

# VERMONT

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Vermont is a constituent state in the United States of America. It is located in the northeast New England region of the United States.

On his map from 1647, the French explorer Samuel de Champlain referred to Vermont's Green Mountains as "Verd Mont" (green mountain). Therefore, the nickname for Vermont is also *The Green Mountain State*.

Native Americans have lived there for around 12,000 years. The region was seized by French colonists in the 17th century. The first permanent European colony was established and claimed by the British in 1724. Conflicts between the two countries lasted until the French were defeated in the French and Indian War when the country was given to England. Vermont proclaimed its independence in 1777, one year after the Declaration of Independence was signed. The Vermont Republic was the first state to abolish slavery. After fourteen years as an independent republic, Vermont was eventually admitted to the Union as the 14th state on March 4, 1791.

It is bordered by New Hampshire to the east, Massachusetts to the south, the Canadian province of Quebec to the north, and New York to the west.

While Burlington is the largest city in the state, Montpelier serves as its capital.

With a total area of 9,616 sq mi (24,906 sq km), Vermont is the sixth smallest state. The total population of the state, according to the United States Census 2020, is 643,077. Vermont ranks second least populated in the United States.

Vermont produces about 500,000 gallons of maple syrup annually, making it the nation's top producer. In 1949, the sugar maple was chosen as Vermont's state tree whereas, in 1993 maple was named Vermont's official state flavor.

Granite, marble, and slate are the official state rocks of Vermont; they are also mined locally around the state.

A fun fact about Vermont is its famous Lake Champlain. The state's well-known Lake Champlain is home to the oldest known fossil reef in the world – around 450 to 480 million years old. Many people have reported seeing Champ, a mysterious creature that resembles a monster, on their visit to the lake.

In 1894, the Red clover was officially adopted as a state flower whereas, in 1941, the Hermit thrush was named the state bird.

"Freedom and Unity" is the official state motto of Vermont. "These Green Mountains" became the official state song in 2000.

Vermont has no official language, however, English is the most widely spoken language in the state.

