

## Secession Crisis

When the votes were counted near the end of Dec. 1860, Douglas won more than 1 million popular votes but only 12 electoral votes; Breckenridge won most of the South; but Lincoln was the clear winner and President, with 180 electoral votes and 1.8 million popular votes. This created the **Secession Crisis**.

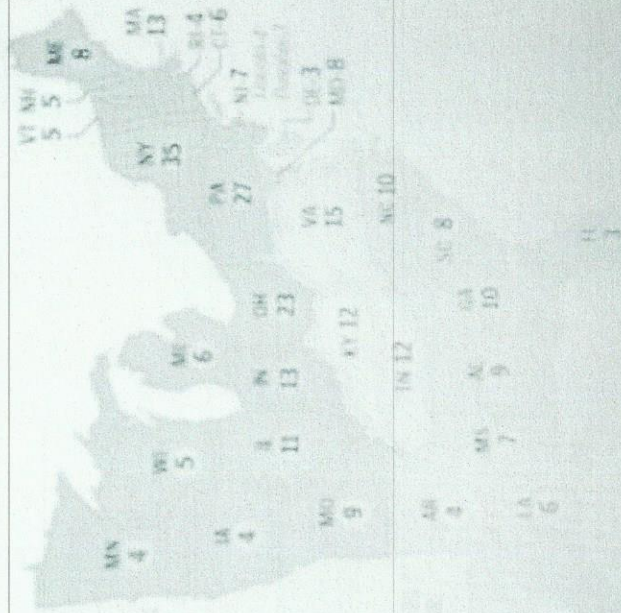
Popular vote  
Total: 4,685,561



Electoral vote  
Total: 303



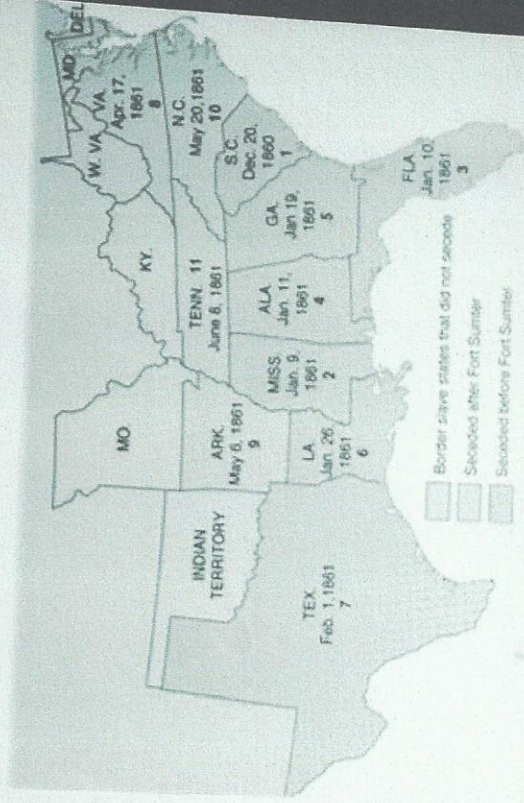
Abraham Lincoln 180  
John Breckinridge 50  
Stephen Douglas 12  
John Bell 51



Pull your state out of U.S.

## Secession Crisis (1860-1861)

- December 1860: Abraham Lincoln is elected President, but will not take office until three months later; South Carolina announces it is seceding from the United States
- January-February 1861: Six more states secede, all in the Deep South
- Early 1861: Lame-duck President Buchanan announces secession is illegal, but the federal gov't will not intervene to stop seceding states
- February 1861: The seceders form a new country – the **Confederate States of America (CSA)**



## Secession Crisis (1860-1861)

- March 1861: President Abraham Lincoln is inaugurated. He announces that secession is illegal, that all 'seceding' states are still part of the U.S., and warns them against interfering with federal property and arms. He would use military force if necessary to quell any rebellion.
- This was a clear warning to the South not to attack a U.S. Army base at **Fort Sumter** in South Carolina.

