

The Nation States of The Divided States of America



APPALACHIA:

Current population: 12,000,000

Capital: Richmond

When these three states united together during the break-up, it was mostly because they didn't fit in with the other nation-states that were growing around them. They didn't have much to offer the large corporations that were taking control to the north of them, and they were viewed as being too liberal to join with the Confederate States to the South. This left each of the states on their own, so they united to form one government in an attempt to avoid falling into oblivion.

While the initial goal of this nation-state has been successful, the nation as a whole has not. They have some resources and some population centers, but nothing that compares to their neighbors. As a result, they have fallen somewhat behind the times. While they do have many of the amenities that were invented during the early and mid-twenty-first century, they do not have access to things like space flight, which is seriously harming their ability to compete.

The government and the citizens are distrustful of outsiders, although not to the point of being xenophobic. They will tolerate travelers, although these people can expect to be

questioned extensively when trying to cross the borders, which are heavily protected along major thoroughfares, but not very well protected in other areas. The one exception is the very small border they share with The Wastelands. This is heavily protected with a large number of troops in an effort to cut down on the number of bandits trying to raid into Appalachia.

ARIZONA:

Population: 1,900,000

Capital: Phoenix

After Texas broke away from the old United States, Arizona followed two years later, making them the second state to break away. However, unlike Texas, Arizona didn't have the resources or the population to have the success that Texas had. As a result, Arizona slowly fell into chaos. While there is still a central government, and most of the cities follow the lead of Phoenix, many of the outlying areas are dangerous and unruly. Armed groups control vast stretches of land throughout the state, and they refuse to follow the lead of the government in Phoenix. While the main highways in Arizona are well protected by the government, travelers taking to side highways run the risk of being attacked by these armed bands.

The one place, outside of the cities that is safest for travelers is the Navajo Reservation in northern Arizona. When the Indian Nations formed to the North, the Navajo refused to join, saying that they didn't want to leave their homelands, which was easier for other tribes because they had long ago been removed from what was their native territory. The Navajo are vehemently opposed to the Arizona government in Phoenix, but they also don't approve of the outlaws promoting chaos throughout the rest of the state.

The infrastructure of Arizona is very similar to what it was in the early 21st century, although many highways have fallen into disrepair. Arizona didn't benefit much from the technology boom that happened just before the United States fell apart, and as a result, the more high tech items that might be found in other parts of what used to be the United States are rare here. The one exception to this is that some higher tech items can be found among the Navajo, who often trade with the Rocky Mountain States of America. In fact, in the last year, the Navajo launched their first satellite, against the orders of the government in Phoenix, but so far, there has been no retribution for this action.

CALIVADA:

Population: 48,000,000

Capital: Sacramento

California was the fourth state to leave the Union, mostly because they were unhappy with the conservative direction that the country was taken. Nevada was eventually left abandoned as the country fell, so California annexed it, knowing that the resources of Nevada would be very helpful to their new nation-state. Together, this new country has prospered...more or less. With ports on the Pacific, Calivada is able to trade with overseas countries, and has quickly left behind many of the ideas of the old United States. Calivada is the only true democracy in the world. Although there are elected officials, every citizen that is 18 or older is allowed to vote on every bill. This is done through a shunt that is implanted into every adult on their 18th birthday, or any outsider that relocates to Calivada. Surprisingly, this process works very well, and for one of the few times in world history, the government actually follows the will of the people.

While much of Calivada is very prosperous, this is not true of Los Angeles and San Diego. Both of these cities have fallen into chaos, with open battles taking place between various

factions throughout the cities. Many would like to see the government intervene, but so far the vote has not been carried by a majority of the citizens, so the cities continue to decay. This would seem to be one of the downfalls of the type of government that has grown up here.

Calivada trades heavily with some of its neighbors, especially The Green States of America and The Rocky Mountain States of America. They trade cautiously with The Free States of America and Utah, but they do everything they can to avoid Arizona. Troops are usually kept along the Calivada/Arizona border to make sure that no one crosses over from that nation.

Calivada is one of the most advanced technological countries that has come out of the fall of The United States. They have several orbital platforms, and they've even sent one manned mission to Mars, but they lost contact with that mission, so no one is really sure what happened to them, although they almost certainly are dead. Calivada uses extensive monorails and bullet trains to link all of its cities and flights leave San Francisco on a daily basis taking travelers to the orbiting platforms.

Lately, the chaos of Los Angeles and San Diego has threatened to spill out of the cities, so it may become necessary for the people of Calivada to intervene very soon. For the most part, Calivadans are open to outsiders, although as previously stated, they do not trust the Arizonans.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA:

Population: 30,000,000

Capital: Atlanta

Much of what's now The Confederate States of America had always been some of the poorest areas of the old nation, and this hasn't really changed. Despite its liberal leanings, the original founders of this country tried to get Florida to join, but they wouldn't have any part of it, which left the founders having to recruit North Carolina to join. Not liking the other options available to them, the government of North Carolina reluctantly agreed.

The CSA is a run by a religious congress, and although the members of this congress vary on their political views, the one thing they all have in common is that they're all Christians...and there's a very good reason for this. Only members of the Christian faith are allowed to run for office. In fact, only Christians can even vote in the CSA. This has led to a mass exodus of people of different faiths, or people of no faith. Persecution of those that remain is very common, and they're often blamed for the problems the country is facing, even though the problems come from a general denial of science that has led them to abandon many of the technological advances that occurred in the 21st century.

Now, the CSA has no space program, and their research programs are far behind those of many of the other nation states. A variety of illnesses have crept up recently that threaten to reach epidemic levels. This has caused many of the other countries to block travel from the CSA, although some citizens are now trying to get to other countries. Technologically, the CSA is at a level equivalent to that of the early 21st century.

The CSA, both the government and its people, are very distrustful of outsiders, and they have border guards on every major thoroughfare, but they can't protect every way into the country...although not many are actually trying to get here. The CSA keeps a large number of troops on its border with The Wastelands because that's the one place that people are trying to get in from. They're not trying to come into the country to live, but rather to raid, and the CSA is not willing to give up the few resources it does have.

CORPROTOPIA:

Population: 78,000,000

Capital: New York

Initially the states that now make up Corprotopia were individual nation-states, but they traded heavily with one another, and cooperated on almost everything. Some people began to call the states Corprotopia because the corporations in the states were really the ones running everything. At first, the governments of the individual states were angered by the label, but as the corporations grew stronger and stronger, and the states worked more and more with each other, they ended up deciding to merge the states into one country, and just to spite those that made fun of them previously, they adopted the name Corprotopia.

In these states almost everything revolves around the major corporations that now inhabit these states. Many major companies that had been based in other parts of the old USA moved to this area even before Corprotopia actually existed, and the reason for their moving here was because the governments were so friendly to big business, which allowed these corporations to become even more powerful than big business had been in the United States.

Now, the people serve the corporations, and although this may have been true in the old USA, it's much more obvious now. Corprotopia is pretty much a police state, with the slightest crime being punished severely. And although there may not be a death penalty, punishments for serious crimes basically turn the guilty into an indentured servant at best, or a slave of the corporations at the worst.

The government uses robot police to patrol the streets, and the robots are not familiar with the gray areas of the law. For them, there is only legal and illegal. Small pockets of the population are now trying to rise up against the government, but the corporations have become so powerful that this will be almost impossible.

Corprotopia is very open to outsiders, provided they have money to spend, since money is what rules everything in the country. However, outsiders often find it difficult to live within the confines of the rules of this nation. Generally, the law allows one infraction (as long as it's not major) by an outsider before they will actually be prosecuted.

Corprotopia has some of the most advanced science in the Divided States. They have orbital stations and have even started a small scientific colony on the Moon. Transportation across country is by hydrogen powered bullet trains, and the robot police have some of the most sophisticated laser and plasma weapons in the world.

Most people would say that Corprotopia is a nice place to visit, but they wouldn't want to live there.

FLORIDA:

Population: 3,000,000

Capital: Tallahassee

As the US broke apart, Florida found itself isolated. They didn't want to join The Confederate States of America, so that left them no option but to become their own country. They had the population to make it work, but global climate change devastated much of Florida. Miami and Tampa are mostly underwater now, and the Everglades are flooded to the point that anyone from the early 21st century wouldn't even recognize them anymore. Because of all of this, Florida's economy has slowly been collapsing. There is still a decent tourist trade, but that has slowly been dwindling, and given that the average age in Florida was higher than the rest of the country when the US fell, the population numbers have steadily been declining. The age of

the population also made it hard to find a large enough work force, so many older people were forced back into working, as social security no longer exists.

Florida is more or less a democracy, but the outlying regions are slowly falling into chaos. One thing Florida does have that other parts of the former US want is their space technology. Although Florida no longer has a space program, Cape Canaveral is still here, although it is under water, and this has led many to come and try to plunder its secrets. As a result of this, there are now robot guards that patrol the waters of the Cape, and their orders are to kill any intruders.

While the Cape may be a dangerous place, there is a lucrative recovery business in Miami and Tampa. People will pay large sums of money to have items retrieved from the flooded buildings...even if the items didn't belong to them.

Florida has no border patrol, so outsiders can come and go, although its only neighboring nation is the Confederate States of America, so some people are trying to get into Florida, but the northern areas of Florida are some of the most hostile.

Science has fallen way behind in Florida. They have dropped to a technological level on par with the late 20th century, although the Web is still a prominent part of Floridian culture.

FREE STATES OF AMERICA:

Population: 1,100,000

Capital: Helena

Idaho and Montana had been states of destination for some of the more radical parts of American culture even before the fall of the United States, and while there were a lot of loyal Americans in these states, there were also quite a few people that thought that the United States was infringing on their liberties too much. As the United States fell, it was these elements that took control of the governments of these states. They did this legally through elections, and even those that disagreed with the Libertarian point of view ended up going along with it, in the hopes of building a better America in their little corner of what had been America.

At first, this is what happened. The FSA was very successful in its early years as people embraced the idea of personal freedoms. Unfortunately, as is human nature, some people began to think that their personal freedoms were more important than those of their neighbors, and chaos started. These states had always had a great deal of resources, but they had very small populations, and this led to the FSA struggling to produce everything they needed, and while trade was possible for them, it was difficult for their leaders to admit they needed help, and the FSA began to fall behind many of the other nation-states.

Today, the FSA is technologically behind many of the nation-states, although not all of them. The FSA is at a technological level equivalent to the mid-21st century. Their medical procedures have fallen the least behind, with doctors being able to cure many illnesses just as they can in the more advanced parts of the old USA. Their space science has fallen the farthest behind. They recently launched their first communications satellite, which now allows them to stop paying for time on other nation's satellites...giving them the freedom to broadcast what they want, and link to the Net without worrying about being censored by other countries.

The FSA is very protective of their borders. Most roads into the country are guarded, and they tend to make it difficult for outsiders to come into their country. They like their freedoms the way they are, and they're not necessarily interested in having other people bringing their ideas of freedom into the country. There are also a lot of separatist groups that are starting to pop up, especially in the mountainous regions of the FSA. These groups are, not surprisingly,

fairly heavily armed...but then so are most of the law-abiding citizens that make up the population of the FSA. At this time, these separatist groups aren't a major threat, but that could change over time.

GREAT LAKES CONGLOMERATE:

Population: 60,000,000

Capital: Detroit

Much like Corprotopia, the Great Lakes Conglomerate is completely dependent upon their corporations. The biggest difference is that the corporations are owned by the citizens...not all of the citizens, but at least the wealthiest 30%. This gives the people a greater voice than they had in the old United States, where the corporations were controlled by the wealthiest 1-5%. This does still leave a lower class, the working class, but these people make enough money to survive, and there is very little poverty in the Great Lakes Conglomerate. Also, while the GLC does use a lot of robots, they use them more for industrial reasons than anything else. This has avoided the problems that Corprotopia has had with curtailing the rights of its citizens. The people of the GLC enjoy the third highest level of civil liberties of any citizens in what was the USA. Only the citizens of the FSA and New England enjoy more freedom.

From a technological standpoint, the GLC is the most advanced nation of the divided states. They excel in all areas of science. They have built two colonies on the moon, and have even landed a manned mission on Mars, although they haven't yet started to colonize the red planet. They have also started mining operations on some of the near Earth orbit asteroids.

The GLC has fairly open borders, but they are still wary of people from other parts of the map. The one area they do not accept travelers from is The Wastelands. In fact, they've built a wall that stretches along the border of the GLC and The Wastelands. The wall even stretches forty miles north and thirty miles east of their border with The Wastelands. They really want to keep the inhabitants of that region out because of all of the problems they would bring with them, the least of which would be political turmoil and disease.

GREEN STATES OF AMERICA:

Population: 12,000,000

Capital: Seattle

Originally, Washington tried to join Canada, but the Canadian government didn't want any turmoil with what was left of the United States, so they declined the offer. Oregon eventually joined up with Washington, and given the Green attitude of these states at the time, they decided to adopt an environmental viewpoint to governing. This was hard to get started, but once they started tapping wave power to generate energy for the country, the non-believers in environmentalism slowly came around. With such a power source, and with the populations of the larger cities in the GSA, this country has been successful. People have been able to cut down on the time they spend working thanks to robotic advancements, and they've been able to invest their time in more personal efforts.

This isn't to say that everything is perfect in the GSA. While the western part of the country has had great prosperity, the mountains of the eastern part of the country have not had as much success, and there is quite a bit of discord in this part of the country, with some arguing that they should join up with the FSA to the east. So far, this has just been political unrest, with an effort to try to elect representatives that are more Libertarian than Green, but the population of the west

is so much larger, this hasn't worked so far. Whether this will turn violent in the future is hard to say.

Alaska is currently an independent state, but the GSA is courting them to try to get them to join, although there are rumors that Alaska would really like to join Canada, and now that the US government has completely fallen, Canada may be open to this possibility.

The GSA has very advanced technology, basically on par with the other successful countries. They have several satellites in orbit, and their Green technology has led to a decline in the health issues that were faced in the old USA, and that are still faced in the more industrial nation-states. Transportation between cities and towns is carried out by hydrogen powered bullet trains, and monorails and solar powered busses make up mass transportation in the cities, with few people having cars. Personal transportation in cities is usually done by bike or hydrogen powered motor bike.

For the moment, the GSA has fairly open borders, although they are slowly securing their borders with the FSA because they fear agitators coming in and upsetting the delicate balance of power that they've managed to establish. Even with the peaceful ideals of the Green policy, we're still talking about human nature, and distrust is a common denominator among all humans.

THE INDEPENDENT CITY OF ST. LOUIS

Population: 800,000

The Battle of the Midwest ended with the bombing of Kansas City, which was soon renamed the KC Pit as there no longer was a city. It is often considered the event that created the Wastelands. In the chaotic aftermath, the Great Lakes Conglomerate started taking control of the Missouri cities along the Mississippi. The people of St. Louis realized the city's potential in the new order of things as a center for trade and decided to remain independent. They sent teams to the Confederate States, Appalachia and the Indian Nations to secure treaties with the other nation states along the Mississippi. The Great Lake Conglomerate ended up having no choice but to sign a treaty with St. Louis as well. This made the city truly unique by not being part of any nation state, yet having the full protection of four of them.

St. Louis quickly became the trade center it predicted, but its unique status also made it a perfect center for diplomacy as well. A section of the city was designated for diplomatic use and soon filled with embassies from all the nation states as well as other nations around the world interested in working with the fractured states. With all the influx of traffic, the city swelled to over three times its size in a matter of a decade, solidifying its dominance along the Mississippi.

There is a very limited and highly controlled trade with the tribes of the Wastelands, which is mostly dominated by the Great Lake Conglomerate. The Wastelands tribes have set up their own makeshift market places outside the walls that are unofficially allowed and visited mostly by the more adventurous tourists.

St. Louis is bordered by a well maintained and heavily patrolled wall on its north, west and south sides and the Mississippi river to the east.

(Courtesy of Ian Brazee-Cannon)

INDIAN NATIONS:

Population: 16,000,000

Capital: Varies on an annual basis

Before the disintegration of the United States, the Indian nations across the country had begun to work together like they never had before to stop American lawmakers from taking what

little the Indians had left. So, as the country fell apart, and as battles and global climate change destroyed much of the central part of America, most of the Indian nations moved to the Dakotas and surrounding areas. Over the course of twenty years, the Indians were able to put more and more of their members into elected roles, and as the final days of the US came about, the Dakotas, Iowa, and Minnesota joined together to form what became known as the Indian Nations.

Although it is called the Indian Nations, not everyone living here is actually Native American. There's still a wide variety of people living here, but they're slowly leaving the country because they don't seem to like being minorities. The Indian Nations have adopted much of the ancient ideals of the Native peoples, but they have not gone back to living in teepees and such, as some outsiders imply. The Indians have an advanced technology that uses robots. They also have a high level of medical technology, although they blend their medical ideas with ancient remedies...and it actually seems to work.

The capital of this country moves on an annual basis, so that each tribe holds the capital at a different time. This cuts down on some of the territorial disputes that often disrupted the old USA.

Not every member of the government is an Indian. Anyone can run for tribal council, and some minorities (for this country) have been elected. The Indian Nations keep fairly open borders, except for the border with The Wastelands. These are heavily protected, and usually the only people allowed through are Indians trying to escape from the harsh conditions that have taken over in this area.

One large nation, the Navajo, refused to join, citing that they could stay in Arizona and be happy. The majority of other Indian Nations have moved most of their people here.

NEW ENGLAND:

Population: 18,000,000

Capital: Boston

New England, like most of the surrounding countries, is very advanced, although they have stepped away from corporate ownership of everything. All of the companies in this nation-state are owned by the people...*en masse*. The only poor people in New England are those who choose to lead a lifestyle that allows them to be poor, such as those who choose to be homeless. By the same token, there are no rich people in New England either. This isn't communism, however, as there are definite class distinctions but they are not as great as they were in the old US. Members of New England society that have wanted to hold on to the old ideals of the US have found that they've had to move into other parts of what used to be the United States.

Technologically, New England is one of the more advanced countries. They use robots for most "menial" work, allowing the residents to focus on other aspects of their life, although some people still choose to do "menial" work, and this is acceptable to the people of New England, as people are encouraged to explore their independence as long as they do not infringe on the independence of others. New England has several satellites in orbit. They also trade heavily with their neighbors, both those in the old United States, and Canada.

The government of New England is still a representative democracy, but it is more representative of what the people want than what the old United States was.

Next to the Free States of America, this would be one of the most Libertarian nation-states in the old US. They do not guard their borders very heavily, although they do keep a watchful eye on their border with Corpratopia.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN STATES OF AMERICA:

Population: 8,000,000

Capital: Denver

Much like the Rocky Mountain states had been during the time of the United States, the RMSA is a nation of diversity, but also a nation of divisions. A lot of free and green thought is encouraged within this nation-state, but at the same time, they also still have corporations that hold great chunks of power. In many ways, the RMSA most resembles the old United States, although it does seem to function better than the old US, possibly because the old US had become a bloated mockery of itself.

The RMSA is technologically very advanced with heavy use of robotics and an active space program. Their medicine is first rate, and as long as you're living in or visiting the area along the front range of the Rockies, this country would almost seem like paradise. People in these areas do not want for much. There is very little poverty, and the majority of the people seem happy with the blend of personal need and corporate need that seems to have settled on the area. However, as you move away from the front range, things start to change. Moving into the mountains, you find more and more people that agree with the FSA, and there is even an active movement (although not very powerful, yet) that seeks to separate from the RMSA and join the FSA. As you move to the east, poverty becomes a bit more prevalent, and you also see more corporate exploitation. While some of the farmlands in this area are owned by corporations, there are still a large number that are owned by individuals, but these individuals can not afford the kind of robotic help that is used on the corporate farms, and are having a harder and harder time surviving, and the government does not do much to help them.

The borders of the RMSA are heavily patrolled. Although the people and the government offer up a very trusting façade, that trust basically only applies to the people living in the RMSA, and a few from outside. Border patrols (both human and robotic) frequently patrol the RMSA borders with Arizona, The Free States of America, Texas, and The Wastelands. There are few border patrols near Utah, and they do not guard their borders with the Indian Nations, since this is one of their major local trading partners.

TEXAS:

Population: 20,000,000

Capital: Austin

As mentioned previously, Texas was the first state to formally break away from the United States. It was done with a cession vote that was not accepted in Washington. This led to a brief, but deadly war...most of which was fought in Oklahoma. While Texas did take the heaviest of casualties, the US finally agreed to let cession happen, mostly because they were starting to have problems with a number of other states. At first, Texas was very successful as an independent nation. They were able to export oil to the US (once tensions faded), and then to other nation-states as they started to pop up. However, with the fall of the United States, the auto makers suddenly found themselves to be much less powerful than they were and independent developers were able to create affordable electric, and then hydrogen, powered cars. As oil was used less and less, Texas found itself falling on hard times. Suddenly, Mexico and the Central American countries that they'd tried to isolate themselves from seemed like their best trading partners, but Calivada and the Green States of America had already started exporting the electric cars to Mexico and Central America, and Texas found itself in a lot of trouble.

Texas is still a power today, but they are no longer as independent as they'd like to think they are. They trade heavily with their neighbors in order to support the lifestyles demanded by the 20,000,000 inhabitants. In addition, the Texas government had put so much stock in oil that they never worried about developing other technologies (like robotics), and they now find themselves having to import these products as they try to catch up in manufacturing.

The average Texan lives a lifestyle that is similar to what they lived before the fall of the United States. Unlike some countries, where people are living much better, Texans find their situations virtually unchanged. On the other hand, they're not living as badly as the people in some of the new nation-states. Civil liberties are very important to Texans, but racism is still a major problem, and they certainly haven't taken on the more progressive attitudes of many of the nation-states, although they have not taken steps back like the people and government of the Confederate States of America.

Texas is now developing better science, although it is still governed quite a bit by religious doctrine, so medicine has fallen behind the times, and Texas currently does not have a space program, even though Houston used to be at the heart of the American space program. Now the facilities in Houston have been walled up and are heavily guarded. No one is allowed to enter the area as it's seen as space travel is seen as an affront to God.

The border of Texas is heavily patrolled especially its borders with Mexico and The Wastelands. Most of the border patrols are performed by people, but robots are slowly starting to show up on the borders. Some Texans view this as progress, while others see the robots as taking away human jobs. Some things never change.

UTAH:

Population: 1,200,000

Capital: Salt Lake City

Utah is a very small power in the Divided States. As the nation crumbled, no one seemed to want to take Utah in, and they found themselves left to fend for themselves. As a result, Utah tends to be very far behind many of the other nation-states, although they do trade with their neighbors in an effort to try and catch up. Their neighbors are willing, although somewhat reluctantly so, to trade with them, mostly because Utah has become a nation-state that is even more dominated by Mormonism than it was as a state in the United States. And while, it's neighbors may not have a problem with Mormons, they do have a problem with the unacceptance of others that has become a part of this nation-state. Citizens that are not members of the Church only receive 1/10th of a vote when voting. While this doesn't silence the voice of non-Mormons, it does make it difficult for them to fight against a system they many not believe in.

The biggest reason the other nation-states trade with Utah is because they don't want to see it fall into a chaotic area like The Wastelands, and this is a very real possibility. While things are very stable around Salt Lake City and Provo, other areas of the country are seeing more and more chaos with bands of younger people turning into gangs that prey on the older citizens. So far, this has only been a minor annoyance, but things are getting more serious, and it's very possible that the government will have to intervene with military force to put a stop to some of these more powerful gangs.

Utah does not have much technology that was invented before the middle of the twenty-first century. They do not use robots, and there has been no possibility of creating a space program. Also, their medical facilities are at least fifty years behind those of their neighbors.

WASTELANDS:

Population: Unknown

Capital: None

The Wastelands are an area of barbarism in the heart of what had been America. Things started to get bad here as the full effects of global climate change took effect. Then there was the war between Texas and the United States that was shortly followed by battles between other states and the US and then individual states as the current nation-states tried to form themselves. This has left the area barren and desolate. The wind seems to blow here at all times, and most of the time it is blowing the dust of dead fields or dead casualties in all directions. It is also very hot here, with temperatures in the Summer rising above what is seen in Arizona. Very little can grow and the cities have fallen into ruin.

This area is not devoid of human life, however. Bands of brigands and other unsavories roam these lands looking for victims to pillage, although what they could possibly steal is hard to imagine. The cities have descended into walled up streets with bands of thugs roaming them looking to prove their power over one another, although what that power really means is beyond the comprehension of everyone living in the “civilized” regions of the Divided States.

The actual number of inhabitants of this region is unknown as it’s been decades since any kind of accurate count was actually taken. Some guess in the hundreds of thousands, but most think the numbers are closer to ten million. No matter how many people actually inhabit this area, this is not a place where civilized people want to venture.