

Name _____ Date _____

Levels of Government

There are three levels of government in the United States of America. The three levels of government are the national level, the state level, and the local level. Each of the three levels have all three of the branches of government.

National Level

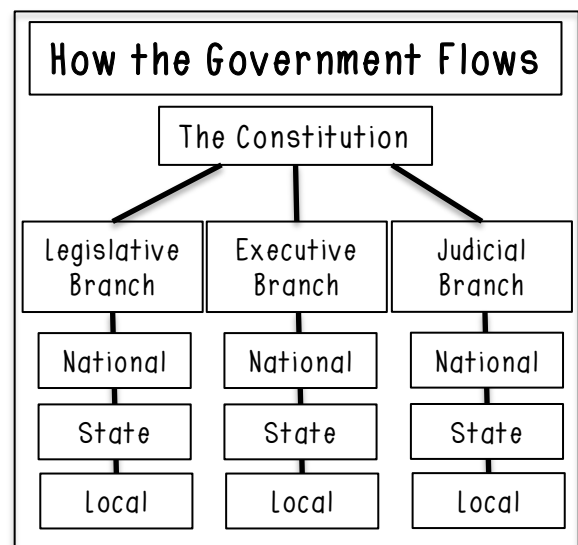
The national government is located in Washington D.C. In the national government, the president is the leader of the executive branch. The president must carry out laws and **veto** laws. The national legislative branch is made up of Congress. Congress is split into two parts called the Senate and the House of Representatives. Both parts write laws for America. The judicial branch is made up of the Supreme Court. The judges on the Supreme Court are called justices. They decide what laws mean.

State Level

Each of America's fifty states have their own government system with three branches. The branches at the state level are very similar to the branches at the national level. While the people who work in each branch have the same job as those in the national level, they often have different **titles**. The leader of the executive branch is called a governor.

The state legislative branch often has two parts called a Senate and House of Representative who make laws. Each state

also has a court system with judges who decide what different laws mean.



Local Level

Most cities and towns have their own government system with all three branches. The leader of the executive branch at the local level is called a mayor. The mayor carries out laws. Many local governments have city councils or county commissioners who make laws for their towns.

Glossary

citizens – someone who lives in or was born in a country

titles – the name of a person's job

veto – stop a law

Local governments have their own judges who are able to decide if **citizens** have broken the law. The local government works to make cities and towns better.