



The Call to Arms

Objectives

1. Identify the states that supported the Union, the states that seceded, and the states whose loyalties were divided.
2. Describe the advantages each side had in the war.
3. Compare the different strategies used by the North and the South.
4. Summarize the results of the First Battle of Bull Run.
5. Describe the conditions soldiers in camp faced.

Main Idea

As the war began and states chose sides, loyalties in the four border states were divided.

Prepare to Read

Reading Skill

Understand Sequence of Events

The Civil War began as a result of a complex sequence of events. As that war proceeded in its early days, events continued at a furious pace. To form a full understanding of this phase of the war, pause regularly to summarize the sequence of events. Use your own words to recount the important events in the correct order.

Vocabulary Builder

High-Use Words

distinct, p. 514

resource, p. 514


Key Terms

border state, p. 513

neutral, p. 513

martial law, p. 513

blockade, p. 515

 **Background Knowledge** In the previous chapter, you learned how tensions over slavery troubled the nation throughout the 1850s. Southern slaveholders became committed to protecting the system on which they depended. In this section, you will learn how this determination led to the Civil War.

Taking Sides in the War

Two days after Fort Sumter's surrender, President Lincoln declared that a rebellion existed in the South. To put it down, he asked the nation's governors to raise 75,000 troops. Across the North, young men eagerly volunteered. Support was so widespread that the governors of Ohio, Indiana, and several other states begged to send more troops than the President had requested.

More States Secede Not all states were so enthusiastic, however. In Tennessee, the governor said that his state "will not furnish a single man" to fight against "our southern brothers." The governors of Kentucky and Missouri made similar replies to Lincoln's request. Maryland and Delaware did not respond at all.

The President's call for troops led more southern states to secede. On April 17, Virginia left the Union. In May, Arkansas, Tennessee, and North Carolina also joined the Confederacy. However, the western counties of Virginia, where there was little support for slavery, refused to secede. In 1863, these 50 counties were admitted to the Union as the state of West Virginia.

The Border States Loyalties remained divided in the border states—slave states that did not secede. Delaware had few enslaved people, and its support of the Union was strong. However, many people in Kentucky, Missouri, and Maryland favored the South. Kentucky and Missouri were important to controlling the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. And unless the Union could hold Maryland, Washington would be surrounded by the Confederacy.

At first, Kentucky declared itself neutral, or not favoring either side. Union generals wanted to occupy Kentucky, but Lincoln refused. He feared that such a move would push the state to secede. His strategy was wise. When Confederate forces invaded it in September 1861, Kentucky decided to support the North.

By contrast, the President acted forcefully to hold Missouri and Maryland. When Missouri's government sided with the South, Union supporters set up their own state government. Fighting broke out within the state. Finally, Lincoln sent troops, and the state stayed in the Union throughout the war.

In Maryland, southern sympathizers destroyed railroad and telegraph lines. So Lincoln placed eastern Maryland under martial law. This is a type of rule in which the military is in charge and citizens' rights are suspended. Maryland officials and others suspected of disloyalty were jailed without trials.

Checkpoint How did the border states line up in the war?

Understand Sequence of Events

Summarize the events as North and South geared up for full-scale conflict. Make sure to recount events in the correct sequence.

States Take Sides



MAP MASTER

Skills Activity

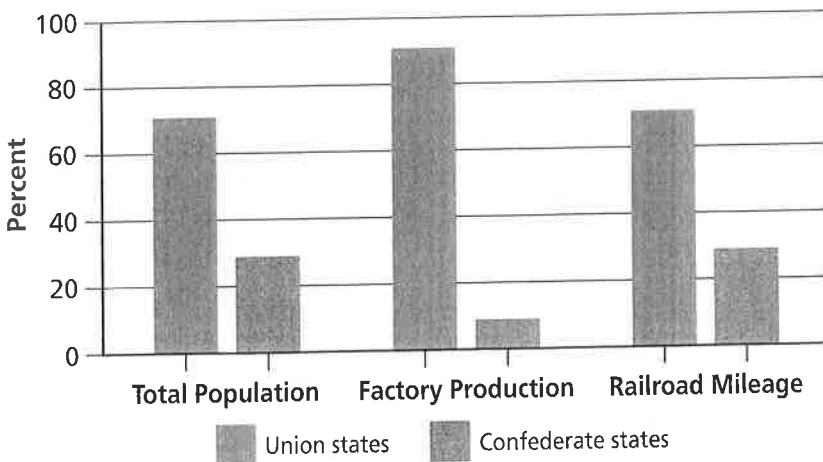
A key question at the start of the war was whether border states would side with the Union or the Confederacy.

- (a) **Read a Map** Which border states remained in the Union?
- (b) **Draw Conclusions** Why was it important to the Union to keep the border states from seceding from the Union?

MapMaster Online

For: Interactive map
 Visit: PHSchool.com
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Comparing Resources, 1861



Source: *The Times Atlas of World History*

Reading Charts

Skills Activity

The Union had an advantage over the Confederacy in a number of resources.

- Read a Bar Graph** In which of the three comparisons is the Union's advantage the greatest?
- Draw Conclusions** For each of these three resources, how would you expect the Union to benefit from its advantage?
- Make Predictions** Based on the information in these graphs, which side would you expect to win the war? Explain.

Main Idea

Each side had its advantages and disadvantages, and each side was sure it would win.

Vocabulary Builder

distinct (dihs TIHNKT) *adj.* clear or definite; different in quality

Vocabulary Builder

resource (REE sors) *n.* supply of something to meet a particular need

North Against South

As the armies prepared, people on both sides were confident. A Union soldier declared that he was "willing . . . to lay down all my joys in this life to help maintain this government." Southerners compared themselves to Americans of 1776. A New Orleans poet wrote of Confederates: "Yes, call them rebels! 'tis the name/Their patriot fathers bore."

Southern Advantages Although outnumbered, the South had some distinct military advantages. To win, northern armies would have to invade and conquer the South. Confederates would be fighting on their own territory, with help from the local people.

In addition, most of the nation's experienced military officers were southerners. The Confederacy's three top generals—Albert Johnston, Joseph Johnston, and Robert E. Lee—all had resigned from the U.S. Army to fight for the South.

Northern Advantages In 1861, the United States had about 130,000 factories. Of those, 110,000 were in the North. The North had twice as much railroad track and almost twice as much farmland.

The North also had a population advantage. Some two thirds of the nation's people lived in states that remained in the Union, and in the South more than a third of the people were enslaved. With more resources, the North was able to field, feed, and equip larger armies.

Checkpoint What were each side's advantages?

The Two Sides Plan Strategies

Union leaders hoped to win a quick victory. To isolate the Confederacy, Lincoln had the navy blockade southern seaports. A *blockade* is a military action to prevent traffic from coming into an area or leaving it. Lincoln hoped to cut off the South's supply of manufactured goods and block overseas sales of cotton.

An important part of northern strategy was to gain control of the Mississippi River, the South's major transportation link. This would split the South in two. The Union also planned to invade Virginia and seize Richmond, the Confederate capital. It was just 100 miles from Washington, D.C.

The South's strategy was simpler. The Confederates did not need to invade the North. They had only to defend their land until northerners got tired of fighting. The Confederates sought aid from Britain and other European nations. They hoped that Britain's need of cotton for its textile mills would force the British to support the South.

Checkpoint How did strategies on the two sides differ?

Americans Against Americans

On both sides, men rushed to be part of the fight. "I had never dreamed that New England . . . could be fired with so warlike a spirit," wrote Mary Ashton Livermore in Boston. In South Carolina, Mary Chesnut said that men rushed to enlist in the army for "fear the war will be over before they get a sight of the fun."

This war between Americans broke families apart, setting brother against brother, father against son. Kentucky Senator John Crittenden had two sons in the war fighting on different sides. Four brothers of Mary Lincoln, the President's wife, fought for the Confederacy.

Main Idea

While the North wanted to isolate the South and invade it, the South hoped to get help from Europe.

Main Idea

The war often divided families as it drew most adult males on both sides into the military.



Old Enough for War

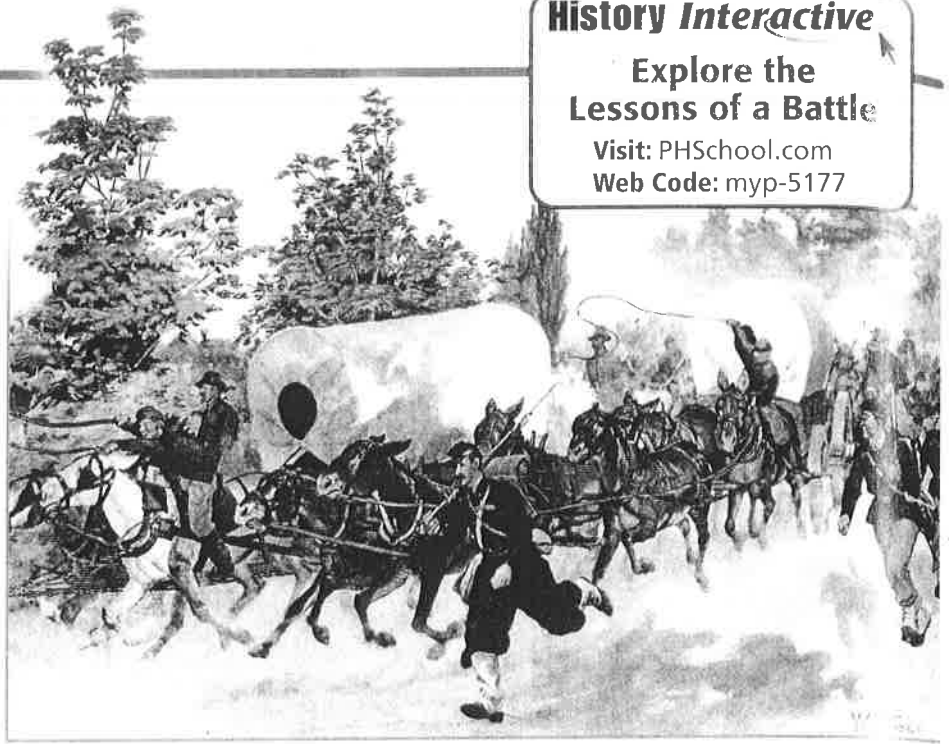
Soldiers in both the Union and Confederate armies might have been as young as 14. Nearly 4,000 Union troops were 16 or younger. **Critical Thinking:** **Draw Conclusions** How do you think the experience of war affected young men?



Fleeing Bull Run

Before the First Battle of Bull Run, both sides expected an easy victory. But they were wrong. Here, Union soldiers have panicked and are fleeing the Bull Run battlefield. Bull Run was an early sign that the war would be long and costly.

Critical Thinking: Draw Conclusions *What reasons did each side have to think it would win an early victory? Why were both sides' expectations unreasonable?*



The soldiers came from many backgrounds. Nearly half of the North's troops were farmers. One fourth were immigrants.

Three fourths of the South's 1 million white males between ages 18 and 45 served in the army. Two thirds of the 3.5 million northern males of the same age fought for the Union. Some soldiers were as young as 14.

Checkpoint Who were the soldiers in this war?

Main Idea

Expectations of a quick victory were dashed at Bull Run in July 1861.

First Battle of Bull Run

Union General Irvin McDowell wanted time to turn his soldiers into an effective fighting force. But by July 1861, northern newspapers were demanding the capture of Richmond and a quick end to the war.

McDowell's 30,000 men left Washington and marched southwest into Virginia. About the same number of Confederates waited at Manassas, a railroad center about 25 miles away. Hundreds of people rode out from Washington to see the battle, expecting an easy Union victory.

The armies clashed along Bull Run, a river just north of Manassas, on July 21. At first, the Union army pushed forward. But a southern commander rallied his men to hold firm. "Look, there is Jackson with his Virginians, standing like a stone wall," he shouted. From then on, the general, Thomas Jackson, was known as "Stonewall" Jackson.

Slowly the battle turned in favor of the Confederates. The poorly trained Union troops began to panic. Soldiers and sightseers fled back to Washington. The Confederates were too exhausted to pursue them.

Checkpoint What was the result of the First Battle of Bull Run?

A Soldier's Life

Most soldiers spent three fourths of their time in camp, fighting. Training took up to 10 hours a day. When not training, soldiers stood guard, wrote home, and gathered firewood. A meal might be simply a dry, cracker-like product called hardtack.

Harsh Conditions Camp conditions were often miserable, especially when wet weather created muddy roads and fields. The lack of clean water was a major health threat. Outbreaks of smallpox, typhoid fever, and other diseases swept through the ranks. It was not unusual for half the men in a regiment to be too sick to fight.

Prisoners of War Both sides built prison camps for captured soldiers. Overcrowded prison camps became deathtraps. Nearly 10 percent of soldiers who died in the war perished in prison camps.

The camps at Elmira, New York, and Andersonville, Georgia, were the worst. Elmira camp, built to hold 5,000 Confederate prisoners, held 10,000. The camp cut rations to bread and water, forcing prisoners to eat rats to survive. Thousands died. At Andersonville, nearly 35,000 Union soldiers lived in a fenced, open field intended to hold 10,000 men. As many as 100 prisoners died each day, usually from starvation or exposure.

Checkpoint What conditions did soldiers have to endure?

Looking Back and Ahead The North's hopes for an early victory had been dashed. The war would be long and brutal. In the next section, you will read more about the early years of the war.

sea, mud, disease, and crowded prison camps took a heavy toll on both sides.



Hardtack

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Comprehension and Critical Thinking

- (a) Recall** How did President Lincoln respond to the surrender of Fort Sumter?

(b) Apply Information What caused three border states to remain in the Union?
- (a) List** What were three advantages held by the South? What were three advantages held by the North?

(b) Analyze Cause and Effect How did the First Battle of Bull Run shatter the belief that the Civil War would be a quick Union victory?

Reading Skill

- 3. Understand Sequence of Events** Choose a state that wavered about supporting the North or the South. Summarize the sequence of events that led this state to a final decision.

Vocabulary Builder

- Complete each of the following sentences so that the second part explains the first and shows your understanding of the key term.
- Union leaders planned a blockade; _____.
 - Lincoln placed Maryland under martial law; _____.

Writing

6. Create an outline that covers the information presented in this section, copying the form below. A few entries have been filled in.

 - Taking sides in the war (first important topic)

 - A. More states secede (first issue for that topic)

 1. A number of border states refused to send troops to support the Union (first point)
 2. _____ (second point)
 - B.

 - 1.
 - 2.
 - II.