

June 25, 1788

Virginia Becomes a State

From the first English settlement in America through the American Revolution, the War of 1812, and the Civil War, Virginia and her citizens have been in the middle of the growing pains of the nation. A great deal of history happened in Virginia, and with so many federal offices located there, history continues to happen every day. Virginia has the distinction of being the birthplace of at least eight United States presidents and many others who have served in government and military positions throughout the years. The natural beauty of this state only adds to its attraction. Traveling through the Blue Ridge Mountains allows visitors to see the natural beauty of the mountains in any season of the year. The beaches offer boating, fishing, and beach sports. The beautiful old homes combine the beauty and the history of this great state. Many famous people are from Virginia, including George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, Zachary Taylor, Woodrow Wilson, Henry Lee, George Rogers Clark, John Marshall, Winfield Scott, John S. Mosby, George E. Pickett, Jeb Stuart, Woodrow Wilson, and Edmund Randolph.

Look at the map of Virginia below. Label the capital of Virginia. Locate the cities of Virginia Beach, Alexandria, Charlottesville, Roanoke, Norfolk, Arlington, McLean, Falls Church, Portsmouth, Lynchburg, Danville, Herndon, Hampton Roads, Newport News, Hopewell, Palmyra, Sussex, Hillsville, Marion, Bowling Green, Spotsylvania, Woodstock, and Winchester, and label them on the map. Now label the Blue Ridge Mountains, the Massanutten mountain ridge, Shenandoah Mountains, Appalachian Mountains, Mount Rogers, Whitetop Mountain, High Knob, and Stony Man Mountain. Also, locate the Rappahannock River, James River, York River, Shenandoah River, Roanoke River, New River, Clinch River, Holston River, Powell River, Lake Drummond, Smith Mountain Lake, and Lake Anna, and label them. Lastly, label the states or bodies of water that border Virginia. When you have finished, move on to the timeline of Virginia history on the next page and the research prompts that follow.



Timeline of Virginia History

1584

1607

1619

1624

1676

1693

1736

1774

1775

1781

1784

1794

1831

1861

1863

1865

1870

1912

1964

1989

1. Bacon's Rebellion begins
2. Virginia is readmitted to the Union
3. The first permanent English settlement in America is made at Jamestown
4. A famous slave rebellion is led by Nat Turner
5. Virginia native George Washington is elected commander-in-chief of the Continental Army
6. Virginia becomes a royal colony
7. The first African American to be elected governor of a state in the United States is elected in Virginia
8. The first public library in Virginia is founded
9. Virginia's first newspaper is founded
10. The Battle of Chancellorsville takes place in Virginia during the Civil War
11. Virginia secedes from the Union
12. Queen Elizabeth gives Sir Walter Raleigh permission to colonize the area of present-day Virginia
13. Woodrow Wilson is the eighth Virginia native to be elected president
14. Lord Cornwallis surrenders to George Washington at Yorktown, Virginia
15. College of William and Mary is founded in Williamsburg
16. The Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel is completed
17. Lord Dunmore's War begins
18. The Confederacy surrenders at Appomattox, Virginia, to end the Civil War
19. The first representative legislature is established at Jamestown, Virginia
20. Virginia gives up its claim to the Northwest Territory

Timeline of Virginia History Answer Key

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The Battle of Chancellorsville takes place in Virginia during the Civil War	1863	
	1865	The Confederacy surrenders at Appomattox, Virginia, to end the Civil War
Virginia is readmitted to the Union	1870	
	1912	Woodrow Wilson is the eighth Virginia native to be elected president
The Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel is completed	1964	
	1989	The first African American to be elected governor of a state in the United States is elected in Virginia