



Country Profile: 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 US remains the world's most powerful nation state. The economy is marked by steady growth, low unemployment and inflation, and rapid advances in technology.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	United States of America
Continent:	North America
Capital City:	Washington, D.C.
Boundary Countries:	Canada, Mexico
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	
Main Cities:	New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, Miami, Washington, DC
Country Size:	9,826,630 sq km
Population:	307,212,123

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	English 82.1%, Spanish 10.7%, other Indo-European 3.8%, Asian and Pacific island 2.7%, other 0.7% <i>note:</i> Hawaiian is an official language in the state of Hawaii
Currency:	US Dollar (USD)
Predominant Religions:	Protestant 51.3%, Roman Catholic 23.9%, Mormon 1.7%, other Christian 1.6%, Jewish 1.7%, Buddhist 0.7%, Muslim 0.6%, other or unspecified 2.5%, unaffiliated 12.1%, none 4%
National Holidays:	Independence Day, 4 July 1776
Economic Status:	The US has the largest and most technologically powerful economy in the world, with a per capita GDP of \$48,000. In this market-oriented economy, private individuals and business firms make most of the decisions, and the federal and state governments buy needed goods and services predominantly in the private marketplace.
Security:	United States Armed Forces: US Army, US Navy (includes Marine Corps), US Air Force, US Coast Guard; <i>note</i> - Coast Guard administered in peacetime by the Department of Homeland Security, but in wartime reports to the Department of the Navy
US Presence:	
Major Airports:	There are 14,951 airports in the United States, many of which are considered "major" airports. For more information on a US airport, please visit http://www.fly.faa.gov/flyfaa/usmap.jsp .

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