officers include the clerk, treasurer, and assessor.

EDUCATION

Wisconsin taxpayers finance extensive and varied educational opportunities through public elementary and secondary schools; the Technical College System; the University of Wisconsin System; and several public community colleges.

In 1994-95, Wisconsin was divided into 427 public school districts, each governed by an elected board. These districts served 860,686 students, while private elementary and secondary schools enrolled 148,002 students. An estimated 4,800 students were educated in home instructional settings.

The University of Wisconsin System consists of 13 campuses, 13 two-year centers, and statewide extension services. The campuses and centers enrolled 152,281 students in 1994-95,

while the University Extension enrolled 263,237 continuing education students in 1993-94 and served thousands of students through its cooperative and teleconferencing programs.

In 1911, Wisconsin was the first to establish state support for vocational education. In 1970, the legislature required the formation of a system of vocational, technical and adult education (VTAE) districts covering the entire state. Renamed the Technical College System in 1993, the 16 technical college districts served 438,396 students in 1993-94.

Lac Court Oreilles Ojibwa Community College at Hayward, which is supported solely by local funding, reported an enrollment of 472 in 1994-95. The College of the Menominee Nation at Keshena, also locally funded, enrolled 204 students in a cooperative program with the UW System in 1994-95.

In addition, the state has 30 private institutions of higher education with 51,439 students enrolled in 1994-95. Among these private schools are three universities, 18 colleges, four technical and professional schools, and five theological seminaries.

Although Wisconsin ranked 22nd in personal income per capita in 1993, its per capita expenditures for education ranked 8th in the nation at \$1,517.

STATE INSTITUTIONS

Wisconsin's correctional facilities, operated by the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, consist of four maximum security prisons, four medium security prisons, one minimum security institution, a correctional center system for men, and a women's prison. The department also administers an intensive sanctions program.

The Wisconsin Department of Health and Social Services operates the three juvenile correctional institutions. It also manages six institutions for the care and treatment of the mentally ill and developmentally disabled.

Other state institutions are the Wisconsin School for the Visually Handicapped at Janesville and the Wisconsin School for the Deaf at Delavan, both of which are operated by the Department of Public Instruction, and the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King, operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

MANUFACTURING

In 1994, manufacturing provided nearly 22% of total employment in Wisconsin and 28% of all earnings for 1993. The state's manufacturing establishments numbered 10,175 in 1992. The state ranked 3rd among the states in percentage of earned income from manufacturing in 1993. In 1994, about 582,000 persons were employed in manufacturing with 18% involved in the production of industrial machinery.

The state's durable goods sector produces heavy machinery, electrical equipment, castings and forgings, and motor vehicles. It includes machine shops, tool and die makers, and metal finishing firms.

Wisconsin's natural resources (particularly forest, farmland, and water resources) have led to development and growth in the lumber, paper, food processing, and tourist industries.

The southeastern part of the state, especially Milwaukee, Waukesha, Racine, and Kenosha Counties, is noted for its high concentration of manufacturing employment. The paper, food processing, and machinery industries comprise another manufacturing concentration in Sheboygan, Fond du Lac, Winnebago, and Manitowoc Counties.

Among the well-known goods produced by Wisconsin manufacturers are automobiles, motorcycles, farm tractors, snowmobiles, boats and outboard motors, earth moving machines, paper, overalls, and yo-yos.

AGRICULTURE

Over the past 50 years, Wisconsin agriculture has become more productive, although the number of farms in the state has steadily declined. In 1993, there were approximately 79,000 farms in the state, totaling about 17.1 million acres with an average farm size of 216.5 acres.

Wisconsin ranked 29th nationally in farm income in 1993, and its cash receipts from farm products marketed that year totaled more than \$5.4 billion. Income from livestock and related products amounted to \$4.3 billion, while crop income totaled \$1.1 billion. About 56% of the state's agricultural cash receipts comes from dairying.

Wisconsin is truly "America's Dairyland". It ranked first nationally in 1993 in number of milk cows and the production of milk, cheese, whole sweetened condensed milk, and whey products. Wisconsin accounted for 31.1% of all cheese produced in the United States in 1993. The state is first in the output of American, Muenster, Brick, Italian, and Blue cheese, and 3rd in Swiss cheese.

In crop production, Wisconsin ranked first in snap beans, corn for silage and sweet corn for processing, and 2nd in cranberries, green peas and hay. The state is also a leading producer of potatoes, oats, tart cherries, cucumbers for pickles, carrots, cabbage for kraut, and mint for oil. In 1993, Wisconsin produced 22% of the nation's sweet corn for processing, 36% of the cranberries, and 36% of the snap beans for processing.

Finally, with 25% of the national total, the state ranked first in production of mink pelts in 1992.

RECREATION AND SPORTS

Wisconsin is a year-round recreational wonderland, offering a wide variety of summer and winter activities. With over 14,000 lakes and 2,000 trout streams, the state serves as a magnet for those who enjoy boating, waterskiing and fishing. The most popular sporting fish are trout, bass, perch, northern pike, walleye, and muskellunge. Snowmobiling, skiing, and ice-fishing are popular in winter.

Hunting is another recreational activity of major importance to Wisconsinites and visitors from nearby states. Pheasant, ruffed grouse, deer, and waterfowl are the most popular game.

Wisconsin has 44 state parks, nine state forests, 14 state trails, and four recreation areas. The trail system is enjoyed by bicyclists and hikers of all ages, and additional miles are being developed each year. The many lakes, woods, trails, and parks also afford the individual an opportunity to view the natural beauty of Wisconsin through the changing seasons. Devil's Lake, Peninsula, and High Cliff are the most popular state parks, while the Elroy-Sparta and Glacial Drumlin are the most frequently used trails. Visits to the state parks and forests totaled more than 12,750,000 in 1993.

Wisconsin has also fielded a rich variety of athletic teams, led by the Green Bay Packers in football, the Milwaukee Brewers in baseball, and the Milwaukee Bucks in basketball. The major collegiate teams include those of the University of Wisconsin-Madison (a member of the Big Ten Conference), the other institutions comprising the University of Wisconsin System, and Marquette University.

Women's sports have been developing rapidly in recent years at the high school and college levels. The UW-Madison women's basketball, cross country, track, soccer, and volleyball teams have competed for national titles in the past several years.

GEOGRAPHY

Wisconsin ranks 26th in geographical area among the 50 states. Its total land area is 54,314 square miles, which includes 1,535 square miles of inland water. In addition, the state boundaries encompass 10,062 square miles of Lake Michigan and Lake Superior.

The state is bounded on the north by Lake Superior and Michigan's Upper Peninsula, on the east by Lake Michigan, on the south by Illinois, and on the west by Minnesota and Iowa with the Mississippi River forming most of this boundary. The state's greatest dimensions are 320 miles (north-south) and 295 miles (east-west).

The four highest elevations in the state are Timms Hill (1,952 feet) and Pearson Hill (1,951 feet), both in Price County; Sugarbush Hill in Forest County (1,938 feet); and Rib Mountain in Marathon County (1,924 feet).

The largest lake in Wisconsin is Lake Winnebago (137,708 acres), located in Winnebago, Calumet, and Fond du Lac Counties. The second largest is Lake Pepin (27,813 acres), situated along the boundary of the Mississippi River. Big Green Lake in Green Lake County is the deepest with a maximum depth of 236 feet. Major rivers of Wisconsin include the Mississippi, Wisconsin, Fox, Rock, Chippewa, Black, and Flambeau.

Wisconsin's growing season varies from about 75 days in the north central region to about 175 days in the southern areas near Lake Michigan. The average annual temperature for 1993

varied from 39.4° in the north central region to 46.8° in the southeast. The average precipitation for the state that year was 35.55 inches, significantly higher than the 1961-90 annual average of 31.68 inches.

Significant geographic features include the 100-foot gorge of the Wisconsin River called the Wisconsin Dells, the caves at Blue Mounds, the sandstone cliffs along the Mississippi River, and Rib Mountain at Wausau.

Wisconsin abounds in such common glacial features as drumlins, eskers, till plains, marshes, and moraines. The Kettle Moraine area in the southeastern part of the state is a prominent reminder of the glacial presence. The final phase of glaciation, called the Wisconsin Stage, is estimated to have swept the state 50,000 to 70,000 years ago. The glaciers, which retreated approximately 10,000 years ago, left behind a blanket of glacial drift. Only the southwestern portion of the state escaped the immense sheets of ice.

As a result of the glaciers, Wisconsin's chief mineral products are construction sand and gravel, crushed stone, and lime. In 1993, mineral production was valued at \$203 million. Other products include industrial sand, dimension stone, peat, and gemstones.

HISTORY

Prior to the arrival of the first European settlers, diverse Indian tribes inhabited Wisconsin. These included the Fox, Sauk, Winnebago, Menominee, Chippewa, Santee Sioux, and Potawatomi. They numbered about 20,000 when the French arrived in the 17th century. During the 1830s, the Stockbridge-Munsee came to Wisconsin from the East Coast and the Oneidas from New York State. Most of the tribes were moved to reservations through treaties signed with the federal government in the 1850s.

The first known European to visit what is now Wisconsin was the Frenchman Jean Nicolet in 1634. French influence in the area dates from this period and was highlighted by the 1673 exploration and discoveries of Louis Jolliet and Father Jacques Marquette. In 1763, with the conclusion of the French and Indian Wars, authority over the Wisconsin area was officially ceded to the British. Under the 1783 Treaty of Paris, the British conceded control to the new American confederation.

Before entering the Union, the people of Wisconsin were governed under the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 and the laws of the Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan Territories of which they were successively a part. The Wisconsin Territory was organized in 1836, and on May 29, 1848, Wisconsin officially became the 30th state.

Highlights of the state's economic history include the emergence and subsequent fall of wheat farming, the lumber era, the dominance of dairy farming, and the concentration of industry in the eastern and southeastern parts of Wisconsin.

Politically, Wisconsin is known as the home of Robert M. La Follette, Sr., leader of the nation's progressive movement, and as the birthplace of the Republican Party (at Ripon). Wisconsin has consistently enjoyed a reputation for honest, efficient government.

Well-known state-owned historic sites in Wisconsin include Villa Louis at Prairie du Chien, Stonefield Village at Cassville, Pendarvis at Mineral Point, Old World Wisconsin at Eagle, Old Wade House at Greenbush, Madeline Island at La Pointe, Circus World Museum at Baraboo, and the first State Capitol at Belmont.

WISCONSIN'S POPULATION

The 1994 population of Wisconsin, according to the official estimate prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Administration, was 5,061,451 residents – an increase of 169,682, or 3.5%, over 1990. According to the 1990 U.S. Census, the state had a voting age population of 3,602,787, nearly 74% of the total. Wisconsin ranked 16th among all states in population in 1990.

Based on the 1990 U.S. Census and state estimates for 1994, the population of Wisconsin's 20 largest cities are:

City	1994	1990	1980	City	1994	1990	1980
Milwaukee	629,296	628,088	636,297	Janesville	54,553	52,133	51,071
Madison	198,392	191,262	170,616	La Crosse	51,769	51,003	48,347
Green Bay	100,146	96,466	87,899	Sheboygan	50,343	49,676	48,085
Racine	85,190	84,298	85,725	Wauwatosa	49,434	49,366	51,308
Kenosha	84,394	80,352	77,685	Fond du Lac	39,478	37,757	35,863
Appleton	68,187	65,695	58,913	Wausau	38,376	37,060	32,426
West Allis	63,379	63,221	63,982	Brookfield	36,234	35,184	34,035
Waukesha	58,428	56,958	50,365	Beloit	35,743	35,573	35,207
Eau Claire	58,239	56,856	51,509	Greenfield	35,207	33,403	31,353
Oshkosh	57,389	55,006	49,740	New Berlin	34,929	33,592	30,529

The most populous county is Milwaukee with an estimated 969,252 residents in 1994, followed by Dane at 389,677, and Waukesha at 323,387; the least populous county is Menominee at 4,074.

WISCONSIN'S PEOPLE

The French were the first Europeans to explore the Wisconsin territory. The English and Welsh traveled to the area in the 1820s and 1830s, followed by extensive immigration from all over Europe. In the last half of the 19th century, immigrants from Germany, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Poland, the Netherlands, Italy, Russia and other countries arrived in Wisconsin.

Today, Wisconsin residents with German, Norwegian, or Polish ancestry are predominate in number.

The racial breakdown of the state's population for 1990 was 92.2 % white, 5.0% Black, 0.8% Indian, and 1.2% Asian (Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, etc.).

Although Indians were once the only persons living in Wisconsin, by 1990 they accounted for only 37,769 of the state's nearly 4.9 million residents. Wisconsin has 11 Indian reservations; the Menominee Reservation is largest in population. The other reservations are occupied by Chippewa, Oneida, Potawatomi, Winnebago, and Mahican/Munsee Indians.

Hispanics numbered 93,194 in the 1990 census, with 44,671 residing in Milwaukee County.

Blacks migrated to Wisconsin in small numbers through most of the 19th century. A rapid expansion of the Black population occurred after World War II, and by 1990, it totaled 244,539. Milwaukee County recorded the largest number of Black residents with 195,470, followed by Racine County with 16,999, Dane County with 10,511, and Rock County with 6,638.

FAMOUS CITIZENS OF WISCONSIN

Edward P. Allis (1824-1889), industrialist — developed the steel rolling mill.

Don Ameche* (1908-1993), actor — began career in radio, appeared in 56 movies; won Academy Award for *Cocoon*.

Roy Chapman Andrews* (1884-1960), explorer — found first dinosaur egg in the Gobi Desert.

Stephen M. Babcock (1843-1931), chemist — devised butterfat content test.

John Bardeen* (1908-1991), physicist — twice winner of the Nobel Prize for development of the transistor and for the theory of superconductivity.

John Bascom (1827-1911), educator — president, University of Wisconsin 1874-1887; leader in upgrading the university to a nationally recognized institution.

Aaron Bohrod (1907-1992), painter — twice winner of the Guggenheim Fellowship; artist-in-residence at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Richard Ira "Dick" Bong* (1920-1945), aviator — leading World War II pilot; shot down 40 enemy planes to become America's "all time ace"; awarded Congressional Medal of Honor.

Olympia Brown (1835-1926), minister and publisher — first ordained woman minister in U.S.; key figure in women's rights movement.

Jerome I. Case (1819-1891), manufacturer — leader in mechanization of agriculture.

Carrie Chapman Catt* (1859-1947), suffragist — President of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, which she reorganized as the League of Women Voters with 2 million members after passage of the 19th amendment guaranteed women the vote.

John R. Commons (1862-1945), economist — drafted Wisconsin civil service law.

- Leo T. Crowley (1889-1972), banker — structured the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation as its chairperson, 1934-1945.
- Patrick Cudahy (1849-1919), businessman — founder of a leading meat-packing company.
- August Derleth* (1909-1971), author — noted for many contributions to literature about Wisconsin.
- Ole Evinrude (1877-1934), inventor — developed the first outboard motor designed for mass production.
- Edna Ferber (1885-1968), author — received 1925 Pulitzer Prize for the novel, *So Big*.
- Lynn Fontanne (1887-1983) and Alfred Lunt, acting couple — appeared in theater, motion pictures, and television; jointly awarded Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1964.
- Zona Gale* (1874-1938), author — received 1921 Pulitzer Prize for the novel, *Miss Lulu Bett*.
- Hamlin Garland* (1860-1940), author — received 1922 Pulitzer Prize for the novel, *A Daughter of the Middle Border*.
- Owen J. Gromme* (1896-1991), painter — wildlife artist, author of *Birds of Wisconsin* and painter of the 1945 federal duck stamp.
- Mildred Fish Harnack* (1902-1943), war hero — while instructor at the University of Berlin, organized resistance group and transmitted intelligence to Allies; executed by Nazis.
- Cordelia Harvey (1824-1895), humanitarian — instrumental in establishing military hospitals in the North during the Civil War.
- William Dempster Hoard (1836-1918), farmer and governor — introduced the French version of the silo and the subearth vault for curing cheese.
- Harry Houdini (1874-1926), magician — world-renowned escape artist.
- Samuel C. Johnson (1833-1919), industrialist — founded wax products firm.
- Walter J. Kohler, Sr.* (1875-1940), industrialist and governor — founded plumbing equipment company.
- Belle Case La Follette* (1859-1931), lawyer and editor — first woman to graduate from the University of Wisconsin Law School; leader in support of the rights of women and African-Americans.
- Robert M. La Follette, Sr.* (1855-1925), political leader — progressive reformer as governor and U.S. Senator.
- Carl Laemmle (1867-1939), business executive — major figure in the growth of the motion picture industry; built Universal City Studios.
- Earl L. "Curly" Lambeau (1898-1965), professional football coach — founder and coach of the Green Bay Packers; instrumental in establishing the National Football League.

- Mary Lasker* (1901-1994), philanthropist — her financial donations and influence supported vast expansion of cancer research; awarded Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1969.
- William D. Leahy* (1875-1959), fleet admiral U.S. Navy — Chief of Naval Operations and President Roosevelt's chief of staff during World War II; the only Wisconsinite to wear the five stars of fleet admiral.
- Aldo Leopold (1887-1948), teacher and author — University of Wisconsin professor and prominent ecologist; wrote *Sand County Almanac*.
- Wladziu Valentino Liberace* (1919-1986), musician — world famous pianist-singer; known for his showmanship.
- Vince Lombardi (1913-1970), professional football coach — 1959-1968 coach of the Green Bay Packers, the first NFL team to win three consecutive championships.
- Alfred Lunt* (1893-1977) and Lynn Fontanne, acting couple — appeared in theater, motion pictures, and television; jointly awarded Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1964.
- Frederic March* (1897-1975), actor — won Academy Awards for *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* and *Best Years of Our Lives*.
- Helen Farnsworth Mears* (1872-1916), sculptor — created the Frances Willard statue in Statuary Hall of the U.S. Capitol and "The Genius of Wisconsin" in the Wisconsin Capitol.
- Charles McCarthy (1873-1921), government innovator — established and directed first legislative reference library in the nation (forerunner of the Legislative Reference Bureau); wrote *The Wisconsin Idea*; advocate of vocational schools.
- William "Billy" Mitchell (1879-1936), brigadier general, U.S. Army — fervent advocate of a strong air force.
- John Muir (1838-1914), naturalist — promoted the national parks system.
- Lorine Niedecker* (1903-1970), poet — author of several books of poetry; featured in most anthologies of 20th century American poetry.
- Albert Ochsner* (1858-1925), surgeon — pioneer in radium cancer treatment.
- Georgia O'Keeffe* (1887-1986), artist — innovative painter of flowers and landscapes, awarded Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1977.
- Michael Red Cloud, Jr.* (1925-1950), soldier — posthumously awarded Congressional Medal of Honor for heroism in Korea.
- Albert Ringling (1852-1916), circus promoter — merged Ringling Brothers Circus with Barnum and Bailey Circus to become the "Greatest Show On Earth".
- Jeremiah Rusk (1830-1893), soldier, governor and congressman — brigadier general in Union army, first U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

Carl Schurz (1829-1906), political activist — German immigrant to Wisconsin and national supporter of German-American interests; served as brigadier general in Union army, U.S. Secretary of the Interior, U.S. Senator from Missouri, ambassador to Spain, newspaper owner, and writer.

Margaretha Meyer Schurz (1833-1876), educator — opened the first U.S. kindergarten in Wauwatertown in 1856, married to Carl Schurz.

C. Latham Sholes (1819-1890), inventor and journalist — developed first practical typewriter.

Walter W. "Red" Smith* (1905-1982), sports columnist and commentator — first sportswriter to receive the Pulitzer Prize (1976) for distinguished criticism as a reporter with the *New York Times*.

Harry Steenbock* (1886-1967), biochemist — produced Vitamin D in food by irradiation with ultraviolet light.

Brooks Stevens* (1911-1995), industrial designer — one of the founders of the Industrial Designers Society of America; designer of many notable automobiles and other items including trains, motorcycles and appliances.

Spencer Tracy* (1900-1967), actor — won Academy Award for *Boys Town* and *Captains Courageous*.

Frederick Jackson Turner* (1861-1932), historian — developed noted theories regarding the American frontier; won 1933 Pulitzer Prize for history.

Charles Van Hise* (1857-1929), educator — president, University of Wisconsin 1903-1918; promoted the expansion of the university into many new fields, influenced the organization of graduate study as a separate division, and saw university enrollment double.

Thorstein Veblen* (1857-1929), economist — wrote *The Theory of the Leisure Class*.

William Vilas (1840-1908), politician — served as U.S. Postmaster General, Secretary of Interior and U.S. Senator; organized the Rural Free Delivery (RFD) mail system.

Cadwallader C. Washburn (1818-1882), multimillionaire businessman, congressman and governor — had extensive flour, rail, and lumber business interests.

Orson Welles* (1915-1986), actor and director — performed in theater, radio, television, and motion pictures; directed and starred in the highly acclaimed movie, *Citizen Kane*.

Laura Ingalls Wilder* (1867-1957), author of children's books — wrote a series of books, including *Little House on the Prairie*, based on her life growing up in the Midwest.

Frances Willard (1839-1898), social reformer — organized the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

Laura Ross Wolcott (1834-1915), physician and suffragist — first woman physician in Wisconsin; active in organizing and first president of the Wisconsin Woman's Suffrage Association.
Frank Lloyd Wright* (1867-1959), architect — internationally known innovative designer.

*Born in Wisconsin.

OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The *Wisconsin Blue Book*, compiled by the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau, is a recommended source of further information on Wisconsin. This book is available in the public and school libraries of Wisconsin. In addition, copies of the *Blue Book* may be ordered from Document Sales Unit, 202 South Thornton Avenue, P.O. Box 7840, Madison, Wisconsin 53707. It is issued biennially in the fall of odd-numbered years.

The *Blue Book* contains brief biographies of elected state officers, the state's congressional delegation, and Supreme Court justices; legislative and congressional district maps; profiles of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government; an organization chart and description of the various agencies and departments of state government; as well as a variety of Wisconsin statistical data (such as population trends, election figures, school enrollments, farm income, and employment).

Each edition of the *Blue Book* contains a feature article. Sample topics in recent editions include: "The Wisconsin Idea" (1995-1996), "The Legislative Process in Wisconsin" (1993-1994), "A History of the Property Tax and Property Tax Relief in Wisconsin" (1991-1992), and "Exploring Wisconsin's Waterways" (1989-1990).

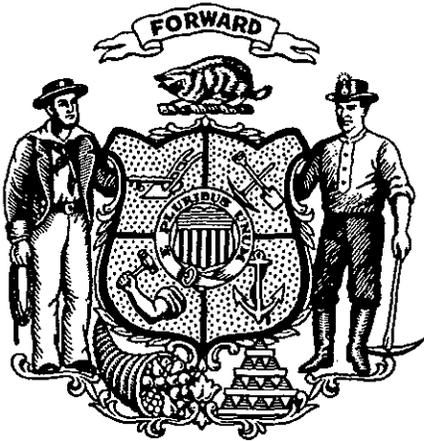
All state agencies in the executive branch issue general biennial reports relating to their functions and activities, and many publish special bulletins on specific subjects. Some departments will provide lists of their publications upon request.

The State Historical Society of Wisconsin is an outstanding source of information about the history of the state. The society's state historical and statistical information publications include The History of Wisconsin series: Volume I, *From Exploration to Statehood*, by Alice E. Smith; Volume II, *The Civil War Era*, by Richard N. Current; Volume III, *Urbanization and Industrialization, 1873-1893*, by Robert C. Nesbit; Volume V, *War, a New Era, and Depression, 1914-1940*, by Paul W. Glad; Volume VI, *Continuity and Change 1940-1965*, by William F. Thompson. Two other good sources are *Wisconsin: A History* by Robert C. Nesbit and *The Wisconsin Story* by H. Russell Austin.

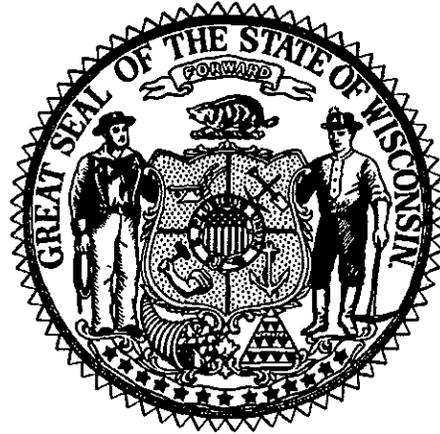
Students also are encouraged to use the reference books, newspapers, magazines, encyclopedias, and yearbooks found in public and school libraries.

OFFICIAL WISCONSIN STATE SYMBOLS

The design of the State flag includes the state coat of arms on a blue background with "Wisconsin" in white lettering above and "1848" in white lettering below.



The Coat of Arms



The Great Seal

State nickname	Badger State (unofficial)	State rock	Red Granite
State motto	"Forward"	State symbol of peace	Mourning Dove
State bird	Robin	State domestic animal	Dairy Cow
State flower	Wood Violet	State insect	Honey Bee
State tree	Sugar Maple	State soil	Antigo Silt Loam
State fish	Muskellunge	State fossil	Trilobite
State wildlife animal	White-tailed Deer	State dog	American Water Spaniel
State animal	Badger	State beverage	Milk
State song	"On, Wisconsin!"	State grain	Corn
State mineral	Galena	State dance	Polka