

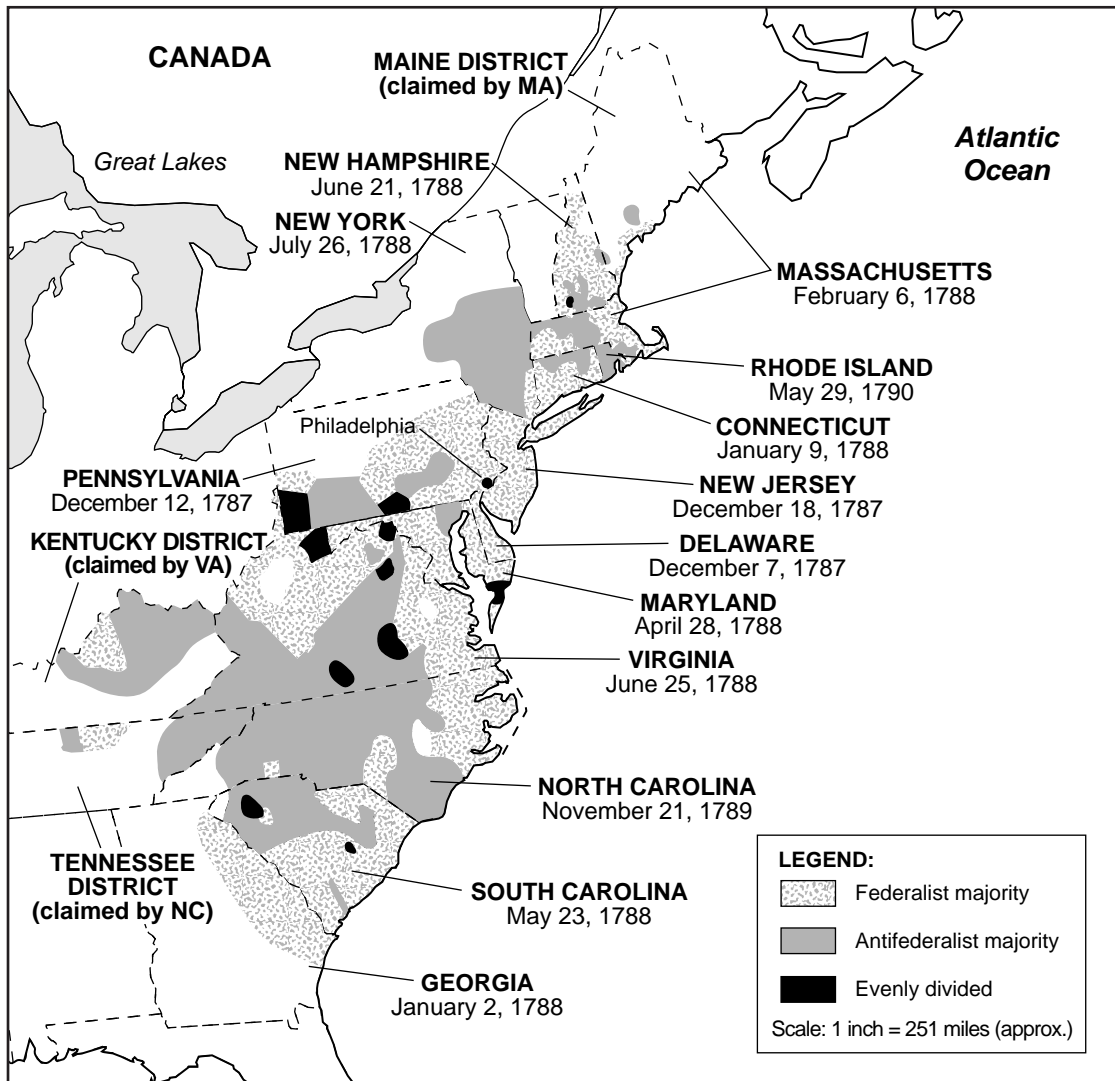
## Forming a Government

# GEOGRAPHY ACTIVITIES

## Ratification of the Constitution

On September 17, 1787, delegates to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia finished drafting the Constitution. The document was then sent to the states for ratification, sparking furious debate between Federalists (those supporting the Constitution) and Antifederalists (those opposing the document). The map below shows areas with populations favoring and opposing the Constitution, along with the date each state ratified the document. Study the map below, and then answer the questions that follow.

**Ratification of the Federal Constitution, 1787-1790**



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Adapted from map "Ratification of the Federal Constitution" from *American History Atlas*, by Martin Gilbert. Copyright © 1968 by Weidenfeld and Nicolson. Reprinted by permission of Routledge.

## Chapter 8: Geography Activities continued

1. What are the 13 states listed on this map? Which districts were claimed by existing states?

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2. Which state was the first to ratify the Constitution? Which state was the last? How much time passed between the two?

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3. Which two states show the most support for the Antifederalists?

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4. Which state ratified the Constitution in 1789? Based on the information on this map, why might ratification have been delayed in this state?

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5. Why are some areas shown as neither a majority nor a divided vote?

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6. **Critical Thinking: Region** Consider the economies of New England, the middle colonies, and the South. How do Federalist majorities, Antifederalist majorities, and divided votes reflect the influences of agriculture and shipping in each region?

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### ACTIVITY

Imagine that you are a citizen of the United States in September 1787. Create a poster for or against ratification of the Constitution. Make sure your poster includes the reasons for your opinion.

## Chapter 6

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1. British; along the coast
2. African; in the South, along the coast
3. Scotch-Irish; the Ohio River valley
4. in North and South Carolina
5. The “Pennsylvania-Dutch Country” is hard to define precisely. South-central Pennsylvania should certainly be included; students may also note (correctly) its extension southward into Maryland and Virginia, which are not politically part of Pennsylvania.

### Activity

Students should create maps of the eastern United States in which they classify as many place-names as they can according to the language or nationality of the name. They should then write a paragraph explaining the patterns they found.

## Chapter 7

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1. The first event was the Boston Tea Party in December 1773; the last was the evacuation of Boston by the British in March 1776.
2. about 16 miles
3. Paul Revere’s and William Dawes’s ride and arrest, continuation of the ride by Samuel Prescott, 800 British go to Concord; clashes between British and Americans at Lexington and Concord
4. The British crossed the Charles River and then went through the town of Cambridge and Menotomy and on to Lexington and Concord. Dawes went west along the Neck between Boston and Roxbury, then west to Brookline, north to Cambridge and on to Menotomy and Lexington. Revere started from the north shore of the Charles River, went west to Medford and Menotomy and then to Lexington.
5. bombardment by cannon from Dorchester Heights; March 17, 1776
6. Before April 1775, the British were in Boston. The location of the Powder House was far enough inland that the militia felt it would be safe; it was also accessible by road and by river transportation.

### Activity

Students should use resources in the library or on the Internet to plan a Patriots Day celebration for their school.

## Chapter 8

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1. Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia; Maine (claimed by MA), Kentucky (claimed by VA), Tennessee (claimed by NC)
2. Delaware; Rhode Island; over two years
3. Virginia and North Carolina
4. North Carolina; because large parts of the state had an Antifederalist majority
5. because those areas either were not states or were not populated to any large degree
6. Answers will vary, but students should note that for the most part, New England relied on shipping and showed a Federalist majority. The South was primarily agricultural and contained large areas supporting the Antifederalists, although coastal areas do show a Federalist majority. The middle colonies had an economy that blended agriculture and commerce, and appear to have shown fairly balanced support for both the Federalists and Antifederalists.

### Activity

Students’ posters should either support or oppose ratification of the Constitution.

## Chapter 9

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1. in the South, especially the Southwest, and West
2. in the Northeast, the Great Lakes region and Oklahoma
3. Arizona, Florida, Georgia, and Texas
4. New York and Pennsylvania
5. The main direction of migration has been to the South and West (often called the Sunbelt). Another reason why California, Texas, and Florida have grown so much is because of immigration.

### Activity

Students’ maps should show their proposal for their state’s new districts.