

Types of Government

Who holds power?

1. **Monarchy**
 - a. Government ruled by one person, who holds hereditary power
 - i. Led by a king or queen
2. **Democracy**
 - a. Allows citizens to participate in government.
 - i. **Direct Democracy**: citizens directly decide public issues
 1. Found in Athens and small towns in New England
 - ii. **Representative Democracy (Republic)**: citizens elect representatives to vote on their behalf
 1. **United States uses this form of government!**
3. **Autocracy**
 - a. Government in which one ruler holds all political power
 - i. Examples: absolute monarchy and dictatorship
4. **Oligarchy**
 - a. A small group, such as a group of noblemen or the military, hold power

The Nation and its Regions

1. Unitary Government

- b. Central government holds ALL of the power. States only have power that the central government allows them to have, but can abolish these powers at any time.

2. Federal Government

- a. The central government and state governments share power. The United States is a Federal form of government.

3. Confederal Government

- a. A group of independent states form a loose association to cooperate. The central government is weaker than the state governments. The Articles of Confederation created this type of government.

How the Branches of Government Relate

1. Presidential Government

- a. The legislative and executive branches are separate and voted on by electors for fixed terms. The United States has a presidential government.

2. Parliamentary Government

- a. The elected legislative branch controls the executive branch. The parliament elects the head of the executive, the Prime Minister, from its own majority party. Great Britain has a parliamentary government.

Response to Industrialism

1. **Socialism**

- a. Belief that it is the government's job to improve conditions for citizens. The government takes over some industries and increases taxes to provide more services.

2. **Communism**

- a. Belief that violent social revolution is necessary in which workers overthrow the rich and abolish private property entirely. Everything is owned in common.
- b. In reality, communist revolutions have resulted in brutal dictatoships.