

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910777485003321
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Titolo	Citizen soldiers in the War of 1812 / / C. Edward Skeen
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Lexington, Kentucky : , : University Press of Kentucky, , 1999 ©1999
ISBN	0-8131-8878-4 0-8131-4955-X 0-8131-7056-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (240 p.)
Disciplina	973.5/2
Soggetti	United States History War of 1812 Manpower United States Militia History War of 1812
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Title; Copyright; Contents; List of Illustrations; Acknowledgments; Introduction; 1. The Militia before the War of 1812; 2. Congress and Military Mobilization; 3. Militia Organization; 4. The States and Militia Mobilization; 5. The Militia and the War in the West; 6. The Militia and the War on the Northern Front; 7. The Atlantic Front and the Battle of Bladensburg; 8. Federal-State Relations; 9. War in the South and the Battle of New Orleans; 10. The War's End and the Decline of the Militia; Notes; Bibliographical Essay; Index; A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; I; J; K; L; M; N; O; P; Q; R; S; T UV; W; Y
Sommario/riassunto	Winner of the Army Historical Foundation Book AwardDuring the War of 1812, state militias were intended to be the primary fighting force. Unfortunately, while militiamen showed willingness to fight, they were untrained, undisciplined, and ill-equipped. These raw volunteers had no muskets, and many did not know how to use the weapons once they had been issued. Though established by the Constitution, state militias found themselves wholly unprepared for war. The federal government was empowered to use these militias to ""execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections, and repel invasions;

