

# Election of 1860 Tables and Map Activity

## Handout H

**Directions:** View the tables and map. Then use the information to answer the true/false and short answer questions.

### ***Candidates Table***

Name of Candidate	Party	Views
John Bell	Constitutional Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pro-compromise</li><li>• Wanted to avoid war by finding a middle ground</li><li>• Although a slave owner, he voted against the expansion of slavery</li><li>• Most support in middle states like Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia where war would likely be fought</li></ul>
Abraham Lincoln	Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wanted to ban slavery in new territories to prevent it from spreading, but would not ban it in states where it existed</li><li>• Worried for the future of America if it continued being divided on slavery.</li><li>• Considered slavery morally wrong</li><li>• Supported by most Americans who were opposed to slavery</li><li>• Mostly appealed to the North</li></ul>

Stephen Douglas	Northern Democrats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wanted to save the Union by not interfering with slavery but instead letting each state decide through voting (known as popular sovereignty)</li> <li>• Supported by Americans who wanted states to decide on slavery for themselves</li> <li>• Mostly appealed to the North</li> <li>• Pro-Popular Sovereignty</li> </ul>
John C. Breckinridge	Southern Democrats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pro-Slavery</li> <li>• Knew he had almost no chance to win, but saw his campaign as a matter of honor</li> <li>• Focused on the threat of Lincoln who would destroy the Union</li> <li>• Supported by Americans who saw owning slaves as a property right</li> <li>• Mostly appealed to the South</li> </ul>

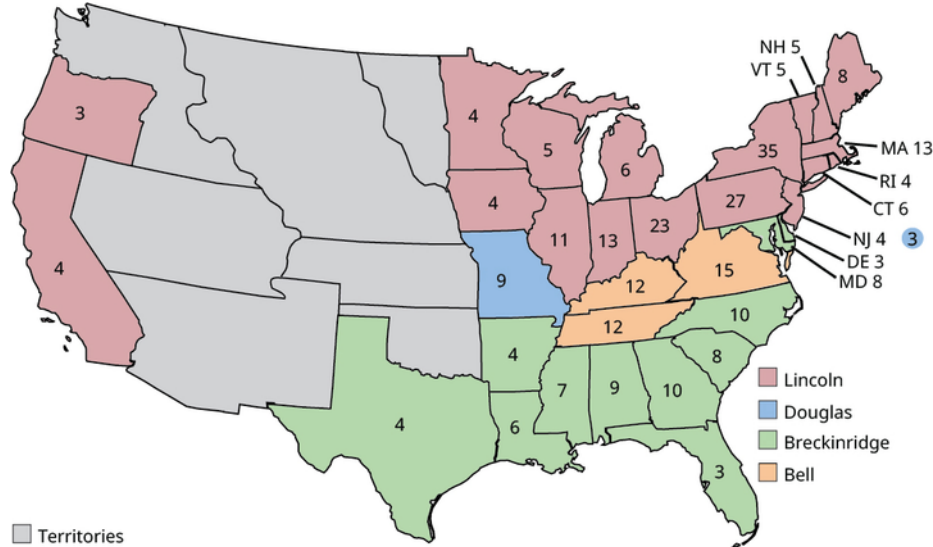
## ***What is the Electoral Vote?***

Did you know that the president isn't elected by popular vote? The Electoral College is the system used by the United States to elect its president. It is outlined in the Constitution and in the Twelfth and Twenty-Third Amendments to the Constitution. Each state has a number of electors equal to its senators and representatives. In the modern day, this ranges from 55 in California to 3 in smaller states like Wyoming. When citizens vote on election day, they are actually voting to select electors who then go on to vote to choose the president. In 1860, this system worked that same way. However, there were fewer states so there were fewer electoral votes overall.

## ***Election Results Table***

Candidate	Popular Vote	Electoral Vote
Bell	590,901	39
Lincoln	1,865,908	180
Douglas	1,380,202	12
Breckinridge	848,019	72

## ***Electoral Map – Election of 1860***



### ***True or False***

Directions: Indicate in each box if the statement is true or false. Mark each true statement with a check mark. If it is false, leave the box blank.

- ☐ Abraham Lincoln won the most popular votes in the election.
- ☐ John Bell received 180 electoral votes.
- ☐ Stephen A. Douglas got the second-highest number of popular votes.
- ☐ John C. Breckinridge received more electoral votes than John Bell.
- ☐ Abraham Lincoln received fewer popular votes than John C. Breckinridge.
- ☐ Stephen A. Douglas won the least number of electoral votes.
- ☐ In 1860, New York had the most electoral votes.
- ☐ The president is elected by popular vote.
- ☐ Breckinridge won the electoral vote in MD and DE.
- ☐ Douglas won 3 states of electoral college votes.

## ***Short Answer***

**Directions:** Answer each question in complete sentences. Use evidence from the tables and map to support your answers.

1. What was John Bell's approach to avoid war, and why did he have significant support in middle states?

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2. What stance did Abraham Lincoln take on slavery, and where did he mostly appeal?

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3. What was Stephen Douglas's proposed solution to the issue of slavery, and who supported him?

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4. Why did John C. Breckinridge continue his campaign despite knowing he had almost no chance to win, and what was his focus?

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5. What were the total popular and electoral votes secured by Lincoln, and how did this compare to the others

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