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## The United States Of America: Administrative Units

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### ABSTRACT :

The study of administrative units of a particular state or country is important and indispensable in the collection of data in population census as they deal with and help to identify administrative boundaries as they are useful for policy making and programme implementation for various segments of the population by gender, age, social characteristics, cultural differences, economic conditions, health status, environmental situation, and development levels. This paper tries to study the administrative units in the United States of America in terms of regions, divisions, states, and cities with respect to research areas and reconstructive thoughts for future development. The definitions of some of the administrative units or divisions differ from each state. There are 50 states and 1 federal district, Washington D.C., formerly known as District of Columbia. There are 41 independent cities, 3034 counties, 19429 municipals including cities, towns, and villages, 16504 townships, 13506 school districts, and 35052 special purpose areas. There is a need to study the administrative units or divisions of the United States both at macro and micro levels during every Census with the update of changes to facilitate the researchers and government authorities for carrying out periodical research and formulating policies and executing the welfare programmes successfully.

**Keywords:** administrative units, cities, divisions, regions, the USA.

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### Introduction :

Administrative division, administrative unit, administrative entity, or other region is delineated for the purpose of administration. The knowledge of such administrative units will help us to understand the limits of the geographical boundaries, political and administrative stratifications, and cultural differences of the specified localities. This also will enhance the policy makers and programme implementers by understanding the size and nature of such localities. As there is a constant increase in the number of administrative units resulted through increasing population growth, it will be important and interesting to study and understand the number and nature of administrative units, their change, and implications in future to plan for development activities of the concerned localities. The United States is composed of states, possessions, territories, and a federal district, each with varying numbers of subdivisions. This study examines the administrative units of the USA at different levels.

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### Literature Review :

There are many concepts used to represent administrative unit at various levels in the United States of America. *Administrative unit* is a military unit (as a company or regiment) whose headquarters is directly responsible for administration and supply of the unit; a geographic area having a single school administration over several schools. Country is defined as an indefinite usually extended expanse of land: region miles of open country; the land of a person's birth, residence, or citizenship left their country for America; a political state or nation or its territory the country of Italy (Hacker, 2011). A *county* is an administrative or political subdivision of a state that consists of a geographic region with specific boundaries and usually some level of governmental authority. *Borders* are geographical boundaries, imposed either by geographic features such as oceans, or by arbitrary groupings of political entities such as governments, sovereign states, federated states, and other subnational entities. Borders are established through warfare, colonization, or mutual agreements between the political entities that reside in those areas; the creation of these agreements is called boundary delimitation (Mura, 2016). *State legislative districts* (SLD) are areas from which members are elected to state or equivalent entity legislatures. State legislative districts embody the upper (senate—SLDU) and lower (house—SLDL) chambers of the state legislatures. Nebraska has a unicameral legislature, and the District of Columbia has a single council, both of which the Census Bureau treats as upper-chamber legislative areas for the purpose of data presentation. Therefore, there are no data by the lower house of the state legislative districts for either Nebraska or the District of Columbia. *Congressional districts* are the 435 areas from which members are elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. After the apportionment of congressional seats among the states, which is based on decennial census population counts, each state with multiple seats is responsible for establishing congressional districts for the purpose of electing representatives. Each congressional district is to be as equal in population to all other congressional districts in a state as practicable. The Census Bureau's urban-rural classification is a delineation of geographic areas, identifying both individual urban areas and the rural areas of the nation. The Census Bureau's urban areas represent densely developed territory, and encompass residential, commercial, and other non-residential urban land uses. The Census Bureau delineates urban areas after each decennial census by applying specified criteria to decennial census and other data. "Rural" encompasses all population, housing, and territory not included within an urban area (United States Census Bureau, 2021). The United States Office of Management and

Budget (OMB) delineates *metropolitan and micropolitan* statistical areas according to published standards that are applied to Census Bureau data. Town in the United States is defined as the Minimum population requirement of 25,000 for new cities; existing cities have a minimum population requirement of 5,000. Cities must be at least 4 square miles in area, have a minimum population density of 1,000 people per square mile, and an assessed property valuation of \$2,500 per capita (Census of the United States). A *village* is a clearly defined municipality that provides the services closest to the residents, such as garbage collection, street and highway maintenance, street lighting and building codes. Some villages provide their own police and other optional services (Statista, 2021). As of 2018, there are **19,495** incorporated cities, towns, and villages in the United States. 14,768 of these have populations below 5,000 (World Population Review, 2022). The population among 50 states of the United States ranges from a high of 3,55,38,223 in California state to a low of 5,76851 in Wyoming state and total area ranges from 570,641 (km<sup>2</sup>) in Alaska state to 1,032 (km<sup>2</sup>) in Rhode Islands (United States Census Bureaus, 2020).

The definitions of administrative units or divisions of the United States differ from each state and locality. There are a lot of places to live in the United States, and these places go by a lot of different names. They aren't all the same thing, but they are all related in one simple way. Counties, cities, municipalities, towns, and the rest are all forms of local government. A local government refers to the governmental jurisdiction below the level of the state. According to the 2012 census, there are 89,004 local governments in the United States. Most states have at least two tiers of local government: counties, and municipalities. The state of Alaska has "boroughs," and the state of Louisiana has "Parishes" instead of counties. In Connecticut, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, boroughs are a type of municipality. In New York, a borough is a subdivision of the city. Many rural areas have no municipality below the county level. And in some places like San Francisco, the city and county are combined into one jurisdiction. In some places like New England, towns are the norm, while counties exist only for census purposes.

*County*: At the highest level of local government, is the county. 48 states have counties, and most of them have governmental authority. This is except for a few states in New England. Rhode Island and Connecticut have eradicated the governmental functions of counties. Massachusetts has removed most functions from 8 of its 14 counties. Most counties have subdivisions including municipalities, townships, or unincorporated areas. Other counties function as a city and county in one. There are currently 3,142 counties or county equivalents in the United States. The state with the least number of counties is Delaware with 3, and the state with the most is Texas with 254. The county with the largest population is Los Angeles County, and the county with the largest land area is San Bernardino County. Most counties have city zoning laws, but some like Houston don't. *Borough (County Equivalent)*: The borough is a county equivalent local government found in the state of Alaska. The state of Alaska is divided into 19 "organized boroughs" and one "unorganized borough." Most of the populated areas in Alaska exist in the 19 organized boroughs, while the rest of Alaska exists in the unorganized borough. Alaska's boroughs function similarly to counties in the other states. *Parish*: Like Alaska with its boroughs, Louisiana has Parishes. These parishes function similarly to counties in other states. The state of Louisiana is divided into 64 parishes. 41 of these parishes are governed by a council called the Police Jury, and the other 23 have other various forms of government.

*Township*: There are technically two terms when it comes to boundaries in the United States, civil and survey townships. The township that functions as a local government is a civil township. The other is a unit of land measure that a civil township is often based off of. A civil township is a type of local government that is in a grey area between counties and municipalities. In many states, townships operate under similar laws as a county does. In other states, they operate as municipalities, similar to that of a city, village, town, or borough. There are currently 20 states with civil townships, and most are in rural areas. *City*: A city is most likely the first thing you think of when it comes to describing the place you live. A city in the United States is a municipality and is usually the largest of the bunch. Think of the types of municipalities as a pyramid based on population; the city is at the bottom. Cities are municipalities. This means that they are incorporated and have powers of self-government or jurisdiction. In most states, cities and counties exist side by side, but in some states, they can exist independently, or together. Cities that exist outside of the territory of a county are called independent cities. There are 41 independent cities, 38 of which are in Virginia. The other three are Baltimore, Maryland; St. Louis, Missouri; and Carson City, Nevada. Cities that exist together with a county are called consolidated city-counties. Consolidated city-counties function as one unified jurisdiction. They have the powers and responsibilities of both a county and municipality. In the United States alone, there are around 300 cities with a population of 100,000 or more. There are ten cities with a population of 1,000,000 or more, and New York is the largest, with approximately 8,500,000 people. *Town*: The definition of a city is clear, but when it comes to towns, it's a little more unclear. The word "town" can have a different meaning in different states. In some states, a town is an incorporated municipality that is smaller than a city, but larger than a village. In other states, a town is just an unincorporated area that is part of a larger county. Sometimes towns can be incorporated but have less than the population threshold set by the state. Other times, the population of a town is much more. Some states use the word town to refer to any populated place, while some other states don't even use the word at all. This is where the confusion lies when questioning the difference between a city and a town. *Borough (Municipality)*: A borough is another term like "town" that can have many meanings when it comes to local government. Alaska uses the term borough as the equivalent of a county instead of a municipality. In Connecticut, the term borough is an incorporated municipality within a town. In New Jersey, a borough is an independent incorporated municipality. New York City uses boroughs to divide the greater city into five areas, each in a separate county. Pennsylvania uses the term borough as an equivalent to a town.

*Village*: Like a town and borough, the term "village" can vary from state to state. Most of the time, you will either see a village as an incorporated municipality of its own or as a special district. Villages can also have the informal meaning of a small human settlement. They may also refer to small unincorporated areas in larger cities or towns. *Hamlet*: Finally, is the hamlet. In the United States, hamlets only exist in three states, New York, Oregon, and Mississippi. In New York, hamlets are unincorporated settlements within a larger town. They aren't legal entities and don't have a government or official boundary. In Oregon, a hamlet is a local government for small communities that allows them to organize community activities. They don't provide services like utilities and fire departments, and they don't have taxes or fees. In Mississippi, a hamlet is referred to as a "municipal historical hamlet." This term applies to a municipality of fewer than 600 people that lost its charter before 1945 (Austin, 2021).

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## Objectives :

This study aims to study the number and types of administrative units in the United States of America,

## Data and Method

The data for this study are used from the 2020 Census Bureau of the United States of America and related online sources. The bi-variate analysis was carried out to realise the objective of the study.

## Results and Discussion :

### Profile of the United States of America

Historically, Britain's American colonies broke with the mother country in 1776 and were recognized as the new nation of the United States of America following the Treaty of Paris in 1783. During the 19th and 20th centuries, 37 new states were added to the original 13 as the nation expanded across the North American continent and acquired several overseas possessions. The two most traumatic experiences in the nation's history were the Civil War (1861-65), in which a northern Union of states defeated a secessionist Confederacy of 11 southern slave states, and the Great Depression of the 1930s, an economic downturn during which about a quarter of the labour force lost its jobs. Buoyed by victories in World Wars I and II and the end of the Cold War in 1991, the US remains the world's most powerful nation state. Since the end of World War II, the economy has achieved relatively steady growth, low unemployment and inflation, and rapid advances in technology (Central Intelligence Agency, 2022). *Demographically*, the United States of America has 33,24,03,650, US Census Bureau, 2022) (3<sup>rd</sup> rank after China- 1,42,58,87,000 and India- 1,41,71,73,000), average annual growth rate of 0.5%, (China- 0.3% and India- 0.5%), 98,33,517 km<sup>2</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> rank after Russia- 1,70,98,246 km<sup>2</sup> and Canada- 99,84,670 km<sup>2</sup> (2020), sex ratio of 98.1 males per 100 females (India- 106.6 and China- 104.2), total birth rate of 1.7 live births per woman (India- 2.0 and China- 1.2). *Socially*, 88% of the population enrolled in school (2019) (World Bank, 2022) (India- 29% and China- 58% (2020)), 27.7% seats held by woman in the National Parliament (International Standard Industrial Classification) (India- 14.9% and China- 24.9%). *Economically*, per capita US\$ 63,122.6 (India- US\$1,931.0 and China- US\$10,229.0 (2020), labour force participation rate (female- 55.2% and male- 66.4 %) (India- 19.1% and 71.1%, and China- 61.5% and 74.0%), and Unemployment- 4.1% percent of labour force (India- 5.4% and China- 4.7%). *Healthily*, 5 deaths of children under 1 year per 1000 live births (India- 26.3 and China- 5.9), 2.6 physicians per 1000 population (2018) (India- 0.7 and China- 2.2 (2020)), 97.5 % of urban population safely managed drinking water (India- Rural, 56.1% and China- 95.0%), 97.3% of urban population using safely managed sanitation (India- 37.1% and China- 43.9%), 16.8% of GDP on health (India- 3.0% (2019) and China- 5.4%), life expectancy at birth- 76 years for males and 81 years for females (India- 69.4 and 66.3, and China- 81.3 and 76.0 respectively). *Environmentally*, 13 tons per capita of CO2 emission estimates (India- 1.7 tons and China- 7.1 tons). *Developmentally*, 83% of the population living in urban areas (India- 34.5% and China- 60.3%), and 91% of individuals using the internet (per 1000 inhabitants (India- 43.0 and China- 70.41%) (United Nations, 2022).

### Administrative Units

*State*: A state is a political division of a body of people that occupies a territory defined by frontiers. The state is sovereign in its territory (also referred to as jurisdiction) and has the authority to enforce a system of rules over the people living inside it. That system of rules is commonly composed of a constitution, statutes, regulations, and common law. The United States as a country is considered a sovereign state before the international community (Cornell Law School). The United States is divided into fifty sovereign states and one federal district (Tables-1, 3, Map-1).

*Federal District*: A federation also known as a federal state, is a type of sovereign state characterized by a union of partially self-governing states or regions united by a central (federal) government. In a federation, the self-governing status of the component states is typically constitutionally entrenched and may not be altered by a unilateral decision of the central government. Washington, D.C., formally the District of Columbia, also known as just Washington or simply D.C., is the capital city and federal district of the United States. It is located on the east bank of the Potomac River, which forms its southwestern and southern border with the U.S. state of Virginia, and it shares a land border with the U.S. state of Maryland on its remaining sides. The city was named for George Washington, a Founding Father and the first president of the United States, and the federal district is named after Columbia, a female personification of the nation. As the seat of the U.S. federal government and several international organizations, the city is an important world political capital. It is one of the most visited cities in the U.S. (Map-2).

*Regions*: Since 1950, the United States Census Bureau defines four statistical regions, with nine divisions. The Census Bureau region definition is "widely used for data collection and analysis" and is the most used classification system (United States Census Bureau, 2020). *Region 1*: Northeast- Division 1: New England (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont); Division 2: Mid-Atlantic (New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania). *Region 2*: Midwest (Prior to June 1984, the Midwest Region was designated as the North Central Region.); Division 3: East North Central (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin); Division 4: West North Central (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota). *Region 3*: South- Division 5: South Atlantic (Delaware; Florida; Georgia; Maryland; North Carolina; South Carolina; Virginia; Washington, D.C. and West Virginia); Division 6: East South Central (Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee); Division 7: West South Central (Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas). *Region 4*: West- Division 8: Mountain (Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming); Division 9: Pacific (Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington) (Map-5).

*Palmyra Atoll*: Palmyra Atoll, also referred to as Palmyra Island, is one of the Northern Line Islands (southeast of Kingman Reef and north of Kiribati). It is located almost due south of the Hawaiian Islands, roughly one-third of the way between Hawaii and American Samoa. It is the second-to-northernmost of the Line Islands, and one of three American islands in the archipelago, along with Jarvis Island and Kingman Reef. Palmyra Atoll is part of the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument, the world's largest marine protected area. The atoll is composed of submerged sand flats along with dry land and reefs. It consists of three lagoons separated by coral reefs (Rauzon, 2016) (Map-3).

*Minor Outlying Islands:* The United States Minor Outlying Islands is a statistical designation defined by the International Organization for Standardization's code. The minor outlying islands and groups of islands consist of eight United States insular areas in the Pacific Ocean such as (1) Baker Island, (2) Howland Island, (3) Jarvis Island, (4) Johnston Atoll, (5) Kingman Reef, (6) Midway Atoll, (7) Palmyra Atoll, and (8) Wake Island and one in the Caribbean Sea (Navassa Island) (US Census Bureau, 2020) (Map-4).

*Municipalities:* *Municipality*, in the United States, is urban unit of local government. A municipality is a political subdivision of a state within which a municipal corporation has been established to provide general local government for a specific population concentration in a defined area. A municipality may be designated as a city, borough, village, or town, except in the New England states, New York, and Wisconsin, where the name town signifies a subdivision of the county or state by area. The municipality is one of several basic types of local government, the others being counties, townships, school districts, and special districts. Municipal corporations are organized under the applicable state constitution and laws, with powers of government expressly or implicitly conferred by that constitution and laws, and by charter. Within the municipality, these powers are exercised by a governing body elected by the people. A municipality is basically the response of the state government to the need for certain public services (*i.e.*, waste disposal, police and fire protection, water supply, health services) in addition to what is available from the county or other local governments in the area (britannica.com). There are 19,429 Municipals in the United States (US Census Bureau, 2012) (Table-3).

*Special-purpose districts:* Special-purpose districts governments in the United States are independent governmental units that exist separately from, and with substantial administrative and fiscal independence from, general purpose local governments such as county, municipal, and township governments (Doyle, 2014). A school district is a special-purpose district that operates local public primary and secondary schools in various nations. There are 13,506 school districts and 35,052 special purpose areas in the United States (US Census Bureau, 2012) (Table-3).

*Independent Cities:* In the United States, an independent city is a city that is not in the territory of any county or counties and is considered a primary administrative division of its state. Independent cities are classified by the United States Census Bureau as "county equivalents" and may also have similar governmental powers to a consolidated city-county. However, in the case of a consolidated city-county, a city and a county were merged into a unified jurisdiction in which the county at least nominally exists to this day, whereas an independent city was legally separated from any county or merged with a county that simultaneously ceased to exist even in name. Of the 41 independent U.S. cities, 38 are in Virginia, whose state constitution makes them a special case. The three independent cities outside Virginia are Baltimore, Maryland; St. Louis, Missouri; and Carson City, Nevada. The most populous of them is Baltimore (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020) (Table-2).

*Villages:* In the United States, the meaning of village varies by geographic area and legal jurisdiction. In many areas, "village" is a term, sometimes informal, for a type of administrative division at the local government level. Since the Tenth Amendment to the United States Constitution prohibits the federal government from legislating on local government, the states are free to have political subdivisions called "villages" or not to and to define the word in many ways. Typically, a village is a type of municipality, although it can also be a special district or an unincorporated area. It may or may not be recognized for governmental purposes. In informal usage, a U.S. village may be simply a relatively small clustered human settlement without formal legal existence. In colonial New England, a village typically formed around the meetinghouses that were located in the center of each town (Joseph, 2002). Many of these colonial settlements still exist as town centers. With the advent of the Industrial Revolution, industrial villages also sprang up around water-powered mills, mines, and factories. Because most New England villages were contained within the boundaries of legally established towns, many such villages were never separately incorporated as municipalities. A relatively small unincorporated community, similar to a hamlet in New York state, or even a relatively small community within an incorporated city or town, may be termed a village. This informal usage may be found even in states that have villages as an incorporated municipality and is like the usage of the term "unincorporated town" in states having town governments. States that formally recognize villages vary widely in the definition of the term (US Census Bureau, 2020). Most commonly, a village is either a special district or a municipality. As a municipality, a village may (1) differ from a city or town in terms of population; (2) differ from a city in terms of dependence on a township; or be virtually equivalent to a city or town (Joseph, 2002). There are 239 villages in the United States of America (US Census Bureau) (Table-3).

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## Conclusions and suggestions :

The study of administrative units or divisions has paramount importance as it is useful to the researchers and policy makers to examine the demographic, socio-economic, cultural, health, environmental and development aspects of humanity by different geographic units, and the changes of those aspects in these units or divisions over a period. The knowledge of administrative units also will help the administrators and programme implementers to allocate the geophysical structure-based financial provisions and infrastructural and human resources. The administrative units or divisions in the United States differ from each state. Following standard common definitions of such units or divisions in all the states will help the researchers for easy comparative purpose. There are 50 states and 1 federal district, Washington D.C., formerly known as District of Columbia. There are 41 independent cities, 3034 counties, 19429 municipals including cities, towns, and villages, 16504 townships, 13506 school districts, and 35052 special purpose areas. There are differences in some administrative units or divisions from each state. There is a need to study the administrative units of the United States both at macro and micro levels during every Census with the update of changes to facilitate the researchers and government authorities for carrying out periodical research and formulating policies and executing the welfare programmes successfully.

**Table 1: List of US States with code, abbreviations, population, and total areas (in km<sup>2</sup>)**

Sr.#	State	Alpha-Code	Abbreviation	Capital	Statehood Date	Population	Total area (km <sup>2</sup> )
	<b>USA</b>	<b>US</b>	<b>USA</b>	Washington DC	-	<b>332,403,650</b>	9,831,510
1	Alabama	AL	Ala.	Montgomery	14 Dec 1819	50,24,279	50,645
2	Alaska	AK	-	Juneau	3 Jan 1959	7,33,391	5,70,641
3	Arizona	AZ	Ariz.	Phoenix	14 Feb 1912	71,51,502	1,13,594
4	Arkansas	AR	Ark.	Little Rock	15 Jun 1836	30,11,524	52,035
5	California	CA	Calif.	Sacramento	9 Sep 1850	3,95,38,223	1,55,779
6	Colorado	CO	Colo.	Denver	1 Aug 1876	57,73,714	1,03,642
7	Connecticut	CT	Conn.	Hartford	9 Jan 1788	36,05,944	4,842
8	Delaware	DE	Del.	Dover	7 Dec 1787	9,89,948	1,949
9	Florida	FL	Fla.	Tallahasee	3 Mar 1845	2,15,38,187	53,625
10	Georgia	GA	Ga.	Atlanta	2 Jan 1788	1,07,11,908	57,513
11	Hawaii	HI	-	Honolulu	21 Aug 1959	14,55,271	6,423
12	Idaho	ID	-	Boise	3 Jul 1890	8,39,106	82,643
13	Illinois	IL	Ill.	Springfield	3 Dec 1818	1,28,12,508	55,519
14	Indiana	IN	Ind.	Indianapolis	11 Dec 1816	67,85,528	35,826
15	Iowa	IA	-	Des Moines	28 Dec 1846	31,90,369	55,857
16	Kansas	KS	Kans.	Topeka	29 Jan 1861	29,37,880	81,759
17	Kentucky	KY	Ky.	Frankfort	1 Jun 1792	45,05,836	39,486
18	Louisiana	LA	LA	Baton Rouge	30 Apr 1812	46,57,757	43,204
19	Maine	ME	Me.	Augusta	15 Mar 1820	13,62,359	30,843
20	Maryland	MD	Md.	Annapolis	28 Apr 1788	61,77,224	9,707
21	Massachusetts	MA	Mass.	Boston	6 Feb 1788	70,29,917	7,800
22	Michigan	MI	Mich.	Lansingh	26 Jan 1837	1,00,77,331	56,539
23	Minnesota	MN	Minn.	Saint Paul	11 May 1858	57,06,494	79,627
24	Mississippi	MS	Miss.	Jackson	10 Dec 1817	29,61,279	46,923
25	Missouri	MO	Mo.	Jefferson City	10 Aug 1821	61,54,913	68,742
26	Montana	MT	Mont.	Helena	8 Nov 1889	10,84,225	1,45,546
27	Nebraska	NE	Nebr.	Lincoln	1 Mar 1867	19,61,504	76,824
28	Nevada	NV	Nev.	Carson City	31 Oct 1864	31,04,614	1,09,781
29	New Hampshire	NH	N.H.	Concord	21 Jun 1788	13,77,529	8,953
30	New Jersey	NJ	N.J.	Trenton	18 Dec 1787	92,88,994	7,354
31	New Mexico	NM	N.Mex.	Santa Fe	6 Jan 1912	21,17,522	1,21,298
32	New York	NY	N.Y.	Albany	26 Jul 1788	2,02,01,249	47,126
33	North Carolina	NC	N.C.	Raleigh	21 Nov 1789	1,04,39,388	48,618
34	North Dakota	ND	-	Bismarck	2 Nov 1889	7,79,094	69,001
35	Ohio	OH	-	Columbus	1 Mar 1803	1,17,99,448	40,861
36	Oklahoma	OK	Okla.	Oklahoma City	16 Nov 1907	39,59,353	68,595
37	Oregon	OR	Ore.	Salem	14 Feb 1859	42,37,256	95,988
38	Pennsylvania	PA	Penn.	Pennsylvania	12 Dec 1787	1,30,02,700	44,743
39	Rhode Island	RI	R.I.	Providence	29 May 1790	10,97,379	1,034
40	South Carolina	SC	S.C.	Columbia	23 May 1788	51,18,425	30,061

41	South Dakota	SD	S.D.	Pierre	2 Nov 1889	8,86,667	75,811
42	Tennessee	TN	Tenn.	Nashville	1 Jun 1796	69,10,840	41,235
43	Texas	TX	Tex.	Austin	29 Dec 1845	2,91,45,505	2,61,232
44	Utah	UT	-	Salt Lake City	4 Jan 1896	32,71,616	82,170
45	Vermont	VT	Vt.	Montpelier	4 Mar 1791	6,43,077	9,217
46	Virginia	VA	Va.	Richmond	25 Jun 1788	86,31,393	39,490
47	Washington	WA	Wash.	Olympia	11 Nov 1889	77,05,281	66,456
48	West Virginia	WV	W.Va	Charleston	20 Jun 1860	17,93,716	24,038
49	Wisconsin	WI	Wi.	Madison	29 May 1848	58,93,718	54,158
50	Wyoming	WY	Wy.	Cheyenne	10 Jul 1890	5,76,851	97,093
-	Washington DC					7,05,749	61

Source: Code- Cornell School of Law (2021); Population and area- US Census Bureau.

**Table-2: Independent Cities of the United States of America**

Sr.#	Independent City	Sr.#	Independent City
1	Alexandria, Virginia	22	Manassas Park, Virginia
2	Baltimore, Maryland	23	Manassas, Virginia
3	Bristol, Virginia	24	Martinsville, Virginia
4	Buena Vista, Virginia	25	Newport News, Virginia
5	Carson City, Nevada	26	Norfolk, Virginia
6	Charlottesville, Virginia	27	Norton, Virginia
7	Chesapeake, Virginia	28	Petersburg, Virginia
8	Colonial Heights, Virginia	29	Poquoson, Virginia
9	Covington, Virginia	30	Portsmouth, Virginia
10	Danville, Virginia	31	Radford, Virginia
11	Emporia, Virginia	32	Richmond, Virginia
12	Fairfax, Virginia	33	Roanoke, Virginia
13	Falls Church, Virginia	34	Salem, Virginia
14	Franklin, Virginia	35	St. Louis, Missouri
15	Fredericksburg, Virginia	36	Staunton, Virginia
16	Galax, Virginia	37	Suffolk, Virginia
17	Hampton, Virginia	38	Virginia Beach, Virginia
18	Harrisonburg, Virginia	39	Waynesboro, Virginia
19	Hopewell, Virginia	40	Waynesboro, Virginia
20	Lexington, Virginia	41	Winchester, Virginia
21	Lynchburg, Virginia		

Source: US Census Bureau

**Table-3: Categories of local government, the United States of America**

Sr.#	Local government	Number
1	Federal	1
2	State	50
3	County	3034
5	Municipal (city, town, village...)*	19429
6	Township (in some states called town)**	16504
7	School district	13506
8	Special purpose (utility, fire, police, library, etc.)	35052
	Total	87576

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2012). Note: \* Municipalities are any incorporated places, such as cities, towns, villages, boroughs, etc. \*\*New England towns and towns in New York and Wisconsin are classified as civil townships for census purposes.

**Table-4: Number of cities by state, United States of America, 2020**

Sr.#	States	Number of cities
	CA	76
	TX	40
	FL	22
	CO	13
	AZ	12
	NC	10
	MA, WA	9
	GA, IL	8
	MI, NJ, VA	7
	MO, IN, OH, OR, TN	6
	AL, CT, KS, NV, NY	5
	LA, OK, UT	4
	ID, IA, MN, NM, PA, SC, WI	3
	KY, NE	2
	AK, AR, DC, HI, MD, MS, MT, ND, NH, RI, SD	1
	DE, ME, VT, WV, WY	0
	Total	218

Source: US Census Bureau 2020.

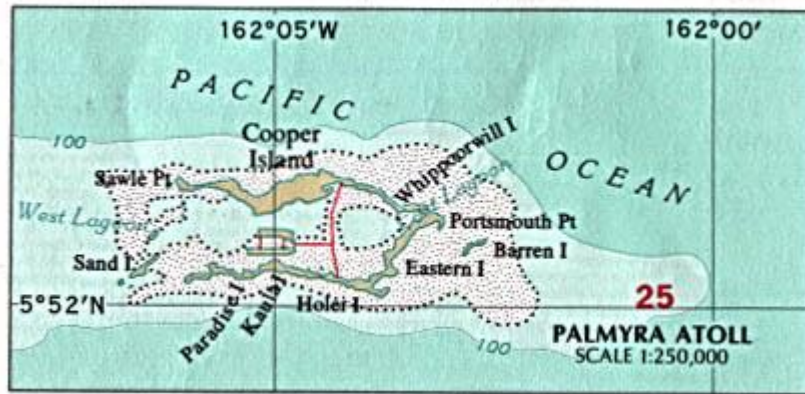


**Map-1:- The counties and county equivalents of the United States of America by state or territory**

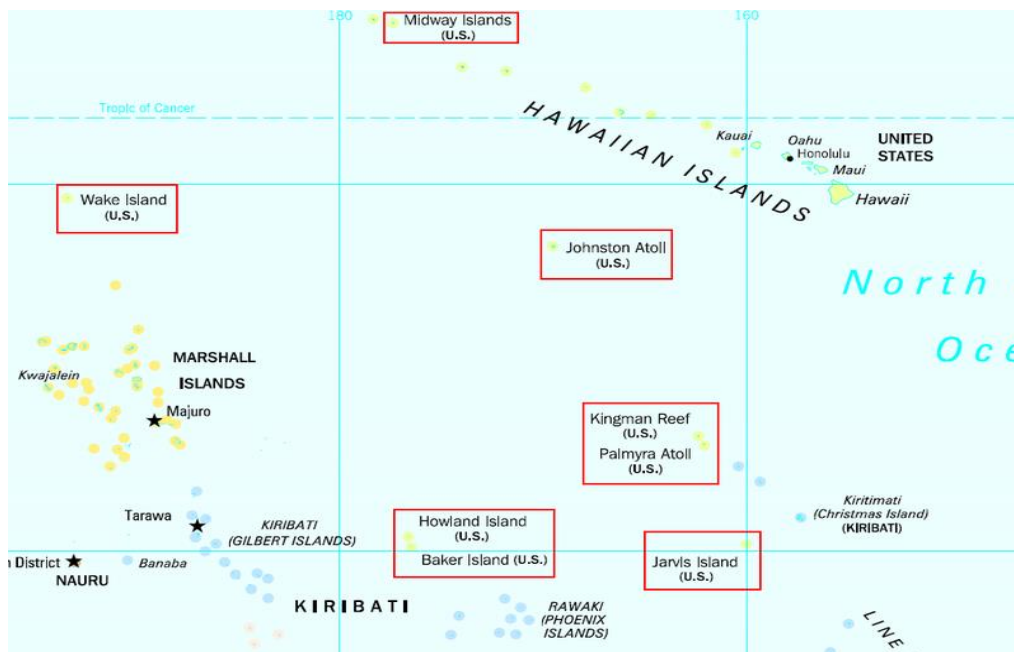
Source: US Census Bureau



Map-2: State and district map of Washington. Source: US Census Bureau

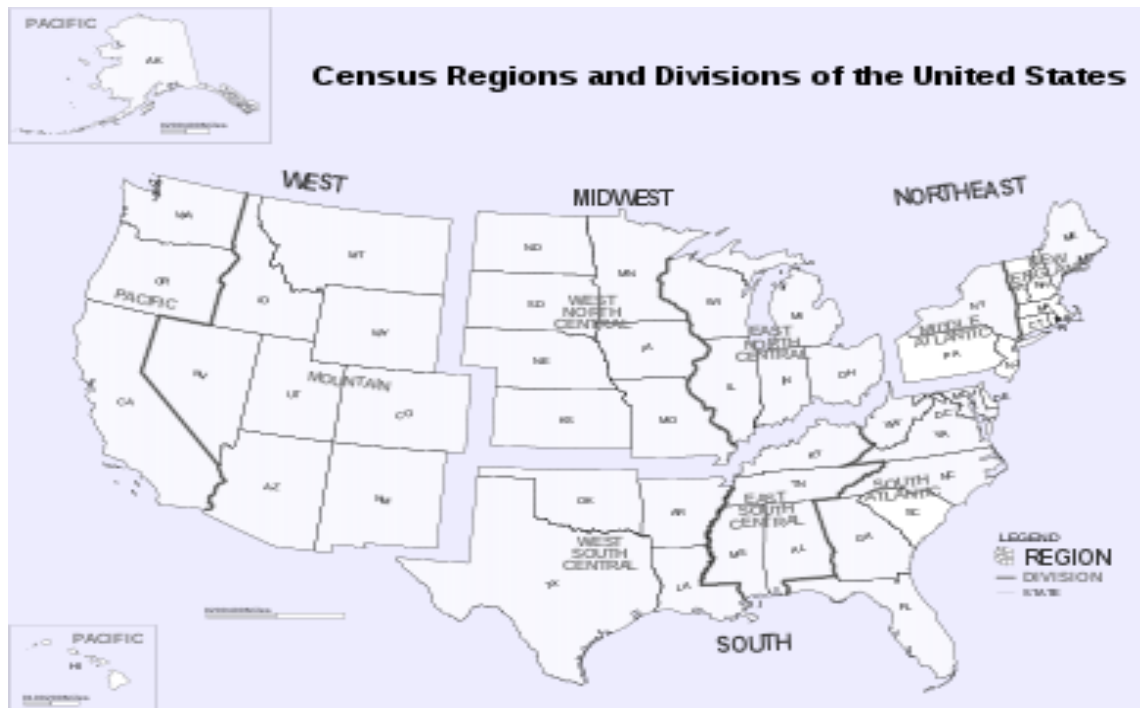


Map-3: Map of Palmyra Atoll/ Palmyra Islands. Source: US Census Bureau



Map-4: Minor Outlying Islands. Source: US Census Bureau





Map-5: Regions and Divisions of the US. Source: US Census Bureau.

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