

ARTICLE 4

State Land Owned by Federal Government

This 2018 chart shows how much land is owned by the Federal Government in each of our fifty states, and also in the tiny District of Columbia (Washington, D.C.). When our original colonies became the United States, and territories were admitted as states to the Union, they were all asked to give up a tiny parcel of land for our Federal Government to build post offices, forts, arsenals, and other federal buildings (Article 1.8.17, and 4:3.2). This worked fine for our early-on Eastern states. However, later when Western territories applied for statehood, hard bargains were made, and that “tiny parcel” idea basically died. (Note Alaska and Nevada.)

HOW MUCH LAND DOES THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OWN IN YOUR STATE?

STATE	TOTAL FEDERAL ACREAGE	% OF STATE	STATE	TOTAL FEDERAL ACREAGE	% OF STATE
Alabama	880,188	2.7	Montana	27,082,401	29.0
Alaska	222,666,580	60.9	Nebraska	546,852	1.1
Arizona	28,077,992	38.6	Nevada	56,262,610	80.1
Arkansas	3,159,486	9.4	New Hampshire	805,472	14.0
California	45,493,133	45.4	New Jersey	171,956	3.6
Colorado	24,100,247	36.2	New Mexico	24,665,774	31.7
Connecticut	9,110	0.3	New York	230,992	0.8
Delaware	29,918	2.4	North Carolina	2,434,801	7.8
District of Columbia	9,649	24.7	North Dakota	1,733,641	3.9
Florida	4,491,200	12.9	Ohio	305,502	1.2
Georgia	1,946,492	5.2	Oklahoma	683,289	1.5
Hawaii	829,830	20.2	Oregon	32,244,257	52.3
Idaho	32,789,648	61.9	Pennsylvania	622,160	2.2
Illinois	423,782	1.2	Rhode Island	4,513	0.7
Indiana	384,726	1.7	South Carolina	875,316	4.5
Iowa	97,509	0.3	South Dakota	2,640,005	5.4
Kansas	253,919	0.5	Tennessee	1,281,362	4.8
Kentucky	1,100,160	4.3	Texas	3,231,198	1.9
Louisiana	1,353,291	4.7	Utah	33,267,621	63.1
Maine	301,481	1.5	Vermont	465,888	7.8
Maryland	205,362	3.2	Virginia	2,373,616	9.3
Massachusetts	62,680	1.2	Washington	12,192,855	28.6
Michigan	3,637,599	10.0	West Virginia	1,134,138	7.4
Minnesota	3,503,977	6.6	Wisconsin	1,854,085	5.3
Mississippi	1,552,634	5.1	Wyoming	29,137,722	46.7
Missouri	1,702,983	3.8			

Extra: Read the Northwest Ordinance, which Congress passed in 1787, setting rules for new territories. Two of them were: 1—STATES ENTERING THE UNIONS SHALL BE TREATED EQUALLY. 2—SCHOOLS: MUST TEACH KNOWLEDGE, RELIGION AND MORALITY. **Liberty Amendment:** Partial national debt solution: **Sell off** government lands (460 million acres) to make a huge dent in the national debt, and give land back to states!