Madison, capital of Wisconsin and home of the State University, lies in the center of the dairylands of southern Wisconsin, filling a narrow isthmus between Lakes Monona and Mendota.

People:

Though representatives of more than 30 different stocks are included in Madison's population, the foreign-born constitute less than 2.5 per cent; natives of foreign parentage constitute 92.6 per cent; nearly two-thirds of the people are descendants of native Americans. The largest national groups are German and Norwegian, still retaining cultural and religious societies. Irish, English, and Italians comprise the next largest divisions. Italians and Negroes constitute the only distinct and homogeneous groups.

Though town and gown tend to form two distinct societies, with separate sets of interests, at times they overlap. The Madison Literary Society allows a few from both groups to attend its solemnities; and the exclusive Town and Gown Club singles the men of both sets. Members of the faculty, devoted to the "Wisconsin Idea," serve sometimes as public officials, sometimes as trade unionists, sometimes as advisers in the capital. There is a floating population of students, famous visitors and legislators. When the legislature is in session the lawmakers claim the capitol — fighting for or against bills on the Senate and Assembly floors, conducting public hearings in the committee rooms, canvassing in private rooms. Lobbyists hover outside the chamber doors and at the bars where the solons occasionally drift during the day and frequently during the night.

Industry:

Although Madison's other activities far overshadow its industry, the city ranks fourth in Wisconsin industrially, and a surprising variety of merchandise is manufactured. Tin cans, flashlight batteries, air conditioning and radio equipment, hospital furniture, road machinery, automatic garage doors, metal garages and buildings, oil burners, water softeners, milking machines, bricks, chemicals, castings, culverts, bottle caps, cement stove albes, drugs, tannet extract, candy, ice cream, soft drinks and meat are among the products manufactured here.

History:

1836 — Uninhabited by whites, but selected by the Territorial Legislature as the site of the capital and University of Wisconsin and seat of Dane County
1837 — First settlers, first post office, general store and tavern
1839 — First school, newspaper. First meeting of the Legislature
in Madison took place in a small upstairs room of the new
American Hotel.
1839 - Protestant Episcopal parish, first religious organization, formed.
1842 - First newspaper
1846 - Incorporated as a village
1848 - Statehouse completed; State University established
1849 - Leonard J. Farwell moved to the village and began large-
scale improvements. He replaced the circuitous Otsirish (now Yahara) River channel with a canal between Lakes
Mendota and Monona, dammed the Mendota end, and built a
large grist and flour mill. He opened streets, drained
the east side marshland, built side- and cross-walks, and
planted thousands of shade trees.
  First telegraphic message received.
1854 - First train arrived
1866 - Became a city; Janus Fairchild elected first mayor
1861 - Madison company was first in state to volunteer
1872 - First public library in Wisconsin opened. Free tuition
      authorized at the University of Wisconsin.
1876 - Telephones installed
1882 - Electric lights installed; waterworks started
1893 - Federated Trades Council met
1914 - Madison Park and Pleasure Drive Association organized
1917 - Senator La Follette burned in effigy by university students
    for anti-war speeches

**Election Statistics: Dane County**

**(Presidential)**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Democratic</th>
<th>Republican</th>
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<td>1940</td>
<td>40,035</td>
<td>21,815</td>
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