

Comparing and Contrasting Michigan and Ohio

Name: _____

Michigan

Michigan, nicknamed the Wolverine State, or Great Lakes State, has two parts separated by Lakes Michigan and Huron. The upper part is called the Upper Peninsula or “U.P.” and the lower, and much larger mitten-shaped part, is called the Lower Peninsula. Michigan borders Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin and is part of the Midwestern United States. It also borders Canada. Waters from four great lakes: Superior, Michigan, Huron, and Erie, wash upon Michigan’s shores. Michigan became America’s 26th state on January 26, 1837. Its capital is Lansing and its largest city is Detroit. Detroit, aptly nicknamed “Motor City,” was once the car-producing capital of the world. It was also called “Motown” because many famous rhythm and blues singers and groups got their start in Detroit under Motown Records including: The Jackson 5, the Supremes, Marvin Gaye, and Stevie Wonder. Today, a little less than 10 million people live in Michigan, which ranks its tenth among states.

Ohio

Ohio, nicknamed the Buckeye State, became America’s 17th state on March 1, 1803. Located in the Midwestern United States, Ohio borders Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana, and Michigan. It’s northern shore borders Lake Erie, making it one of the Great Lakes States. Part of its eastern border, and all of its southern border is formed by the Ohio River. Ohio’s capital and largest city is Columbus. Columbus is also home to Ohio State University, one of the nation’s largest universities. Cleveland, Cincinnati, Dayton, and Toledo are other large cities within Ohio. Ohio is an important state in American history. Eight American presidents were born in the state, as was Thomas Edison, the inventor of the light bulb. Furthermore, the Wright Brothers, the inventors of the first working airplane, were also from Ohio. Today, Ohio is the nation’s seventh most populous state, with over 11.7 million people.

Which facts belong in each category?

Capital is Lansing
Became a state first
Borders Indiana
Located in the Midwestern United States
Borders more than one great lake
Has more people
The state has two parts
Many presidents were born here
Nicknamed the Great Lakes State
Borders Mexico

Michigan
Both
Ohio
Neither

Answers:

Michigan

Capital is Lansing

Borders more than one great lake

The state has two parts

Nicknamed the Great Lakes State

Both

Borders Indiana

Located in the Midwestern United States

Ohio

Became a state first

Many presidents were born here

Has more people

Neither

Borders Mexico