



## Map of Territorial Growth of the United States

The United States quadrupled in size between 1800 and 1900. The country went from being concentrated along the Atlantic coast of North America to stretching across the continent to the Pacific Ocean, and included the Hawaii islands and Alaska territory. The United States expanded its borders by making treaties with France, Spain, Great Britain, and Russia, and by going to war with Mexico.



**Louisiana Purchase, 1803.** Bought from France for \$15 million. Doubled the territory of the United States, and included the Mississippi River and the river's main port of New Orleans.

**Mexican cession, 1848.** Surrendered by Mexico after the Mexican War (1846-48). Under the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, the United States paid Mexico \$15 million for the land.

**Texas annexation, 1845.** The United States annexed the Republic of Texas and admitted it as a state. In 1836, Anglo-Americans in Texas revolted and fought a war of independence against Mexico.

**Gadsden Purchase, 1853.** Bought from Mexico for \$10 million. Railroad companies wanted the land to build a southern railroad that did not cross high mountains.

**Oregon Country, 1846.** Britain, Spain, Russia, and the United States all claimed Oregon. Spain and Russia gave up their claims. In 1846, Britain and the United States signed a treaty that split the disputed area.

**Source:** United States Department of Interior, *National Atlas of the United States*



### Table of Territorial Growth of the United States, 1800-1860

The United States more than tripled in size between 1800 and 1860. The country went from being concentrated along the Atlantic coast of North America to stretching across the entire continent to the Pacific Ocean. The United States expanded its borders by making treaties with France, Spain, and Great Britain, and by going to war with Mexico in 1846.

Year	Area of the U.S. in Square Miles
1800	888,811
1810	1,716,003
1820	1,788,006
1830	1,788,006
1840	1,788,006
1850	2,992,747
1860	3,022,387

**Source:** United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Historical Statistics of the United States, 1789-1945* (U.S. Government Printing Office, 1949), 35.



## **Unit Vocabulary: Manifest Destiny and the Mexican War**

**annexation:** to add a region to a country or state; to take control of a territory or place  
e.g. The U.S. *annexed* Texas in 1845.

**cession:** giving up or surrendering something (such as land), often as a result of war

**cede:** to give up or surrender

**purchase:** to buy

In 1803, the United States bought land located in the Midwestern US from France. It was called the **Louisiana Purchase**.

**state:** a region of a country that is controlled by the country's central government but that can make some of its own laws

**territory:** an area of land that belongs to or is controlled by a government; one of the parts of the United States that is not a state

**acquisition:** the act or process of getting something, such as land

**expansion:** the act of becoming bigger

**treaty:** a written agreement that is made between two or more countries

**Manifest Destiny:** The 19<sup>th</sup> century belief that the expansion of the US throughout North America was good and necessary



**Analysis Worksheet:**  
**Territorial Growth of the United States, 1800-1860**  
**PART I. The Three “B’s” of Expansion**

	BOUGHT	BARGAIN	BATTLE
<i>Related unit vocabulary words (eg. treaty)</i>			
<i>Territory gained through this method</i>			

**PART II. When and why the United States expanded the most**

In which decade between 1800 and 1860 did the United States gain the most new territory?  
 (Circle only one)

1810s                  1820s                  1830s                  1840s                  1850s

Which events and actions took place in this decade? (Circle all that apply)

Louisiana Purchase                  Texas Annexation                  Oregon Territory Treaty  
 Mexican Cession                  Alaska Purchase

Texas was annexed as a result of what event?

- a. the Spanish Cession of 1819
- b. Texans rebelled against Mexico and created the Republic of Texas
- c. the Gadsden Purchase

Many Americans wanted to be a nation “from sea to shining sea”. What was the main method that the U.S. government used to achieve this objective?