

DELAWARE FACTS & HISTORY

From the Delaware Historical Society



Delaware declared its independence from Great Britain on June 15, 1776. It is known as the "First State" because on December 7, 1787 it became the first to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

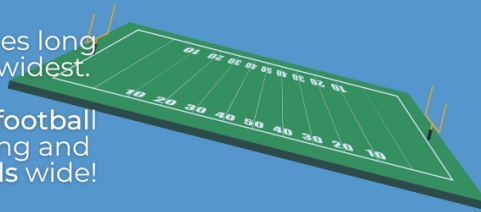
Capital: Dover

Counties: New Castle, Kent, and Sussex

Population: 1,018,396

Delaware is 96 miles long and 39 miles at its widest.

That's about 1,690 football fields long and 680 football fields wide!



HOW DID DELAWARE GET ITS NAME?

In 1610 explorer Samuel Argall named the Delaware River and Bay for the governor of Virginia, Thomas West, Lord De La Warr. The state of Delaware takes its name from the river and bay.

DELAWARE'S GOVERNMENT

Delaware's government consists of the General Assembly, made up of a Senate and House of Representatives, the Governor, and the judiciary.

The first known inhabitants of Delaware were two tribes of Native Americans: the Lenni Lenape and the Nanticoke.
