

The Election of 1912

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Lesson Plan Summary:

The Election of 1912 was unusual since there were three major candidates, one of them a former president and another an incumbent president. President William Howard Taft, the Republican Party candidate, no longer had the support of former president, Theodore Roosevelt. Roosevelt had broken with Taft, ran under the banner of the Progressive Party, often referred to as The Bull Moose Party, and campaigned against Taft for the presidency. This split weakened the Republican Party and led to the election of the Democratic Party candidate, Woodrow Wilson.

Objectives:

S.S.A.1.2 Students will use information to draw conclusions from maps, charts and graphs.
Students will analyze the information from the maps, charts, and graphs to determine the 1912 election results and to analyze the impact of the election results on the nation.

U.S. History Era:

Pre- World War I

Grade Level

High School or Middle School 8th Grade

Materials:

Handout: 1	Electoral Vote Data	1912
Handout: 2	Popular Vote Data	1912
Worksheet 1	Parties and Candidates	1912
Worksheet 2	Voting Data	1912

Lesson Time:

180 minutes

Lesson Procedures:

To start the lesson, have the students define the following words using the glossary in the text or a dictionary: electoral vote, popular vote.

Next, have students use the internet to complete worksheet 1

Third, have student use the data from the map, graphs and charts to analyze the 1912 election.

Complete worksheet 2.

Activities:

Computer lab: students will work in groups of two and use internet search programs to find information about the candidates and political parties involved in the election of 1912. Students will complete worksheet 1 using the results of the internet search.

Classroom: students will work in small groups of three or four to analyze 1912 election data and complete worksheet 2.

Each student will write an essay.

Assessment:

FCAT style essay:

Write a five paragraph essay analyzing the election of 1912.

Resources:

<http://www.uselectionatlas.org/RESULTS/evote.php?year=1912&f=0>
www.historycentral.com/elections/1912.html
ehistory.osu.edu/osu/mmh/1912/

Election of 1912 Worksheet 1

Name _____
Candidates and Parties

The Election of 1912 was unusual since there were three major candidates, one of them a former president and another the incumbent president. The current president, once the protégé of the previous president, lost the support of the previous president. After losing the nomination of his party to the incumbent president, the former president created a new party and ran for office as the new party's candidate. This split created an opportunity for the opposing party.

Use the internet and your text to answer the following questions about the candidates and the election of 1912.

Listed below are some internet sources to use to start the research.

www.uselectionatlas.org/RESULTS/evote.php?year=1912&f=0

www.historycentral.com/elections/1912.html

www.ehistory.osu.edu/osu/mmh/1912/

1. Identify each of the candidates and their political party.
2. Who was the incumbent president and what was his political party?
3. Who was the former president and what political party did he create?
4. What cause the split between the former president and the incumbent president?
5. Who won the presidential race in 1912 and what was his party?
6. How did the split between the incumbent president and the former president influence the outcome of the election of 1912?
7. What were the issues of the 1912 campaign?
8. What role did personalities play in the campaign of 1912?

The Voting Data 1912

Name _____

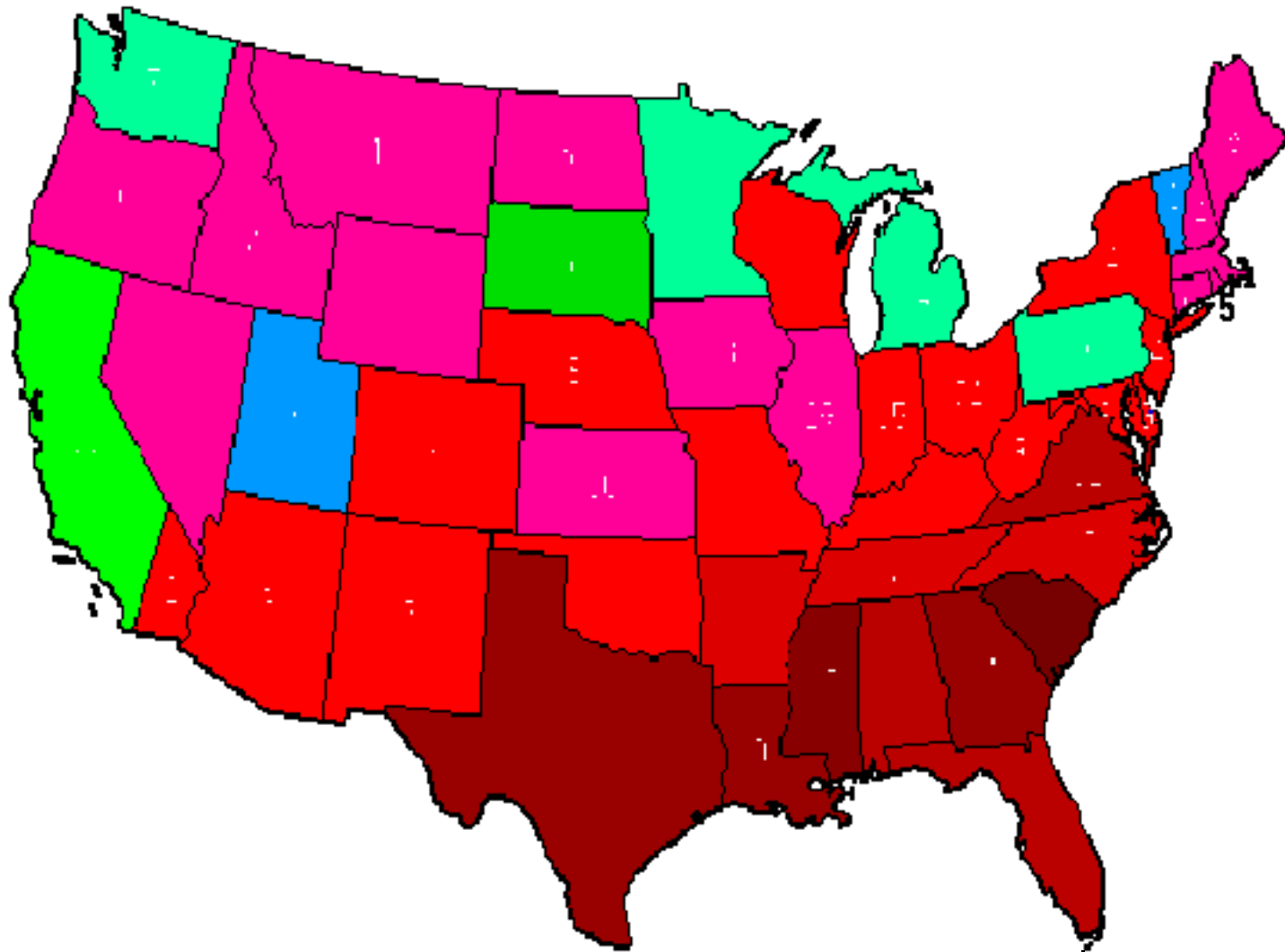
Use the data from Handouts 1 and 2 to answer the following questions.

1. What was the total electoral vote in 1912? How many electoral votes were needed to win the election?
2. Rank the candidates according to electoral vote and create a circle graph showing the electoral vote in 1912.
3. How many popular votes were cast in 1912?
4. Rank the candidates according to popular vote and create a circle graph showing the popular vote in 1912.
5. If the Republican vote was not split between Taft and Roosevelt, would the Republican candidate have more popular votes than the Democratic candidate? Would a single Republican candidate have won the election?
6. Did the minor party candidates, such as Eugene Debs and Eugene Chafin, have an impact on the outcome of the election? Explain your response.
7. Identify the states where the combined popular vote of Roosevelt and Taft would have changed the outcome of the electoral vote in that state.

Handout: 1 Electoral Vote Data

1912

<http://www.uselectionatlas.org/RESULTS/evote.php?year=1912&f=0>
www.historycentral.com/elections/1912.html

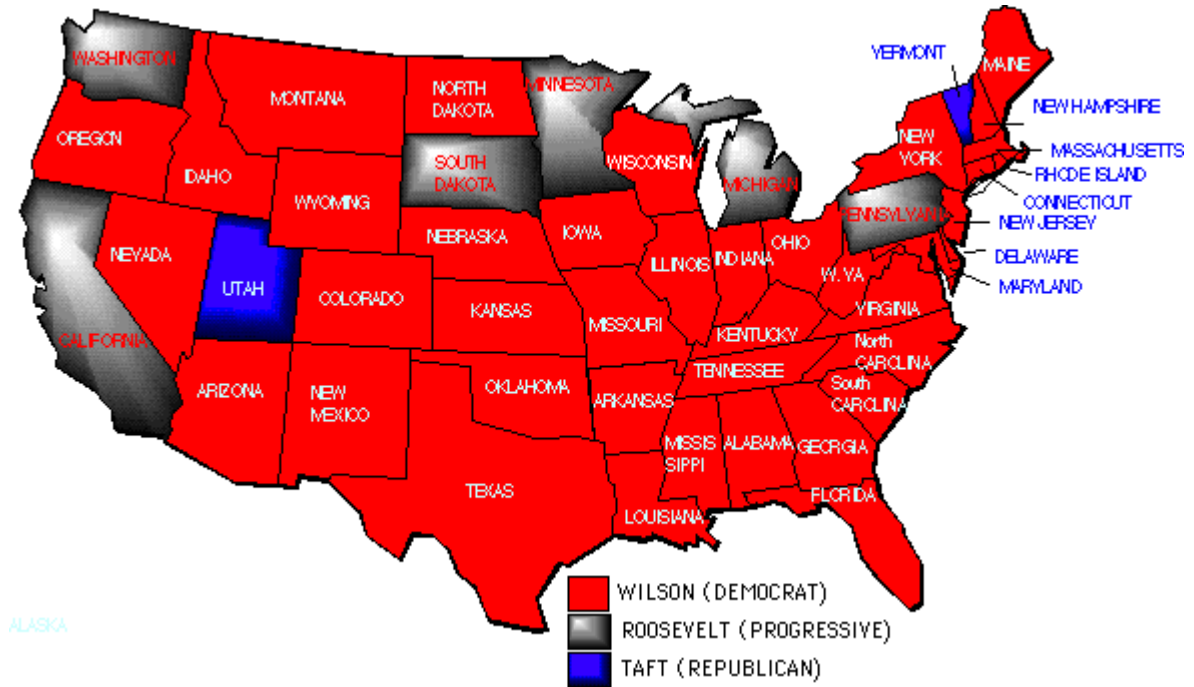


	EV	President			Vice President		
Candidate		Woodrow Wilson	Theodore Roosevelt	William Taft	Thomas Marshall	Hiram Johnson	Nicholas Butler
Home State		New Jersey	New York	Ohio	Indiana	California	New York
Party		Democratic	Progressive	Republican	Democratic	Progressive	Republican
Alabama	12	12	-	-	12	-	-
Arizona	3	3	-	-	3	-	-
Arkansas	9	9	-	-	9	-	-
California	13	2	11	-	2	11	-
Colorado	6	6	-	-	6	-	-
Connecticut	7	7	-	-	7	-	-
Delaware	3	3	-	-	3	-	-
Florida	6	6	-	-	6	-	-
Georgia	14	14	-	-	14	-	-
Idaho	4	4	-	-	4	-	-
Illinois	29	29	-	-	29	-	-
Indiana	15	15	-	-	15	-	-
Iowa	13	13	-	-	13	-	-
Kansas	10	10	-	-	10	-	-
Kentucky	13	13	-	-	13	-	-
Louisiana	10	10	-	-	10	-	-
Maine	6	6	-	-	6	-	-
Maryland	8	8	-	-	8	-	-
Massachusetts	18	18	-	-	18	-	-
Michigan	15	-	15	-	-	15	-
Minnesota	12	-	12	-	-	12	-
Mississippi	10	10	-	-	10	-	-
Missouri	18	18	-	-	18	-	-
Montana	4	4	-	-	4	-	-
Nebraska	8	8	-	-	8	-	-
Nevada	3	3	-	-	3	-	-
New Hampshire	4	4	-	-	4	-	-
New Jersey	14	14	-	-	14	-	-
New Mexico	3	3	-	-	3	-	-
New York	45	45	-	-	45	-	-

North Carolina	12	12	-	-	12	-	-
North Dakota	5	5	-	-	5	-	-
Ohio	24	24	-	-	24	-	-
Oklahoma	10	10	-	-	10	-	-
Oregon	5	5	-	-	5	-	-
Pennsylvania	38	-	38	-	-	38	-
Rhode Island	5	5	-	-	5	-	-
South Carolina	9	9	-	-	9	-	-
South Dakota	5	-	5	-	-	5	-
Tennessee	12	12	-	-	12	-	-
Texas	20	20	-	-	20	-	-
Utah	4	-	-	4	-	-	4
Vermont	4	-	-	4	-	-	4
Virginia	12	12	-	-	12	-	-
Washington	7	-	7	-	-	7	-
West Virginia	8	8	-	-	8	-	-
Wisconsin	13	13	-	-	13	-	-
Wyoming	3	3	-	-	3	-	-
Total	531	435	88	8	435	88	8

Popular Vote		Electoral Vote					
	Woodrow Wilson	Thomas Marshall	Democratic	6,296,284	41.84%	435	81.92%
	Theodore Roosevelt	Hiram Johnson	Progressive	4,122,721	27.40%	88	16.57%
	William Taft	Nicholas Butler	Republican	3,486,242	23.17%	8	1.51%
	Eugene Debs	Emil Seidel	Socialist	901,551	5.99%	0	0.00%

Presidential Election 1912 States Carried



Alabama	Woodrow Wilson	82,438	69.9	Theodore Roosevelt	22,680	19.2	William Taft	9,807	8.3	Eugene Debs	3,029	2.6
Arizona	Woodrow Wilson	10,324	43.6	Theodore Roosevelt	6,949	29.3	William Taft	2,986	12.6	Eugene Debs	3,163	13.4
Arkansas	Woodrow Wilson	68,814	55.0	Theodore Roosevelt	21,644	17.3	William Taft	25,585	20.5	Eugene Debs	8,153	6.5
California	Woodrow Wilson	283,436	41.8	Theodore Roosevelt	283,610	41.8	William Taft	3,847	0.6	Eugene Debs	79,201	11.7
Colorado	Woodrow Wilson	113,912	42.8	Theodore Roosevelt	71,752	27.0	William Taft	58,386	22.0	Eugene Debs	16,366	6.2
Connecticut	Woodrow Wilson	74,561	39.2	Theodore Roosevelt	34,129	17.9	William Taft	68,324	35.9	Eugene Deb	10,056	5.3
Delaware	Woodrow Wilson	22,631	46.5	Theodore Roosevelt	8,886	18.3	William Taft	15,997	32.9	Eugene Debs	556	1.1
Florida	Woodrow Wilson	35,343	69.5	Theodore Roosevelt	4,555	9.0	William Taft	4,279	8.4	Eugene Debs	4,806	9.5
Georgia	Woodrow Wilson	93,087	76.6	Theodore Roosevelt	21,985	18.1	William Taft	5,191	4.3	Eugene Debs	1,058	0.9

Idaho	Woodrow Wilson	33,921	32.1	Theodore Roosevelt	25,527	24.1	William Taft	32,810	31.0	Eugene Debs	11,960	11.3
Illinois	Woodrow Wilson	405,048	35.3	Theodore Roosevelt	386,478	33.7	William Taft	253,593	22.1	Eugene Debs	81,278	7.1
Indiana	Woodrow Wilson	281,890	43.1	Theodore Roosevelt	162,007	24.8	William Taft	151,267	23.1	Eugene Debs	36,931	5.6
Iowa	Woodrow Wilson	185,322	37.6	Theodore Roosevelt	161,819	32.9	William Taft	119,805	24.3	Eugene Debs	16,967	3.4
Kansas	Woodrow Wilson	143,663	39.3	Theodore Roosevelt	120,210	32.9	William Taft	74,845	20.5	Eugene Debs	26,779	7.3
Kentucky	Woodrow Wilson	219,484	48.5	Theodore Roosevelt	101,766	22.5	William Taft	115,510	25.5	Eugene Debs	11,646	2.6
Louisiana	Woodrow Wilson	60,871	76.8	Theodore Roosevelt	9,283	11.7	William Taft	3,833	4.8	Eugene Debs	5,261	6.6
Maine	Woodrow Wilson	51,113	39.4	Theodore Roosevelt	48,495	37.4	William Taft	26,545	20.5	Eugene Debs	2,541	2.0
Maryland	Woodrow Wilson	112,674	48.6	Theodore Roosevelt	57,789	24.9	William Taft	54,956	23.7	Eugene Debs	3,996	1.7
Massachusetts	Woodrow Wilson	173,408	35.5	Theodore Roosevelt	142,228	29.1	William Taft	155,948	32.0	Eugene Debs	12,616	2.6
Michigan	Woodrow Wilson	150,201	27.4	Theodore Roosevelt	213,243	38.9	William Taft	151,434	27.6	Eugene Debs	23,060	4.2
Minnesota	Woodrow Wilson	106,426	31.8	Theodore Roosevelt	125,856	37.7	William Taft	64,334	19.2	Eugene Debs	27,505	8.2
Mississippi	Woodrow Wilson	57,324	88.9	Theodore Roosevelt	3,549	5.5	William Taft	1,560	2.4	Eugene Debs	2,050	3.2
Missouri	Woodrow Wilson	330,746	47.3	Theodore Roosevelt	124,375	17.8	William Taft	207,821	29.7	Eugene Debs	28,466	4.1
Montana	Woodrow Wilson	28,129	35.0	Theodore Roosevelt	22,709	28.3	William Taft	18,575	23.1	Eugene Debs	10,811	13.5
Nebraska	Woodrow Wilson	109,008	43.7	Theodore Roosevelt	72,681	29.1	William Taft	54,226	21.7	Eugene Debs	10,185	4.1
Nevada	Woodrow Wilson	7,986	39.7	Theodore Roosevelt	5,620	27.9	William Taft	3,196	15.9	Eugene Debs	3,313	16.5
New Hampshire	Woodrow Wilson	34,724	39.5	Theodore Roosevelt	17,794	20.2	William Taft	32,927	37.4	Eugene Debs	1,981	2.3
Now Jersey	Woodrow Wilson	178,638	41.2	Theodore Roosevelt	145,679	33.6	William Taft	89,066	20.5	Eugene Debs	15,948	3.7
Now Mexico	Woodrow Wilson	20,437	41.9	Theodore Roosevelt	8,347	17.1	William Taft	17,164	35.2	Eugene Debs	2,859	5.9
Now York	Woodrow Wilson	655,573	41.3	Theodore Roosevelt	390,093	24.6	William Taft	455,487	28.7	Eugene Debs	63,434	4.0
North Carolina	Woodrow Wilson	144,407	59.2	Theodore Roosevelt	69,135	28.4	William Taft	29,129	11.9	Eugene Debs	987	0.4

North Dakota	Woodrow Wilson	29,549	34.2	Theodore Roosevelt	25,726	29.7	William Taft	22,990	26.6	Eugene Debs	6,966	8.1
Ohio	Woodrow Wilson	424,834	41.0	Theodore Roosevelt	229,807	22.2	William Taft	278,168	26.8	Eugene Debs	90,164	8.7
Oklahoma	Woodrow Wilson	119,143	47.0	Theodore Roosevelt	-		William Taft	90,726	35.8	Eugene Debs	41,630	16.4
Oregon	Woodrow Wilson	47,064	34.3	Theodore Roosevelt	37,600	27.4	William Taft	34,673	25.3	Eugene Debs	13,343	9.7
Pennsylvania	Woodrow Wilson	395,637	32.5	Theodore Roosevelt	444,894	36.5	William Taft	273,360	22.4	Eugene Debs	83,614	6.9
Rhode Island	Woodrow Wilson	30,412	39.0	Theodore Roosevelt	16,878	21.7	William Taft	27,703	35.6	Eugene Debs	2,049	2.6
South Carolina	Woodrow Wilson	48,355	95.9	Theodore Roosevelt	1,293	2.6	William Taft	536	1.1	Eugene Debs	164	0.3
South Dakota	Woodrow Wilson	48,942	42.1	Theodore Roosevelt	58,811	50.6	William Taft	-		Eugene Debs	4,664	4.0
Tennessee	Woodrow Wilson	133,021	52.8	Theodore Roosevelt	54,041	21.5	William Taft	60,475	24.0	Eugene Debs	3,564	1.4
Texas	Woodrow Wilson	218,921	72.7	Theodore Roosevelt	26,715	8.9	William Taft	28,310	9.4	Eugene Debs	24,884	8.3
Utah	Woodrow Wilson	36,576	32.6	Theodore Roosevelt	24,174	21.5	William Taft	42,013	37.4	Eugene Debs	8,999	8.0
Vermont	Woodrow Wilson	15,350	24.4	Theodore Roosevelt	22,129	35.2	William Taft	23,303	37.1	Eugene Debs	928	1.5
Virginia	Woodrow Wilson	90,332	65.9	Theodore Roosevelt	21,776	15.9	William Taft	23,288	17.0	Eugene Debs	820	0.6
Washington	Woodrow Wilson	86,840	26.9	Theodore Roosevelt	113,698	35.2	William Taft	70,445	21.8	Eugene Debs	40,134	12.4
West Virginia	Woodrow Wilson	113,097	42.1	Theodore Roosevelt	79,112	29.4	William Taft	56,754	21.1	Eugene Debs	15,248	5.7
Wisconsin	Woodrow Wilson	164,230	41.1	Theodore Roosevelt	62,448	15.6	William Taft	130,596	32.7	Eugene Debs	33,476	8.4
Wyoming	Woodrow Wilson	15,310	36.2	Theodore Roosevelt	9,232	21.8	William Taft	14,560	~34.4	Eugene Debs	2,760	6.5