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This outline map includes the Great Lakes and surrounding states. Advertisement Remove ad Our map of the iconic interconnected lakes. Explore the shores, islands, and coastal cities of Lake Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario. We've created four maps that you can download for free and use for any
purpose. It contains a simplified, detailed, and physical map of the Great Lakes. Dive into more detail with these Great Lakes maps highlighting Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario. You'll find provinces, states, and water bodies. We also include city names - capitals, towns, and smaller populated places. This way, you'll be able to find all
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Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. It's a major contributor to the economy of the Midwest. Plus, it's the only Great Lake entirely within the United States. It boasts a shoreline that stretches over 1,600 miles, making it the longest freshwater coastline of any lake in the United States. This map of Lake Michigan highlights its expansive shoreline and
coastal populated places. Download Lake Erie is bounded by the U.S. states of Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York to the south and the Canadian province of Ontario to the north. It has a diverse shoreline that ranges from sandy beaches to cliffs. Our map of Lake Erie delineates its diverse coastline and key geographical elements. You'll find everything
from urban areas to its surrounding US states and Canadian provinces. Download Finally, Lake Ontario, it extends its reach into the great Lakes and serves as an outlet to the Atlantic Ocean
through the Saint Lawrence River. Use our map of Lake Ontario without any restrictions. Download Located between the United States and Canada, the Great Lakes form the largest group of freshwater lakes in North America. Collectively, they
also form the largest freshwater system in the world and account for 20% of freshwater globally. The Great Lakes region holds a pivotal position in the continent's landscape. Here is a table that summarizes some of the key information about the 5 Great Lakes of North America. Lake NameArea (sq km)Geographic LocationSuperior82,103Borders
Canada and the U.S., largest by surface area, between Canada and the U.S., second-largest by surface area, between Canada and the U.S. Looking for North American
maps? Our collection features a variety of options, from time zone maps to country outlines. Discover more. Just click on the map shows lakes, cities, towns, states, rivers, main roads and secondary roads in Great Lakes Area. Written and fact-checked by Ontheworldmap.com team. Our map of the
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click on the map shown below. Our map of the Great Lakes provides a visual of the iconic interconnected lakes. Explore the shores, islands, and coastal cities of Lake Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario. We've created four maps that you can download for free and use for any purpose. It contains a simplified, detailed, and physical map of the
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maps to country outlines. Discover more. Just click on the map shown below. Thousands of years ago, the melting mile-thick glaciers of the Wisconsin Ice Age left the North American continent a magnificent gift: five fantastic freshwater seas collectively known today as the Great Lakes — Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake
Erie and Lake Ontario. From the westernmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth, Minn., to the easternmost tip of Lake Superior at Duluth
nation's fourth seacoast," the U.S. Great Lakes shoreline alone totals more than 4,500 miles — longer than the U.S. East and Gulf coasts combined. As seen from space, the Great Lakes shoreline alone totals more than 4,500 miles — longer than the U.S. East and Gulf coasts combined. As seen from space, the Great Lakes shoreline alone totals more than 4,500 miles — longer than the U.S. East and Gulf coasts combined.
Huron, which actually are two halves of one lake. From there, the water flows southward from the southern tip of Lake Erie, it flows north via the Niagara River and over Niagara Falls into Lake Ontario. It then flows northeast down the St. Clair and the Detroit River through "little" Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River through "little" Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River through "little" Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River through "little" Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River through "little" Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River through "little" Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River through "little" Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River through "little" Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River through "little" Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River through "little" Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River through "little" Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River through "little" Lake St. Clair River through "little" Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River through "little" Lake St. Clair River through "little" Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River through "little" Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River through "little" Lake St. Clair Ri
Lawrence River — the last link in a 2,000-mile-long waterway that ultimately connects Minnesota to the Atlantic Ocean. However, this stair-step arrangement of basins is relatively new and resulted from the depressing weight of the mile-thick ice sheets. Lake Erie and southern Lake Michigan (Lake
Chicago) were first unveiled by glaciers about 10,000 years ago. Both originally drained to the Superior, called Lake Duluth, drained southwest out the St. Croix and Mississippi rivers, along
what is today the Minnesota-Wisconsin border. About 7,000 years ago, as the last ice left, the land to the southwest of Lakes Erie and Michigan had risen high enough that the lakes no longer drained in that direction. Lake Ontario came into being, and the Niagara River became Lake Erie's outlet. As the ice sheet retreated into Canada, it temporarily
made Lakes Superior, Michigan and Huron into one huge body of water called Lake Nipissing, which had the unusual quality of having three outlets — via the Ottawa-St. Lawrence rivers and Illinois-Mississippi rivers. Lake Huron continued to drain eastward out the Ottawa-St. Lawrence rivers until about 5,000-6,000 years ago.
Lake Michigan continued to drain out the Illinois River where Chicago now stands until about only 3,000 years ago, when the Great Lakes finally assumed their present shapes. The Great Lakes finally assumed their present shapes. The Great Lakes finally assumed their present shapes.
were spread evenly over the continental U.S., the 48 states would be flooded under more than nine feet of water. The surfaces of the Great Lakes amaze just about everyone seeing them for the first time. These lakes not
only look like oceans, they often seem to behave like oceans. They have coastal currents — and occasional large tide-like changes in coastal water levels called seiches (pronounced "say-shez") caused by prolonged strong winds and passing storms, as well as storm surges and edge waves. Like the oceans, the lakes
also moderate the temperature of the air and increase the amount of rain or snow that falls on the lands surrounding them. Some of the world's largest grain shipping ports are located on the Great Lakes, and oceangoing ships as well as 1,000-foot lake vessels ply their waters. Sailors who have weathered storms on the Great Lakes give these inland
seas the same healthy respect they give the other Seven Seas — perhaps an extra measure of respect when the icy "Gales of November" blow early, because the freshwater of the lakes' water is usually cold to begin with, because the Great
Lakes lie across the 45th Parallel — halfway to the North Pole from the Equator and just 1,200 miles from the Arctic Circle, less than the distance between New York City and Miami. Coupled with the vast forest, agricultural and mineral resources of the area, the abundant supply of water and cheap transportation afforded by the Great Lakes were
major factors in the region becoming the population and industrial core of both the U.S. and Canadian citizens live and work in the Great Lakes region today, and around half of them depend directly on the lakes for drinking water. The United States' third largest city, Chicago, is located on the shores of Lake
Michigan, and the Great Lakes coastal cities of Milwaukee, Detroit, Cleveland and Buffalo, N.Y., have population early 15 percent of the U.S. population lives in the region. Five of the 10 largest U.S. states by
population are Great Lakes states (#4-New York, #5-Pennsylvania, #6-Illinois, #7-Ohio and #10-Michigan). The iron ranges around Lake Superior have been the principal source of ore on the Great Lakes — plus the abundant supply of high quality water
for processing it — have made the region a center of iron and steel production. Until recently, the shores and hinterlands of Lakes Ontario, Erie and Michigan held the world's largest concentration of iron and steel mills. Even today, about half of the steel made in the U.S. and and nearly two-thirds of Canada's steel is produced in the Great Lakes
region. The region's other major industries include automobile manufacturing, heavy machinery, paper mills, metalworking and shippulding. In addition, some 163 million tons of grain, iron ore and other commodities are shipped across the Great Lakes each year, and the sport and commercial fisheries of the Great Lakes currently contribute more
than a billion dollars a year to the region's economy. Along with the Upper Midwest's multitude of lakes and forests, the Great Lakes penerates $82 billion in wages each year and that more than 1.3 million jobs
are directly connected to the waterways. Together, the U.S. and Canada share responsibility for protecting and caring for one of the most valuable natural treasures in the world — five magnificent gifts of the glaciers. Want to give your brand videos a cinematic edge? Join our visual experts and special guests for an info-packed hour of insights to
elevate your next video project. Tune in on June 24 at 11am ET.Register NowEnjoy sharper detail, more accurate color, lifelike lighting, believable backgrounds, and more with our new model update. Your generated images will be more polished than ever. See What's NewExplore how consumers want to see climate stories told today, and what that
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see climate stories told today, and what that means for your visuals.Download Our Latest VisualGPS Report Road map of the Great Lakes region with State Borders, Road Numbers, Cities, and Towns.A detailed map of the Great Lakes region consists of large-scale
fragments of state maps. Political Map of the Great Lakes Region showing the U.S. states and Canadian provinces that border the lakes. The international boundary between the United States and Canadian provinces that border the lakes. The international boundary between the United States and Canadian provinces that border the lakes. The international boundary between the United States and Canadian provinces that border the lakes. The international boundary between the United States and Canadian provinces that border the lakes.
easily remember their names, think of the word HOMES - it is made up of the first letter of each lake. ADVERTISEMENT Winter Satellite Image of the Great Lakes are far enough north that the lakes with significant ice cover. Occasionally the ice cover is be extensive
enough or thick enough to interfere with commercial shipping. This image was capture on February 21, 2014 by NASA's Aqua satellite. Great Lakes Bathymetry Map showing water deep, while large areas in Lake Superior are hundreds of feet deep. The
map was prepared by the National Geophysical Data Center in 1999. The Great Lakes Are Warming and set numerous surface water temperature records during the summer of 2020. As usual, the deepest parts of Lake Superior had the lowest surface water temperatures. This map was prepared by NASA in 2020 using data from the Aqua satellite.
The Great Lakes of North America are a group of five freshwater lakes that straddle the boundary between the United States and Canada. If you look at the political map on this page, you will see that much of the international boundary between the two countries passes over the waters of the lakes. Here are some important geographic facts about the
Great Lakes: Lake Superior is the world's largest freshwater lake - it has a surface water and about 84% of the United States' fresh surface water - about 5,439 cubic miles (22,684 cubic kilometers) measured at low water level.
[1] The Great Lakes are interconnected by straits, canals, locks, and rivers. Large ships can transport cargo through the Great Lakes and into the Atlantic Ocean by way of the Saint Lawrence Seaway. Billions of dollars worth of fuel, construction materials, agricultural products, manufactured goods, and raw materials are transported to ports on the
Great Lakes every day. Water in the Great Lakes flows from Lake Superior, into Lake Huron, into Lake Huron, into Lake Michigan, into Lake Great Lakes, many of which are inhabited. People travel between the island and the mainland by
ferries, boats and bridges. The Canadian province of Ontario and eight U.S. states (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin) have shorelines on the lakes except Erie are deep enough that their bottoms are below sea level. The shape, location and depth of the lakes were mainly determined
by repeated episodes of glacial erosion during the Great Lakes contain enough water to flood the rest of the United States to a depth of five feet. Everything Everywhere Daily is one of the world's most popular daily education podcasts. Since its launch on July 1, 2020, it has had over 48,000,000 total downloads and now averages
approximately 1,500,000 downloads per month. It has reached the #1 spot on the Apple Podcast charts in the United States and Canada and has been ranked in the Top 10 on Spotify. It has also reached #1 in 44 different countries worldwide. The show has been listed as one of the Top 150 Podcasts in the world by PodTrac
and one of the Top 25 most discoverable podcasts on both Apple and Spotify by Voxalyze. In about 10-12 minutes, listeners can learn something new every day on various subjects, including history, science, geography, mathematics, and technology, as well as biographies of some of the world's most interesting people. Host Gary Arndt is a polymath
who uses his extensive research in multiple fields and his decade of world travel to find interesting and informative topics for each show. Much of the success of Everything Everywhere Daily comes from the extensive travels of its host, Gary Arndt. Gary has spent over a decade traveling the world and has visited over 200 countries and territories.
World MapWorld Map Small Countries This post may contain affiliate links. As an Amazon Associate, we earn from qualifying purchases. The Great Lakes are the most extensive freshwater system in the world. The 5 Great Lakes are the most extensive freshwater system in the world. The 5 Great Lakes are the most extensive freshwater system in the world. The 5 Great Lakes are the most extensive freshwater system in the world.
sq km) and are all united by many rivers and lakes, making the Great Lakes among the world's 15 largest lakes 15 lar
America East Asia Eastern Europe The Middle East, South Asia The Great Lakes and Saint Lawrence River are superimposed on a map of Eastern Europe, the Middle East, South America, and Africa. Below is the map of the Great Lakes in watercolor style made using Digital Elevation Model data. By the
saturation of the blue color, you can see that the deepest lake is Superior. Erie has the least mean depth of the Great Lakes. The Great Lakes contain 5.4 thousand cubic miles (22.5 cubic
kilometers) of surface freshwater on Earth or six quadrillion gallons of fresh water (22.7 quadrillion liters), accounting for about 21 percent of the surface freshwater or 84 percent of the world's surface freshwater or 85 percent of the world's surface freshwater or 86 percent of the world's surface freshwater or 8
United States in approximately 10 feet of water (~3 meters). The Great Lakes shoreline's total length, including islands, is about 11 thousand miles; a 6500-mile drive tour around the lakes takes not a single day. The Great Lakes comprise more than 35,000 islands. The largest is Manitoulin, located in Lake Huron. At 1068 sq mi (2766.1 sq km), it is
the largest freshwater lake island globally and has about 12.6 thousand citizens. On Lake Huron, Georgian Bay comprises approximately 17.5 thousand islands, while the archipelago in the St. Lawrence River, known as the Thousand Islands, while the archipelago in the St. Lawrence River, known as the Thousand Islands, while the archipelago in the St. Lawrence River, known as the Thousand Islands, actually houses about 1.8 thousand islands.
feed them are comparatively small. This is because a significant portion of the water in the Great Lakes comes directly from precipitation falling onto the lakes' surfaces rather than from runoff from surrounding land. The relatively small watershed size is one of the factors contributing to the unique hydrological characteristics of the Great Lakes,
including their clarity, water levels, and response to changes in weather patterns. The map below created by Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation shows Great Lakes Watersheds. Nearly 34 million people in the U.S. and Canada live in the Great Lakes basin — 8% of the U.S. population and approximately 32% of Canada's population. And for
more than forty million people, The Great Lakes is the principal water source. Approximately 25 percent of American farm production and 7 percent of Same production and 7 percent of American farm production and 7 percent of Canadian agricultural production and 7 percent of Same provimately 10 thousand
years ago. Each Lake Name is obtained from both native American languages or French. Table of ContentsLake SuperiorLake MichiganLake HuronLake OntarioLake Erie Length: 350 miles (563 kilometers) Width: 160 miles (257 kilometers) Elevation: 600 feet (183 meters) Depth: 483 feet (147 meters) average; 1,333 feet (406 meters)
maximumVolume: 2,900 cubic miles (12,100 cubic miles (12,100 cubic kilometers) Water surface area: 31,700 square miles (82,000 square miles (4,385 kilometers) area: 49,300 square miles (128,000 squa
U.S. population: 0.5 millionCanada population: 0.5 millionCanada population: 0.2 million Lake Superior is by significantly the biggest and most in-depth. Spanning nearly 31.7 thousand square miles (~2.9 thousand cubic miles or 12.1
thousand cubic kilometers of water). The Empire State Building would sink under Lake Superior's surface because its deepest point is 1,230 feet (~381 meters) tall from the ground to the roof. The lake's name comes from the French word lac supérieur, meaning upper lake, as it
is located north of Lake Huron. Length: 307 miles (494 kilometers) Width: 118 miles (190 kilometers) Width: 118 miles (494 kilometers) Water surface area: 22,300 square miles (57,753 square kilometers) Catchment drainage basin
area: 45,600 square miles (118,095 square kilometers) Shoreline length: 1,640 miles (2,639 kilometers), including islandsOutlet: Straits of Mackinac to Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population: 12.2 million Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population: 12.2 million Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population: 12.2 million Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population: 12.2 million Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population: 12.2 million Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population: 12.2 million Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population: 12.2 million Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population: 12.2 million Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population: 12.2 million Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population: 12.2 million Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population: 12.2 million Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population: 12.2 million Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population: 12.2 million Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 99 yearsThe U.S. population is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 90 yearsThe U.S. population is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 90 yearsThe U.S. population is the only Great Lake HuronResidence time: 90 yearsThe U.S. population is the only Great Lake HuronResidenc
Great Lakes by volume and is joined to Lake Huron by the Straits of Mackinac between Michigan's upper and lower peninsulas. It has a unique water flow that goes in almost a dead-end formation, moving slowly in a circular pattern. According to the University of Wisconsin, Michigan and Huron are two halves of one water body. Lake Michigan's
beach is home to the largest freshwater sand dunes in the world. The lake's name is obtained from the Ojibwa Indian word 'mishigami', meaning "large lake." However, it is only the third largest of the Great Lakes when measured by water surface (22,300 square miles / 57,800 square miles / 57,800 square miles (332 kilometers) Width: 183 miles (295)
kilometers)Elevation: 577.5 feet (176 meters)Depth: 195 feet (229 meters) average; 750 feet (229 meters) average; 750 feet (234,100 square miles (3,543 cubic miles miles (3,543 cubic miles miles (3,543 cubic miles miles miles (3,543 cubic miles miles miles miles miles miles (3,543 cubic miles mil
kilometers), including islandsOutlet: St. Clair River to Lake ErieResidence time: 21 yearsThe U.S. population: 1.6 million Canada population: 1.6 million Canada population: 1.6 million Canada population: 1.6 million Canada population: 1.7 km), taking into account its many islands
Lake Huron is named for the Wyandot Indians, or Hurons, who existed there. Length: 193 miles (311 kilometers) Water surface area: 7,340 square miles (19,003 feet (244 meters) maximumVolume: 393 cubic miles (1,640 cubic kilometers) Water surface area: 7,340 square miles (19,003 feet (244 meters) maximumVolume: 393 cubic miles (1,640 cubic kilometers) water surface area: 7,340 square miles (19,003 feet (244 meters) maximumVolume: 393 cubic miles (1,640 cubic kilometers) water surface area: 7,340 square miles (19,003 feet (244 meters) maximumVolume: 393 cubic miles (1,640 cubic kilometers) water surface area: 7,340 square miles (19,003 feet (244 meters) maximumVolume: 393 cubic miles (1,640 cubic kilometers) water surface area: 7,340 square miles (19,003 feet (244 meters) maximumVolume: 393 cubic miles (315 kilometers) water surface area: 7,340 square miles (19,003 feet (244 meters) maximumVolume: 393 cubic miles (315 kilometers) water surface area: 7,340 square miles (3
square kilometers) Catchment drainage basin area: 24,720 square miles (64,000 square kilometers) Shoreline length: 712 miles (1,146 kilometers) catchment drainage basin area: 24,720 square miles (64,000 square kilometers) shoreline length: 712 miles (1,146 kilometers) area: 24,720 square miles (64,000 square kilometers) square kilometers).
measured in surface area (7,340 square miles / 19,003 square km). While it is similar in length and width to Lake Erie, it is much deeper and contains around 4 times the base of Niagara Falls. Ontario is the Huron word for "lake of shining
water." Length: 241 miles (388 kilometers) Width: 57 miles (92 kilometers) Elevation: 569.2 feet (173.5 meters) Depth: 62 feet (19 meters) average; 210 feet (19 meters) water surface area: 9,910 square miles (25,657 square kilometers) Water surface area: 9,910 square miles (25,657 square kilometers) average; 210 feet (19 meters) avera
(58,788 square miles)Shoreline length: 871 miles (1,402 kilometers), including isletsOutlets: Niagara River and Welland CanalResidence time: 2.6 yearsU.S. population: 10.8 millionCanada population: 20 million Lake Erie is the fourth largest of the Great Lakes when measured in surface area (9,910 square miles / 25,657 square km.) and the smallest
by water volume (116 cubic miles / 484 cubic km). The lake's name was obtained from the Iroquoian word for "long tail," which describes its configuration. Group of lakes in North America. For the lakes in Africa, see African Great Lakes. For the region, see Great Lakes region. For other uses of this
term, see Great Lakes (disambiguation). Great Lakes of North AmericaGreat Lakes The Great Lakes seen from NASA's Aqua satellite in August 2010. From left to right: Lake Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, OntarioBathymetry map of the Great LakesLocationEastern North AmericaCoordinates45°N 84°W / 45°N 84°W / 45; -84Typegroup of
interconnected freshwater lakesPart ofGreat Lakes BasinPrimary inflowsPast: precipitation, and groundwater springsPrimary outflowsEvaporation, St. Lawrence River to the Atlantic OceanBasin countriesCanada, United StatesSurface area94,250 square miles (244,106 km2)Average depth60-480 ft (18-146 m)
depending on the lakesMax. depth210-1,300 ft (64-396 m) depending on the lakesWater volume5,439 cubic miles (22,671 km3) (lowest)Frozenaround January to March The Great Lakes of North America, are a series of large interconnected freshwater lakes spanning the Canada-United States border. The five lakes are
Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario (though hydrologically, Michigan and Huron are a single body of water, joined at the Straits of Mackinac). The Great Lakes Waterway enables modern travel and shipping by water among the lakes. The lakes connect to the Atlantic Ocean via the Saint Lawrence River, and to the Mississippi River basin
through the Illinois Waterway. The Great Lakes are the largest group of freshwater lakes on Earth by total volume. [1][2][3] The total surface is 94,250 square miles (244,106 km2), and the total volume (measured at the low water datum) is 5,439 cubic
miles (22,671 km3),[4] slightly less than the volume of Lake Baikal (5,666 cu mi or 23,615 km3, 22-23% of the world's surface fresh water). Because of their sea-like characteristics, such as rolling waves, sustained winds, strong currents, great depths, and distant horizons, the five Great Lakes have long been called inland seas.[5] Depending on how it
is measured, by surface area, either Lake Superior or Lake Michigan-Huron is the largest lake, by surface area, that is entirely within one country, the United States.[6][7][8] The Great Lakes began to form at the end of the Last Glacial Period around 14,000 years
ago, as retreating ice sheets exposed the basins they had carved into the land, which then filled with meltwater. [9] The lakes have been a major source for transportation, migration, trade, and fishing, serving as a habitat to many aquatic species in a region with much biodiversity. The surrounding region is called the Great Lakes region, which
includes the Great Lakes megalopolis.[10] Major cities within the region include, on the American side, from east to west, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee; and, on the Canadian side, from east to west, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee; and, on the Canadian side, from east to west, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee; and, on the Canadian side, from east to west, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee; and, on the Canadian side, from east to west, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee; and, on the Canadian side, from east to west, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee; and, on the Canadian side, from east to west, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee; and, on the Canadian side, from east to west, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee; and, on the Canadian side, from east to west, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee; and the Canadian side, from east to west, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee; and the Canadian side, from east to west, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee; and the Canadian side, from east to west, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee; and the Canadian side, from east to west, Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee; and the Canadian side, from east to west, Buffalo, Cleveland, Buffalo, Clevela
Michigan (cyan); Huron (green); Erie (yellow); Ontario (red). Great Lakes/St. Lawrence River watershed Though the five lakes lie in separate basins, they connect the east-central interior of North America to the Atlantic
Ocean. From the interior to the outlet at the Saint Lawrence River, water flows from Superior to Huron and Michigan, southward to Erie, and finally northward to Erie, and finally northwa
within the basin.[12] The surface area of the five primary lakes combined is roughly equal to the size of the UK and France combined.[13] Lake Michigan is the only one of the Great Lakes that is entirely within the United States; the
others form a water boundary between the United States and Canada. The lakes are divided among the jurisdictions of the Canadian province of Ontario and the york. Both the province of Ontario and the state of Michigan include in their boundaries portions
of four of the lakes. The province of Ontario does not border Lake Michigan, and the state of Michigan does not border Lake Ontario. New York and Wisconsin's jurisdictions extend into two lakes, and each of the remaining states into one of the lakes. Relative elevations, average depths, maximum depths, and volumes of the Great Lakes Notes: The
area of each rectangle is proportional to the volume of each lake. All measurements at Low Water Datum. Source: United States Environmental Protection Agency[14] Lake Erie Lake Huron Lake Michigan Lake Ontario Lake Superior Surface area[4] 25,700 km2 (9,910 sq mi) 58,000 km2 (22,300 sq mi) 19,000 km2 (2
(7,340 sq mi) 82,000 km2 (31,700 sq mi) Water volume[4] 480 km3 (116 cu mi) 3,500 km3 (850 cu mi) 4,900 km3 (1,180 cu mi) 1,640 km3 (393 cu mi) 12,000 km3 (2,900 cu mi) 12,000 km3 (2,900 cu mi) 12,000 km3 (2,900 cu mi) 1,640 km3 (393 cu mi) 12,000 km3 (2,900 cu mi) 1,640 km3 (393 cu mi) 12,000 km3 (2,900 cu mi) 1,640 km3 (393 cu mi) 12,000 km3 (2,900 cu mi) 1,640 km3 (393 cu mi) 12,000 km3 (2,900 cu mi) 1,640 km3 (393 cu mi) 1,640 km3 (
(483 ft) Maximum depth[15] 64 m (210 ft) 228 m (748 ft) 228 m (748 ft) 228 m (748 ft) 245 m (804 ft) 406 m (1,333 ft) Major settlements[16] Buffalo, NYErie, PACleveland, ONDwen Sound, ONPort Huron, MISarnia, ON Chicago, ILWaukegan, ILGary, INGreen Bay
WISheboygan, WIMilwaukee, WIKenosha, WIRacine, WIKenosha, WIRacine, WIKuskegon, MITraverse City, MI Hamilton, ONKingston, ONMississauga, ONOshawa, ONRochester, NYSt. Catharines, ONToronto, ON Duluth, MNMarquette, MISault Ste. Marie, ONSuperior, WIThunder Bay, ON As the surfaces of Lakes Superior, Huron, Michigan, and Erie
are all approximately the same elevation above sea level, while Lake Ontario is significantly lower, and because the Niagara Escarpment precludes all natural navigation, the four upper lakes are commonly called the "upper great lakes". This designation is not universal. Those living on the shore of Lake Superior often refer to all the other lakes as
  the lower lakes", because they are farther south. Sailors of bulk freighters transferring cargoes from Lake Superior and northern Lake Michigan, Huron, and Superior as the upper lakes. This corresponds to thinking of lakes Erie and
Ontario as "down south" and the others as "up north". Vessels sailing north on Lake Michigan are considered "upbound" even though they are sailing toward its effluent current.[17] System profile of the Great Lakes Chicago on Lake Michigan is in the western part of the lakes megalopolis and the site of the waterway linking the lakes to the
Mississippi River valley The Chicago River and Calumet River systems connect the Great Lake Superior to Lake Huron, via the North Channel. The Straits of Mackinac connect Lake Michigan to Lake Huron
(the two are hydrologically one lake). The St. Clair River connects Lake Erie to La
the Saint Lawrence Seaway connect Lake Ontario to the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, which connects to the Atlantic Ocean. Main article: Lake Michigan-Huron with north oriented to the right; taken on April 14, 2022, during Expedition 67 of the International Space Station. Green Bay is at the upper right and Saginaw Bay is on the
left. Lakes Huron and Michigan are sometimes considered a single lake, called Lake Michigan-Huron, because they are one hydrological body of water connected by the Straits are five miles (8 km) wide[13] and 120 feet (37 m) deep; the water levels rise and fall together, [19] and the flow between Michigan and Huron
frequently reverses direction. Lake Nipigon, connected to Lake Superior by the Nipigon River, is surrounded by sill-like formations of mafic and ultramafic igneous rock hundreds of meters high. The lake Superior by the Nipigon River, is surrounded by sill-like formations of mafic and ultramafic igneous rock hundreds of meters high. The lake Superior by the Nipigon River, is surrounded by sill-like formations of mafic and ultramafic igneous rock hundreds of meters high.
estimated at 1.1 billion years ago. Thunder Bay is a large bay on the north shore of Lake Superior south of the Apostle Islands and the Bayfield Peninsula in northern Wisconsin. Keweenaw Bay is an arm of Lake Superior southeast of the
Keweenaw Peninsula. Whitefish Bay is a large bay on the eastern end of Lake Superior which leads to the outflow of the lake into the St. Marys River, serves as part of the Fox-Wisconsin Waterway and is part of a larger system of lakes in Wisconsin known as the Winnebago Pool. Green Bay
is an arm of Lake Michigan along the south coast of the Upper Peninsula in Michigan and the east coast of Wisconsin, the Garden Peninsula in Michigan and the rest of the lake by the Door Peninsula in Michigan and the east coast of Wisconsin, the Garden Peninsula in Michigan, and the chain of islands between them, all of which were formed by the Niagara Escarpment. The north end of Green Bay
consists of Big Bay de Noc and Little Bay de Noc. Grand Traverse Bay is an arm of Lake Michigan on Michigan's west coast and is one of the largest natural harbors in the Great Lakes. The bay is divided into east and west arms by the Old Mission Peninsula.[20] The bay has one major island, Power Island. Its name is derived from Jacques Marquette's
crossing of the bay from Norwood to Northport which he called La Grande Traversee. [citation needed] Georgian Bay is an arm of Lake Huron, extending northeast from the lake entirely within Ontario. The bay, along with its narrow westerly extensions of the North Channel and Mississagi Strait, is separated from the rest of the lake by the Bruce
Peninsula, Manitoulin Island, and Cockburn Island, 
Ottawa-Bonnechere Graben, a Mesozoic rift valley that formed 175 million years ago. Lake Simcoe, connected to Georgian Bay by the Severn River, serves as part of the Trent-Severn Waterway, a canal route traversing Southern Ontario between Lakes Ontario and Huron. Thunder Bay is a bay on the west side of Lake Huron in Michigan. Saginaw
Bay, an extension of Lake Huron into the Lower Peninsula of Michigan, fed by the Saginaw and other rivers, has the largest contiguous freshwater wetland in the United States. [22] Lake St. Clair, connected with Lake Huron to its north by the St. Clair River and with Lake Erie to its south by the Detroit River. Although it is 17 times smaller in area
than Lake Ontario and only rarely included in the listings of the Great Lakes,[23][24] proposals for its official recognition as a Great Lake are occasionally made, which would affect its inclusion in scientific research projects designated as related to "The Great Lakes".[25] Sandusky Bay is a bay on Lake Erie in northern Ohio. Long Point Bay is a bay on
the north shore of Lake Erie in Ontario. Hamilton Harbour is a harbor on the western tip of Lake Ontario. South Bass Island in Lake Erie Dispersed throughout the Great Lakes are approximately 35,000 islands. [11] The largest among them is Manitoulin Island in Lake
Huron, the largest island in any inland body of water in the world. [26] The second-largest island is Isle Royale in Lake Superior. [27] Both of these lakes even have their own
islands, like Treasure Island in Lake Mindemoya in Manitoulin Island. Toronto on Lake Ontario is in the eastern section of the Great Lakes Megalopolis The Great Lakes Meg
Rapids, Flint, and Detroit in Michigan along with London, Hamilton, Brantford, and Toronto in Ontario. Other significant peninsulas in the Great Lakes Waterway make the Great Lakes
accessible to ocean-going vessels, [29] shifts in shipping to wider ocean-going container shipping on the lakes and out to the Atlantic. [30]
Larger ships are confined to working within the lakes. Only barges can access the Illinois Waterway system providing access to the Gulf of Mexico via the Mississippi River. Despite their vast size, large sections of the Great Lakes freeze over in winter, interrupting most shipping from January to March. Some icebreakers ply the lakes, keeping the
shipping lanes open through other periods of ice on the lakes. The Great Lakes are connected by the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal to the Gulf of Mexico via the Illinois River (from the Chicago River) and the Mississippi River. An alternate track is via the Illinois River (from Chicago), to the Mississippi, up the Ohio, and then through the Tennessee-
Tombigbee Waterway (a combination of a series of rivers and lakes and canals), to Mobile Bay and the Great Lakes by way of the Erie Canal and Hudson River in New York. The Erie Canal connects to the Great Lakes at the east end
of Lake Erie (at Buffalo, New York) and at the south side of Lake Ontario (at Oswego, New York). The lakes were originally fed by both precipitation and meltwater from glaciers which are no longer present. In modern times, only about 1% of volume per year is "new" water, originating from rivers, precipitation, and groundwater springs. In the post-
glacial period, evaporation, and drainage have generally been balanced, making the levels of the lakes relatively constant. [13] Intensive human population growth began in the region in the generally been balanced, making the levels diversion (the
transfer of water to other watersheds) and consumption (substantially done today by the use of lake water to power and cool electric generation plants, resulting in evaporation).[32] Outflows through the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal is more than balanced by artificial inflows via the Ogoki River and Long Lake/Kenogami River diversions.[33]
Fluctuation of the water levels in the lakes has been observed since records began in 1918.[34] The water levels in 2020[37] in the same
lakes. The water level in Lake Ontario has remained relatively constant in the same time period, hovering around the historical average level. [34] Water level caused by the gravitational forces of the sun and moon—do occur in a semi-
diurnal (twice daily) pattern", such changes are quite small and generally obscured by other forces. [38] The lake levels are affected primarily by changes in regional meteorology and climatology. The outflows from Lakes Superior and Ontario are regulated, while the outflows of Michigan-Huron and Erie are not regulated at all. Ontario is the most
tightly regulated, with its outflow controlled by the Moses-Saunders Power Dam, which explains its consistent historical levels. [39] The annual ice coverage on the Great Lakes varies greatly from year to year due to weather patterns and long-term climate trends. Ice typically begins forming in December and reaches its peak in February or early
March, [40] The extent of ice cover can vary from as little as 10% to over 90% depending on winter severity. For example, during the particularly cold winter of 2013-2014, ice coverage peaked at over 92% across the five lakes, while in milder years like 2023-2024, coverage remained below 20%, [41] Long-term data from the National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (NOAA GLERL) indicate a general decline in maximum ice cover over the past few decades, aligning with broader patterns of warming in the region.[40][42] 1675 French map, published shortly before the voyage of Le Griffon. Lake Michigan is named Lake Illinois (the
name change is first recorded in 1681[43]), and Lake Ontario is named Lake Frontenac, after the then-governor of New France. Lake Superior, Michigan, Huron, and Erie, photographed from the Sentinel-3B satellite in June 2022, Lake Ontario is not visible in this image. Lake Erie From the Erie tribe, a shortened form of the Iroquoian word
erielhonan 'long tail'.[44] Lake Huron Named for the inhabitants of the area, the Wyandot (or "Hurons"), by the first French explorers .[45] The Wyandot originally referred to the lake by the name karegnondi, a word which has been variously translated as "Freshwater Sea", "Lake of the Hurons", or simply "lake".[46][47] Lake Michigan From the
Ojibwe word mishi-gami "great water" or "large lake".[48] Lake Ontario From the Wyandot word ontari'io "lake Superior English translation of the French term lac supérieur "upper lake", referring to its position north of Lake Huron. The indigenous Ojibwe call it gichi-gami (from Ojibwe gichi "big, large, great"; gami
"water, lake, sea"). Popularized in French-influenced transliteration as Gitchiqumi as in Gordon Lightfoot's 1976 story song "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald", or Gitchee Gumee as in Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's 1855 epic poem, The Song of Hiawatha).[15] The Great Lakes contain 21% of the world's surface fresh water: 5,472 cubic miles
(22,810 km3), or 6.0×1015 U.S. gallons, that is 6 quadrillion U.S. gallons, (2.3×1016 liters). The lakes contain about 84% of the surface freshwater of North America; [50] if the water were evenly distributed over the entire continent's land area, it would reach a depth of 5 feet (1.5 meters). [51] This is enough water to cover the 48 contiguous U.S.
states to a uniform depth of 9.5 feet (2.9 m). Although the lakes contain a large percentage of the world's fresh water, the Great Lakes supply only a small portion of U.S. drinking water on a national basis. [52] The total surface area of the lakes is approximately 94,250 square miles (244,100 km2)—nearly the same size as the United Kingdom, and
larger than the U.S. states of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire combined. [53] The Great Lakes coast measure exactly. Canada borders approximately 5,200 miles (8,400 km) of coastline,
while the remaining 5,300 miles (8,500 km) are bordered by the United States. Michigan has the longest shoreline of the United States, bordering roughly 3,288 miles (5,292 km) of lakes, followed by Wisconsin (820 miles (1,320 km)), New York (473 miles (761 km)), and Ohio (312 miles (5,292 km)) are bordered by the United States, bordering roughly 3,288 miles (7,292 km) of lakes, followed by Wisconsin (820 miles (1,320 km)), New York (473 miles (761 km)), and Ohio (312 miles (5,292 km)) are bordered by the United States.
cover a distance roughly equivalent to travelling half-way around the world at the equator.[13] A notable modern phenomenon is the formation of ice volcanoes over the lakes during wintertime. Storm-generated waves carve the lakes during wintertime.
the Great Lakes, and has been credited with sparing the southern shorelines from worse rocky erosion.[55] A diagram of the Great Lakes The Champlain Sea - The best evidence of this former sea is the vast clay plain deposited along the Ottawa and St. Lawrence Rivers.[56] It has been estimated that the foundational geology that
created the conditions shaping the present day upper Great Lakes was laid from 1.1 to 1.2 billion years ago,[13][57] when two previously fused tectonic plates split apart and created the Midcontinent Rift, which crossed the Great Lakes Tectonic Plates split apart and created the Midcontinent Rift, which crossed the Great Lakes Tectonic Plates split apart and created the Midcontinent Rift, which crossed the Great Lakes Tectonic Plates split apart and created the Midcontinent Rift, which crossed the Great Lakes Tectonic Plates split apart and created the Midcontinent Rift, which crossed the Great Lakes Tectonic Plates split apart and created the Midcontinent Rift, which crossed the Great Lakes Tectonic Plates split apart and created the Midcontinent Rift, which crossed the Great Lakes Tectonic Plates split apart and created the Midcontinent Rift, which crossed the Great Lakes Tectonic Plates split apart and created the Midcontinent Rift, which crossed the Great Lakes Tectonic Plates split apart and created the Midcontinent Rift, which crossed the Great Lakes Tectonic Plates split apart and created the Midcontinent Rift, which crossed the Great Lakes Tectonic Plates split apart and created the Midcontinent Rift, which crossed the Great Lakes Tectonic Plates split apart and created the Midcontinent Rift.
second fault line, the Saint Lawrence rift, formed approximately 570 million years ago,[13] the basis for Lakes ontario and Erie was created, along with what would become the Saint Lawrence River. The Great Lakes are estimated to have been formed at the end of the Last Glacial Period (the Wisconsin glaciation ended 10,000 to 12,000 years ago),
when the Laurentide Ice Sheet receded. [9] The retreat of the ice sheet left behind a large amount of meltwater (Lake Algonquin, Lake Chicago, Glacial Lake Iroquois, and Champlain Sea) that filled up the basins that the glaciers had carved, thus creating the Great Lakes as they are today. [58] Because of the uneven nature of glacier erosion, some
higher hills became Great Lakes islands. The Niagara Escarpment follows the contour of the Great Lakes between New York and Wisconsin. Land below the glaciers "rebounded" as it was uncovered. [59] Since the glaciers covered some areas longer than others, this glacial rebound occurred at different rates. The Great Lakes have a humid
continental climate, Köppen climate classification Dfa (in southern areas) and Dfb (in northern parts)[60] with varying influences from the west, and warm, wet tropical systems from the south and the Gulf of Mexico.[61] The lakes have a moderating effect
on the climate; they can also increase precipitation totals and produce lake effect snowfall. [60] The location of common lake effect bands on the Great Lakes Main article: Lake-effect snow § Great Lakes region This section needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources in this section.
Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. (February 2021) (Learn how and when to remove this message) The Great Lakes can have an effect on regional weather called lake-effect snow, which is sometimes very localized. Even late in winter, the lakes often have no icepack in the middle. The prevailing winds from the west pick up the air
and moisture from the lake surface, which is slightly warmer in relation to the cold surface winds above. As the slightly warmer, moist air passes over the colder land surface, the moisture often produces concentrated, heavy snowfall that sets up in bands or "streamers". This is similar to the effect of warmer air dropping snow as it passes over
mountain ranges. During freezing weather with high winds, the "snowbelts" receive regular snow fall from this localized weather pattern, especially along the eastern shores of the lake effect is the regular occurrence of fog,
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particularly along the shorelines of the lakes. This is most noticeable along Lake Superior's shores. The lakes tend to moderate seasonal temperatures to some degree but not with as large an influence as do large oceans; they absorb heat and cool the air in summer, then slowly radiate that heat in autumn. They protect against frost during transitional
 weather and keep the summertime temperatures cooler than further inland. This effect can be very localized and overridden by offshore wind patterns. This temperature buffering produces areas known as "fruit belts", where fruit can be produced that is typically grown much farther south. For instance, western Michigan has apple orchards, and
cherry orchards are cultivated adjacent to the lake shore as far north as the Grand Traverse Bay. Near Collingwood, Ontario, commercial fruit orchards, including a few wineries, exist near the shoreline of southern Nottawasaga Bay. The eastern shore of Lake Erie have many successful wineries because of
the lakes' moderating effects, as do the large commercial fruit and wine growing areas of the Niagara Peninsula located between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, on Lake Ontario, on Lake Ontario's northeast shore. The Great Lakes have
been observed to help intensify storms, such as Hurricane Hazel in 1954, and the 2011 Goderich, Ontario tornado, which moved onshore as a tornadic waterspout. In 1996, a rare tropical or subtropical storm was observed forming in Lake Huron, dubbed the 1996 Lake Huron cyclone. Rather large severe thunderstorms covering wide areas are well
known in the Great Lakes during mid-summer; these Mesoscale convective complexes or MCCs[62] can cause damage to wide swaths of forest and shatter glass in city buildings. These storms mainly occur during the night, and the systems sometimes have small embedded tornadoes, but more often straight-line winds accompanied by intense
lightning. Generalized schematic of Great Lakes waterline ecosystem Historically, the Great Lake Michigan where savanna or prairie occasionally intruded). Logging, urbanization, and agriculture uses have changed that
relationship. In the early 21st century, Lake Superior's shores are 91% forested, Lake Huron 68%, Lake Michigan 41%, and Lake Erie, where logging and urbanization has been most extensive, 21%. Some of these forests are second or third growth (i.e. they have been logged before, changing their composition). At least 13 wildlife
species are documented as becoming extinct since the arrival of Europeans, and many more are threatened or endangered.[13] Meanwhile, exotic and invasive species have also been introduced. See also: Great Lakes Areas of Concern § Invasive species have also been introduced. See also: Great Lakes Areas of Concern § Invasive species have also been introduced. See also: Great Lakes Areas of Concern § Invasive species have also been introduced.
and Asian carp in North America Lake sturgeon, the largest native fish in the Great Lakes and the subject of extensive commercial fishing in the 19th and 20th centuries is listed as a threatened species[63] While the organisms found
only in deep, cold lakes of the northern latitudes. These include the delicate opossum shrimp (order mysida), the deepwater sculpin (a spiny, large-headed fish).[64] The Great Lakes are an important source of fishing. Early European settlers were astounded by
both the variety and quantity of fish; there were 150 different species in the Great Lakes.[13] Throughout history, fish populations were the early indicator of the condition of the Lakes and have remained one of the key indicators even in the current era of sophisticated analyses and measuring instruments. According to the bi-national (U.S. and
Canadian) resource book, The Great Lakes: An Environmental Atlas and Resource Book: "The largest Great Lakes fish harvests were recorded in 1889 and 1899 at some 67,000 tonnes (66,000 long tons; 74,000 short tons) [147 million pounds]. "[65] By 1801, the New York Legislature found it necessary to pass regulations curtailing obstructions to the
natural migrations of Atlantic salmon from Lake Erie into their spawning channels. In the early 19th century, the government of Upper Canada found it necessary to introduce similar legislation was passed, but enforcement remained difficult
[66] On both sides of the Canada-United States border, the proliferation of dams and impoundments have multiplied, necessitating more regulatory efforts. Concerns by the mid-19th century included obstructions in the rivers which prevented salmon and lake sturgeon from reaching their spawning grounds. The Wisconsin Fisheries Commission noted
 a reduction of roughly 25% in general fish harvests by 1875. The states have removed dams from rivers where necessary.[clarification needed][67] Overfishing has been cited as a possible reason for a decrease in population of various whitefish, important because of their culinary desirability and, hence, economic consequence. Moreover, between
1879 and 1899, reported whitefish harvests declined from some 24.3 million pounds (11 million kg) to just over 9 million pounds of fish annually.[69] By 1938, Wisconsin's commercial fishing operations were motorized and
mechanized, generating jobs for more than 2,000 workers, and hauling 14 million pounds per year. [69] The population of giant freshwater mussels was eliminated as the mussels were harvested for use as buttons by early Great Lakes; An Environmental Atlas and Resource Book (1972) notes: "Only pockets remain
of the once large commercial fishery."[65] Water quality improvements realized during the 1970s and 1980s, combined with successful salmonid stocking programs, have enabled the growth of a large recreational fishery.[70] The last commercial fisherman left Milwaukee in 2011 because of overfishing and anthropogenic changes to the biosphere.
[69] Cliffs at Palisade Head on Lake Superior in Minnesota near Silver Bay. Since the 19th century, an estimated 160 new species have found their way into the Great Lakes ecosystem; many have become invasive; the overseas ship ballast and ship hull parasitism are causing severe economic and ecological impacts. [71][72] According to the Inland
Seas Education Association, on average a new species enters the Great Lakes every eight months. [72] Introductions into the Great Lakes include the zebra mussel has smothered the bottom of Lake Michigan almost from shore to shore, and their
numbers are estimated at 900 trillion.[69] The mollusks are efficient filter feeders, competing with native mussels and reducing available food and spawning grounds for fish. In addition, the mussels may be a nuisance to industries by clogging pipes. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimated in 2007 that the economic impact of the zebra mussel
could be about $5 billion over the next decade.[73][needs update] The state of Michigan have been put in place to combat the influx of species. A zebra mussel-encrusted vector-averaging current meter from
Lake Michigan. The alewife first entered the system west of Lake Ontario via 19th-century canals. By the 1960s, the small silver fish had become a familiar nuisance to beach goers across Lakes Michigan, Huron, and Erie. Periodic mass die-offs result in vast numbers of the fish washing up on shore; estimates by various governments have placed the
percentage of Lake Michigan's biomass which was made up of alewives in the early 1960s as high as 90%. In the late 1960s, the various state and federal governments began stocking several species of salmonids, including the native lake trout as well as non-native chinook and coho salmon; by the 1980s, alewife populations had dropped drastically.
[74] The ruffe, a small percid fish from Eurasia, became the most abundant fish species in Lake Superior's Saint Louis River, the round goby can now
be found in all of the Great Lakes. The goby is considered undesirable for several reasons: it preys upon bottom-feeding fish, overruns optimal habitat, spawns multiple times a season, and can survive poor water quality conditions. [76] The influx of parasitic lamprey populations after the development of the Erie Canal and the much later Welland Canal
led to the two federal governments of the United States and Canada working on joint proposals to control it. By the mid-1950s, the lake trout populations of Lakes Fishery Commission. Several species of exotic water
fleas have accidentally been introduced into the Great Lakes, such as the spiny waterflea, Bythotrephes longimanus, and the fishhook waterflea, Cercopagis pengoi, potentially having an effect on the zooplankton populations. More recently an
electric fence has been set up across the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal in order to keep several species of invasive Asian carp out of the lakes. These fast-growing planktivorous fish have heavily colonized the Mississippi and Illinois river systems. [77] Invasive species, particularly zebra and quagga mussels, may be at least partially responsible for
the collapse of the deepwater demersal fish community in Lake Huron, [78] as well as drastic unprecedented changes in the zooplankton community of the lakes is abundant but know very little about some of the most plentiful microbes and their environmental effects in the Great Lakes
Although a drop of lake water may contain 1 million bacteria cells and 10 million viruses, only since 2012 has there been a long-term study of the lakes' micro-organisms. Between 2012 and 2019 more than 160 new species have been discovered. [80] See also: Category: Flora of the Great Lakes region (North America) Native habitats and ecoregions in
the Great Lakes region include: Alvar Boreal rich fen (such as in Door County) Eastern forest-boreal transition Upper Midwest forests Southern Great Lakes forests Central forests Southern Great Lakes forests Central forests Southern Great Lakes forests Central forests Central forests Central forests Southern Great Lakes forests Central forests Southern Great Lakes forests Central forests Central
Beech-maple forest Habitats of the Indiana Dunes Plant lists include: List of Minnesota wild flowers List of Minnesota trees Logging of the extensive forests in the Great Lakes region removed riparian and adjacent tree cover over rivers and streams, which provide shade, moderating water temperatures in fish spawning
grounds. Removal of trees also destabilized the soil, with greater volumes washed into stream beds causing siltation of gravel beds, and more frequent flooding. Running cut logs down the tributary rivers into the Great Lakes also dislocated sediments. In 1884, the New York Fish Commission determined that the dumping of sawmill waste (chips and
sawdust) had impacted fish populations.[81] The first U.S. Clean Water Act, passed by a Congressional override after being vetoed by U.S. President Richard Nixon in 1972, was a key piece of legislation,[82] along with the bi-national Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement signed by Canada and the U.S. A variety of steps taken to process industrial
and municipal pollution discharges into the system greatly improved water quality by the 1980s, and Lake Erie in particular is significantly cleaner. [83] Discharge of toxic substances has been sharply reduced. Federal and state regulations control substances like PCBs. The first of 43 "Great Lakes Areas of Concern" to be formally "de-listed" through
successful cleanup was Ontario's Collingwood Harbour in 1994; Ontario's Severn Sound followed in 2003.[84] Presque Isle Bay in Pennsylvania is formally listed as in recovery, as is Ontario's Spanish Harbour. Dozens of other Areas of Concern have received partial cleanups such as the Rouge River (Michigan) and Waukegan Harbour (Illinois).[85]
 Phosphate detergents were historically a major source of nutrient to the Great Lakes algae blooms in particular in the warmer and shallower portion of Lake Michigan. By the mid-1980s, most jurisdictions bordering the Great Lakes had controlled phosphate
detergents.[86] Blue-green algae, or cyanobacteria blooms, [87] have been problematic on Lake Erie since 2011.[88] "Not enough is being done to stop fertilizer and phosphorus from getting into the lake and causing blooms, "said Michael McKay, executive director of the Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research (GLIER) at the University of
Windsor. The largest Lake Erie bloom to date occurred in 2015, exceeding the severity index at 10.5 and in 2011 at a 10.[89] In early August 2019, satellite images depicted a bloom stretching up to 1,300 square kilometers on Lake Erie, with the heaviest concentration near Toledo, Ohio. A large bloom does not necessarily mean the cyanobacteria ...
will produce toxins", said Michael McKay, of the University of Windsor. Water quality testing was underway in August 2019.[89] Until 1970, mercury was not listed as a harmful chemical, according to the University of Windsor. Water tests. Mercury
compounds have been used in paper mills to prevent slime from forming during their production, and chemical compounds in the fresh encury to separate chlorine from brine solutions. Studies conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency have shown that when the mercury comes in contact with many of the bacteria and compounds in the fresh
water, it forms the compound methyl mercury, which has a much greater impact on human health than elemental to a majority of fish types, but is very detrimental to people and other wildlife animals who consume the fish. Mercury has been known for health
related problems such as birth defects in humans and animals, and the near extinction of eagles in the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement and federal laws passed in both countries during the 1970s. Implementation of secondary
treatment of municipal sewage by major cities greatly reduced the routine discharge of untreated sewage during the 1970s and 1980s.[92] The International Joint Commission in 2009 summarized the change: "Since the early 1970s, the level of treatment to reduce pollution from waste water discharges to the Great Lakes has improved considerably
This is a result of significant expenditures to date on both infrastructure and technology, and robust regulatory systems that have proven to be, on the U.S. side of the lakes had implemented secondary treatment, as had all on the Canadian side
except for five small systems.[citation needed] Though contrary to federal laws in both countries, those treatment system upgrades have not yet eliminated combined sewer overflow events.[citation needed] This describes when older sewerage systems, which combined sewer overflow events.[citation needed] Though contrary to federal laws in both countries, those treatment system upgrades have not yet eliminated combined sewer overflow events.
temporarily overwhelmed by heavy rainstorms. Local sewage treatment authorities then must release untreated effluent, a mix of rainwater and sewage, into local water bodies. While enormous public investments such as the Deep Tunnel projects in Chicago and Milwaukee have greatly reduced the frequency and volume of these events, they have
not been eliminated. The number of such overflow events in Ontario, for example, is flat according to the International Joint Commission. [93] Reports about this issue on the U.S. side highlight five large municipal systems (those of Detroit, Cleveland, Buffalo, Milwaukee and Gary) as being the largest current periodic sources of untreated discharges
into the Great Lakes. [94] Diatoms of different sizes seen through the microscope. These minuscule phytoplankton are encased within a silicate cell wall. The fish of the Great Lakes have anti-depressant drugs rose from 7.7%
of all American adults in 1999-2002 to 12.7% in 2011-2014. As the anti-depressant drugs pass out of human bodies and through sanitation systems into the Great Lakes, this has resulted in fish in the Water, leading to the fish being exceedingly happy and
hence less risk-averse, to the extent of damaging the fish populations. [95] Researchers have found that more than 22 million pounds (10.0 kt) of plastics and also come from synthetic clothing washed down our drains.
[97] Plastic waste found in the lakes include single-use plastics, plastics used in packaging, takeout containers as well as pre-production pellets produced by researchers from the Rochman Lab. About 50 million pounds (23 kt) of
fish is harvested each year from Great Lakes which has raised concerns on how this might affect human health.[97] Microscopic pieces of plastic have also been found in drinking water from the Great Lakes. [96] A number of self-operating
floating devices called Seabin, were put in the Great Lakes to capture plastic trash as part of the Great Lakes Plastic Cleanup project. The project captured 74,000 pieces of trash using this technology between 2020 and 2021; however, it does not claim to catch up with 22 million pounds (10.0 kt) of plastic that ends up in Great Lakes every year. The
production, consumption, and throwing away of plastics seems to remain the core of Great Lakes, [100] and have been affected by global warming. [101] The changes in the size or in the function
of the primary producers may have a direct or an indirect impact on the food web. Photosynthesis. [where?] By taking CO2 out of the water to photosynthesis carried out by diatoms constitutes about one fifth of the total photosynthesis. [where?] By taking CO2 out of the water to photosynthesis carried out by diatoms constitutes about one fifth of the total photosynthesis.
\Rightarrow HCO-3 + H+ Diatoms acquire inorganic carbon through passive diffusion of CO2 and HCO-3, and use carbonic anhydrase mediated active transport to speed up this process. [102] Large diatoms require more carbon uptake than smaller diatoms.
diatom cells.[104] A woodcut of Le Griffon Several Native American populations (Paleo-indians) inhabited the region around 10,000 BC, after the end of the Wisconsin glaciation.[105][106] The peoples of the Great Lakes traded from around 10,000 BC, after the end of the Wisconsin glaciation.
the mounds of Southern Ohio. The Rush-Bagot Treaty signed in 1818, after the War of 1812 and the later Treaty of Washington eventually led to a complete disarmament of naval vessels in the Great Lakes. Nonetheless, both nations maintained coast guard vessels in the Great Lakes. The brigantine Le Griffon, which was commissioned by René-
Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle, was built at Cayuga Creek, near the southern end of the Niagara River, and became the first known sailing ship to travel the upper Great Lakes on August 7, 1679.[107] During settlement, the Great Lakes and its rivers were the only practical means of moving people and freight. Barges from middle North America
were able to reach the Atlantic Ocean from the Great Lakes when the Welland Canal opened in 1824 and the later Erie Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] and the later Erie Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening of the Illinois and Michigan Canal opened in 1825.[108] By 1848, with the opening ope
provided between New York City and New Orleans. The main business of many of the passenger lines in the 19th century was transporting immigrants. Many of the larger cities owe their existence to their position on the lakes as a freight destination as well as for being a magnet for immigrants. After railroads and surface roads developed, the freight
and passenger businesses dwindled and, except for ferries and a few foreign cruise ships, have now vanished. The immigration routes still have an effect today. Immigrants often formed their own communities, and some areas have a pronounced ethnicity, such as Dutch, German, Polish, Finnish, and many others. Since many immigrants settled for a
time in New England before moving westward, many areas on the U.S. side of the Great Lakes also have a New England feel, especially in home styles and accent. The passenger ship SS Eastland (foreground) leaving Chicago, c. 1909 Since general freight these days is transported by railroads and trucks, domestic ships mostly move bulk cargoes,
such as iron ore, coal and limestone for the steel industry. The domestic bulk freight developed because of the nearby mines. It was more economical to transport the ingredients for steel to centralized plants rather than to make steel on the spot. Grain exports are also a major cargo on the lakes. In the 19th and early 20th centuries, iron and other
ores such as copper were shipped south on (downbound ships), and supplies, food, and coal were shipped north (upbound). Because of the location of the coal fields in Pennsylvania and West Virginia, and the general northeast track of the Appalachian Mountains, railroads naturally developed shipping routes that went due north to ports such as Erie,
Pennsylvania and Ashtabula, Ohio. Because the lake maritime community largely developed independently, it has some distinctive vocabulary. Ships, no matter the same term used on the Mississippi. The ships also have a distinctive design;
ships that primarily trade on the lakes are known as "lakers". Foreign boats are known as "salties". One of the more common sights on the lakes has been since about 1950 the 1,000-by-105-foot (305 by 32 m), 78,850-long-ton (80,120-metric-ton) self-unloader. This is a laker with a conveyor belt system that can unload itself by swinging a crane over
the side.[110] Today, the Great Lakes fleet is much smaller in numbers than it once was because of the increased use of overland freight, and a few larger ships replacing many small ones. During World War II, the risk of submarine attacks against coastal training facilities motivated the United States Navy to operate two aircraft carriers on the Great
Lakes, USS Sable and USS Wolverine. Both served as training ships to qualify naval aviators in carrier landing and takeoff.[111] Lake Champlain briefly became the sixth Great Lake of the United States on March 6, 1998, when President Clinton signed Senate Bill 927. This bill, which reauthorized the National Sea Grant Program, contained a line
declaring Lake Champlain to be a Great Lake. Not coincidentally, this status allows neighboring states to apply for additional federal research and education funds allocated to these national resources. Following a small uproar, the Senate voted to revoke the designation on March 24 (although New York and Vermont universities would continue to
receive funds to monitor and study the lake).[112] Alan B. McCullough has written that the fishing industry of the Great Lakes got its start "on the Detroit River at about the time of the War of 1812". Although the region was sparsely populated until the
1830s, so there was not much local demand and transporting fish was prohibitively costly, there were economic and infrastructure developments that were promising for the fishing industry expanded
particularly in the waters associated with the fur trading companies Hudson's Bay Company and the American Fur Company. [113] The catch from these waters was sent to the growing market for salted fish in Detroit, where merchants involved
in the fur trade had already gained some experience handling salted fish. One such merchant was John P. Clark, a shipbuilder and merchant who began selling fish in the area of Manitowoc, Wisconsin where whitefish was abundant. Another operation cropped up in Georgian Bay, Canadian waters plentiful with trout as well as whitefish. In 1831,
Alexander MacGregor from Goderich, Ontario found whitefish and herring in abundant supply around the Fishing Islands. A contemporary account by Methodist missionary John Evans describes the fish as resembling a "bright cloud moving rapidly through the water".[113] From 1844 through 1857, palace steamers carried passengers and cargo
around the Great Lakes.[114] In the first half of the 20th century large luxurious passenger steamers sailed the lakes in opulence.[115] The Detroit and Cleveland Navigation Company had several ferries currently operate on the Great Lakes to carry
passengers to various islands. As of 2007, four car ferry services cross the Great Lakes, two on Lake Michigan, one on Lake Erie: a boat from Kingsville, Ontario, or Leamington, Ontario, to Pelee Island, Ontario, then
onto Sandusky, Ohio, and one on Lake Huron: the MS Chi-Cheemaun[117] runs between Tobermory and South Baymouth, Manitoulin Island, operated by the Owen Sound Transportation Company. An international ferry across Lake Ontario from Rochester, New York, to Toronto ran during 2004 and 2005 but is no longer in operation. See also: List of
ships have met their end on the lakes. The greatest concentration of shipwrecks lies near Thunder Bay (Michigan), beneath Lake Huron, near the point where eastbound and westbound shipping lanes converge. The Lake Superior shipwrecks lies near thunder Bay (Michigan), beneath Lake Huron, near the point where eastbound shipping lanes converge. The Lake Superior shipwrecks lies near Thunder Bay (Michigan), beneath Lake Huron, near the point where eastbound shipping lanes converge.
More vessels have been lost in the Whitefish Point area than any other part of Lake Superior. [118] The Whitefish Point Underwater Preserve as an underwater Preserve serves as an underwater preserve serve serves as an underwater preserve serves as an underwater preserve serves as an underwater preserve serves as an underwater pr
trading furs between Green Bay and Michilimacinac, she was lost with all hands aboard.[119] Its wreck may have been found in 2004,[120] but a wreck subsequently discovered in a different location was also claimed in 2014 to be Le Griffon.[121] The largest and last major freighter wrecked on the lakes was the SS Edmund Fitzgerald, which sank on
November 10, 1975, just over 17 miles (30 km) offshore from Whitefish Point on Lake Superior. The largest loss of life in a shipwreck out on the lakes may have been that of Lady Elgin, wrecked in 1860 with the loss of around 400 lives on Lake Michigan. In an incident at a Chicago dock in 1915, the SS Eastland rolled over while loading passengers,
killing 844. In 2007, the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society announced that it had found the wreckage of Cyprus, a 420-foot (130 m) long, century-old ore carrier. Cyprus sank during iron ore from Superior, Wisconsin, to Buffalo, New York. The entire crew of 23
drowned, except one, Charles Pitz, who floated on a life raft for almost seven hours.[122] In 2008, deep sea divers in Lake Ontario found the wreck of the 1780 Royal Navy warship HMS Ontario in what has been described as an "archaeological miracle".[123] There are no plans to raise her as the site is being treated as a war grave. In 2010, L.R. Doty
was found in Lake Michigan by an exploration diving team led by dive boat Captain Jitka Hanakova from her boat Molly V.[124] The ship sank in October 1898, probably attempting to rescue a small schooner, Olive Jeanette, during a terrible storm. Still missing are the two last warships to sink in the Great Lakes, the French minesweepers Inkerman
and Cerisoles, which vanished in Lake Superior during a blizzard in 1918. 78 people died, making it the largest loss of life in Lake Superior and the greatest unexplained loss of life in the waters of Lake Michigan off Wisconsin. It is the site of a
large number of historically significant shipwrecks. [125][126][127] Map of the Great Lakes Ontario, June 14, 2012, taken aboard the
International Space Station, with lake names added Except when the water is frozen during winter, more than 100 lake freighters operate continuously on the Great Lakes, [128] which remain a major water transport corridor for bulk goods. The Great Lakes Waterway connects all the lakes; the shorter Saint Lawrence Seaway connects the lakes to the
Atlantic Ocean. Some lake freighters are too large to use the Seaway and operate only on the Waterway and lakes. In 2002, 162 million net tons of dry bulk cargo were moved on the Lakes. This was, in order of volume: iron ore, grain and potash.[129] The iron ore and much of the stone and coal are used in the steel industry. There is also some
shipping of liquid and containerized cargo. Major ports on the Great Lakes include Duluth-Superior, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Twin Harbors, Hamilton and Thunder Bay. Escanaba's Ludington Park in Michigan Tourism and recreation are major industries on the Great Lakes include Duluth-Superior, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Twin Harbors, Hamilton and Thunder Bay. Escanaba's Ludington Park in Michigan Tourism and recreation are major industries on the Great Lakes include Duluth-Superior, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Twin Harbors, Hamilton and Thunder Bay. Escanaba's Ludington Park in Michigan Tourism and recreation are major industries on the Great Lakes include Duluth-Superior, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Twin Harbors, Hamilton and Thunder Bay. Escanaba's Ludington Park in Michigan Tourism and recreation are major industries on the Great Lakes include Duluth-Superior, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Twin Harbors, Hamilton and Thunder Bay. Escanaba's Ludington Park in Michigan Tourism and Par
sailing ships. Sport fishing, commercial fishing, and Native American fishing represent a U.S.$4 billion a year industry with salmon, whitefish, smelt, lake trout, bass and walleye being major catches. Many other water sports are practiced on the lakes such as yachting, sea kayaking, diving, kitesurfing, powerboating, and lake surfing. The Great Lakes
Circle Tour is a designated scenic road system connecting all of the Great Lakes and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and access to the St. Lawrence River to the United States and access to the St. Lawrence River to the United States and access to the St. Lawrence River to the United States and access to the St. Lawrence River to the United States and access to the St. Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and access to the St. Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the Saint Lawrence River to the United States and the United States and
International Joint Commission was established in 1909 to help prevent and resolve disputes relating to the use and quality of boundary waters, and to advise Canada and the United States on questions related to water resources. Concerns over diversion of Lake water are of concern to both Americans and Canadians. Some water is diverted through
the Chicago River to operate the Illinois Waterway, but the flow is limited by treaty. Possible schemes for bottled water plants and diversion of water from the Great Lakes Basin requires the approval of all eight Great Lakes
company to abandon the plan before it began. Since that time, the eight Great Lakes Governors and the Premiers of Ontario and Quebec have negotiated the Great Lakes-Saint Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact [136] that would prevent most
future diversion proposals and all long-distance ones. The agreements strengthen protection against abusive water withdrawal practices within the Great Lakes basin. On December 13, 2005, the Governors and Premiers signed these two agreements, the first of which is between all ten jurisdictions. It is somewhat more detailed and protective
though its legal strength has not yet been tested in court. The second, the Great Lakes Compact, has been approved by the state legislatures of all eight states that border the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, [138] [139] was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 3, 2008. [137] The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, [138] [139] was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 3, 2008. [137] The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, [138] [139] was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 3, 2008. [137] The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, [138] [139] was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 3, 2008. [137] The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, [138] [139] was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 3, 2008. [137] The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, [138] [139] was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 3, 2008. [137] The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, [138] [139] was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 3, 2008. [137] The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, [138] [139] was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 3, 2008. [137] The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, [138] [139] was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 3, 2008. [137] The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, [138] [139] was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 3, 2008. [137] The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, [138] [139] was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 3, 2008. [137] The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, [138] [139] was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 3, 2008. [137] The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, [138] [139] Was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 3, 2008. [137] The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, [138] [139] Was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 3, 2008. [139] [139] Was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 3, 2008. [139] [139] Was signed into law by 
funded at $475 million in the U.S. federal government's Fiscal Year 2011 budget, and $300 million in the Fiscal Year 2012 budget. Through the program a coalition of federal agencies is making grants to local and state entities for toxics cleanups, wetlands and coastline restoration projects, and invasive species-related projects. The Great Lakes
Restoration Initiative Act of 2019 passed as Pub. L. 116-294 (text) (PDF) on January 5, 2021, reauthorizing the program through Fiscal Year 2026. Lakes Protection Fund Great Lakes WATER Institute Great
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of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Can you locate all five of the Great Lakes on a map? Memorizing the names of the Great Lakes on a map? Memorizing the material.
lake names come to mind. But there's a hitch—in this quiz, you have to identify the Great Lake on a map, so knowing the names will only get you so far! Lake Michigan is situated near the state that bears the same name. You can ace it on the
first try!Log in to save your results.Page 2The Great Lakes were created by the movement of glaciers (large sheets of ice) over land, around 10,000 years ago. Their names (Erie, Huron, Michigan, Superior, and Ontario) are taken from French and Indian words - these groups were prominent in early American history. The Great Salt Lake, in the state
of Utah, is the largest saltwater lake in the western hemisphere and is not connected to any rivers. The Great Slave Lake, in Canada, is one of the ten largest in the world, and the deepest in North America in the pre-Columbian era
developed different methods for coping with their environment. The Algonquians who lived in the Eastern Woodlands made dugout canoes, usually out of a single long tree log, to navigate the rivers and coastline. Meanwhile, the Pueblo people, who lived in the Southeast, utilized clay mixed with water to create their adobe homes. Up North, the
Aleuts hunted salmon and crabs, as well as other large sea mammals like whales, in order to survive.Log in to save your results. Page 4Panama City is one of the Panama City is one of the Panama City is one of the Panama City is one of the wealthiest and most visited cities in Central America, largely because of the Panama City is one of the Panama City i
identify Panama City on a map, along with the other Central American capitals. Did you know that Belmopan, the capitals of Central America. Find a few interesting facts on your own, then use this engaging geography study aid to become an expert
on the Central American capital cities!Log in to save your results. Page 5Did you know that Bimini, a district of the Bahamas, is only 50 miles off the coast of Florida? How about that Saint Lucia is located northwest of Barbados? Learning the independent countries of the Caribbean can be challenging, but picking up a few hints like those can make it
easier, and this guiz game can help. Some of these countries' names are a mouthful—Antiqua and Barbuda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines—that last one sounds like a band my Dad would listen to. Long names or not, with the help of this guiz game, you'll be able to pick out every one of the independent
countries of the Caribbean in no time.Log in to save your results. Page 6Featuring a handful of the most recognizable island names in the world and some that you may not have heard of, this quiz game will make learning the Antilles fun and easy! Is that Trinidad or Tobago? One is big and one is small—that should help distinguish them. Hispaniola is
the largest and farthest north of the islands. As you work through the islands, try to key off each one's location and size. Antiqua, one of the smaller islands of the Antilles will be easier than an island breeze! Log in to save your
results. Page 7With 50 states in total, there are a lot of geography facts to learn about the United States. This map quiz game is here to help. See how fast you can pin the location of the lower 48, plus Alaska and Hawaii, in our states game! If you want to practice offline, download our printable US State maps in pdf format. Log in to save your
results. Page 8BasseterreBridgetownCastriesHavanaKingstonKingstownNassauPort au PrincePort of SpainRoseauSanto DomingoSt. George'sSt. John'sUpgrade your account to access this featureHere's a map quiz that challenges you to identify 13 capitals of the Caribbean. Port-au-Prince, the capital of Haiti, is also the country's most populous city.
Santo Domingo is the capital of the Dominican Republic and has more people than any other Caribbean metropolitan area. Bridgetown lies on the southwestern coast of Barbados. There are interesting things about all these capital cities—if you commit a few details to memory and work with this map quiz, you'll be able to identify these 13 Caribbean
capitals in no time.Log in to save your results. Our map of the Great Lakes provides a visual of the iconic interconnected lakes. Explore the shores, islands, and coastal cities of Lake Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario. We've created four maps that you can download for free and use for any purpose. It contains a simplified, detailed, and
physical map of the Great Lakes. Dive into more detail with these Great Lakes maps highlighting Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario. You'll find provinces, states, and water bodies. We also include city names - capitals, towns, and smaller populated places. This way, you'll be able to find all coastal urban areas along the Great Lakes.
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5 Great Lakes. Situated between Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Ontario, Lake Superior is the largest of the Great Lakes. This map of Lake Superior highlights its shores. Download Lake Huron is the second-largest of the Great Lakes. It also holds
the largest freshwater island in the world—Manitoulin Island. This map will help you discover the boundaries of Lake Huron. Lake Huron borders the Canadian province of Ontario to the north and the state of Michigan to the west and south. Download Lake Michigan spans the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. It's a major
contributor to the economy of the Midwest. Plus, it's the only Great Lake entirely within the United States. It boasts a shoreline that stretches over 1,600 miles, making it the longest freshwater coastline of any lake in the United States. It boasts a shoreline that stretches over 1,600 miles, making it the longest freshwater coastline of any lake in the United States. This map of Lake Michigan highlights its expansive shoreline and coastal populated places. Download Lake Erie is
bounded by the U.S. states of Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York to the south and the Canadian province of Ontario to the north. It has a diverse shoreline that ranges from sandy beaches to cliffs. Our map of Lake Erie delineates its diverse shoreline that ranges from sandy beaches to cliffs.
and Canadian provinces. Download Finally, Lake Ontario is the easternmost of the Great Lakes and serves as an outlet to the Atlantic Ocean through the Saint Lawrence River. Use our map of
Lake Ontario without any restrictions. Download Located between the United States and Canada, the Great Lakes form the largest group of freshwater lakes in North America. Collectively, they also form the largest freshwater system in the
world and account for 20% of freshwater globally. The Great Lakes region holds a pivotal position in the continent's landscape. Here is a table that summarizes some of the key information about the 5 Great Lakes of North America. Lake NameArea (sq km)Geographic LocationSuperior82,103Borders Canada and the U.S., largest by surface
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exception or limitation. No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Our map of the Great Lakes provides a visual of the iconic interconnected lakes. Explore the shores, islands, and
coastal cities of Lake Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario. We've created four maps that you can download for free and use for any purpose. It contains a simplified, detailed, and physical map of the Great Lakes. Dive into more detail with these Great Lakes maps highlighting Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario. You'll find
provinces, states, and water bodies. We also include city names - capitals, towns, and smaller populated places. This way, you'll be able to find all coastal urban areas along the Great Lakes. Each of the five lakes has labels to distinguish them.
This physical map can also help you discover topographical features, elevations, rivers, valleys, and natural landmarks across diverse regions. Download This is just a simple map showing the states and rivers (including labels) that surround the Great Lakes system. We allow you to download and use these maps, including our detailed, simple, and
physical maps. Please provide a citation to this webpage if you use any of our maps of the Great Lakes. Download From largest to smallest, here are individual maps that highlight each of the Great Lakes. This map of Lake Superior
highlights its shoreline and geographical extent. It also labels states, provinces, and the major cities along its shores. Download Lake Huron is the second-largest of the Great Lakes. It also holds the largest freshwater island in the world—Manitoulin Island. This map will help you discover the boundaries of Lake Huron. Lake Huron borders the
Canadian province of Ontario to the north and the state of Michigan to the west and south. Download Lake Michigan spans the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. It's a major contributor to the economy of the Midwest. Plus, it's the only Great Lake entirely within the United States. It boasts a shoreline that stretches over 1,600 miles.
making it the longest freshwater coastline of any lake in the United States. This map of Lake Michigan highlights its expansive shoreline and coastal populated places. Download Lake Erie is bounded by the U.S. states of Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York to the south and the Canadian province of Ontario to the north. It has a diverse shoreline that
ranges from sandy beaches to cliffs. Our map of Lake Erie delineates its diverse coastline and key geographical elements. You'll find everything from urban areas to its surrounding US states and Canadian provinces. Download Finally, Lake Ontario is the easternmost of the Great Lakes. Named after the Canadian Province of Ontario, it extends its
reach into the state of New York and the province of Ontario. It's the smallest of the Great Lakes and serves as an outlet to the Atlantic Ocean through the Saint Lawrence River. Use our map of Lake Ontario without any restrictions. Download Located between the United States and Canada, the Great Lakes are five interconnected lakes consisting of
Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario. The Great Lakes form the largest group of freshwater globally. The Great Lakes region holds a pivotal position in the continent's landscape. Here is a table that summarizes
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some of the key information about the 5 Great Lakes of North America. Lake NameArea (sq km)Geographic LocationSuperior82,103Borders Canada and the U.S., largest by surface areaHuron59,566Second-largest by surface area, between Canada and the U.S., second-largest by surface area, between Canada and the U.S., second-largest by surface area Huron59,566Second-largest by surface area Huron59,566Second-largest by surface area, between Canada and the U.S., second-largest by surface area Huron59,566Second-largest by surface area Huron59
by surface area, smallest by volumeOntario18,960Smallest by surface area, between Canada and the U.S. Looking for North American maps? Our collection features a variety of options, from time zone maps to country outlines. Discover more. Just click on the map shown below. Subscribe Apple | Spotify | Amazon | iHeart Radio | Castbox | Podcast
Republic | RSS | Patreon Located in the middle of North America lies one of the largest collections of freshwater lakes on Earth. Also, given their location, they are home to several large industrial centers and is part of one of the most important economic waterways
on the planet. Learn more about the Great Lakes, how they were made, and their importance on this episode of Everything Everywhere Daily. The Great Lakes are the largest in the world in terms of area and the second largest in terms of
volume, just slightly behind Lake Baikal, which will be the subject of a future episode. For those of you who are wondering why the Caspian Sea isn't a body of freshwater. Its water is salty, although only? the salinity of the oceans. It is
an inland body of water, but it is different enough that it doesn't fit the general classification for lakes. The five Great Lakes is separate, they are all interconnected, creating a single waterway. The surface area of the Great Lakes is approximately the size of the United
Kingdom. By surface area, Lake Superior is the largest lake in the world, with Michigan coming in third, Huron fourth, Erie 10th, and Ontario 12th. Other lakes were created around 14,000 years ago during the last ice age. The massive ice
sheets which covered North America created large depressions in the locations of the Great Lakes. When the glacier retreated, the depressions filled up with water creating the lakes we know today. One of the lakes which is always compared to the Great Lakes is Lake Baikal in Russia, which is the largest lake in the world in terms of volume of water
by a wide margin. Baikal, which will also be the subject of a future episode, is the result of a continental rift, similar to what created the great rift lakes in Africa. Any discussion of individual lakes has to start with the biggest of the lakes, Lake Superior. As I previously mentioned, Superior is the largest lake in the world by area and the third largest
by volume behind Baikal and Tanganyika. A full 10% of all the fresh water in the world can be found in Lake Superior. The Ojibwe people who lived on the northern shore of the lake called it "gichi-gami," which subsequently became Anglicized by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow into "Gitche Gumee" and was subsequently popularized by Canadian
singer Gordan Lightfoot in his song The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald. Superior is the deepest of the Great Lakes by far, with an average depth of 483 feet or 147 meters and a maximum depth of 1,332 feet or 406 meters. Because of its depth, Superior holds more water than all four of the other Great Lakes combined. There is enough water in
Lake Superior to cover the entirety of North and South America to a depth of 30 centimeters or 12 inches. There is one notable island in Lake Superior, Isle Royle, in the state of Minnesota. The island was ceded to the United States
by Britain in the 1783 Treaty of Paris, and then given to Michigan when it became a state 20 years before Minnesota. Superior is the closest thing you will ever experience to visiting the ocean without actually visiting the ocean. Outside of some areas immediately near the shore, the lake does not freeze over in the winter. By the same token, it also
doesn't warm up much in the summer, meaning only the most intrepid swimmers would actually try to go swimming in Lake Superior. The next largest of the lakes is Lake Michigan. Lake Michigan is the second largest Great Lake in terms of water volume, the third largest of the lakes which lies solely within the
United States. Hydrologically speaking, Lake Michigan and Lake Huron are actually the same lake. The two lakes are connected via the Straits of Mackinac, which at its narrowest is only 3 ½ miles or 5.6 kilometers across. It is short enough that it is spanned by the Mackinac Bridge. The water levels in both lakes are the same, and water can flow
back and forth between them depending on conditions. The largest city on Lake Michigan is Chicago. The city's location was determined by the creation of the Illinois and Michigan Canal that connected Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River Basin. It is a very short canal, but it allowed for a ship to theoretically travel from New Orleans to Montreal
without ever having to enter the Atlantic Ocean. For people in Wisconsin or Michigan who want to visit each other, it can take a very long time to drive around the lake. During the summer, there is a ferry service that can turn an almost 500-mile car ride into a 60-mile ferry ride. Lake Huron is connected to Lake Superior via the Saint Mary's River
and the Soo Locks, which are located between Sault Ste. Marie Michigan and Michigan 
own. One of those lakes, Lake Mindemoya, has an island on a lake on 
island on a lake. When that happens, we will have achieved island-lake inception. Lake Huron flows south through the St. Clair River, into a widening of the river known as Lake St. Clair, and then to the Detroit River. Across the Detroit River are the cities of Detroit, Michigan, and Windsor, Ontario. This is the busiest border crossing between the US
and Canada. Because the river winds, it also results in a trivia question: what country lies directly south of Detroit? Answer, Canada. The Detroit River then empties into Lake Erie is the fourth largest lake but substantially smaller than the other three lakes I've mentioned so far. It has only 44% of the surface area of Lake Michigan. It is the
smallest of the lakes by volume. The lake is the location of Point Peele, which is the southernmost point of the Canadian mainland, and also Middle Island, which is just off Point Peele and is the southernmost piece of Canadian mainland, and also Middle Island, which is just off Point Peele and is the southernmost piece of Canadian mainland, and also Middle Island, which is just off Point Peele and is the southernmost piece of Canadian mainland, and also Middle Island, which is just off Point Peele and is the southernmost piece of Canadian mainland, and also Middle Island, which is just off Point Peele and is the southernmost piece of Canadian mainland, and also Middle Island, which is just off Point Peele and is the southernmost piece of Canadian mainland, and also Middle Island, which is just off Point Peele and is the southernmost piece of Canadian mainland, and also Middle Island, which is just off Point Peele and is the southernmost piece of Canadian mainland, and also Middle Island, which is just off Point Peele and is the southernmost piece of Canadian mainland, and also Middle Island, which is just off Point Peele and is the southernmost piece of Canadian mainland, and also Middle Island, which is just off Point Peele and is the southernmost piece of Canadian mainland, and also Middle Island mainland, and also Middle Island mainland mainland
time is just the median amount of time water says in a lake. The retention time for Lake Erie is 2.6 years, whereas for Lake Erie has several major ports, including Toledo and Cleveland, Ohio, Erie, Pennsylvania, and Buffalo, New York. Buffalo lies at the extreme eastern side of the lake, which results in it getting extreme
amounts of snow. The snow is the result of what is known as the lake effect. It is the result of cold, dry air that blows over warmer lake water. As the prevailing winds on all the Great Lakes blow west to east, that means locations on the eastern side of the lakes can get a lot of snow. I live on the western side of Lake Michigan, and while it can get
cold, we don't get nearly as much snow as places north of here in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, which are on the eastern shore of Lake Superior. Superior, Michigan, Huron, and Erie all roughly are at the same elevation. Other than the Soo Locks, which drop 21 feet or 6.4 meters, you can travel by water without much difficulty. However, this all
changes once the water leaves Lake Erie. Lake Erie is at an elevation of 173 meters or 569 feet above sea level. However, by the time water flows into Lake Ontario, it has dropped 326 feet or 100 meters. Most of this drop occurs in a single spot which you are probably familiar with, Niagara River is extremely rough, which is why it time water flows into Lake Ontario, it has dropped 326 feet or 100 meters.
was the location for some of the earliest large hydroelectric plants in North America. Ships going from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario will travel by the Welland Canal, which cuts through Ontario has a rather light population on the American side,
but on the Canadian side is the largest city on the shore of any of the Great Lakes, Toronto. When water leaves Lake Ontario, it is done with the Great Lakes, but its voyage is still not complete. The last body of water it has to traverse is the Saint Lawrence River. The Saint Lawrence River of Ontario and New York before flowing
into Quebec. The river drops the final 75 meters or 246 feet from Lake Ontario. Passage through the Saint Lawrence was possible but not easy for bigger ships. This led to the construction in the 1950s of the Saint Lawrence Seaway, which is a collection of locks and canals
which connect the Great Lakes together are collectively known as the Great Lakes Waterway. This system allows ships to travel from the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes' most distant port, Duluth, Minnesota, for a total of 2,340 miles or 3,770 kilometers. There are over 100 freighters that operate just on the Great Lakes. Most of these ships only
operate on the lakes as they are too large to use the Saint Lawrence Seaway. Over 162 million tons of dry bulk goods are transported on the Great Lakes every year, with the biggest products being iron ore, grain, and potash. The iron comes from northern Minnesota, the grain from all over the upper great plains, and the potash comes from Canada.
Few people purposely visit the Great Lakes like they would a beach on the ocean. The beaches are much smaller than any ocean, you can experience them by driving around them. A trip around Lake Superior is one of the best things you can do in North America, yet few
people bother to do it. Economically, the Great Lakes are one of the world's most important inland waterways. Hydrologically they are one of the world's most important reservoirs of fresh water. Politically, the serve as the most important boundary and area of cooperation between the United States and Canada. For these reasons and for their raw
size, Great Lakes collectively are perhaps the most important lakes on Earth. The Executive Producer of Everywhere Daily is Charles Daniel. The associate producers are Thor Thomsen and Peter Bennett. I have a boostagram for you today. Listener uzza sent 333 stats and had the following comment. They said, This is the first time I've
hear the word "principia" with a "k"? indeed one result suggest [pri???k?piä]. but the rest goes more into [p??ns??pi??], [p??
and fiat money? Thanks, uzza! First, the story of the grains of rice and the checkerboard is an apocryphal story. There is no evidence that it ever really happened. It is a great story to demonstrate just how fast things can grow exponentially, but there is no history behind it. Second, the proper pronunciation for Principia Mathematica is
 "prinkipia".This is because the Prinkipia Mathematica is a Latin text. The whole book was written in Latin.In Latin, the letter c is always pronounced that way, as most people don't know Latin, but that wasn't how Newton would have pronounced it. If you
watch any videos with science historians, I'd be the preferred pronunciation would be "prinkipia". That being said, there are other Latin words with a 'c' that are usually not pronounced with a hard c. Caesar and Cicero would technically be pronounced Kaesar and Kikero, but we say Caesar and Cicero because that is what everyone knows them as,
and it would just be pretentious and confusing to pronounce them in their original Latin. Remember, if you leave a review or send me a boostagram, you too can have it read on the Show. Region of the United States and Canada This article is about the North American region, see African region, see African Great Lakes region. This article needs
additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. Find sources: "Great Lakes region" - news · newspapers · books · scholar · JSTOR (June 2020) (Learn how and when to remove this message) PlaceGreat Lakes region Left to right from top:
Toronto, Chicago, La Cloche Mountains, Split Rock Lighthouse, Ottawa, DetroitThe eight U.S. states and one Canadian province shown in red all have shorelines on at least one of the Great Lakes. Largest metropolitan areas Chicagoland Greater Toronto Area (GTA) Metro DetroitGreater Twin Cities Greater Cleveland Metro Milwaukee States and
provincesIllinoisIndianaMichiganMinnesotaNew YorkOhioOntarioPennsylvaniaWisconsinPopulation • Total85,011,531 (US)[1] 14,755,211 (Canada) 99,766,742 (Total)DemonymGreat Lakes that includes the U.S. states of Illinois,
Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin and the Canadian province of Ontario. It encompasses both the Upper Midwest and parts of the region because the St. Lawrence River watershed is part of the continuous hydrologic system. Therefore a specific continuous hydrologic system.
region forms a distinctive historical, economic, and cultural identity. A portion of the region also encompasses the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers, which also serves as the Secretariat to the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Compact and
the Great Lakes-Saint Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement. The Great Lakes region takes its name from the corresponding geological formation of the Great Lakes Basin, a narrow watershed encompassing the Great Lakes, bounded by watersheds to the region's north by the Hudson Bay, to the west by the Mississippi, and
to the east and south by the Ohio. To the east, the rivers of St. Lawrence, Richelieu, Hudson, Mohawk and Susquehanna form an arc of watersheds east to the Atlantic. The Great Lakes region, as distinct from the Great Lakes Basin, defines a unit of sub-national political entities defined by the U.S. states and the Canadian province of Ontario
encompassing the Great Lakes watershed, and the states and province bordering one or more of the Great Lakes. Niagara Escarpment (in red) Cleveland and Lake Erie in winter An upbound lake freighter passing the Detroit riverfront including the Renaissance Center Buffalo near the Niagara River The Palaeozoic strata are parts of a great area of
similar layers hundreds of feet in thickness. These strata decline gently southward from the great upland of the Laurentian Highlands of eastern Canada. The visible part was the last part of the primeval continent
to sink under the advancing Palaeozoic seas. This district may be considered an ancient coastal plain. The weaker layers are worn down in sub-parallel belts of lower land between the upland and the belts of more resistant strata, which rise in uplands. Illustrations of this type of forms are found in the district of the Great Lakes. The chief upland belt
or escarpment is formed by the firm Niagara Escarpment has a relatively strong slope or enfacing escarpment on the side towards the upland, and a long gentle slope on the other side. Its relief is seldom more than 200 or 300
feet (91 m) and is generally small. Its continuity and its contrast with the associated lowlands on the underlying and overlying weak strata make it an important feature. The escarpment would lie strata were uniformly to the south. However, the strata are somewhat warped and so the escarpment's course is
strongly convex to the north in the middle, gently convex to the south at either end. The escarpment begins where its determining limestone/dolomite begins, in west-central New York. There, it separates the lowlands that separates the lowlands that separates the lowlands that separate Lake Ontario province to the south at either end. The escarpment begins, in west-central New York.
Georgian Bay from Lake Huron. From there, it heads westward through the land-arm between Lake Michigan and southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and Southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and Southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and Southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and Southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and Southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and Southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and Southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and Southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and Southwestward into the narrow points dividing Green Bay from Lake Michigan and Southwestward into the narrow points dividi
Great Lakes closely matches the course of the lowlands worn on the two belts of weaker strata on either side of the Niagara escarpment. Lake Erie, Lake Huron and Lake Michigan lie in depressions in the lowland on the outer side.
When the two lowlands are traced eastward, they become confluent after the Niagara limestone has faded away in central New York, and the single lowland is continued under the name of the Mohawk Valley. This is an east-west longitudinal depression that has been eroded on a belt of relatively weak strata between the resistant crystalline rocks of
the Adirondacks on the north and the north and the northern escarpment of the Appalachian Plateau (Catskills-Helderbergs) on the south. Early in U.S. interior. In Wisconsin, the inner lowland is a knob of resistant quartzites, known as Baraboo Ridge, rising from the buried
upland floor through the partly denuded cover of lower Palaeozoic strata. This knob or ridge can be thought of as an ancient physiographic fossil, as it is an ancient monadnock having been preserved from destructive attacks of weather by burial under sea-floor deposits. It has been recently re-exposed through the erosion of its cover. The occurrence floor deposits is an ancient physiographic fossil, as it is an ancient physiographic fossil, as it is an ancient physiographic floor deposits. It has been recently re-exposed through the erosion of its cover.
of the lake basins in the lowland belts on either side of the Niagara escarpment is an abnormal feature. Glacial erosion has formed them through the glacial sheet. Lake Superior is unlike the other lakes. The greater part of its basin
occupies a depression in the upland area, independent of the overlap of Palaeozoic strata. The western half of the basin occupies a trough of synclinal structure. The Great Lakes receive the drainage of a small peripheral land area, enclosed by a water-parting from the rivers that run to Hudson Bay or the Gulf of Saint Lawrence on the north and to these receive the drainage of a small peripheral land area, enclosed by a water-parting from the rivers that run to Hudson Bay or the Gulf of Saint Lawrence on the north and to the north and to the sain occupies a trough of synclinal structure.
Gulf of Mexico on the south. The three lakes of the middle group: Lake Huron and Lake Erie stand at practically the same level. Lake Huron and Lake Erie are connected by the St. Clair River and Detroit River, with
the small Lake St. Clair between them. The land northeast of the rivers is undergoing a slow elevation. The Niagara River connecting Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, with a fall of 326 feet (49 m) at the cataract) in 30 miles (48 km), is thought to have been of recent origin, as an older river would have a mature valley. The original valley
that is thought to have connected the two depressions through the Niagara Escarpment is thought to have been at the present route of the Welland Canal, and to have been an original valley. The Ontarian River that was a precursor to Lake
Ontario is thought to have drained westward, and the St. Lawrence drainage to have been created by subsidence due to the weight of the ice sheet. Map of the Great Lakes Basin. Paleo-Indian cultures were the earliest in North America, with a presence in the Great Lakes Basin. Paleo-Indian cultures were the earliest in North America, with a presence in the Great Lakes Basin. Paleo-Indian cultures were the earliest in North America, with a presence in the Great Lakes Basin. Paleo-Indian cultures were the earliest in North America, with a presence in the Great Lakes Basin.
needed] Prior to European settlement, Iroquoian people lived around Lakes Erie and Ontario, [2] Algonquian peoples including the Menominee, Ojibwe, Illinois, Potawatomi, Huron, Shawnee, Erie, Miami, Meskwaki and Ho-Chunk (Winnebago). [3] With the first permanent
European settlements in the early seventeenth century, all these nation-peoples developed an extensive fur trade with French, Dutch, and English merchants in the early seventeenth century, all these nation-peoples developed an extensive fur trade with French, Dutch, and English merchants in the early seventeenth century, all these nation-peoples developed an extensive fur trade A portion of eastern North America in 1774 after the Quebec Act;
Quebec extends all the way to the Mississippi River. The prospects of fur monopolies and discovery of a fabled Northwest Europe imperial nations to control the territory. A century and a half of naval and land wars among France, The Netherlandsseption among the three most powerful northwest Europe imperial nations to control the territory.
and Britain resulted finally in British control of the Plains of Abraham near Quebec City in 1759, and the
Treaty of Paris (1763) that ended The Seven Years' War, known in America as the French and Indian War ceded the entire region to the victor. Indian Reserve is the historical term for this largely uncolonized area set aside in the Royal Proclamation of 1763[4] for use by Native Americans, who already inhabited it.[5] The British government had
contemplated establishing an Indian barrier state in the portion of the reserve west of the Appalachian Mountains, and bounded by the Ohio and Mississippi rivers and the Great Lakes. Britain's claims were intensely disputed by a confederation of Indians during Pontiac's Rebellion, which induced major concessions to still sovereign Indian nations;
and by the Iroquois Confederacy, whose six member nations-Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, Seneca and Tuscarora-never conceded sovereignty to either Britain or, later, The United States.[6] During the American Revolution, the region was contested between Britain and rebellious American colonies. Hoping for favorable claims of territorial
control in an eventual peace treaty with Britain, American adventurers led by Kentucky militia leader George Rogers Clark briefly occupied village settlements, including Cahokia, Kaskaskia and Vincennes unopposed, with passive support from Francophone inhabitants. In the Peace of Paris (1784) Britain ceded what became known as the Northwest
Territory, the area bounded by Great Lakes, Mississippi and Ohio rivers, and the eastern colonies of New York and Pennsylvania, to the fledgling United States. Britain, which may have entertained ambitions to repossess the area if America failed to govern it, retained control over its forts and licensed fur trade for fifteen years. By well-established
trade and military routes across the Great Lakes, the British continued to supply not only their own troops but a wide alliance of Native American nations through Detroit, Fort Michilimackinac, and so on, until these posts were turned over to the United States following the Jay Treaty (1794). During the Confederacy Period of 1781-1789,
the Continental Congress passed three ordinances whose authority was unclear regarding the region's governance on the American side. The Land Ordinance of 1784 established the broad outlines of future governance on the American side. The Land Ordinance of 1784 established the broad outlines of future governance on the American side.
nation as equal members. The Land Ordinance of 1785 specified the manner in which land would be distributed in the Territory, favoring sale in small parcels to settlers who would work their own farms. The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 defined the political protocols by which American states south of the lakes would enter the union as political
equals with the original thirteen colonies. The ordinance, adopted in its final form just before the writing of the United States Constitution, was a sweeping, visionary proposal to create what was at the time a radical experiment in democratic governance and economy. The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 prohibited slavery, restricted primogeniture,
mandated universal public education, provided for affordable farm land to people who settled and improved it, and required peaceful, lawful treatment of the Indian population. The ordinance prohibited the establishment of state religion and establishment of state religion and establishment of the Indian population. The ordinance prohibited the establishment of state religion and establis
cruel and unusual punishment, trial by jury, and exemption from unreasonable search and seizure. States equal to the original thirteen, Five states evolved from its provisions. Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, and Wisconsin, The northeastern section of
Minnesota, from the Mississippi to St. Croix River, also fell under ordinance jurisdiction and extended the constitution and culture of the Old Northwest to the Dakotas. The surge of settlement could lead to annexation of its western
provinces, countered with the Constitutional Act 1791 granting limited self-government to Canada (Ontario). The modern Erie Canal has 34 locks, which are painted with the blue and gold colors of the New York State Canal System Gateway
Harbor in North Tonawanda, about 1000 feet from the present day western terminus of the Erie Canal where it connects to the Niagara River Settlement and economic expansion on both sides accelerated markets and commerce between
Ohio, the St. Lawrence, Mohawk, and Hudson rivers provided outlets for commercial corn and wheat, while The Ohio River let agricultural products from western Pennsylvania and southern Ohio, Indiana and Illinois journey downstream to New Orleans. Mining, primarily soft metals of copper, zinc, and lead; and timber to supply rapidly expanding
sawmills that supplied lumber for new settlements. Agricultural and industrial production generated distinctive political and social cultures of independent republican producers, who consolidated an ideology of personal liberty, free markets, and great social visions, often expressed in religious terms and enthusiasms. The region's alliance of
antislavery with free soil movements contributed troops and agricultural goods that proved critical in the Union's victory. The Homestead and Morrill Acts, donating federal land to extend the agrarian economic franchise, and support state universities, modeled western expansion and education for all future states. The British-Canadian London
Conference of 1866, and subsequent Constitution Act, 1867 analogously derived from political, and some military, turmoil in the former jurisdiction of Upper Canada, which was renamed and organized in the new dominion as the provisions for land distribution
to farmers who owned their own land, and mandated universal public education, organization, and technology have made the region among the world's most productive manufacturing centers. Nineteenth-century monopolies such as International Harvester, Standard Oil, and United States Steel established the pattern of
American centralized industrial consolidation and eventual global dominance. The region hosted the world's greatest concentrations of production for oil, coal, steel, automobiles, synthetic rubber, agricultural machinery, and heavy transport equipment. Agronomy industrialized as well, in meat processing, packaged cereal products, and processed
dairy products. In response to disruptions and imbalances of power resulting from so vast a concentration of economic power, industrial workers organized the Congress of Industrial Organizations, a coherent agricultural cooperative movement, and the Progressive politics led by Wisconsin's Governor and Senator Robert M. La Follette. State
universities, professional social work, and unemployment and workers' compensation were some of the region's permanent contributions to American social policy. The Great Lakes region has produced globally influential breakthroughs in agricultural technology, transportation and building construction. Cyrus McCormick's reaper, John Deere's steel
plow, Joseph Dart (Dart's Elevator), and George Washington Snow's balloon-frame construction are some of innovations that made significant, global impact. The University of Chicago and Case Western Reserve University figured prominently in developing nuclear power. Automobile manufacture developed simultaneously in Ohio and Indiana and
became centered in the Detroit area of Michigan. Henry Ford's movable assembly line drew on regional experience in meat processing, agricultural machinery manufacturing. Chicago-based Montgomery Ward and Sears Roebuck companies
complemented mass manufactures with mass retail distribution. Chicago pioneered the world's first skyscraper, the Home Insurance Building designed by William LeBaron Jenney. Engineering innovation established Chicago from that time on to become one of the
world's most influential epicenters of contemporary urban and commercial architecture. Equally influential was the 1832 invention of balloon-framing in Chicago which replaced heavy timber could be nailed together by farmers and settlers who
used it to build homes and barns throughout the western prairies and plains. Wisconsin-born, Chicago-trained Sullivan apprentice Frank Lloyd Wright designed prototypes for architectural designs from the commercial skylight atrium to suburban ranch house. German-born Pennsylvania immigrant John A. Roebling invented steel wire rope, a pivotal
part of suspension bridges he designed and whose construction he supervised in Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Buffalo, based on earlier successful canal aqueducts. His most famous project was the Brooklyn Bridge. Contributions to modern transportation include the Wright brothers' early airplanes, designed and perfected in their Dayton, Ohio
mechanics' workshops; distinctive Great Lakes freighters, and railroad beds constructed of wooden ties and steel rails. The early nineteenth century Erie Canal and mid-twentieth century St. Lawrence Seaway expanded the scale and capacity of massive water-born freight. Agricultural associations joined the nineteenth century Grange, which in turn
generated the agricultural cooperatives that defined much of rural political economy and culture throughout the region. Fraternal, ethnic, and civic organizations extended cooperatives and supported local ventures from insurance companies to orphanages and hospitals. The region was the political base, and provided much leadership political parties
in the region. The region's greatest institutional contributions were major corporate, labor, educational and cooperative organizations. It hosted some of the most influential national and international corporate, labor, educational and cooperative organizations. It hosted some of the most influential national and international corporate, labor, educational and cooperative organizations. It hosted some of the most influential national and international corporate, labor, educational and cooperative organizations. It hosted some of the most influential national contributions were major corporate, labor, educational and cooperative organizations. It hosted some of the most influential national and cooperative organizations and international contributions were major corporate, labor, educational and international contributions were major corporate, labor, educational and cooperative organizations.
Erie railroads, Carnegie Steel, U.S. Steel, International Harvester and Standard Oil. Ford's River Rouge assembly plant 1941 As a result of industrialization, the population became more concentrated into urban areas. In part to balance democratic representation against the economic and political power of these corporations, the region hosted
industrial labor organization, consolidated agricultural cooperatives and state educational systems. The Big Ten Conference memorializes the nation's first region in which every state sponsored major research, technical-agricultural, and teacher-training colleges and universities. The Congress of Industrial Organizations grew out of the region's coal
and iron mines; steel, automobile and rubber industries; and breakthrough strikes and contracts of Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. The role of government also grew during the early 20th century. In the rural areas, most people obtained food and manufactured goods from neighbors and other people they knew personally. As industry and commerce
grew, goods such as food, materials, and medicines were no longer made by neighbors, but by large companies. During World War II, the region became the global epicenter of motorized land vehicles, including cars, trucks and jeeps, as well as a major supplier of engine, transmission, and electrical components to the wartime aeronautics industry
 Despite extreme labor shortages, the region increased mechanization, and absorbed large numbers of women and immigrant labor, to increase its food production. State or Province 2023/2024 GDP(millions of USD)[7][8] % New York 2,284,364 26.4 Illinois 1,132,143 13.1 Ontario 1,119,545 12.9 Pennsylvania 1,017,257 11.8 Ohio 922,776 10.7
Michigan 703,277 8.1 Indiana 523,832 6.1 Minnesota 497,631 5.8 Wisconsin 448,446 5.2 TOTAL 8,649,271 100.00 Navigable terrain, waterways, and ports spurred an unprecedented construction of transportation infrastructure throughout the region. The region is a global leader in advanced manufacturing and research and development, with
significant innovations in both production processes and business organization. John D. Rockefeller's Standard Oil, which started as a consolidated refinery in Cleveland. Cyrus McCormick's Reaper and other manufacturers of
agricultural machinery consolidated into International Harvester in Chicago. Andrew Carnegie's steel production integrated large-scale open-hearth and Bessemer processes into the world, United States Steel, consolidated steel production throughout the
region. Many of the world's largest employers began in the Great Lakes region. Two competing Chicago retailers—Montgomery Ward and Sears Roebuck—developed mass marketing and sales through catalogues, mail-order distribution, and the establishment of their brand names as
purveyors of consumer goods. The region's natural features, cultural institutions, and resorts make it a popular destination for tourism. Advantages of accessible waterways, highly developed transportation and a global business location
Henry Ford's movable assembly line and integrated production set the model and standard for major car manufactures. The Detroit area emerged as the world's automotive center, with facilities throughout the region. Akron, Ohio became the global leader in rubber production, driven by the demand for tires. Over 200 million tons of cargo are
shipped annually through the Great Lakes.[9][10][11] According to the Brookings Institution, if it stood alone as a country, the Great Lakes economy would be one of the largest economic units on Earth (with a $6-trillion gross regional product). This region also contains what area urban planners call the Great Lakes Megalopolis, which has an
estimated 59 million people. Chicago is emerging as the third megacity in the United States, after the New York City and Los Angeles metropolitan areas, with a metro population approaching ten million. Toronto is the largest city in Canada and the fourth largest city proper in North America behind Mexico City, New York City and Los Angeles. Cities
along the Great Lakes have access to the Atlantic Ocean through the St. Lawrence Seaway, making them international ports. The Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago is the largest economic and financial center. Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building a National Historic Landmark Chicago Board of Trade Building Building Building Building Building Building Building Building Bu
Worldwide Centers of Commerce Index.[12] The 2017 Global Financial Centres Index ranked Chicago Board of Trade (established 1848) listed the first ever standardized "exchange traded" forward contracts, which
were called futures contracts.[14] As a world financial center it is home to major financial and futures exchange, the Chicago Board Options Exchange (CBOE), and the Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT) by Chicago's CME Group. The CME
Group, in addition, owns the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), the Commodities Exchange Inc. (COMEX), and the Dow Jones Indexes.,[15] as well as headquarters of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago (the Seventh District of the Federal Reserve).
financial capital of Canada, Toronto has a high concentration of banks and brokerage firms on Bay Street, in the Financial District. The Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX) is the world's seventh-largest stock exchange by market capitalization. The five largest financial institutions of Canada, collectively known as the Big Five, have their global operational process.
headquarters in Toronto. Outside of Chicago and Toronto, many other cities are host to financial centers as well. Major bank in Cincinnati, M&T Bank in Buffalo, and KeyCorp in Cleveland. Insurance companies such as Anthem in Indianapolis,
Projected increase 2010-2025 1 Chicago Illinois Indiana Wisconsin 8,877,000 11,250,100 1,530,255 2 Toronto Ontario 6,202,000 7,408,000 1,666,600 3 Detroit Michigan 1,327,366 4,795,658 280,012 5 Milwaukee Wisconsin 1,760,268 1,913,000 157,732 6 Grand Rapids Michigan 1,327,366 1,530,000
202,634 7 Buffalo New York 1,203,493 1,040,400 -163,093 8 Rochester New York 1,149,653 1,248,600 98,947 9 Hamilton Ontario 740,200 954,858 214,658 10 Toledo Ohio 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,220 672,20 672,20 672,20 672,20 672,20 672,20 672,20 672,20 672,20 672,20 672,20 672,20 672,20 672,20 672,20 672,20 672,20 672,20 672,20
help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. (June 2023) (Learn how and when to remove this message) The Great Lakes region has a strong, established Lutheran tradition (as established by populations from Nordic and Germanic countries), but this tradition has become more
diversified in recent years. [citation needed] Large professional sports league (NFL), the Canadian Football League (NFL), the Canadian Football League (NHL) and Major League Soccer (MLS)
have team franchises in several cities in the region. Blue collar industry traditionally represents the Great Lakes region. In the United States, several states bordering the Great Lakes have been considered important swing states for presidential elections. The states typically do not vote for the same candidate, and have only done so seven times in the
past 100 years: 1928, 1936, 1952, 1956, 1964, 1972, and 2008. In Ontario, it has long been divided between rural and urban districts, with many rural ridings voted more conservative, and larger urban areas voting Liberal or NDP. Amtrak Wolverine crossing St. Joseph River This section needs expansion. You can help by adding to it.
(August 2021) The Great Lakes region is served by Interstate 71, Interstate 79, Interstate 80, Interstate 79, I
Airport. All three airports are major airline hubs that provide nonstop connectivity to other regions and Continents. Geography portal Canada 
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about the age of these urban giants? Our latest blog post dives into a captivating map that reveals the surprising age differences in skylines across the continent. Read More California's rivers are more than just waterways; they're the lifeblood of the Golden State. From the agricultural powerhouse of the Sacramento to the rugged beauty of the
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spanned over various dynasties, each contributing distinctively to Chinese culture, governance, and heritage. Read More Time is a fundamental aspect of human existence, and the standardization of time zones has played a crucial role in modern society. In the United States, the evolution of standard time zone boundaries has been a fascinating
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saw a staggering increase of 132% between 2020 and 2023. Presently, approximately 72.1 million Americans—comprising roughly 45% of the workforce—engage in freelance work either part-time or as their primary occupation, as reported by MBO Partners. Many individuals have reshaped their career trajectories in response to shifting
circumstances or expectations brought on by the pandemic, while others have seamlessly integrated into a landscape where freelancing represents a natural evolution. Read More The equator and the prime meridian are two significant lines of latitude and longitude that intersect the Earth, dividing it into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, and
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migration, assimilation, and exploration, as these seafaring pioneers left an indelible mark from Madagascar to Easter Island. Read More When purchasing a house, the crucial factor is its location. The geographic placement significantly influences the property's value, exemplified by the substantial price contrast between a $1.3 million studion.
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participation, equality, and freedom, is a cornerstone of political systems worldwide. Understanding the health of democracy, delve into the
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concept, often subject to interpretation and debate within the field of economics and international relations. While there isn't a universally agreed-upon set of criteria encompass economic, social, and infrastructural dimensions. Read More
The Happiness Index is a comprehensive measure of well-being and life satisfaction across countries. It assesses factors such as economic stability, social support, life expectancy, freedom to make life choices, generosity, and perceptions of corruption. Scandinavian countries.
of the spectrum, metropolises like Moscow, London, Paris, and Berlin stand out as major European capitals with extensive urban areas. These cities have historically evolved over centuries, incorporating surrounding communities and neighborhoods into their urban fabric. They attract a diverse population as economic and cultural hubs, contributing
to their expansive urban footprint. Read More Page 18 In 2022, the U.S. trade deficit reached nearly $1 trillion, as imports exceeded exports by $948.1 billion—a $103 billion increase from the previous year. This surge coincided with U.S. and its partners' initiatives to restructure global supply chains post-pandemic, addressing trade barriers, notably
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to the overall improvement in life expectancy worldwide. Read More A military alliance is a strategic pact formed between two or more nations with the primary aim of mutual defense and security. These alliances often involve a commitment to support each other in times of conflict, with the collective strength of the member states serving as a
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establishing a Jewish national state, often referred to as Zionism, had proponents and supporters in various countries and continents throughout history, not just in the region that eventually became Israel. Read More Some of the world's highest-earning nations are among those with the highest price of happiness, as you might suppose. Take Norway
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District of Columbia has the latest dinner at 7:10 PM. Read More Barbenheimer became a viral sensation on social media before the release of two major films, Barbie and Oppenheimer at 7:10 PM. Read More Barbenheimer became a viral sensation on social media before the release of two major films, Barbie and Oppenheimer at 7:10 PM. Read More Barbenheimer became a viral sensation on social media before the release of two major films, Barbie and Oppenheimer at 7:10 PM. Read More Barbenheimer became a viral sensation on social media before the release of two major films, Barbie and Oppenheimer at 7:10 PM. Read More Barbenheimer at 7:10 PM. Read More Barbenheimer at 7:10 PM. Read More Barbenheimer became a viral sensation on social media before the release of two major films, Barbie and Oppenheimer at 7:10 PM. Read More Barbenheimer at 7:10 PM. Read M
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10 m. Read More Antarctica's Soviet Vostok base experienced the coldest temperatures ever recorded on Earth in 1983, according to the World Meteorological Organization. The Vostok station, which runs on approximately 3.7 kilometers (2.3 miles) of ice, is among the most isolated research stations globally. Read More There are 101 departments in
mainland France. These departments are administrative divisions that serve as the primary subdivisions of the country. Each department is assigned a number and Réunion) and one overseas collectivity (French Polynesia), making a total
of 107 departments and collectivities in France. Read More In many parts of the world (except some countries in the southern hemisphere), the summer
 season is considered the peak vacation period. Summer vacations are popular because they often coincide with school holidays, making it easier for families to plan trips. But summer is not only associated with warm and pleasant temperatures, but also with extremely hot temperatures in many places. So, I decided to create a world map that charts
the highest temperatures ever recorded in different countries worldwide throughout the recorded history of weather observation. Read More We tend to connect "summer" with "hot" due to obvious reasons. For most of the U.S., the warmest conditions during the meteorological summer months in the Northern Hemisphere (June, July, and August)
are observed. However, it is worth noting that the "hottest day of the year" from a climatological perspective differs significantly throughout the United States. Its occurrence can range from early June in certain regions to as late as September and October in others! Read More Delve into the histories of the British and Mongol Empires, the two
the result of plate tectonics. Mountain ranges that have arisen from the same cause and are similar in form, structure, and alignment make up a mountain system. Read More Moving to a new country is an exciting opportunity. According to the UN's World Migration Report, 281 million people (or 3.6% of the world's population) lived outside their
country of origin in 2020. But which countries do residents of each world nation want to buy property in? Read More Designated by the FCC to manage local broadcasts and advertisements. Explore the 25 largest television markets by viewership and understand the
importance of DMAs in the television industry. Read More Flickr is the most outstanding slide show carousel in the world. And profound photographers love to let their audience know that they're using the most excellent cameras to fill it. While Instagram has evolved into a platform for reminiscences and 'content,' Flickr is where photographic quality
and technique set the agenda. Although Flickr lost some attention when camera phone photography and social media became popular in the late 2000s, it remains a gathering place for professionals and enthusiasts to share their ideas and discoveries. Read More Goodreads is social media for bookworms: a site where 125 million bibliophiles meet to
boost slate or 'meh' their latest reading project. Bookworms have "shelved" 3.5 billion books globally, which is a lot to sift through to find a read that is not just first-rate but just your taste. With BookCrossing, your options are narrowed. Some 2 million readers have found or collected over 14,105,640 pass-me-down paper books in public, tracking
each particular book object's story through a special code attached to each one. Serendipity plays a more significant role here. You can chase for a book you know has been left, but more probably, your affinity with it will begin when you stumble upon it on a bus seat or in a British telephone booth. Read More Observing people's homes is an
intriguing and completely legitimate pastime, even if you have no intentions of relocating. But when you get tired of following up your fantasy searches on Rightmove with IRL appointments, you can always take the hobby deeper by visiting a bona fide historic house. Read More The British Isles is home to numerous castles, reflecting the rich history
and architectural heritage of the region. While it is difficult to provide an exact number, as new information and discoveries can continuously update our understanding, it is estimated that there are over 4,000 castles in the British Isles. These castles vary in size, age, and architectural style, ranging from ancient ruins to well-preserved fortifications
Some of the most famous castles include the Tower of London, Windsor Castle, Edinburgh Castle, Edinburgh Castle, and Stirling Castle, among many others. Read More Small businesses play a vital role in any commercial economy. According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, there are approximately 31.7 million active small businesses in the
United States, which make up 99.9% of all registered companies. Although large retailers are in control of the retail sector in the country, the 100 biggest chain stores generated a total of $2.6 trillion in sales in 2022, as reported by the National Retail Federation's study. Read More From 1990 to 2021, there have been notable changes in the leading
exporting countries. China has emerged as a global export powerhouse, experiencing rapid economic growth and becoming the world's largest exporter. Other Asian countries, such as South Korea, Taiwan, and Vietnam, have also witnessed significant export growth and gained prominence in global trade. Meanwhile, traditional exporting
powerhouses like the United States, Germany, and Japan have maintained their positions but faced increased competition. Overall, the shift in global economic dynamics has led to a redistribution of export power among nations when
using Uber and Lyft. However, taking a little extra time to think things through could potentially save you some money. Read More Page 23 The sky is wide, the land is rugged, and the air fills your lungs with happiness. But for many adventurers, the genuine appeal of a trek through a national park is the fine detail: the living flora and fauna, often
rare and amazing, that quietly inhabit the landscape. Read More Northern California isn't as clearly defined as you might think. This map breaks down how people across the state perceive the dividing line—and why those perceptions matter. Read More The naming of different generations is commonly used to categorize and identify particular age
groups or cohorts based on shared experiences, cultural shifts, and technological advancements. Read More The five known varieties of wildcat (Near Eastern, Chinese, Central Asian, Southern African, and European) are quite identical and can interbreed. Analysts had a tough time pinpointing where in the world the domestication of cats first began
Some even think that it had taken place at multiple times and places. Read More A new genetic map of Greece based on DNA from ancient skeletons shows how the Balkans were reshaped by waves of migration—from Anatolia, Slavic lands, and beyond. See the real data and what it tells us about who settled where. Read More What do your weather
app, your oven, and international science have in common? They're all shaped by a centuries-old debate: Fahrenheit vs. Celsius. Let's examine their respective applications, justifications, justifications, and which one is more practical for day-to-day use. Read More Owning your own business is the quintessence of the American Dream. The freedom of self-
employment and control of your own earnings is a temptation for many, a feeling shared by 9.6 million people across the nation, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Yet for generations of women, it was an unattainable goal. Until 1988, a spouse or male relative was required to co-sign a loan application, and the glass ceiling of the workplace
extended to entrepreneurship. This changed when Congress signed the Women's Business Ownership Act, the first piece of legislation to recognize the contribution of female entrepreneurs to the American economy. Read More The history of abortion law in the United States dates back to the colonial era. Abortion was generally legal during the early
stages of pregnancy until "quickening," which refers to the first movements of the fetus that could be felt by the mother. However, by the mid-1800s, states began passing laws criminalizing abortion except when necessary to save the life of the mother. However, by the mid-1800s, states began passing laws criminalizing abortion except when necessary to save the life of the mother. Read More Java, Indonesia: With a population of approximately 141 million, Java is the most
populous island in the world. It is home to the cities of Jakarta, Surabaya, and Bandung. Read More There's no doubt about it: streaming media services like Spotify have revolutionized the process we listen to music. Where once enjoying music suggested first rifling through a heap of CDs or paying and waiting for a download, Spotify instead provides
100 million tracks at the touch of a button. Spotify has also transformed how we search for music. For instance, personalized playlists, powered by algorithms based on the user's music preference, meant that Spotify recommended over 30 percent of overall listening in 2017. Tracks by little-known artists that otherwise would remain unknown are
moved to the forefront and up the charts, thanks again to Spotify's playlists. Read More Page 24 Bears are existent, they are widespread, living in a wide variety of habitats throughout the Northern Hemisphere and partially in the Southern Hemisphere. Read More A
neighborhood is a shared cultural hallucination with a direct bearing on the property prices therein. The value of a home due to its presence in a particular neighborhood is a complex calculation of position, crime rates, school results, home sizes, amenities and the je ne sais quoi of desirability that changes with the times. Read More According to the
American Cancer Society, an estimated 1.9 million new cases of cancer and 609,360 deaths from cancer are expected to occur in the United States in 2022, which is about 1,670 deaths a day. Read More The U.S. has the highest number of school-related shootings in the world. There have been 424 school shootings since 1999, with 199 people killed
and 424 injured in the country. Read More There are countless reasons not to start a business reasons not to start a business spring up in America, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Something inspires the nation's entrepreneurs to give it a go — and a national small business workforce of some 61 million employees
thanks them for it. Read More According to statistics, there are an average of about 100 fatal road accidents in the United States every single day. But nobody takes the "average" trip: where and how you drive makes a significant difference to your odds of getting home safely. For instance, you are four times more likely to be involved in a collision if
you drive while using a phone. Read More The potato is native to South America's Andean region (highlands of Peru and Bolivia). It was brought to Europe by Spanish explorers in the 16th century. Nowadays there are over 4,000 varieties of potatoes worldwide. Read More In English, a common expression in this situation is "Were you born in a
barn?" This expression is often used in a playful or teasing manner, and implies that the person who left the door open has no manners or was raised in a way that did not emphasize the importance of closing doors. Read More Once a North American native, the raccoon has become an unstoppable force in Germany, thriving in cities and forests alike
From their accidental introduction in the 1930s to their modern-day population explosion, discover how raccoons have taken over Germany—and the challenges they pose. Read More Page 25 When you turn on the tap in the
 United Kingdom, you consider what comes out will be drinkable. Indeed, the General Assembly of the United Nations has access to safe drinking water as a human right. And yet, more than 25% of the world's population lives in water-stressed nations. According to the World Health Organization, a similar number use a drinking water source polluted
with feces. Read More The University of the Potomac has released a report based on Google data which reveals the most popular degrees in each country. The report, which covers 181 degrees worldwide, offers insight into the degrees in each country. The report, which covers 181 degrees worldwide, offers insight into the degrees in each country.
persists in expanding at a tremendous rate, with $43.6 billion of investment into the payments space alone in the first half of 2022, according to KPMG. Contactless technology has been a significant contributing element to the sector's development. Market data from Juniper Research shows that 53% of global card transactions will be completed
 without the traditional chip and PIN method in the next 5 years. Read More A bank fails when it cannot meet its financial obligations to creditors or depositors because it has become insolvent or no longer has enough liquid assets to fulfill its payment obligations. Since the 1970s, over 90 banks in the U.S. with US$1 billion or more in assets have
failed. Read More LOL is America's favorite initialism, emerging in 1,411 out of every 100k tweets. Twitter users in Georgia use initialisms in 5,942 tweets out of every 100k - more than any other state. Only 2,125 tweets per 100k from Idaho contain textspeak abbreviations - the lowest rate in the U.S. Read More The high-speed rail network in
Europe stands as a testament to the continent's commitment to efficient and sustainable transportation infrastructure. Spanning across multiple countries, this interconnected web of high-speed rail lines represents a pioneering effort to enhance connectivity, reduce travel times, and promote environmental sustainability. The European high-speed
rail system is renowned for its technological advancements, seamless integration, and widespread accessibility. Read More America's heartland not only feeds metropolitan centers with agricultural products and natural resources but with its people as well. Across the country, seaside metropolitan centers are adding new residents, while rural
counties are seeing their populations decrease. Read More The red squirrel typical throughout Europe and Asia. The species of tree squirrel typical throughout Europe and Asia. The species of tree squirrel typical throughout Europe and Asia. The species of tree squirrel typical throughout Europe and Asia. The species of tree squirrel typical throughout Europe and Asia. The species of tree squirrel typical throughout Europe and Asia.
American workers would consider living abroad for retirement. The analysis shows that the average American would need $1.18 million to live in their later years in Singapore - more than any other country. Meanwhile, the life of a pensioner in India ($186k) or Pakistan ($158k) is much more affordable. Read More While the global smoking rate has
fallen over the past two decades, increasing air pollution has offset many health gains. Exposure to air pollution severely affects the respiratory system and can have negative health impacts, equivalent to smoking multiple cigarettes daily. Read More Page 26 The concept of time zones in Europe has a long and intricate history, intertwined deeply with
the development of global navigation, transportation, and communication systems. Read More A shocking state-by-state analysis reveals most of America has more prisons than colleges - and exposes a powerful connection between higher education and lower incarceration rates. Read More Discover the fascinating distribution of Jewish populations of Jewish populations.
across the globe through detailed spatial analysis. This map reveals how 15.7 million Jewish people are concentrated in just 10 countries, with the United States and Israel together hosting nearly 94% of the world's Jewish population. Explore the geographical patterns and historical forces that shaped these contemporary communities. Read More
Times are weird on the property market — and on a global scale. The COVID pandemic radically shook up our view of where and how we desired to live, and it also fundamentally changed many peoples' options for doing so. On balance, prices grew; but now, in the fallout of the pandemic and with the added complication of the energy crisis and war in
Ukraine, they're on their way down. Read More Why do you dial +44 for the UK but +81 for Japan? Explore the fascinating hidden map of international phone codes that connects our world. Read More The divisions within Islam have historically emerged due to theological, political, and jurisprudential differences among its followers, leading to the
formation of distinct branches or sects. The two primary branches of Islam are Sunni and Shia, each representing a significant portion of the Muslim population worldwide. These divisions originated in the early years of Islam, rooted in disagreements over leadership succession following the death of Prophet Muhammad in the 7th century. Read More
The minimum marriage age in the U.S. is set by each state, either by statute or where the general marriage age is 18 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the prevailing marriage age is 18 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 19, and Mississippi, where the prevailing marriage age is 18 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 19, and Mississippi, where the prevailing marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska, where the general marriage age is 10 years in all U.S. states except Nebraska except Nebrask
Phonographic Industry (IFPI) acknowledged that YouTube is now one of the "pillars in people's music discovery." And they created a framework for the official pop charts worldwide to include YouTube plays in their estimates. So which music — new and old — are the listenerships from country to country discovering? And then sticking on replay, free
from the risk of wearing out the record? Read More Homo sapiens, like every other organism on our planet, has its own niche. A comfortable temperature span, the ideal, especially for young and older people, is 22 to 23 °C (72 to 73°F), but it could be some degrees
lower with high humidity and some degrees higher with low humidity. Read More Explore America's equestrian landscape with maps showcasing horse distribution across counties, from top regions like Kentucky to equine density in Texas. Read More Our map of the Great Lakes provides a visual of the iconic interconnected lakes. Explore the shores
islands, and coastal cities of Lake Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario. We've created four maps that you can download for free and use for any purpose. It contains a simplified, detailed, and physical map of the Great Lakes Dive into more detail with these Great Lakes maps highlighting Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario. You'll
find provinces, states, and water bodies. We also include city names - capitals, towns, and smaller populated places. This way, you'll be able to find all coastal urban areas along the Great Lakes. Each of the five lakes has labels to distinguish
them. This physical map can also help you discover topographical features, elevations, rivers, valleys, and natural landmarks across diverse regions. Download This is just a simple map showing the states and rivers (including labels) that surround the Great Lakes system. We allow you to download and use these maps, including our detailed, simple
and physical maps. Please provide a citation to this webpage if you use any of our maps of the Great Lakes. Download From largest to smallest, here are individual maps that highlight each of the Great Lakes. This map of Lake
Superior highlights its shoreline and geographical extent. It also labels states, provinces, and the major cities along its shores. Download Lake Huron is the second-largest of the Great Lakes. It also holds the largest freshwater island in the world—Manitoulin Island. This map will help you discover the boundaries of Lake Huron. Lake Huron borders
the Canadian province of Ontario to the north and the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan to the west and south. Download Lake Michigan spans the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. It's a major contributor to the economy of the Midwest. Plus, it's the only Great Lake entirely within the United States. It boasts a shoreline that stretches over 1,600
miles, making it the longest freshwater coastline of any lake in the United States. This map of Lake Michigan highlights its expansive shoreline and coastal populated places. Download Lake Erie is bounded by the U.S. states of Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York to the south and the Canadian province of Ontario to the north. It has a diverse shoreline
that ranges from sandy beaches to cliffs. Our map of Lake Erie delineates its diverse coastline and key geographical elements. You'll find everything from urban areas to its surrounding US states and Canadian provinces. Download Finally, Lake Ontario, it extends its diverse coastline and key geographical elements.
reach into the state of New York and the province of Ontario. It's the smallest of the Great Lakes and serves as an outlet to the Atlantic Ocean through the Saint Lawrence River. Use our map of Lake Ontario without any restrictions. Download Located between the United States and Canada, the Great Lakes are five interconnected lakes consisting of
Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario. The Great Lakes form the largest group of freshwater globally. The Great Lakes region holds a pivotal position in the continent's landscape. Here is a table that summarizes
by surface area, smallest by volumeOntario18,960Smallest by surface area, between Canada and the U.S. Looking for North American maps? Our collection features a variety of options, from time zone maps to country outlines. Discover more. Just click on the map shown below. The Little Harbor launch likely transported vacationers, fruit pickers,
and anglers around the peninsula. The Great Lakes are a stunning feat of nature. Many who see them for the first time say that just one actually looks like an ocean, they are so large across the horizon. There are five Great Lakes in North America: Lakes Superior, Huron, Michigan, Ontario, and Erie. These lakes drain into the Atlantic Ocean via the
St. Lawrence River, and are the remnants of glaciers that melted about 14,000 years ago. Experts are not entirely sure of their age but it is estimated that Lake Erie is about 3,000 years old. The Great Lakes have been extremely important in growing the
economies of both Canada and the United States. Every great lake except for Lake Michigan straddles the border between both countries, and all have functioned as entry and exit points to the continent by sea. This has promoted international trade and helped bring prosperity to larger North American cities like Toronto, Michigan, Chicago,
 Milwaukee, and Cleveland. The Great Lakes Region is so large that eight US states comprise the area, creating a space with a varied vet shared economic and historic identity. 8, Illinois Chicago, Illinois, Image credit; Sean Payone/Shutterstock Located in the American Midwest next to Indiana, Illinois has an upper righthand corner bordering Lakes
Michigan. Known as the "Land of Lincoln," this state is full of farmland, wetlands, rolling hills, urban centers, and forests. Though Springfield is its capital, Chicago was first settled in 1830 as a water transit hub but soon grew into a large metropolis responsible for processing and transporting the raw materials of America's
heartland like wheat, tools, and livestock, It is now home to 8.8 million people. 7. Indiana Indianapolis, Indiana is another Midwestern state that borders Lake Michigan in the state's northwest border. This area is a hub of manufacturing in the US, and is also a leading producer of corn, poultry, and
soybeans. It is also home to the country's second-largest automotive industry. Indiana enjoys four solid seasons of weather and hosts the Indianapolis 500 annually, which involves cars racing 500 miles on a 2.5-mile track. 6. Michigan Brand Rapids, Mic
Michigan, and also on Lakes Huron and Erie. It has numerous other bodies of fresh water within its borders as well. In fact, each person in Michigan is said to be no further than about 6 miles from some natural body of water, making this state a sought-after tourist destination for fishing, hunting, boating, and other outdoor activities. In addition to
tourism, this state's major industries include manufacturing and agriculture. Almost 10 million people from this state include Eminem, Madonna, Kid Rock, and Jerry Bruckheimer. 5. Minnesota Minnesota. Image credit: f11photo/Shutterstock A small slice of Minnesota's northeastern border sits
on the shores of Lake Superior. The rest of the state borders on North Dakota, Wisconsin, and Iowa. Known for its blustery, icy cold winters, Minnesota got the name the "Bread and Butter State" at the 1902 Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo because of its high-quality flour and dairy products. Like Michigan, it has many bodies of
freshwater, totalling over 15,000. Manufacturing, mining, agriculture, and energy production are this state's top industries. 4. New York Buffalo, New York State borders on the Atlantic Ocean to the east, and Lake Ontario and
Lake Erie to its north, Called the "Empire State" due to its wealth of natural resources and entrepreneurship, New York's motto "Excelsior" means "ever upward," The Dutch first settled the area that is now New York City in 1624, and the rest, as they say, is history, 3, Ohio Columbus, Ohio, Image credit: f11photo/Shutterstock With Lake Erie on its
northern border, Ohio is another watery state whose name means "great river" in the Iroquois language. There are 88 counties in this midwestern state and about 11.6 million inhabitants living across 72,138 square miles. The large cities of Columbus and Cleveland are both found in Ohio, contributing to the area's diverse economy. Ohio was
traditionally a hub for assembling cars and manufacturing steel but in recent years the state has branched out into more food processing and areas like bioscience in order to adjust to modern changes. 2. Pennsylvania Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania is home to
about 12.8 million people. It was nicknamed the "Keystone State" for its role in the founding of the US, as a keystone is a wedge-shaped stone that holds the others in place in the middle of an architectural archway. Known for being the state in which the Declaration of Independence, the US Constitution, and the Gettysburg Address were all written.
Pennsylvania is rich in history. This state is also home to Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater house, as well as the cities of Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, and thousands of Amish people who live a traditional life. 1. Wisconsin Milwaukee, Wi
Superior, Wisconsin is a Midwestern state with about 5.8 million inhabitants. This state is the country's leading dairy producer and makes legendary cheese—for the US, that is. Tourism, the production of paper products, and information technology are also important to Wisconsin's economy.
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