

INRL 207 - CONTEMPORARY STATE SYSTEMS

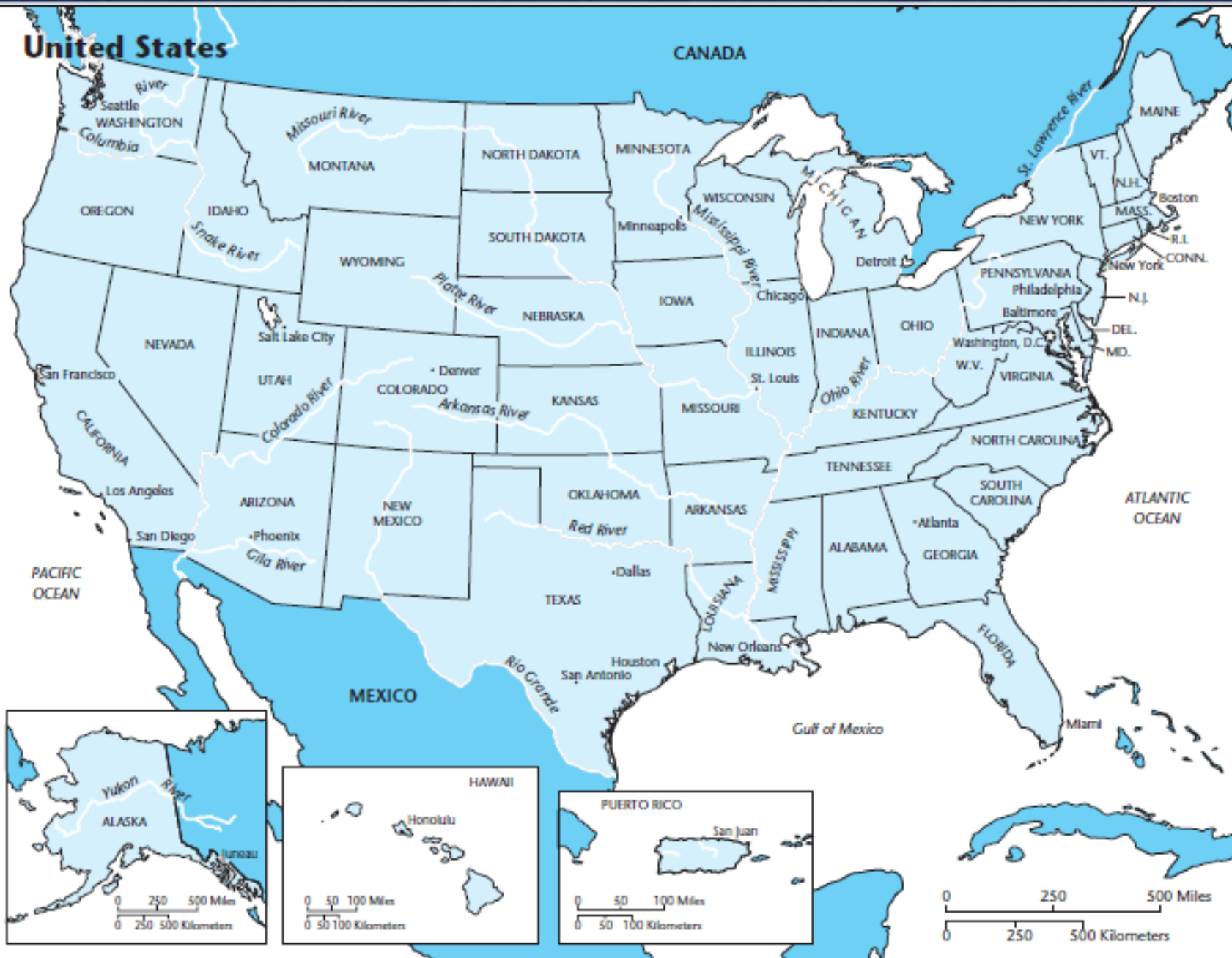
UNITED STATES

UNITED STATES KEY TERMS

- FEDERALISM
- SEPARATION (DIVISION) OF POWERS
- CHECKS AND BALANCES
- IMMIGRATION

United States

CANADA

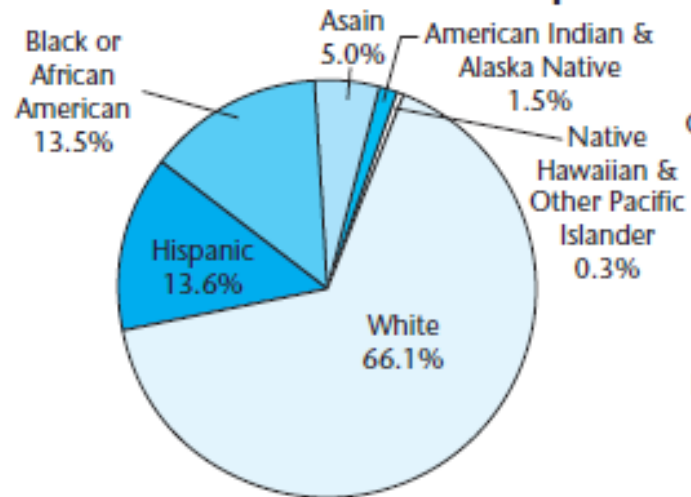


STATE AND FEDERAL SYSTEM

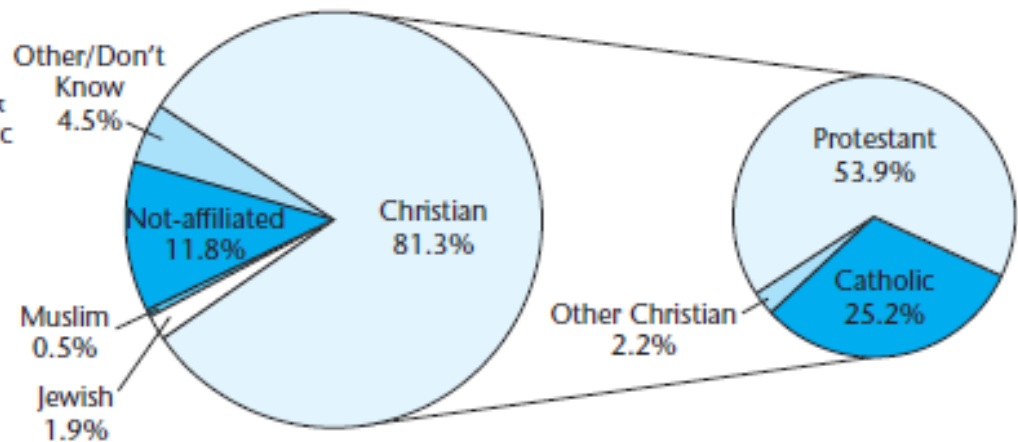
- Historically state and local government came first.
- The states have their own legislative, executive and judicial institutions
- State and local government control important areas like:
 - Highways
 - State income tax
 - Public schools and universities
 - Police and fire departments
 - Regulate business and supervise commercial affairs
- The Federal system of government controls:
 - Foreign policy, defense and monetary policy
 - Areas that cannot be regulated locally and statewide: interstate commerce, interstate crime, interstate environmental problems etc.

The American Nation at a Glance

United States: Ethnic Groups



United States: Religions



(1) The Revolutionary ERA (1773-1789)

- RESULTS?


(1) The Revolutionary ERA (1773-1789)

- Declaration of Independence - July 4, 1776
- Colonies



IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.
A DECLARATION
BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
IN GENERAL CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

WHEN in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.

 **W**E hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness--That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the Necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The History of the present King of Great-Britain is a History of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended in their Operation till his Assent should be obtained, and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the Accommodation of large Districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in the Legislature, a Right inestimable to them, and formidable to Tyrants only.

He has called together Legislative Bodies at Places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the Depository of their public Records, for the sole Purpose of fatiguing them into Compliance with his Measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly Firmness his Invasions on the Rights of the People.

He has refused for a long Time, after such Dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the Dangers of Invasion from without, and Convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the Population of these States; for that Purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their Migrations hither, and raising the Conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the Tenure of their Offices, and the Amount and Payment of their Salaries.

He has erected a Multitude of new Offices, and sent hither Swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their Substance.

He has kept among us, in Times of Peace, Standing Armies, without the consent of our Legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

- All men are created equal
- Endowed with certain inalienable rights, life liberty pursuit of happiness
- Government derives «their just powers from the consent of the governed»

(2) THE CIVIL WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION (1861-1876)

QUESTION: WHETHER THE STATES OR THE NATIONAL
GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE DOMINANT

SLAVERY

14TH AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION (1868)

WHY 14TH AMENDMENT IS IMPORTANT?

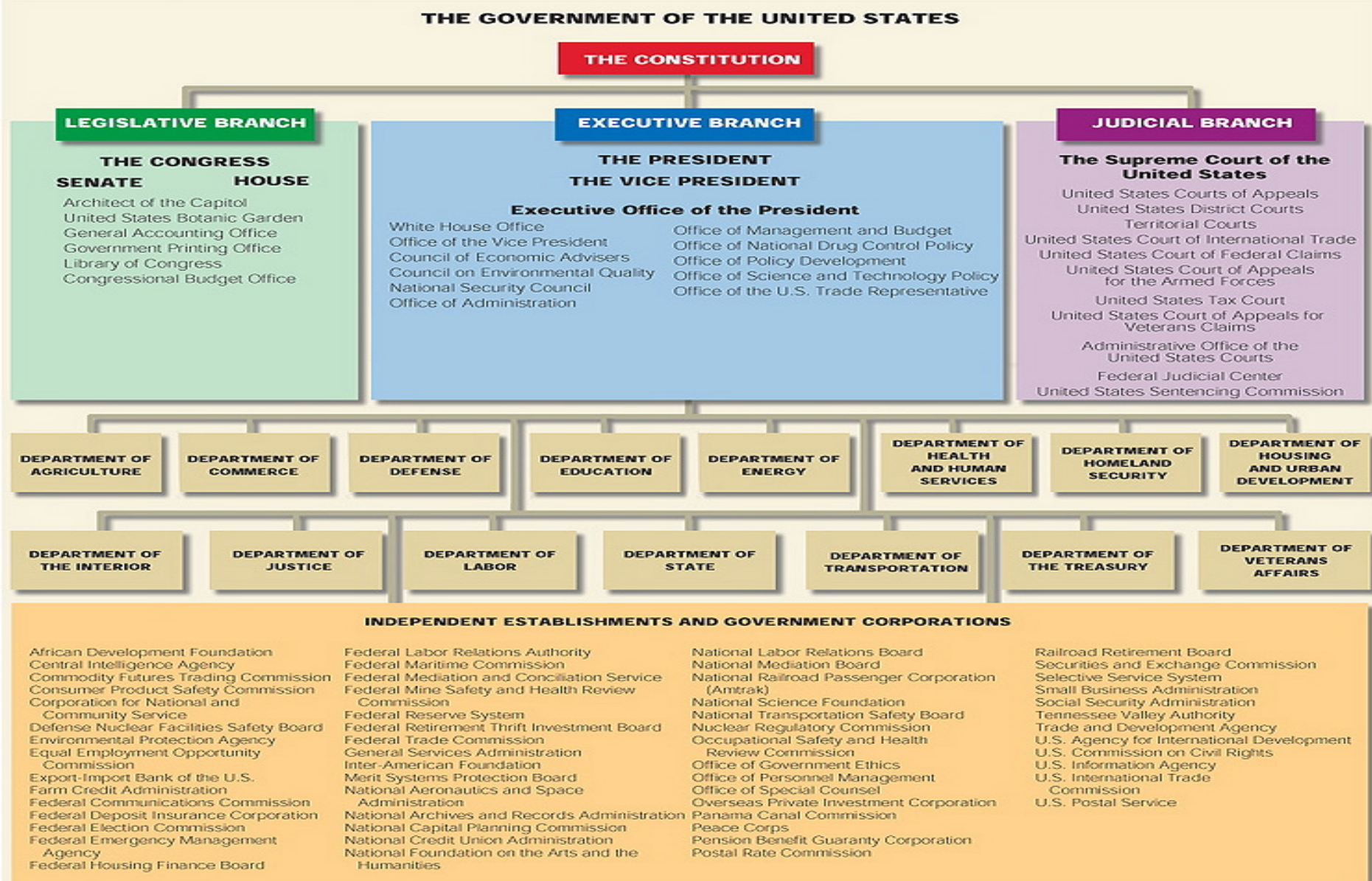
- First, it extended the protections of the Bill of Rights to cover actions by states as well as by the federal government (the courts slowed the implementation of this provision).
- Second, it extended citizenship to all persons born in the United States.
- This made U.S. citizens of freed slaves (a
- legal necessity because an 1857 Supreme Court ruling,
- *Dred Scott v. Sanford*, had held that all blacks, slave or free, were not and could never be U.S. citizens) but also guaranteed that U.S.-born children of the tens of millions of immigrants who migrated after 1868 would become U.S. citizens at birth.

(3) THE NEW DEAL ERA (1933–1940)

- Roosevelt Administration
- Social security

The Federal Government

FIGURE 12-3 Organization Chart of the Federal Government



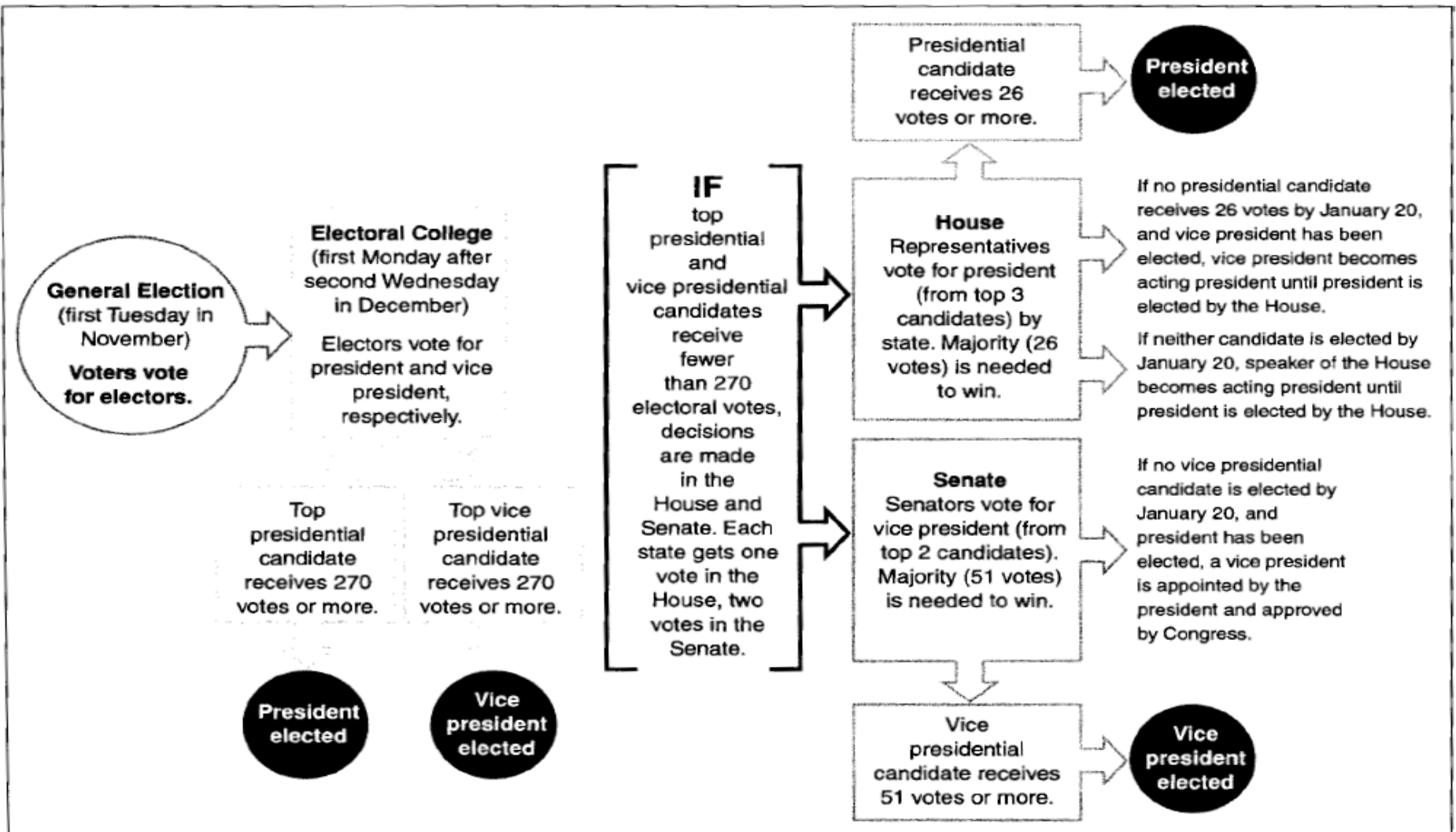
THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH: THE PRESIDENCY

- 4-year term - max two 4-year terms
- Protects the Constitution
- Proposes legislation
- Enforces the laws made by Congress
- Commander in Chief of the armed forces
- Appoints judges to Supreme Court (with the consent of the Senate)

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN THE USA

FIGURE 9-3

How Presidents and Vice Presidents Are Chosen



ELECTORAL COLLEGE

- A device to place elites between the voters and selection of leaders
- (Seçiciler Kurulu)

HOW DOES THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE WORK?

- Each state has a number of electors in the Electoral College equal to the total of its US senators (always two) and its representatives, which are determined by the size of the state's population.
- Technically, Americans vote for the electors not the candidate.
- California, the most populous state, has 55 electoral votes. A few small states and the District of Columbia have only three.
- There are 538 electors in the College. In all but two states, Maine and Nebraska, the College works on a winner-takes-all basis. The winner of the popular vote in a state gets all the Electoral College votes in that state.
- To become president, a candidate needs 270 Electoral College votes. The winning candidate does not need to win the national popular vote.

THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

- Representatives of the people in presidential elections
- 534 electors, corresponding to the numbers of Representatives and Senators
- 270 electoral votes guarantee the Presidency
- Each state votes as a single block (minus Nebraska and Maine) winner takes all

THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH: THE CABINET

- No mention of it in the Constitution
- Subordinate to the President
- Cabinet members recruited broadly, not necessarily party insiders

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Legislative

Congress
Elections
every 2 years



The Senate
2 members per State.
Elections every 2 years
for 33% of Senators. A
senator is elected for 6
years.

House of Representatives
Members elected according
to the population of the State.
Elections every 2 years for the
whole house

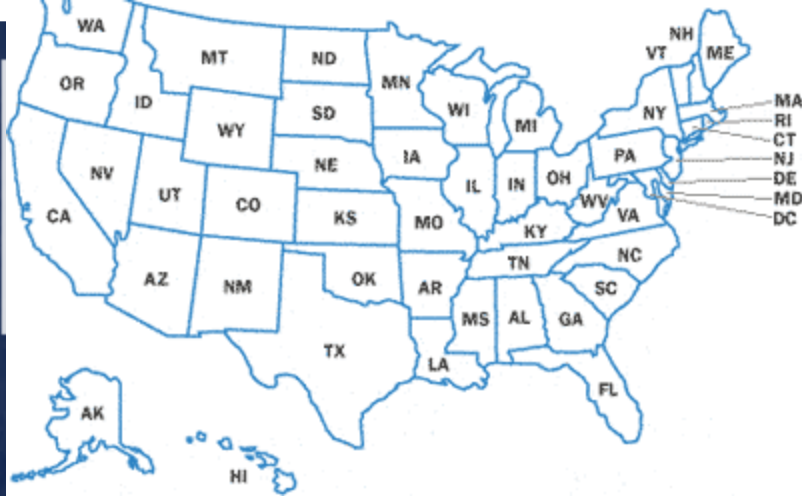
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The Judiciary

The Supreme Court

9 judges appointed by the President.
Their job is to make sure that the President and Congress run the country according to the US Constitution.





STATE GOVERNMENT

Each State has its own separate government

There are 3 branches

- State governor
- State legislative
- State court

Responsibilities

- Police
- Education
- Transport
- Social Welfare
- Health

THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH: CONGRESS PASSES LEGISLATION AND APPROPRIATES MONEY

- The House of Representatives
- 435 members – according to the size of the state
- 2-year term
- The Senate
- 100 members -two from each state
- 6-year term

CHECKS AND BALANCES

Congress:

Power of the purse

Can override presidential veto
(2/3 majority)

Power of impeachment

Senate approves treaties and
the president's appointments

Supreme Court:

Power to declare laws and
presidential actions
unconstitutional

The President:

Power to veto

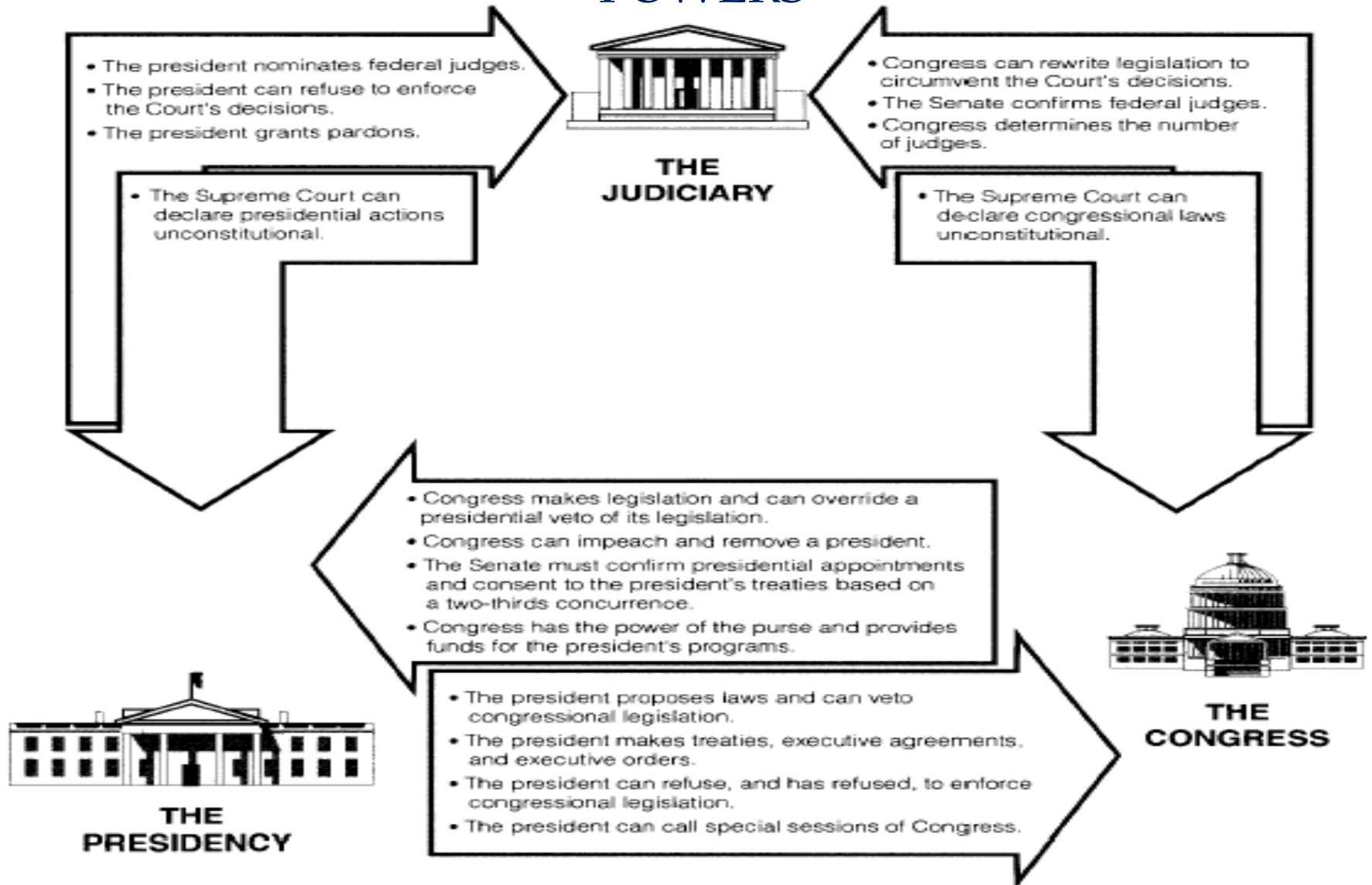
Issues executive orders

Commander-in-chief

Appoints Federal Judges

Grants Pardons for offenses
against the US

CHECKS AND BALANCES: CONFRONTATION OF POWERS



THE SUPREME COURT

- 9 members
- Life term appointment
- Interprets and guards the Constitution
- Interprets the law
- Decisions of the Supreme Court are final
- In general it plays a conservative role, maintaining legal tradition

ELECTIONS AND POLITICAL PARTIES

- Winner-take-all-election system
- The Electoral College
- Two party system- both appealing to the middle of the political spectrum
- Voting for individuals rather than party slate



DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS AND THEIR VOTERS

- Democrats supported by majority of black voters (Clinton 83%)
- Urban ethnics
- Blue collar workers
- Catholics
- More women voters
- Northeast, upper midwest, northwest, Hawaii
- Republicans
- Protestant voters
- Business community
- White collar workers
- Religious fundamentalists

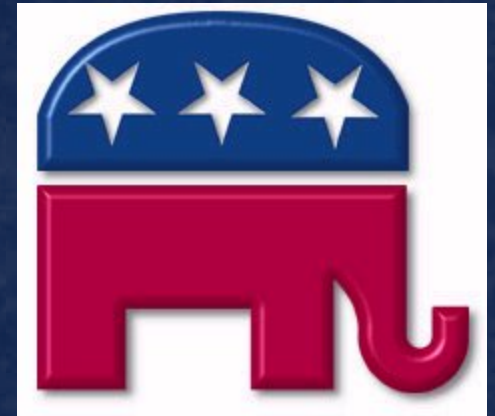
DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS AND THEIR POLICIES

- Democrats
 - Support welfare programs
 - Keynesian economics and job creating programs
 - Social security, Medicare and Medicaid
 - Civil Rights legislation
 - Women's right to abortion
- Republicans
 - Limiting federal regulation of business
 - Reduction in welfare spending
 - Anti-abortion

POLITICAL PARTIES

Republican Party

They believe in low taxation
And little interference from
the Federal Government. They
encourage individuals to work
hard and do not like welfare.
A party for the rich and
Middle Class.



REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTS



Dwight
Eisenhower
1953-61



Richard Nixon
1969-74



Gerald Ford
1974-77

POLITICAL PARTIES

Democrats



Believe it is the governments duty to distribute wealth Evenly. They introduce higher taxation and welfare benefits.

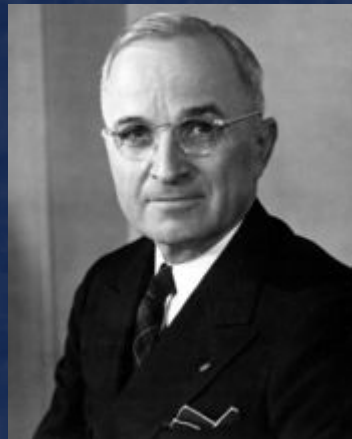
Their support comes from urban areas and minorities.

DEMOCRAT PRESIDENTS

John F Kennedy 1961-63



Lyndon B Johnson
1963-68

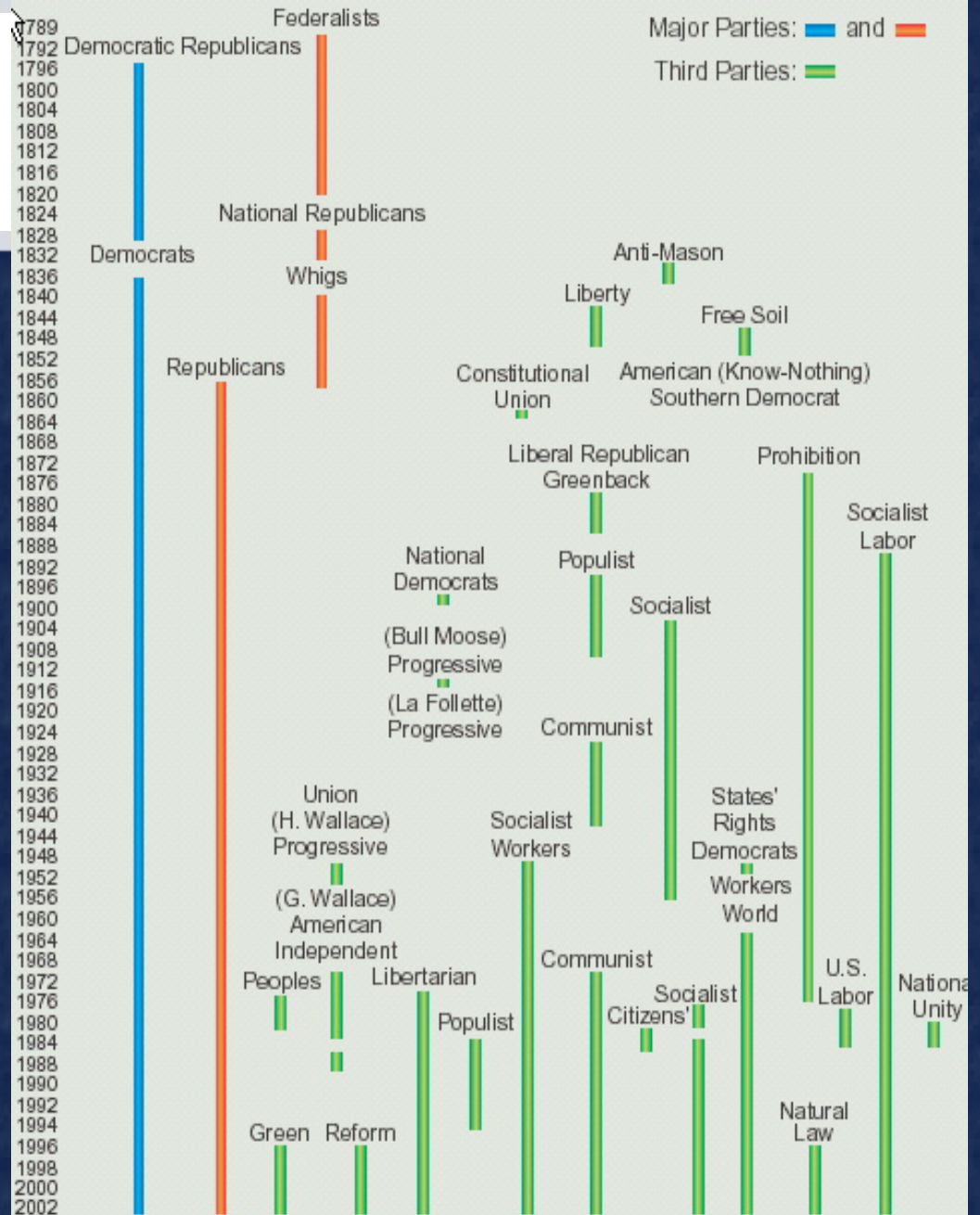


Harry Truman 1945-53



Jimmy Carter 1977-81

AMERICAN POLITICAL PARTIES SINCE 1789



Political Organization

Political System	Presidential system.
Regime History	Representative democracy, usually dated from the signing of the Declaration of Independence (1776) or the Constitution (1787).
Administrative Structure	Federalism, with powers shared between the national government and the fifty state governments; separation of powers at the level of the national government among legislative, executive, and judicial branches.
Executive	President, "directly" elected (with Electoral College that officially elects president and vice president) for four-year term; cabinet is advisory group of heads of major federal agencies and other senior officials selected by president to aid in decision-making but with no formal authority.
Legislature	Bicameral. Congress composed of a lower house (House of Representatives) of 435 members serving two-year terms and an upper house (Senate) of 100 members (two from each state) serving six-year terms; elected in single-member districts (or, in the case of the Senate, states) by simple plurality (some states require a majority of voters).
Judiciary	Supreme Court with nine justices nominated by president and confirmed by Senate, with life tenure; has specified original and appellate jurisdiction and exercises the power of judicial review (can declare acts of the legislature and executive unconstitutional and therefore null and void).
Party System	Essentially two-party system (Republican and Democrat), with relatively weak and fractionalized parties; more than in most representative democracies, the personal following of candidates remains very important.