



My Drift

Title: Ohio

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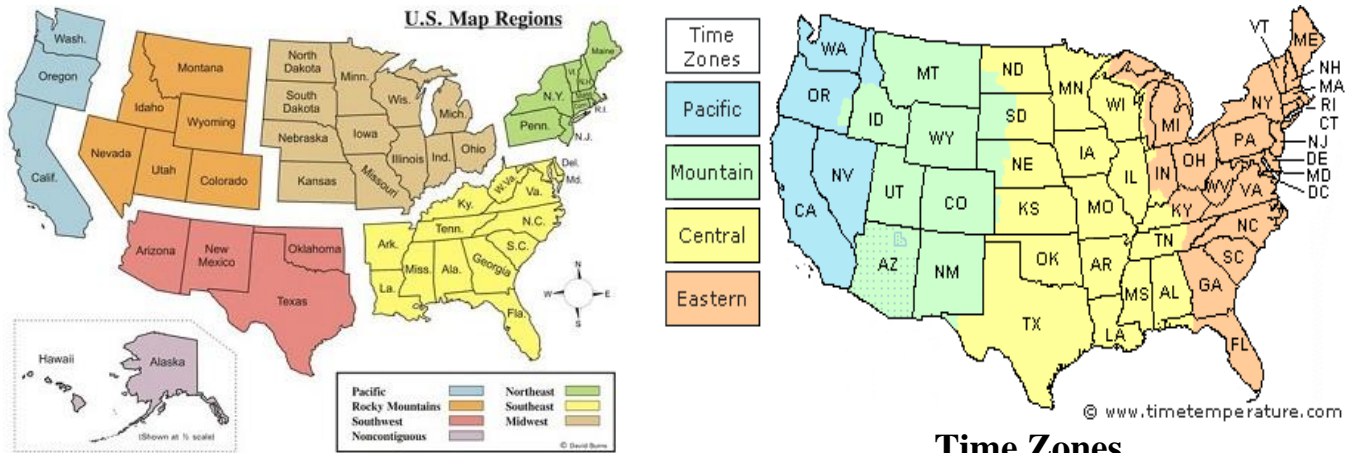
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Ohio is a state in the Midwestern region of the United States. Of the fifty U.S. states, it is the 34th-largest by area, and with a population of nearly 12 million, is the seventh-most populous and tenth-most densely populated. The state's capital and largest city is Columbus with greater Cincinnati being the largest metropolitan area. Ohio is bordered by Lake Erie to the north, Pennsylvania to the east, West Virginia to the southeast, Kentucky to the southwest, Indiana to the west, and Michigan to the northwest. Ohio is historically known as the "Buckeye state" after its Ohio buckeye trees, and Ohioans are also known as "Buckeyes". Its state flag is the only non-rectangular flag of all the U.S. states.

I discovered something a little confusing while researching the state of Ohio. It is in the Midwest Region but entirely in the Eastern Time Zone.



Time Zones

Well, they could have put Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana in the Northeast Region but I can live with it as is. What do you think?



Ohio River



State of Ohio Flag

The state takes its name from the Ohio River, whose name in turn originated from the Seneca Indian word *ohi:yo'*, meaning "Great River". The Ohio River is a 981-mile-long river that flows southwesterly from western Pennsylvania to its mouth on the Mississippi River at the southern tip of Illinois. Ohio was partitioned from the resulting Northwest Territory, which was the first frontier of the new United States and became the 17th state admitted to the Union on March 1, 1803. Ohio was the first post-colonial free state and became one of the earliest and most influential industrial powerhouses during the 20th century. Although Ohio has transitioned to a more information and service-based economy in the 21st century, it remains mostly an industrial state.

Ohio's Biggest Cities (2022 estimated)

City	Population	Metro Population
Columbus	906,600	2,140,000
Cleveland	368,000	2,000,000
Cincinnati	309,900	2,260,000

Well, all my life I thought Cleveland had the largest population of any city in Ohio. Boy was I wrong! Columbus is almost 2 and a half times bigger than Cleveland. I remember from my elementary school history class that Cleveland was one of the largest cities in the United States. What happened? The following paragraph should explain what has happened over the years.

The demographics of Cleveland have fluctuated throughout the city's history. From its founding in 1796, the city's population grew to 261,353 by 1890, and to 796,841 by 1920, making it the fifth largest city in the United States at the time. By 1930, the population rose to 900,429 and, after World War II, it reached its peak at 914,808. (Note: This was the timeframe when I went to school) Due to various factors including deindustrialization, suburbanization, and urban sprawl, Cleveland's population began decreasing and by 1970, the city's population was 750,903. By 1980, it was 573,822 and it had lost its position as one of the top 10 largest cities in the U.S. By 2020, the population had further fallen to 372,624. Beginning in 2018, the city's population began to flatten, after decades of decline. Additionally, between 2010 and 2022, several neighborhoods within Cleveland saw a significant population increase, most notably the Downtown area. The current 2022 estimated population is 368,000.



Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse

Rocket Mortgage Fieldhouse is a multi-purpose arena in downtown Cleveland. The building is the home of the Cleveland Cavaliers of the National Basketball Association and the Cleveland Monsters of the American Hockey League. It also serves as a secondary arena for Cleveland State Vikings men's and women's basketball teams.

Cleveland also has a professional NFL football team.



FirstEnergy Stadium – Home of the Cleveland Browns

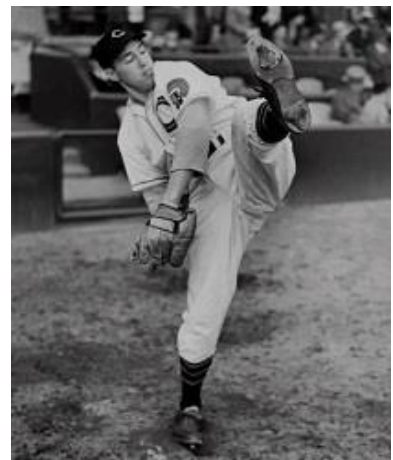
Cleveland also has a professional major league baseball team – The Cleveland Indians. Whoops!! I forgot you can't have an Indian name in this politically correct world we now live in. They were renamed to the Cleveland Guardians for the 2022 season. They were named the Cleveland Indians in 1915 more than a hundred years ago. Since their establishment as a Major League franchise in 1901, the team has won 11 Central division titles, six American League pennants, and two World Series championships (in 1920 and 1948).



Cy Young



Shoeless Joe Jackson



Bob Feller

Settled in 1788, Cincinnati is located at the northern side of the confluence of the Licking and Ohio rivers, the latter of which marks the state line with Kentucky. The city is the economic and cultural hub of the Cincinnati metropolitan area. With an estimated population of 2,260,000, it is Ohio's largest metropolitan area and the nation's 30th-largest.



Cincinnati has a couple of major league teams – The baseball Reds and the NFL Bengals (you can see the stadiums in the above picture). The Cincinnati Reds, also known as the Cincinnati Red Stockings, fielded the first known openly professional team in the United States in 1869.



Columbus

Columbus is the state capital and the most populous city in Ohio. It is the 14th-most populous city in the U.S., the second-most populous city in the Midwest, after Chicago, and the third-most populous state capital. It is the core city of the Columbus metropolitan area, which encompasses ten counties in central Ohio.

Columbus originated as numerous Native American settlements on the banks of the Scioto River. Franklinton, now a city neighborhood, was the first European settlement, laid out in 1797. The city was founded in 1812, at the confluence of the Scioto and Olentangy rivers, and laid out to become the state capital. The city was named for Italian explorer Christopher Columbus. The city assumed the function of state capital in 1816 and county seat in 1824. Beginning in the 1950s, Columbus began to experience significant growth; it became the largest city in Ohio in land and population by the early 1990s. The 1990s and 2000s saw redevelopment in numerous city neighborhoods, including downtown.

The city has a diverse economy based on education, government, insurance, banking, defense, aviation, food, clothes, logistics, steel, energy, medical research, health care, hospitality, retail, and technology. The metropolitan area is home to the Battelle Memorial Institute, the world's largest private research and development foundation; Chemical Abstracts Service, the world's largest clearinghouse of chemical information; and the Ohio State University, one of the largest universities in the United States. As of 2022, the Greater Columbus area is home to the headquarters of six corporations in the U.S. Fortune 500: Cardinal Health, American Electric Power, L Brands, Nationwide, Alliance Data, and Huntington Bancshares.

The Columbus Blue Jackets play in the NHL's Eastern Conference and the Columbus Crew has emerged as a force in Major League Soccer, making it one of Central Ohio's most popular sports attractions.

Finally, on a personal note, I have been to Columbus for a few days. Here is the story: In June 1969, I drove my new Oldsmobile convertible across country from Tooele, Utah to Chambersburg, PA for extended TDY at Letterkenny Army Depot. I stopped in Denver the first night, then Kansas City for a night and then on to Columbus, Ohio to visit an old Navy buddy (Bill Connelly). I was there for three days, and we hit a few bars and went to the Harness Races which I enjoyed very much. This was my first horse race and I have been going to them whenever possible since then. Finally, I made it to Chambersburg where I met up with three co-workers from Tooele Army Depot.

Swing state

It's often said that Ohio is the decision state when it comes to presidential elections. That is because only eight presidents have lost in Ohio and gone on to the White House. The last U.S. President to be elected without winning Ohio was John F. Kennedy in 1960.

Mound builders

Ancient tribes of "Mound Builders" left more than 6,000 burial mounds and forts throughout the Ohio region. The Miamisburg Mound is the largest conical burial mound in the state and possibly in the eastern United States.



Miamisburg Mound

When European explorers first arrived in the 1600s, they found Delaware, Shawnee, Wyandot, and Miami Indian tribes living here. Frenchman Rene'-Robert Cavelier explored the Ohio region in 1670 and is believed to be the first white man to visit the area.

All roads lead through here

"The Heart of It All" isn't just a random slogan to promote tourism in Ohio. About 50 percent of the total U.S. population is located within 500 miles of Ohio's state capital of Columbus.

State tree, animals, and flower



Buckeye Tree



Red Carnation

Tallest mountain

There are no mountains in Ohio. Campbell Hill is, at 1,550 feet the highest point in the state. Campbell Hill is located within the city limits of Bellefontaine.

Popular attractions



Cedar Point Amusement Park



Cleveland Museum of Art



Cincinnati Zoo



Cuyahoga Valley National Park



Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Museum



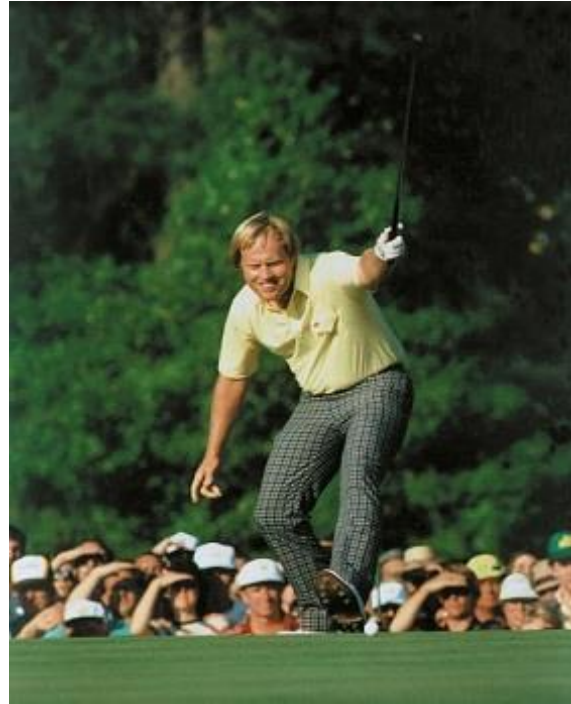
Greater Cleveland Aquarium

Famous people from Ohio

Many famous pioneers like the inventor of the light bulb, Thomas Edison, to the first man to step on the moon, Neil Armstrong, were all born in the state of Ohio. Various entertainers such as Halle Berry, Drew Carey, Sarah Jessica Parker, and Katie Holmes are from Ohio. Ohio is famous for producing remarkable athletes such as LeBron James, Stephen Curry, Jack Nicklaus, and Cy Young as well. Even one of the most legendary and iconic movie directors of all time, Steven Spielberg was born in the state of Ohio.



Neil Armstrong
(Born in Wapakoneta)



Jack Nicklaus
(Born in Columbus)



Labron James
(Born in Akron)



Halle Berry
(Born in Cleveland)



Stephen Curry
(Born in Akron)

Birthplace of Aviation

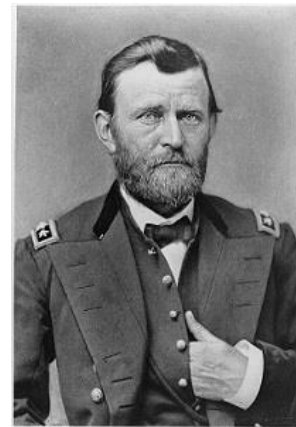
Ohio is also known for being the birthplace of aviation. The Wright brothers, Orville and Wilbur, were born in Dayton where they tested and conducted their famous experiments with powered flight. They made the first controlled, sustained flight of a powered, heavier-than-air aircraft with the Wright Flyer on December 17, 1903, 4 miles south of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.



The Wright Brothers

The State of Presidents

Ohio is known as the “birthplace of presidents” because no less than seven presidents, eight if you include the Virginia-born William Henry Harrison who claimed Ohio as his homeland. These include Ulysses S. Grant, Rutherford B. Hayes, James Abram Garfield, Benjamin Harrison, William McKinley, William Howard Taft, and Warren Harding.



Ulysses S. Grant

Pro Football Hall of Fame

The Pro Football Hall of Fame for professional American football is located in Canton, Ohio.

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