

# Texas!

by  
Mike Prero

Texas!—the biggest state in the Union! [*We don't count Alaska. There is no Alaska. That's a myth started by some disgruntled Eskimos in 1940s*] Take a look at just some of the reasons why a Texan's face lights up whenever someone says "Texas!"



♠ The State Capitol in Austin stands largest among all the states.

♠ The San Jacinto Monument near Houston is among the tallest columns in the world; at 570 feet, its about twenty feet higher than the Washington Monument.

♠ Texas has more counties (254) than any other state. Forty



## Septe

-one counties in Texas are *each* larger than the state of Rhode Island.

- ♠ Of the nation's ten largest cities, three are in Texas (Houston, Dallas, and San Antonio).
- ♠ Texas is the nation's leading producer of oil, natural gas, beef, sheep, goats, wool, cotton, rice...and, oh yes, watermelons.
- ♠ Today, approximately 18 million people live in Texas, only slightly outnumbering its 15 million cattle. Texas today is also home for about 2.5 million deer and 200,000 alligators.
- ♠ The land area of Texas is larger than all of New England, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Illinois combined. It extends 801 miles from north to south and 773 miles from east to west.
- ♠ The Dallas/Ft. Worth airport is larger than New York City's Manhattan Island.

El Paso, Texas is closer to Los Angeles on the Pacific Coast than it is to Port Arthur on Gulf Coast of Texas. Port Arthur, on the other hand, is closer to Jacksonville, Florida on the Atlantic Coast than it is to El Paso. [<http://www.lsjunction.com/facts/records.htm>]

Anyone have a collection of Texas covers? A number of different collectors have certain states as categories. Surely, there are those that collect the great state of Texas! The late Win Lang, CA, reported having 2,405 such covers in April, 1993, but obviously there are many, many more than that, including those next-to-impossible-to-get county seat covers. If you have such a collection, let us hear from you, and let's see what's out there for both budding and veteran collectors alike.

