

United States Court System

The United States has a court system whose organization and jurisdiction are derived from the Constitution of the United States and federal laws.

United States Supreme Court

(Justices/no jury)

- Court of final appeal (Appellate jurisdiction)
- Limited Original jurisdiction

Has the power of **Judicial Review** - the power to decide whether any federal, state, or local law or action violates the U.S. Constitution

Made of 8 associate justices and 1 chief justice

U.S. Courts of Appeals

(Judges/no jury)

- Appellate jurisdiction from U.S. District Courts (cases appealed from lower courts)

There are 12 U.S. Courts of Appeals, one for each circuit.

U.S. District Courts

(Judge with/without jury)

- Original jurisdiction (hears cases for the first time)

Trial courts for both criminal and civil cases

The United States Court System

1. What is the only level of U.S. court that may have a jury?
2. Which U.S. court determines the constitutionality of laws?
3. The power to determine the constitutionality of laws is known as what?
4. Which of the following have the federal courts correctly listed from highest to lowest? (circle the entire answer)
 - A. U.S. Courts of Appeals, U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. District Court
 - B. U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Courts of Appeals, U.S. District Court
 - C. U.S. District Court, U.S. Courts of Appeals, U.S. Supreme Court
5. What does "original jurisdiction" mean?
6. What does "appellate jurisdiction" mean?
7. The structure of the U.S. court system is derived from what document?
8. What U.S. court has original jurisdiction for both criminal and civil cases?