

## DALLAS FACTS

Dallas has a Major League Team for every sport:

**Football:** Dallas Cowboys, **Baseball:** Texas Rangers,

**Basketball:** Dallas Mavericks, **Hockey:** Dallas Stars

and **Soccer:** FC Dallas.

The Dallas Cowboys were originally known as the Dallas Steers, then the Dallas Rangers and was later changed to the Cowboys.



The Dallas Zoo started in 1888 when a man from Colorado City sold two mountain lions and two deer to the city of Dallas.

The world's first frozen margarita machine was invented in Dallas 1971 by restaurateur Mariano Martinez for his restaurant Mariano's Mexican Cuisine.

The State Fair of Texas has been held in Dallas every year since 1886 with five exceptions. No fairs were held in 1918 and from 1942-45 due to WWI & WWII.

The Texas Star Ferris wheel at the State Fair of Texas is the second tallest Ferris wheel in America.

Big Tex, a 52-foot tall cowboy first debuted at the State Fair in 1952 and has been a staple of the fair ever since.



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*Welcome to Texas*, land of Cowboys, Rodeos, Tex-Mex, and Chips & Salsa. Here are a few facts and tidbits about the **Lone Star State** (State Nickname) that you should know now that you will be living here:



## STATE INFO

**Capital:** Austin

**Nickname:** Lone Star State

**Motto:** Friendship

**Song:** Texas, Our Texas

**Bird:** Mockingbird

**Mammal:** Texas Longhorn

**Small Mammal:** Armadillo

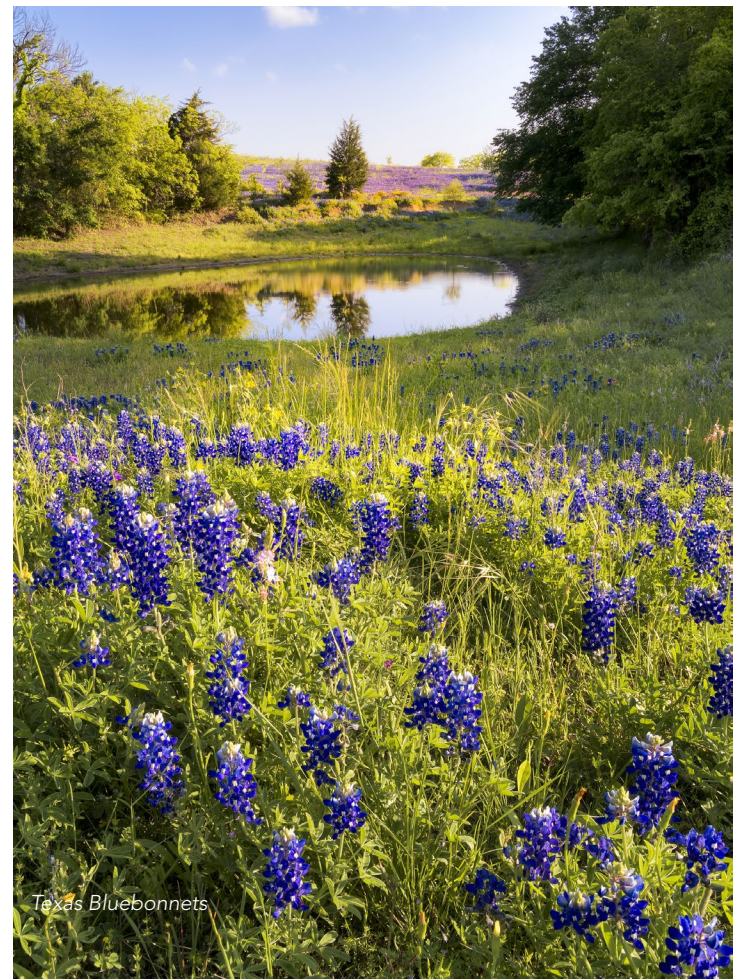
**Reptile:** Texas Horned Lizard

**Butterfly:** Monarch Butterfly

**Flower:** Bluebonnet

**Tree:** Pecan

**Slogan:** Don't Mess with Texas  
(Unofficial)





## TEXAS FACTS

Origin of Name: from a Hasinai Indian word, "Tejas," which means friends or allies.

The King Ranch in Texas is bigger than the state of Rhode Island.

More land is farmed in Texas than in any other state.

Rodeo is the official state sport of Texas.

The world's first rodeo was held in Pecos on July 4, 1883.

Dr Pepper was invented in Waco in 1885. There is no period after the Dr in Dr Pepper.

Of the nation's 10 largest cities, three are in Texas:

- **Houston:** Space City, Home of NASA
- **Dallas:** Land of Endless Restaurants
- **San Antonio:** Home of the Alamo

The official dish of Texas is chili.

The first word spoken from the moon on July 20, 1969 was Houston.

The hamburger was created in Athens, Texas.

Austin, Texas is considered the live music capital of the world.

*Big Tex*

El Paso, Texas is closer to Needles, California than it is to Dallas.

Fort Worth is home to the oldest stock show and rodeo in the country - the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show.

Texas is second in size only to Alaska. It includes 267,339 square miles, or 7.4% of the nation's total area.

More species of bats live in Texas than in any other part of the United States.

60% of America's paper money is printed at the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing Western Currency Facility in Fort Worth

In 1909, the Fort Worth Zoo opened as the first zoo in Texas.

The Texas Civil War Museum in Fort Worth houses the largest private Civil War collection west of the Mississippi River.

Fort Worth hosts the world's only twice-daily cattle drive in the Stockyards National Historic District.

## TEXAS HISTORY

The state was an independent nation from 1836 to 1845.

Texas entered the Union: December 29, 1845 (28<sup>th</sup> State).

Texas is the only state to have the flags of 6 different nations fly over it. They are: Spain, France, Mexico, Republic of Texas, Confederate States, and the United States.

Texas is the only state to enter the United States by treaty instead of territorial annexation.

Texas is the only state in the U.S. that is allowed to fly its flag at the same height as the American flag.

The Alamo is located in San Antonio. It is where 200 Texas defenders fell to Mexican General Santa Anna and 4,000 Mexican soldiers. The phrase "**Remember the Alamo**" originated from that battle. The Alamo is considered the cradle of Texas liberty and the state's most popular historic site.



## HOW TO SPEAK TEXAN

Want to sound like a Texan? Here are a few words to help you blend in:

**Howdy** Every place has their own version of Hi, Hello or How do you do. Hawaii has Aloha and Texas has Howdy. If you want to be a true Texan then greet someone with a Howdy and you'll fit right in.

**Y'all** One of the most important words in the Texas Dictionary is Y'all. Y'all is a contraction on the word "you" and "all". Example: Are y'all gonna go to the Rodeo this year?

**Ain't** Yes, in Texas we like to combine our words to make new one. Next to Y'all, "Ain't" is one of the more commonly used words that you will hear everyone use.

**Cokes** The North may refer to all their soft drinks as "Pop", but here in Texas we call everything "Coke", **EXCEPT** Dr. Pepper. That will always be called Dr. Pepper.

