

CIVIL WAR BATTLES

Battle & Date	<u>Casualties</u>	<u>Victor</u>	Significance
Fort Sumter Charleston, SC 4/12-14 1861	Union - 11 Confederates - 4	Confed.	First battle of Civil War. Fought in Charleston Harbor. No casualties on either side raised false hopes for a quick war.
First Bull Run Manassas, VA 7/21/61	U- 2,896 C-1,982	Confed.	First sizable engagement of the war. Confederates routed the North. Northern civilians who rode out to see the battle had to flee back to Washington with panicked Union troops. Casualty totals shocked the North and South and alerted them that the war would not be won easily. It was also during this battle that Confederate General Thomas J. Jackson earned his nickname, "Stonewall".
Fort Henry & Fort Donelson -Tenn. 2/6 & 2/16/62	U-2,832 C-1,400-2,000 + 12,000 captured	Union	These were 2 key Confederate forts on the Tennessee River. They were taken by Ulysses Grant and brought him early attention as a Union hero. The capture of these forts also guaranteed Union control of Kentucky, which was wavering between the Union and Confederacy.
Battle of Hampton Roads (Monitor v. Merrimca)	U-240 + 2 ships C - 25+	Draw	The first clash of ironclads this battle revolutionized naval warfare. The Merrimac (C.S.S, Virginia) was able to destroy several wooden Union ships on the first day. The arrival of the Monitor the next day saves the fleet. The two ships fight all day to a draw but it shows the world that wooden ships are now obsolete,
Shiloh, Tenn. 4/6-7/62	U-13,047 C-11,600	Union	The first battle with truly large casualties. The confederacy caught Grant by surprise and almost destroyed his army on the first day. On the second day Grant was reinforced and forced the Confederates back to Mississippi. This battle ended all hopes of the south regaining Tennessee. Although the casualties were higher than anything seen by Americans so far, there would be many more "Shilohs" to come.
Jackson's Shenandoah Valley Campaign May-June 1862	U-7,000 C-3,000	Confed.	Stonewall Jackson at his best. Using speed and superior tactics Jackson is able to defeat several larger Union armies by never allowing them to combine and constantly moving faster than his opponents expect, This campaign cements his reputation as one of the South's best generals,
The Seven Days Near Richmond, VA 6/25-7/1/62	U- 15,849 C- 20,141	Confed.	Fought outside Richmond, this series of battles was Robert E. Lee's first big victory over the North. During the course of the week Lee, even though outnumbered, attacked the Union general, George McLellan, so furiously that the Union army was forced to retreat back to Washington.
Second Bull Run Manassas, VA 8/29-30/62	U-16,0854 C-9,197)	Confed	Fought on almost the same field as the first battle of Bull Run, this was a complete victory for the South. Robert E. Lee further cemented his reputation as a great general. The Union commander, John Pope, was completely defeated.

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Antietam Sharpsburg, MD 9/17/62	U-12,401 C-10,138)	Union.	One of only two major battles fought in the North and the bloodiest day of the war. Robert E. Lee had invaded Maryland and hope the state would defect to the South. This failed to happen and Lee was pinned down at Antietam Creek by Gen. McLellan. The Union victory forced Lee back to the South. It also gave Lincoln the good news he needed to issue the Emancipation Proclamation which freed all slaves in areas not controlled by the Union.
Battle of Perryville	U-3,696 C-3,145	Union	Confederate General Braxton Bragg lead his army into Kentucky in an attempt to regain control of eastern Tennessee and possibly bring Kentucky into the Confederacy. Fought to a draw by the Union army Bragg was forced to withdraw and Confederate hopes for Kentucky were dashed.
Fredericksburg, VA 12/13/62	Union-12,600; Confederate - 5,300.	Confed.	Union general Ambrose Burnside learned the folly of attacking an entrenched enemy with a frontal assault. Robert E. Lee was dug in at the top of a hill called Marye's Heights and he was able to repel 14 Union assaults. The screams of wounded Union soldiers could be heard from the base of the heights but the soldiers were unable to help their fallen comrades.
Chancellorsville, VA 5/1-4/63	Union-17,000; Confederate-12,800	Confed.	Lincoln's quest for a winning general continued with Joseph Hooker. At Chancellorsville he was totally outmaneuvered by Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson. This battle was the greatest Confederate victory of the war. It was tainted at the end, however, when Stonewall Jackson was accidentally shot by his own troops. He died a week later.
Gettysburg, PA 7/1-3/63	Union-23,000+; Confederate-28,000+	Union	The turning point of the war. After his successes at Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville Lee invaded the North again. After trying to break the Union lines for two days he tries a frontal assault on the entrenched Union forces. "Pickett's Charge" as this is known fails and Lee retreats back to Virginia. Never again would the South have a chance to win the war or threaten the North.
Vicksburg, Miss. 5/19-7/4/63 (Campaign)	Union-9,000+; Confederate-9,000+ and 30,000 taken prisoner at Vicksburg.	Union	This siege, which had Ulysses Grant bogged down for 3 months was one of the most important victories in the west. The fortress of Vicksburg was the key to the last Confederate held stretch of the Mississippi. With its defeat the Confederacy was split in two by that mighty river.
Chickamauga, GA 8/19-20/63	Union-16,170; Confederate-18,454	Confed.	A huge victory for the Confederate forces. One of the few times they were on the attack. A large Union army was routed by Braxton Bragg and James Longstreet. The only person that avoided total disaster for the Union was Gen. George Thomas, who earned the nickname the "Rock of Chickamauga" for the way in which he held his troops together.
Chattanooga, Tenn. 11/23-25/63	Union-5,800+; Confederate 6,600+.	Union	Ulysses Grant defeated the confederates of Braxton Bragg and opened the way for a full scale attack on Atlanta by General Sherman. This battle was won when Union troops without orders stormed up Missionary ridge and swept the Confederates from their positions.
The Wilderness, VA 5/5-6/64	Union-17,500+; Cdnfederate-10,500	Draw	Ulysses Grant's first confrontation with Robert E. Lee. Although Lee outmaneuvered Grant and won the battle he was unable to halt Grant's army from advancing towards Richmond. This battle, in thick woods and brush, saw some of the most horrific fighting of the war.
Spotsylvania, VA 5/8-5/19/64	Union-17,500+; Confederate-10,000	Draw	Grant continued his drive towards Richmond. Although Grant's casualties were higher, he could afford to lose the troops while Lee could not. Grant knew this and used it to his advantage.

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Cold Harbor, VA 6/3/64	12,000+; Confederate-4,000	Confed.	Grant's biggest defeat by Lee. Forced to attack an entrenched Confederate army, Grant showed why frontal assaults would no longer work. His army was repeatedly repelled by the Confederates with minimal Southern losses.
Atlanta, GA 7/20-9/2/64 (Campaign)	Union-31,700; Confederate-34,900	Union	The siege of Atlanta by Gen. Sherman ended with the burning of the city by Union troops. This battle was immortalized in "Gone With the Wind." After burning the city Sherman began his famous march to the sea during which his troops looted and plundered their way across Georgia, destroying nearly everything in their path.
Sherman's March to the Sea	Union-2,100+; Confederate-1,000 +.	Confed.	Union general Ambrose Burnside learned the folly of attacking an entrenched enemy with a frontal assault. Robert E. Lee was dug in at the top of a hill called Marye's Heights and he was able to repel 14 Union assaults. The screams of wounded Union soldiers could be heard from the base of the heights but the soldiers were unable to help their fallen comrades.
Petersburg, VA 6/20/64-4/2/65	Union-42,000; Confederate-28,000	Union	The fourth and final battle between Lee and Grant in 2 months. The siege of Petersburg spelled the end of the Confederacy. Lee finally halted Grant's drive toward Richmond but could not defeat him. The eventual waiting game would be won by the North. Both sides dug elaborate trenches in a preview of WW I 50 years later. Richmond finally fell on April 2, 1865.
Appomattox, VA 4/9/65	Union-1,312; Confederate-8,200 with 28,231 surrendered and paroled.	Union	Lee's surrender to Grant. The final chapter of the Civil War. By the time he surrendered he had less than 10,000 soldiers left.