

ОБРАЗОВАНИЕ НАУКА И ИННОВАЦИОННЫЕ ИДЕИ В МИРЕ



HISTORY POPULATION GEOGRAPHY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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Annotation: in this article provided This article provides information on the history of the United States, their population and geography of the United States

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Key words: to be situated in, geographical division, place names, rivers, mountains, lakes, flora, fauna, peculiarity, Great lakes, climate.

Kalit so'zlar: geografik bo'linish, joy nomlari, daryolar tog'lar, ko'llar, o'simlik olami, hayvonot dunyosi, g'ayrioddiylik, Buyuk ko'llar, iqlim.

1. General information about the country and European place names in America.

The USA is the 4th largest country in the world (after Russia, Canada and China). It is situated in Central Nort America and stretches from the Pacific to the Atlantic Ocean. Its total area is 9,629,091 km2(3,717,813 sq mi). 97.77% of its area is land, only 2.23% is water.

The coastline is 19,920 km (12,380 mi). The United States come in to existence as a result of the AMERICAN REVOLUTION (1775-83), during which the original thirteen states declared and won their independence from Great Britain. During the 19th century, while the European power built worldwide empires, the young United States focused on expansion across the North American continent and on internal development. However, the country gradually acquired some overseas territories, collectively known as the UNITED STATES OUTLYING TERRITORIES. These include GUAM and PUERTO RICO (both acquired in1899); AMERICAN SAMOA (acquired in 1900); PANAMA CANAL ZONE (acquired in 1903 but scheduled for return to Panama by the year 2000); and the U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS (acquired in 1917). The Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands was established in 1947 by the United Nation and administrated by the United States. It was dissolved in 7994. The United States of America is located in the middle of North American continent. The 48 states of the conterminous United States stretch from the Atlantic Ocean in the east where the country has a 6,000-km-long coastline-including the Gulf of Mexico-to the Pacific where the coast stretches for 2,100km. The United States shares borders with only two







other countries. In the north the border extends across the width of both Canada and The United States and between Alaska (the 49th state) and Canada for 8,900km; in the south the shorter border with Mexico is 3.111km long Hawaii (the 50th state) is composed of a group of Pacific islands about 3,400km southwest of San Francisco; Alaska occupies the northwestern extremity of North America, with a 10,700km coastline on the Pacific and Arctic oceans.

About 12000 years ago: Hunters from Siberia cometo America over the Bering land bridge. 12000 BC-1492 AC: the Hunters spread over all over America.1492: Christopher Columbus tries to sail to India but lands in America.16th century: French people come to America in search of land.At the same time After the French people Spanish people come to the America in search of gold.In 1620: Pilgrims from England arrive in America in search of a new house In 1621:Pilgrims get on well with the native Americans .They celebrate the first Thanksgiving.17th/18th century: People from Europe arrive in America. The English take everything as colonies.1776 year: The people in America don't want to pay taxes to England and found the United States of America

2. Geographical position

The United States divides into several large natural regions. Eastern United States. Along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean northward to Long Island is a coastal plain, almost all of it below 100m in altitude and with an average width of 160-320km. This coastal plain covers about 10 percent of the countrys total land areas. Expect for the muddy delta of the Mississippi River, the shores of the plain are sandy; most of them with barrier beached surmounted by dunes and backed by shallow muddy estuaries of brackish or salt water. These include marshlands, so-called wetlands that are biologically important because they breed quantities of the primitive plants and animals that provide the basic food supply for all higher organisms living there. The coastal plain extends under the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Ocean, more than 320km in places, where it forms the continental shelf. LONG ISLAND, MARTHAS VINEYARD, NANTUCKET ISLANDS, and Block Island are actually tops of coastal-plain hills. The coastal plain in the subject of conflicting interests among its fishing, shipping, petroleum, mineral-resources, seashore-recreation, and residential uses.

Inland from the coastal plain, and almost parallel to the Atlantic coast, is the APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN system, which extends from Alabama and Georgina north to Canada; in new England the old rocks of the highlands extend to the coast and from rocky shores. The Appalachian Mountains divide into natural regions. To the east, bordering the Atlantic coastal plain, is a transitional zone, the PEIDMONT PLATEAU, which has elevations ringing from approximately 100 to 300m above sea level. The boundary between the Piedmont and the coastal plain is an escarpment across which







the rivers tumble in falls to the lower coastal plain. This Fall Line marks the head of navigation, and cities of the urban corridor such as Trenton, N.J; Wilmington, Del.; Baltimore, Md.; Washington, D.C.; and Richmond, Va-are located on the Fall Line.

In NEW ENGLAND are found the GREEN MOUNTAINS, the WHITE MOUNTAINS, and the BERKSHIRE HILLS. Farther south the mountain ridges of the BLUE RIDGE reach 2,037m at Mount MITCHELL in North Carolina, the highest point east of the Mississippi River. West of the Blue Ridge is a hilly region called the Ridge and Valley Province, about 40-120km wide. Farther west are the coal-rich, roughly dissected and mountainous Appalachian Plateaus; the casternmost portion, ALLEGHENY MOUNTAINS (or Plateau), mostly between 300 and 1,000m in altitude, rise up abruptly from the ridge Valley Province. Throughout the Appalachian Plateaus as whole local relief commonly exceeds 5000m. Moreover, the steep mountainsides are unstable, which makes coal mining difficult. To the west of the GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS, the Ridge and Valley Province separates them from the CUMBERLAND PLATEAU.

3. Landscape Midwest

The Appalachians give way to central lowland and the GREAT PLAINS that extend 1,600km west to the Rocky Mountains and reach from Canada south to the Gulf coastal plain. Some highlands areas in the Midwest are OZARK Mountains in Arkansas and Missouri, the BLACK HILLS in South Dakota. The lowest of the region is along the Mississippi River, at about 300m. West of the river the plains rise westward to the 1-mi-high base of the Rocky Mountains. The northern section of the central lowlands has more irregular topography, partly because of its glacial debris.

Rockies and Great Basin

The ROCKY MOUNTAINS, extending northward from New Mexico into Canada, have many summit ridges higher than 3,000m, and many peaks reach above 4,250m. The highest point in the U.S. portion of the Rockies, Mount ELBERT, reaches 4,399m in Colorado. The Rockies from a bold, east-facing mountain front-including the dramatic Front Range in Colorado-that was a major barrier to the westward expansion of the United States. In Wyoming the mountain ranges are isolated from one another by intermontane basins and plains. The Wyoming Basin was the main passage through the Rockies used by wagon trains traveling west.

Beyond the Rockies are elevated plateaus. In the south is COLORADO PLATEAU, averaging about 1,500m above see level. The plateau is cut by spectacular canyons, including the GRAND CANYON of the Colorado River. To the north are somewhat lower lava plateaus along the Snake and Columbia rivers.

West of the Colorado Plateaus and south of the lava plateaus is the GREAT BASIN, part of the BASIN AND RANGE PROVINCE. It consists of scores of closed desert basins containing playa, or ephemeral lakes, and separated by equally numerous





rocky and mountains ridges, most of which trend north-south. Most of the basins range between 1,200and 1,500m in altitude. The mountain ranges separating the basins are mostly 500 to 2,000mhigher. South of the Great Basin is a lower area without exterior drainage and including DEATH VALLEY and VALLEY and the SALTON SEA, both below sea level. East of the Colorado River, more desert basins and ranges extend east to the Great Plains. THE RIO GRANDE, rising in southwestern Colorado and flowing south New Mexico, connects several of these basins.

4. Population

Prior to the discovery (1492) of the New World by Christopher Columbus the area of the United States had an Indian population averaging only about 1 person per 13 to 26 sq km. When George Washington was president in 1790 the population had grown to almost 4,000,000; only 5 cities had populations exceeding 10,000. During the next 100 years the population doubled 4 timesto about 8 million in 1815, to 16 million in 1840, to 32 million in 1861-62, and 64 million in 1890. Bye 1990 the population had reached nearly 250 million.

In 1990 the Native American population totaled more than 1.9 million. Of the Indians, who constitute the overwhelming majority, approximately half live on or near some 300 reservations. Most reservation land is located in Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, South Dakota Washington, and Montana. The half of the Indian population off reservations lives mostly in cities, especially in the north, central, and western states and in Alaska. About 12,1 percent of the total population29,986,060 persons (1990)are African Americans, almost all descendants of slaves. Slightly more than half are concentrated in the southern and southeastern states, the remainder mainly in urban centers of the northeast, north central, and Pacific states. The vast majority of Americans, however, are descended from Europeans who were attracted to the United States by religious and political freedom and economic opportunities. During the colonial period most settlers came from the British Isles and settled along the eastern seaboard; the French settled the St. Lawrence River valley. The first great IMMIDRATION wavefrom 1820 to 1860sews the arrival of more than 5 million new American. Of these, 90 percent were from England, Ireland, and Germany.

After the Civil War, immigration increased dramatically; between 1860 and 1920, about 29 million persons arrived. The composition of the immigrant population had shifted, and most came from eastern and southern Europe-Russia, Poland, the Balkans, and Italy. During the same period increasing numbers of Asians, especially Chinese and Japanese, migrated to the Pacific coast and to Hawaii. The white immigrants mixed to a considerable degree with the earlier western European stocks, beginning the so-called American melting pot.

The population of Spanish origin in the United States is 22,354,059(1990). From 1980 to 1990 the Hispanic population grew by 53 percent, making it the second-fastest-







growing ethnic group (after the Asian population, which grew by 107, 8 percent). In southern Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and southern California, a considerable percentage of the population is of Mexican-American origin.

At the 1990 census the countrys overall population density was about 27 persons per sq

Km, but great regional variations exist: New Jersey has the highest density among the 50 states: the lightest density in the lower 48 states is in Wyoming, although Alaska has the least density of any of the states. Between 1980 and 1990, Iowa, North Dakota, West Virginia, and Wyoming lost population, and various other states, many in the north-eastern and Midwestern regions experienced only a minuscule rate of growth. The fastest-growing states were Nevada, Alaska, Arizona, Florida, California, and New Hampshire. The birthrate in the United States is about 15 per 1,000 inhabitants (1993 EST.), a figure higher than Canada and Western Europe. The death rate, nearly 9 per 1,000 inhabitants, is generally about equal to, or a bit lower than of the other industrialized nations.

Christopher Columbus, as well as some learned men of his time, had decided that the eastern coast of Asia could be reached by sailing westward across the Atlantic. Columbus thought, also, that Asia was no farther from Europe on the west than we know now America to be. He thought the East Indies were directly west from the Canary Islands. In these far-away lands men thought they should find honour, welth, and fame.

Such an enterprise would require the equipment of vesels at much expense. Money and influence were essential. Columbus had neither. He sent his brother to England and to France. Then went to Spain again. Finally, after seven years of waiting, Columbus found success. Isabella, Queen of Spain, agreed to aid him in carrying out his plans. Three small vessels, only one of which had a dick, were fitted out. The largest of these, the Santa Maria, was commanded by Columbus. The others were the Nina and the Pinta. Before sunrise, August 3,1492, this little fleet, with one hundred and twenty men and provisions for a year, sailed out of the port Palos.

At last, after a voyage of ten weeks, land was is covered on October 12, 1492. Clumbus had discovered one of the Bahama Islands which he called San Salvador. He coasted along the shores of Cuba and Haiti.

He didn't find the cities of Asia as he had expected, but he had no doubt that he was in the East Indiaes, and therefore called the natives Indians.

3. Exploration of the American continent.

When Columbus returned to Spain with the news of his discovery the people ere enthusiastic with delight. Men were now eager to go here they expected to hat all kinds of wealth. Four voyages were made in all, but when adventurers reached the land of their hopes and found no silks, no spices, no precious stones, no gold, they reproached







Columbus. The Court of Spain, also, finding no return for the great expense of fitting out these expeditions, censured him. His enemies increased, and his last days were spent in disappointment and neglect. Heart-broken, he died ignorant of the greatness of his own discovery.

Amerigo Vespucci, a native of Florence and a navigator, was first employed by Spain and later by Portugal, to make explorations. In 1499 he skirted the so as of Venezuela and northeastern south America. During the next four years he made several voages to Brazil, and explored its coasts as far south as the mouth of the la Plata River. On retiming to Europe he wrote a good description of what he had seen. This was published in 1504, and constituted the first printed account of the mainland of the New World. Up to that time Europe Asia and Africea were known as the three parts of the world, and one distinguished geographer believed there was an unknown southern continent which constituted the fourth part.

It now seemed clear that Amerigo Vespucci proved the existence of the fourth part. In consequence of this belief a German professor, who printed a little treatise on geography a tow years later, suggessted that the fourth part should be called America, after Amerigo Vespucci. Acceding to this suggestion the name America, and later still to the whole of the New World.

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