



The States

BEFORE YOU READ

The Main Idea

In the United States, all 50 independent states fit together to form one country. The federal system allows state governments to serve the needs of their citizens while cooperating as a united country.

Reading Focus

1. What powers do state governments have?
2. How do states work together with other states and with the national government in our federal system?

Key Terms

delegated powers, p. 202
reserved powers, p. 202
concurrent powers, p. 203
full faith and credit clause, p. 205
extradition, p. 205



TAKING NOTES

Use the graphic organizer online to take notes on the powers of state government and how state governments work in our federal system.



For a few years after they won their independence, the 13 states acted like small, separate countries. Then they joined together under an agreement called the Constitution, which established the rules of the new country. Under the Constitution, the states set aside some of their own rights and powers for the good of the whole country. Those powers went to the new national government. The states, however, kept some of their powers.

State Government Powers

When the 13 states ratified the Constitution and agreed to come together as one country, they did not want to hand too much power over to the federal government. Instead, they chose a federal system that divides government powers between the federal and state governments. Some powers—**delegated powers**—were given to the federal government. Those powers include conducting foreign policy, printing money, maintaining a post office, and defending the country. Some powers were granted exclusively to the states, while other powers are shared by state and federal governments.

Powers Reserved to the States

The states kept control over more local concerns. The Tenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution says any power not delegated to the federal government belongs to the people and the states. These powers are known as **reserved powers**.

Reserved powers allow state governments to establish rules for the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of their states. For example, states are responsible for rules concerning marriage, driving laws, and traffic regulations. States also maintain education systems. The Constitution, however, requires that state laws meet appropriate federal standards and adhere to Supreme Court rulings.

Another reserved power of the state is to conduct all local, state, and national elections. States decide most of the qualifications for voting not otherwise specified in the U.S. Constitution. In addition, state governments have control over all governments within their boundaries—districts, cities, towns, townships, and counties. Local governments receive their powers from the states.

SS.7.C.3.14

Differentiate between local, state, and federal governments' obligations and services.

Schools and the Lottery

Education is expensive. Every day in school, you use many resources: computers, science equipment, and sports gear. Your school also employs many people, such as teachers, nurses, and maintenance staff. Where does the money to pay for everything come from?

Why it Matters

Education is funded at many levels: the local, state, and federal. Most of the money used for school funding comes from taxes. Some states, though, have looked for other ways to raise money. One way used by many states is a lottery. People buy lottery tickets that give them a very small chance to win lots of money. People who support lottery funding say that everyone has to pay taxes, but playing the lottery is a choice. Other people think lotteries are not fair because people who earn less money are more likely to play the lottery. In 2005, 41 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico had lotteries, and at least 25 states used some of the money specifically for education. Some states also raise education money through slot machines.



In some states, like Florida, lottery money goes to help fund education.

ANALYSIS SKILL

EVALUATING THE LAW

1. Is it fair that everyone should pay taxes to fund schools? Why or why not?
2. What is your opinion about using lotteries and slot machines to pay for education?

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Concurrent Powers

Some government powers are shared by both state and federal governments. These shared powers are called **concurrent powers**. For example, taxation is a concurrent power. Both the federal government and the state governments can tax their citizens. The national government taxes U.S. citizens through federal income taxes. State governments may raise money with sales taxes, income taxes, and property taxes. The money raised through state taxes pays for state services such as education, highways, and health and safety programs.

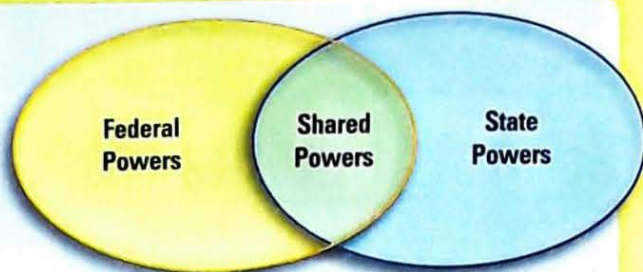
Another important concurrent, or shared, power is making and enforcing laws. Similar to the national government, state governments have legislatures that propose and pass new laws. Most states also have a state police force that helps to enforce those laws and to keep the states safe.

Other concurrent powers used by the states are the establishment of state and local court systems and the power to borrow and spend money. Without these concurrent powers, states would be unable to carry out their day-to-day business.

Powers of the State

**QUICK
FACTS**

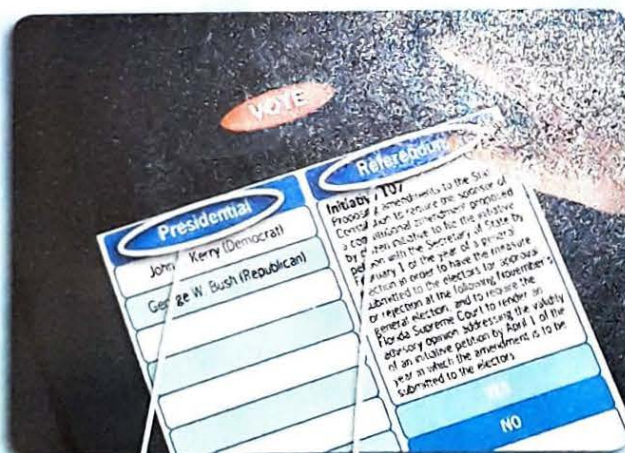
The U.S. Constitution established a federal system in which powers are divided between the national and state governments. Some powers are granted exclusively to the states, while others are shared with the national government.



State Powers

- Establish and maintain schools
- Establish local governments
- Regulate business within the state
- Make marriage laws
- Provide for public safety
- Oversee elections
- Assume other powers not delegated to the national government nor prohibited to the states

Election Oversight



Federal elections, like the presidential election, are organized and monitored by the states, not the federal government.

States alone have the power to conduct elections. State election boards are responsible for organizing all federal and state elections.

Shared Powers

- Maintain law and order
- Levy taxes
- Borrow money
- Charter banks
- Establish courts
- Oversee public health and safety
- Enforce laws

Levy Taxes

Employee ID 5568292 Earnings Statement		Chuck's Burgers 'n Shakes 9874 Springhill Pond Road Mistletoe, OH 45342-0000		Period Ending: 06/30/2005	2804
Advice Date: 06/30/2005		Advice Number: 647623			
FEDERAL	STATE - OH	LOCAL			
Marital Status: Single	Single	Single			
Exemptions/Allowances: 1	1	1			
Add'l Amount: 0	0	0			
Add'l Percent: 0	0	0			
Van Landingham, Anita C		Section 1 - Earnings	GROSS PAY		
1742 Gayston Dr.		Rate 8.50	170.00		
Mistletoe, OH 45342-0000		Hours 20			
		Current 170.00			
		YTD 680.00			
Section 2 - Tax Deductions		Federal Tax	State Tax	Total	NET PAY
SocSec/Disability	Medicare	35.10	10.20	66.10	103.90
Current 15.30	5.50	140.40	40.80	247.60	
YTD 46.20	20.20				

The federal government taxes individual incomes. Most workers have federal income and Social Security taxes deducted from their regular paychecks.

State governments can also levy taxes. State taxes include property taxes, sales tax, and income taxes. Not all states, however, have income taxes.

**ANALYSIS
SKILL**

ANALYZING VISUALS

Why do you think that some powers are granted exclusively to state governments?

State Constitutions

Each of the 50 states has its own constitution. These constitutions are the rules that organize the state government. Many state constitutions contain the following elements:

- a preamble that states the basic principles on which the state government is founded;
- a bill of rights that lists the rights guaranteed to all citizens of the state;
- an outline of the organization of the state's government, with the duties of each of the branches carefully spelled out;
- provisions for elections, including qualifications that citizens must meet for voting and rules for conducting elections;
- provisions for managing state affairs, such as education, law and order, transportation, and finance; and
- methods of amending the state constitution, as well as a list of any amendments that have been passed.

States have amended their constitutions as the powers and duties of state governments changed. Alabama, for example, has amended its constitution some 800 times since it was ratified in 1901.

READING CHECK Finding Main Ideas What powers are granted to state governments?

Our Federal System

As you have read, the U.S. Constitution establishes a federal system that divides power between the national government and the states. Some people see the federal system as two separate layers of government with different powers. In everyday practice, however, the separate layers of powers overlap and often mix. For example, the national, state, and even local governments make policies regarding education for the nation's students. States must work together on many other issues. They must work with the national government if the needs of all the people are to be met.

States Work Together

By signing the U.S. Constitution, the states agreed to cooperate with each other. Article IV, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution states "Full faith and credit [acceptance] shall be given in each State to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other State." This passage is known as the full faith and credit clause.

The **full faith and credit clause** ensures that each state will accept the decisions of civil courts in other states. An example of full faith and credit is the acceptance of a state's official records by the other states. For example, marriage certificates, birth certificates, wills, contracts, and property deeds issued by any one state are accepted by all other states.

States work together in other ways as well. A person who commits a crime cannot escape justice by fleeing to another state. For example, a person who steals a car in Utah and flees to Arizona can be returned to Utah for trial. This process of returning fugitives is called **extradition**.

States also cooperate on many projects. For example, a bridge that crosses a river bordering two states is built and maintained by the governments of both states. States may also join with other states in regional groups to work together to reduce water and air pollution.

States Work with the Federal Government

The states also work together with the federal government. Federal and state governments often work together to share the costs of providing a wide range of social services to the American people. For example, state and national governments cooperate to build highways, assist the unemployed, help people with low incomes, and conserve natural resources.

State and national governments also cooperate in times of crisis. After severe natural disasters, such as earthquakes, floods,

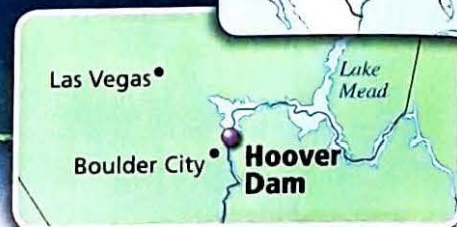
FOCUS ON

Florida's current constitution was adopted in 1968. In Article II, Section 3, it outlines the basic structure of Florida's government, which includes separate legislative, executive, and judicial branches, just like the federal government. The next three articles clarify the powers and responsibilities of each branch.

Hoover Dam

The Hoover Dam, which sits in Arizona and Nevada on the Colorado River, was built under the supervision of the federal government.

How is the Hoover Dam an example of the federal government and state governments working together?



tornadoes, and hurricanes, federal and state governments often work together to provide aid to disaster victims. For example, Hurricane Katrina devastated a large area of the U.S. Gulf Coast in 2005. President Bush announced that the federal government would work with state and local governments to help provide housing, job training, and medical aid to the victims of the hurricane.

The federal government also aids the states. For example, after the attacks of September 11, 2001, increasing security became an important issue. The cost of increasing security at airports and other facilities was too expensive for individual states. So the federal government took over the task.



Drawing Inferences Why do states cooperate with each other and the federal government?

SECTION 1 ASSESSMENT

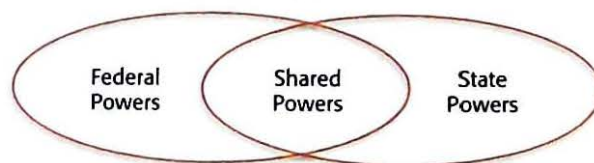


Reviewing Ideas and Terms

1. **a. Define** Write a brief definition for the terms **delegated powers**, **reserved powers**, and **concurrent powers**.
- b. Analyze** Why might states amend their constitutions?
- c. Evaluate** Is it important for state governments to retain control of affairs within their borders? Explain your answer.
2. **a. Define** Write a brief definition for the terms **full faith and credit clause** and **extradition**.
- b. Draw Conclusions** Why do states have to follow certain federal rules?
- c. Predict** How might our federal system be different if states did not work together with the national government?

Critical Thinking

3. **Comparing and Contrasting** Use your notes and a graphic organizer like this one to identify federal, state, and shared powers.



FOCUS ON WRITING

4. **Making Generalizations and Predictions** Imagine that there is no full faith and credit clause and that your family intends to move to another state. In a short essay, explain how this might affect your family in your new residence.