

## The Map Proves It, ca. 1919

### Introduction

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Supporters of women's rights used maps to demonstrate where women were allowed to vote, when they won that right, and which elections they could vote in. The source of this map is unknown. Originally printed around 1914, it was altered over a period of five years to reflect the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment in various states through mid 1919.

Each state is marked in patterns representing the status of women's suffrage.

- White represents full suffrage.
- Stripes represent partial suffrage.
- Dots represent presidential, partial county, and state suffrage.
- Black represents no suffrage.

In several states, such as Arkansas, North Dakota, and Indiana, pieces of paper were marked by hand and added to the map to represent changes in suffrage.

This map has many customized markings added, including numbers in the corners of states, small pink squares, and "1P" and "2P" notations. We do not know what all the additions mean.

Small blue pieces of paper record the dates that women could first vote in a state or territory. They also record the order that each state ratified the Nineteenth Amendment. Illinois first ratified the amendment on June 10, 1919, but because of a miswording in the bill's introduction, the amendment was reaffirmed on June 17, 1919. The US secretary of state recognized Illinois as the first state to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment based on the first date.

As the map illustrates, women who lived in the western part of the United States could vote long before their eastern counterparts. Wyoming, Utah, Washington, Montana, and Alaska were all still territories when women obtained full suffrage.

The chart below incorporates information from the map and from historical records.

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### Ratification of the 19th Amendment by State

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| State/<br>Territory | Date of Ratification | Date women could<br>vote | Official order<br>of ratification | Order of<br>ratification listed<br>on the map |
|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Illinois            | June 10, 1919        | June 17, 1919            | 1                                 | 6                                             |
| Wisconsin           | June 10, 1919        | June 19, 1919            | 2                                 | 1                                             |
| Michigan            | June 10, 1919        | June 10, 1919            | 3                                 | 2                                             |
| Kansas              | June 16, 1919        | June 16, 1919            | 4                                 | 3                                             |
| Ohio                | June 16, 1919        | June 16, 1919            | 5                                 | 4                                             |
| New York            | June 16, 1919        | June 16, 1919            | 6                                 | 5                                             |
| Pennsylvania        | June 24, 1919        | June 24, 1919            | 7                                 | 7                                             |
| Massachusetts       | June 25, 1919        | June 25, 1919            | 8                                 | 8                                             |
| Texas               | June 28, 1919        | June 28, 1919            | 9                                 | 9                                             |
| Iowa                | July 2, 1919         | July 2, 1919             | 10                                | 10                                            |
| Missouri            | July 3, 1919         | July 3, 1919             | 11                                | 11                                            |
| Arkansas            | July 28, 1919        | July 28, 1919            | 12                                | 12                                            |
| Montana             | August 2, 1919       | July 30, 1919            | 13                                | 13                                            |
| Nebraska            | August 2, 1919       | August 2, 1919           | 14                                | 14                                            |
| Minnesota           | September 8, 1919    | Not labeled              | 15                                | Not labeled                                   |
| New Hampshire       | September 10, 1919   | September 10, 1919       | 16                                | Not labeled                                   |
| Utah                | September 30, 1919   | 1896                     | 17                                | Not labeled                                   |
| California          | November 1, 1919     | 1911                     | 18                                | Not labeled                                   |
| Maine               | November 5, 1919     | Not labeled              | 19                                | Not labeled                                   |
| North Dakota        | December 1, 1919     | Not labeled              | 20                                | Not labeled                                   |
| South Dakota        | December 4, 1919     | Not labeled              | 21                                | Not labeled                                   |

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|                |                                                             |             |    |             |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----|-------------|
| Colorado       | December 15, 1919                                           | 1893        | 22 | Not labeled |
| Kentucky       | January 6, 1920                                             | Not labeled | 23 | Not labeled |
| Rhode Island   | January 6, 1920                                             | Not labeled | 24 | Not labeled |
| Oregon         | January 13, 1920                                            | 1912        | 25 | Not labeled |
| Indiana        | January 16, 1920`                                           | Not labeled | 26 | Not labeled |
| Wyoming        | January 27, 1920                                            | 1869        | 27 | Not labeled |
| Nevada         | February 7, 1920                                            | 1914        | 28 | Not labeled |
| New Jersey     | February 9, 1920                                            | Not labeled | 29 | Not labeled |
| Idaho          | February 11, 1920                                           | 1896        | 30 | Not labeled |
| Arizona        | February 12, 1920                                           | 1912        | 31 | Not labeled |
| New Mexico     | February 21, 1920                                           | Not labeled | 32 | Not labeled |
| Oklahoma       | February 28, 1920                                           | Not labeled | 33 | Not labeled |
| West Virginia  | March 10, 1920<br>(Confirmed on<br>September 21, 1920)      | Not labeled | 34 | Not labeled |
| Washington     | March 22, 1920                                              | Not labeled | 35 | Not labeled |
| Tennessee      | August 18, 1920                                             | Not labeled | 36 | Not labeled |
| Connecticut    | September 14, 1920<br>(Reaffirmed on<br>September 21, 1920) | Not labeled | 37 | Not labeled |
| Vermont        | February 8, 1921                                            | Not labeled | 38 | Not labeled |
| Delaware       | March 6, 1923                                               | Not labeled | 39 | Not labeled |
| Maryland       | March 29, 1941                                              | Not labeled | 40 | Not labeled |
| Virginia       | February 21, 1952                                           | Not labeled | 41 | Not labeled |
| Alabama        | September 8, 1953                                           | Not labeled | 42 | Not labeled |
| Florida        | May 13, 1969                                                | Not labeled | 43 | Not labeled |
| South Carolina | July 1, 1969                                                | Not labeled | 44 | Not labeled |

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|                |                                                                                          |             |    |             |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----|-------------|
| Georgia        | February 20, 1970                                                                        | Not labeled | 45 | Not labeled |
| Louisiana      | June 11, 1970                                                                            | Not labeled | 46 | Not labeled |
| North Carolina | May 6, 1971                                                                              | Not labeled | 47 | Not labeled |
| Mississippi    | March 22, 1984                                                                           | Not labeled | 48 | Not labeled |
| Alaska         | 1913 (only applied to white women)                                                       | Not labeled | 49 | Not labeled |
| Hawaii         | US Territory - received suffrage on August 18, 1920 when the 19th Amendment was ratified | Not labeled | 50 | Not labeled |

### Questions for Discussion

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1. The western part of the country granted women full suffrage rights as early as 1869. What factors may have influenced the legislatures of the western territories and states to provide for women's suffrage far earlier than the eastern section of the country?
2. After Tennessee ratified the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920, there were twelve states left (other than Alaska and Hawaii, which were territories) to ratify the document. How would you characterize those remaining twelve states?
3. The states of Florida, South Carolina, Georgia, Louisiana, and North Carolina ratified the Nineteenth Amendment between 1969 and 1971. What historical events or trends may have impacted the ultimate ratification process in these states?
4. Maps are documents that provide the observer with information. In this case, "The Map Proves It" tells the story of women's suffrage. Create an alternate title for this map that captures the message of the document and explain why you believe it is an appropriate title.

# The Map Proves It

1913  
Alaska

White States, Full Suffrage; Shaded States, Partial Suffrage; Dotted States, Presidential Suffrage; Black States, No Suffrage.

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