



Wisconsin Briefs

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Reference Bureau

Brief 91-8

October 1991

AN INTRODUCTION TO WISCONSIN

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

Office	Officer	Party	Term*	Salary
Governor	Tommy G. Thompson	Republican	4 years	\$92,283
Lieutenant Governor	Scott McCallum	Republican	4 years	49,673
Secretary of State	Douglas J. La Follette	Democrat	4 years	45,088
State Treasurer	Cathy S. Zeuske	Republican	4 years	45,088
Attorney General	James E. Doyle	Democrat	4 years	82,706
Superintendent of Public Instruction	Herbert J. Grover	Nonpartisan	4 years	72,337

*The terms of all officers, except the Superintendent of Public Instruction, expire January 2, 1995. The Superintendent's term expires July 1, 1993.

STATE GOVERNMENT

State Capital: Madison

The state and federal constitutions serve as Wisconsin's legal foundation. Voters ratified the Wisconsin Constitution on March 13, 1848 and Wisconsin subsequently became a state on May 29, 1848. The constitution guarantees the liberties of the people through a "Declaration of Rights", creates elected state offices, establishes the framework of the 3 branches of state government (executive, legislative, and judicial), provides for a system of local government, and includes provisions for state finance and public education.

Wisconsin voters have ratified 126 out of 169 proposals to amend the state constitution. The *Wisconsin Blue Book* contains the current text.

Executive Branch. The executive branch is composed of the Office of the Governor; the Offices of the Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, and State Treasurer; 16 administrative departments (including 2 headed by constitutional officers — the Attorney General and Superintendent of Public Instruction); 20 independent agencies; 2 state authorities; and one nonprofit corporation. Many agencies and departments have attached councils and committees which perform specific tasks or serve as advisory bodies. Principal responsibilities of the executive branch include commerce, education, environmental resources, human relations and resources, and general executive functions.

Executive authority and responsibility is vested in the governor. The governor is authorized to: appoint the heads of various state agencies and members of commissions, boards, councils, and special committees; grant official pardons and executive clemency;

deliver state-of-the-state and budget messages, as well as budget bills, to the legislature; and veto entire bills or, in the case of appropriation measures, parts of bills.

Legislative Branch. The Wisconsin Legislature is a bicameral institution consisting of a 33-member senate and a 99-member assembly. All legislators are elected from single-member districts. Senators serve 4-year terms, and representatives to the assembly serve 2-year terms. The 16 senators representing 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 2-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 among the membership. The presiding officer of the senate is the "president"; in the assembly, it is the "speaker".

During the 1989-90 session, legislators introduced 1,616 bills of which 368 became law. A total of 251 joint resolutions were offered in the senate and assembly and 117 were adopted.

Members of the 1991 Legislature who were elected in November 1990, receive an annual salary of \$33,622. Holdover senators, whose terms expire in 1993, receive \$31,236. Only legislators elected to a new term of office are eligible for an increase in salary. 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 7-member Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, and 69 circuit courts. In addition, as authorized by state law, local government units have created more than 200 municipal courts. All judges are elected on a nonpartisan basis in the April election.

The 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. The justice having the greatest seniority usually serves as chief justice. Several judicial service agencies support the court.

The Court of Appeals consists of 14 judges, 3 serving in each of 2 districts and 4 in each of 2 other districts. Appellate judges are elected to 6-year terms. They generally sit in 3-judge panels in districts that elect them, except in certain matters that one judge may handle. Established in 1978, the court has appellate jurisdiction only, which means it hears cases first tried in a lower court.

There are 69 circuit courts, and 35 of these have more than one branch for a total of 216 judges. Every county is a circuit with the exception of 3 combined districts (Buffalo-Pepin, Shawano-Menominee, and Forest-Florence). Circuit court judges are elected to 6-year terms. 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 take written or oral arguments from attorneys.

Wisconsin municipalities (cities, towns, and villages) may create municipal courts. A municipal judge is elected to a 2- to 4-year term, as specified by the municipality. 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 and 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 legislation enacted by Wisconsin includes: a statewide building code, university correspondence and extension teaching, an educational radio network, development of vocational, technical and adult education, training for rural teachers, a numbering system for highways, preservation of natural areas, consumer credit legislation, and marital property.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Local units of government in Wisconsin consist of 72 counties, 188 cities, 397 villages, and 1,263 towns. In addition, the state has 429 school districts, at least 366 special districts (such as metropolitan sewerage districts, lake rehabilitation districts and housing and community development authorities), and 16 vocational, technical and adult education districts.

The state grants powers to counties to perform specific tasks, such as operating fish hatcheries and running airports. Under the Wisconsin Constitution counties do not have "home rule" or self-governing powers. However, the state has granted them "administrative" home rule by statute. This allows counties the discretion to determine their organization and administration.

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

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

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 3 forms: mayor-council, council-manager, or commission. There are no city commissions in Wisconsin. As a result, the governing body in every Wisconsin city is an elected common council. Only 11 cities operate through an elected council-appointed manager structure. Other elected officials include the mayor, 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, 8 villages use the manager form, and none uses a commission. Other elected officials usually include the clerk, treasurer, assessor, and constable.

Town governments do not have home rule, so they have only those powers granted by state law. The governing body is the town board, usually composed of 3 supervisors elected biennially at the town meeting where all voters of the town can participate. Other town officers include the clerk, treasurer, and assessor.

EDUCATION

Wisconsin citizens are provided extensive and varied educational opportunities through public and private elementary and secondary schools; a statewide vocational, technical and adult education system; private colleges and universities; and the University of Wisconsin System.

In 1990-91, Wisconsin was divided into 429 public school districts, each governed by an elected board. These districts served 797,621 students, while private elementary and secondary schools enrolled 144,215 students. An estimated 4,800 students were educated in home instructional settings.

The University of Wisconsin System consists of 13 campuses, 13 2-year centers, and statewide extension services. The various campuses enrolled 160,950 students in 1990-91, while the University Extension enrolled 270,874 continuing education students in 1989-90 and served thousands of students through its cooperative and teleconferencing programs. An appointed Board of Regents governs the UW System.

In 1911, Wisconsin established the first system of state support for vocational, technical and adult education in the United States. The system currently covers 16 vocational, technical and adult education districts, serving 447,819 students in 1989-90.

In addition, the state has 28 private institutions of higher education, with 44,562 students enrolled (1990-91). Among these private schools are: 3 universities, 17 colleges, 4 technical and professional schools, and 4 theological seminaries.

Although Wisconsin ranked 22nd in personal income per capita in 1989, its per capita expenditures for education ranked 8th in the nation at \$1,217.

STATE INSTITUTIONS

Wisconsin's correctional facilities, operated by the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, consist of: 4 maximum security prisons, 4 medium security prisons, one minimum security institution, a correctional center system for men, and a women's prison. The Wisconsin Department of Health and Social Services operates the 2 juvenile correctional institutions. It also manages 6 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 1988, the principal employment in Wisconsin was manufacturing, which provided 26 percent of total employment, 33 percent of all earnings, and exports valued at over \$2 billion. In 1991, 550,000 persons were employed in manufacturing. Industrial machinery is the major industrial group, involving 19 percent of all persons employed in manufacturing.

In 1990, manufacturing establishments numbered 9,763. In 1986, the state ranked 13th among the states in value added by manufacturing, and 10th in manufactured exports. In 43 of the state's 72 counties, manufacturing is the leading source of employment.

The durable goods sector produces heavy machinery, electrical equipment, castings and forgings, and motor vehicles, and includes machine shops, tool and die makers, and metal finishing. It is supported by vocational and technical education programs.

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. Primary and secondary wood-using industries produced products worth \$9.1 billion in 1987.

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 employment concentration in Sheboygan, Fond du Lac, Winnebago, and Manitowoc Counties.

Among the well-known goods produced by Wisconsin manufacturers are automobiles, beer, farm tractors, paper, overalls, snowmobiles, boats and outboard motors, earth moving machines, 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. As of January 1, 1991, there were 80,000 farms in the state, totaling approximately 17.6 million acres with an average farm size of 220 acres.

Cash receipts from farm products marketed in 1990 totaled more than \$5.6 billion. Livestock and related products income amounted to \$4.6 billion, while income from crops totaled more than \$1 billion. Wisconsin ranked 8th nationally in farm income in 1990. About 60 percent of the state's agricultural income comes from dairying.

Wisconsin — "America's Dairyland" — ranked first nationally in 1990 in number of milk cows and milk, butter, and cheese production. The state is also first in the output of American, Muenster, Brick, Italian, and Blue cheese, and 3rd in Swiss cheese. Wisconsin accounted for 31.5 percent of all cheese produced in the United States.

Wisconsin ranks first in whole and skim sweetened bulk condensed milk, dry whey, and lactose. In crop production, it ranks first in snap beans, green peas and sweet corn for processing, all hay, and corn for silage.

Other crops in which the state is a leading producer are: cranberries, potatoes, oats, tart cherries, cucumbers for pickling, carrots, and mint for oil. In 1990, Wisconsin produced 26 percent of the nation's sweet corn, 39 percent of the cranberries, and 33 percent of the snap beans.

Finally, with 25 percent of the national total, the state ranks first in production of mink pelts.

RECREATION AND SPORTS

Wisconsin is a recreational wonderland year-round, 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 fishing, boating, and waterskiing. The most sought after 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 bear are the most popular game.

Wisconsin has 45 state parks, 9 state forests, 12 state trails, and 3 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. Devils Lake, Peninsula, and High Cliff are the most popular state parks, while the Elroy-Sparta and Military Ridge are the most frequently used trails. More than 12,462,000 visitors enjoyed the state parks and forests in 1990.

Wisconsin has also experienced a rich tradition 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) and the other institutions comprising the University of Wisconsin System, and Marquette University's basketball Warriors.

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

GEOGRAPHY

Wisconsin is 26th in geographical area among the 50 states. The total land area of the state is 56,154 square miles, which includes 1,439 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, on the west by Minnesota and Iowa with the Mississippi River forming most of this boundary. The state's greatest distances are 320 miles (north-south) and 295 (east-west).

The 4 highest elevations in the state are Timms Hill in Price County (1,952 ft.), Pearson Hill in Price County (1,951 ft.), Sugarbush Hill in Forest County (1,938 ft.), and Rib Mountain in Marathon County (1,924 ft.).

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. The deepest is Big Green Lake in Green Lake County. Major rivers of Wisconsin include the Mississippi, Wisconsin, Fox, Rock, Chippewa, Black, and Flambeau.

Average rainfall in the state is more than 31 inches. The 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 varies from 41° in the north to 47° in the south.

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.

Significant geographic features include the 100-foot gorge of the Wisconsin River called The 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.

As a result of the glaciers, Wisconsin's chief mineral products are construction sand and gravel, crushed stone, and lime. In 1988, mineral production was valued at \$205 million. Other products include industrial sand, dimension stone, crushed trap rock, and peat.

HISTORY

Prior to the arrival of the first European white 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 U.S. 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. By virtue of 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 dominance of dairy farming, the lumber era, 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 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 Green Bush, Madeline Island at La Pointe, Circus World Museum at Baraboo, and the first State Capitol at Belmont.

WISCONSIN'S POPULATION

The 1990 Census of Population recorded 4,891,769 residents — an increase of 186,127, or 4 percent, over 1980. The state has a voting age population of 3,602,787, nearly 74 percent of the total. Wisconsin ranked 16th among the states in population in 1990.

Based on the 1990 U.S. census, the state's 20 largest cities are:

City	1990	1980	City	1990	1980
Milwaukee	628,088	636,297	Janesville	52,133	51,071
Madison	191,262	170,616	La Crosse	51,003	48,347
Green Bay	96,466	87,899	Sheboygan	49,676	48,085
Racine	84,298	85,725	Wauwatosa	49,366	51,308
Kenosha	80,352	77,685	Fond du Lac	37,757	35,863
Appleton	65,695	58,913	Wausau	37,060	32,426
West Allis	63,221	63,982	Beloit	35,573	35,207
Waukesha	56,958	50,365	Brookfield	35,184	34,035
Eau Claire	56,856	51,509	Neenah	33,592	30,529
Oshkosh	55,006	49,740	Greenfield	33,403	31,353

The most populous county is Milwaukee with 959,275 residents, followed by Dane, 367,085, and Waukesha, 304,715; the least populous counties are Menominee, 3,890 and Florence 4,590.

WISCONSIN'S PEOPLE

The French were the first white persons 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, people from Germany, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Poland, Holland, Italy, Russia and other countries arrived in Wisconsin. Today, those with German, Norwegian, and Polish ancestry are the most numerous.

The racial breakdown of the state's population for 1990 was 92.2 percent white, 5.0 percent Black, 0.8 percent Indian, and 1.1 percent other (Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, etc.).

While Indians were once the only persons living in Wisconsin, today they account for 37,769 of the nearly 4.9 million residents of the state. Wisconsin has 11 Indian reservations; the Menominee Reservation has the largest 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

Shirley Abrahamson (1933-), Wisconsin Supreme Court justice — first woman appointed and elected to the court.

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

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

Stephen M. Babcock (1843-1931), chemist — devised butterfat content test for milk grading and pricing.

- *John Bardeen (1908-1991), inventor and scientist — winner of 2 Nobel Prizes: in physics for work on transistors (1956); in physics for work on theory of super-conductivity at low temperatures (1972).
- John Bascom (1827-1911), educator — president, University of Wisconsin 1874-1887, established co-educational instruction at the university.
- *Daniel Brandenstein (1943-), pilot — Challenger space shuttle, 1983.
- 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 — developed agricultural implements.
- John R. Commons (1862-1945), economist — drafted Wisconsin civil service law.
- *Seymour R. Cray (1925-), computer designer — designed first computer made with transistors.
- Leo T. Crowley (1889-1972), banker — chairman of FDIC from 1934 to 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 *So Big*.
- Lynn Fontanne (1887-1983) — Alfred Lunt, acting couple — appeared in live theater, motion pictures, and television; jointly awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1964.
- Michael Frank (1804-1894), writer and educator — instrumental in establishing tax-supported public schools in Wisconsin.
- *Zona Gale (1874-1938), author — received 1921 Pulitzer Prize for *Miss Lulu Bett*.
- *Hamlin Garland (1860-1940), author — received 1922 Pulitzer Prize for *A Daughter of the Middle Border*.
- *Mildred Fish Harnack (1902-1943), resistance leader — while an instructor at the University of Berlin organized resistance group and transmitted intelligence out of Germany; 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 — aided cheese industry by introducing the subearth vault for curing; introduced French version of the silo.
- 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 UW Law School, leader in support of rights of women and Blacks.
- *Robert M. La Follette, Sr. (1855-1925), political leader — progressive reformer, served 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.
- Melvin Laird (1922-), political leader — served as U.S. Congressman and U.S. Secretary of Defense.

- Earl L. "Curly" Lambeau (1898-1965), professional football coach — founder and coach of the Green Bay Packers; instrumental in establishing the National Football League.
- Aldo Leopold (1887-1948), teacher and author — University of Wisconsin professor and prominent ecologist; wrote *Sand County Almanac*.
- *Wladziu Valentino Liberace, "Liberace", (1919-1986), musician — pianist-singer, entertainer, known for his showmanship.
- Vince Lombardi (1913-1970), professional football coach — coach of the Green Bay Packers 1959-1968, the first NFL team to win 3 consecutive championships.
- *Alfred Lunt (1893-1977) — Lynn Fontanne, acting couple — appeared in live theater, motion pictures, and television; jointly awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1964.
- *Frederic March (1897-1975), actor — won the Academy Award for *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* and *Best Years of Our Lives*.
- Charles McCarthy (1872-1916), progressive leader and author — established first legislative reference library in the nation; wrote *The Wisconsin Idea*.
- *Helen F. Mears (1876-1916), sculptress — created the Frances Willard statue in Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol.
- 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.
- *Albert Ochsner (1858-1925), surgeon — pioneer in radium cancer treatment.
- *Georgia O'Keeffe (1887-1986), artist — leading painter of flowers and landscapes; awarded Presidential Medal of Freedom, 1977.
- *Les Paul (1915-) (born Lester Polfus), musician — innovator in amplified guitar and sound track recording.
- Albert Ringling (1852-1916), circus promoter — merged Ringling Brothers with Barnum and Bailey Circus to become the "Greatest Show On Earth" (2 of the 7 Ringling brothers were born in Wisconsin).
- Jeremiah Rusk (1830-1893), politician — first U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.
- Carl Schurz (1829-1906), political activist — served as a soldier, politician, U.S. Secretary of the Interior, ambassador to Spain, newspaperman, and writer.
- Margarethe Schurz (1833-1876), educator — opened the first U.S. kindergarten.
- *Arthur Shattuck (1881-1951), pianist — nationally acclaimed, played in major concert halls across Europe and with the New York Philharmonic.
- C. Latham Sholes (1819-1890), inventor and journalist — made first practical typewriter.
- *Donald K. Slayton (1924-), astronaut — served on Project Mercury manned space flights (1962-63), and Apollo Soyuz pilot docking module (1975).
- *Harry Steenbock (1886-1967), biochemist — produced vitamin D by irradiation of food with ultraviolet light.
- Howard Temin (1934-), scientist — Nobel Prize in medicine for cancer research (1975).
- *Spencer Tracy (1900-1967), actor — won the Academy Award for *Boys Town* and *Captains Courageous*.
- Frederick Jackson Turner (1861-1932), historian — developed noted theories regarding the American frontier.
- *Charles Van Hise (1857-1929), educator — president of the University of Wisconsin 1903-1918, organized graduate school as a division of the university.
- *Thorstein Veblen (1857-1929), economist — wrote *The Theory of the Leisure Class*.

William Vilas (1840-1908), politician — U.S. Senator, served as U.S. Postmaster General, developed the Rural Free Delivery system.

Cadwallader C. Washburn (1818-1882), businessman and governor — had extensive flour, rail, and lumber business interests; held a number of public offices.

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

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

*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 recommended as a 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 and Distribution, 202 South Thornton Avenue, P.O. Box 7840, Madison, Wisconsin 53707. It is issued biennially in the fall of the odd-numbered years. The price of the 981-page 1991-1992 *Wisconsin Blue Book* is \$8.90 plus tax.

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: "A History of the Property Tax and Property Tax Relief in Wisconsin" (1991-1992), "Exploring Wisconsin's Waterways" (1989-1990), "Capitals and Capitols in Early Wisconsin" (1983-1984), "Wisconsin Writers" (1977), and "Wisconsin's Former Governors 1848-1959" (1960).

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.

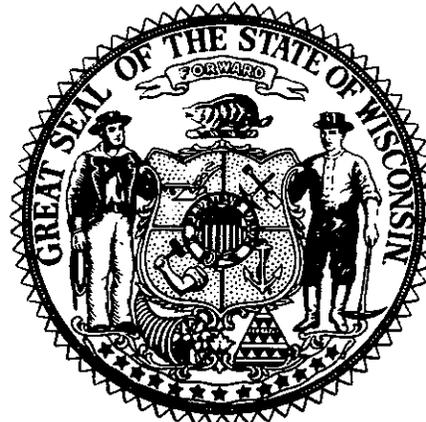
The State Historical Society of Wisconsin is an outstanding source of information about the history of the state. Other sources of historical and statistical information include: *The History of Wisconsin: Volume I, From Exploration to Statehood*, by Alice E. Smith; Volume II, *The Civil War Era*, by 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; *Wisconsin: A History*, by Robert C. Nesbit; and *The Wisconsin Story*, by H. Russell Austin.

Students are encouraged to utilize reference books, encyclopedias, and yearbooks, found in public and school libraries. Newspapers and magazines will also prove a valuable resource for material on Wisconsin.

OFFICIAL WISCONSIN STATE SYMBOLS



The Coat of Arms



The Great Seal

State flag

State Coat of Arms on Blue Background
(with "Wisconsin" in white lettering above
and "1848" in white below)

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