

Australia's relationship with

TENNESSEE

KEY FACTS

- **Population:** 6.72 million (16th most populous state), 2017 estimate
- **Major Cities:** Nashville (Capital and Largest), Memphis, Knoxville and Chattanooga
- **Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** \$318.1 billion (2017)
- **GDP Growth:** 2.8% (2017)
- **% College Educated:** 33%
- **Median Household Income:** \$46,574 (2017)
- **Key Industries:** Manufacturing (Chemicals, Polysilicon, Transportation and Electrical Equipment), Agriculture (Poultry, Soybeans, Cattle), Tourism
- **Known for:**
 - "Tennesseans"
 - "Volunteer State" as 2nd highest source state for Civil War
 - Great Smoky Mountains
 - Jerry Lee Lewis, Aretha Franklin, Muddy Waters, Johnny Cash, Justin Timberlake
- **National Rankings: (out of 50 states)**
 - Economy: 13th
 - Healthcare: 43rd
 - Infrastructure: 15th
 - Education: 28th
 - Tax burden: 47th
 - State size by area: 36th
 - State size by population: 17th
 - Density: 20th

ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP

Tennessee's exports to Australia increased by \$277 million between 2006 and 2016.

- **Two-Way Trade (goods only):** \$866 million (2019)
- **Australia's Exports to Tennessee (goods only):** \$120 million (2019)



- **Tennessee's Exports to Australia (goods only):** \$746 million (2019)
 - Cars, Medical Equipment, Alcoholic Beverages

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE LINKS

In 2013, Australian tourists spent \$131 million dollars in Tennessee.

- **Sister Cities:**
 - Nashville – Tamworth NSW
 - Portland – Glenelg SA
- **Representation:** Australia's relationship with Alabama is managed by the **Consulate General** in Washington DC

AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY

- **Australians Living in Tennessee:**
 - Tennessee is home to award-winning Australian couple Nicole Kidman (film) and Keith Urban (music)
- **Australian Sporting Club:**
 - Nashville Kangaroos
- **Australian Community:**
 - **Meetup Group:** <https://www.meetup.com/Aussies-in-Nashville/>

POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

- **Governor:** Bill Lee (R), next election in 2022
- **2016 Presidential Outcome:** Trump 61.1%
- **Senators:** Lamar Alexander (R), Marsha Blackburn (R)
- **House:** 7 Republicans, 2 Democrats



AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS

23 Australian firms operate out of Tennessee. Notable examples include:

- **Pratt Industries (USA) Inc.:** Subsidiary of Pratt Industries/VISA, Pratt Industries is the world's largest privately held 100 per cent recycled paper and packaging company and America's fifth largest corrugated packaging company. They have operations in 26 states, including Tennessee.
- **BlueScope Steel:** World's largest supplier of metal-coated and painted steel, with products for building and construction markets. The company employs over 3,300 people across plants in states across the U.S., including Tennessee.
- CSL
- Lendlease


GLOBAL BUSINESS

Tennessee is home to 967 foreign-based businesses that have invested over \$37.3 billion in capital and employed more than 147,000 Tennesseans. Notable examples include:

- **FedEx:** Headquartered in Memphis, FedEx is the world's second biggest package-shipper.
- Dollar General
- AutoZone
- Vanguard Health
- HCA Healthcare

CULTURE

Tennessee's capital Nashville is known as "Music City" – the country music capital of the world. The city of Memphis is strongly associated with the culture of the Deep South. Notable landmarks from Tennessee include:

- **The Great Smoky Mountains National Park:** Most visited national park with 10 million visitors a year
 - **Graceland and the Elvis Presley Memphis Complex:** Reportedly an attraction that is as popular as the White House
 - Chattanooga and the Tennessee Valley Railroad
 - Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum
 - Dollywood Theme Park
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SCIENCE & INNOVATION

- **Entrepreneurship Ranking:** 35th (based on new firm births as a share of total businesses in the state, rank out of 51)
- **Tech Jobs Ranking:** 40th (based on share of engineers and computer scientists in the workforce, rank out of 51)
- **BERD Intensity Ranking:** 39th (based on business expenditure on R&D per dollar of state output, rank out of 51)
- **New Economy Index Ranking:** 32nd (based on composite index that reports on the innovation-driven economy, rank out of 51)