



# Government Structures, Powers, Functions, and Interactions

Instructional Slides



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**

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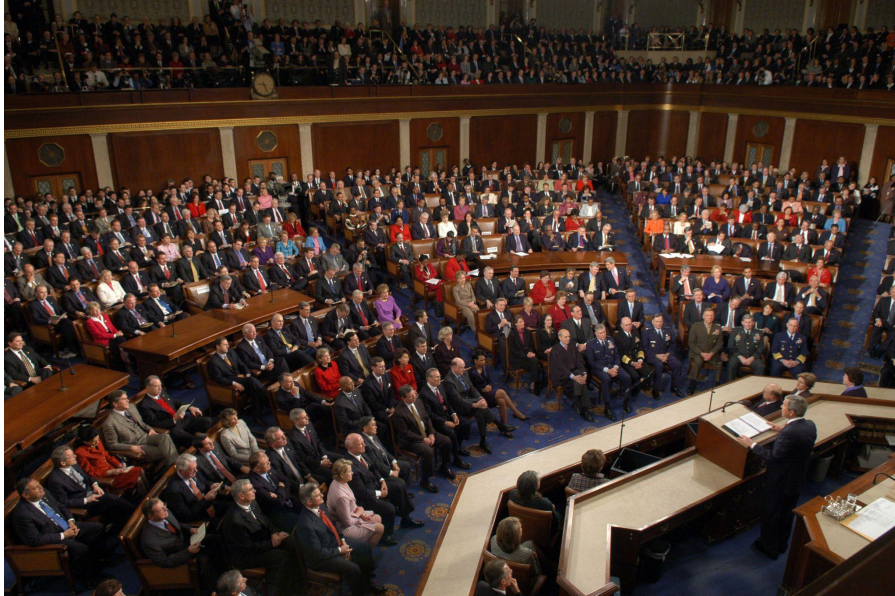
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# Topic 4: Governments in the United States (Federal, State, Local, Tribal)



**Framing Question:** How does federalism affect all parts of government in the United States?



# Topic 4: Governments in the United States (Federal, State, Local, Tribal)



The U.S. Coast Guard Gulf Strike Team, shown here working with a drone to assess storm damage, is just one federal agency that works with state and local government in Louisiana following destructive hurricanes in the state.





# Topic 4: Governments in the United States (Federal, State, Local, Tribal)

## The Federal System

Federal Government

State Government

Local Government

Parishes or counties

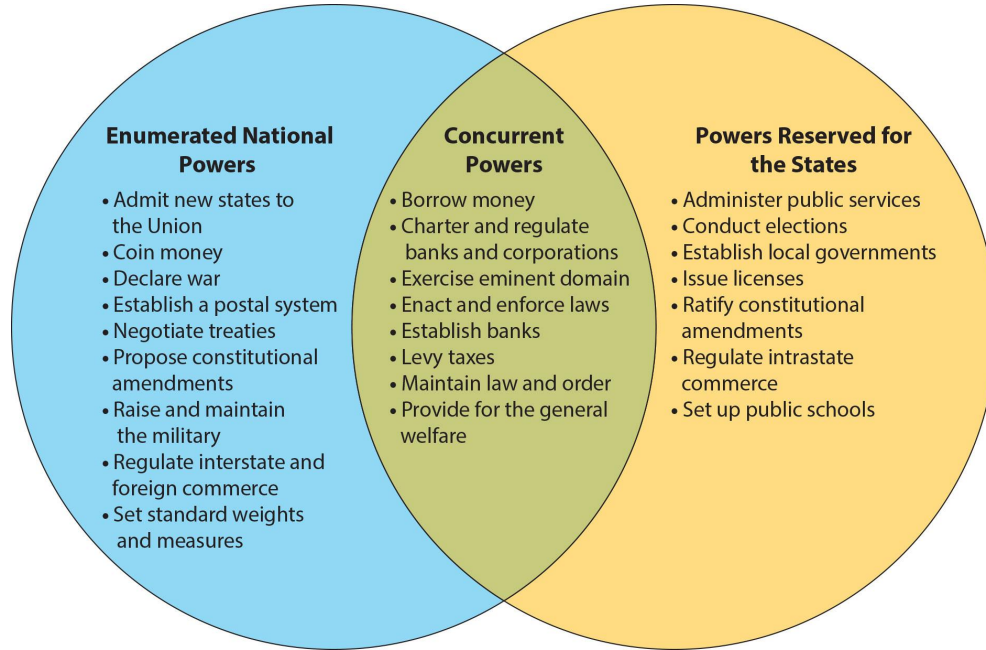
Municipalities: cities, towns, villages

Tribal Government

In the U.S. system of federalism, power is divided and shared among the federal government, state governments, and local governments. Tribal governments, while autonomous from the United States, also interact with all levels of U.S. government.



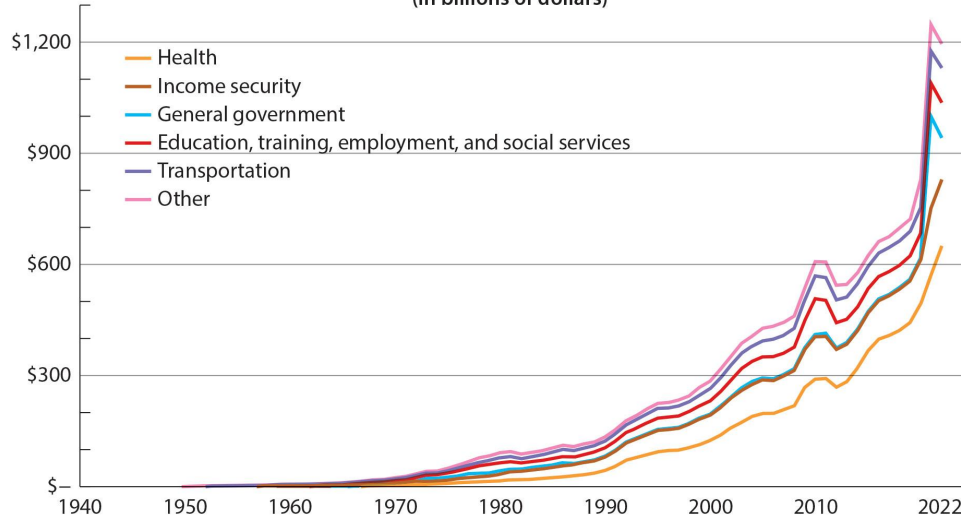
# Topic 4: Governments in the United States (Federal, State, Local, Tribal)



Under the federal system, certain powers are given solely to the federal government, some are shared between the federal government and the states, and others are reserved just for the states.

# Topic 4: Governments in the United States (Federal, State, Local, Tribal)

**Federal Funds to State and Local Governments, 1940–2022**  
(in billions of dollars)

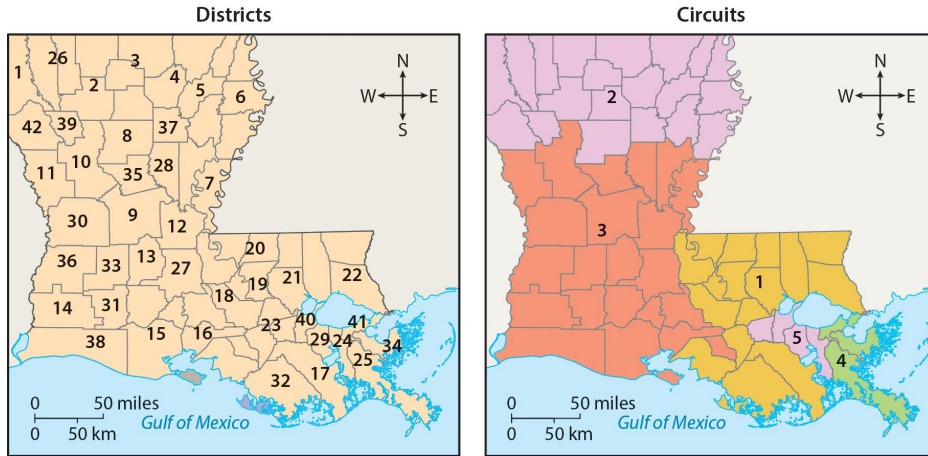


Federal funding to the states has increased over time; some of the money is to help state governments operate, while other funding is designated specifically for areas like health care, education, or transportation.



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Louisiana's Courts

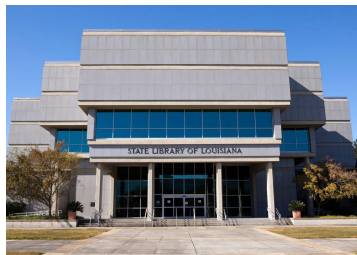
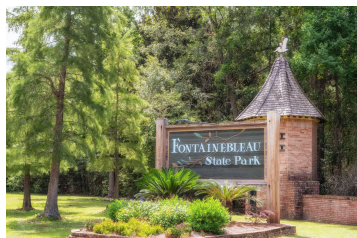


Louisiana's forty-two district courts are divided across five larger regions overseen by circuit courts. In recent years, there have been efforts to redraw the lines of circuit court jurisdictions so that cases are more evenly distributed and Louisianans are better represented by the judicial system.

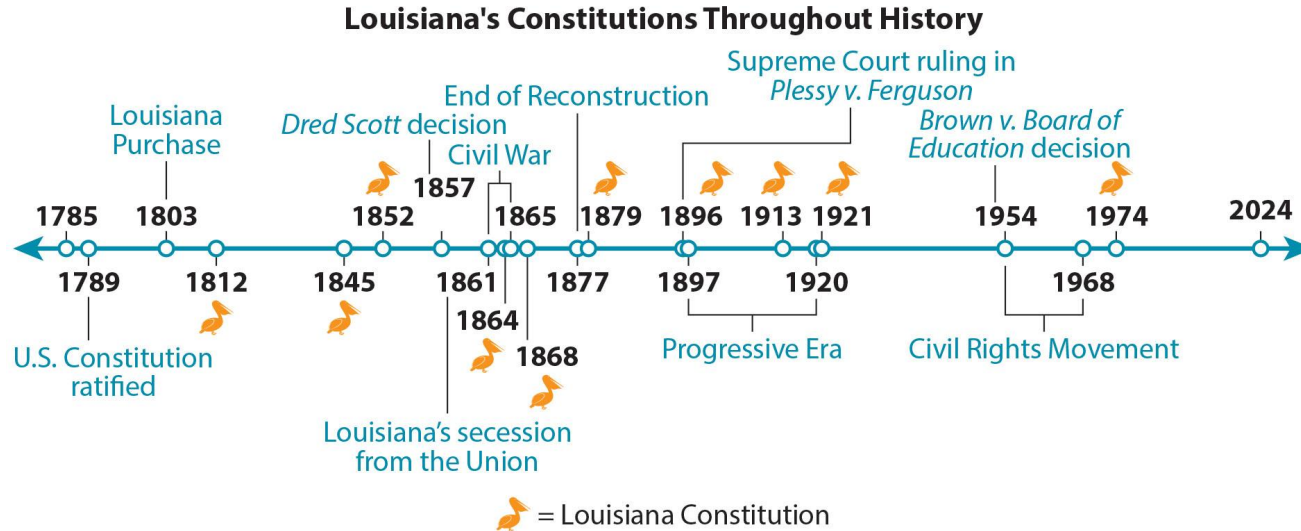


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State government is responsible for a variety of programs, including establishing accessible health clinics; maintaining state parks, libraries, and bridges; providing support during natural disasters like oil spills; and licensing various economic activities, including commercial fishing.



# Topic 4: Governments in the United States (Federal, State, Local, Tribal)



Louisiana adopted several constitutions throughout the second half of the nineteenth century, often in response to national events.



# Topic 4: Governments in the United States (Federal, State, Local, Tribal)



Louisiana's 1868 constitution established unprecedented civil rights for Black Louisianans.



# Topic 4: Governments in the United States (Federal, State, Local, Tribal)



Napoleon Bonaparte came to power in France in 1799. Four years later, in 1803, he sold the Louisiana Territory to the United States.



# Topic 4: Governments in the United States (Federal, State, Local, Tribal)

Louisiana Parishes



Louisiana has sixty-four parishes, compared to the twelve parishes it had when it was the Territory of Orleans.





# Topic 4: Governments in the United States (Federal, State, Local, Tribal)

Federally Recognized Tribes in Louisiana



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