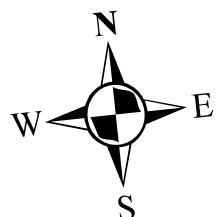
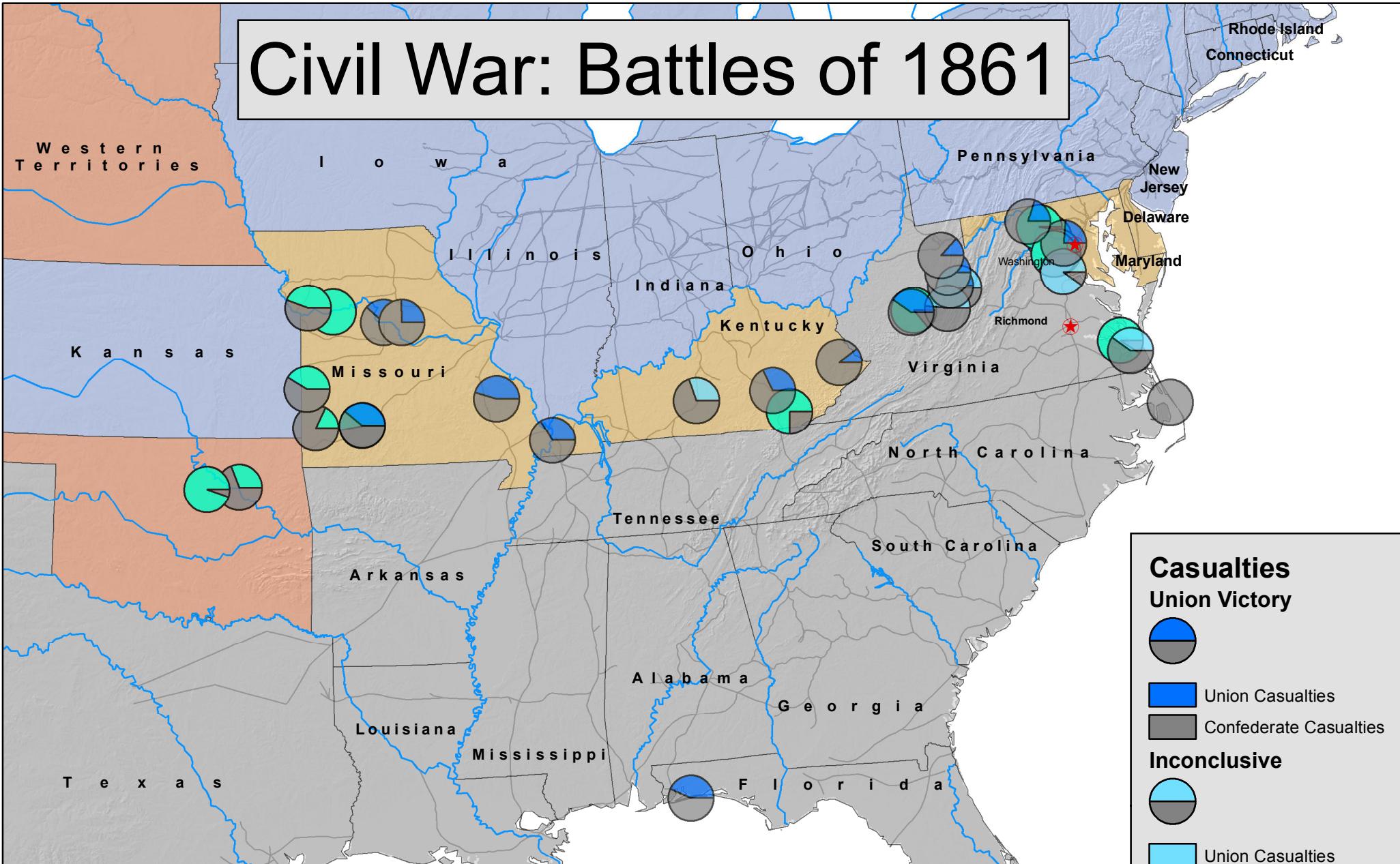


Civil War: Battles of 1861



0 70 140 280 420 560 Miles

Created by: C. Blocher & J. Heumaker
Geographic Coordinate System: GCS North American 1983
Sources: Diva, Freegis, Statsilk, ArcGis, Gis Lounge, and AAG

State Affiliation

- Border State - USA
- Confederate States of America
- United States of America
- Western Territories

Capitals

Casualties

- Union Victory**
- Inconclusive**
- Confederate Victory**

Confederate Casualties

- Union Casualties
- Confederate Casualties

American Civil War 1861

The Battle of Hatteras Inlet Batteries took place on August 28-29, 1861 and was the first combined operation of the Union Army and Navy in the American Civil War, resulting in Union domination of the strategically important North Carolina Sounds. Two forts on the Outer Banks (Fort Clark and Fort Hatteras) had been built by the Confederates, to protect their commerce-raiding activity. But these were lightly-defended, and their artillery could not engage the bombarding fleet under Flag Officer Silas H. Stringham, commandant of the Atlantic Blockading Squadron, which had been ordered to keep moving, to avoid presenting a static target. Although held up by bad weather, the fleet was able to land troops under General Ben Butler, who took the surrender of Flag Officer Samuel Barron. This battle represented the first application of the naval blockading strategy.



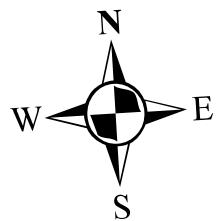
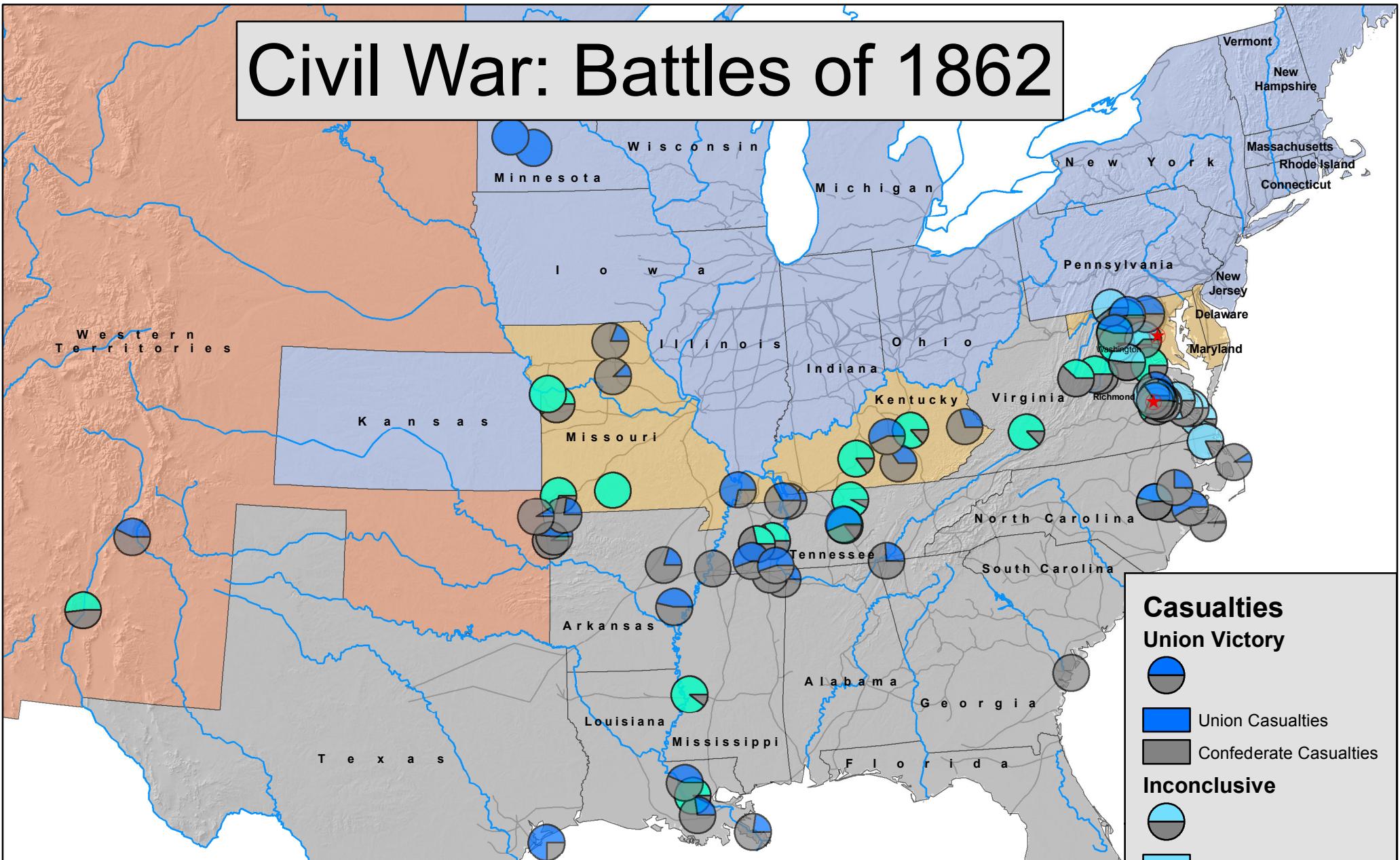
The First Battle of Bull Run took place on July 21, 1861 near Manassas, Virginia. It is sometimes referred to as the Battle of First Manassas, and was the first major battle of the American Civil War. Shortly after the Battle of Fort Sumter, the Union Army marched to take the Confederate Capital of Richmond, Virginia, which held a vital railroad. They met resistance and ultimately defeat at the hands of the Confederate forces at Bull Run. The inexperience of both sides led to many tactical errors and significant casualties. The battle foreshadowed the bloody years to come.



The Battle of Wilson's Creek took place on August 10, 1861 in Green and Christian County, Missouri. It is sometimes referred to as the Battle of Oak Hills or the Bull Run of the West, and marked the first major battle of the Western Theater. Low on resources and suffering many casualties, the Union commander ordered a retreat leaving the field to the Confederates. The Confederate victory emboldened the South and led to a strong push Northward.



Civil War: Battles of 1862



Created by: C. Blocher & J. Heumaker
Geographic Coordinate System: GCS North American 1983
Sources: Diva, Freegis, Statsilk, ArcGis, Gis Lounge, and AAG

State Affiliation

- Border State - USA (Yellow)
- Confederate States of America (Grey)
- United States of America (Light Blue)
- Western Territories (Orange)

Capitals (Red Star)

Casualties

Union Victory

- Union Casualties (Blue)
- Confederate Casualties (Grey)

Inconclusive

- Union casualties (Light Blue)
- Confederate Casualties (Grey)

Confederate Victory

- Union Casualties (Teal)
- Confederate Casualties (Grey)

American Civil War 1862

The Battle of Shiloh took place on April 6-7, 1862 in Shiloh, Tennessee. It is also referred to as the Battle of Pittsburg Landing. The casualty counts at Shiloh exceeded all of the previous battles combined. Union forces marched along the Tennessee River deep into the state whereupon arrival, they were ambushed. A division of Union troops arrived from the North undoing the Confederates surprise assault. Despite the heavy losses the Union suffered, they went on to claim victory over the Confederates at Shiloh.



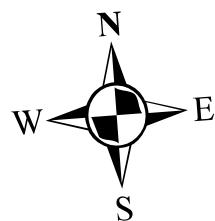
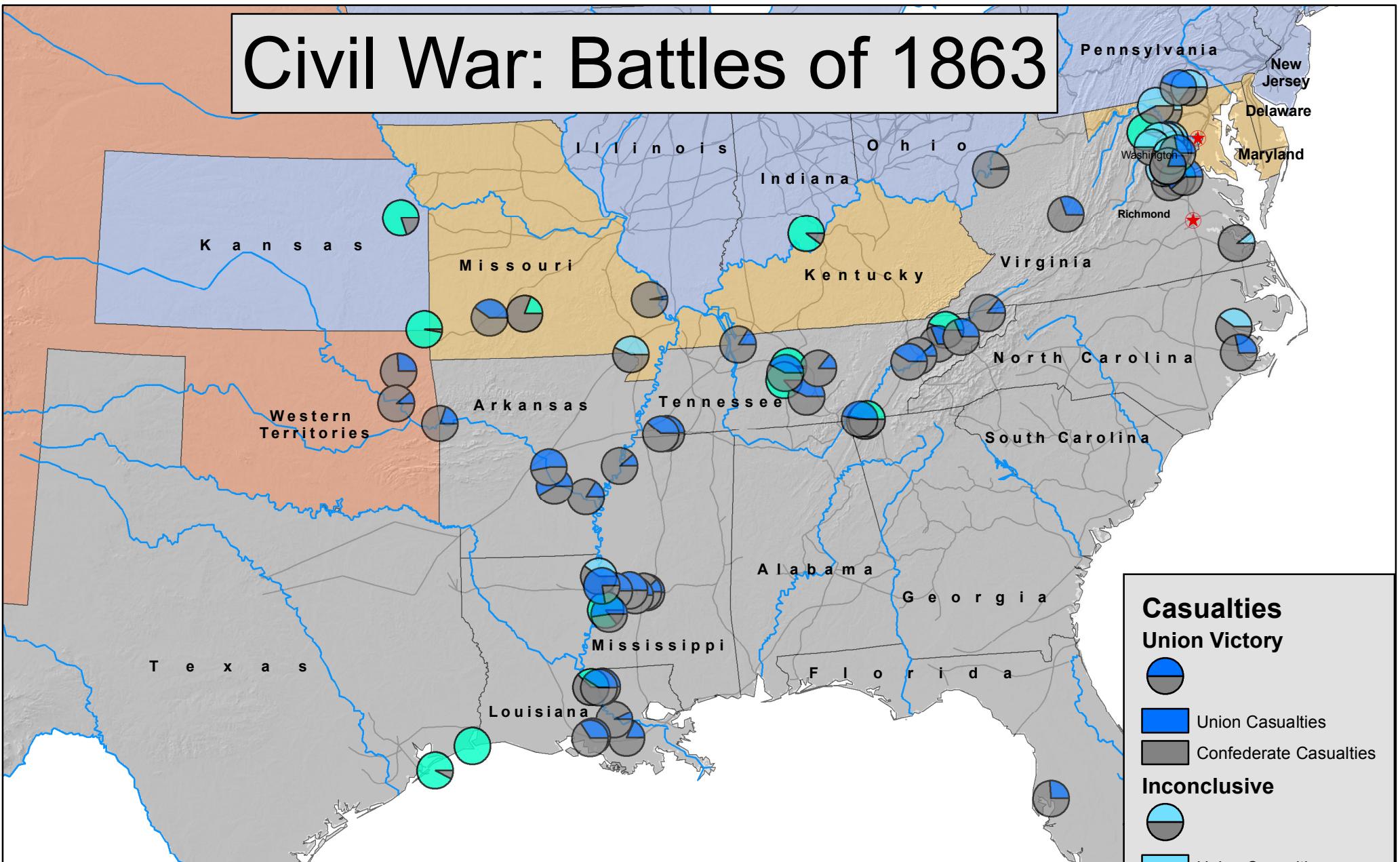
The Battle of Antietam took place on September 17, 1862 in Sharpsburg, Maryland. The Battle of Antietam is considered to be the bloodiest single day in American military history and was the first battle of the American Civil War to take place on Union soil. More than 20,000 soldiers were dead, wounded, or missing. Though the Union outnumbered the Confederates, they failed to press the advantage on multiple fronts allowing commander Robert E. Lee to fend off the attack while pulling his men south of the Potomac River. Upon the Confederate retreat the Union claimed the field and victory.



The Battle of Fredericksburg took place on December 11-15 in Fredericksburg, Virginia. The battle of Fredericksburg hosted more troops than any other battle in the American Civil War. Poor commanding led to a significant loss of life on the Union side, more than double what the Confederate forces lost. Failed frontal assaults caused the Confederate forces to entrench themselves across the Rappahannock River in the ridge heights behind the city. When the Union finally crossed, their attacks were repeatedly repelled, ultimately leading to their retreat and another Confederate victory.



Civil War: Battles of 1863



0 70 140 280 420 560 Miles

Created by: C. Blocher & J. Heumaker
Geographic Coordinate System: GCS North American 1983
Sources: Diva, Freegis, Statsilk, ArcGis, Gis Lounge, and AAG

State Affiliation	
Border State - USA	(Yellow)
Confederate States of America	(Grey)
United States of America	(Light Blue)
Western Territories	(Orange)
Capitals	
Union Casualties	(Cyan)
Confederate Casualties	(Grey)

American Civil War 1863

The Battle of Gettysburg took place on July 1-3, 1863 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The Battle of Gettysburg is the largest battle ever fought on North American soil and resulted in the largest casualty count of the war. The initial retreat of Union forces allowed them to entrench in the hills and ridges outside Gettysburg. The Confederate forces advanced and engaged the Union forces only to meet fierce resistance. The union held their lines and drove the Confederates back halting Lee's plans to push further North as well as causing them to retreat to Virginia. The Battle of Gettysburg marked a turning point in the war.



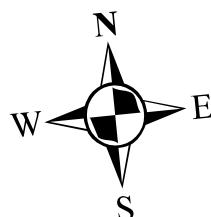
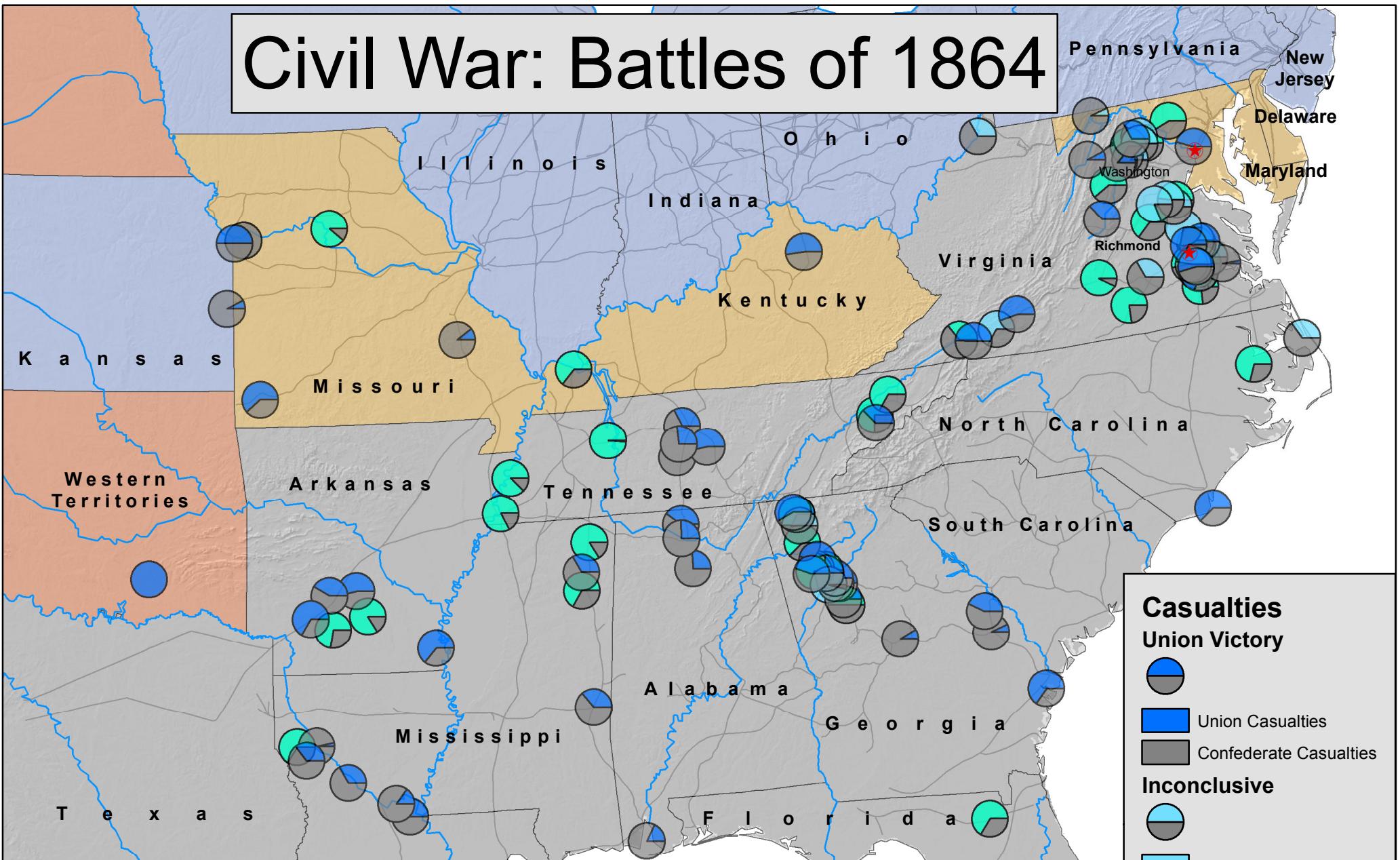
The Battle of Chickamauga took place on September 18, 1863 in Chickamauga, Georgia. The Battle of Chickamauga was the largest battle fought in the Western theater of the American Civil War and suffered the largest amount of casualties after Gettysburg. The Confederate forces initially attempted but failed to break through the lines of the Union which were positioned on the ridge outside the city. After receiving false information, the commander of the Union made a mistake in designating his forcing which allowed an opening for the Confederates to break through and claim victory. The Union retreated to Chattanooga and the Confederates claimed the heights.



The Battle of Chattanooga took place on November 23-25, 1863 in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Union soldiers at Chattanooga were besieged by the Confederates who held the high terrain surrounding the city. Upon arrival and aid from Grant's reinforcements, the Union held off counterattacks while planning a surprise attack of their own. Union forces surged to the top of the ridge and routed the Confederate forces. The defeat of the Confederates at the Battle of Chattanooga allowed for Union control of Tennessee and opened the road to Atlanta for the Union army to drive the campaign deep into southern strongholds.



Civil War: Battles of 1864



Created by: C. Blocher & J. Heumaker
Geographic Coordinate System: GCS North American 1983
Sources: Diva, Freegis, Statsilk, ArcGis, Gis Lounge, and AAG

State Affiliation

- Border State - USA (Yellow)
- Confederate States of America (Gray)
- United States of America (Light Blue)
- Western Territories (Orange)

Capitals

American Civil War 1864

The Battle of the Wilderness took place on May 5-7 in Spotsylvania County, Virginia. The Battle of the Wilderness was the first battle between Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant. The name of the battle came from the bloody close quarter combat amongst the woods and tangled underbrush leading to near 20,000 casualties. The Union attempted to move quickly through the brush, but were intercepted by the Confederates. The parallel roads and nearby unfinished railroad allowed for disruption and confusion tactics on both sides. The dense woods made it difficult to maneuver and led to an inconclusive battle. The Union eventually broke off the attack and continued the offensive elsewhere.



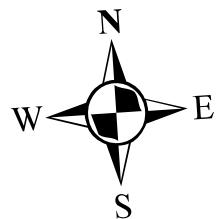
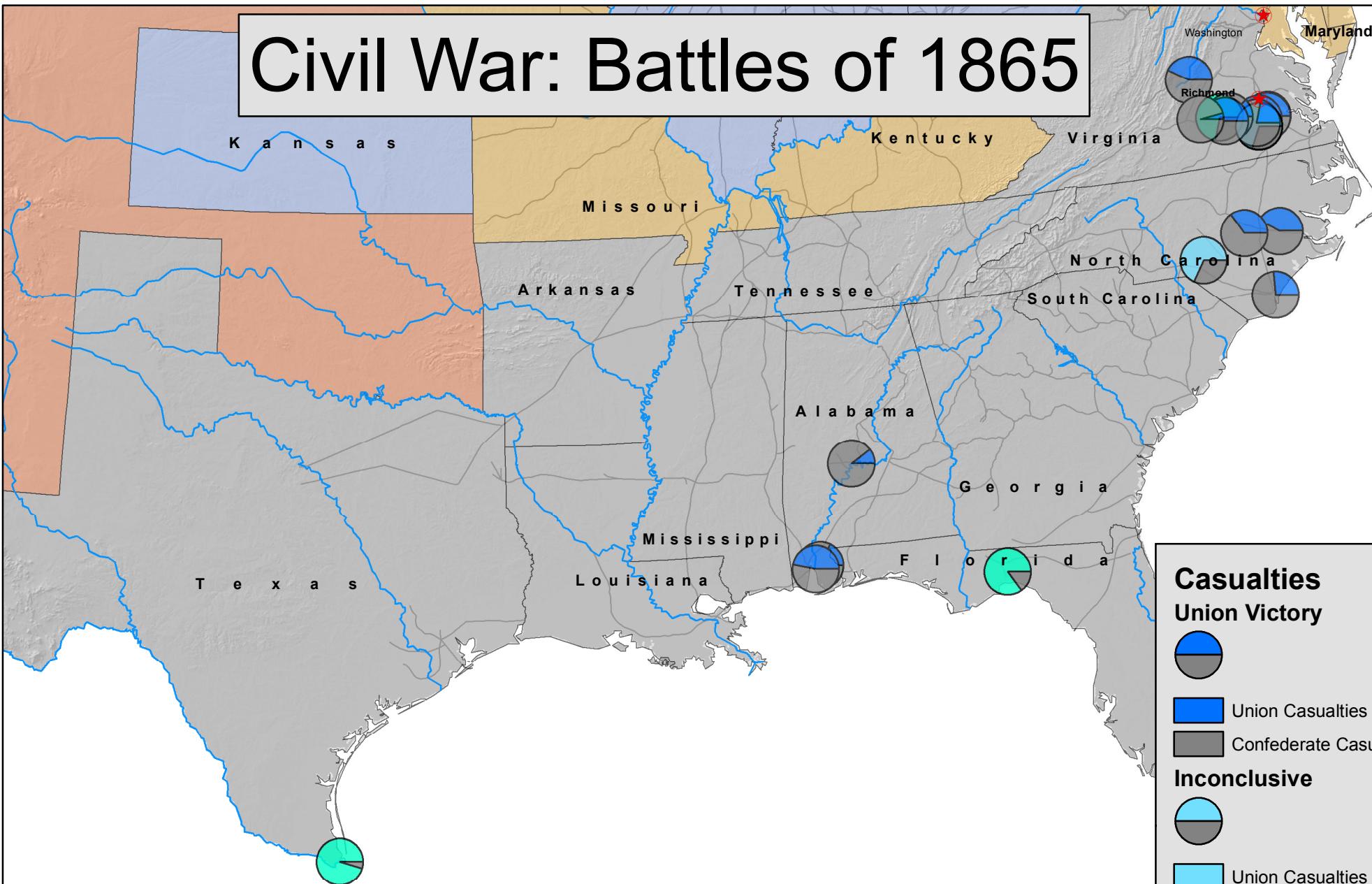
The Battle of Atlanta took place on July 22, 1864 in Atlanta, Georgia. Union forces pushed forward to cut off important railway and supply centers for the Confederates. The Union army overwhelmed the Confederates and sieged the city, which did not fall until a couple months later. Upon their defeat, the Confederates burned military installations to deny resources to Union troops, before withdrawing further south.



The Battle of Petersburg took place from June 9, 1864 to March 25, 1865 in Petersburg, Virginia. The Battle of Petersburg, also referred to as the Siege of Petersburg, was a series of battles lasting almost a year. The tactics up to this point had largely been about maneuverability, but the Battle of Petersburg displayed trench like warfare similar to that of what was seen in World War I. Numerous attempts were made to cut off railway supply lines which stretched the Confederate forces too thin. The Confederates would eventually surrender their position in the city and retreat to the last few confrontations of the war.



Civil War: Battles of 1865



0 70 140 280 420 560 Miles

Created by: C. Blocher & J. Heumaker
Geographic Coordinate System: GCS North American 1983
Sources: Diva, Freegis, Statsilk, ArcGis, Gis Lounge, and AAG

State Affiliation	
Border State - USA	(Yellow)
Confederate States of America	(Grey)
United States of America	(Light Blue)
Western Territories	(Orange)
Capitals	
Washington	(Red Star)
Richmond	(Red Star)

American Civil War 1865

The Battle of Sailor's Creek took place on April 6, 1865 in Amelia County, Virginia. The Battle of Sailor's Creek would be the last major conflict and Robert E. Lee's last battle before surrendering at the Appomattox. The Union forces cut off the railways as a means of supply and retreat, then overwhelmed the Confederates and captured a significant portion of their army, starving Lee of troops. The significant loss for the Confederates at Sailor's Creek would lead to Lee's surrender three days later.



The Battle of Appomattox Court House took place on April 9, 1865 in Appomattox Station, Virginia. Confederate forces attempted to flee and join up with another division elsewhere, but were cut off. General Lee attempted to spear through the Union forces to escape, but realized he was trapped. He surrendered to General Grant soon after. Though the Civil War did not end here, it was seen as the end due to the loss of the Confederate's largest army and signature of surrender by General Robert E. Lee. The outcome of this battle signaled surrenders across the south.



The Battle of Palmito Ranch took place on May 12-13 in Palmito Ranch, Texas. It is also referred to as the Battle of Palmito Hill and was the final battle of the Civil War taking place along the Rio Grande. Though there was an unofficial truce, a colonel of the Union forces ordered an attack upon the Confederate forces. The reasoning behind this attack is debatable, but in the end, Confederate forces repelled the attack and claimed victory, which was in the end ultimately meaningless.



Contrary to what many believe, armies did not march at each other until the last man was left standing. Terrain played a monumental role during the American Civil War. Railways, ridges, rivers, hills, valleys, cities, forests, etc., all factored in to the outcome of a battle. The battles fought in the Western Theater of the War were oftentimes much different than the battles fought in the Eastern Theater, but the importance of terrain remained the same.

Ridges and hilltops offered a clear and defensible vantage point from attackers. During many of the battles, ridges were used to stave off enemy assaults or siege particular cities from a safe distance. Battles at Bull Run, Gettysburg, Chattanooga, Chickamauga, or others, all involved fighting from the high ground. Flat ground was a place no soldier wanted to be caught in when the enemy was looking from on high. Forests could be used to try and skirt around the enemy or lead to an entrapment such as the one at Battle of the Wilderness.

Rivers were also an important part of the war effort. The Potomac, Tennessee, Mississippi, Ohio, Rappahannock, and other rivers all became strategic advantage and disadvantages during the war. Rivers would be used to slow down, funnel, or block the enemies advance entirely. Rivers would be used to bolster a defensive position or allow time to retreat from the enemy. They were also important pathways to move supplies and send messages about troop movement. Control of these rivers cut off supply to many of the Southern states and played a role in their defeat. While rivers were more significant in the western theater, railways served that purpose in the east.

Railways were used in a variety of ways from carrying intel, to deceiving the enemy, covering distances quickly, bolstering frontline troops with supplies, battering rams, weapons, etc. Many of these battles, such as Atlanta, Petersburg, or Sailor's Creek were fought to secure railways while depriving the enemy of the very same thing. The poor infrastructure and lack of Railways in the South compared to the North played a pivotal role in their defeat. The importance of terrain could not be overstated. With each battle a commander had to consider every aspect of the land to his advantage or disadvantage and act accordingly, for good or ill, life or death.

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