

## Capitol Facts

Here are some fascinating facts about Kentucky's state capitol.

<b>Dates of construction</b> . . . . .	1905–1909
<b>Cost of construction</b> . . . . .	\$1.8 million
<b>Location</b> . . . . .	700 Capitol Avenue, Frankfort
<b>Height of Abraham Lincoln statue</b> . . . . .	14 feet (4.3 m)
<b>Columns in the center of the capitol</b> . . . . .	36, each 26 feet (8 m) tall and weighing 10 tons

### WORD TO KNOW

**renovated** *cleaned, improved, or rebuilt*

The current capitol is listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places.

## KENTUCKY'S STATE CAPITOLS

In 1792, in a log cabin in Lexington, lawmakers voted to make Frankfort Kentucky's permanent capital. Today's capitol is much grander than that first log cabin. Construction on the current building began in 1905, and it opened in time for the 1910 session

of the General Assembly. The dome is modeled after the one over the French emperor Napoleon's tomb in Paris. The staircases are modeled after the Grand Opera House in Paris. The capitol was **renovated** in 1955 and again in 1996.



## Capital City

This map shows places of interest in Frankfort, Kentucky's capital city.



## WOW

On the grounds of the state capitol, you can check the time on a huge clock face made of more than 10,000 flowers.

## KENTUCKY'S STATE GOVERNMENT

When people in a state think that their constitution needs changes or updating, they can vote to create a new one. Kentucky has had four constitutions since its founders drafted the first one in 1792 in their bid for statehood. Its current constitution was written in 1891.

Kentucky's constitution divides the commonwealth's government into three branches: the legislative, executive, and judicial.

## IT'S THE LAW!

A duel is an arranged fight with weapons between two people. During the early years of Kentucky statehood, a duel was considered an honorable way to settle a dispute. But so many people lost their lives in duels that Kentucky passed an anti-dueling law in 1849. To this day, it is illegal for people who have fought duels to hold public office.