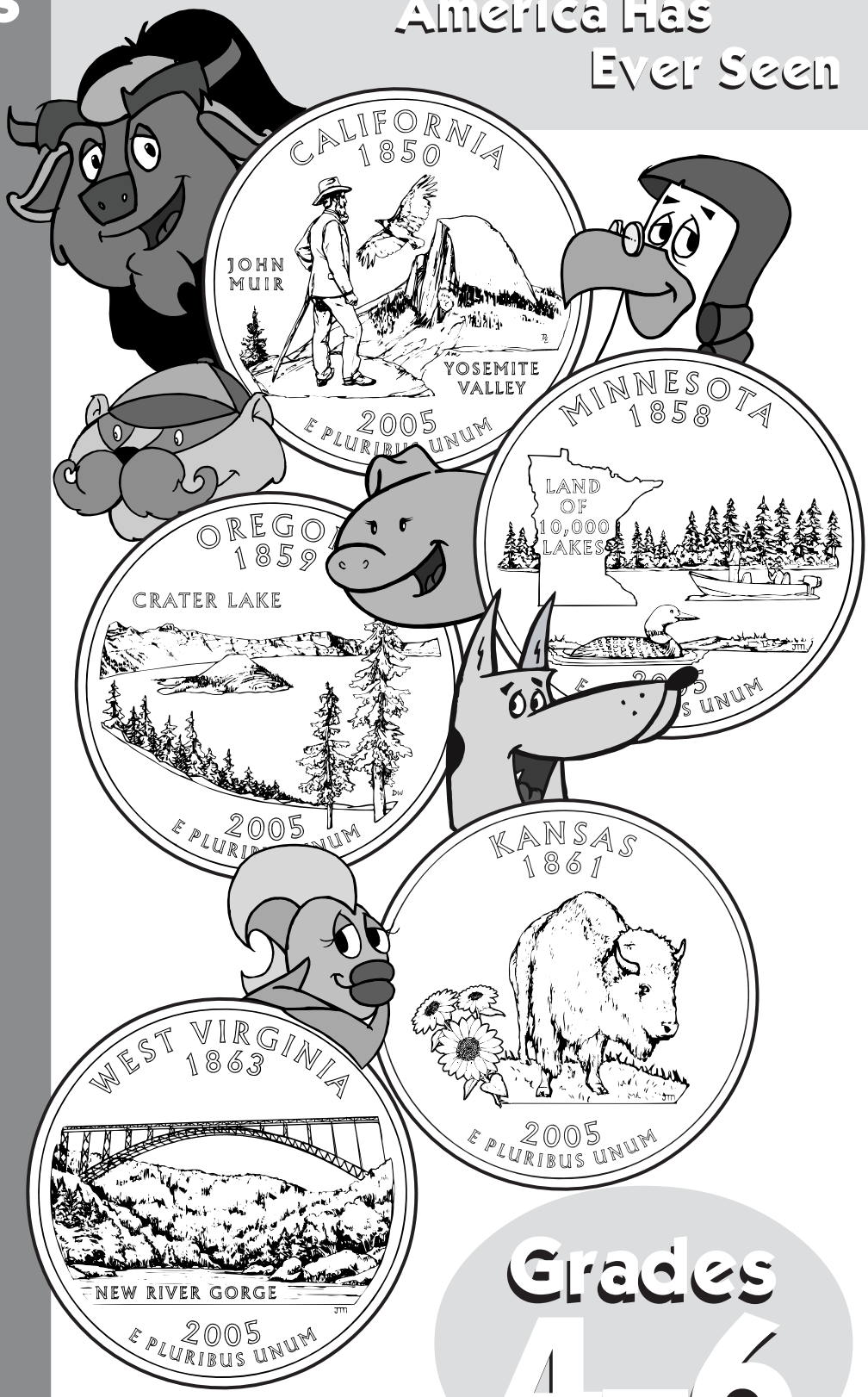
2005 Lesson Plans

The Greatest Educational Change America Has Ever Seen



50 STATE QUARTERS™
UNITED STATES MINT
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This teaching guide includes:

- 6 teacher-friendly lesson plans that fit easily into your curriculum
- Reproducible student worksheets that coincide with each lesson
- Fun state facts and information on the new quarter designs
- USA map template with state outlines

THE UNITED STATES MINT

Grades 4–6

The United States Mint Has Big Plans for You!

Kids and coin collecting go hand in hand! By downloading the most recent sets of 50 State Quarters® Program lesson plans, you are able to bring the excitement of America's quarter craze right into your own classroom.

Launched in 1999, the United States Mint 50 State Quarters Program is a 10-year coin initiative commemorating each of the nation's states in the order that were admitted into the Union. Approximately every ten weeks (five times a year) through 2008, a new limited-edition quarter that displays an individual state's design is released into general circulation.

As it has every year since the beginning of this program, the United States Mint is offering the public three free sets of lesson plans (for grades K–1, 2–3, and 4–6). Sets of free plans for grades 7–8 and 9–12 are also available. All are designed to bring life to the history and beauty of our country. Moreover, these plans, created and reviewed by teachers to meet your curricular goals, draw upon the specific designs of the commemorative quarter reverses to help inspire students to learn about the culture, geography, and unique heritage of each state.

Each set of lesson plans blends clear instructions with kid-friendly reproducible worksheets, background information, and answer keys to help make instruction easier for you!

Within the 2005 50 State Quarters Program lesson plans, you will also notice a strong connection to the United States Mint H.I.P. Pocket Change™ Web site. Appearing on the cover as well as within the plans themselves, the coin-loving H.I.P. Pocket Change Pals will show you ways to supplement the quarter activities with all of the fun and educational resources available on the site!

The H.I.P. Pocket Change Web site, located at www.usmint.gov/kids, is dedicated to promoting lifelong pleasure in coins and coin collecting. Through games, informational features, and interactive animated cartoons, the site introduces students to what's H.I.P. about coins—they're "History In your Pocket."

The United States Mint is proud to be taking such an active role in promoting knowledge about the individual states, their history and geography, and the rich diversity of the national heritage among America's youth. Take some time to explore all of the high quality educational resources available on the United States Mint H.I.P. Pocket Change Web site, including the materials related to the 50 State Quarters Program! We hope that you find these resources to be an extremely valuable addition to your classroom.

50 STATE QUARTERS UNITED STATES MINT

Visit us online at
www.usmint.gov/kids

h.i.p. pocket change™

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State Information 2005 Quarters

California

The first quarter released in 2005 honors California, and is the 31st in the United States Mint's 50 State Quarters® Program. California was admitted into the Union on September 9, 1850, becoming our Nation's 31st State. Nicknamed the "Golden State," California's quarter depicts naturalist and conservationist John Muir admiring Yosemite Valley's monolithic granite headwall known as Half Dome with a soaring California condor. The coin bears the inscriptions "California," "John Muir," "Yosemite Valley," and "1850."

In 1849, the year before California gained statehood, the family of 11-year-old John Muir emigrated from Scotland to the United States, settling in Wisconsin. In 1868, at the age of 30, Muir sailed up the West Coast and landed in San Francisco. He made his home in the Yosemite Valley, describing the Sierra Nevada Mountains as "the Range of Light… the most divinely beautiful of all the mountain chains I have seen." He devoted the rest of his life to the conservation of natural beauty, publishing more than 300 articles and 10 books that expanded his naturalist philosophy.

In 1890, Congress established Yosemite National Park, and in 1892 John Muir helped form the Sierra Club to protect it, serving as that organization's President until his death in 1914. The California condor, with a wingspan as long as nine feet, is also featured on the coin in a tribute to the successful repopulation of the once nearly extinct bird.

Did You Know? State Fun Facts

State Capital: . . . . . Sacramento
State Bird: . . California Valley Quail
State Tree: Redwood and Giant Sequoia
State Flower: . . . . . California Poppy
State Motto: . . . . . Eureka
Entered Union (rank): September 9. 1850 (31)
Nickname(s): . . . . . Golden State
Origin of Name: Named after Califia, a mythical paradise in a Spanish romance by Montalvo
State Song: . . . . . I Love You, California

Minnesota

The second quarter released in 2005 commemorates the state of Minnesota, "Land of 10,000 Lakes." On May 11, 1858, Minnesota became the 32nd state admitted into the Union, and as such, it is the 32nd coin to be issued in the United States Mint's popular 50 State Quarters® Program. The design features a tree-lined lake with two people fishing, a loon on the water, and a textured outline of the state surrounding its nickname, "Land of 10,000 Lakes."

The "Land of 10,000 Lakes" actually contains more than 15,000 such bodies of water whose total shoreline exceeds 90,000 miles—more than California, Hawaii, and Florida combined. Equally renowned as the home of the headwaters of the mighty Mississippi River, the name Minnesota is derived from the Dakota Sioux word for "cloudy water."

The natural beauty of Minnesota is vividly depicted on the reverse of this new quarter-dollar. Lined with Norwegian Pines, many of the lakes throughout the state offer much in the way of outdoor recreation, as well as providing a home for the graceful loon, Minnesota's state bird. Minnesota is also home to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. This one-million-acre wilderness area was established by Congress in 1978 and contains more than 1,500 miles of canoe routes and nearly 2,200 designated campsites.

Did You Know? State Fun Facts

State Capital: . . . . . Saint Paul
State Bird: . . . . . Common Loon
State Tree: . . . . . Red Pine
State Flower: . Pink and white lady's slipper
State Motto:L'Etoile du Nord (the star of the north)
Entered Union (rank): . . . . . May 11, 1858 (32)
Nickname(s): Land of 10,000 Lakes/North Star State
Origin of Name: Dakota Sioux for "sky-tinted water"
State Song: . . . . . Hail! Minnesota

Oregon

The state of Oregon is honored with the third quarter to be released in 2005, and the 33rd in the United States Mint's 50 State Quarters® Program. On February 14, 1859, Oregon became the 33rd state to be admitted into the Union. Its coin design features a portion of Crater Lake, the deepest lake in the United States, viewed from the south-southwest rim. The design incorporates Wizard Island, as well as Watchman and Hillman Peaks on the lake's rim, and conifers. The coin bears the inscription "Crater Lake."

Crater Lake is a unique and stunning natural treasure, formed more than 7,700 years ago by the collapse of Mt. Mazama in what is now southern Oregon. At 1,949 feet, it is the deepest lake in the United States and the seventh deepest in the world, and has a record clarity depth of 134 feet. The main cause of Crater Lake's remarkable clarity is its isolation from incoming streams and rivers.

President Theodore Roosevelt established Crater Lake National Park in 1902, with the lake itself as the Park's crown.

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State Information 2004 Quarters

jewel. It is the sixth oldest national park in the country. Since its creation, Crater Lake National Park has helped protect both the Native American cultural ties to the area and the natural habitat of the animal and plant life that lies within its boundaries.

State Capital: . . . . . .Salem
State Bird: . . . . . .Western Meadowlark
State Tree: . . . . . Douglas Fir
State Flower: . . . . . Oregon Grape
State Motto: . . Alis Volat Propiis (She flies with her own wings)
Entered Union (rank): . February 14, 1859 (33)
Nickname(s): . . . . . Beaver State
Origin of Name: Unknown; maybe from French map showing Wisconsin River as "Ouaricon-sint"
State Song: . . . . . .Oregon, My Oregon

Kansas

The fourth quarter released in 2005 commemorates the state of Kansas. On January 29, 1861, the "Sunflower State" became the 34th state to be admitted into the Union. Kansas marks the 34th coin to be issued in the United States Mint's popular 50 State Quarters® Program, and features a buffalo and sunflower motif, emblematic of the state's history and natural beauty.

The Kansas commemorative quarter incorporates two of the state's most beloved symbols, the state animal and flower, the buffalo and the sunflower. Each of these two design elements is a visual reminder of our nation's heartland. They feature prominently in the history of the territory, and both were found in abundance throughout the state in the middle of the 19th century when Kansas gained its statehood. With its release in the fall of 2005, it is the second United States circulating coin of 2005 to carry an image of the buffalo.

State Capital: . . . . . Topeka
State Bird: . . . .Western Meadowlark
State Tree: . . . . . .Cottonwood
State Flower: . . . . . .Sunflower
State Motto: Ad astra per aspera (To the stars through difficulties)
Entered Union (rank): . January 29, 1861 (34)
Nickname(s): . . . . . Sunflower State
Origin of Name: From Sioux for "south wind people"
State Song: . . . . . Home on the Range

West Virginia

The fifth and final quarter released in 2005 commemorates the state of West Virginia. On June 20, 1863, the "Mountain State" became the 35th state to be admitted into the Union, making this the 35th coin to be issued in the United States Mint's popular 50 State Quarters® Program. This coin captures the scenic beauty of the state with its depiction of the New River and the New River Gorge Bridge. The coin bears the inscription "New River Gorge."

Prior to gaining statehood, the area that is now West Virginia formed the western part of Virginia. Settlers in the western part of the "Old Dominion" began their efforts to join the Union when Virginia announced its secession in 1861. In the western part of the state, the Restored Government of Virginia in Wheeling drafted a state constitution in 1862. The new state called West Virginia applied to Congress for admission into the Union. Congress approved the request with one condition: that the new state abolish slavery. President Lincoln signed the West Virginia statehood bill and on June 20, 1863, West Virginia officially became the 35th state to be admitted into the Union.

The design chosen to represent West Virginia is one that combines the natural physical beauty of the state and the triumph of the human intellect exemplified by the engineering wonder that is the New River Gorge Bridge. At 3,030 feet long and 69 feet wide, the bridge is the world's largest steel span and the second highest bridge in the United States, rising 876 feet above the New River Gorge in southern West Virginia. In 1978, 53 miles of the New River was added to the National Park System as the New River Gorge National River.

For years, crossing the New River Gorge meant long detours along narrow, winding mountain roads. The completion of the bridge in 1977 reduced this dangerous 40-minute trip to a smooth and scenic one-minute drive.

State Capital: . . . . . .Charleston
State Bird: . . . . . Cardinal
State Tree: . . . . . .Sugar Maple
State Flower: . . . . . Rhododendron
State Motto: . . Montani simper liberi (Mountaineers are always free)
Entered Union (rank): June 20, 1863 (35)
Nickname(s): . . . . . Mountain State
Origin of Name: . . .Named after England's Queen Elizabeth I, the "Virgin Queen"
State Song: . . "West Virginia, My Home," "The West Virginia Hills," "This Is My West Virginia"

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The United States of America

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50 State Quarters Program Designs

Reverse

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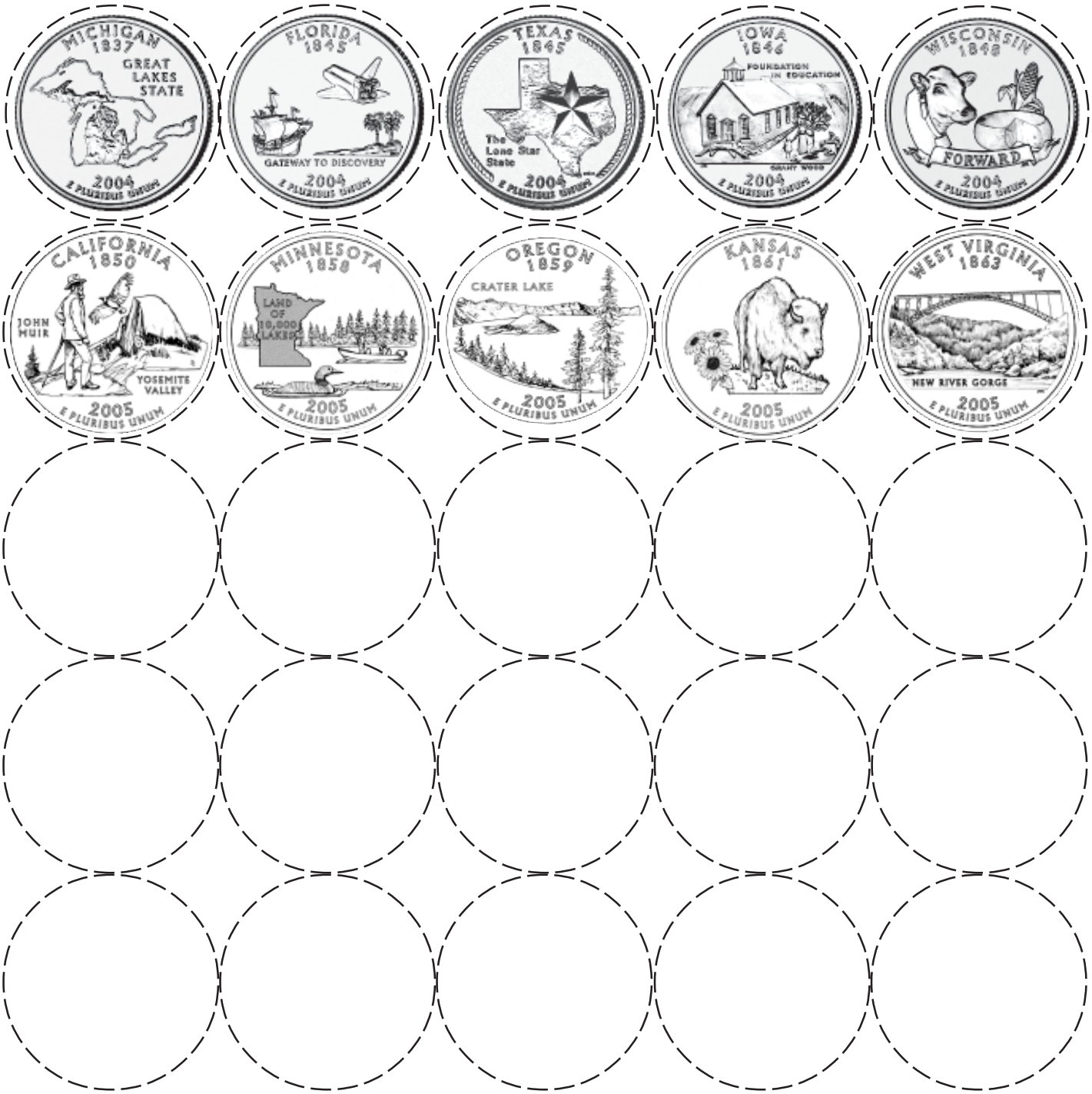
50 State Quarters Program Designs

Reverse



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50 State Quarters Program Designs

Obverse

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Reproducible Coin Sheet
Obverse

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Reproducible Coin Sheet

Reverse

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The United States Mint

50 State Quarters Program

Release Year/State	Statehood Date
1999	
Delaware	December 7, 1787
Pennsylvania	December 12, 1787
New Jersey	December 18, 1787
Georgia	January 2, 1788
Connecticut	January 9, 1788
2000	
Massachusetts	February 6, 1788
Maryland	April 28, 1788
South Carolina	May 23, 1788
New Hampshire	June 21, 1788
Virginia	June 25, 1788
2001	
New York	July 26, 1788
North Carolina	November 21, 1789
Rhode Island	May 29, 1790
Vermont	March 4, 1791
Kentucky	June 1, 1792
2002	
Tennessee	June 1, 1796
Ohio	March 1, 1803
Louisiana	April 30, 1812
Indiana	December 11, 1816
Mississippi	December 10, 1817
2003	
Illinois	December 3, 1818
Alabama	December 14, 1819
Maine	March 15, 1820
Missouri	August 10, 1821
Arkansas	June 15, 1836

Release Year/State	Statehood Date
2004	
Michigan	January 26, 1837
Florida	March 3, 1845
Texas	December 29, 1845
Iowa	December 28, 1846
Wisconsin	May 29, 1848
2005	
California	September 9, 1850
Minnesota	May 11, 1858
Oregon	February 14, 1859
Kansas	January 29, 1861
West Virginia	June 20, 1863
2006	
Nevada	October 31, 1864
Nebraska	March 1, 1867
Colorado	August 1, 1876
North Dakota	November 2, 1889
South Dakota	November 2, 1889
2007	
Montana	November 8, 1889
Washington	November 11, 1889
Idaho	July 3, 1890
Wyoming	July 10, 1890
Utah	January 4, 1896
2008	
Oklahoma	November 16, 1907
New Mexico	January 6, 1912
Arizona	February 14, 1912
Alaska	January 3, 1959
Hawaii	August 21, 1959

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