

SS.7.C.3.2*Compare parliamentary, federal, confederal, and unitary systems of government.***SS.7.C.3.2 Benchmark Clarification 3:** Students will recognize examples of these systems of government.

System of Government	Example
Parliamentary	In New Zealand, the government is led by the legislature and the Prime Minister . The Prime Minister is the leader of the political party that has a majority of seats in the legislature.
Federal	Argentina's federal government has an elected President, National Congress, and Supreme Court. Argentina has provinces, or states, that have their own constitutions and legislative, executive, and judicial powers. The central government shares powers with those provinces.
Confederal	The European Union is a partnership among 27 countries in Europe. Everything that happens among those countries comes from treaties (formal agreements) agreed to by the members.
Unitary	Japan has a strong central government. The legislative branch in Japan is called The Diet. The executive branch is led by the Prime Minister and lower ministers. The 47 provinces, or states, of Japan rely on the central government for money and support.

confederal system - a system of government where power is located with the independent states and there is little power in the central government

federal system - a system of government where power is shared between a central government and states

legislative - the power of government to make laws

parliamentary system - a system of government where power lies with the legislative body and the leader of the country is part of the legislature

prime minister - the head of state in a parliamentary system

unitary system - a system of government where almost all power is located with the central government