

# United States

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **United States of America** (**USA**), commonly referred to as the **United States** (**US**), **America**, or simply **the States**, is a federal republic<sup>[10][11]</sup> consisting of 50 states, 16 territories, a federal district, and various overseas extraterritorial jurisdictions. The 48 contiguous states and the federal district of Washington, D.C., are in central North America between Canada and Mexico. The state of Alaska is the northwestern part of North America and the state of Hawaii is an archipelago in the mid-Pacific. The country also has five populated and nine unpopulated territories in the Pacific and the Caribbean. At 3.79 million square miles (9.83 million km<sup>2</sup>) in total and with around 316 million people, the United States is the fourth-largest country by total area and third largest by population. It is one of the world's most ethnically diverse and multicultural nations, the product of large-scale immigration from many countries.<sup>[12]</sup> The geography and climate of the United States is also extremely diverse, and it is home to a wide variety of wildlife.

Paleo-indians migrated from Asia to what is now the US mainland around 15,000 years ago,<sup>[13]</sup> with European colonization beginning in the 16th century. The United States emerged from 13 British colonies located along the Atlantic seaboard. Disputes between Great Britain and these colonies led to the American Revolution. On July 4, 1776, delegates from the 13 colonies unanimously issued the Declaration of Independence. The ensuing war ended in 1783 with the recognition of independence of the United States from the Kingdom of Great Britain, and was the first successful war of independence against a European colonial empire.<sup>[14][15]</sup> The current Constitution was adopted on September 17, 1787. The first 10 amendments, collectively named the Bill of Rights, were ratified in 1791 and guarantee many fundamental civil rights and freedoms.

United States of America	
<div><div></div><div>Flag</div></div> <div><div></div><div>Great Seal</div></div>	
<b>Motto:</b> <div>"In God we trust" (official)<sup>[1][2][3]</sup><div>"E pluribus unum" (Latin) (traditional)<div>"Out of many, one"</div></div></div>	
<b>Anthem:</b> "The Star-Spangled Banner" <div><div></div></div>	
<div></div>	
<b>Capital</b>	Washington, D.C. <div>38°53′N 77°01′W</div>
<b>Largest city</b>	New York City
<b>Official languages</b>	None at federal level <sup>[a]</sup>
<b>National language</b>	American English <sup>[b]</sup>
<b>Demonym</b>	American
<b>Government</b>	Federal presidential constitutional republic <div><div><div><div>- President</div><div>Barack Obama (D)</div></div><div><div>- Vice President</div><div>Joe Biden (D)</div></div><div><div>- Speaker of the House</div><div>John Boehner (R)</div></div><div><div>- Chief Justice</div><div>John Roberts</div></div></div></div>
<b>Legislature</b>	Congress

Driven by the doctrine of manifest destiny, the United States embarked on a vigorous expansion across North America throughout the 19th century.<sup>[16]</sup> This involved displacing native tribes, acquiring new territories, and gradually admitting new states.<sup>[16]</sup> The American Civil War ended legalized slavery in the United States.<sup>[17]</sup> By the end of the 19th century, the United States extended into the Pacific Ocean,<sup>[18]</sup> and its economy was the world's largest.<sup>[19]</sup> The Spanish–American War and World War I confirmed the country's status as a global military power. The United States emerged from World War II as a global superpower, the first country with nuclear weapons, and a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. The end of the Cold War and the dissolution of the Soviet Union left the United States as the sole superpower.

The United States is a developed country and has the world's largest national economy, with an estimated GDP in 2013 of \$16.7 trillion – 19% of global GDP at purchasing-power parity.<sup>[6][20]</sup> The per capita GDP of the U.S. was the world's sixth-highest in 2010<sup>[6]</sup> and the U.S. has the highest mean and second-highest median household income in the OECD as well as the highest average wage.<sup>[21][22]</sup> The U.S. has the fourth most unequal income distribution among OECD nations<sup>[23][24]</sup> with roughly 16% of the population living in poverty.<sup>[25]</sup> The economy is fueled by an abundance of natural resources, a well-developed infrastructure,<sup>[26]</sup> and high productivity;<sup>[27]</sup> and while its economy is considered post-industrial the US continues to be one of the world's largest manufacturers.<sup>[28]</sup> The country accounts for 39% of global military spending,<sup>[29]</sup> being the foremost economic and military power, a prominent political and cultural force in the world, and a leader in scientific research and technological innovation.<sup>[30][31]</sup>

<div><div><div>- Upper house</div><div>- Lower house</div></div></div>	<div>Senate</div> <div>House of Representatives</div>
<div><div><div><b>Independence</b> from Great Britain</div><div><div>- Declared</div><div>- Recognized</div><div>- Constitution</div></div></div></div>	<div>July 4, 1776</div> <div>September 3, 1783</div> <div>June 21, 1788</div>
<div><div><div><b>Area</b></div><div><div>- Total</div><div>- Water (%)</div></div></div></div>	<div>9,826,675 km<sup>2</sup><sup>[4][c]</sup> (3rd/4th)</div> <div>3,794,101 sq mi</div> <div>6.76</div>
<div><div><div><b>Population</b></div><div><div>- 2013 estimate</div><div>- Density</div></div></div></div>	<div>317,048,000<sup>[5]</sup> (3rd)</div> <div>34.2/km<sup>2</sup> (179th)</div> <div>88.6/sq mi</div>
<div><div><div><b>GDP (PPP)</b></div><div><div>- Total</div><div>- Per capita</div></div></div></div>	<div>2013 estimate</div> <div>\$16.724 trillion<sup>[6]</sup> (1st)</div> <div>\$52,839<sup>[6]</sup> (6th)</div>
<div><div><div><b>GDP (nominal)</b></div><div><div>- Total</div><div>- Per capita</div></div></div></div>	<div>2013 estimate</div> <div>\$16.724 trillion<sup>[6]</sup> (1st)</div> <div>\$52,839<sup>[6]</sup> (9th)</div>
<div><div><div><b>Gini</b> (2011)</div></div></div>	<div>47.7<sup>[7]</sup></div> <div>high · 39th (2009)</div>
<div><div><div><b>HDI</b> (2013)</div></div></div>	<div><div>▲ 0.937<sup>[8]</sup></div><div>very high · 3rd</div></div>
<div><div><div><b>Currency</b></div></div></div>	<div>United States dollar (\$)</div> <div>(USD)</div>
<div><div><div><b>Time zone</b></div><div>- Summer (DST)</div></div></div>	<div>(UTC−5 to −10)</div> <div>(UTC−4 to −10<sup>[e]</sup>)</div>
<div><div><div><b>Drives on the</b></div></div></div>	<div>right<sup>[9]</sup></div>
<div><div><div><b>Calling code</b></div></div></div>	<div>+1</div>
<div><div><div><b>ISO 3166 code</b></div></div></div>	<div>US</div>
<div><div><div><b>Internet TLD</b></div></div></div>	<div>.us .gov .mil .edu</div>

a. ^ English is the official language of at least 28 states; some sources give higher figures, based on differing definitions of "official".<sup>[9]</sup> English and Hawaiian are both official languages in the state of Hawaii.

b. ^ English is the *de facto* language of American government and the sole language spoken at home by 80 percent of Americans aged five and older. Spanish is the second most commonly spoken language.

c. ^ Whether the United States or China is larger has been disputed. The figure given is from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency's *The World Factbook*. Other sources give smaller figures. All authoritative calculations of the country's size include only the 50 states and the District of Columbia, not the territories.

- 1 Etymology
- 2 History
  - 2.1 Native American and European contact
  - 2.2 Settlements
  - 2.3 Independence and expansion
  - 2.4 Civil War and Reconstruction Era
  - 2.5 Industrialization
  - 2.6 World War I, Great Depression, and World War II
  - 2.7 Cold War and Civil Rights era
  - 2.8 Contemporary era
- 3 Geography, climate, and environment
  - 3.1 Environmental issues
- 4 Demographics
  - 4.1 Population
  - 4.2 Language
  - 4.3 Religion
  - 4.4 Family structure
- 5 Government and politics
  - 5.1 Political divisions
  - 5.2 Parties and elections
  - 5.3 Foreign relations
  - 5.4 Government finance
    - 5.4.1 Public debt
- 6 Military
- 7 Crime and law enforcement
- 8 Economy
  - 8.1 Income, poverty, and wealth
- 9 Infrastructure
  - 9.1 Transportation
  - 9.2 Energy
- 10 Science and technology
- 11 Education
- 12 Health
- 13 Culture
  - 13.1 Popular media
  - 13.2 Literature, philosophy, and the arts
  - 13.3 Food

- d. ^ The population estimate is of people whose usual residence is within the 50 states and the District of Columbia, regardless of nationality. It does not include those living in the territories (over 4 million people, mostly in Puerto Rico).
- e. ^ See Time in the United States for details about laws governing time zones in the United States.
- f. ^ Does not include insular areas and United States Minor Outlying Islands, which have their own ISO 3166 codes.
- g. ^ Except U.S. Virgin Islands.

- 13.4 Sports
- 14 See also
- 15 References
- 16 Bibliography
  - 16.1 Website sources
- 17 External links

## Etymology

*See also: Names for United States citizens*

In 1507, the German cartographer Martin Waldseemüller produced a world map on which he named the lands of the Western Hemisphere "America" after the Italian explorer and cartographer Amerigo Vespucci.<sup>[32]</sup>

The first documentary evidence of the phrase "United States of America" is from a letter dated January 2, 1776, written by Stephen Moylan, Esq., George Washington's aide-de-camp and Muster-Master General of the Continental Army. Addressed to Lt. Col. Joseph Reed, Moylan expressed his wish to carry the "full and ample powers of the United States of America" to Spain to assist in the revolutionary war effort.<sup>[33]</sup>

The first publicly published evidence of the phrase "United States of America" was in an anonymously written essay in *The Virginia Gazette* newspaper in Williamsburg, Virginia, on April 6, 1776.<sup>[34][35]</sup> In June 1776, Thomas Jefferson included the phrase "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" in all capitalized letters in the headline of his "original Rough draught" of the Declaration of Independence.<sup>[36][37]</sup> In the final Fourth of July version of the Declaration, the pertinent section of the title was changed to read, "The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America".<sup>[38]</sup>

In 1777 the Articles of Confederation announced, "The Stile of this Confederacy shall be 'The United States of America'".<sup>[39]</sup>

The short form "United States" is also standard. Other common forms include the "U.S.", the "USA", and "America". Colloquial names include the "U.S. of A." and, internationally, the "States". "Columbia", a name popular in poetry and songs of the late 1700s,<sup>[40]</sup> derives its origin from Christopher Columbus; it appears in the name "District of Columbia".

The standard way to refer to a citizen of the United States is as an "American". "United States", "American" and "U.S." are used to refer to the country adjectivally ("American values", "U.S. forces"). "American" is rarely used in English to refer to subjects not connected with the United States.<sup>[41]</sup>

The phrase "United States" was originally treated as plural, a description of a collection of independent states—e.g., "the United States are"—including in the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, ratified in 1865. It became common to treat it as singular, a single unit

—e.g., "the United States is"—after the end of the Civil War. The singular form is now standard; the plural form is retained in the idiom "these United States".<sup>[42]</sup> The difference has been described as more significant than one of usage, but reflecting the difference between a collection of states and a unit.<sup>[43]</sup>

In non-English languages, the name is frequently translated as the translation of either the "United States" or "United States of America", and colloquially as "America". In addition, an initialism is sometimes used.<sup>[44]</sup>

## History

*Main articles: History of the United States and Timeline of United States history*

### Native American and European contact

People from Asia migrated to the North American continent approximately 15,000 or more years ago.<sup>[45][46]</sup> Some, such as the pre-Columbian Mississippian culture, developed advanced agriculture, grand architecture, and state-level societies. After European explorers and traders made the first contacts, it is estimated that their population declined due to various reasons, including diseases such as smallpox and measles to which indigenous Americans had no natural immunities,<sup>[47][48]</sup> intermarriage,<sup>[49]</sup> and violence.<sup>[50][51][52]</sup>

In the early days of colonization many settlers were subject to shortages of food, disease and attacks from native Indians. Indians were also often at war with neighboring tribes and would often enslave their defeated enemy, a practice that was also soon used by various colonists who captured Indians in battle. During the various colonial wars, many colonists were also captured by Indians as slaves and taken north to Canada and sold to the French.<sup>[53]</sup>

At the same time however many natives and settlers got along and came to depend on each other, especially settlers during the winter months. Natives also came to depend on settlers for guns, ammunition, powder and other modern devices. Because many tribes were frequently at war with one another it became imperative to establish and secure good relationships with at least one group of colonists. As colonists began to spread out into the interior their contact with native Indians increased, sometimes resulting in good relations, oftentimes resulting in conflict. In the process "Native American influenced colonist, and colonist influenced Native American".<sup>[54]</sup>

Natives taught many settlers where, when and how to hunt and fish in the vast frontier that lay before them whose elements were generally unknown to the Europeans. In order to survive



1766 engraving of a meeting between Native Americans and Europeans



settlers often depended on native Indians who taught them how to adopt to the Indian's "hunting culture" and learned the use of animal skins as camouflage, decoys along with various whistles and calls used to attract prey. European ministries and others felt it was important to "civilize" the Indians and urged them to concentrate on farming and ranching and not depend primarily on hunting and gathering. At the same time Indians offered the benefit of their experience in growing corn, an unknown crop in Europe, and in the use of dead fish and other methods as fertilizer. It was not long before many Indians began to grow new crops and raise livestock and poultry in their communities and made use of the various living utilities settlers had to offer.<sup>[55][56]</sup>

Initially the Puritan and Wampanoag were peaceful, but the King Philip's War broke out following cultural and religious differences between the colonists and the Wampanoag;<sup>[57][58]</sup> by the war's end, the European colonists had defeated the Native Americans and were able to expand and control New England.<sup>[59]</sup> In Carolina, Native Americans were captured and sold into slavery to both New England and the West Indies. In 1676, the Virginia colony legally sanctioned the enslavement of Native Americans.<sup>[60]</sup> Conversely, the Five Civilized Tribes were involved in the institution of African slavery as planters.<sup>[61]</sup>

## Settlements

*Further information: European colonization of the Americas and 13 colonies*

After Columbus' discovery of the New World in 1492 other explorers followed.<sup>[62]</sup> The first Spanish explorers landed in "La Florida" in 1513. Conquistadors explored much of the continent's interior and Spain later set up some settlements in parts of Florida and the American southwest that were eventually merged into the United States.<sup>[63]</sup>

There were also some French attempts to colonize the east coast, and later more successful settlements along the Mississippi River. Many early European colonies failed due to starvation, disease, harsh weather, Native

American attacks, or warfare with European rivals. The fate of the "lost" English colony of Roanoke in the 1580s is an enduring mystery.



The signing of the Mayflower Compact, 1620.

James I on April 10, 1606, chartered The Virginia Company with the purpose of establishing English settlements on the eastern coast of North America. The Virginia Colony was planted in 1607 with Jamestown and the Pilgrims' Plymouth Colony in 1620. Both colonies suffered initial hardships and great loss of life, but eventually stabilized and became the first successful English settlements in America. Both also saw efficiency greatly improve when personal property replaced the early communal operations.<sup>[64]</sup> The continent's first elected legislative assembly, Virginia's House of Burgesses created in 1619, and the Mayflower Compact, signed by the Pilgrims before disembarking, established precedents for the pattern of representative self-government and constitutionalism that would develop throughout the American colonies.<sup>[65][66]</sup> Tens of thousands of Puritans later settled New England.

Other New England colonies were established. Much of the territory between them and Virginia

was controlled by the Dutch until England seized it in the late 17th century during the Anglo-Dutch Wars, leading to the creation of the Middle Colonies.<sup>[67]</sup> Trade with and Christian evangelism to local tribes of native peoples were established in the colonies' early days, though relations would alternate from friendly to tense, and were characterized by periodic bouts of warfare, often with some tribes allying themselves with the English against common foes. Incidents like the massacre of 1622, the Pequot War, and King Philip's War caused great destruction and threatened the existence of entire colonies, but resulted in reprisals that ultimately saw the power of enemy tribes reduced or broken, facilitating the expansion of English settlements.<sup>[68][69]</sup>

Most settlers in every colony were small farmers, but other industries developed. Tobacco was popular in Europe and became a major early cash crop. Furs, fishing, lumber, rum, rice, indigo, construction, wheat, ranching, and eventually shipbuilding contributed to economic growth. By the late colonial period Americans were producing one-seventh of the world's iron supply.<sup>[70]</sup> Cities eventually dotted the coast to support local economies and serve as trade hubs. English colonists were supplemented by waves of Scotch-Irish and other groups. As coastal land grew more expensive people pushed west into the hills and backwoods, seeking to carve an existence out of virgin wilderness.<sup>[71]</sup>

Settlers were a diverse mix of adventurers, profit seekers, people wanting religious freedom, and those who simply saw an opportunity for a better life.<sup>[72]</sup> Many came as indentured servants, either convicts or people who otherwise couldn't afford passage voluntarily signing contracts, and were set free after completing their specified term of service. Two-thirds of all Virginia settlers between 1630 and 1680 arrived indentured.<sup>[73]</sup>

The first African slaves were brought to the Americas by Spanish conquistadors in the 1500s shortly after Columbus' voyages. Most slaves were shipped to sugar colonies in the Caribbean and to Brazil, where life expectancy was about seven years.<sup>[74]</sup> Life expectancy was much higher in North America because of less disease and better food and treatment, so the numbers of slaves grew rapidly into the millions by excesses of births over deaths.<sup>[75][76]</sup>

Colonial society was largely divided over the religious and moral implications of slavery and many colonies passed acts for and against the practice.<sup>[77][78]</sup> By the turn of the 18th century, African slaves were becoming the primary source of bonded labor in many regions.<sup>[79]</sup> Some colonists participated in the lucrative, slave oriented "Golden Triangle", involving planters, merchants of various types, shippers, and the African tribal chiefs who provided them with slaves.<sup>[60][80]</sup>

With the 1729 division of the Carolinas and the 1732 colonization of Georgia, the 13 colonies that would become the United States of America were established.<sup>[81]</sup> All had local governments with elections open to most free men, with a growing devotion to the ancient rights of Englishmen and a sense of self-government stimulating support for republicanism.<sup>[82]</sup> With extremely high birth rates, low death rates, and steady settlement, the colonial population grew rapidly. Relatively small Native American populations were eclipsed.<sup>[83]</sup> The Christian revivalist movement of the 1730s



Penn's Treaty between the Quaker settlers and Native Americans was never violated during William Penn's lifetime.

and 1740s known as the Great Awakening fueled interest in both religion and religious liberty.

In the French and Indian War, British forces seized Canada from the French, but the francophone population remained politically isolated from the southern colonies. Excluding the Native Americans, who were being conquered and displaced, those 13 colonies had a population of over 2.1 million in 1770, about one-third that of Britain. Despite continuing new arrivals, the rate of natural increase was such that by the 1770s only a small minority of Americans had been born overseas.<sup>[84]</sup> The colonies' distance from Britain had allowed the development of self-government, but their success motivated monarchs to periodically seek to reassert Royal authority.

## Independence and expansion

*Further information: American Revolutionary War, Declaration of Independence, and American Revolution*

The American Revolution was the first successful colonial war of independence against a European power.

Americans had developed a democratic system of local government and an ideology of "republicanism" that held government rested on the will of the people (not the king), which strongly opposed corruption and demanded civic virtue. They demanded their rights as Englishmen and rejected British efforts to impose taxes without the approval of colonial legislatures. The British insisted and the conflict escalated to full-scale war in 1775, the American Revolutionary War.<sup>[85]</sup> On June 14, 1775, the Continental Congress, convening in Philadelphia, established a Continental Army under the command of George Washington.<sup>[86]</sup> Proclaiming that "all men are created equal" and endowed with "certain unalienable Rights", the Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence, drafted largely by Thomas Jefferson, on July 4, 1776. That date is now celebrated annually as America's Independence Day. In 1777, the Articles of Confederation established a weak government that operated until 1789.<sup>[87]</sup>



The *Declaration of Independence*: the Committee of Five presenting their draft to the Second Continental Congress in 1776.

After a naval victory followed by the British defeat at Yorktown by American forces assisted by the French,<sup>[88]</sup> the United States was independent. In the peace treaty of 1783 Britain recognized American sovereignty over most territory east of the Mississippi River. Nationalists calling for a much stronger federal government with powers of taxation led the constitutional convention in 1787. After intense debate in state conventions the United States Constitution was ratified in 1788. The first Senate, House of Representatives, and president—George Washington—took office in 1789. The Bill of Rights, forbidding federal restriction of personal freedoms and guaranteeing a range of legal protections, was adopted in 1791.<sup>[89]</sup>

Attitudes toward slavery were shifting; nearly all states officially outlawed the international slave trade before the federal government criminalized it in 1808.<sup>[90]</sup> Slavery had become more pronounced in the south than the north because the land there was better suited for large scale cash crop cultivation than the rocky ground and cooler climate of New England.<sup>[91][92]</sup> All the



Northern states abolished slavery between 1780 and 1804, leaving the slave states of the South as defenders of the "peculiar institution". With cotton a highly profitable plantation crop after 1820, slave interests in the Southern states maintained that slavery was a positive good for everyone, including the slaves.<sup>[93]</sup> The Second Great Awakening, beginning about 1800, converted millions to evangelical Protestantism. In the North it energized multiple social reform movements, including abolitionism.<sup>[94]</sup>

Americans' eagerness to expand westward prompted a long series of Indian Wars.<sup>[95]</sup> The Louisiana Purchase of French-claimed territory under President Thomas Jefferson in 1803 almost doubled the nation's size.<sup>[96]</sup> The War of 1812, declared against Britain over various grievances and fought to a draw, strengthened U.S. nationalism.<sup>[97]</sup> A series of U.S. military incursions into Florida led Spain to cede it and other Gulf Coast territory in 1819.<sup>[98]</sup>

President Andrew Jackson took office in 1829, and began a set of reforms which led to the era of Jacksonian democracy, which is considered to have lasted from 1830 to 1850. This included many reforms, such as wider male suffrage, and various adjustments to the power of the Federal government. This also led to the rise of the Second Party System, which refers to the dominant parties which existed from 1828 to 1854.



U.S. territorial acquisitions—portions of each territory were granted statehood over time

The Trail of Tears in the 1830s exemplified the Indian removal policy that moved Indians to their own reservations, sometimes by force, with small annual government subsidies. The United States annexed the Republic of Texas in 1845, amid a period when the concept of Manifest Destiny was becoming popular.<sup>[99]</sup> The 1846 Oregon Treaty with Britain led to U.S. control of the present-day American Northwest.<sup>[100]</sup> The U.S. victory in the Mexican-American War resulted in the 1848 cession of California and much of the present-day American Southwest.<sup>[101]</sup>

The California Gold Rush of 1848–49 further spurred western migration.<sup>[102]</sup> New railways made relocation easier for settlers and increased conflicts with Native Americans.<sup>[103]</sup> Over a half-century, up to 40 million American bison, or buffalo, were slaughtered for skins and meat and to ease the railways' spread.<sup>[104]</sup> The loss of the buffalo, a primary resource for the plains Indians, was an existential blow to many native cultures.<sup>[104]</sup> In 1869, President Ulysses S. Grant's Peace policy reversed the previous costly policy of "wars of extermination" in order to civilize and give Indians eventual United State citizenship having incorporated Indians as wards of the state, led by a philanthropic Board of Indian Commissioners.<sup>[105]</sup>

## Civil War and Reconstruction Era

### *Further information: American Civil War and Reconstruction Era*

Starting in the 1780s inherent divisions between the North and the South in American society over slavery ultimately led to the American Civil War.<sup>[106]</sup> Initially, the Founders of the nation had been able to keep the Union solvent by compromises worked out at the Constitutional Convention and

to remain a single nation.<sup>[106]</sup>

During the years leading up to the American Civil War tensions between slave and free states mounted with arguments about the relationship between the state and federal governments, as well as violent conflicts over the spread of slavery into new states.<sup>[107]</sup> Abraham Lincoln, candidate of the largely antislavery Republican Party, was elected president in 1860.<sup>[108]</sup> Before he took office, seven slave states declared their secession—which the federal government maintained was illegal—and formed the Confederate States of America.<sup>[109]</sup>



Battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The Civil War cemented the Union and spurred the steel industry and intercontinental railroad construction.

With the Confederate attack upon Fort Sumter, the Civil War began and four more slave states joined the Confederacy.<sup>[109]</sup> Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 declared slaves in the Confederacy to be free, though not those in Union slave states. Following the Union victory in 1865, three amendments to the U.S. Constitution ensured freedom for the nearly four million African Americans who had been slaves,<sup>[110]</sup> made them citizens, and gave them voting rights. The war and its resolution led to a substantial increase in federal power.<sup>[111]</sup> The war remains the deadliest conflict in American history, resulting in the deaths of 620,000 soldiers.<sup>[112]</sup>

The assassination of Abraham Lincoln radicalized Republican Reconstruction policies aimed at reintegrating and rebuilding the Southern states while ensuring the rights of the newly freed slaves.<sup>[113]</sup> President Ulysses S. Grant implemented the Department of Justice and used the U.S. Military to enforce suffrage and civil rights for African Americans in the South destroying the Ku Klux Klan in 1871 under the Force Acts.<sup>[114]</sup> The resolution of the disputed 1876 presidential election by the Compromise of 1877 ended Reconstruction; Jim Crow laws soon disenfranchised many African Americans.<sup>[113]</sup>

## Industrialization

In the North, urbanization and an unprecedented influx of immigrants from Southern and Eastern Europe hastened the country's industrialization. The wave of immigration, lasting until 1924, provided labor and transformed American culture.<sup>[115]</sup> United States immigration policies were Eurocentric, which barred Asians from naturalization, and restricted their immigration beginning with the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1882.<sup>[116]</sup> National infrastructure development spurred economic growth. The end of the Civil War spurred greater settlement and development of the American Old West. This was due to a variety of social and technological developments, including the completion of the First Transcontinental Telegraph in 1861 and the First Transcontinental Railroad in 1869.



Ellis Island, New York City. East Coast immigrants worked in factories, railroads, and mines, and created demand for industrialized agriculture.

The 1867 Alaska Purchase from Russia completed the country's mainland expansion. The Wounded Knee Massacre in 1890 was the last major armed conflict of the Indian Wars. In 1893, the indigenous monarchy of the Pacific Kingdom of Hawaii was overthrown in a coup led by American residents; the United States annexed the archipelago in 1898. Victory in the Spanish–American War the same year demonstrated that the United States was a world power and led to the annexation of Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines.<sup>[117]</sup> The Philippines gained independence a half-century later; Puerto Rico and Guam remain U.S. territories.

The emergence of many prominent industrialists at the end of the 19th century gave rise to the Gilded Age, a period of growing affluence and power among the business class. The hardships the working classes experienced during this period led to the rise of anarchist and socialist movements in the U.S.<sup>[118]</sup> In 1914 alone, 35,000 workers died in industrial accidents and 700,000 were injured.<sup>[119]</sup> This period eventually ended with the beginning of the Progressive Era, a period of significant reforms in many societal areas, including regulatory protection for the public, greater antitrust measures, and attention to living conditions for the working classes. President Theodore Roosevelt was one leading proponent of progressive reforms.

## World War I, Great Depression, and World War II

*Further information: World War I, Great Depression, and World War II*

At the outbreak of World War I in 1914, the United States remained neutral. Most Americans sympathized with the British and French, although many opposed intervention.<sup>[120]</sup> In 1917, the United States joined the Allies, and the American Expeditionary Forces helped to turn the tide against the Central Powers. President Woodrow Wilson took a leading diplomatic role at the Paris Peace Conference of 1919 which helped to shape the post-war world. Wilson advocated strongly for the U.S. to join the League of Nations. However, the Senate refused to approve this, and did not ratify the Treaty of Versailles, which established the League of Nations.<sup>[121]</sup>

The country pursued a policy of unilateralism, verging on isolationism.<sup>[121]</sup> In 1920, the women's rights movement, led by Carrie Chapman Catt, won passage of a constitutional amendment granting women's suffrage.<sup>[122]</sup> The prosperity of the Roaring Twenties ended with the Wall Street Crash of 1929 that triggered the Great Depression.

After his election as president in 1932, Franklin D. Roosevelt responded with the New Deal, a range of policies increasing government intervention in the economy, including the establishment of the Social Security system.<sup>[123]</sup> The Dust Bowl of the mid-1930s impoverished many farming



The Dust Bowl brought agricultural depression, impacted industrial markets, and led to large relocation out of the Great Plains.



WWII invasion of Europe required war industry, accelerating migration to big cities and large scale manufacturing

communities and spurred a new wave of western migration.

The United States, effectively neutral during World War II's early stages after Nazi Germany's invasion of Poland in September 1939, began supplying material to the Allies in March 1941 through the Lend-Lease program. On December 7, 1941, the Empire of Japan launched a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, prompting the United States to join the Allies against the Axis powers as well as the internment of Japanese Americans by the thousands.<sup>[124]</sup> Participation in the war spurred capital investment and industrial capacity, and the production figures after the Americans started to unfold the awesome productive capacity of their economy became the stuff of legend.<sup>[125]</sup> Though the nation lost more than 400,000 soldiers,<sup>[126]</sup> among the major combatants, the United States was the only nation to become richer because of the war.<sup>[127]</sup>

Allied conferences at Bretton Woods and Yalta outlined a new system of international organizations that placed the United States and Soviet Union at the center of world affairs. As victory was won in Europe, a 1945 international conference held in San Francisco produced the United Nations Charter, which became active after the war.<sup>[128]</sup> The United States, having developed the first nuclear weapons, used them on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August. Japan surrendered on September 2, ending the war.<sup>[129]</sup>

## Cold War and Civil Rights era

The United States and the Soviet Union jockeyed for power after World War II during the Cold War, dominating the military affairs of Europe through NATO and the Warsaw Pact, respectively. While they engaged in proxy wars and developed powerful nuclear arsenals, the two countries avoided

direct military conflict. The U.S. often opposed Third World left-wing movements that it viewed as Soviet-sponsored. American troops fought Communist Chinese and North Korean forces in the Korean War of 1950–53. The House Un-American Activities Committee pursued a series of investigations into suspected leftist subversion, while Senator Joseph McCarthy became the figurehead of anticommunist sentiment.<sup>[130]</sup>

The 1961 Soviet launch of the first manned spaceflight prompted President John F. Kennedy's call for the United States to be first to land "a man on the moon", achieved in 1969.<sup>[131]</sup> Kennedy also faced a tense nuclear showdown with Soviet forces in Cuba.<sup>[132]</sup> Meanwhile, the United States experienced sustained economic expansion. Amidst the presence of various white nationalist



Civil Rights leaders, including Ralph Abernathy and Martin Luther King, Jr., lead one of the Selma to Montgomery marches



A vehicle enters West Berlin through the Western Allies' Checkpoint Charlie after the fall of the Berlin Wall, marking the beginning of the end of the Cold War



groups, particularly the Ku Klux Klan, a growing civil rights movement used nonviolence to confront segregation and discrimination. This was symbolized and led by black Americans such as Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King, Jr. On the other hand, some black nationalist groups such as the Black Panther Party and Malcolm X had a more militant scope.

Following Kennedy's assassination in 1963, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Voting Rights Act of 1965, and Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 were passed under President Lyndon B. Johnson.<sup>[133]</sup> He also signed into law the Medicare and Medicaid programs.<sup>[134]</sup> Johnson also expanded a proxy war in Southeast Asia into the ultimately unsuccessful Vietnam War. A widespread countercultural movement grew, fueled by opposition to the war, black nationalism, and the sexual revolution. Betty Friedan, Gloria Steinem, and others led a new wave of feminism that sought political, social, and economic equality for women.

In the 1970s, the American economy was hurt by two major energy shocks. The Nixon Administration restored normal relations with China and oversaw the beginning of a period of generally eased relations with the Soviet Union. As a result of the Watergate scandal, in 1974 Nixon became the first U.S. president to resign, to avoid being impeached on charges including obstruction of justice and abuse of power. The Carter Administration of the late 1970s was marked by the Iran hostage crisis, stagflation, and an increase of tensions with the Soviet Union following the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. The election of Ronald Reagan as president in 1980 heralded a rightward shift in American politics,<sup>[135][136][137][138]</sup> reflected in major changes in taxation and spending priorities.<sup>[139]</sup> His second term in office brought both the Iran–Contra scandal and significant diplomatic progress with the Soviet Union.<sup>[140]</sup> The subsequent Soviet collapse ended the Cold War.<sup>[141][142][143][144][145]</sup>

## Contemporary era

Under President George H. W. Bush, the United States took a lead role in the UN–sanctioned Gulf War.<sup>[146]</sup> The longest economic expansion in modern U.S. history—from March 1991 to March 2001—encompassed the Bill Clinton administration and the dot-com bubble.<sup>[147]</sup>

On September 11, 2001, al-Qaeda terrorists under the leadership of Osama bin Laden struck the World Trade Center in New York City and The Pentagon near Washington, D.C., killing nearly 3,000 people.<sup>[148]</sup> In response, the George W. Bush administration launched the global War on Terror, invading Afghanistan and removing the Taliban government and al-Qaeda training camps.<sup>[149]</sup> However, Taliban insurgents were never completely defeated and continue to fight a guerrilla war against U.S. forces.<sup>[150]</sup> In 2003, the United States and several allied forces launched an invasion of Iraq to engineer regime change there, beginning the Iraq War. American combat troops fought in the country for eight years.<sup>[151][152][153]</sup>



September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City.

In 2008, amid a global economic recession and two wars, the first African-American president,

Barack Obama, was elected.<sup>[154]</sup> In 2011, Osama Bin Laden was killed during an American Navy SEAL raid on his compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan.<sup>[155]</sup>

## Geography, climate, and environment

*Main articles: Geography of the United States, Climate of the United States, and Environment of the United States*

The land area of the contiguous United States is 2,959,064 square miles (7,663,941 km<sup>2</sup>). Alaska, separated from the contiguous United States by Canada, is the largest state at 663,268 square miles (1,717,856 km<sup>2</sup>). Hawaii, occupying an archipelago in the central Pacific, southwest of North America, is 10,931 square miles (28,311 km<sup>2</sup>) in area.<sup>[156]</sup>

The United States is the world's third or fourth largest nation by total area (land and water), ranking behind Russia and Canada and just above or below China. The ranking varies depending on how two territories

disputed by China and India are counted and how the total size of the United States is measured: calculations range from 3,676,486 square miles (9,522,055 km<sup>2</sup>)<sup>[157]</sup> to 3,717,813 square miles (9,629,091 km<sup>2</sup>)<sup>[158]</sup> to 3,794,101 square miles (9,826,676 km<sup>2</sup>).<sup>[4]</sup> Measured by only land area, the United States is third in size behind Russia and China, just ahead of Canada.<sup>[159]</sup>



A composite satellite image of the contiguous United States

The coastal plain of the Atlantic seaboard gives way further inland to deciduous forests and the rolling hills of the Piedmont. The Appalachian Mountains divide the eastern seaboard from the Great Lakes and the grasslands of the Midwest. The Mississippi–Missouri River, the world's fourth longest river system, runs mainly north–south through the heart of the country. The flat, fertile prairie of the Great Plains stretches to the west, interrupted by a highland region in the southeast.

The Rocky Mountains, at the western edge of the Great Plains, extend north to south across the country, reaching altitudes higher than 14,000 feet (4,300 m) in Colorado. Farther west are the rocky Great Basin and deserts such as the Chihuahuas and Mojave. The Sierra Nevada and Cascade mountain ranges run close to the Pacific coast, both ranges reaching altitudes higher than 14,000 feet (4,300 m). The lowest and highest points in the continental United States are in the state of California, and only about 80 miles (130 km) apart. At 20,320 feet (6,194 m), Alaska's Mount McKinley is the tallest peak in the country and in North America. Active volcanoes are common throughout Alaska's Alexander and Aleutian Islands, and Hawaii consists of volcanic islands. The supervolcano underlying Yellowstone National Park in the Rockies is the continent's largest volcanic feature.<sup>[160]</sup>

The United States, with its large size and geographic variety, includes most climate types. To the east of the 100th meridian, the climate ranges from humid continental in the north to humid

subtropical in the south. The southern tip of Florida is tropical, as is Hawaii. The Great Plains west of the 100th meridian are semi-arid. Much of the Western mountains are alpine. The climate is arid in the Great Basin, desert in the Southwest, Mediterranean in coastal California, and oceanic in coastal Oregon and Washington and southern Alaska. Most of Alaska is subarctic or polar. Extreme weather is not uncommon—the states bordering the Gulf of Mexico are prone to hurricanes, and most of the world's tornadoes occur within the country, mainly in the Midwest's Tornado Alley.<sup>[161]</sup>

The U.S. ecology is considered "megadiverse": about 17,000 species of vascular plants occur in the contiguous United States and Alaska, and over 1,800 species of flowering plants are found in Hawaii, few of which occur on the mainland.<sup>[162]</sup> The United States is home to more than 400 mammal, 750 bird, and 500 reptile and amphibian species.<sup>[163]</sup> About 91,000 insect species have been described.<sup>[164]</sup>



A Bald Eagle, the national bird of the United States since 1782.

There are 58 national parks and hundreds of other federally managed parks, forests, and wilderness areas.<sup>[165]</sup> Altogether, the government owns 28.8% of the country's land area.<sup>[166]</sup> Most of this is protected, though some is leased for oil and gas drilling, mining, logging, or cattle ranching; 2.4% is used for military purposes.<sup>[166][167][168]</sup>

## Environmental issues

*Main articles: Environmental issues in the United States and Conservation movement#United States*

Environmental issues have been on the national agenda since 1970. Environmental controversies include debates on oil and nuclear energy, dealing with air and water pollution, the economic costs of protecting wildlife, logging and deforestation,<sup>[169][170]</sup> and international responses to global warming.<sup>[171][172]</sup> Many federal and state agencies are involved. The most prominent is the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), created by presidential order in 1970.<sup>[173]</sup> The idea of wilderness has shaped the management of public lands since 1964, with the Wilderness Act.<sup>[174]</sup> The Endangered Species Act of 1973 protects threatened and endangered species and their habitats, which are monitored by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

## Demographics

*Main articles: Demographics of the United States, Americans, and List of United States cities by population*

## Population



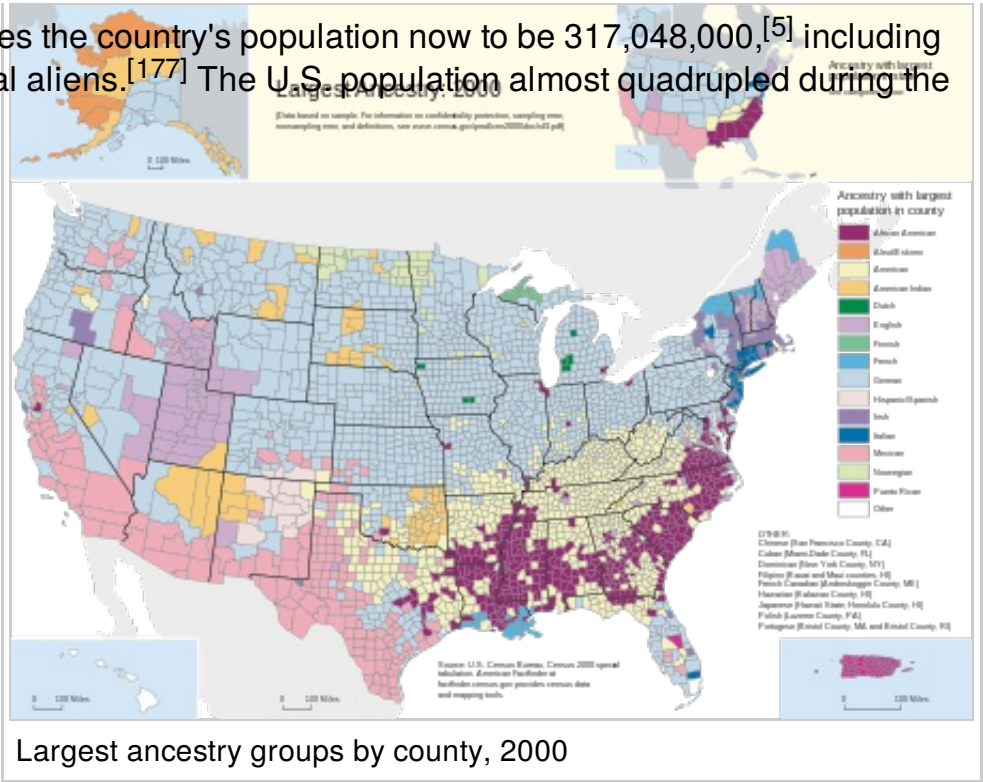
The U.S. Census Bureau estimates the country's population now to be 317,048,000,<sup>[5]</sup> including an approximate 11.2 million illegal aliens.<sup>[177]</sup> The U.S. population almost quadrupled during the

20th century, from about 76 million in 1900.<sup>[178]</sup> The third most populous nation in the world, after China and India, the United States is the only major industrialized nation in which large population increases are projected.<sup>[179]</sup>

With a birth rate of 13 per 1,000, 35% below the world average, its population growth rate is positive at 0.9%, significantly higher than those of many developed nations.<sup>[180]</sup> In fiscal year 2012, over one million immigrants (most of whom entered through family reunification) were granted legal residence.<sup>[181]</sup> Mexico has been the leading source of new residents for over two decades; since 1998, China, India, and the Philippines have been in the top four sending countries every year.<sup>[182][183]</sup> 9 million Americans identify as homosexual, bisexual or transgender, making up less than four percent of the population.<sup>[184]</sup> A 2010 survey found that seven percent of men and eight percent of women identified as gay, lesbian or bisexual.<sup>[185]</sup>

The United States has a very diverse population—31 ancestry groups have more than one million members.<sup>[186]</sup> White Americans are the largest racial group; German Americans, Irish Americans, and English Americans constitute three of the country's four largest ancestry groups.<sup>[186]</sup> Black Americans are the nation's largest racial minority and third largest ancestry group.<sup>[186]</sup> Asian Americans are the country's second largest racial minority; the three largest Asian American ethnic groups are Chinese Americans, Filipino Americans, and Indian Americans.<sup>[186]</sup>

In 2010, the U.S. population included an estimated 5.2 million people with some American Indian or Alaska Native ancestry (2.9 million exclusively of such ancestry) and 1.2 million with some native Hawaiian or Pacific island ancestry (0.5 million exclusively).<sup>[187]</sup> The census counted more than 19 million people of "Some Other Race" who were "unable to identify with any" of its five official race categories in 2010.<sup>[187]</sup>



Race/Ethnicity	
(as given by the 2010 Census) <sup>[175]</sup>	
By race:	
White	72.4%
African American	12.6%
Asian	4.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.9%
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	0.2%
Other	6.2%
Multiracial (2 or more)	2.9%
By ethnicity: <sup>[176]</sup>	
Hispanic/Latino (of any race)	16.3%
Non-Hispanic/Latino (of any race)	83.7%



The population growth of Hispanic and Latino Americans (the terms are officially interchangeable) is a major demographic trend. The 50.5 million Americans of Hispanic descent<sup>[187]</sup> are identified as sharing a distinct "ethnicity" by the Census Bureau; 64% of Hispanic Americans are of Mexican descent.<sup>[188]</sup> Between 2000 and 2010, the country's Hispanic population increased 43% while the non-Hispanic population rose just 4.9%.<sup>[175]</sup> Much of this growth is from immigration; in 2007, 12.6% of the U.S. population was foreign-born, with 54% of that figure born in Latin America.<sup>[189]</sup>

Fertility is also a factor; in 2010 the average Hispanic (of any race) woman gave birth to 2.35 children in her lifetime, compared to 1.97 for non-Hispanic black women and 1.79 for non-Hispanic white women (both below the replacement rate of 2.1).<sup>[190]</sup> Minorities (as defined by the Census Bureau as all those beside non-Hispanic, non-multiracial whites) constituted 36.3% of the population in 2010,<sup>[191]</sup> and over 50% of children under age one,<sup>[192]</sup> and are projected to constitute the majority by 2042.<sup>[193]</sup> This contradicts the report by the National Vital Statistics Reports, based on the U.S. census data, which concludes that, 54% (2,162,406 out of 3,999,386 in 2010) of births were non-Hispanic white.<sup>[190]</sup>

About 82% of Americans live in urban areas (including suburbs);<sup>[4]</sup> about half of those reside in cities with populations over 50,000.<sup>[194]</sup> In 2008, 273 incorporated places had populations over 100,000, nine cities had more than one million residents, and four global cities had over two million (New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Houston).<sup>[195]</sup>

There are 52 metropolitan areas with populations greater than one million.<sup>[196]</sup> Of the 50 fastest-growing metro areas, 47 are in the West or South.<sup>[197]</sup> The metro areas of Dallas, Houston, Atlanta, and Phoenix all grew by more than a million people between 2000 and 2008.<sup>[196]</sup>

[.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Template:Largest\\_Metropolitan\\_Areas\\_of\\_the\\_United\\_States&action=edit](http://wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Template:Largest_Metropolitan_Areas_of_the_United_States&action=edit))



New York City



Los Angeles



Chicago



ation estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau<sup>[199]</sup>

## Language

*Main article: Languages of the United States*

*See also: Language Spoken at Home and List of endangered languages in the United States*

**Languages spoken by more than 500,000 in the United States<sup>[200]</sup>**

<b>Language</b> (as of 2010)	<b>Percentage of population</b>	<b>Number of speakers</b>
English	80.38%	233,780,338
<i>Combined total of all languages other than English</i>	<i>19.62%</i>	<i>57,048,617</i>
Spanish (excluding Puerto Rico's total and Spanish Creole)	12.19%	35,437,985
Chinese (including Cantonese and Mandarin)	0.89%	2,567,779
Tagalog	0.53%	1,542,118
Vietnamese	0.44%	1,292,448
French	0.44%	1,288,833
Korean	0.38%	1,108,408
German	0.38%	1,107,869
Russian	0.29%	836,171
Arabic	0.26%	764,753
Italian	0.26%	764,326
Portuguese (excluding Portuguese Creole)	0.24%	684,493
French Creole (including Haitian Creole, Louisiana Creole, etc.)	0.23%	663,828
Polish	0.21%	604,234
Hindi	0.20%	586,173

English (American English) is the de facto national language. Although there is no official language at the federal level, some laws—such as U.S. naturalization requirements—standardize English. In 2010, about 230 million, or 80% of the population aged five years and older, spoke only English at home. Spanish, spoken by 12% of the population at home, is the second most common language and the most widely taught second language.<sup>[201][202]</sup> Some Americans advocate making English the country's official language, as it is in at least 28 states.<sup>[9]</sup>

Both Hawaiian and English are official languages in Hawaii, by state law.<sup>[203]</sup> While neither has an official language, New Mexico has laws providing for the use of both English and Spanish, as Louisiana does for English and French.<sup>[204]</sup> Other states, such as California, mandate the publication of Spanish versions of certain government documents including court forms.<sup>[205]</sup> Many jurisdictions with large numbers of non-English speakers produce government materials, especially voting information, in the most commonly spoken languages in those jurisdictions.

Several insular territories grant official recognition to their native languages, along with English: Samoan and Chamorro are recognized by American Samoa and Guam, respectively; Carolinian



and Chamorro are recognized by the Northern Mariana Islands; Spanish is an official language of Puerto Rico and is more widely spoken than English there.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

## Religion

*Main article: Religion in the United States*

*See also: History of religion in the United States, Freedom of religion in the United States, Separation of church and state in the United States, and List of religious movements that began in the United States*

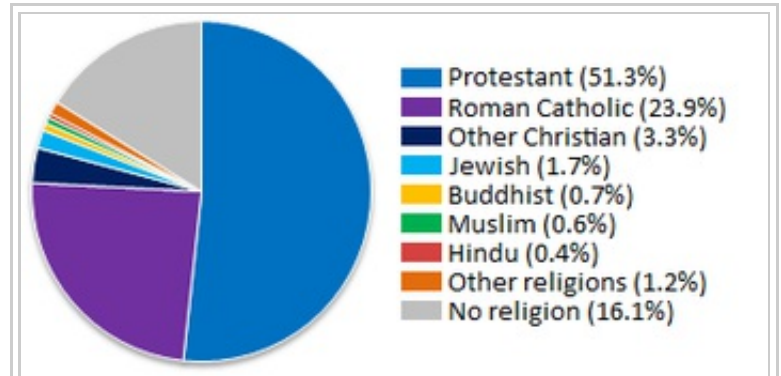
The First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guarantees the free exercise of religion and forbids Congress from passing laws respecting its establishment. Christianity is by far the most common religion practiced in the U.S., but other religions are followed, too.

In a 2002 study, 59% of Americans said that religion played a "very important role in their lives", a far higher figure than that of any other wealthy nation.<sup>[206]</sup>

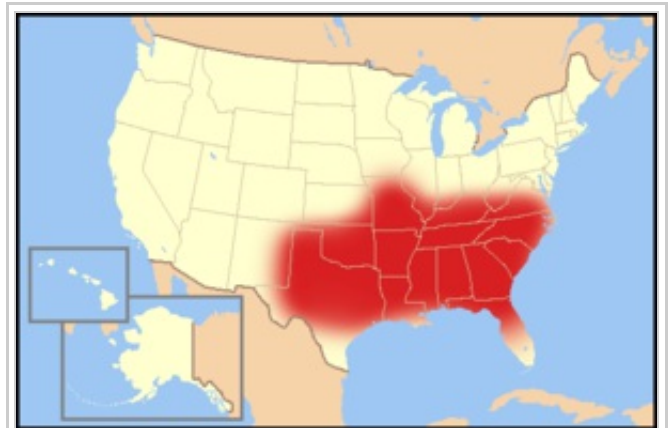
In a 2009 Gallup poll, 42% of Americans said that they attended church weekly or almost weekly; the figures ranged from a low of 23% in Vermont to a high of 63% in Mississippi.<sup>[207]</sup>

According to a 2007 survey, 78.4% of adults identified themselves as Christian,<sup>[208]</sup> down from 86.4% in 1990.<sup>[209]</sup> Protestant denominations accounted for 51.3%, while Roman Catholicism, at 23.9%, was the largest individual denomination.<sup>[208]</sup> The total reporting non-Christian religions in 2007 was 4.7%, up from 3.3% in 1990.<sup>[209]</sup> Other religions include Judaism (1.7%), Buddhism (0.7%), Islam (0.6%), Hinduism (0.4%), and Unitarian Universalism (0.3%).<sup>[208]</sup> The survey also reported that 16.1% of Americans described themselves as agnostic, atheist, or simply having no religion, up from 8.2% in 1990.<sup>[208][209][210]</sup> There are also Baha'i, Sikh, Jain, Shinto, Confucian, Taoist, Druid, Native American, Wiccan, humanist and deist communities.<sup>[211]</sup>

Protestantism is the largest group of religions in the United States, with Baptists being the largest Protestant sect, and the Southern Baptist Convention being the largest Protestant denomination in the U.S. Roman Catholicism in the U.S. has its origin in the Spanish and French colonization of the Americas, and later grew due to Irish, Italian, Polish, German and Hispanic immigration. Rhode Island is the only state where the majority of the population is Catholic. Lutheranism in the U.S.



A pie chart of religious groups in the U.S. (2007)



The area roughly considered to constitute the Bible Belt

has its origin in immigration from Northern Europe. North and South Dakota are the only states in which a plurality of the population is Lutheran. Utah is the only state where Mormonism is the religion of the majority of the population. Mormonism is also relatively common in parts of Idaho, Nevada and Wyoming.

The Bible Belt is an informal term for a region in the Southern United States in which socially conservative evangelical Protestantism is a significant part of the culture and Christian church attendance across the denominations is generally higher than the nation's average. By contrast, religion plays the least important role in New England and in the Western United States.<sup>[207]</sup>

As with other Western countries, the U.S. is becoming less religious. Irreligion is growing rapidly among Americans under 30.<sup>[212]</sup> Polls show that overall American confidence in organized religion is declining,<sup>[213]</sup> and that younger Americans in particular are becoming increasingly irreligious.<sup>[214]</sup>

## Family structure

*Main article: Family structure in the United States*

In 2007, 58% of Americans age 18 and over were married, 6% were widowed, 10% were divorced, and 25% had never been married.<sup>[215]</sup> Women now work mostly outside the home and receive a majority of bachelor's degrees.<sup>[216]</sup>

The U.S. teenage pregnancy rate, 79.8 per 1,000 women, is the highest among OECD nations.<sup>[217]</sup> Between 2007 and 2010, the highest teenage birth rate was in Mississippi, and the lowest in New Hampshire.<sup>[218]</sup> Abortion is legal throughout the U.S., owing to *Roe v. Wade*, a 1973 landmark decision by the United States Supreme Court. While the abortion rate is falling, the abortion ratio of 241 per 1,000 live births and abortion rate of 15 per 1,000 women aged 15–44 remain higher than those of most Western nations.<sup>[219]</sup> In 2011, the average age at first birth was 25.6 and 40.7% of births were to unmarried women.<sup>[220]</sup> The total fertility rate (TFR) was estimated for 2013 at 2.06 births per woman.<sup>[221]</sup>

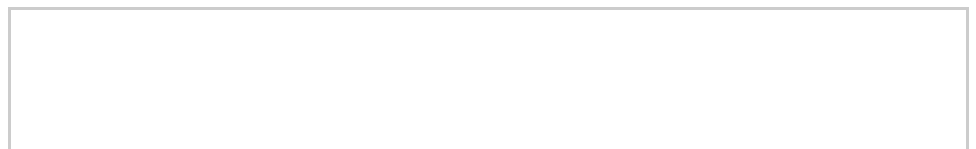
Adoption in the United States is common and relatively easy from a legal point of view (compared to other Western countries).<sup>[222]</sup> In 2001, with over 127,000 adoptions, the U.S. accounted for nearly half of the total number of adoptions worldwide.<sup>[223]</sup>

Same-sex marriage is legally recognized in 14 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.<sup>[224]</sup>

## Government and politics

*Main articles: Federal government of the United States, state governments of the United States, and elections in the United States*

The United States is the world's oldest surviving federation. It is a constitutional



republic and representative democracy, "in which majority rule is tempered by minority rights protected by law".<sup>[225]</sup>

The government is regulated by a system of checks and balances defined by the U.S. Constitution, which serves as the country's supreme legal document.<sup>[226]</sup> For 2012, the US ranked 21st on the Democracy Index<sup>[227]</sup> and 19th on the Corruption Perceptions Index.<sup>[228]</sup>

In the American federalist system, citizens are usually subject to three levels of government: federal, state, and local. The local government's duties are commonly split between county and municipal governments. In almost all cases, executive and legislative officials are elected by a plurality vote of citizens by district. There is no proportional representation at the federal level, and it is very rare at lower levels.

The federal government is composed of three branches:

- **Legislative:** The bicameral Congress, made up of the Senate and the House of Representatives, makes federal law, declares war, approves treaties, has the power of the purse,<sup>[229]</sup> and has the power of impeachment, by which it can remove sitting members of the government.<sup>[230]</sup>
- **Executive:** The president is the commander-in-chief of the military, can veto legislative bills before they become law (subject to Congressional override), and appoints the members of the Cabinet (subject to Senate approval) and other officers, who administer and enforce federal laws and policies.<sup>[231]</sup>
- **Judicial:** The Supreme Court and lower federal courts, whose judges are appointed by the president with Senate approval, interpret laws and overturn those they find unconstitutional.

The House of Representatives has 435 voting members, each representing a congressional district for a two-year term. House seats are apportioned among the states by population every tenth year. At the 2010 census, seven states had the minimum of one representative, while California, the most populous state, had 53.<sup>[232]</sup>

The Senate has 100 members with each state having two senators, elected at-large to six-year terms; one third of Senate seats are up for election every other year. The president serves a four-



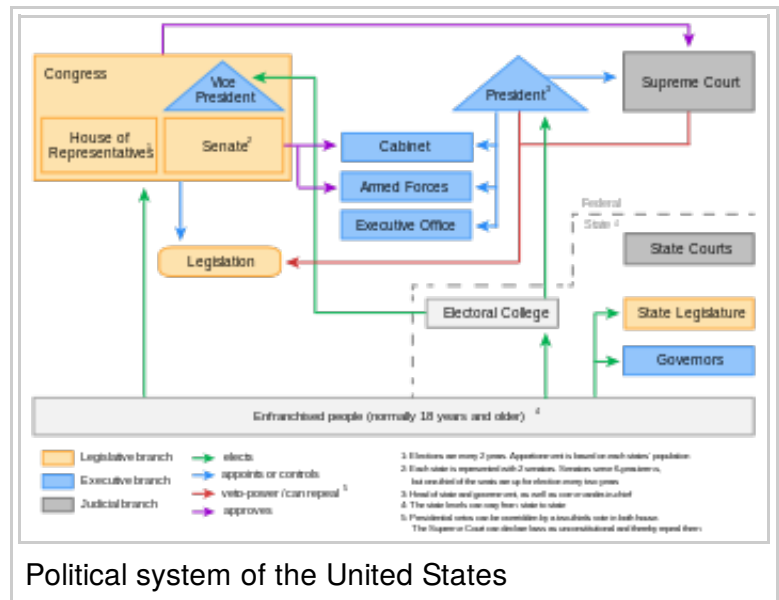
U.S. Capitol seats the Congress:  
the Senate, left; the House, right



The White House used by the U.S. President



Supreme Court and offices for nine Justices



year term and may be elected to the office no more than twice. The president is not elected by direct vote, but by an indirect electoral college system in which the determining votes are apportioned to the states and the District of Columbia.<sup>[233]</sup> The Supreme Court, led by the Chief Justice of the United States, has nine members, who serve for life.<sup>[234]</sup>

The state governments are structured in roughly similar fashion; Nebraska uniquely has a unicameral legislature.<sup>[235]</sup> The governor (chief executive) of each state is directly elected. Some state judges and cabinet officers are appointed by the governors of the respective states, while others are elected by popular vote.

The original text of the Constitution establishes the structure and responsibilities of the federal government and its relationship with the individual states. Article One protects the right to the "great writ" of habeas corpus, The Constitution has been amended 27 times;<sup>[236]</sup> the first 10 amendments, which make up the Bill of Rights, and the Fourteenth Amendment form the central basis of Americans' individual rights. All laws and governmental procedures are subject to judicial review and any law ruled by the courts to be in violation of the Constitution is voided. The principle of judicial review, not explicitly mentioned in the Constitution, was established by the Supreme Court in *Marbury v. Madison* (1803)<sup>[237]</sup> in a decision handed down by Chief Justice John Marshall.<sup>[238]</sup>

## Political divisions

*Main articles: Political divisions of the United States, U.S. state, Territories of the United States, and List of states and territories of the United States*

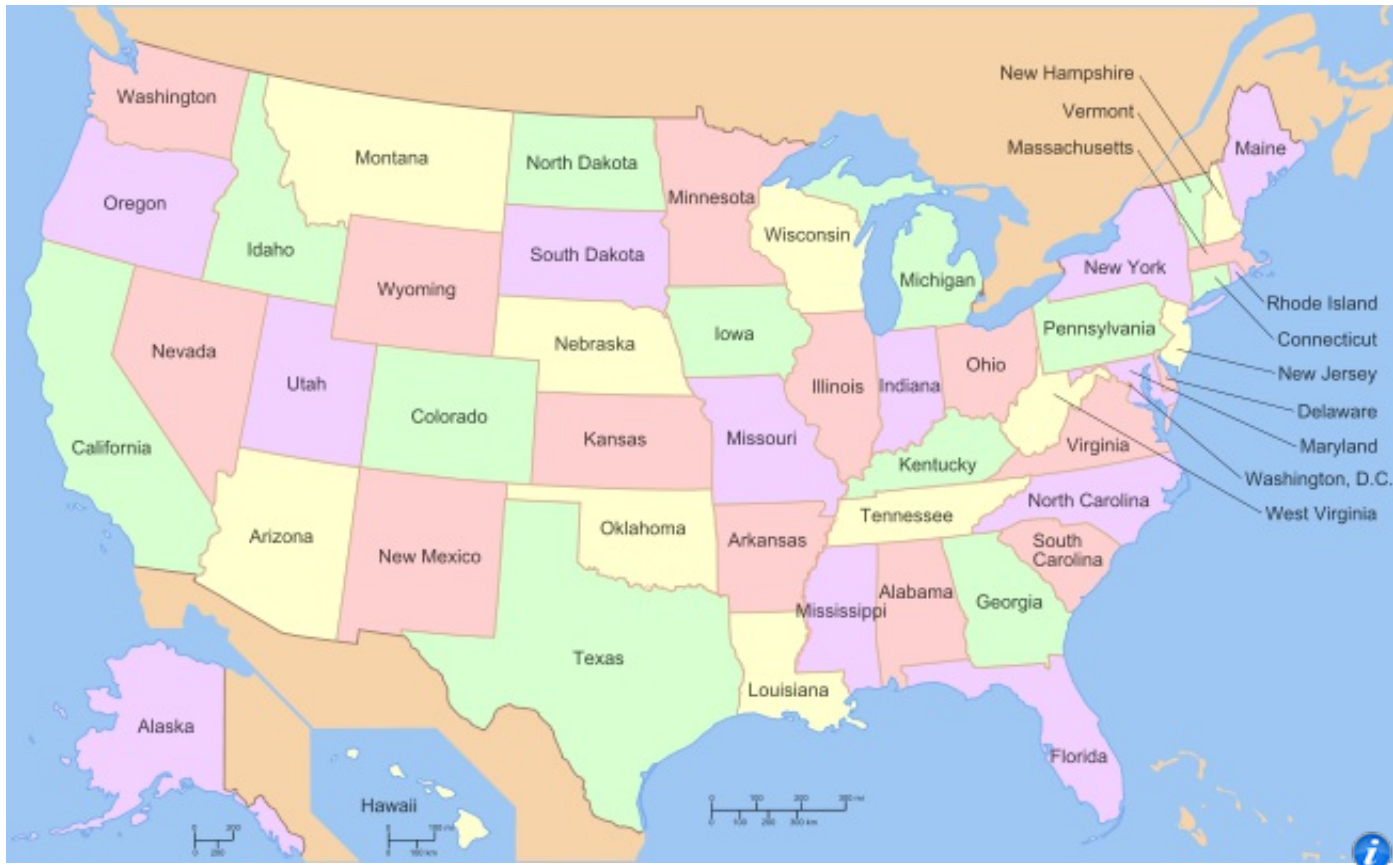
*Further information: Territorial evolution of the United States and United States territorial acquisitions*

The United States is a federal union of 50 states. The original 13 states were the successors of the 13 colonies that rebelled against British rule. Early in the country's history, three new states were organized on territory separated from the claims of the existing states: Kentucky from Virginia; Tennessee from North Carolina; and Maine from Massachusetts. Most of the other states have been carved from territories obtained through war or purchase by the U.S. government. One set of exceptions includes Vermont, Texas, and Hawaii: each was an independent republic before joining the union. During the American Civil War, West Virginia broke away from Virginia. The most recent state—Hawaii—achieved statehood on August 21, 1959.<sup>[239]</sup> The states do not have the right to unilaterally secede from the union.

The states compose the vast bulk of the U.S. land mass; the two other areas considered integral parts of the country are the District of Columbia, the federal district where the capital, Washington, is located; and Palmyra Atoll, an uninhabited but incorporated territory in the Pacific Ocean. The United States also possesses five major overseas territories: Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands in the Caribbean; and American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands in the Pacific.<sup>[240]</sup> Those born in the major territories are birthright U.S. citizens except Samoans. Samoans born in American Samoa are born U.S. nationals, and may become naturalized citizens.<sup>[241]</sup> American citizens residing in the territories have fundamental constitutional protections and elective self-government, with a territorial Member of Congress, but they do not

vote for president as states. Territories have personal and business tax regimes different from that of states.<sup>[242]</sup>

The United States also observes tribal sovereignty of the Native Nations. Though reservations are within state borders, the reservation is a sovereign. While the United States recognizes this sovereignty, other countries may not.<sup>[243]</sup>



## Parties and elections

*Main articles: Politics of the United States and Political ideologies in the United States*

The United States has operated under a two-party system for most of its history.<sup>[244]</sup> For elective offices at most levels, state-administered primary elections choose the major party nominees for subsequent general elections. Since the general election of 1856, the major parties have been the Democratic Party, founded in 1824, and the Republican Party, founded in 1854. Since the Civil War, only one third-party presidential candidate—former president Theodore Roosevelt, running as a Progressive in 1912—has won as much as 20% of the popular vote. The third-largest political party is the Libertarian Party.

Within American political culture, the Republican Party is considered center-right or conservative and the Democratic



(from left to right) House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, House Speaker John Boehner, President Barack Obama, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid,



Party is considered center-left or liberal.<sup>[245]</sup> The states of the Northeast and West Coast and some of the Great Lakes states, known as "blue states", are relatively liberal. The "red states" of the South and parts of the Great Plains and Rocky Mountains are relatively conservative.

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell at the White House in 2011

The winner of the 2008 presidential election and the 2012 presidential election, Democrat Barack Obama, is the 44th U.S. president.

In the 113th United States Congress, the House of Representatives is controlled by the Republican Party, while the Democratic Party has control of the Senate. The Senate currently consists of 52 Democrats, two independents who caucus with the Democrats, and 46 Republicans; the House consists of 234 Republicans and 201 Democrats.<sup>[246]</sup> There are 30 Republican and 20 Democratic state governors.<sup>[247]</sup>

Since the founding of the United States until 2000s, the country's governance has been primarily dominated by White Anglo-Saxon Protestants (WASPs). However, the situation has changed recently and of the top 17 positions (four national candidates of the two major party in the 2012 U.S. presidential election, four leaders in 112th United States Congress, and nine Supreme Court Justices) there is only one WASP.<sup>[248][249][250]</sup>

## Foreign relations

*Main articles: Foreign relations of the United States and Foreign policy of the United States*

*See also: Covert United States foreign regime change actions*

The United States has established foreign relations. It is a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, and New York City hosts the United Nations Headquarters. It is a member of the G8,<sup>[251]</sup> G20, and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Almost all countries have embassies in Washington, D.C., and many have consulates around the country. Likewise, nearly all nations host American diplomatic missions. However, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Bhutan, and the Republic of China (Taiwan) do not have formal diplomatic relations with the United States (although the U.S. still supplies Taiwan with military equipment).



The British Foreign Secretary, William Hague, and the U.S. Secretary of State, John Kerry, June 2013

The United States has a "special relationship" with the United Kingdom<sup>[252]</sup> and strong ties with Canada,<sup>[253]</sup> Australia,<sup>[254]</sup> New Zealand,<sup>[255]</sup> the Philippines,<sup>[256]</sup> Japan,<sup>[257]</sup> South Korea,<sup>[258]</sup> Israel,<sup>[259]</sup> and several European countries such as France and Germany. It works closely with fellow NATO members on military and security issues and with its neighbors through the Organization of American States and free trade agreements such as the trilateral North American Free Trade Agreement with Canada and Mexico. In 2008, the United States spent a net \$25.4 billion on official development assistance, the most in the world. As a share of America's large gross national income (GNI), however, the U.S. contribution of



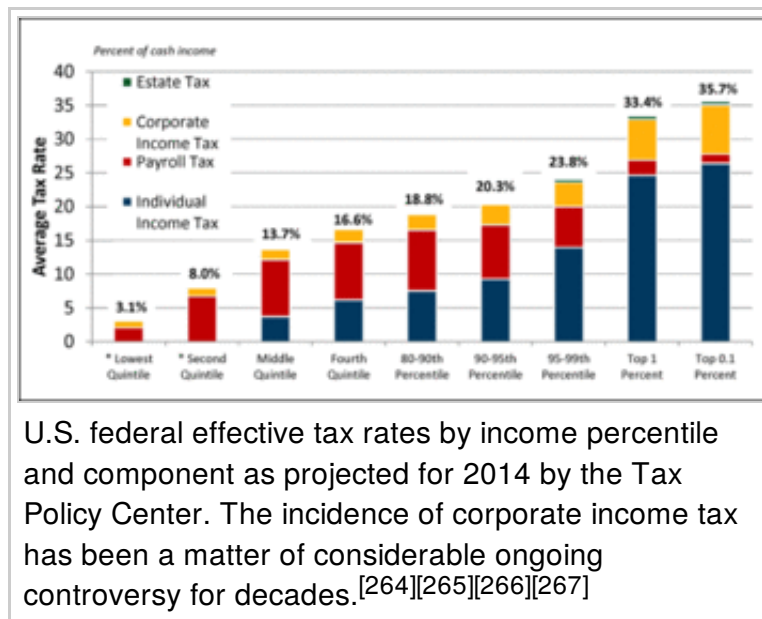
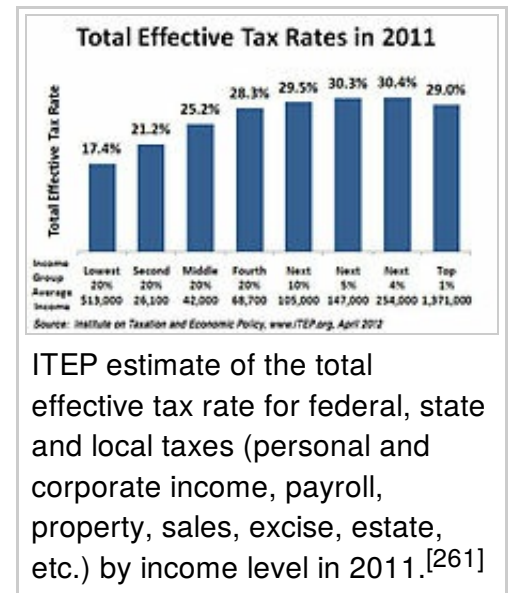
0.18% ranked last among 22 donor states. By contrast, private overseas giving by Americans is relatively generous.<sup>[260]</sup>

The U.S. exercises full international defense authority and responsibility for three sovereign nations through Compact of Free Association with Micronesia, the Marshall Islands and Palau, all of which are Pacific island nations which were part of the U.S.-administered Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands beginning after World War II, and gained independence in subsequent years.

## Government finance

*See also: Taxation in the United States and United States federal budget*

Taxes are levied in the United States at the federal, state and local government level. These include taxes on income, payroll, property, sales, imports, estates and gifts, as well as various fees. In 2010 taxes collected by federal, state and municipal governments amounted to 24.8% of GDP.<sup>[262]</sup> During FY2012, the federal government collected approximately \$2.45 trillion in tax revenue, up \$147 billion or 6% versus FY2011 revenues of \$2.30 trillion. Primary receipt categories included individual income taxes (\$1,132B or 47%), Social Security/Social Insurance taxes (\$845B or 35%), and corporate taxes (\$242B or 10%).<sup>[263]</sup>



U.S. taxation is generally progressive, especially the federal income taxes, and is among the most progressive in the developed world.<sup>[268][269][270][271][272][273]</sup> In 2009 the top 10% of earners, with 36% of the nation's income, paid 78.2% of the federal personal income tax burden, while the bottom 40% had a negative liability.<sup>[272]</sup> However, payroll taxes for Social Security are a flat regressive tax, with no tax charged on income above \$113,700 and no tax at all paid on unearned income from things such as stocks and capital gains.<sup>[274][275]</sup> The historic reasoning for the regressive nature of the payroll tax is that entitlement programs have not been viewed as welfare

transfers.<sup>[276][277]</sup> The top 10% paid 51.8% of total federal taxes in 2009, and the top 1%, with 13.4% of pre-tax national income, paid 22.3% of federal taxes.<sup>[272]</sup> In 2013 the Tax Policy Center projected total federal effective tax rates of 35.5% for the top 1%, 27.2% for the top quintile, 13.8% for the middle quintile, and -2.7% for the bottom quintile.<sup>[278][279]</sup> State and local taxes vary widely, but are generally less progressive than federal taxes as they rely heavily on broadly borne

regressive sales and property taxes that yield less volatile revenue streams, though their consideration does not eliminate the progressive nature of overall taxation.<sup>[270][280]</sup>

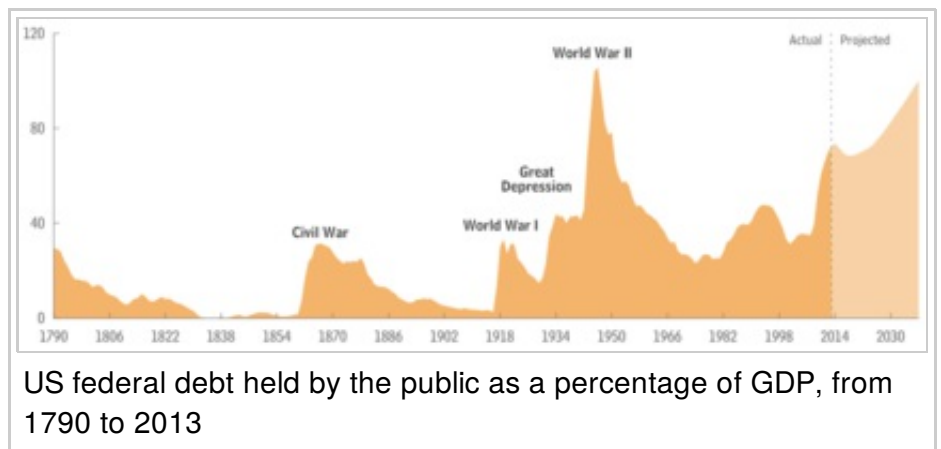
There is disagreement over whether the U.S. tax system has become more or less progressive over the past 50 years.<sup>[281][282]</sup> Federal income tax rates for the top 0.1% of wealthiest taxpayers (highest income earners) have declined by 40 percent, while tax rates for average Americans have remained roughly constant.<sup>[283][284][285]</sup> From 1979 to 2007 the average federal income tax rate fell 110% for the second lowest quintile, 56% for the middle quintile, 39% for the fourth quintile, 8% for the highest quintile, and 15% for the top 1%, with the bottom quintile moving from a tax rate of zero to negative liability. Despite this, individual income tax revenue only dropped from 8.7 to 8.5% of GDP over that time, and total federal revenue was 18.5% of GDP in both 1979 and 2007, above the postwar average of 18%.<sup>[282]</sup> Tax code changes have dropped millions of lower earning people from the federal income tax rolls in recent decades. Those with zero or negative liability who were not claimed as dependents by a payer increased from 14.8% of the population in 1984 to 49.5% in 2009.<sup>[286][287]</sup> The federal income tax is the largest source of federal revenue and accounts for 27% of total government taxation in the United States.<sup>[288][289][290]</sup> When one looks beyond federal taxes to total taxation, progressivity declines, though there's disagreement about how much flattening of tax rates there is.<sup>[280][291][292][293]</sup>

During FY 2012, the federal government spent \$3.54 trillion on a budget or cash basis, down \$60 billion or 1.7% vs. FY 2011 spending of \$3.60 trillion. Major categories of FY 2012 spending included: Medicare & Medicaid (\$802B or 23% of spending), Social Security (\$768B or 22%), Defense Department (\$670B or 19%), non-defense discretionary (\$615B or 17%), other mandatory (\$461B or 13%) and interest (\$223B or 6%).<sup>[263]</sup>

## Public debt

*Main article: National debt of the United States*

In March 2013, U.S. federal government debt held by the public was approximately \$11.888 trillion, or about 75% of U.S. GDP. Intra-governmental holdings stood at \$4.861 trillion, giving a combined total debt of \$16.749 trillion.<sup>[294][295]</sup> By 2012, total federal debt had surpassed 100% of U.S. GDP.<sup>[296]</sup> The U.S. has a credit rating of AA+ from Standard & Poor's, AAA from Fitch, and Aaa from Moody's.<sup>[297]</sup>



Historically, the U.S. public debt as a share of GDP increased during wars and recessions, and subsequently declined. For example, debt held by the public as a share of GDP peaked just after World War II (113% of GDP in 1945), but then fell over the following 30 years. In recent decades, large budget deficits and the resulting increases in debt have led to concern about the long-term sustainability of the federal government's fiscal policies.<sup>[298]</sup> However, these concerns are not

universally shared.<sup>[299]</sup>

## Military

*Main article: United States Armed Forces*

The president holds the title of commander-in-chief of the nation's armed forces and appoints its leaders, the Secretary of Defense and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The United States Department of Defense administers the armed forces, including the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force. The Coast Guard is run by the Department of Homeland Security in peacetime and the Department of the Navy in time of war. In 2008, the armed forces had 1.4 million personnel on active duty. The Reserves and National Guard brought the total number of troops to 2.3 million. The Department of Defense also employed about 700,000 civilians, not including contractors.<sup>[300]</sup>

Military service is voluntary, though conscription may occur in wartime through the Selective Service System.<sup>[301]</sup> American forces can be rapidly deployed by the Air Force's large fleet of transport aircraft, the Navy's 11 active aircraft carriers, and Marine Expeditionary Units at sea with the Navy's Atlantic and Pacific fleets. The military operates 865 bases and facilities abroad,<sup>[302]</sup> and maintains deployments greater than 100 active duty personnel in 25 foreign countries.<sup>[303]</sup> The extent of this global military presence has prompted some scholars to describe the United States as maintaining an "empire of bases".<sup>[304]</sup>

Total U.S. military spending in 2011, more than \$700 billion, was 41% of global military spending and equal to the next 14 largest national military expenditures combined. At 4.7% of GDP, the rate was the second-highest among the top 15 military spenders, after Saudi Arabia.<sup>[305]</sup> U.S. defense spending as a percentage of GDP ranked 23rd globally in 2012 according to the CIA.<sup>[306]</sup> Defense's share of U.S. spending has generally declined in recent decades, from Cold War peaks of 14.2% of GDP in 1953 and 69.5% of federal outlays in 1954 to 4.7% of GDP and 18.8% of federal outlays in 2011.<sup>[307]</sup>

The proposed base Department of Defense budget for 2012, \$553 billion, was a 4.2% increase over 2011; an additional \$118 billion was proposed for the military campaigns in Iraq and Afghanistan.<sup>[308]</sup> The last American troops serving in Iraq departed in December 2011;<sup>[309]</sup> 4,484 servicemen were killed during the Iraq War.<sup>[310]</sup> Approximately 90,000 U.S. troops were serving in Afghanistan in April 2012;<sup>[311]</sup> by November 8th 2013 2,285 had been killed during the War in Afghanistan.<sup>[312]</sup>



The carrier strike groups of the *Kitty Hawk*, *Ronald Reagan*, and *Abraham Lincoln* with aircraft from the Marine Corps, Navy, and Air Force.

## Crime and law enforcement

*Main articles: Law enforcement in the United States and Crime in the United States*

*See also: Law of the United States, Capital punishment in the United States, and Second Amendment to the United States Constitution*

Law enforcement in the United States is primarily the responsibility of local police and sheriff's departments, with state police providing broader services. Federal agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the U.S. Marshals Service have specialized duties.<sup>[314]</sup> At the federal level and in almost every state, jurisprudence operates on a common law system. State courts conduct most criminal trials; federal courts handle certain designated crimes as well as certain appeals from the state criminal courts. Plea bargaining in the United States is very common; the vast majority of criminal cases in the country are settled by plea bargain rather than jury trial.<sup>[315][316]</sup> Federal law prohibits a variety of drugs, although states sometimes pass laws in conflict with federal regulations.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>



Law enforcement in the U.S. is maintained primarily by local police departments. The New York City Police Department (NYPD) is the largest in the country.<sup>[313]</sup>

In 2011, there were 4.7 murders per 100,000 persons in 2011 in the United States, 14.5% fewer than in 2000 (5.5), and 19.0% fewer since a recent peak of 5.8 in 2006.<sup>[317][318]</sup> Among developed nations, the United States has above-average levels of violent crime and particularly high levels of gun violence and homicide.<sup>[319]</sup> In 2009, the United States had a homicide rate that was more than double the Canadian rate and more than quadruple the homicide rates of Australia, France, Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom.<sup>[320]</sup> A cross-sectional analysis of the World Health Organization Mortality Database from 2003 showed that United States "homicide rates were 6.9 times higher than rates in the other high-income countries, driven by firearm homicide rates that were 19.5 times higher."<sup>[321]</sup>

According to statistics compiled by the FBI in 2012, the South was the most violent region in the United States, accounting for 40.9% of all reported violent crimes. Tennessee was the state with the most reports of violent crimes per capita in 2012.<sup>[322][323]</sup> Southern states also are a significant source of guns that are used to commit crimes in other states.<sup>[324]</sup> Gun ownership rights continue to be the subject of contentious political debate.

Capital punishment is sanctioned in the United States for certain federal and military crimes, and used in 32 states.<sup>[325]</sup> While there are 32 states which include capital punishment within their sentencing statutes, some states (such as New Hampshire and Kansas) have yet to execute anyone since 1976, as demonstrated by the lack of any executions by these states out of the 1,317 total executions which had taken place by December 5, 2012.<sup>[326]</sup> No executions took place from 1967 to 1977, owing in part to a U.S. Supreme Court ruling striking down arbitrary imposition of the death penalty. In 1976, that Court ruled that, under appropriate circumstances, capital punishment may constitutionally be imposed; since the decision there have been more than 1,300 executions, a majority of these taking place in three states: Texas, Virginia, and Oklahoma.<sup>[327]</sup> Five state legislatures in the modern era have abolished the death penalty, though two of those laws (in New Mexico and Connecticut) were not retroactive. Additionally, state courts in Massachusetts and New York struck down death penalty statutes and their legislatures took no action in response. In 2010, the country had the fifth highest number of executions in the world, following China, Iran, North



Korea, and Yemen.<sup>[328]</sup>

The United States has the highest documented incarceration rate and total prison population in the world.<sup>[329][330]</sup> At the start of 2008, more than 2.3 million people were incarcerated, more than one in every 100 adults.<sup>[331]</sup> The prison population has quadrupled since 1980,<sup>[332]</sup> and is over three times the figure in Poland, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) country with the next highest rate.<sup>[333]</sup> African-American males are jailed at about six times the rate of white males and three times the rate of Hispanic males.<sup>[334]</sup> The country's high rate of incarceration is largely due to changes in sentencing guidelines and drug policies.<sup>[335]</sup> In 2008, Louisiana had the highest incarceration rate, and Maine the lowest.<sup>[336]</sup> Despite Louisiana having the highest number of its citizens imprisoned, the FBI's crime report for 2012 listed the state as having the highest rate of murders and nonnegligent manslaughters in the United States.<sup>[337]</sup>

## Economy

*Main article: Economy of the United States*

The United States has a capitalist mixed economy, which is fueled by abundant natural resources, a well-developed infrastructure, and high productivity.<sup>[347]</sup> According to the International Monetary Fund, the U.S. GDP of \$15.1 trillion constitutes 22% of the gross world product at market exchange rates and over 19% of the gross world product at purchasing power parity (PPP).<sup>[6]</sup> Though larger than any other nation's, its national GDP was about 5% smaller at PPP in 2011 than the European Union's, whose population is around 62% higher.<sup>[348]</sup> The country ranks ninth in the world in nominal GDP per capita and sixth in GDP per capita at PPP.<sup>[6]</sup> The U.S. dollar is the world's primary reserve currency.<sup>[349]</sup>

The United States is the largest importer of goods and second largest exporter, though exports per capita are relatively low. In 2010, the total U.S. trade deficit was \$635 billion.<sup>[350]</sup> Canada, China, Mexico, Japan, and Germany are its top trading partners.<sup>[351]</sup> In 2010, oil was the largest import commodity, while transportation equipment was the country's largest export.<sup>[350]</sup> China is the largest foreign holder of U.S. public debt.<sup>[352]</sup>

In 2009, the private sector was estimated to constitute 86.4% of the economy, with federal government activity accounting for 4.3% and state and local government activity (including federal transfers) the remaining 9.3%.<sup>[354]</sup> While its economy has reached a postindustrial level of development and its service sector constitutes 67.8% of GDP, the United States remains an

### Economic indicators

Nominal GDP	15.984 trillion (Q1 2013)	<sup>[338]</sup>
Real GDP growth	1.7% (Q2 2013, annualized)	
	2.2% (2012)	<sup>[339]</sup>
CPI inflation	2.0% (February 2012 – February 2013)	<sup>[340]</sup>
Employment-to-population ratio	58.5% (March 2013)	<sup>[341]</sup>
Unemployment	7.4% (July 2013)	<sup>[342]</sup>
Labor force participation rate	63.3% (March 2013)	<sup>[343]</sup>
Poverty	15.1% (2010)	<sup>[344]</sup>
Public debt	\$16.433 trillion (Q4 2012)	<sup>[345]</sup>
Household net worth	\$58.5 trillion (Q4 2011)	<sup>[346]</sup>

industrial power.<sup>[355]</sup> The leading business field by gross business receipts is wholesale and retail trade; by net income it is manufacturing.<sup>[356]</sup>

Chemical products are the leading manufacturing field.<sup>[357]</sup> The United States is the third largest producer of oil in the world, as well as its largest importer.<sup>[358]</sup> It is the world's number one producer of electrical and nuclear energy, as well as liquid natural gas, sulfur, phosphates, and salt. While agriculture accounts for just under 1% of GDP,<sup>[355]</sup> the United States is the world's top producer of corn<sup>[359]</sup> and soybeans.<sup>[360]</sup> The National Agricultural Statistics Service maintains agricultural statistics (<http://www.usda.gov/nass/PUBS/TODAYRPT/pnpr3713.txt>) for products that include; peanuts, Oats, Rye, Wheat, Rice, Cotton, corn, barley, hay, sunflowers, and oilseeds. In addition, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides livestock statistics ([http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=ANIMAL\\_PRODUCTION](http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=ANIMAL_PRODUCTION)) regarding beef, poultry, pork, along with dairy products. The National Mining Association provides data pertaining to coal and minerals that include; beryllium, copper, lead, magnesium, zinc, titanium and others.<sup>[361][362]</sup> In the franchising business model, McDonald's and Subway are the two most recognized brands in the world. Coca-Cola is the most recognized soft drink company in the world.<sup>[363]</sup>



The New York Stock Exchange on Wall Street, the world's largest stock exchange per total market capitalization of its listed companies.<sup>[353]</sup>

Consumer spending comprises 71% of the U.S. economy in 2013.<sup>[364]</sup> In August 2010, the American labor force consisted of 154.1 million people. With 21.2 million people, government is the leading field of employment. The largest private employment sector is health care and social assistance, with 16.4 million people. About 12% of workers are unionized, compared to 30% in Western Europe.<sup>[365]</sup> The World Bank ranks the United States first in the ease of hiring and firing workers.<sup>[366]</sup> The United States is the only advanced economy that that does not guarantee its workers paid vacation<sup>[367]</sup> and is one of just a few countries in the world without paid family leave as a legal right, with the others being Papua New Guinea, Suriname and Liberia.<sup>[368]</sup> In 2009, the United States had the third highest labor productivity per person in the world, behind Luxembourg and Norway. It was fourth in productivity per hour, behind those two countries and the Netherlands.<sup>[369]</sup>

The 2008-2012 global recession had a significant impact on the United States. For example, persistent high unemployment remains, along with low consumer confidence, the continuing decline in home values and increase in foreclosures and personal bankruptcies, an escalating federal debt crisis, inflation, and rising petroleum and food prices. In fact, a 2011 poll found that more than half of all Americans think the U.S. is still in recession or even depression, despite official data that shows a historically modest recovery.<sup>[370]</sup>

## **Income, poverty, and wealth**

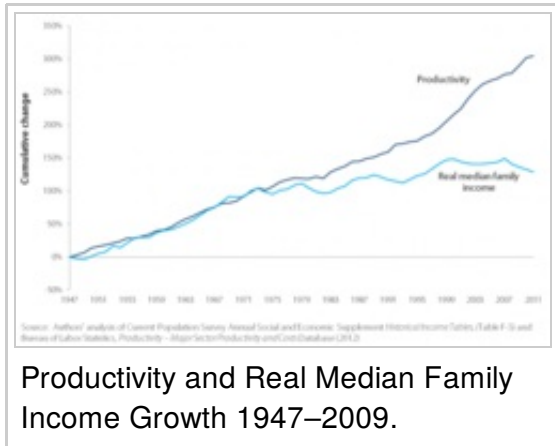
*Main articles: Income in the United States, Poverty in the United States, and Wealth in the United States*



*See also: Income inequality in the United States and Affluence in the United States*

Americans have the highest average household and employee income among OECD nations, and in 2007 had the second highest median household income.<sup>[22][371]</sup> According to the Census Bureau real median household income was \$50,502 in 2011, down from \$51,144 in 2010.<sup>[372]</sup> The Global Food Security Index ranked the U.S. number one for food affordability and overall food security in March 2013.<sup>[373]</sup> Americans on average have over twice as much living space per dwelling and per person as Europeans, and more than every European nation.<sup>[374]</sup>

The U.S. economy is currently embroiled in the economic downturn which followed the financial crisis of 2007–2008, with output still below potential according to the CBO<sup>[375]</sup> and unemployment still above historic trends.<sup>[376]</sup> From 1983 to 2008, U.S. real compounded annual GDP growth was 3.3%, compared to a 2.3% weighted average for the rest of the G7.<sup>[377]</sup> In 2013 the United Nations Development Programme ranked the United States 16th among 132 countries on its inequality-adjusted human development index (IHDI), 13 places lower than in the standard HDI.<sup>[378]</sup>



In February 2013, the unemployment rate was 7.7%, or 12.0 million people, while the government's broader U-6 unemployment rate, which includes the part-time underemployed, was 14.3%, or 22.2 million. With a record proportion of long-term unemployed, continued decreasing household income, tax rises, and new federal budget cuts, the U.S. economy remained in a jobless recovery.<sup>[379][380]</sup> Half of the U.S. population lives in poverty or has a low income, according to U.S. census data.<sup>[381]</sup> The rise in the share of total annual income received by the top 1 percent, which has more than doubled from 9 percent in 1976 to 20 percent in 2011, has had a significant impact on income

inequality,<sup>[382]</sup> leaving the United States with one of the widest income distributions among OECD nations.<sup>[383][384]</sup> The post-recession income gains have been very uneven, with the top 1 percent capturing 95 percent of the income gains from 2009 to 2012.<sup>[385]</sup> Over the last two decades income inequality has been increasing to the point of becoming permanent, reducing social mobility in the US.<sup>[386]</sup> According to a survey by the Associated Press, four out of five U.S. adults struggle with joblessness, near-poverty or reliance on welfare for at least parts of their lives.<sup>[387]</sup>

There has been a widening gap between productivity and median incomes since the 1970s.<sup>[388]</sup> While inflation-adjusted ("real") household income had been increasing almost every year from 1947 to 1999, it has since been flat and even decreased recently.<sup>[389]</sup>

Poverty in the U.S. has been increasing as median incomes have declined. Median income has now fallen for five consecutive years.<sup>[390]</sup> The population in very low-income neighborhoods rose by one-third from 2000 to 2009.<sup>[391]</sup> People living in such neighborhoods tend to suffer from inadequate access to quality education; higher crime rates; higher rates of physical and psychological ailment; limited access to credit and wealth accumulation; higher prices for goods and services; and constrained access to job opportunities.<sup>[391][392]</sup> In 2013, 44% of America's poor are considered to be in "deep poverty," with an income 50% or more below the government's official poverty line.<sup>[393]</sup> Extreme poverty in the United States, meaning households living on less

than \$2 per day before government benefits, doubled from 1996 levels to 1.5 million households in 2011, including 2.8 million children.<sup>[394]</sup> There were about 643,000 sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons in the U.S. in January 2009. Almost two-thirds stayed in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program and the other third were living on the street, in an abandoned building, or another place not meant for human habitation. About 1.56 million people, or about 0.5% of the U.S. population, used an emergency shelter or a transitional housing program between October 1, 2008, and September 30, 2009.<sup>[395]</sup> In 2011 16.7 million children lived in food-insecure households, about 35% more than 2007 levels, though only 1.1% of U.S. children, or 845,000, saw reduced food intake or disrupted eating patterns at some point during the year, and most cases weren't chronic.<sup>[396]</sup>



A tract housing development in San Jose, California

Wealth, like income and taxes, is highly concentrated: The richest 10% of the adult population possesses 69.8% of the country's household wealth, the second-highest share among developed nations.<sup>[397]</sup> Between June 2007 and November 2008 the global recession led to falling asset prices around the world. Assets owned by Americans lost about a quarter of their value.<sup>[398]</sup> Since peaking in the second quarter of 2007, household wealth is down \$14 trillion.<sup>[399]</sup> At the end of 2008, household debt amounted to \$13.8 trillion.<sup>[400]</sup>

## Infrastructure

### Transportation

*Main article: Transportation in the United States*

Personal transportation is dominated by automobiles, which operate on a network of 13 million roads, including one of the world's longest highway systems.<sup>[402]</sup> The world's second largest automobile market,<sup>[403]</sup> the United States has the highest rate of per-capita vehicle ownership in the world, with 765 vehicles per 1,000 Americans.<sup>[404]</sup> About 40% of personal vehicles are vans, SUVs, or light trucks.<sup>[405]</sup> The average American adult (accounting for all drivers and non-drivers) spends 55 minutes driving every day, traveling 29 miles (47 km).<sup>[406]</sup>



The Interstate Highway System, which extends 46,876 miles (75,440 km)<sup>[401]</sup>

Mass transit accounts for 9% of total U.S. work trips.<sup>[407][408]</sup> While transport of goods by rail is extensive, relatively few people use rail to travel,<sup>[409]</sup> though ridership on Amtrak, the national intercity passenger rail system, grew by almost 37% between 2000 and 2010.<sup>[410]</sup> Also, light rail development has increased in recent years.<sup>[411]</sup> Bicycle usage for work commutes is minimal.<sup>[412]</sup>

The civil airline industry is entirely privately owned and has been largely deregulated since 1978, while most major airports are publicly owned. The three largest airlines in the world by passengers carried are U.S.-based; American Airlines is number one after its 2013 acquisition of US Airways.<sup>[413]</sup> Of the world's 30 busiest passenger airports, 16 are in the United States, including the busiest, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.<sup>[414]</sup>

*Further information: List of airlines of the United States*

## Energy

*See also: Energy policy of the United States*

The United States energy market is 29,000 terawatt hours per year. Energy consumption per capita is 7.8 tons of oil equivalent per year, the 10th highest rate in the world. In 2005, 40% of this energy came from petroleum, 23% from coal, and 22% from natural gas. The remainder was supplied by nuclear power and renewable energy sources.<sup>[415]</sup> The United States is the world's largest consumer of petroleum.<sup>[416]</sup>

For decades, nuclear power has played a limited role relative to many other developed countries, in part because of public perception in the wake of a 1979 accident. In 2007, several applications for new nuclear plants were filed.<sup>[417]</sup> The United States has 27% of global coal reserves.<sup>[418]</sup> It is the world's largest producer of natural gas and crude oil.<sup>[419]</sup>

## Science and technology

*Main article: Science and technology in the United States*

*See also: Technological and industrial history of the United States*

The United States has been a leader in scientific research and technological innovation since the late 19th century. In 1876, Alexander Graham Bell was awarded the first U.S. patent for the telephone. Thomas Edison's laboratory developed the phonograph, the first long-lasting light bulb, and the first viable movie camera.<sup>[420]</sup> In the early 20th century, the automobile companies of Ransom E. Olds and Henry Ford popularized the assembly line. The Wright brothers, in 1903, made the first sustained and controlled heavier-than-air powered flight.<sup>[421]</sup>

The rise of Nazism in the 1930s led many European scientists, including Albert Einstein, Enrico Fermi, and John von Neumann, to immigrate to the United States. During World War II, the Manhattan Project developed nuclear weapons, ushering in the Atomic Age. The Space Race produced rapid advances in rocketry, materials science, and computers. Advancements by American microprocessor companies such as Advanced Micro Devices (AMD), and Intel along with both computer software and hardware companies that include; Sun Microsystems, IBM, GNU-Linux, Apple Computer, and Microsoft



Neil Armstrong was the first person to walk on the Moon.

refined and popularized the personal computer.

The United States government largely developed the Defense Department's ARPANET and its successor, the Internet. Today, 64% of research and development funding comes from the private sector.<sup>[422]</sup> The United States leads the world in scientific research papers and impact factor.<sup>[423]</sup> As of April 2010, 77% of American households owned at least one computer, and 68% had broadband Internet service.<sup>[424]</sup> 85% of Americans also own a mobile phone as of 2011.<sup>[425]</sup> The country is the primary developer and grower of genetically modified food, representing half of the world's biotech crops.<sup>[426]</sup>

## Education

*Main article: Education in the United States*

*See also: Educational attainment in the United States and Higher education in the United States*

American public education is operated by state and local governments, regulated by the United States Department of Education through restrictions on federal grants. In most states, children are required to attend school from the age of six or seven (generally, kindergarten or first grade) until they turn 18 (generally bringing them through twelfth grade, the end of high school); some states allow students to leave school at 16 or 17.<sup>[428]</sup> About 12% of children are enrolled in parochial or nonsectarian private schools. Just over 2% of children are homeschooled.<sup>[429]</sup> The US spends more on education per student than any nation in the world.<sup>[430]</sup>

The United States has many competitive private and public institutions of higher education. According to prominent international rankings, 13 or 15 American colleges and universities are ranked among the top 20 in the world.<sup>[431][432]</sup> There are also local community colleges with generally more open admission policies, shorter academic programs, and lower tuition. Of Americans 25 and older, 84.6% graduated from high school, 52.6% attended some college, 27.2% earned a bachelor's degree, and 9.6% earned graduate degrees.<sup>[433]</sup> The basic literacy rate is approximately 99%.<sup>[4][434]</sup> The United Nations assigns the United States an Education Index of 0.97, tying it for 12th in the world.<sup>[435]</sup>

As for public expenditures on higher education, the U.S. trails some other OECD nations but spends more per student than the OECD average, and more than all nations in combined public and private spending.<sup>[430][436]</sup> As of 2012, student loan debt exceeded one trillion dollars, more than Americans owe on credit cards.<sup>[437]</sup>



Some 80% of U.S. college students attend public universities such as the University of Virginia, founded by Thomas Jefferson<sup>[427]</sup>

## Health



*See also: Health care in the United States, Health care reform in the United States, and Health insurance in the United States*

The United States has life expectancy of 78.4 years at birth, up from 75.2 years in 1990, ranks it 50th among 221 nations, and 27th out of the 34 industrialized OECD countries, down from 20th in 1990.<sup>[438][439]</sup> Increasing obesity in the United States and health improvements elsewhere have contributed to lowering the country's rank in life expectancy from 1987, when it was 11th in the world.<sup>[440]</sup> Obesity rates in the United States are among the highest in the world.<sup>[441]</sup> Approximately one-third of the adult population is obese and an additional third is overweight;<sup>[442]</sup> the obesity rate, the highest in the industrialized world, has more than doubled in the last quarter-century.<sup>[443]</sup> Obesity-related type 2 diabetes is considered epidemic by health care professionals.<sup>[444]</sup> The infant mortality rate of 6.06 per thousand places the United States 176th highest out of 222 countries.<sup>[445]</sup>



The Texas Medical Center in Houston is the world's largest medical center.

In 2010, coronary artery disease, lung cancer, stroke, chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases, and traffic accidents caused the most years of life lost in the U.S. Low back pain, depression, musculoskeletal disorders, neck pain, and anxiety caused the most years lost to disability. The most deleterious risk factors were poor diet, tobacco smoking, obesity, high blood pressure, high blood sugar, physical inactivity, and alcohol use. Alzheimer's disease, drug abuse, kidney disease and cancer, and falls caused the most additional years of life lost over their age-adjusted 1990 per-capita rates.<sup>[439]</sup> U.S. teenage pregnancy and abortion rates are substantially higher than in other Western nations, particularly among blacks and Hispanics.<sup>[446]</sup> In 2010, the maternal mortality rate was 21 deaths/100,000 live births, the U.S. occupying the 136th place among world countries (first place being the highest mortality rate – Chad in 2010). The maternal mortality rate in the U.S. is higher than in most Western countries.<sup>[447]</sup>

The U.S. is a global leader in medical innovation. America solely developed or contributed significantly to 9 of the top 10 most important medical innovations since 1975 as ranked by a 2001 poll of physicians, while the EU and Switzerland together contributed to five. Since 1966, Americans have received more Nobel Prizes in Medicine than the rest of the world combined. From 1989 to 2002, four times more money was invested in private biotechnology companies in America than in Europe.<sup>[448][449]</sup> A comprehensive 2007 study by European doctors found the five-year cancer survival rate was significantly higher in the U.S. than in all 21 European nations studied, 66.3% for men versus the European mean of 47.3% and 62.9% versus 52.8% for women.<sup>[450][451]</sup> Americans undergo cancer screenings at significantly higher rates than people in other developed countries, and access MRI and CT scans at the highest rate of any OECD nation.<sup>[452]</sup> People in the U.S. diagnosed with high cholesterol or hypertension access pharmaceutical treatments at higher rates than those diagnosed in other developed nations, and are more likely to successfully control the conditions.<sup>[453][454]</sup> Diabetics are more likely to receive treatment and meet treatment targets in the U.S. than in Canada, England, or Scotland.<sup>[455][456]</sup>

The U.S. health-care system far outspends any other nations, measured in both per capita



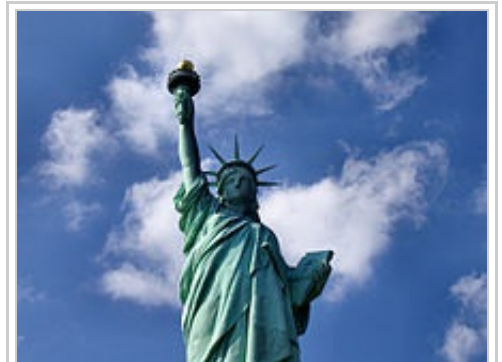
spending and percentage of GDP.<sup>[457]</sup> In 2008, the U.S. spent more on health care per capita (\$7,146), and as percentage of GDP (15.2%), than any other nation. Health-care coverage in the United States is a combination of public and private efforts, and is not universal as in all other developed countries. In 2004, private insurance paid for 36% of personal health expenditures, private out-of-pocket payments covered 15%, and federal, state, and local governments paid for 44%.<sup>[458]</sup> In 2010, 49.9 million residents or 16.3% of the population did not carry health insurance. The main cause of this rise is the drop in the number of Americans with employer-sponsored health insurance.<sup>[459]</sup> The subject of uninsured and underinsured Americans is a major political issue.<sup>[460][461]</sup> In 2006, Massachusetts became the first state to mandate universal health insurance.<sup>[462]</sup> In 2007, 62.1% of filers for bankruptcy blamed medical expenses. About 25% of all senior citizens declare bankruptcy because of medical expenses, and 43% are forced to mortgage or sell their primary residence.<sup>[463]</sup> Federal legislation passed in early 2010 would ostensibly create a near-universal health insurance system around the country by 2014, though the bill and its ultimate impact are issues of controversy.<sup>[464][465]</sup>

## Culture

*Main article: Culture of the United States*

*See also: Social class in the United States, Public holidays in the United States, and Tourism in the United States*

The United States is home to a multiple array of cultures and a wide variety of ethnic groups, traditions, and values.<sup>[12][467]</sup> Aside from the relatively small Native American and Native Hawaiian populations, nearly all Americans or their ancestors settled or immigrated within the past five centuries.<sup>[468]</sup> Mainstream American culture is a Western culture largely derived from the traditions of European immigrants with influences from many other sources, such as traditions brought by slaves from Africa.<sup>[12][469]</sup> More recent immigration from Asia and especially Latin America has added to a cultural mix that has been described as both a homogenizing melting pot, and a heterogeneous salad bowl in which immigrants and their descendants retain distinctive cultural characteristics.<sup>[12]</sup>



The Statue of Liberty in New York City is a symbol of both the U.S. and ideals of freedom, democracy, and opportunity.<sup>[466]</sup>

Core American culture was established by Protestant British colonists and shaped by the frontier settlement process, with the traits derived passed down to descendants and transmitted to immigrants through assimilation. Americans have traditionally been characterized by a strong work ethic, competitiveness, and individualism, as well as a unifying belief in an "American Creed" emphasizing liberty, equality, private property, democracy, rule of law, and a preference for limited government.<sup>[470]</sup> Americans are extremely charitable by global standards. According to a 2006 British study, Americans gave 1.67% of GDP to charity, more than any other nation studied, more than twice the second place British figure of 0.73%, and around twelve times the French figure of 0.14%.<sup>[471][472]</sup>

American culture is considered the most individualistic in the world.<sup>[473]</sup> The American Dream, or the perception that Americans enjoy high social mobility, plays a key role in attracting immigrants.<sup>[474]</sup> Social mobility is actually lower than other high-income countries, with the OECD ranking the U.S. 10th behind France, Germany, Canada, Australia, and the Nordic countries,<sup>[474][475][476][477]</sup> This has been partly attributed to the depth of American poverty, which leaves poor children starting especially far behind.<sup>[478]</sup> Such studies are based on relative comparisons within each nation rather than absolute wealth earned throughout one's life, the U.S. having both a more stretched-out income distribution and a higher median income than those nations.<sup>[479]</sup> While the mainstream culture holds that the United States is a classless society,<sup>[480]</sup> scholars identify significant differences between the country's social classes, affecting socialization, language, and values.<sup>[481]</sup>

Americans' self-images, social viewpoints, and cultural expectations are associated with their occupations to an unusually close degree.<sup>[482]</sup> While Americans tend greatly to value socioeconomic achievement, being ordinary or average is generally seen as a positive attribute.<sup>[483]</sup>

## Popular media

*Main articles: Media of the United States, Cinema of the United States, Television in the United States, and Music of the United States*

The world's first commercial motion picture exhibition was given in New York City in 1894, using Thomas Edison's Kinetoscope. The next year saw the first commercial screening of a projected film, also in New York, and the United States was in the forefront of sound film's development in the following decades. Since the early 20th century, the U.S. film industry has largely been based in and around Hollywood, California.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

Director D. W. Griffith was central to the development of film grammar and Orson Welles's *Citizen Kane* (1941) is frequently cited as the greatest film of all time.<sup>[484][485]</sup> American screen actors like John Wayne and Marilyn Monroe have become iconic figures, while producer/entrepreneur Walt Disney was a leader in both animated film and movie merchandising. Hollywood is also one of the leaders in motion picture production.<sup>[486]</sup>

In 1938, Superman, the quintessential comic book superhero of DC Comics, developed into an American icon.<sup>[487]</sup> Additional comic book publishers include; Marvel Comics, created in 1939, Image Comics, created in 1992, Dark Horse Comics, created in 1986, and numerous small press comic book companies. In celebration of the industry's success, annual comic conventions take place at The San Diego Comic-Con International, which has an attendance of over 130,000 visitors.

Americans are the heaviest television viewers in the world,<sup>[488]</sup> and the average viewing time



The Hollywood Sign in Los Angeles, California, a symbol of the American film industry

continues to rise, reaching five hours a day in 2006.<sup>[489]</sup> The four major broadcast television networks are all commercial entities. Americans listen to radio programming, also largely commercial, on average just over two-and-a-half hours a day.<sup>[490]</sup> Aside from web portals and search engines, the most popular websites are Facebook, YouTube, Wikipedia, Blogger, eBay, and Craigslist.<sup>[491]</sup> The rhythmic and lyrical styles of African-American music have deeply influenced American music at large, distinguishing it from European traditions. Elements from folk idioms such as the blues and what is now known as old-time music were adopted and transformed into popular genres with global audiences. Jazz was developed by innovators such as Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington early in the 20th century. Country music developed in the 1920s, and rhythm and blues in the 1940s.<sup>[492]</sup> Elvis Presley and Chuck Berry were among the mid-1950s pioneers of rock and roll. In the 1960s, Bob Dylan emerged from the folk revival to become one of America's most celebrated songwriters and James Brown led the development of funk. More recent American creations include hip hop and house music. American pop stars such as Presley, Michael Jackson, and Madonna have become global celebrities.<sup>[492]</sup>

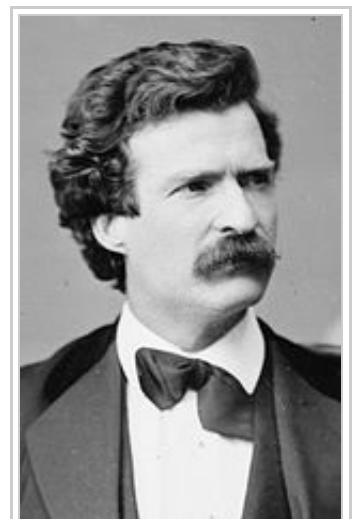
## Literature, philosophy, and the arts

*Main articles: American literature, American philosophy, Visual art of the United States, and American classical music*

In the 18th and early 19th centuries, American art and literature took most of its cues from Europe. Writers such as Nathaniel Hawthorne, Edgar Allan Poe, and Henry David Thoreau established a distinctive American literary voice by the middle of the 19th century. Mark Twain and poet Walt Whitman were major figures in the century's second half; Emily Dickinson, virtually unknown during her lifetime, is now recognized as an essential American poet.<sup>[493]</sup> A work seen as capturing fundamental aspects of the national experience and character—such as Herman Melville's *Moby-Dick* (1851), Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1885), and F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* (1925)—may be dubbed the "Great American Novel".<sup>[494]</sup>

Eleven U.S. citizens have won the Nobel Prize in Literature, most recently Toni Morrison in 1993. William Faulkner and Ernest Hemingway are often named among the most influential writers of the 20th century.<sup>[495]</sup> Popular literary genres such as the Western and hardboiled crime fiction developed in the United States. The Beat Generation writers opened up new literary approaches, as have postmodernist authors such as John Barth, Thomas Pynchon, and Don DeLillo.

The transcendentalists, led by Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson, established the first major American philosophical movement. After the Civil War, Charles Sanders Peirce and then William James and John Dewey were leaders in the development of pragmatism. In the 20th century, the work of W. V. O. Quine and Richard Rorty, and later Noam Chomsky, brought analytic philosophy to the fore of American philosophical academia. John Rawls and Robert Nozick led a revival of political philosophy. Cornel West and Judith Butler have led a continental tradition in American philosophical academia. Globally influential Chicago school economists like Milton Friedman, James M.



Mark Twain, famous American author and humorist.

Buchanan, and Thomas Sowell have transcended discipline to impact various fields in social and political philosophy.<sup>[496][497]</sup>

In the visual arts, the Hudson River School was a mid-19th-century movement in the tradition of European naturalism. The realist paintings of Thomas Eakins are now widely celebrated. The 1913 Armory Show in New York City, an exhibition of European modernist art, shocked the public and transformed the U.S. art scene.<sup>[498]</sup> Georgia O'Keeffe, Marsden Hartley, and others experimented with new, individualistic styles. Major artistic movements such as the abstract expressionism of Jackson Pollock and Willem de Kooning and the pop art of Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein developed largely in the United States. The tide of modernism and then postmodernism has brought fame to American architects such as Frank Lloyd Wright, Philip Johnson, and Frank Gehry.

One of the first major promoters of American theater was impresario P. T. Barnum, who began operating a lower Manhattan entertainment complex in 1841. The team of Harrigan and Hart produced a series of popular musical comedies in New York starting in the late 1870s. In the 20th century, the modern musical form emerged on Broadway; the songs of musical theater composers such as Irving Berlin, Cole Porter, and Stephen Sondheim have become pop standards. Playwright Eugene O'Neill won the Nobel literature prize in 1936; other acclaimed U.S. dramatists include multiple Pulitzer Prize winners Tennessee Williams, Edward Albee, and August Wilson.



Times Square in New York City, the hub of the Broadway Theater District.

Though little known at the time, Charles Ives's work of the 1910s established him as the first major U.S. composer in the classical tradition, while experimentalists such as Henry Cowell and John Cage created a distinctive American approach to classical composition. Aaron Copland and George Gershwin developed a new synthesis of popular and classical music. Choreographers Isadora Duncan and Martha Graham helped create modern dance, while George Balanchine and Jerome Robbins were leaders in 20th-century ballet. Americans have long been important in the modern artistic medium of photography, with major photographers including Alfred Stieglitz, Edward Steichen, and Ansel Adams. The newspaper comic strip and the comic book are both U.S. innovations.

## Food

*Main article: Cuisine of the United States*

Mainstream American cuisine is similar to that in other Western countries. Wheat is the primary cereal grain. Traditional American cuisine uses indigenous ingredients, such as turkey, venison, potatoes, sweet potatoes, corn, squash, and maple syrup, which were consumed by Native Americans and early European settlers.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

Slow-cooked pork and beef barbecue, crab cakes, potato





chips, and chocolate chip cookies are distinctively American foods. Soul food, developed by African slaves, is popular around the South and among many African Americans elsewhere. Syncretic cuisines such as Louisiana Creole, Cajun, and Tex-Mex are regionally important. The confectionery industry in the United States includes The Hershey Company, the largest chocolate manufacturer in North America. In addition, Frito-Lay, a subsidiary of PepsiCo, is the largest globally distributed snack food company in the world. The United States has a vast Breakfast cereal industry that includes brands such as Kellogg's and General Mills.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

An apple pie, surrounded by some other icons of American culture.

Characteristic dishes such as apple pie, fried chicken, pizza, hamburgers, and hot dogs derive from the recipes of various immigrants. French fries, Mexican dishes such as burritos and tacos, and pasta dishes freely adapted from Italian sources are widely consumed.<sup>[499]</sup> Americans generally prefer coffee to tea. Marketing by U.S. industries is largely responsible for making orange juice and milk ubiquitous breakfast beverages.<sup>[500][501]</sup>

The American fast food industry, the world's largest, pioneered the drive-through format in the 1930s. Fast food consumption has sparked health concerns. During the 1980s and 1990s, Americans' caloric intake rose 24%;<sup>[499]</sup> frequent dining at fast food outlets is associated with what public health officials call the American "obesity epidemic".<sup>[502]</sup> Highly sweetened soft drinks are widely popular, and sugared beverages account for nine percent of American caloric intake.<sup>[503]</sup>

## Sports

*Main article: Sports in the United States*

The market for professional sports in the United States is roughly \$69 billion, roughly 50% larger than that of all of Europe, the Middle East, and Africa combined.<sup>[504]</sup> Baseball has been regarded as the national sport since the late 19th century, while American football is now by several measures the most popular spectator sport.<sup>[505]</sup> Basketball and ice hockey are the country's next two leading professional team sports. These four major sports, when played professionally, each occupy a season at different, but overlapping, times of the year. College football and basketball attract large audiences. Boxing and horse racing were once the most watched individual sports,<sup>[506]</sup> but they have been eclipsed by golf and auto racing, particularly NASCAR. In the 21st century, televised mixed martial arts has also gained a strong following of regular viewers.<sup>[507][508]</sup> While soccer is much less popular in the United States than in many other nations, it is played widely at the youth and amateur levels; even so, the men's team has been to the past six World Cups and the women are #1 in the women's world rankings. Tennis and many outdoor sports are popular as well.




Swimmer Michael Phelps is the most decorated Olympic athlete of all time.

While most major U.S. sports have evolved out of European practices, basketball, volleyball, skateboarding, snowboarding, and cheerleading are American inventions, which have become popular in other countries. Lacrosse and surfing arose from Native American



and Native Hawaiian activities that predate Western contact. Eight Olympic Games have taken place in the United States. The United States has won 2,301 medals at the Summer Olympic Games, more than any other country,<sup>[509]</sup> and 253 in the Winter Olympic Games, the second most by 2006.<sup>[510]</sup>

## See also

- Index of United States-related articles
- Outline of the United States
- List of United States cities by population
- List of metropolitan areas of the United States
- List of official United States national symbols
-  United States at Wikipedia books

## References

- ↑ 36 U.S.C. § 302 (<http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/36/302.html>) *National motto*
- ↑ Simonson, 2010
- ↑ Dept. of Treasury, 2011
- ↑ ***a b c d*** "United States" (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/us.html>). *The World Factbook*. CIA. September 30, 2009. Retrieved January 5, 2010 (area given in square kilometers).
- ↑ ***a b*** "U.S. POPClock Projection" (<http://www.census.gov/population/www/popclockus.html>). U.S. Census Bureau. (figure updated automatically).
- ↑ ***a b c d e f g h*** "World Economic Outlook Database: United States" ([http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2013/02/weodata/weorept.aspx?sy=2010&ey=2013&scsm=1&ssd=1&sort=country&ds=.&br=1&pr1.x=72&pr1.y=17&c=111&s=NGDPD%2CNGDPDPC%2CPPPGDP%2CPPPPC%2CPPPSH%2CLP&grp=0&a=](http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2013/02/weodata/weorept.aspx?sy=2010&ey=2013&scsm=1&ssd=1&sort=country&ds=.&br=1&pr1.x=72&pr1.y=17&c=111&s=NGDPD%2CNGDPDPC%2CPPPGDP%2CPPPPC%2CPPPSH%2CLP&grp=0&a=))). International Monetary Fund. November 2013. Retrieved November 5, 2013.
- ↑ "Income, Poverty and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2011" ([http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/income\\_wealth/cb12-172.html](http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/income_wealth/cb12-172.html)). *Newsroom*. United States Census Bureau. September 12, 2012. Retrieved January 23, 2013.
- ↑ "Human Development Report 2013" ([http://hdr.undp.org/en/media/HDR2013\\_EN\\_Complete.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/en/media/HDR2013_EN_Complete.pdf)). United Nations Development Programme. March 14, 2013. Retrieved March 14, 2013.
- ↑ ***a b*** Feder, Jody (January 25, 2007). "English as the Official Language of the United States: Legal Background and Analysis of Legislation in the 110th Congress" (<http://www.ilw.com/immigrationdaily/news/2007,0515-crs.pdf>). Ilw.com (Congressional Research Service). Retrieved June 19, 2007.
- ↑ *The New York Times Guide to Essential Knowledge, Second Edition: A Desk Reference for the Curious Mind*. St. Martin's Press. 2007. p. 632. ISBN 978-0312376598.
- ↑ Onuf, Peter S. (1983). *The Origins of the Federal Republic: Jurisdictional Controversies in the United States, 1775–1787*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. ISBN 978-0812211672.

12. ^ **a b c d** Adams, J.Q.; Strother-Adams, Pearlie (2001). *Dealing with Diversity*. Chicago: Kendall/Hunt. ISBN 0-7872-8145-X.
13. ^ <http://articles.latimes.com/2012/jul/12/science/la-sci-sn-paisley-caves-20120712> LA Times
14. ^ Greene, Jack P.; Pole, J.R., eds. (2008). *A Companion to the American Revolution*. pp. 352–361.
15. ^ Bender, Thomas (2006). *A Nation Among Nations: America's Place in World History* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=wQHlrlz4gpYC&pg=PA61>). New York: Hill & Wang. p. 61. ISBN 9780809072354.
16. ^ **a b** Carlisle, Rodney P.; Golson, J. Geoffrey (2007). *Manifest Destiny and the Expansion of America* (<http://books.google.com/?id=ka6LxulZaEwC&vq=annexation&dq=territorial+expansion+United+States+%22manifest+destiny%22>). Turning Points in History Series. ABC-CLIO. p. 238. ISBN 9781851098330.
17. ^ "The Civil War and emancipation 1861–1865" (<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/aia/part4/4p2967.html>). *Africans in America*. Boston, MA: WGBH. No date. Retrieved March 26, 2013.  
 Britannica Educational Publishing (2009). Wallenfeldt, Jeffrey H., ed. *The American Civil War and Reconstruction: People, Politics, and Power* ([http://books.google.com/?id=T\\_0TrXXiDbUC&dq=slavery+%22American+Civil+War%22](http://books.google.com/?id=T_0TrXXiDbUC&dq=slavery+%22American+Civil+War%22)). America at War. Rosen Publishing Group. p. 264. ISBN 9781615300457.
18. ^ White, Donald W. (1996). "1: The Frontiers" (<http://www.nytimes.com/books/first/w/white-century.html>). *The American Century*. Yale University Press. ISBN 0-300-05721-0. Retrieved March 26, 2013.
19. ^ Maddison, Angus (2006). "Historical Statistics for the World Economy" ([http://www.ggdc.net/maddison/Historical\\_Statistics/horizontal-file\\_09-2008.xls](http://www.ggdc.net/maddison/Historical_Statistics/horizontal-file_09-2008.xls)). The Netherlands: The Groningen Growth and Development Centre, Economics Department of the University of Groningen. Retrieved November 6, 2008.
20. ^ The European Union has a larger collective economy, but is not a single nation.
21. ^ "OECD Better Life Index" (<http://www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org/topics/income/>). OECD Publishing. Retrieved November 25, 2012.
22. ^ **a b** "Household Income" ([http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/society-at-a-glance-2011/household-income\\_soc\\_glance-2011-6-en](http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/society-at-a-glance-2011/household-income_soc_glance-2011-6-en)). *Society at a Glance 2011: OECD Social Indicators*. OECD Publishing. April 12, 2011. doi:10.1787/soc\_glance-2011-6-en ([http://dx.doi.org/10.1787%2Fsoc\\_glance-2011-6-en](http://dx.doi.org/10.1787%2Fsoc_glance-2011-6-en)). Retrieved November 25, 2012.
23. ^ "Crisis squeezes income and puts pressure on inequality and poverty" (<http://www.oecd.org/els/soc/OECD2013-Inequality-and-Poverty-8p.pdf>). OECD (2013). Retrieved July 26, 2013.
24. ^ Income distribution and poverty – OECD (<http://www.oecd-berlin.de/charts/inequality/index.php?cr=oecd&lg=en>). OECD
25. ^ "Census: U.S. Poverty Rate Spikes, Nearly 50 Million Americans Affected" (<http://washington.cbslocal.com/2012/11/15/census-u-s-poverty-rate-spikes-nearly-50-million-americans-affected/>) CBS. November 15, 2012
26. ^ [1] (<http://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/>,2009)
27. ^ "U.S. Workers World's Most Productive" ([http://www.cbsnews.com/2100-500395\\_162-3228735.html](http://www.cbsnews.com/2100-500395_162-3228735.html)). CBS News. February 11, 2009. Retrieved April 23, 2013.
28. ^ "Manufacturing, Jobs and the U.S. Economy" (<http://americanmanufacturing.org/category/issues/jobs->

- and-economy/manufacturing-jobs-and-us-economy). Alliance for American Manufacturing. 2013.
29. ^ "Trends in world military expenditure, 2012" ([http://books.sipri.org/product\\_info?c\\_product\\_id=458](http://books.sipri.org/product_info?c_product_id=458)). Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. April 2013. Retrieved April 15, 2013.
  30. ^ Cohen, 2004:History and the Hyperpower
  31. ^ BBC, April 2008:Country Profile: United States of America
  32. ^ "Cartographer Put 'America' on the Map 500 years Ago" ([http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007-04-24-america-turns-500\\_N.htm?csp=34](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007-04-24-america-turns-500_N.htm?csp=34)). *USA Today* (Washington, D.C.). Associated Press. April 24, 2007. Retrieved November 30, 2008.
  33. ^ DeLear, Byron (July 4, 2013) Who coined 'United States of America'? Mystery might have intriguing answer. (<http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Politics/2013/0704/Who-coined-United-States-of-America-Mystery-might-have-intriguing-answer>) "Historians have long tried to pinpoint exactly when the name 'United States of America' was first used and by whom. A new find suggests the man might have been George Washington himself." *Christian Science Monitor* (Boston, MA).
  34. ^ "To the inhabitants of Virginia," by A PLANTER. Dixon and Hunter's Virginia Gazette #1287 (<http://research.history.org/DigitalLibrary/VirginiaGazette/VGIssueThumbs.cfm?IssueIDNo=76.DH.16>) – April 6, 1776, Williamsburg, Virginia. Letter is also included in Peter Force's *American Archives* Vol. 5
  35. ^ Carter, Rusty (August 18, 2012). "You read it here first" (<http://www.vagazette.com/news/va-vg-usa-first-0818-20120818,0,4983868.story>). *Virginia Gazette*. "He did a search of the archives and found the letter on the front page of the April 6, 1776, edition, published by Hunter & Dixon."
  36. ^ DeLear, Byron (August 16, 2012). "Who coined the name 'United States of America'? Mystery gets new twist." ([http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Politics/The-Vote/2012/0816/Who-coined-the-name-United-States-of-America-Mystery-gets-new-twist#disqus\\_thread](http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Politics/The-Vote/2012/0816/Who-coined-the-name-United-States-of-America-Mystery-gets-new-twist#disqus_thread)) *Christian Science Monitor* (Boston, MA).
  37. ^ Jefferson's "original Rough draught" of the Declaration of Independence (<http://www.princeton.edu/~tjppapers/declaration/declaration.html>)
  38. ^ "The Charters of Freedom" (<http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/charters.html>). National Archives. Retrieved June 20, 2007.
  39. ^ Mary Mostert (2005). *The Threat of Anarchy Leads to the Constitution of the United States* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=jntSQ-yn66AC&pg=PA18>). CTR Publishing, Inc. p. 18. ISBN 9780975385142.
  40. ^ "Get to Know D.C." (<http://www.historydc.org/aboutdc.aspx>). Historical Society of Washington, D.C. Retrieved July 11, 2011.
  41. ^ Wilson, Kenneth G. (1993). *The Columbia Guide to Standard American English*. New York: Columbia University Press, pp. 27–28. ISBN 0-231-06989-8.
  42. ^ Zimmer, Benjamin (November 24, 2005). "Life in These, Uh, This United States" (<http://itre.cis.upenn.edu/~myl/language-log/archives/002663.html>). University of Pennsylvania—Language Log. Retrieved January 5, 2013.
  43. ^ G. H. Emerson, *The Universalist Quarterly and General Review*, Vol. 28 (Jan. 1891), p. 49, quoted in Zimmer paper above.
  44. ^ For example, the U.S. embassy in Spain calls itself the embassy of the "Estados Unidos", literally the words "states" and "united", and also uses the initials "EE.UU.", the doubled letters implying plural use in Spanish [2] (<http://spanish.madrid.usembassy.gov/>) Elsewhere on the site "Estados Unidos de América" is used [3] ([http://spanish.madrid.usembassy.gov/es/educacion/benjamin\\_2013.html](http://spanish.madrid.usembassy.gov/es/educacion/benjamin_2013.html))
  45. ^ "Who was first? New info on North America's earliest residents"

(<http://articles.latimes.com/2012/jul/12/science/la-sci-sn-paisley-caves-20120712>). *Los Angeles Times*. July 12, 2012.

46. ^ Smithsonian, 2004, Human Origins
47. ^ "*The Cambridge encyclopedia of human paleopathology* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=qubTdDk1H3IC&pg=PA205>)". Arthur C. Aufderheide, Conrado Rodríguez-Martín, Odin Langsjoen (1998). Cambridge University Press. p. 205. ISBN 0-521-55203-6
48. ^ Bianchine, Russo, 1992 pp. 225–232
49. ^ Mann, 2005 p. 44
50. ^ Thornton, 1987 p. 49
51. ^ Kessel, 2005 pp. 142–143
52. ^ Mercer Country Historical Society, 2005
53. ^ Juergens, 2011, p. 69
54. ^ Ripper, 2008 p. 6
55. ^ Ripper, 2008 p. 5
56. ^ Calloway, 1998, p. 55
57. ^ Vaughan, 1999, p. 12
58. ^ Ranlet, 1999, pp. 140–141
59. ^ Ranlet, 1999, p. 137
60. ^ *a b* Rausch, 1994, p. 59
61. ^ Sturm, Circe. "Blood Politics, Racial Classification, and Cherokee National Identity: The Trials and Tribulations of the Cherokee Freedmen", *American Indian Quarterly*, Vol. 22, No. 1/2. (Winter – Spring, 1998), p. 231.
62. ^ Taylor, pp. 33–34
63. ^ Taylor, pp. 72, 74
64. ^ Walton, 2009, pp. 29–31
65. ^ Remini, 2007, pp. 2–3
66. ^ Johnson, 1997, pp. 26–30
67. ^ Berkin, 2007, p. 75
68. ^ Price, 2003
69. ^ Vaughan, 1999
70. ^ Walton, 2009, chapter 3
71. ^ Lemon, 1987
72. ^ Gordon, 2004, intro, chapters 1 and 2
73. ^ Russell, David Lee (2005). *The American Revolution in the Southern Colonies*. Jefferson, N.C., and London: McFarland, p. 12. ISBN 0-7864-0783-2.
74. ^ Clingan, 2000, p. 13
75. ^ Tadman, 2000, p. 1534
76. ^ Schneider, 2007, p. 484
77. ^ Lien, 1913, p. 522
78. ^ Davis, 1996, p. 7
79. ^ Quirk, 2011, p. 195
80. ^ Gold, 2006, pp. 32–35



81. ^ Bilhartz, Terry D.; Elliott, Alan C. (2007). *Currents in American History: A Brief History of the United States* ([http://books.google.com/books?id=J65Z\\_Ura2EIC&pg=PA7](http://books.google.com/books?id=J65Z_Ura2EIC&pg=PA7)). M.E. Sharpe. ISBN 978-0-7656-1817-7.
82. ^ Wood, Gordon S. (1998). *The Creation of the American Republic, 1776–1787* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=kdDRJLxBhI4C&pg=PA263>). UNC Press Books. p. 263. ISBN 978-0-8078-4723-7.
83. ^ Walton, 2009, pp. 38–39
84. ^ Walton, 2009, p. 35
85. ^ Humphrey, Carol Sue (2003). *The Revolutionary Era: Primary Documents on Events from 1776 To 1800* ([http://books.google.com/books?id=19NWMZ6Ec\\_sC&pg=PA8](http://books.google.com/books?id=19NWMZ6Ec_sC&pg=PA8)). Greenwood Publishing. pp. 8–10. ISBN 978-0-313-32083-5.
86. ^ Brown, Jerold E. (2001). *Historical Dictionary of the U.S. Army* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=ygqNt3ra-vYC&pg=PA126>). Greenwood Publishing. p. 126. ISBN 978-0-313-29322-1.
87. ^ Fabian Young, Alfred; Nash, Gary B.; Raphael, Ray (2011). *Revolutionary Founders: Rebels, Radicals, and Reformers in the Making of the Nation* ([http://books.google.com/books?id=QEzaLJ4u\\_MEC&pg=PA4](http://books.google.com/books?id=QEzaLJ4u_MEC&pg=PA4)). Random House Digital. pp. 4–7. ISBN 978-0-307-27110-5.
88. ^ Greene and Pole, *A Companion to the American Revolution* p 357  
Jonathan R. Dull, *A Diplomatic History of the American Revolution* (1987) p. 161  
Lawrence S. Kaplan, "The Treaty of Paris, 1783: A Historiographical Challenge," *International History Review*, Sept 1983, Vol. 5 Issue 3, pp 431–442
89. ^ Boyer, 2007, pp. 192–193
90. ^ Cogliano, Francis D. (2008). *Thomas Jefferson: Reputation and Legacy* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=1f-wAfE0mpsC&pg=PA219>). University of Virginia Press. p. 219. ISBN 978-0-8139-2733-6.
91. ^ Walton, 2009, p. 43
92. ^ Gordon, 2004, pp. 27,29
93. ^ Hall, Kermit (2002). *The Oxford Companion to American Law* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=UXodg4rwE1IC&pg=PA26>). Oxford University Press. p. 26. ISBN 978-0-19-508878-6.
94. ^ Clark, Mary Ann (May 2012). *Then We'll Sing a New Song: African Influences on America's Religious Landscape* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=3TI3vqx-BX0C&pg=PT47>). Rowman & Littlefield. p. 47. ISBN 978-1-4422-0881-0.
95. ^ Billington, Ray Allen; Ridge, Martin (2001). *Westward Expansion: A History of the American Frontier* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=YoV-k7VcyZ0C&pg=PA22>). UNM Press. p. 22. ISBN 978-0-8263-1981-4.
96. ^ "Louisiana Purchase"  
(<http://www.nps.gov/archive/jeff/lewisclark2/circa1804/heritage/louisianapurchase/louisianapurchase.htm>). National Parks Services. Retrieved March 1, 2011.
97. ^ Wait, Eugene M. (1999). *America and the War of 1812* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=puuQ30N0EsIC&pg=PA78>). Nova Publishers. p. 78. ISBN 978-1-56072-644-9.
98. ^ Klose, Nelson; Jones, Robert F. (1994). *United States History to 1877* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=r4pXwnFs2HMC&pg=PA150>). Barron's Educational Series. p. 150. ISBN 978-0-8120-1834-9.
99. ^ Morrison, Michael A. (1999). *Slavery and the American West: The Eclipse of Manifest Destiny and the*

- Coming of the Civil War* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=YTaxzMlkVEMC&pg=PA13>). University of North Carolina Press. pp. 13–21. ISBN 978-0-8078-4796-1.
100. ^ Kemp, Roger L. (2010). *Documents of American Democracy: A Collection of Essential Works* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=JHawgM-WnlUC&pg=PA180>). McFarland. p. 180. ISBN 978-0-7864-4210-2.
101. ^ McIlwraith, Thomas F.; Muller, Edward K. (2001). *North America: The Historical Geography of a Changing Continent* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=8NS0OTXRITMC&pg=PA61>). Rowman & Littlefield. p. 61. ISBN 978-0-7425-0019-8.
102. ^ Smith-Baranzini, Marlene (1999). *A Golden State: Mining and Economic Development in Gold Rush California* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=UPUsIaHZTm0C&pg=PA20>). University of California Press. p. 20. ISBN 978-0-520-21771-3.
103. ^ Black, Jeremy (2011). *Fighting for America: The Struggle for Mastery in North America, 1519–1871* ([http://books.google.com/books?id=Elst\\_CSWOqIC&pg=PA275](http://books.google.com/books?id=Elst_CSWOqIC&pg=PA275)). Indiana University Press. p. 275. ISBN 978-0-253-35660-4.
104. ^ <sup>a</sup> <sup>b</sup> Wishart, David J. (2004). *Encyclopedia of the Great Plains* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=rtRFyFO4hpEC&pg=PA37>). University of Nebraska Press. p. 37. ISBN 978-0-8032-4787-1.
105. ^ Smith (2001), *Grant*, pp. 525–526
106. ^ <sup>a</sup> <sup>b</sup> Carlisle (2008), *The Civil War and Reconstruction*, p. 1
107. ^ Stuart Murray (2004). *Atlas of American Military History* ([http://books.google.com/books?id=bJ\\_sy7mmmxC&pg=PA76](http://books.google.com/books?id=bJ_sy7mmmxC&pg=PA76)). Infobase Publishing. p. 76. ISBN 978-1-4381-3025-5.
108. ^ Thomas F. McIlwraith; Edward K. Muller (2001). *North America: The Historical Geography of a Changing Continent* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=8NS0OTXRITMC&pg=PA186>). Rowman & Littlefield. p. 186. ISBN 978-0-7425-0019-8.
109. ^ <sup>a</sup> <sup>b</sup> Patrick Karl O'Brien (2002). *Atlas of World History* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=ffZy5tDjaUkC&pg=PA184>). Oxford University Press. p. 184. ISBN 978-0-19-521921-0.
110. ^ "1860 Census" (<http://www2.census.gov/prod2/decennial/documents/1860a-02.pdf>). U.S. Census Bureau. Retrieved June 10, 2007. Page 7 lists a total slave population of 3,953,760.
111. ^ De Rosa, Marshall L. (1997). *The Politics of Dissolution: The Quest for a National Identity and the American Civil War*. Edison, NJ: Transaction. p. 266. ISBN 1-56000-349-9.
112. ^ Vinovskis, Maris (1990). *"Toward a social history of the American Civil War: exploratory essays"* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=gySktxKYPGoC&pg=PA6>). Cambridge University Press. p. 6. ISBN 0-521-39559-3.
113. ^ <sup>a</sup> <sup>b</sup> G. Alan Tarr (2009). *Judicial Process and Judicial Policymaking* ([http://books.google.com/books?id=8Q6Gh5\\_OQgQC&pg=PA30](http://books.google.com/books?id=8Q6Gh5_OQgQC&pg=PA30)). Cengage Learning. p. 30. ISBN 978-0-495-56736-3.
114. ^ Brands (2012), *Grant Takes On The Klan*, **American History**, p. 46
115. ^ John Powell (2009). *Encyclopedia of North American Immigration* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=VNCX6UsdZYkC&pg=PA74>). Infobase Publishing. p. 74. ISBN 978-1-4381-1012-7.
116. ^ Rong, Xue Lan; Preissle, Judith (2009). *Educating Immigrant Students in the 21st Century: What Educators Need to Know* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=eWJ-9t33e1EC&lpg=PA127>). Corwin Press. pp. 127–128. ISBN 9781412940955.
117. ^ Gates, John M. (August 1984). "War-Related Deaths in the Philippines" (<http://www3.wooster.edu/History/jgates/book-ch3.html>). *Pacific Historical Review*. College of Wooster. Retrieved September 27, 2007.

118. ^ Zinn, Howard. *A People's History of the United States*. New York: Harper Perennial Modern Classics, 2005. Chapter 13, "The Socialist Challenge" pp. 321–357 ISBN 0060838655
119. ^ Zinn, Howard. *A People's History of the United States*. New York: Harper Perennial Modern Classics, 2005. p. 327 ISBN 0060838655
120. ^ Foner, Eric; Garraty, John A. (1991). *The Reader's Companion to American History*. New York: Houghton Mifflin. p. 576. ISBN 0-395-51372-3.
121. ^ <sup>a</sup> <sup>b</sup> McDuffie, Jerome; Piggrem, Gary Wayne; Woodworth, Steven E. (2005). *U.S. History Super Review*. Piscataway, NJ: Research & Education Association. p. 418. ISBN 0-7386-0070-9.
122. ^ Voris, Jacqueline Van (1996). *Carrie Chapman Catt: A Public Life*. Women and Peace Series. New York City: Feminist Press at CUNY. p. vii. ISBN 1558611398. "Carrie Chapman Catt led an army of voteless women in 1919 to pressure Congress to pass the constitutional amendment giving them the right to vote and convinced state legislatures to ratify it in 1920. [...] Catt was one of the best-known women in the United States in the first half of the twentieth century and was on all lists of famous American women."
123. ^ Axinn, June; Stern, Mark J. (2007). *Social Welfare: A History of the American Response to Need* (7th ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon. ISBN 978-0-205-52215-6.
124. ^ Burton, Jeffrey F., et al. (July 2000). "A Brief History of Japanese American Relocation During World War II" ([http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online\\_books/anthropology74/ce3.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/anthropology74/ce3.htm)). *Confinement and Ethnicity: An Overview of World War II Japanese American Relocation Sites*. National Park Service. Retrieved April 2, 2010.
125. ^ See, for example, the aircraft production figures cited in Tooze 2006: in 1940, the Americans produced 6,019 aircraft; in 1941, 19,433; in 1942, almost 48,000; in 1943, an astonishing 85,898. Even more were to come in 1944. For comparison, in 1941, the German war economy could only manage about 12,000 aircraft.
126. ^ Leland, Anne; Oboroceanu, Mari-Jana (February 26, 2010). "American War and Military Operations Casualties: Lists and Statistics" (<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/RL32492.pdf>). Congressional Research Service. Retrieved February 18, 2011. p. 2.
127. ^ Kennedy, Paul (1989). *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers*. New York: Vintage. p. 358. ISBN 0-679-72019-7.

Indeed, World War II ushered in the zenith of U.S. power in what came to be called the American Century, as Leffler 2010, p. 67, indicates: "Truman presided over the greatest military and economic power the world had ever known. War production had lifted the United States out of the Great Depression and had inaugurated an era of unimagined prosperity. Gross national product increased by 60 percent during the war, total earnings by 50 percent. Despite social unrest, labor agitation, racial conflict, and teenage vandalism, Americans had more discretionary income than ever before. Simultaneously, the U.S. government had built up the greatest war machine in human history. By the end of 1942, the United States was producing more arms than all the Axis states combined, and, in 1943, it made almost three times more armaments than did the Soviet Union. In 1945, the United States had two-thirds of the world's gold reserves, three-fourths of its invested capital, half of its shipping vessels, and half of its manufacturing capacity. Its GNP was three times that of the Soviet Union and more than five times that of Britain. It was also nearing completion of the atomic bomb, a technological and production feat of huge costs and proportions."
128. ^ "The United States and the Founding of the United Nations, August 1941 – October 1945" (<http://web.archive.org/web/20070612221444/http://www.state.gov/r/eo/bc/pubs/fs/55407.htm>). U.S.

- (<http://web.archive.org/web/20070612221444/http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ho/pubs/fs/55407.html>). U.S. Dept. of State, Bureau of Public Affairs, Office of the Historian. October 2005. Archived from the original (<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ho/pubs/fs/55407.htm>) on June 12, 2007. Retrieved June 11, 2007.
129. ^ Pacific War Research Society (2006). *Japan's Longest Day*. New York: Oxford University Press. ISBN 4-7700-2887-3.
  130. ^ Gladchuk, John Joseph (2006). *Hollywood and Anticommunism: HUAC and the Evolution of the Red Menace, 1935–1950*. Routledge. ISBN 0-415-95568-8.
  131. ^ Collins, Michael (1988). *Liftoff: The Story of America's Adventure in Space*. New York: Grove Press.
  132. ^ Stern, Sheldon M (2003). *Averting the Final Failure: John F. Kennedy and the Secret Cuban Missile Crisis Meetings*. Stanford Nuclear Age Series. Stanford University Press.
  133. ^ Dallek, Robert (2004). *Lyndon B. Johnson: Portrait of a President*. Oxford University Press. p. 169. ISBN 978-0-19-515920-2.  
 "Our Documents – Civil Rights Act (1964)" (<http://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?flash=old&doc=97>). United States Department of Justice. Retrieved July 28, 2010.  
 "Remarks at the Signing of the Immigration Bill, Liberty Island, New York" (<http://www.lbjlib.utexas.edu/Johnson/archives.hom/speeches.hom/651003.asp>). October 3, 1965. Retrieved January 1, 2012.
  134. ^ Social Security History (<http://www.ssa.gov/history/lbjsm.html>), the United States Social Security Administration
  135. ^ Soss, 2010, p. 277
  136. ^ Fraser, 1989
  137. ^ Ferguson, 1986, pp. 43–53
  138. ^ Williams, pp. 325–331
  139. ^ Cronkite, Walter; Wagner, Heather Lehr (2009). *Ronald Reagan* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=NNphH9XtyTkC&lpg=PA96>). Great American Presidents Series. Infobase Publishing. p. 102. ISBN 9781438103082.  
 D'Souza, Dinesh (1999). *Ronald Reagan: How an Ordinary Man Became an Extraordinary Leader* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=Xn4JEGVh-bYC&lpg=PA26>). Simon and Schuster. p. 304. ISBN 9780684848235.  
 Niskanen, William A. (1988). *Reaganomics: an insider's account of the policies and the people* (<http://books.google.com/?id=zq4rsWNrYo4C&q=Reaganomics&dq=Reaganomics>). Oxford University Press. p. 363. ISBN 9780195053944.
  140. ^ "General Article: The Iran-Contra Affair" (<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americalexperience/features/general-article/reagan-iran/>). *American Experience*. WGBH Educational Foundation. Retrieved March 11, 2013.  
 "Ronald Reagan" (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents/ronaldreagan>). *Your Presidents*. White House. Retrieved March 11, 2013.  
 Howell, Buddy Wayne (2006). *The Rhetoric of Presidential Summit Diplomacy: Ronald Reagan and the U.S.-Soviet Summits, 1985–1988* ([http://books.google.com/books/about/The\\_Rhetoric\\_of\\_Presidential\\_Summit\\_Dipl.html?id=LctvjhxJ-bsC](http://books.google.com/books/about/The_Rhetoric_of_Presidential_Summit_Dipl.html?id=LctvjhxJ-bsC)). Texas A&M University. p. 352. ISBN 9780549416586.  
 Kissinger, Henry (2011). *Diplomacy* (<http://books.google.com/?id=0lZboamhb5EC&lpg=PA731>). Simon and Schuster. pp. 781–784. ISBN 9781439126318.  
 Mann, James (2009). *The Rebellion of Ronald Reagan: A History of the End of the Cold War*



- (<http://books.google.com/?id=BgZyXNlrVB4C&pg=PT12>). Penguin. p. 432. ISBN 9781440686399.
141. ^ Hayes, 2009
142. ^ US History.org, 2013
143. ^ Burns, 2008
144. ^ Levy, 1996, p. 442
145. ^ Wallander, 2003
146. ^ Lee Banville. "Intervention In Iraq?" ([http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/middle\\_east/iraq/us\\_policy.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/middle_east/iraq/us_policy.html)). *PBS NewsHour*. MacNeil/Lehrer Productions. Retrieved March 6, 2013.
- "Rebuilding Iraq" (<http://teacher.scholastic.com/scholasticnews/indepth/war-iraq/history/index.asp?article=timeline>). *Student Activites*. Scholastic Inc. Retrieved March 6, 2013.
- "20 years after, Bush defends Gulf War as 'moral'" ([http://www.nbcnews.com/id/41180168/ns/politics-more\\_politics/](http://www.nbcnews.com/id/41180168/ns/politics-more_politics/)). *NBC News*. Associated Press. January 20, 2011. Retrieved March 6, 2013.
- Greenblatt, Alan (February 24, 2011). "Twenty Years Later, First Iraq War Still Resonates" (<http://www.npr.org/2011/02/24/133991181/twenty-years-later-first-iraq-war-still-resonates>). *NPR*. Retrieved March 6, 2013.
147. ^ Voyce, Bill (August 21, 2006). "Why the Expansion of the 1990s Lasted So Long" (<http://iwin.iwd.state.ia.us/iowa/ArticleReader?itemid=00003700&print=1>). Iowa Workforce Information Network. Retrieved August 16, 2007.
- Dale, Reginald (February 18, 2000). "Did Clinton Do It, or Was He Lucky?" ([http://www.nytimes.com/2000/02/18/business/worldbusiness/18iht-think.2.t\\_2.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2000/02/18/business/worldbusiness/18iht-think.2.t_2.html)). *The New York Times*. Retrieved March 6, 2013.
- Mankiw, N. Gregory (2008). *Macroeconomics* (<http://books.google.com/?id=58KxPNa0hF4C&lpg=PA463>). Cengage Learning. p. 559. ISBN 9780324589993.
148. ^ *Flashback 9/11: As It Happened* (<http://video.foxnews.com/v/1151859712001/flashback-911-as-it-happened/>). Fox News. September 9, 2011. Retrieved March 6, 2013.
- "America remembers Sept. 11 attacks 11 years later" ([http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-201\\_162-57510234/america-remembers-sept-11-attacks-11-years-later/](http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-201_162-57510234/america-remembers-sept-11-attacks-11-years-later/)). *CBS News*. Associated Press. September 11, 2012. Retrieved March 6, 2013.
- "Day of Terror Video Archive" (<http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2001/trade.center/multimedia.day.html>). *CNN*. 2005. Retrieved March 6, 2013.
149. ^ Walsh, Kenneth T. (December 9, 2008). "The 'War on Terror' Is Critical to President George W. Bush's Legacy" (<http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2008/12/09/the-war-on-terror-is-critical-to-president-george-w-bushs-legacy>). *U.S. News & World Report*. Retrieved March 6, 2013.
- Haass, Richard N. (October 15, 2001). "The Bush Administration's Response to September 11th—and Beyond" (<http://www.cfr.org/terrorism/bush-administrations-response-september-11th-beyond/p4112>). *Terrorism*. Council on Foreign Relations. Retrieved March 6, 2013.
- Atkins, Stephen E. (2011). *The 9/11 Encyclopedia: Second Edition* ([http://books.google.com/books?id=PDDIgWRN\\_HQC&pg=PA210](http://books.google.com/books?id=PDDIgWRN_HQC&pg=PA210)). ABC-CLIO. p. 872. ISBN 9781598849219.
150. ^ Smith, Michael (November 14, 2001). "Switch to guerrilla warfare" (<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/asia/afghanistan/1362399/Switch-to-guerrilla-warfare.html>). *The Daily Telegraph* (London). Retrieved March 6, 2013.
- Tucker, Spencer (2009). *United States Leadership in Wartime* (<http://books.google.com/books?>

- id=wEkFzIWjdn4C&pg=PA870). ABC-CLIO. p. 952. ISBN 9781598841725.
151. ^ "Many Europeans Oppose War in Iraq" (<http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/2003-02-14-eu-survey.htm>). *USA Today*. February 14, 2003. Retrieved September 1, 2008.  
"Most Americans Support War with Iraq, Shows New Pew/CFR Poll – Commentary by Lee Feinstein" (<http://www.cfr.org/iraq/most-americans-support-war-iraq-shows-new-pewcfr-poll---commentary-lee-feinstein/p5051>). Council on Foreign Affairs. October 10, 2002. Retrieved March 7, 2013.
  152. ^ Wong, Edward (February 15, 2008). "Overview: The Iraq War" ([http://www.nytimes.com/ref/timestopics/topics\\_iraq.html](http://www.nytimes.com/ref/timestopics/topics_iraq.html)). *The New York Times*. Retrieved March 7, 2013.  
"The Invasion of Iraq" (<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/invasion/>). *Frontline*. WGBH Educational Foundation. February 26, 2004. Retrieved March 7, 2013.  
Johnson, James Turner (2005). *The War to Oust Saddam Hussein: Just War and the New Face of Conflict* (<http://books.google.com/?id=SF7U27JsLC4C&dq=iraq+invasion+removes+hussein>). Rowman & Littlefield. p. 159. ISBN 9780742549562.
  153. ^ Durando, Jessica; Rae Green, Shannon (December 21, 2011). "Timeline: Key moments in the Iraq War" (<http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/world/iraq/story/2011-12-21/iraq-war-timeline/52147680/1>). *USA Today*. Associated Press. Retrieved March 7, 2013.  
"Last American Troops Leave Iraq Marking End of War" (<http://www.foxnews.com/world/2011/12/17/last-american-troops-leave-iraq-marking-end-war/>). *Fox News*. Associated Press. December 18, 2011. Retrieved March 7, 2013.
  154. ^ Washington, Jesse; Rugaber, Chris (September 9, 2011). "African-American Economic Gains Reversed By Great Recession" ([http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/07/10/black-recession-economy-african-americans\\_n\\_894046.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/07/10/black-recession-economy-african-americans_n_894046.html)). *Huffington Post*. Associated Press. Retrieved March 7, 2013.  
Hargreaves, Steve (November 5, 2008). "Obama rides economy to White House" ([http://money.cnn.com/2008/11/04/news/economy/election\\_polls/index.htm](http://money.cnn.com/2008/11/04/news/economy/election_polls/index.htm)). *CNN*. Retrieved March 7, 2013.  
*One Year In, a Closer Look at the Obama Presidency* ([http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/white\\_house/jan-june10/obama\\_01-19.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/white_house/jan-june10/obama_01-19.html)). MacNeil/Lehrer Production. 2010. Retrieved March 7, 2012.
  155. ^ Bowden, Mark (2012). *The Finish: The Killing of Osama Bin Laden* (<http://books.google.com/?id=Y1dOLQN9hwwC&dq=SEALs+kill+Osama+bin+Laden>). Grove Press. p. 304. ISBN 9780802194107.  
"Kill/Capture" (<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/kill-capture/>). *Frontline*. WGBH Educational Foundation. May 10, 2011. Retrieved March 7, 2013.  
Brown, Adrian (September 10, 2012). "Osama Bin Laden's death: How it happened" (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-south-asia-13257330>). *BBC News*. Retrieved March 7, 2013.
  156. ^ Lubowski, Ruben; Vesterby, Marlow; Bucholtz, Shawn (July 21, 2006). "AREI Chapter 1.1: Land Use" (<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/arei/eib16/chapter1/1.1/>). Economic Research Service. Retrieved March 9, 2009.
  157. ^ "United States" (<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/616563/United-States>). Encyclopædia Britannica. Retrieved March 25, 2008 (area given in square miles).
  158. ^ "Population by Sex, Rate of Population Increase, Surface Area and Density" (<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/products/dyb/DYB2005/Table03.pdf>). *Demographic Yearbook 2005*. UN Statistics Division. Retrieved March 25, 2008 (area given in square kilometers).
  159. ^ "World Factbook: Area Country Comparison Table"

159. ^ World Factbook. Area Country Comparison Table  
([http://web.archive.org/web/20080208233209rn\\_1/education.yahoo.com/reference/factbook/countrycompare/area/3d.html](http://web.archive.org/web/20080208233209rn_1/education.yahoo.com/reference/factbook/countrycompare/area/3d.html)). Yahoo Education. Retrieved February 28, 2007.
160. ^ O'Hanlon, Larry. "Supervolcano: What's Under Yellowstone?" (<http://archive.is/vXo7>). Discovery Channel. Archived from the original  
(<http://dsc.discovery.com/convergence/supervolcano/under/under.html>) on May 25, 2012. Retrieved June 13, 2007.
161. ^ Perkins, Sid (May 11, 2002). "Tornado Alley, USA"  
(<http://web.archive.org/web/20070701131631/http://www.sciencenews.org/articles/20020511/bob9.asp>)  
. *Science News*. Archived from the original (<http://www.sciencenews.org/articles/20020511/bob9.asp>)  
on July 1, 2007. Retrieved September 20, 2006.
162. ^ Morin, Nancy. "Vascular Plants of the United States"  
([http://www.fungaljungal.org/papers/National\\_Biological\\_Service.pdf](http://www.fungaljungal.org/papers/National_Biological_Service.pdf)). *Plants*. National Biological Service. Retrieved October 27, 2008.
163. ^ "Global Significance of Selected U.S. Native Plant and Animal Species"  
(<http://www.sdi.gov/curtis/TxTab4x1.html>). SDI Group. February 9, 2001. Retrieved January 20, 2009.
164. ^ "Numbers of Insects (Species and Individuals)"  
([http://www.si.edu/Encyclopedia\\_SI/nmnh/buginfo/bugnos.htm](http://www.si.edu/Encyclopedia_SI/nmnh/buginfo/bugnos.htm)). Smithsonian Institution. Retrieved January 20, 2009.
165. ^ "National Park Service Announces Addition of Two New Units"  
(<http://home.nps.gov/applications/release/Detail.cfm?ID=639>) (Press release). National Park Service. February 28, 2006. Retrieved June 13, 2006.
166. ^ **a b** "Federal Land and Buildings Ownership"  
(<http://johnshadegg.house.gov/rsc/Federal%20Land%20Ownership--May%202005.pdf>). Republican Study Committee. May 19, 2005. Retrieved March 9, 2009.
167. ^ "NOAA: Gulf of Mexico 'Dead Zone' Predictions Feature Uncertainty"  
([http://www.usgs.gov/newsroom/article\\_pf.asp?ID=3252](http://www.usgs.gov/newsroom/article_pf.asp?ID=3252)). U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). June 21, 2012. Retrieved June 23, 2012.
168. ^ "What is hypoxia?" (<http://www.gulfhypoxia.net/Overview/>). Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON). Retrieved May 18, 2013.
169. ^ Forest Resources of the United States ([http://www.nationalatlas.gov/articles/biology/a\\_forest.html](http://www.nationalatlas.gov/articles/biology/a_forest.html))
170. ^ Land Use Changes Involving Forestry in the United States: 1952 to 1997, With Projections to 2050  
(<http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/gtr587.pdf>)
171. ^ Daynes & Sussman, 2010, pp. 3, 72, 74–76, 78
172. ^ Hays, Samuel P. (2000). *A History of Environmental Politics since 1945*.
173. ^ Rothman, Hal K. (1998). *The Greening of a Nation? Environmentalism in the United States since 1945*
174. ^ Turner, James Morton (2012). *The Promise of Wilderness*
175. ^ **a b** "2010 Census Data" (<http://www.census.gov/2010census/data/>). U.S. Census Bureau. Retrieved March 29, 2011.
176. ^ <http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-02.pdf>
177. ^ Camarota, Steven A.; Jensenius, Karen (July 2008). "Homeward Bound: Recent Immigration Enforcement and the Decline in the Illegal Alien Population"  
(<http://www.cis.org/articles/2008/back808.pdf>). Center for Immigration Studies. Retrieved August 6, 2008

178. ^ "Statistical Abstract of the United States" (<http://www.census.gov/prod/2005pubs/06statab/pop.pdf>). United States Census Bureau. 2005.
179. ^ "Executive Summary: A Population Perspective of the United States" (<http://web.archive.org/web/20070604165856/http://www.prcdc.org/summaries/uspopperspec/uspopper-spec.html>). Population Resource Center. May 2000. Archived from the original (<http://www.prcdc.org/summaries/uspopperspec/uspopperspec.html>) on June 4, 2007. Retrieved December 20, 2007.
180. ^ "Births: Preliminary Data for 2010" ([http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr60/nvsr60\\_02.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr60/nvsr60_02.pdf)). *National Vital Statistics Reports, Volume 60*. National Center for Health Statistics. 2011. Retrieved August 17, 2012.
181. ^ "U.S. Legal Permanent Residents: 2012" ([http://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/ois\\_lpr\\_fr\\_2012\\_2.pdf](http://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/ois_lpr_fr_2012_2.pdf)). Office of Immigration Statistics *Annual Flow Report*.
182. ^ "Yearbook of Immigration Statistics: 2011 – Persons Obtaining Legal Permanent Resident Status by Region and Country of Birth: Fiscal Years 2002 to 2011 (Table 3)" (<http://www.dhs.gov/yearbook-immigration-statistics-2011-1>). U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security. Retrieved February 4, 2013.
183. ^ "Yearbook of Immigration Statistics: 2007 – Persons Obtaining Legal Permanent Resident Status by Region and Country of Birth: Fiscal Years 1998 to 2007 (Table 3)" (<http://www.dhs.gov/files/statistics/publications/LPR07.shtm>). U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security. Retrieved February 4, 2013.
184. ^ Donaldson James, Susan (April 8, 2011). "Gay Americans Make Up 4 Percent of Population" (<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/williams-institute-report-reveals-million-gay-bisexual-transgender/story?id=13320565>). *ABC News*. Retrieved August 26, 2012.
185. ^ National Survey of Sexual Health and Behavior (<http://www.nationalsexstudy.indiana.edu/>). Retrieved January 6, 2013.
186. ^ **a b c d** "Ancestry 2000" (<http://www.census.gov/prod/2004pubs/c2kbr-35.pdf>). U.S. Census Bureau. June 2004. Retrieved June 13, 2007.
187. ^ **a b c** Humes, Karen R.; Jones, Nicholas A.; Ramirez, Roberto R. (March 2011). "Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin: 2010" (<http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-02.pdf>). U.S. Census Bureau. Retrieved March 29, 2011.
188. ^ "B03001. Hispanic or Latino Origin by Specific Origin" ([http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/07\\_1YR/B03001](http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/07_1YR/B03001)). *2007 American Community Survey*. U.S. Census Bureau. Retrieved September 26, 2008.
189. ^ "Tables 41 and 42—Native and Foreign-Born Populations" (<http://www.census.gov/prod/2008pubs/09statab/pop.pdf>). *Statistical Abstract of the United States 2009*. U.S. Census Bureau. Retrieved October 11, 2009.
190. ^ **a b** "National Vital Statistics Reports: Volume 61, Number 1. Births: Final Data for 2012" ([http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr61/nvsr61\\_01.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr61/nvsr61_01.pdf)). Cdc.gov. August 2012. Retrieved November 25, 2012.
191. ^ U.S. Census Bureau: "U.S. Census Bureau Delivers Final State 2010 Census Population Totals for Legislative Redistricting" (<http://www.census.gov/2010census/news/releases/operations/cb11-cn123.html>) see custom table, 2nd worksheet
192. ^ Exner, Rich (July 3, 2012). "Americans under age one now mostly minorities, but not in Ohio:

Statistical Snapshot"

([http://www.cleveland.com/datacentral/index.ssf/2012/06/americas\\_under\\_age\\_1\\_populatio.html](http://www.cleveland.com/datacentral/index.ssf/2012/06/americas_under_age_1_populatio.html)). *The Plain Dealer* (Cleveland, OH). Retrieved July 29, 2012.

193. ^ "An Older and More Diverse Nation by Midcentury"  
(<http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/population/cb08-123.html>) (Press release). U.S. Census Bureau. August 14, 2008. Retrieved March 29, 2013.
194. ^ "United States—Urban/Rural and Inside/Outside Metropolitan Area (GCT-P1. Population, Housing Units, Area, and Density: 2000)" ([http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/GCTTable?\\_bm=y&-state=gct&-ds\\_name=DEC\\_2000\\_SF1\\_U&-\\_box\\_head\\_nbr=GCT-P1&-mt\\_name=&-\\_caller=geoselect&-geo\\_id=&-format=US-1&-\\_lang=en](http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/GCTTable?_bm=y&-state=gct&-ds_name=DEC_2000_SF1_U&-_box_head_nbr=GCT-P1&-mt_name=&-_caller=geoselect&-geo_id=&-format=US-1&-_lang=en)). U.S. Census Bureau. April 1, 2000. Retrieved September 23, 2008.
195. ^ "Table 1: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Incorporated Places Over 100,000, Ranked by July 1, 2008 Population: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2008" (<http://www.webcitation.org/5lpvuJk99>). *2008 Population Estimates*. U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. July 1, 2009. Archived from the original ([http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/info/census/popestimate/copy\\_of\\_2008-subcounty-population-hawaii/SUB\\_EST2008\\_01.pdf](http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/info/census/popestimate/copy_of_2008-subcounty-population-hawaii/SUB_EST2008_01.pdf)) on December 7, 2009.
196. ^ **a b** "Table 5. Estimates of Population Change for Metropolitan Statistical Areas and Rankings: July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008" (<http://www.webcitation.org/5lpvuJzkG>). *2008 Population Estimates*. U.S. Census Bureau. March 19, 2009. Archived from the original ([http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/info/census/popestimate/2008\\_MSA\\_Hawaii/CBSA\\_EST2008\\_05.pdf](http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/info/census/popestimate/2008_MSA_Hawaii/CBSA_EST2008_05.pdf)) on December 7, 2009.
197. ^ "Raleigh and Austin are Fastest-Growing Metro Areas"  
(<http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/population/cb09-45.html>). U.S. Census Bureau. March 19, 2009. Retrieved October 11, 2009.
198. ^ "Figure A–3. Census Regions, Census Divisions, and Their Constituent States"  
(<http://www.census.gov/geo/www/tiger/glossry2.pdf>) (PDF). U.S. Census Bureau. Retrieved 2007-06-17.
199. ^ "Annual Estimates of the Population of Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2011" (<http://www.census.gov/popest/data/metro/totals/2011/tables/CBSA-EST2011-01.csv>). U.S. Census Bureau. Retrieved 2012-06-07.
200. ^ "United States" ([http://www.mla.org/map\\_data](http://www.mla.org/map_data)). Modern Language Association. Retrieved September 2, 2013.
201. ^ "Language Spoken at Home by the U.S. Population, 2010", American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, in *World Almanac and Book of Facts 2012*, p. 615.
202. ^ "Foreign Language Enrollments in United States Institutions of Higher Learning"  
(<http://www.adfl.org/resources/enrollments.pdf>). MLA. fall 2002. Retrieved October 16, 2006.
203. ^ "The Constitution of the State of Hawaii, Article XV, Section 4"  
(<http://www.hawaii.gov/lrb/con/conart15.html>). Hawaii Legislative Reference Bureau. November 7, 1978. Retrieved June 19, 2007.
204. ^ Dicker, Susan J. (2003). *Languages in America: A Pluralist View*. Clevedon, UK: Multilingual Matters. pp. 216, 220–25. ISBN 1-85359-651-5.
205. ^ "California Code of Civil Procedure, Section 412.20(6)" (<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=ccp&group=00001-01000&file=412.10-412.30>). Legislative Counsel, State of California. Retrieved December 17, 2007. "California Judicial Council Forms"



- (<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/forms/allforms.htm>). Judicial Council, State of California. Retrieved December 17, 2007.
206. ^ "Among Wealthy Nations...U.S. Stands Alone in its Embrace of Religion" (<http://pewglobal.org/reports/display.php?ReportID=167>). *Pew Global Attitudes Project*. Pew Research Center. December 19, 2002. Retrieved October 23, 2008.
207. ^ **a b** Mississippians Go to Church the Most; Vermonters, Least (<http://www.gallup.com/poll/125999/mississippians-go-church-most-vermonters-least.aspx>)
208. ^ **a b c d** "Religious Composition of the U.S." (<http://religions.pewforum.org/pdf/affiliations-all-traditions.pdf>). *U.S. Religious Landscape Survey*. Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. 2007. Retrieved October 23, 2008.
209. ^ **a b c** Kosmin, Barry A., Egon Mayer, and Ariela Kaysar (December 19, 2001). "American Religious Identification Survey 2001" ([http://www.gc.cuny.edu/CUNY\\_GC/media/CUNY-Graduate-Center/PDF/ARIS/ARIS-PDF-version.pdf?ext=.pdf](http://www.gc.cuny.edu/CUNY_GC/media/CUNY-Graduate-Center/PDF/ARIS/ARIS-PDF-version.pdf?ext=.pdf)). CUNY Graduate Center. Retrieved September 16, 2011.
210. ^ "United States" (<http://features.pewforum.org/muslim-population-graphic/#/United%20States>). Retrieved May 2, 2013.
211. ^ Media, Minorities, and Meaning: A Critical Introduction — Page 88, Debra L. Merskin – 2010
212. ^ Merica, Dan (June 12, 2012). "Pew Survey: Doubt of God Growing Quickly among Millennials" (<http://religion.blogs.cnn.com/2012/06/12/pew-survey-doubt-of-god-growing-quickly-among-millennials/>). CNN. Retrieved June 14, 2012.
213. ^ "American Confidence In Organized Religion At All Time Low" ([http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/07/12/us-confidence-in-organized-religion-at-low-point\\_n\\_1669100.html?utm\\_hp\\_ref=religion](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/07/12/us-confidence-in-organized-religion-at-low-point_n_1669100.html?utm_hp_ref=religion)). *Huffington Post*. July 12, 2012. Retrieved July 14, 2012.
214. ^ "Religion Among the Millennials" (<http://www.pewforum.org/Age/Religion-Among-the-Millennials.aspx>). The Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. Retrieved August 29, 2012.
215. ^ "Table 55—Marital Status of the Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 1990 to 2007" (<http://www.census.gov/prod/2008pubs/09statab/pop.pdf>). *Statistical Abstract of the United States 2009*. U.S. Census Bureau. Retrieved October 11, 2009.
216. ^ "Women's Advances in Education" ([http://web.archive.org/web/20070609151527/http://www.iserp.columbia.edu/news/articles/female\\_college.html](http://web.archive.org/web/20070609151527/http://www.iserp.columbia.edu/news/articles/female_college.html)). Columbia University, Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy. 2006. Archived from the original ([http://www.iserp.columbia.edu/news/articles/female\\_college.html](http://www.iserp.columbia.edu/news/articles/female_college.html)) on June 9, 2007. Retrieved June 6, 2007.
217. ^ "Teenage birth rate statistics – countries compared – NationMaster People" ([http://www.nationmaster.com/graph/peo\\_tee\\_bir\\_rat-people-teenage-birth-rate](http://www.nationmaster.com/graph/peo_tee_bir_rat-people-teenage-birth-rate)). Nationmaster.com. Retrieved July 10, 2011.
218. ^ "U.S. teen birth rates fall to historic lows" ([http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-201\\_162-57411738/u.s-teen-birth-rates-fall-to-historic-lows/](http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-201_162-57411738/u.s-teen-birth-rates-fall-to-historic-lows/)). CBS News. April 10, 2012. Retrieved July 4, 2013.
219. ^ Strauss, Lilo T., et al. (November 24, 2006). "Abortion Surveillance—United States, 2003" (<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss5511a1.htm>). *MMWR*. Centers for Disease Control, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Division of Reproductive Health. Retrieved June 17, 2007.
220. ^ FASTSTATS – Births and Natality (<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/births.htm>)

221. ^ The World Factbook (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/rankorder/2127rank.html>)
222. ^ Jardine, Cassandra (October 31, 2007). "Why adoption is so easy in America" (<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/3354960/Why-adoption-is-so-easy-in-America.html>). *The Daily Telegraph* (London).
223. ^ "Child Adoption: Trends and policies" (<http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/pdf/policy/child-adoption.pdf>). United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. 2009.
224. ^ <http://blog.seattlepi.com/seattlepolitics/2013/11/05/illinois-will-be-15th-gay-marriage-state/>
225. ^ Scheb, John M.; Scheb, John M. II (2002). *An Introduction to the American Legal System*. Florence, KY: Delmar, p. 6. ISBN 0-7668-2759-3.
226. ^ Killian, Johnny H. "Constitution of the United States" ([http://www.senate.gov/civics/constitution\\_item/constitution.htm](http://www.senate.gov/civics/constitution_item/constitution.htm)). The Office of the Secretary of the Senate. Retrieved February 11, 2012.
227. ^ Davidson, Kavitha A. (March 21, 2013). "Democracy Index 2013: Global Democracy At A Standstill, The Economist Intelligence Unit's Annual Report Shows" ([http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/03/21/democracy-index-2013-economist-intelligence-unit\\_n\\_2909619.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/03/21/democracy-index-2013-economist-intelligence-unit_n_2909619.html)). *The Huffington Post*. Retrieved August 23, 2013.
228. ^ "Corruption Perceptions Index 2012" (<http://cpi.transparency.org/cpi2012/results/>). Transparency International. Retrieved February 4, 2013.
229. ^ "The Legislative Branch" (<http://usa.usembassy.de/government-legislative.htm>). United States Diplomatic Mission to Germany. Retrieved August 20, 2012.
230. ^ "The Process for impeachment" (<http://library.thinkquest.org/25673/process.htm>). ThinkQuest. Retrieved August 20, 2012.
231. ^ "The Executive Branch" (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/our-government/executive-branch>). The White House. Retrieved August 20, 2012.
232. ^ Bloch, Matt; Ericson, Matthew; Quealy, Kevin (May 30, 2013). "Census 2010: Gains and Losses in Congress" (<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2010/12/21/us/census-districts.html>). *The New York Times*.
233. ^ "What is the Electoral College" (<http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/about.html>). National Archives. Retrieved August 21, 2012.
234. ^ Cossack, Roger (July 12, 2000). "Beyond politics: Why Supreme Court justices are appointed for life" (<http://archives.cnn.com/2000/LAW/07/columns/cossack.scotus.07.12/>). CNN. Retrieved August 21, 2012.
235. ^ "Nebraska (state, United States) : Agriculture" (<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/407533/Nebraska/78826/Agriculture#toc78830>). *Britannica Online Encyclopedia*. Retrieved November 11, 2012.
236. ^ Feldstein, Fabozzi, 2011, p. 9
237. ^ Schultz, 2009, pp. 164, 453, 503
238. ^ Schultz, 2009, p. 38
239. ^ Borreca, Richard (October 18, 1999). "'The Goal Was Democracy for All'" (<http://archives.starbulletin.com/1999/10/18/special/story4.html>). *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*. Retrieved February 11, 2012.

240. ^ See 8 U.S.C. § 1101 (<http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/8/1101.html>)(a)(36) and 8 U.S.C. § 1101 (<http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/8/1101.html>)(a)(38) U.S. Federal Code, Immigration and Nationality Act. 8 U.S.C. § 1101a (<http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/8/1101a.html>)
241. ^ Jenkins, William O. (2009). *American Samoa: Issues Associated with Potential Changes to the Current System for Adjudicating Matters of Federal Law* ([http://books.google.com/?id=Ho\\_RmgOnwgc&pg=PA8](http://books.google.com/?id=Ho_RmgOnwgc&pg=PA8)). DIANE Publishing. p. 8. ISBN 9781437907049.
242. ^ US General Accounting Office, U.S. Insular Areas. Application of the U.S. Constitution (<http://www.gao.gov/assets/230/224900.pdf>). November 1997. p. 9. Appendix I, pp. 23–38. Retrieved April 29, 2013.
243. ^ Fonseca, Felicia (July 17, 2010). "Native American nations debate sovereignty after Iroquois passport dispute" (<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/700049039/Native-American-nations-debate-sovereignty-after-Iroquois-passport-dispute.html?pg=all>). *Deseret News* (Salt Lake City). Associated Press. Retrieved July 28, 2012.
244. ^ Etheridge, Eric; Deleith, Asger (August 19, 2009). "A Republic or a Democracy?" (<http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/08/19/a-republic-or-a-democracy/>). *New York Times blogs*. Retrieved November 7, 2010. "The US system seems essentially a two-party system. ..."
245. ^ Grigsby, Ellen (2008). *Analyzing Politics: An Introduction to Political Science*. Cengage Learning. pp. 106–7. ISBN 0-495-50112-3.
246. ^ "Congressional Profile Resources" ([http://clerk.house.gov/member\\_info/cong.aspx](http://clerk.house.gov/member_info/cong.aspx)). Office of the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives.
247. ^ "50 State Governors" ([http://www.netstate.com/states/tables/st\\_governors.htm](http://www.netstate.com/states/tables/st_governors.htm)). netstate.com. Retrieved February 27, 2013.
248. ^ "CHART: No more WASPs in Presidential Races" (<http://www.usnews.com/news/blogs/washington-whispers/2012/09/04/chart-no-more-wasps-in-presidential-races>). US News and World Reports. Retrieved August 3, 2013.
249. ^ Knickerbocker, Brad (August 19, 2012). "US government and politics no longer run by WASPs. Does it matter?" (<http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/DC-Decoder/2012/0819/US-government-and-politics-no-longer-run-by-WASPs.-Does-it-matter>). *DC Decoder (blog)* (Boston MA: The Christian Science Monitor). Retrieved December 27, 2012.
250. ^ "For the first time, no WASPs in election" (<http://www.npr.org/2012/08/19/159194196/for-the-first-time-no-wasps-this-election>). NPR. August 19, 2012. Retrieved August 3, 2013.
251. ^ "What is the G8?" ([http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/what\\_is\\_g8.html](http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/what_is_g8.html)). University of Toronto. Retrieved February 11, 2012.
252. ^ Dumbrell, John; Schäfer, Axel (2009). *America's 'Special Relationships': Foreign and Domestic Aspects of the Politics of Alliance* (<http://books.google.co.uk/books?id=jLy-NKnQitIC&pg=PA45&dq=uk+us+special+relationship&hl=en&sa=X&ei=m81IUp6bPIHJhAfCpoHoDA&ved=0CD8Q6AEwAzgK#v=onepage&q=uk%20us%20special%20relationship&f=false>). p. 45.
253. ^ Ek, Carl, and Ian F. Fergusson (September 3, 2010). "Canada–U.S. Relations" (<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/96-397.pdf>). Congressional Research Service. Retrieved August 28, 2011.
254. ^ Vaughn, Bruce (August 8, 2008). "Australia: Background and U.S. Relations" (<http://www.worldcat.org/title/australia-background-and-us-relations/oclc/70208969?title=&detail=&page=frame&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.fas.org%2Fsgp%2Fcrs%2Frow%2FRL33010.pdf>)

- %26checksum%3Df2a13dd063242d8cf4b00dfda18441af&linktype=digitalObject). Congressional Research Service. Retrieved August 28, 2011.
255. ^ Vaughn, Bruce (May 27, 2011). "New Zealand: Background and Bilateral Relations with the United States" (<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL32876.pdf>). Congressional Research Service. Retrieved August 28, 2011.
  256. ^ Lum, Thomas (January 3, 2011). "The Republic of the Philippines and U.S. Interests" (<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL33233.pdf>). Congressional Research Service. Retrieved August 3, 2011.
  257. ^ Chanlett-Avery, Emma, et al. (June 8, 2011). "Japan-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress" (<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL33436.pdf>) (PDF). Congressional Research Service. Retrieved August 28, 2011.
  258. ^ Manyin, Mark E., Emma Chanlett-Avery, and Mary Beth Nikitin (July 8, 2011). "U.S.–South Korea Relations: Issues for Congress" (<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/row/R41481.pdf>). Congressional Research Service. Retrieved August 28, 2011.
  259. ^ Addis, Casey L. (February 14, 2011). "Israel: Background and U.S. Relations" (<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/RL33476.pdf>). Congressional Research Service. Retrieved August 28, 2011.
  260. ^ Shah, Anup (April 13, 2009). "U.S. and Foreign Aid Assistance" (<http://www.globalissues.org/article/35/us-and-foreign-aid-assistance>). GlobalIssues.org. Retrieved October 11, 2009.
  261. ^ "Who Pays Taxes in America?" (<http://www.ctj.org/pdf/taxday2012.pdf>). Citizens for Tax Justice. April 12, 2012.
  262. ^ Porter, Eduardo (August 14, 2012). "America's Aversion to Taxes" ([http://www.nytimes.com/2012/08/15/business/economy/slipping-behind-because-of-an-aversion-to-taxes.html?\\_r=1&src=recg](http://www.nytimes.com/2012/08/15/business/economy/slipping-behind-because-of-an-aversion-to-taxes.html?_r=1&src=recg)). *The New York Times*. Retrieved August 15, 2012. "In 1965, taxes collected by federal, state and municipal governments amounted to 24.7 percent of the nation's output. In 2010, they amounted to 24.8 percent. Excluding Chile and Mexico, the United States raises less tax revenue, as a share of the economy, than every other industrial country."
  263. ^ **a b** "CBO Historical Tables-February 2013" (<http://cbo.gov/publication/43904>). Congressional Budget Office. February 5, 2013. Retrieved April 23, 2013.
  264. ^ Harris, Benjamin H. (November 2009). "Corporate Tax Incidence and Its Implications for Progressivity" ([http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/1001349\\_corporate\\_tax\\_incidence.pdf](http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/1001349_corporate_tax_incidence.pdf)). Tax Policy Center. Retrieved October 9, 2013.
  265. ^ Gentry, William M. (December 2007). "A Review of the Evidence on the Incidence of the Corporate Income Tax" (<http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/tax-policy/tax-analysis/Documents/ota101.pdf>). *OTA Paper 101*. Office of Tax Analysis, US Department of the Treasury. Retrieved October 9, 2013.
  266. ^ Fullerton, Don; Metcalf, Gilbert E. (2002). "Tax Incidence" ([http://works.bepress.com/don\\_fullerton/15/](http://works.bepress.com/don_fullerton/15/)). In A.J. Auerbach and M. Feldstein. *Handbook of Public Economics*. Amsterdam: Elsevier Science B.V. pp. 1788–1839. Retrieved October 9, 2013.
  267. ^ Musgrave, R.A.; Carroll, J.J.; Cook, L.D.; Frane, L. (March 1951). "Distribution of Tax Payments by Income Groups: A Case Study for 1948" ([http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/docs/historical/eccles/026\\_13\\_0001.pdf](http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/docs/historical/eccles/026_13_0001.pdf)). *National Tax Journal* **4** (1): 1–53. Retrieved October 9, 2013.
  268. ^ Duggan, M.; Duggan, M. (April 9, 2000). "Taxation and the welfare of welfare"

268. ^ Prasad, M.; Deng, Y. (April 2, 2009). "Taxation and the worlds of welfare" (<http://ser.oxfordjournals.org/content/7/3/431.abstract?keytype=ref&ijkey=65cyoW8oR1QgGol>). *Socio-Economic Review* 7 (3): 431–457. doi:10.1093/ser/mwp005 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1093%2Fser%2Fmwp005>). Retrieved May 5, 2013.
269. ^ Crook, Clive (February 10, 2012). "U.S. Taxes Really Are Unusually Progressive" (<http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2012/02/us-taxes-really-are-unusually-progressive/252917/>). *The Atlantic* (Washington DC). Retrieved April 3, 2013.
270. ^ <sup>a b</sup> Matthews, Dylan (September 19, 2012). "Other countries don't have a '47%'" (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2012/09/19/other-countries-dont-have-a-47/>). *The Washington Post*. Retrieved October 29, 2013.
271. ^ "How Much Do People Pay in Federal Taxes?" (<http://www.pgpf.org/Issues/Taxes/2012/04/041612-tax-rate-explainer.aspx>). Peter G. Peterson Foundation. Retrieved April 3, 2013.
272. ^ <sup>a b c</sup> "The Distribution of Household Income and Federal Taxes, 2008 and 2009" (<http://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/cbofiles/attachments/43373-06-11-HouseholdIncomeandFedTaxes.pdf>). Congressional Budget Office. July 2012. Retrieved April 3, 2013.
273. ^ "Table T12-0178 Baseline Distribution of Cash Income and Federal Taxes Under Current Law" (<http://www.taxpolicycenter.org/numbers/Content/PDF/T12-0178.pdf>). The Tax Policy Center. Retrieved October 29, 2013.
274. ^ Agadoni, Laura. "Characteristics of a Regressive Tax" (<http://smallbusiness.chron.com/characteristics-regressive-tax-17562.html>). Houston Chronicle Small Business blog.
275. ^ TPC Tax Topics | Payroll Taxes (<http://www.taxpolicycenter.org/taxtopics/Payroll-Taxes.cfm>)
276. ^ "The Design of the Original Social Security Act" (<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/history/genrev.html>). *Social Security Online*. U.S. Social Security Administration. Retrieved April 3, 2013.
277. ^ Blahous, Charles (February 24, 2012). "The Dark Side of the Payroll Tax Cut" (<http://www.hoover.org/publications/defining-ideas/article/109216>). *Defining Ideas*. Hoover Institution. Retrieved April 3, 2013.
278. ^ Stephen, Ohlemacher (March 3, 2013). "Tax bills for rich families approach 30-year high" ([http://seattletimes.com/html/politics/2020475301\\_apustaxingtherich.html](http://seattletimes.com/html/politics/2020475301_apustaxingtherich.html)). *The Seattle Times*. Associated Press. Retrieved April 3, 2013.
279. ^ "Who will pay what in 2013 taxes?" ([http://seattletimes.com/html/politics/2020475325\\_apustaxeswhopayswhat.html](http://seattletimes.com/html/politics/2020475325_apustaxeswhopayswhat.html)). *The Seattle Times*. Associated Press. March 3, 2013. Retrieved April 3, 2013.
280. ^ <sup>a b</sup> Malm, Elizabeth (February 20, 2013). "Comments on Who Pays? A Distributional Analysis of the Tax Systems in All 50 States" (<http://taxfoundation.org/article/comments-who-pays-distributional-analysis-tax-systems-all-50-states>). Tax Foundation. Retrieved April 3, 2013.
281. ^ Stroup, Michael D.; Hubbard, Keith (August 2013). "An improved index and estimation method for assessing tax progressivity" ([http://mercatus.org/sites/default/files/Stroup\\_TaxProgressivity\\_v2.pdf](http://mercatus.org/sites/default/files/Stroup_TaxProgressivity_v2.pdf)). Mercatus. Retrieved October 28, 2013.
282. ^ <sup>a b</sup> Reynolds, Alan (May 3, 2011). "The Increasing Progressivity of U.S. Taxes: And the Shrinking Tax Base" (<http://www.cato.org/publications/congressional-testimony/increasing-progressivity-us-taxes-shrinking-tax-base>). Cato Institute. Retrieved October 28, 2013.
283. ^ Just How Progressive is the U.S. Tax Code? » Papers » The Hamilton Project (<http://www.hamiltonproject.org/papers/just-how-progressive-is-the-u-s-tax-code/>)



([http://www.hamiltonproject.org/papers/just\\_now\\_progressive\\_is\\_the\\_u.s.\\_tax\\_code/](http://www.hamiltonproject.org/papers/just_now_progressive_is_the_u.s._tax_code/))

284. ^ Tax Rate for Richest 400 Taxpayers Plummeted in Recent Decades, Even as Their Pre-Tax Incomes Skyrocketed — Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (<http://www.cbpp.org/cms/?fa=view&id=3090>)
285. ^ Hacker, Jacob; Pierson, Paul (January 24, 2012). "Romney's returns show progressive taxes are dead for the superrich" (<http://www.cnn.com/2012/01/24/opinion/hacker-pierson-romney-taxes>). *CNN.com*.
286. ^ Bluey, Rob (February 19, 2012). "Chart of the Week: Nearly Half of All Americans Don't Pay Income Taxes" (<http://blog.heritage.org/2012/02/19/chart-of-the-week-nearly-half-of-all-americans-dont-pay-income-taxes/>). Heritage Foundation. Retrieved October 28, 2013.
287. ^ Freeland, Will; Hodge, Scott A. (July 20, 2012). "Tax Equity and the Growth in Nonpayers" (<http://taxfoundation.org/article/tax-equity-and-growth-nonpayers>). Tax Foundation. Retrieved October 28, 2013.
288. ^ Lundeen, Andrew; Hodge, Scott A. (October 24, 2013). "Income Taxes Account for the Largest Share of Federal Revenue" (<http://taxfoundation.org/blog/income-taxes-account-largest-share-federal-revenue>). Tax Foundation. Retrieved October 29, 2013.
289. ^ "Looking at all the taxes" (<http://www.economist.com/blogs/democracyinamerica/2012/07/taxes-and-rich-0>). *The Economist* 'Democracy in America' blog. July 19, 2012.
290. ^ Misconceptions and Realities About Who Pays Taxes — Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (<http://www.cbpp.org/cms/?fa=view&id=3505>)
291. ^ Klein, Ezra. "The one tax graph you really need to know" (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/workblog/wp/2012/09/19/heres-why-the-47-percent-argument-is-an-abuse-of-tax-data/>). *Washington Post blog*.
292. ^ Isidore, Chris (March 4, 2013). "Buffett says he's still paying lower tax rate than his secretary" (<http://money.cnn.com/2013/03/04/news/economy/buffett-secretary-taxes>). *CNN Money*.
293. ^ Mitchell, Daniel J. (August 15, 2011). "Warren Buffett's Fiscal Innumeracy" (<http://www.forbes.com/sites/beltway/2011/08/15/warren-buffetts-fiscal-innumeracy/>). *Forbes*. Retrieved 6 November 2013.
294. ^ "Debt to the Penny (Daily History Search Application)" (<http://www.treasurydirect.gov/NP/BPDLLogin?application=np>). TreasuryDirect. Retrieved April 23, 2013.
295. ^ "US national debt surpasses \$16 trillion" ([http://www.bizjournals.com/boston/blog/mass\\_roundup/2012/09/us-national-debt.html](http://www.bizjournals.com/boston/blog/mass_roundup/2012/09/us-national-debt.html)). *Boston Business Journal blog*. September 5, 2012. Retrieved April 23, 2013.
296. ^ Thornton, Daniel L. (Nov./Dec. 2012). "The U.S. Deficit/Debt Problem: A Longer-Run Perspective" (<http://research.stlouisfed.org/publications/review/12/11/Thornton.pdf>). *Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis Review*. Retrieved May 7, 2013.
297. ^ Lopez, Luciana (January 28, 2013). "Fitch backs away from downgrade of U.S. credit rating" (<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/01/28/us-usa-rating-fitch-idUSBRE90R0WS20130128>). *Reuters*. Retrieved March 26, 2013.
298. ^ "Federal Debt: Answers to Frequently Asked Questions" (<http://www.gao.gov/special.pubs/longterm/debt/index.html>). Government Accountability Office. Retrieved April 16, 2012.
299. ^ Lynch, David J. (March 21, 2013). "Economists See No Crisis With U.S. Debt as Economy Gains" (<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-03-22/economists-see-no-crisis-with-u-s-debt-as-economy-gains.html>). *Bloomberg* (New York). Retrieved March 25, 2013.

300. ^ "The Air Force in Facts and Figures (Armed Forces Manpower Trends, End Strength in Thousands)" ([http://www.airforce-magazine.com/MagazineArchive/Magazine%20Documents/2009/May%202009/0509facts\\_fig.pdf](http://www.airforce-magazine.com/MagazineArchive/Magazine%20Documents/2009/May%202009/0509facts_fig.pdf)). *Air Force Magazine*. May 2009. Retrieved October 9, 2009.
301. ^ "What does Selective Service provide for America?" (<http://www.sss.gov/what.htm>). Selective Service System. Retrieved February 11, 2012.
302. ^ "Base Structure Report, Fiscal Year 2008 Baseline" ([http://www.defense.gov/pubs/BSR\\_2008\\_Baseline.pdf](http://www.defense.gov/pubs/BSR_2008_Baseline.pdf)). Department of Defense. Retrieved October 9, 2009.
303. ^ "Active Duty Military Personnel Strengths by Regional Area and by Country (309A)" (<http://siadapp.dmdc.osd.mil/personnel/MILITARY/history/hst1003.pdf>). Department of Defense. March 31, 2010. Retrieved October 7, 2010.
304. ^ Ikenberry, G. John (March/April 2004). "Illusions of Empire: Defining the New American Order" (<http://archive.is/eBPR>). *Foreign Affairs*. Archived from the original (<http://people.cas.sc.edu/rosati/ttp.ikenberry.empirereviews.fa.march04.htm>) on May 25, 2012. Kreisler, Harry, and Chalmers Johnson (January 29, 2004). "Conversations with History" (<http://globetrotter.berkeley.edu/people4/CJohnson/cjohnson-con3.html>). University of California at Berkeley. Retrieved June 21, 2007.
305. ^ "The 15 Countries with the Highest Military Expenditure in 2011" (<http://www.sipri.org/research/armaments/milex/resultoutput/15majorspenders>). Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. Retrieved February 4, 2013.
306. ^ "Compare" (<http://cia-world-factbook.realclearworld.com/>). *CIA World Factbook*. RealClearWorld. Retrieved February 4, 2013.
307. ^ "Fiscal Year 2013 Historical Tables" (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2013/assets/hist.pdf>). *Budget of the U.S. Government*. White House OMB. Retrieved November 24, 2012.
308. ^ "Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Request Overview" ([http://comptroller.defense.gov/defbudget/fy2012/FY2012\\_Budget\\_Request\\_Overview\\_Book.pdf](http://comptroller.defense.gov/defbudget/fy2012/FY2012_Budget_Request_Overview_Book.pdf)). Department of Defense. February 2011. Retrieved July 25, 2011.
309. ^ Basu, Moni (December 18, 2011). "Deadly Iraq War Ends with Exit of Last U.S. Troops" ([http://www.cnn.com/2011/12/17/world/meast/iraq-troops-leave/index.html?hpt=hp\\_t1](http://www.cnn.com/2011/12/17/world/meast/iraq-troops-leave/index.html?hpt=hp_t1)). CNN. Retrieved February 5, 2012.
310. ^ "Operation Iraqi Freedom" (<http://icasualties.org/Iraq/index.aspx>). Iraq Coalition Casualty Count. February 5, 2012. Retrieved February 5, 2012.
311. ^ Cherian, John (April 7, 2012). "Turning Point" (<http://liveweb.archive.org/http://www.frontline.in/fl2907/stories/20120420290705200.htm>). *Frontline* (The Hindu Group). Archived from the original (<http://www.frontline.in/fl2907/stories/20120420290705200.htm>) on December 2, 2012. Retrieved December 2, 2012. "There are currently 90,000 U.S. troops deployed in the country."
312. ^ . Department of Defense. November 2013 of Defence Defence Casualty Analysis System [http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dcas/pages/report\\_oef\\_type.xhtml?title=Department of Defence Defence Casualty Analysis System](http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dcas/pages/report_oef_type.xhtml?title=Department%20of%20Defence%20Defence%20Casualty%20Analysis%20System) ([http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dcas/pages/report\\_oef\\_type.xhtml?title=Department](http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dcas/pages/report_oef_type.xhtml?title=Department)). Retrieved November 11,

2013. Missing or empty |title= (help)
313. ^ "Local Police Departments, 2003" (<http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/lpd03.pdf>). U.S. Dept. of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. May 2006. Retrieved December 7, 2011.
314. ^ "U.S. Federal LAW Enforcement Agencies, Who Governs & What They Do" (<http://www.chiff.com/police/federal-police-agencies.htm>). chiff.com. Retrieved August 21, 2012.
315. ^ Plea Bargains ([http://criminal.findlaw.com/crimes/criminal\\_stages/criminal\\_plea\\_bargain.html](http://criminal.findlaw.com/crimes/criminal_stages/criminal_plea_bargain.html)) Findlaw.com
316. ^ Interview with Judge Michael McSpadden (<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/plea/interviews/mcspadden.html>) PBS interview, December 16, 2003
317. ^ "Crime in the United States, 2011" (<http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/violent-crime/murder>). FBI '(Uniform Crime Statistics—Murder)'. Retrieved January 23, 2013.
318. ^ "UNODC Homicide Statistics" (<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/homicide.html>). United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Retrieved January 23, 2013.
319. ^ "Eighth United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (2001–2002)" (<http://www.unodc.org/pdf/crime/eighthsurvey/8sv.pdf>). United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). March 31, 2005. Retrieved May 18, 2008.
320. ^ Intentional homicides (per 100,000 people) | Data | Table (<http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/VC.IHR.PSRC.P5>)
321. ^ Homicide, Suicide, and Unintentional Firearm Fatality: Comp... : Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery (<http://journals.lww.com/jtrauma/pages/articleviewer.aspx?year=2011&issue=01000&article=00035&type=abstract>)
322. ^ South Has More Violent Crime FBI Statistics Show - Business Insider (<http://www.businessinsider.com/south-has-more-violent-crime-fbi-statistics-show-2013-9>)
323. ^ Klein, Ezra (December 14, 2012). "Twelve facts about guns and mass shootings in the United States" (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2012/12/14/nine-facts-about-guns-and-mass-shootings-in-the-united-states/>). *Washington Post*.
324. ^ Tracing the national flow of guns (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/special/nation/guns/overlay/national.html>)
325. ^ Simpson, Ian (May 2, 2013). "Maryland becomes latest U.S. state to abolish death penalty" (<http://archive.is/20130624185425/http://news.yahoo.com/maryland-governor-signs-bill-abolishing-death-penalty-153909799.html>). *Yahoo! News*. Reuters. Archived from the original (<http://news.yahoo.com/maryland-governor-signs-bill-abolishing-death-penalty-153909799.html>) on June 24, 2013. Retrieved July 4, 2013.
326. ^ "U.S. Executions Since 1976" (<http://www.clarkprosecutor.org/html/death/usexecute.htm>). Clark Prosecutor. Retrieved December 5, 2012.
327. ^ "Searchable Execution Database" (<http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/views-executions>). Death Penalty Information Center. Retrieved October 10, 2012.
328. ^ "Executions Around the World" (<http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/death-penalty-international-perspective#interexec>). Death Penalty Information Center. 2010. Retrieved July 23, 2011.
329. ^ Schmidt, Steffen W.; Shelley, Mack C.; Bardes, Barbara A. (2008). *American Government & Politics Today* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=IV1sxbRqhGIC&pg=PA591>). Cengage Learning. p. 591.

ISBN 978-0-495-50228-9.

330. ^ Walmsley, Roy (2005). "World Prison Population List" (<http://web.archive.org/web/20070628215935/http://www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/rel/icps/world-prison-population-list-2005.pdf>). King's College London, International Centre for Prison Studies. Archived from the original (<http://www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/rel/icps/world-prison-population-list-2005.pdf>) on June 28, 2007. For the latest data, see "Prison Brief for United States of America" ([http://web.archive.org/web/20070804061423/http://www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/rel/icps/worldbrief/north\\_america\\_records.php?code=190](http://web.archive.org/web/20070804061423/http://www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/rel/icps/worldbrief/north_america_records.php?code=190)). King's College London, International Centre for Prison Studies. June 21, 2006. Archived from the original ([http://www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/rel/icps/worldbrief/north\\_america\\_records.php?code=190](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/rel/icps/worldbrief/north_america_records.php?code=190)) on August 4, 2007. For other estimates of the incarceration rate in China and North Korea see Adams, Cecil (February 6, 2004). "Does the United States Lead the World in Prison Population?" (<http://www.straightdope.com/columns/read/2494/does-the-united-states-lead-the-world-in-prison-population>). The Straight Dope. Retrieved October 11, 2007.
331. ^ Barkan, Steven E.; Bryjak, George J. (2011). *Fundamentals of Criminal Justice: A Sociological View* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=bNGaYvTAeLMC&pg=PT23>). Jones & Bartlett. p. 23. ISBN 978-1-4496-5439-9.
332. ^ Iadicola, Peter; Shupe, Anson (October 26, 2012). *Violence, Inequality, and Human Freedom* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=KSp0UImx44kC&pg=PA456>). Rowman & Littlefield. p. 456. ISBN 978-1-4422-0949-7.
333. ^ "World Prison Population List (8th edition)" ([http://www.prisonstudies.org/info/downloads/wppl-8th\\_41.pdf](http://www.prisonstudies.org/info/downloads/wppl-8th_41.pdf)). King's College London, International Centre for Prison Studies. 2009. Retrieved July 23, 2011.
334. ^ DeLisi, Matt; Conis, Peter John (2011). *American Corrections: Theory, Research, Policy, and Practice* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=ffWdrqbqplEC&pg=PA21>). Jones & Bartlett. p. 21. ISBN 978-1-4496-4540-3.
335. ^ Clear, Todd R.; Cole, George F.; Reisig, Michael Dean (2008). *American Corrections* (<http://books.google.com/books?id=cYVdYfUGxvoC&pg=PA485>). Cengage Learning. p. 485. ISBN 978-0-495-55323-6.
336. ^ Mears, Daniel P. (2010). *American Criminal Justice Policy: An Evaluation Approach to Increasing Accountability and Effectiveness* ([http://books.google.com/books?id=CO0\\_SAED7q0C&pg=PA72](http://books.google.com/books?id=CO0_SAED7q0C&pg=PA72)). Cambridge University Press. p. 72. ISBN 978-0-521-76246-5.
337. ^ Fuchs, Erin (October 1, 2013). "Why Louisiana Is The Murder Capital Of America" (<http://www.businessinsider.com/why-is-the-murder-rate-high-in-louisiana-2013-9>). *Business Insider*.
338. ^ "Gross Domestic Product, 1 Decimal (GDP)" (<http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/GDP>). Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. June 26, 2013. Retrieved June 26, 2013.
339. ^ "National Income and Product Accounts Gross Domestic Product, 2nd Quarter 2013 (advance estimate)" (<http://www.bea.gov/newsreleases/national/gdp/gdpnewsrelease.htm>) (Press release). Bureau of Economic Analysis. July 31, 2013. Retrieved August 23, 2013. Change is based on chained 2005 dollars. Quarterly growth is expressed as an annualized rate.
340. ^ "Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: All Items (CPIAUCSL)" (<http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/CPIAUCSL>). Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. April 5, 2013. Retrieved April 5, 2013.

341. ^ "Civilian Employment-Population Ratio (EMRATIO)" (<http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/EMRATIO>). Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. April 5, 2013. Retrieved April 5, 2013.
342. ^ "Employment Situation Summary" (<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/empstat.nr0.htm>) (Press release). United States Department of Labor. August 2, 2013. Retrieved August 2, 2013.
343. ^ "Labor Force Statistics from the Current Population Survey" (<http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNS11300000>). *Bureau of Labor Statistics*. United States Department of Labor. April 7, 2013. Retrieved April 7, 2013.
344. ^ "Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2010" (<http://www.census.gov/prod/2011pubs/p60-239.pdf>). U.S. Census Bureau. September 14, 2010. Retrieved September 16, 2011.
345. ^ "Federal Debt: Total Public Debt (GFDEBTN)" (<http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/series/GFDEBTN?cid=5>). Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. April 5, 2013. Retrieved April 5, 2013.
346. ^ "Flow of Funds Accounts of the United States: Flows and Outstandings Fourth Quarter 2011" (<http://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/Z1/Current/z1r-1.pdf>) (Press release). U.S. Federal Reserve. March 8, 2012. Retrieved April 17, 2012.
347. ^ Wright, Gavin; Czelusta, Jesse (2007). "Resource-Based Growth Past and Present", in *Natural Resources: Neither Curse Nor Destiny*, ed. Daniel Lederman and William Maloney. World Bank. p. 185. ISBN 0-8213-6545-2.
348. ^ "EU27 Population 502.5 Million at 1 January 2011" ([http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY\\_PUBLIC/3-28072011-AP/EN/3-28072011-AP-EN.PDF](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_PUBLIC/3-28072011-AP/EN/3-28072011-AP-EN.PDF)) (Press release). Eurostat Press Office. July 28, 2011. Retrieved June 19, 2012.
349. ^ "Currency Composition of Official Foreign Exchange Reserves" (<http://www.imf.org/external/np/sta/cofer/eng/cofer.pdf>). International Monetary Fund. Retrieved April 9, 2012.
350. ^ **a b** "Trade Statistics" (<http://greyhill.com/trade-statistics>). Greyhill Advisors. Retrieved October 6, 2011.
351. ^ "Top Ten Countries with which the U.S. Trades" (<http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/top/dst/current/balance.html>). U.S. Census Bureau. August 2009. Retrieved October 12, 2009.
352. ^ "National debt: Whom does the US owe?" (<http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Politics/DC-Decoder/2011/0204/National-debt-Whom-does-the-US-owe>). *The Christian Science Monitor* (Boston MA). February 4, 2011. Retrieved July 14, 2011.
353. ^ "Market highlights for first half-year 2010" (<http://www.world-exchanges.org/files/file/stats%20and%20charts/July%202010%20WFE%20Market%20Highlights.pdf>). World Federation of Exchanges. Retrieved November 22, 2012.
354. ^ "GDP by Industry" (<http://greyhill.com/gdp-by-industry/>). Greyhill Advisors. Retrieved October 13, 2011.
355. ^ **a b** "USA Economy in Brief" (<http://web.archive.org/web/20080312123609/http://usinfo.state.gov/products/pubs/economy-in-brief/page3.html>). U.S. Dept. of State, International Information Programs. Archived from the original (<http://usinfo.state.gov/products/pubs/economy-in-brief/page3.html>) on March 12, 2008.
356. ^ "Table 724—Number of Tax Returns, Receipts, and Net Income by Type of Business and Industry: 2005" (<http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/2009/tables/09s0724.xls>) (XLS). U.S. Census Bureau.



Retrieved October 12, 2009.

357. ^ "Table 964—Gross Domestic Product in Current and Real (2000) Dollars by Industry: 2006" (<http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/2009/tables/09s0964.xls>). U.S. Census Bureau. May 2008. Retrieved October 12, 2009.
358. ^ "Rank Order—Oil (Production)" (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/rankorder/2173rank.html>). *The World Factbook*. CIA. Retrieved October 12, 2009. "Rank Order—Oil (Consumption)" (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/rankorder/2174rank.html>). *The World Factbook*. CIA. Retrieved October 12, 2009. "Crude Oil and Total Petroleum Imports Top 15 Countries" ([http://www.eia.doe.gov/pub/oil\\_gas/petroleum/data\\_publications/company\\_level\\_imports/current/import.html](http://www.eia.doe.gov/pub/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/company_level_imports/current/import.html)). U.S. Energy Information Administration. September 29, 2009. Retrieved October 12, 2009.
359. ^ "Corn" (<http://web.archive.org/web/20080112182404/http://www.grains.org/page.ww?section=Barley,+Corn+%26+Sorghum&name=Corn>). U.S. Grains Council. Archived from the original (<http://www.grains.org/page.ww?section=Barley,+Corn+%26+Sorghum&name=Corn>) on January 12, 2008. Retrieved March 13, 2008.
360. ^ "Soybean Demand Continues to Drive Production" (<http://www.worldwatch.org/node/5442>). Worldwatch Institute. November 6, 2007. Retrieved March 13, 2008.
361. ^ Coal Statistics (<http://www.nma.org/index.php/coal-statistics>)
362. ^ Minerals Production (<http://www.nma.org/index.php/minerals-statistics/minerals-production>)
363. ^ "Sony, LG, Wal-Mart among Most Extendible Brands" ([http://www.cheskin.com/view\\_news.php?id=2](http://www.cheskin.com/view_news.php?id=2)). Cheskin. June 6, 2005. Retrieved June 19, 2007.
364. ^ "Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE)/Gross Domestic Product (GDP)" (<http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/graph/?g=hh3>) *FRED Graph*, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
365. ^ Fuller, Thomas (June 15, 2005). "In the East, Many EU Work Rules Don't Apply" (<http://www.iht.com/articles/2005/06/14/news/europe.php>). *International Herald Tribune* (Paris). Retrieved June 28, 2007.
366. ^ "Doing Business in the United States" (<http://www.doingbusiness.org/ExploreEconomies/?economyid=197>). World Bank. 2006. Retrieved June 28, 2007.
367. ^ Ray, Rebecca; Sanes, Milla; Schmitt, John (May 2013). No-Vacation Nation Revisited (<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/no-vacation-update-2013-05.pdf>). *Center for Economic and Policy Research*. Retrieved September 8, 2013.
368. ^ Bernard. Tara Siegel (February 22, 2013). "In Paid Family Leave, U.S. Trails Most of the Globe" (<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/02/23/your-money/us-trails-much-of-the-world-in-providing-paid-family-leave.html>). *The New York Times*. Retrieved August 27, 2013.
369. ^ "Total Economy Database, Summary Statistics, 1995–2010" (<http://www.conference-board.org/data/economydatabase/>). *Total Economy Database*. The Conference Board. September 2010. Retrieved September 20, 2009.
370. ^ "Most Americans say U.S. in recession despite data: poll" (<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/04/28/us-usa-economy-gallup-idUSTRE73R3WW20110428?feedType=RSS&feedName=domesticNews>). *Reuters*. April 28, 2011.
371. ^ "OECD Better Life Index" (<http://www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org/#/111111111111>). OECD. Retrieved November 25, 2012.
372. ^ "Household Income for States: 2010 and 2011" (<http://www.census.gov/prod/2012pubs/acsbr11->

- 02.pdf) *United States Census, American Community Survey Briefs*, September 2012, Appendix Table 1, p. 5
373. ^ "Global Food Security Index" (<http://foodsecurityindex.eiu.com/Country/Details#United%20States>). London: The Economist Intelligence Unit. March 5, 2013. Retrieved April 8, 2013.
  374. ^ Rector, Robert; Sheffield, Rachel (September 13, 2011). "Understanding Poverty in the United States: Surprising Facts About America's Poor" (<http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/2011/09/understanding-poverty-in-the-united-states-surprising-facts-about-americas-poor>). Heritage Foundation. Retrieved April 8, 2013.
  375. ^ "Chart Book: The Legacy of the Great Recession — Center on Budget and Policy Priorities" (<http://www.cbpp.org/cms/index.cfm?fa=view&id=3252>). Cbpp.org. March 12, 2013. Retrieved March 27, 2013.
  376. ^ "Bureau of Labor Statistics Data" (<http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNS14000000>). Data.bls.gov. December 1, 2010. Retrieved March 27, 2013.
  377. ^ Hagopian, Kip; Ohanian, Lee (August 1, 2012). "The Mismeasure of Inequality" (<http://www.hoover.org/publications/policy-review/article/123566>). *Policy Review* (Hoover Institution Stanford University). Retrieved August 22, 2013.
  378. ^ "2013 Human Development Report" ([http://hdr.undp.org/en/media/HDR\\_2013\\_EN\\_complete.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/en/media/HDR_2013_EN_complete.pdf)). United Nations Development Programme. Retrieved July 28, 2013.
  379. ^ Schwartz, Nelson (March 3, 2013). "Recovery in U.S. Is Lifting Profits, but Not Adding Jobs" (<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/04/business/economy/corporate-profits-soar-as-worker-income-limps.html?pagewanted=all>). *The New York Times*. Retrieved March 18, 2013.
  380. ^ McKinnon, John D. (January 1, 2013). "Analysis: 77% of Households to See Tax Increase" (<http://blogs.wsj.com/washwire/2013/01/01/tax-bill-analysis-77-of-households-to-see-tax-increase/>). *The Wall Street Journal (blog)* (New York). Retrieved April 8, 2013.
  381. ^ "U.S. Poverty: Census Finds Nearly Half Of Americans Are Poor Or Low-Income" ([http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/12/15/census-shows-1-in-2-people\\_1\\_n\\_1150128.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/12/15/census-shows-1-in-2-people_1_n_1150128.html)). *The Huffington Post*. December 15, 2011. Retrieved June 5, 2013.
  382. ^ Alvaredo, Facundo; Atkinson, Anthony B.; Piketty, Thomas; Saez, Emmanuel (2013). "The Top 1 Percent in International and Historical Perspective" (<http://pubs.aeaweb.org/doi/pdfplus/10.1257/jep.27.3.3>). *Journal of Economic Perspectives*. Retrieved August 16, 2013.
  383. ^ Smeeding, T.M. (2005). "Public Policy: Economic Inequality and Poverty: The United States in Comparative Perspective". *Social Science Quarterly* **86**: 955–983. doi:10.1111/j.0038-4941.2005.00331.x (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111%2Fj.0038-4941.2005.00331.x>).
  384. ^ Saez, E. (October 2007). "Table A1: Top Fractiles Income Shares (Excluding Capital Gains) in the U.S., 1913–2005" (<http://elsa.berkeley.edu/~saez/TabFig2005prel.xls>). UC Berkeley. Retrieved July 24, 2008."Field Listing—Distribution of Family Income—Gini Index" (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/2172.html>). *The World Factbook*. CIA. June 14, 2007. Retrieved June 17, 2007.
  385. ^ Saez, Emmanuel (September 3, 2013). "Striking it Richer: The Evolution of Top Incomes in the United States" (<http://elsa.berkeley.edu/~saez/saez-UStopincomes-2012.pdf>). *UC Berkley*. Retrieved September 11, 2013.
  386. ^ Panousi, Vasia; Vidangos, Ivan; Ramnath, Shanti; DeBacker, Jason; Heim, Bradley (Spring 2013). "Inequality Rising and Persistent Over-Test-Two Decades"

- "Inequality Rising and Permanent Over Past Two Decades" (<http://www.brookings.edu/about/projects/bpea/latest-conference/2013-spring-permanent-inequality-panousi>). *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*. Brookings Institution. Retrieved October 17, 2013.
387. ^ Yen, Hope (28 July 2013). 80 Percent Of U.S. Adults Face Near-Poverty, Unemployment: Survey ([http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/07/28/poverty-unemployment-rates\\_n\\_3666594.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/07/28/poverty-unemployment-rates_n_3666594.html)). *The Huffington Post*. Retrieved July 28, 2013.
  388. ^ Mishel, Lawrence (April 26, 2012). The wedges between productivity and median compensation growth (<http://www.epi.org/publication/ib330-productivity-vs-compensation/>). *Economic Policy Institute*. Retrieved October 18, 2013.
  389. ^ "The Most Important Chart in American Politics" (<http://swampland.time.com/2013/02/04/the-most-important-chart-in-american-politics/>). *Time* (New York). February 4, 2013.
  390. ^ Gongloff, Mark (September 17, 2013). "Median Income Falls For 5th Year, Inequality At Record High" ([http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/09/17/median-income-falls-inequality\\_n\\_3941514.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/09/17/median-income-falls-inequality_n_3941514.html)). *The Huffington Post*. Retrieved October 4, 2013.
  391. ^ <sup>a b</sup> Kneebone, Elizabeth; Nadeau, Carey; Berube, Alan (November 3, 2011). "The Re-Emergence of Concentrated Poverty: Metropolitan Trends in the 2000s" (<http://www.brookings.edu/research/papers/2011/11/03-poverty-kneebone-nadeau-berube>). *Brookings Institution*. Retrieved October 5, 2013.
  392. ^ Rothwell, Jonathan (November 8, 2011). "Why Heritage Is Wrong About Poverty in America" (<http://www.newrepublic.com/blog/the-avenue/97198/why-heritage-wrong-about-poverty-in-america>). *The New Republic*. Retrieved September 16, 2013.
  393. ^ Shah, Neil (October 11, 2013). U.S. Poverty Rate Stabilizes—For Some (<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702304500404579127603306039292>). *The Wall Street Journal* (New York). Retrieved October 15, 2013.
  394. ^ "Extreme Poverty in the United States, 1996 to 2011" ([http://npc.umich.edu/publications/policy\\_briefs/brief28/policybrief28.pdf](http://npc.umich.edu/publications/policy_briefs/brief28/policybrief28.pdf)) *National Poverty Center*, February 2012
  395. ^ "The Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress (2009)" (<http://www.huduser.org/publications/pdf/5thHomelessAssessmentReport.pdf>). Retrieved April 23, 2013.
  396. ^ "Household Food Security in the United States in 2011" (<http://www.ers.usda.gov/media/884525/err141.pdf>). USDA. September 2012. Retrieved April 8, 2013.
  397. ^ Domhoff, G. William (December 2006). "Table 4: Percentage of Wealth Held by the Top 10% of the Adult Population in Various Western Countries" (<http://sociology.ucsc.edu/whorulesamerica/power/wealth.html>). *Power in America*. University of California at Santa Cruz, Sociology Dept. Retrieved August 21, 2006.
  398. ^ Altman, Roger C. "The Great Crash, 2008" (<http://www.foreignaffairs.org/20090101faessay88101/roger-c-altman/the-great-crash-2008.html>). *Foreign Affairs*. Retrieved February 27, 2009.
  399. ^ "Americans' wealth drops \$1.3 trillion" ([http://money.cnn.com/2009/06/11/news/economy/Americans\\_wealth\\_drops/?postversion=2009061113](http://money.cnn.com/2009/06/11/news/economy/Americans_wealth_drops/?postversion=2009061113)). *CNN MOney*. June 11, 2009.
  400. ^ "U.S. household wealth falls \$11.2 trillion in 2008" (<http://www.reuters.com/article/id1ISTRE52R587200090312>) *Reuters* March 12 2009

- (<http://www.reuters.com/article/US-TRADE/2009/03/12/us-trade-03122009>). *Reuters*. March 12, 2009.
401. ^ "Interstate FAQ (Question #3)" (<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/interstate/faq.htm#question3>). Federal Highway Administration. 2006. Retrieved March 4, 2009.
402. ^ "China Expressway System to Exceed US Interstates" (<http://www.newgeography.com/content/002003-china-expressway-system-exceed-us-interstates>). *New Geography* (Grand Forks, ND). January 22, 2011. Retrieved September 16, 2011.
403. ^ "China overtakes US in car sales" (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2010/jan/08/china-us-car-sales-overtakes>). *The Guardian* (London). January 8, 2010. Retrieved July 10, 2011.
404. ^ "Motor vehicles statistics – countries compared worldwide" ([http://www.nationmaster.com/graph/tra\\_mot\\_veh-transportation-motor-vehicles](http://www.nationmaster.com/graph/tra_mot_veh-transportation-motor-vehicles)). NationMaster. Retrieved July 10, 2011.
405. ^ "Household, Individual, and Vehicle Characteristics" ([http://www.bts.gov/publications/highlights\\_of\\_the\\_2001\\_national\\_household\\_travel\\_survey/html/section\\_01.html](http://www.bts.gov/publications/highlights_of_the_2001_national_household_travel_survey/html/section_01.html)). *2001 National Household Travel Survey*. U.S. Dept. of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics. Retrieved August 15, 2007.
406. ^ "Daily Passenger Travel" ([http://www.bts.gov/publications/highlights\\_of\\_the\\_2001\\_national\\_household\\_travel\\_survey/html/section\\_02.html](http://www.bts.gov/publications/highlights_of_the_2001_national_household_travel_survey/html/section_02.html)). *2001 National Household Travel Survey*. U.S. Dept. of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics. Retrieved August 15, 2007.
407. ^ Renne, John L.; Wells, Jan S. (2003). "Emerging European-Style Planning in the United States: Transit-Oriented Development" ([http://www.policy.rutgers.edu/vtc/documents/TOD.Euro-Style\\_Planning-Renne-Wells.pdf](http://www.policy.rutgers.edu/vtc/documents/TOD.Euro-Style_Planning-Renne-Wells.pdf)). Rutgers University. p. 2. Retrieved June 11, 2007.
408. ^ "NatGeo surveys countries' transit use: guess who comes in last" ([http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/kbenfield/natgeo\\_surveys\\_countriestrans.html](http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/kbenfield/natgeo_surveys_countriestrans.html)). Switchboard.nrdc.org. May 18, 2009. Retrieved July 10, 2011.
409. ^ "Intercity Passenger Rail: National Policy and Strategies Needed to Maximize Public Benefits from Federal Expenditures" (<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-07-15>). U.S. Government Accountability Office. November 13, 2006. Retrieved June 20, 2007.
410. ^ "Amtrak Ridership Records" (<http://www.amtrak.com/servlet/BlobServer?blobcol=urldata&blobtable=MungoBlobs&blobkey=id&blobwhere=1249227805921&blobheader=application%2Fpdf&blobhead>). Amtrak. June 8, 2011. Retrieved February 29, 2012.
411. ^ McGill, Tracy (January 1, 2011). "3 Reasons Light Rail Is an Efficient Transportation Option for U.S. Cities" (<http://www.metaefficient.com/trains/master-2.html>). *MetaEfficient*. Retrieved June 14, 2013.
412. ^ "Bicycling to Work" (<http://trafficsafety.org/safety/sharing/bike/bike-facts/bicycling-to-work>). Network of Employers for Traffic Safety. Retrieved July 10, 2011.
413. ^ "Scheduled Passengers Carried" (<http://www.iata.org/ps/publications/Pages/wats-passenger-carried.aspx>). International Air Transport Association (IATA). 2011. Retrieved February 17, 2012.
414. ^ "Passenger Traffic 2006 Final" ([http://www.airports.org/cda/aci\\_common/display/main/aci\\_content07\\_c.jsp?zn=aci&cp=1-5-54-55\\_666\\_2\\_\\_](http://www.airports.org/cda/aci_common/display/main/aci_content07_c.jsp?zn=aci&cp=1-5-54-55_666_2__)). Airports Council International. July 18, 2007. Retrieved August 15, 2007.
415. ^ "Diagram 1: Energy Flow, 2007" ([http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/aer/pdf/pages/sec1\\_3.pdf](http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/aer/pdf/pages/sec1_3.pdf)). *EIA Annual Energy Review*. U.S. Dept. of Energy, Energy Information Administration. 2007. Retrieved June 25, 2008.
416. ^ "Rank Order—Oil (Consumption)" (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world->

416. ^ "Rank Order - Oil Consumption" (<http://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/rankorder/2174rank.html>). *The World Factbook*. CIA. September 6, 2007. Retrieved September 14, 2007.
417. ^ "Atomic Renaissance" ([http://www.economist.com/science/displaystory.cfm?story\\_id=9762843](http://www.economist.com/science/displaystory.cfm?story_id=9762843)). *The Economist* (London). September 6, 2007. Retrieved September 6, 2007.
418. ^ "BP Statistical Review of World Energy" ([http://www.bp.com/liveassets/bp\\_internet/globalbp/globalbp\\_uk\\_english/reports\\_and\\_publications/statistical\\_energy\\_review\\_2007/STAGING/local\\_assets/downloads/spreadsheets/statistical\\_review\\_full\\_report\\_workbook\\_2007.xls](http://www.bp.com/liveassets/bp_internet/globalbp/globalbp_uk_english/reports_and_publications/statistical_energy_review_2007/STAGING/local_assets/downloads/spreadsheets/statistical_review_full_report_workbook_2007.xls)) (XLS). British Petroleum. June 2007. Retrieved February 22, 2010.
419. ^ Ames, Paul (May 30, 2013). "Could fracking make the Persian Gulf irrelevant?" ([http://www.salon.com/2013/05/30/could\\_fracking\\_make\\_the\\_persian\\_gulf\\_irrelevant\\_partner/](http://www.salon.com/2013/05/30/could_fracking_make_the_persian_gulf_irrelevant_partner/)). *Salon*. Retrieved May 30, 2012. "Since November, the United States has replaced Saudi Arabia as the world's biggest producer of crude oil. It had already overtaken Russia as the leading producer of natural gas."
420. ^ "Edison's Story" ([http://invention.smithsonian.org/centerpieces/edison/000\\_story\\_02.asp](http://invention.smithsonian.org/centerpieces/edison/000_story_02.asp)). Lemelson Center. Retrieved August 21, 2012.
421. ^ Benedetti, François (December 17, 2003). "100 Years Ago, the Dream of Icarus Became Reality" ([http://web.archive.org/web/20070912065254/http://www.fai.org/news\\_archives/fai/000295.asp](http://web.archive.org/web/20070912065254/http://www.fai.org/news_archives/fai/000295.asp)). Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI). Archived from the original ([http://www.fai.org/news\\_archives/fai/000295.asp](http://www.fai.org/news_archives/fai/000295.asp)) on September 12, 2007. Retrieved August 15, 2007.
422. ^ "Research and Development (R&D) Expenditures by Source and Objective: 1970 to 2004" (<https://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/2008/tables/08s0775.xls>). U.S. Census Bureau. Retrieved June 19, 2007.
423. ^ MacLeod, Donald (March 21, 2006). "Britain Second in World Research Rankings" (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2006/mar/21/highereducation.uk4>). *The Guardian* (London). Retrieved May 14, 2006.
424. ^ "Exploring the Digital Nation—Computer and Internet Use at Home" (<http://www.esa.doc.gov/Reports/exploring-digital-nation-computer-and-internet-use-home>). U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration. November 8, 2011. Retrieved April 11, 2012.
425. ^ "Report: 90% of Americans own a computerized gadget" ([http://articles.cnn.com/2011-02-03/tech/texting.photos.gahran\\_1\\_cell-phone-landline-tech-gadget?\\_s=PM:TECH](http://articles.cnn.com/2011-02-03/tech/texting.photos.gahran_1_cell-phone-landline-tech-gadget?_s=PM:TECH)). CNN. February 3, 2011. Retrieved December 27, 2012.
426. ^ "ISAAA Brief 39-2008: Executive Summary—Global Status of Commercialized Biotech/GM Crops: 2008" (<http://www.isaaa.org/resources/publications/briefs/39/download/isaaa-brief-39-2008.pdf>). International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-Biotech Applications. p. 15. Retrieved July 16, 2010.
427. ^ Rosenstone, Steven J. (December 17, 2009). "Public Education for the Common Good" (<http://cla.umn.edu/news/clatoday/summer2002/dean.php>). University of Minnesota. Retrieved March 6, 2009.
428. ^ "Ages for Compulsory School Attendance..." (<http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d02/dt150.asp>). U.S. Dept. of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. Retrieved June 10, 2007.
429. ^ "Statistics About Non-Public Education in the United States" (<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oii/nonpublic/statistics.html>). U.S. Dept. of Education, Office of Non-Public Education. Retrieved June 5, 2007.
430. ^ **a b** AP (June 25, 2013). "U.S. education spending tops global list, study shows" ([http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-202\\_162-57590921/u.s-education-spending-tops-global-list-study-](http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-202_162-57590921/u.s-education-spending-tops-global-list-study-)



- shows/). CBS. Retrieved October 5, 2013.
431. ^ "QS World University Rankings" (<http://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2010>). Topuniversities. Retrieved July 10, 2011.
432. ^ "Top 200 – The Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2010–2011" (<http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/world-university-rankings/2010-2011/top-200.html>). Timeshighereducation.co.uk. Retrieved July 10, 2011.
433. ^ "Educational Attainment in the United States: 2003" (<http://www.census.gov/prod/2004pubs/p20-550.pdf>). U.S. Census Bureau. Retrieved August 1, 2006.
434. ^ For more detail on U.S. literacy, see A First Look at the Literacy of America's Adults in the 21st century (<http://nces.ed.gov/NAAL/PDF/2006470.PDF>), U.S. Department of Education (2003).
435. ^ "Human Development Indicators" ([http://web.archive.org/web/20070620235428/http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2005/pdf/HDR05\\_HDI.pdf](http://web.archive.org/web/20070620235428/http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2005/pdf/HDR05_HDI.pdf)). United Nations Development Programme, Human Development Reports. 2005. Archived from the original ([http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2005/pdf/HDR05\\_HDI.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2005/pdf/HDR05_HDI.pdf)) on June 20, 2007. Retrieved January 14, 2008.
436. ^ "Education at a Glance 2013" (<http://www.oecd.org/edu/eag2013%20%28eng%29--FINAL%2020%20June%202013.pdf>). OECD. Retrieved October 5, 2013.
437. ^ Student Loan Debt Exceeds One Trillion Dollars (<http://www.npr.org/2012/04/24/151305380/student-loan-debt-exceeds-one-trillion-dollars>). *NPR*, April 4, 2012. Retrieved September 8, 2013.
438. ^ "Country Comparison: Life Expectancy at Birth" (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/rankorder/2102rank.html>). *The World Factbook*. CIA. Retrieved October 25, 2011.
439. ^ <sup>a</sup> <sup>b</sup> Murray, Christopher J.L.; *et al* (July 10, 2013). "The State of US Health, 1990–2010: Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors" (<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/data/Journals/JAMA/0/joi130037.pdf>). *Journal of the American Medical Association*. doi:10.1001/jama.2013.13805 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1001%2Fjama.2013.13805>). Retrieved July 11, 2013.
440. ^ MacAskill, Ewen (August 13, 2007). "US Tumbles Down the World Ratings List for Life Expectancy" (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2007/aug/13/usa.ewenmacaskill>). *The Guardian* (London). Retrieved August 15, 2007.
441. ^ "Slideshow: Most obese countries". (<http://www.reuters.com/news/pictures/slideshow?articleId=USRTXT3DK#a=1>) *Reuters*. Retrieved November 22, 2012.
442. ^ "Prevalence of Overweight and Obesity Among Adults: United States, 2003–2004" ([http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/pubs/pubd/hestats/overweight/overwght\\_adult\\_03.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/pubs/pubd/hestats/overweight/overwght_adult_03.htm)). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Retrieved June 5, 2007.
443. ^ Schlosser, Eric (2002). *Fast Food Nation*. New York: Perennial. p. 240. ISBN 0-06-093845-5.
444. ^ "Fast Food, Central Nervous System Insulin Resistance, and Obesity" (<http://atvb.ahajournals.org/cgi/content/full/25/12/2451#R3-101329>). *Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis, and Vascular Biology*. American Heart Association. 2005. Retrieved June 17, 2007.
445. ^ "Country Comparison: Infant Mortality Rate" (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/rankorder/2091rank.html>). *The World Factbook*. CIA. Retrieved October 25, 2011.
446. ^ "About Teen Pregnancy" (<http://www.cdc.gov/TeenPregnancy/AboutTeenPreg.htm>). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved August 18, 2013.
447. ^ The World Factbook (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>)

factbook/rankorder/2223rank.html?

countryname=United%20States&countrycode=us&regionCode=noa&rank=136#us)

448. ^ Cowen, Tyler (October 5, 2006). "Poor U.S. Scores in Health Care Don't Measure Nobels and Innovation" ([http://www.nytimes.com/2006/10/05/business/05scene.html?\\_r=1&](http://www.nytimes.com/2006/10/05/business/05scene.html?_r=1&)). *The New York Times*. Retrieved October 9, 2012.
449. ^ Whitman, Glen; Raad, Raymond. "Bending the Productivity Curve: Why America Leads the World in Medical Innovation" (<http://www.cato.org/publications/policy-analysis/bending-productivity-curve-why-america-leads-world-medical-innovation>). The Cato Institute. Retrieved October 9, 2012.
450. ^ Martin, Nicole (August 21, 2007). "UK cancer survival rate lowest in Europe" (<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/1560849/UK-cancer-survival-rate-lowest-in-Europe.html>). *The Telegraph*. Retrieved August 19, 2013.
451. ^ Verdecchia, A; Francisci, S; Brenner, H; Gatta, G; Micheli, A; Mangone, L; Kunkler, I; EURO CARE-4 Working, Group (September 2007). "Recent cancer survival in Europe: a 2000-02 period analysis of EURO CARE-4 data." (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17714993>). *The lancet oncology* **8** (9): 784–96. PMID 17714993 (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17714993>). Retrieved August 19, 2013.
452. ^ MD, Scott W. Atlas, (2011). *In excellent health : setting the record straight on America's health care and charting a path for future reform* ([http://books.google.com/books?id=0qExi2-3m5lC&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=0qExi2-3m5lC&source=gbs_navlinks_s)). Stanford, California: Hoover Institution Press, Stanford University. pp. 199–205. ISBN 0817914447.
453. ^ Atlas 2011, pp. 205-207
454. ^ Wolf-Maier, K. (November 24, 2003). "Hypertension Treatment and Control in Five European Countries, Canada, and the United States" (<http://hyper.ahajournals.org/content/43/1/10.full.pdf+html>). *Hypertension* **43** (1): 10–17. doi:10.1161/01.HYP.0000103630.72812.10 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1161/01.HYP.0000103630.72812.10>). Retrieved August 19, 2013.
455. ^ Atlas 2011, pp. 150-156
456. ^ O'Neill, June E; O'Neill, Dave M (2007). "Health Status, Health Care and Inequality: Canada vs. the U.S." (<http://www.nber.org/papers/w13429>). *Forum for Health Economics & Policy*. Berkeley Electronic Press. doi:10.2202/1558-9544.1094 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.2202/1558-9544.1094>). Retrieved August 19, 2013.
457. ^ *OECD Health Data 2000: A Comparative Analysis of 29 Countries* [CD-ROM] (OECD: Paris, 2000). See also "The U.S. Healthcare System: The Best in the World or Just the Most Expensive?" (<http://classic-web.archive.org/web/20061118234952/http://dll.umaine.edu/ble/U.S.+HCweb.pdf>). University of Maine. 2001. Retrieved November 29, 2006.
458. ^ "Health, United States, 2006" ([http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/06.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus/06.pdf)). Centers for Disease Control, National Center for Health Statistics. Retrieved November 24, 2006.
459. ^ "Poverty Remains Higher, and Median Income for Non-Elderly Is Lower, Than When Recession Hit Bottom: Poor Performance Unprecedented for Four-Year Recovery Period" (<http://www.cbpp.org/cms/?fa=view&id=629>). Center for Budget and Policy Priorities. September 1, 2006. Retrieved June 24, 2007.
460. ^ Abelson, Reed (June 10, 2008). "Ranks of Underinsured Are Rising, Study Finds" (<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/06/10/health/policy/10health.html>). *The New York Times*. Retrieved October 25, 2008.
461. ^ Blewett, Lynn A. et al. (December 2006). "How Much Health Insurance Is Enough? Revisiting the Concept of Underinsurance". *Medical Care Research and Review* **63** (6): 663–700.

- doi:10.1177/1077558706293634 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1177%2F1077558706293634>). ISSN 1077-5587 (<http://www.worldcat.org/issn/1077-5587>). PMID 17099121 (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17099121>).
462. ^ Fahrenthold, David A. (April 5, 2006). "Mass. Bill Requires Health Coverage" (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/04/04/AR2006040401937.html>). *The Washington Post*. Retrieved June 19, 2007.
463. ^ "Out-of-Pocket Spending in the Last Five Years of Life" (<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11606-012-2199-x>) *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, February 2013, Volume 28, Issue 2, pp 304–309
464. ^ "Health Care Law 54% Favor Repeal of Health Care Law" ([http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public\\_content/politics/current\\_events/healthcare/health\\_care\\_law](http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/current_events/healthcare/health_care_law)). Rasmussen Reports. Retrieved October 13, 2012.
465. ^ "Debate on ObamaCare to intensify in the wake of landmark Supreme Court ruling" (<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2012/06/29/debate-on-obamacare-to-intensify-in-wake-landmark-supreme-court-ruling/>). *Fox News*. June 29, 2012. Retrieved October 14, 2012.
466. ^ "Statue of Liberty" (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/307>). *World Heritage*. UNESCO. Retrieved October 20, 2011.
467. ^ Thompson, William; Hickey, Joseph (2005). *Society in Focus*. Boston: Pearson. ISBN 0-205-41365-X.
468. ^ Fiorina, Morris P.; Peterson, Paul E. (2000). *The New American Democracy*. London: Longman, p. 97. ISBN 0-321-07058-5.
469. ^ Holloway, Joseph E. (2005). *Africanisms in American Culture*, 2d ed. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, pp. 18–38. ISBN 0-253-34479-4. Johnson, Fern L. (1999). *Speaking Culturally: Language Diversity in the United States*. Thousand Oaks, Calif., London, and New Delhi: Sage, p. 116. ISBN 0-8039-5912-5.
470. ^ Huntington, Samuel P. (2004). "Chapters 2–4" ([http://books.google.com/books?id=6xiYiybkE8kC&vq=core&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=6xiYiybkE8kC&vq=core&source=gbs_navlinks_s)). *Who are We?: The Challenges to America's National Identity*. Simon and Schuster.
471. ^ AP (June 25, 2007). "Americans give record \$295B to charity" ([http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007-06-25-charitable\\_N.htm?POE=click-refer](http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007-06-25-charitable_N.htm?POE=click-refer)). *USA Today*. Retrieved October 4, 2013.
472. ^ "International comparisons of charitable giving" (<http://www.cafonline.org/pdf/International%20Comparisons%20of%20Charitable%20Giving.pdf>). Charities Aid Foundation. November 2006. Retrieved October 4, 2013.
473. ^ "Individualism" (<http://www.clearlycultural.com/geert-hofstede-cultural-dimensions/individualism/>). Clearly Cultural. Retrieved February 28, 2009.
474. ^ <sup>a</sup> <sup>b</sup> "A Family Affair: Intergenerational Social Mobility across OECD Countries" (<http://www.oecd.org/tax/public-finance/chapter%205%20gfg%202010.pdf>). *Economic Policy Reforms: Going for Growth*. OECD. 2010. Retrieved September 20, 2010. Blanden, Jo; Gregg, Paul; Malchin, Stephen (April 2005). "Intergenerational Mobility in Europe and North America" (<http://web.archive.org/web/20060623094610/http://www.suttontrust.com/reports/IntergenerationalMobility.pdf>). Centre for Economic Performance. Archived from the original (<http://www.suttontrust.com/reports/IntergenerationalMobility.pdf>) on June 23, 2006.
475. ^ Dave Serchuk. Happy Country=Social Mobility? (<http://www.forbes.com/sites/daveserchuk/2011/12/07/happy-countrysocial-mobility/>) *Forbes*. 12/7/2011

476. ^ Gould, Elise (October 10, 2012). "U.S. lags behind peer countries in mobility." (<http://www.epi.org/publication/usa-lags-peer-countries-mobility/>) *Economic Policy Institute*. Retrieved July 15, 2013.
477. ^ CAP: *Understanding Mobility in America* (<http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2006/04/b1579981.html>). April 26, 2006
478. ^ DeParle, Jason (January 4, 2012). Harder for Americans to Rise From Lower Rungs (<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/01/05/us/harder-for-americans-to-rise-from-lower-rungs.html?sq=mobility&st=cse&scp=1&pagewanted=all>). *The New York Times*. Retrieved September 8, 2013.
479. ^ Schneider, Donald (July 29, 2013). "A Guide to Understanding International Comparisons of Economic Mobility" (<http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/2013/07/a-guide-to-understanding-international-comparisons-of-economic-mobility>). The Heritage Foundation. Retrieved August 22, 2013.
480. ^ Gutfield, Amon (2002). *American Exceptionalism: The Effects of Plenty on the American Experience*. Brighton and Portland: Sussex Academic Press. p. 65. ISBN 1-903900-08-5.
481. ^ Zweig, Michael (2004). *What's Class Got To Do With It, American Society in the Twenty-First Century*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press. ISBN 0-8014-8899-0. "Effects of Social Class and Interactive Setting on Maternal Speech" ([http://eric.ed.gov/ERICWebPortal/Home.portal?\\_nfpb=true&\\_pageLabel=RecordDetails&ERICExtSearch\\_SearchValue\\_0=ED309843&ERICExtSearch\\_SearchType\\_0=eric\\_accno&objectId=0900000b800472a5](http://eric.ed.gov/ERICWebPortal/Home.portal?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=RecordDetails&ERICExtSearch_SearchValue_0=ED309843&ERICExtSearch_SearchType_0=eric_accno&objectId=0900000b800472a5)). Education Resource Information Center. Retrieved January 27, 2007.
482. ^ Eichar, Douglas (1989). *Occupation and Class Consciousness in America*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press. ISBN 0-313-26111-3.
483. ^ O'Keefe, Kevin (2005). *The Average American*. New York: PublicAffairs. ISBN 1-58648-270-X.
484. ^ *Village Voice*: 100 Best Films of the 20th century (2001) (<http://www.filmsite.org/villvoice.html>). Filmsite.
485. ^ "Sight and Sound Top Ten Poll 2002" (<http://archive.is/JRdD>). Archived from the original (<http://www.bfi.org.uk/sightandsound/topten/poll/critics-long.html>) on May 25, 2012... British Film Institute. Retrieved June 19, 2007.
486. ^ "Nigeria surpasses Hollywood as world's second largest film producer" (<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=30707>) (Press release). United Nations. May 5, 2009. Retrieved February 17, 2013.
487. ^ Daniels, Les (1998). *Superman: The Complete History* (1st ed.). Titan Books. p. 11. ISBN 1-85286-988-7.
488. ^ "Media Statistics > Television Viewing by Country" ([http://www.nationmaster.com/graph/med\\_tel\\_vie-media-television-viewing](http://www.nationmaster.com/graph/med_tel_vie-media-television-viewing)). NationMaster. Retrieved June 3, 2007.
489. ^ "Broadband and Media Consumption" (<http://www.emarketer.com/Article.aspx?R=1005003>). eMarketer. June 7, 2007. Retrieved June 10, 2007.
490. ^ "TV Fans Spill into Web Sites" (<http://www.emarketer.com/Article.aspx?R=1004830>). eMarketer. June 7, 2007. Retrieved June 10, 2007.
491. ^ "Top Sites in United States" (<http://www.alexa.com/topsites/countries/US>). Alexa. 2010. Retrieved March 27, 2010.
492. ^ <sup>a</sup> <sup>b</sup> Biddle, Julian (2001). *What Was Hot!: Five Decades of Pop Culture in America*. New York: Citadel, p. ix. ISBN 0-8065-2311-5.
493. ^ Bloom, Harold. 1999. *Emily Dickinson*. Broomall, PA: Chelsea House. p. 9. ISBN 0-7910-5106-4.

494. ^ Buell, Lawrence (Spring/Summer 2008). "The Unkillable Dream of the Great American Novel: *Moby-Dick* as Test Case". *American Literary History* **20** (1–2): 132–155. doi:10.1093/alh/ajn005 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/alh/ajn005>). ISSN 0896-7148 (<http://www.worldcat.org/issn/0896-7148>).
495. ^ Quinn, Edward (2006). *A Dictionary of Literary and Thematic Terms*. Infobase, p. 361. ISBN 0-8160-6243-9. Seed, David (2009). *A Companion to Twentieth-Century United States Fiction*. Chichester, West Sussex: John Wiley and Sons, p. 76. ISBN 1-4051-4691-5. Meyers, Jeffrey (1999). *Hemingway: A Biography*. New York: Da Capo, p. 139. ISBN 0-306-80890-0.
496. ^ Summers, Lawrence H. (November 19, 2006). "The Great Liberator" ([http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/19/opinion/19summers.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2006/11/19/opinion/19summers.html?_r=0)). *The New York Times*. Retrieved May 17, 2013.
497. ^ McFadden, Robert D. (January 9, 2013). "James M. Buchanan, Economic Scholar and Nobel Laureate, Dies at 93" (<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/01/10/business/economy/james-m-buchanan-economic-scholar-dies-at-93.html?pagewanted=all>). *The New York Times*. Retrieved May 17, 2013.
498. ^ Brown, Milton W. (1988 1963). *The Story of the Armory Show*. New York: Abbeville. ISBN 0-89659-795-4.
499. ^ **a b** Klapthor, James N. (August 23, 2003). "What, When, and Where Americans Eat in 2003" (<http://www.newswise.com/articles/what-when-and-where-americans-eat-in-2003>). Newswise/Institute of Food Technologists. Retrieved June 19, 2007.
500. ^ Smith, 2004, pp. 131–132
501. ^ Levenstein, 2003, pp. 154–55
502. ^ Boslaugh, Sarah (2010). "Obesity Epidemic", in *Culture Wars: An Encyclopedia of Issues, Viewpoints, and Voices*, ed. Roger Chapman. Armonk, N.Y.: M. E. Sharpe, pp. 413–14. ISBN 978-0-7656-1761-3.
503. ^ "Fast Food, Central Nervous System Insulin Resistance, and Obesity" (<http://atvb.ahajournals.org/cgi/content/full/25/12/2451#R3-101329>). *Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis, and Vascular Biology*. American Heart Association. 2005. Retrieved June 9, 2007. "Let's Eat Out: Americans Weigh Taste, Convenience, and Nutrition" ([http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/eib19/eib19\\_reportsummary.pdf](http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/eib19/eib19_reportsummary.pdf)). U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. Retrieved June 9, 2007.
504. ^ Global sports market to hit ,1 billion in 2012 (<http://www.reuters.com/article/2008/06/18/us-pwcstudy-idUSN1738075220080618>). Reuters. Retrieved on July 24, 2013.
505. ^ Krane, David K. (October 30, 2002). "Professional Football Widens Its Lead Over Baseball as Nation's Favorite Sport" (<http://www.harrisinteractive.com/Insights/HarrisVault8482.aspx?PID=337>). Harris Interactive. Retrieved September 14, 2007. Maccambridge, Michael (2004). *America's Game: The Epic Story of How Pro Football Captured a Nation*. New York: Random House. ISBN 0-375-50454-0.
506. ^ Cowen, Tyler; Grier, Kevin (February 9, 2012). "What Would the End of Football Look Like?" ([http://www.grantland.com/story/\\_/id/7559458/cte-concussion-crisis-economic-look-end-football](http://www.grantland.com/story/_/id/7559458/cte-concussion-crisis-economic-look-end-football)). Grantland/ESPN. Retrieved February 12, 2012.
507. ^ Mccauley, Adam. "Mixed Martial Arts News" ([http://topics.nytimes.com/top/reference/timestopics/subjects/m/mixed\\_martial\\_arts/index.html](http://topics.nytimes.com/top/reference/timestopics/subjects/m/mixed_martial_arts/index.html)). Topics.nytimes.com. Retrieved March 27, 2013.
508. ^ Oakes, Kalle (April 28, 2013). "Mixed Martial Arts: Its popularity is no contest" (<http://www.sunjournal.com/news/local-sports/2013/04/28/mixed-martial-arts-its-popularity-no-contest/1352423>). *Sun Journal*. Retrieved October 1, 2013. "Pay-per-view cards play out to captive



audiences in millions of American homes, attracting more consumers than professional wrestling and boxing at the same price. An adrenaline-sports television network, Fuel, devotes more than half its 24-hour broadcast day to a single sport. Other, more popular cable or satellite stops furnish daily or weekly shows devoted to it."

509. ^ "All-Time Medal Standings, 1896–2004" (<http://www.infoplease.com/ipsa/A0115108.html>). Information Please. Retrieved June 14, 2007. "Distribution of Medals—2008 Summer Games" (<http://www.factmonster.com/sports/olympics/2008/distribution-medals-summer-games.html>). Fact Monster. Retrieved September 2, 2008.
510. ^ "All-Time Medal Standings, 1924–2006" (<http://www.infoplease.com/ipsa/A0115207.html>). Information Please. Retrieved June 14, 2007. "Olympic Medals" (<http://www.vancouver2010.com/olympic-medals/>). Vancouver Organizing Committee. Retrieved March 2, 2010. Norway is first.

## Bibliography

- Acharya, Viral V.; Cooley, Thomas F.; Richardson, Matthew P.; Walter, Ingo (2010). *Regulating Wall Street: The Dodd-Frank Act and the New Architecture of Global Finance*. Wiley. p. 592. ISBN 978-0470768778.
- Barth, James; Jahera, John (2010). "US Enacts Sweeping Financial Reform Legislation". *Journal of Financial Economic Policy* **2** (3): 192–195. doi:10.1108/17576381011085412 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1108%2F17576381011085412>).
- Berkin, Carol; Miller, Christopher L.; Cherny, Robert W.; Gormly, James L. (2007). *Making America: A History of the United States, Volume I: To 1877*. Cengage Learning. p. 75., Book ([http://books.google.com/books/about/Making\\_America\\_Volume\\_1\\_To\\_1877\\_A\\_Histor.html?id=cYEI21RCIZkC](http://books.google.com/books/about/Making_America_Volume_1_To_1877_A_Histor.html?id=cYEI21RCIZkC))
- Bianchine, Peter J.; Russo, Thomas A. (1992). *The Role of Epidemic Infectious Diseases in the Discovery of America, (Allergy and Asthma Proceedings)* (<http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/ocean/aap/1992/00000013/00000005/art00002>) **13** (5). OceanSide Publications, Inc. pp. 225–232. doi:10.2500/108854192778817040 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.2500%2F108854192778817040>). Retrieved September 9, 2012.
- Boyer, Paul S.; Clark, Clifford E. Jr.; Kett, Joseph F.; Salisbury, Neal; Sitkoff, Harvard; Woloch, Nancy (2007). *The Enduring Vision: A History of the American People*. Cengage Learning. p. 588. ISBN 9780618801619., Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=9KT3II76-0cC&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=9KT3II76-0cC&source=gbs_navlinks_s))
- Clingan, Edmund. *An Introduction to Modern Western Civilization*. iUniverse. ISBN 9781462054398., Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=FS3TnrLu7y8C&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=FS3TnrLu7y8C&source=gbs_navlinks_s))
- Calloway, Colin G. *New Worlds for All: Indians, Europeans, and the Remaking of Early America*. JHU Press. p. 229. ISBN 9780801859595., Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=edYbAZ7ECEoC&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=edYbAZ7ECEoC&source=gbs_navlinks_s))
- Davis, Kenneth C. (1996). *Don't know much about the Civil War*. New York: William Marrow and Co. p. 518. ISBN 0-688-11814-3., Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=Dphzw2cbaoQC&vq=1670&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=Dphzw2cbaoQC&vq=1670&source=gbs_navlinks_s))

- Daynes, Byron W.; Sussman, Glen (eds.) (2010). *White House Politics and the Environment: Franklin D. Roosevelt to George W. Bush*. Texas A&M University Press. p. 320. ISBN 9781603442541. "Presidential environmental policies, 1933–2009", Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=HIOQ1FYHtcYC&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=HIOQ1FYHtcYC&source=gbs_navlinks_s))
- Feldstein, Sylvan G.; Fabozzi, CFA, Frank J. *The Handbook of Municipal Bonds*. John Wiley & Sons, Jan 13, 2011. p. 1376. ISBN 9781118044940., Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=Juc4fb1Fx1cC&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=Juc4fb1Fx1cC&source=gbs_navlinks_s))
- Gold, Susan Dudley (2006). *United States V. Amistad: Slave Ship Mutiny*. Marshall Cavendish. p. 144. ISBN 9780761421436., Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=mbV6kPGO4OAC&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=mbV6kPGO4OAC&source=gbs_navlinks_s))
- Ferguson, Thomas; Rogers, Joel (1986). "The Myth of America's Turn to the Right" (<http://www.theatlantic.com/past/docs/issues/95dec/conbook/fergrt.htm>). *The Atlantic* **257** (5): 43–53. Retrieved March 11, 2013.
- Fraser, Seve; Gerstle, Gary (1989). *The Rise and Fall of the New Deal Order: 1930–1980* (<http://books.google.com/?id=yd4GqkP5XYgC&lpg=PA229>). American History: Political science. Princeton University Press. p. 311. ISBN 9780691006079.
- Gordon, John Steele (2004). *An Empire of Wealth: The Epic History of American Economic Power*. HarperCollins., Book ([http://books.google.com/books/about/An\\_Empire\\_of\\_Wealth.html?id=rmsUs\\_KDgHAC](http://books.google.com/books/about/An_Empire_of_Wealth.html?id=rmsUs_KDgHAC))
- Graebner, Norman A.; Burns, Richard Dean; Siracusa, Joseph M. (2008). *Reagan, Bush, Gorbachev: Revisiting the End of the Cold War* ([http://books.google.com/?id=r71u\\_AgE7iYC&lpg=PA142](http://books.google.com/?id=r71u_AgE7iYC&lpg=PA142)). Praeger Security International Series. Greenwood Publishing Group. p. 180. ISBN 9780313352416.
- Hughes, David (2007). *The British Chronicles 1*. Westminster, Maryland: Heritage Books. p. 347.
- Jacobs, Lawrence R. (2010). *Health Care Reform and American Politics: What Everyone Needs to Know: What Everyone Needs to Know*. Oxford University Press. ISBN 9780199781423.
- Johnson, Paul (1997). *A History of the American People*. HarperCollins. pp. 26–30., eBook version ([http://books.google.com/books/about/A\\_History\\_of\\_the\\_American\\_People.html?id=RXSVQjz1\\_tMC](http://books.google.com/books/about/A_History_of_the_American_People.html?id=RXSVQjz1_tMC))
- Juergens, Tom (2011). *Wicked Puritans of Essex County*. The History Press. p. 112. ISBN 9781596295667., Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=0q2GwESzhUwC&vq=slave&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=0q2GwESzhUwC&vq=slave&source=gbs_navlinks_s))
- Kessel, William B.; Wooster, Robert (2005). *Encyclopedia of Native American Wars and Warfare*. Facts on File library of American History. Infobase Publishing. p. 398. ISBN 9780816033379., Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=laxSyAp89G4C&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=laxSyAp89G4C&source=gbs_navlinks_s))
- Kolko, Gabriel (1988). *Confronting the Third World: United States Foreign Policy, 1945–1980*. New York, NY: Pantheon.
- Leckie, Robert (1990). *None died in vain: The Saga of the American Civil War*. New York: Harper-Collins. p. 682. ISBN 0-06-016280-5., Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=gyleAAAAMAAJ&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=gyleAAAAMAAJ&source=gbs_navlinks_s))
- Leffler, Melvyn P. (2010). "The emergence of an American grand strategy, 1945–1952".

In Melvyn P. Leffler and Odd Arne Westad, eds., *The Cambridge History of the Cold War, Volume 1: Origins* (pp. 67–89).

Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ISBN 978-0-521-83719-4.

- Lemon, James T. (1987). "Colonial America in the 18th Century". In Robert D. Mitchell; Paul A. Groves. *North America: the historical geography of a changing continent*. Rowman & Littlefield., PDF (<http://cascourses.uoregon.edu/geog471/wp-content/uploads/2010/01/Lemon.pdf>)
- Lien, Ph.D, Arnold Johnson (1913). *Studies in History, Economics, and Public Law, Volume 54* ([http://books.google.com/books?id=UYpVAAAAYAAJ&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=UYpVAAAAYAAJ&source=gbs_navlinks_s)). Longmans, Green & Co., Agents, London; Columbia University, New York. p. 604.
- Karen Wood Weierman (2005). *One Nation, One Blood: Interracial Marriage In American Fiction, Scandal, And Law, 1820–1870*. University of Massachusetts Press. p. 214. ISBN 978-1-55849-483-1., Book (<http://books.google.com/books?id=24mIQULBuN8C&pg=PA44>)
- Levenstein, Harvey (2003). *Revolution at the Table: The Transformation of the American Diet*. University of California Press, Berkeley, Los Angeles. ISBN 0-520-23439-1.
- Mann, Kaarin (2007). "Interracial Marriage In Early America: Motivation and the Colonial Project" ([http://www.umich.edu/~historyj/docs/2007-fall/Interracial\\_Marriage\\_in\\_Early\\_America\\_Mann.pdf](http://www.umich.edu/~historyj/docs/2007-fall/Interracial_Marriage_in_Early_America_Mann.pdf)). *Michigan Journal of History* (University of Michigan) (Fall). Retrieved September 8, 2012.
- Price, David A. (2003). *Love and Hate in Jamestown: John Smith, Pocahontas, and the Start of a New Nation*. Random House. eBook version ([http://books.google.com/books?id=\\_EFbS\\_7fFcYC&printsec=frontcover#v=onepage&q&f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=_EFbS_7fFcYC&printsec=frontcover#v=onepage&q&f=false))
- Quirk, Joel (2011). *The Anti-Slavery Project: From the Slave Trade to Human Trafficking*. University of Pennsylvania Press. p. 344. ISBN 978-0-8122-4333-8., Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=qqxK4KlqKYM&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=qqxK4KlqKYM&source=gbs_navlinks_s))
- Ranlet, Philip (1999). Alden T. Vaughan, ed. *New England Encounters: Indians and Euroamericans Ca. 1600–1850*. North Eastern University Press.
- Rausch, David A. (1994). *Native American Voices*. Baker Books, Grand Rapids. p. 180., Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=iyZMeGMglgEC&vq=triangle&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=iyZMeGMglgEC&vq=triangle&source=gbs_navlinks_s))
- Remini, Robert V. (2007). *The House: The History of the House of Representatives*. HarperCollins. pp. 2–3., Book ([http://books.google.com/books/about/The\\_House.html?id=CAM6J6loQFQC](http://books.google.com/books/about/The_House.html?id=CAM6J6loQFQC))
- Ripper, Jason (2008). *American Stories: To 1877*. M.E. Sharpe. p. 299. ISBN 9780765629036., Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=vX-fYvoAeHwC&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=vX-fYvoAeHwC&source=gbs_navlinks_s))
- Russell, John Henderson (1913). *The Free Negro in Virginia, 1619–1865*. Johns Hopkins University. p. 196., E'Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=G7AJAAAAIAAJ&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=G7AJAAAAIAAJ&source=gbs_navlinks_s))
- Schneider, Dorothy; Schneider, Carl J. (2007). *Slavery in America*. Infobase Publishing. p. 554. ISBN 9781438108131., Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=QlemwRTsY20C&vq=census&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=QlemwRTsY20C&vq=census&source=gbs_navlinks_s))
- Schultz, David Andrew (2009). *Encyclopedia of the United States Constitution*. Infobase Publishing. p. 904. ISBN 9781438126777., Book (<http://books.google.com/books?>)

id=f7m713xwK58C&vq=twenty+seven+times&source=gs\_navlinks\_s)

- Simonson, Peter (2010). *Refiguring Mass Communication: A History*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press. ISBN 9780252077050. "He held high the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the nation's unofficial motto, *e pluribus unum*, even as he was recoiling from the party system in which he had long participated.", Book (<http://books.google.com/books?id=N6lrAmPlbvIC&pg=PA79&dq=#v=onepage&q&f=false>)
- Smith, Andrew F. (2004). *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Food and Drink in America*. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 131–32. ISBN 0-19-515437-1.
- Soss, Joe (2010). Hacker, Jacob S.; Mettler, Suzanne, eds. *Remaking America: Democracy and Public Policy in an Age of Inequality*. Russell Sage Foundation. ISBN 9781610446945., Book (<http://books.google.com/?id=JttyjBoyb3AC&lpg=PA12>)
- Tadmán, Michael (2000). "The Demographic Cost of Sugar: Debates on Slave Societies and Natural Increase in the Americas". *American Historical Review* **105** (5) (Oxford University Press)., Article (<http://www.jstor.org/discover/10.2307/2652029?uid=3739560&uid=2129&uid=2&uid=70&uid=4&uid=3739256&purchase-type=article&accessType=RR&sid=21102125115943&showMyJstorPss=false&seq=1&showAccess=true>)
- Taylor, Alan (2002). Eric Foner, ed. *American Colonies: The Settling of North America*. Penguin Books, New York. ISBN 0-670-87282-2., Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=NPoAQRgkrOcC&vq=1670&source=gs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=NPoAQRgkrOcC&vq=1670&source=gs_navlinks_s))
- Thornton, Russell (1987). *American Indian Holocaust and Survival: A Population History Since 1492*. Volume 186 of Civilization of the American Indian Series. University of Oklahoma Press. p. 49. ISBN 9780806122205., Book (<http://books.google.com/?id=9iQYSQ9y60MC&lpg=PA49>)
- Tooze, Adam (2006). *The Wages of Destruction: The Making and Breaking of the Nazi Economy*. London: Allen Lane. ISBN 978-0-713-99566-4.
- Vaughan, Alden T. (1999). *New England Encounters: Indians and Euroamericans Ca. 1600–1850*. North Eastern University Press.
- Walton, Gary M.; Rockoff, Hugh (2009). *History of the American Economy*. Cengage Learning., Book ([http://books.google.com/books/about/History\\_of\\_the\\_American\\_Economy\\_With\\_Acc.html?id=lyhI1q\\_E4G0C](http://books.google.com/books/about/History_of_the_American_Economy_With_Acc.html?id=lyhI1q_E4G0C))
- Williams, Daniel K. (2012). *Questioning Conservatism's Ascendancy: A Reexamination of the Rightward Shift in Modern American Politics; {Reviews in American History}* (<http://courses.ttu.edu/secunnin/40.2.williams.pdf>) **40** (2). The Johns Hopkins University Press. pp. 325–331. doi:10.1353/rah.2012.0043 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1353%2Frah.2012.0043>). Retrieved March 11, 2013.
- Zinn, Howard (2005). *A People's History of the United States*. HarperCollins. ISBN 0060838655.

## Website sources

- "Country Profile: United States of America" ([http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country\\_profiles/1217752.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/country_profiles/1217752.stm)). *BBC News* (London). April 22,

2008. Retrieved May 18, 2008.

- Cohen, Eliot A. (July/August 2004). "*History and the Hyperpower*" (<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/59919/eliot-a-cohen/history-and-the-hyperpower>). *Foreign Affairs*. Washington D.C. Retrieved July 14, 2006.
- "Slavery and the Slave Trade in Rhode Island" ([http://www.brown.edu/Facilities/John\\_Carter\\_Brown\\_Library/jcbexhibit/Pages/exhibSlavery.html](http://www.brown.edu/Facilities/John_Carter_Brown_Library/jcbexhibit/Pages/exhibSlavery.html)).
- "*Peopling of Americas*" (<http://web.archive.org/web/20071128083459/http://anthropology.si.edu/HumanOrigins/faq/americas.htm>). Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural History. June 2004. Archived from the original (<http://anthropology.si.edu/HumanOrigins/faq/americas.htm>) on November 28, 2007. Retrieved June 19, 2007.
- "History of 'In God We Trust'" (<http://www.treasury.gov/about/education/Pages/in-god-we-trust.aspx>). U.S. Department of the Treasury. March 8, 2011. Retrieved February 23, 2013.
- "*Early History, Native Americans, and Early Settlers in Mercer County*" (<http://archive.is/GkED4>). Mercer County Historical Society. 427. Archived from the original (<http://www.mchspa.org/body.htm>) on April 15, 2013., Book ([http://books.google.com/books?id=2MjxPJ9W4gwC&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](http://books.google.com/books?id=2MjxPJ9W4gwC&source=gbs_navlinks_s))
- Nick Hayes (November 6, 2009). "Looking back 20 years: Who deserves credit for ending the Cold War?" (<http://www.minnpost.com/politics-policy/2009/11/looking-back-20-years-who-deserves-credit-ending-cold-war>). *MinnPost*. Retrieved March 11, 2013.
- "59e. The End of the Cold War" (<http://www.ushistory.org/us/59e.asp>). *U.S. History.org*. Independence Hall Association. Retrieved March 10, 2013.
- Levy, Peter B. (1996). *Encyclopedia of the Reagan-Bush Years* (<http://books.google.com/?id=7veohk0fkLYC&lpg=PA88>). ABC-CLIO. p. 442. ISBN 9780313290183.
- Wallander, Celeste A. (2003). "Western Policy and the Demise of the Soviet Union" (<http://www.mitpressjournals.org/doi/abs/10.1162/152039703322483774?journalCode=jcws>). *Journal of Cold War Studies* (President and Fellows of Harvard College and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology) **5** (4): 137–177. doi:10.1162/152039703322483774 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1162%2F152039703322483774>). Retrieved March 11, 2013.

## External links

- United States (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/us.html>) entry at *The World Factbook*
- United States (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-16761057>), from the BBC News
- Key Development Forecasts for the United States ([http://www.ifs.du.edu/ifs/frm\\_CountryProfile.aspx?Country=US](http://www.ifs.du.edu/ifs/frm_CountryProfile.aspx?Country=US)) from International Futures

## Government


- Official U.S. Government Web Portal (<http://www.usa.gov/>) Gateway to government sites
- House (<http://www.house.gov/>) Official site of the United States House of Representatives
- Senate (<http://www.senate.gov/>) Official site of the United States Senate

- White House (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/>) Official site of the President of the United States
- Supreme Court (<http://www.supremecourt.gov/>) Official site of the Supreme Court of the United States

## History

- Historical Documents (<http://www.nationalcenter.org/HistoricalDocuments.html>) Collected by the National Center for Public Policy Research
- U.S. National Mottos: History and Constitutionality ([http://www.religioustolerance.org/nat\\_mott.htm](http://www.religioustolerance.org/nat_mott.htm)) Analysis by the Ontario Consultants on Religious Tolerance
- USA (<http://www.historicalstatistics.org/index2.html>) Collected links to historical data

## Maps

- National Atlas of the United States (<http://nationalatlas.gov/>) Official maps from the U.S. Department of the Interior
-  Wikimedia Atlas of the United States
- Measure of America (<http://www.measureofamerica.org/maps/>) A variety of mapped information relating to health, education, income, and demographics for the U.S.

Retrieved from "[http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=United\\_States&oldid=581359398](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=United_States&oldid=581359398)"

Categories: United States | 1776 establishments in the United States

| Countries bordering the Arctic Ocean | Countries bordering the Atlantic Ocean

| Countries bordering the Pacific Ocean | English-speaking countries and territories

| Federal constitutional republics | Former British colonies | Former confederations | G8 nations

| G20 nations | Liberal democracies | Member states of NATO

| Member states of the United Nations | Northern American countries | Republics

| States and territories established in 1776 | Superpowers

- 
- This page was last modified on 12 November 2013 at 17:40.
  - Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.