

Massachusetts

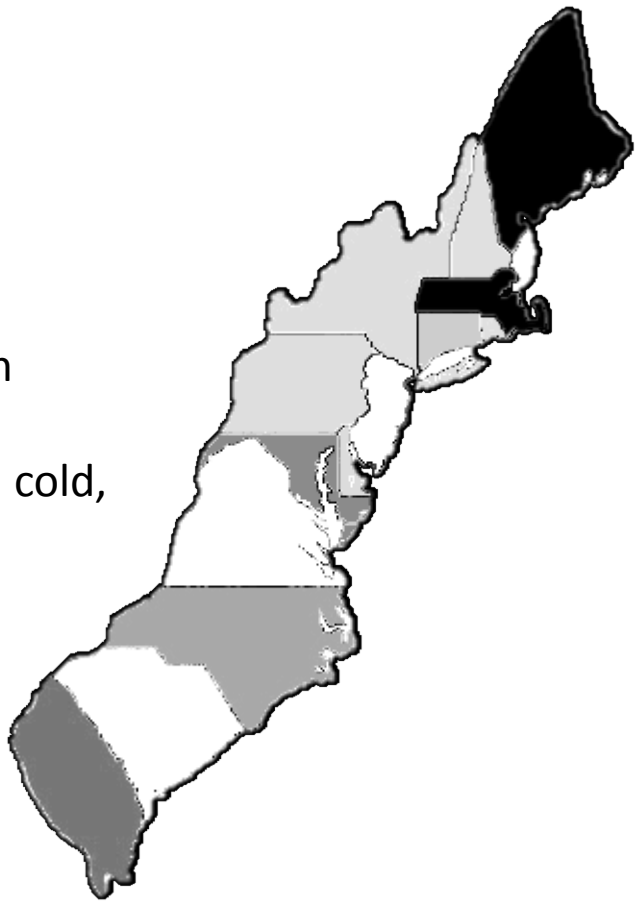
Founded: 1630

Major Cities: Boston, Plymouth

1750 Population: 188,000

Climate: Hot, humid summers; cold, snowy winters

Economy: Manufacturing



Facts

- Largely unlike the other colonies, most emigrants came for religious (Pilgrims and Puritans) reasons not necessarily for economic gain.
- Fancy goods such as jewelry and silk were taxed highly to discourage people from buying them and being materialistic.
- Fish was the main export which were dried and sent back to Europe.
- Shoemaking and ship building also became large industries.
- Early on questioned the King's ability to control their government.
- Education was provided for most children.
- Created the first institute of higher learning in the colonies - Harvard University in 1646.
- Most people lived in or near large cities.

New Hampshire

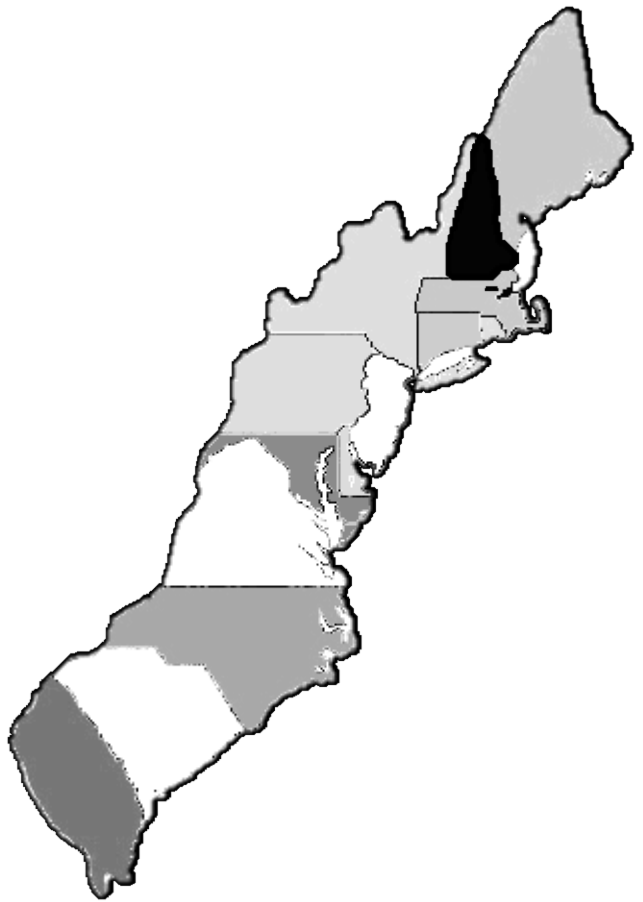
Founded: 1638

Major Cities: Concord

1750 Population: 27,500

Climate: mild summers; cold, snowy winters

Economy: Manufacturing



Facts

- Founded by settlers of Massachusetts who wanted land and economic opportunities for themselves.
- Main products: fishing, textiles, shipbuilding, potatoes
- Very slow to grow due to arguments over who controlled the land.
- One of the first colonies to produce textiles thanks to a group of Scottish immigrants who settled there.
- Religiously diverse population
- A very mountainous and rocky landscape along with the cold weather made farming difficult.
- This led the people to group together in cities and towns.

New York

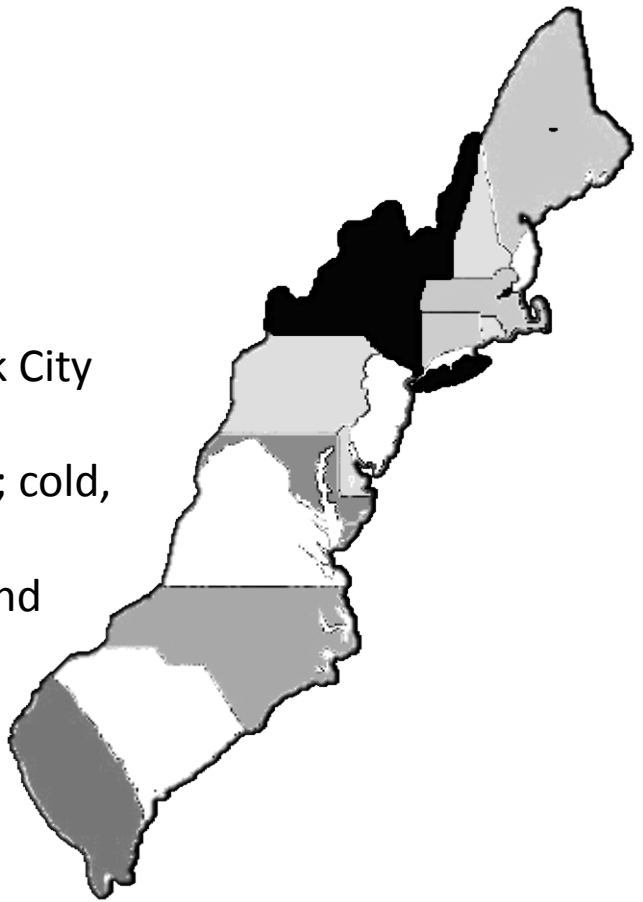
Founded: 1626

Major Cities: Albany, New York City

1750 Population: 77,000

Climate: Hot, humid summers; cold, snowy winters

Economy: Mixed agriculture and manufacturing



Facts

- Main products: wheat, shipbuilding, iron works, cattle, grain, rice, indigo
- Originally founded by the Dutch for economic reasons
- Conquered by the English, though many Dutch continued to live there.
- The English agreed to laws of toleration to keep the peace among the people and religions.
- Even Jews and Catholics had some limited religious freedoms.
- Very mixed geography with mountains in the northeast and flat coastal plains in the south.
- Called a “breadbasket” colony due to the amount of wheat and flour they shipped back to England.
- Slaves made up around 15% of the population in 1750.

Rhode Island

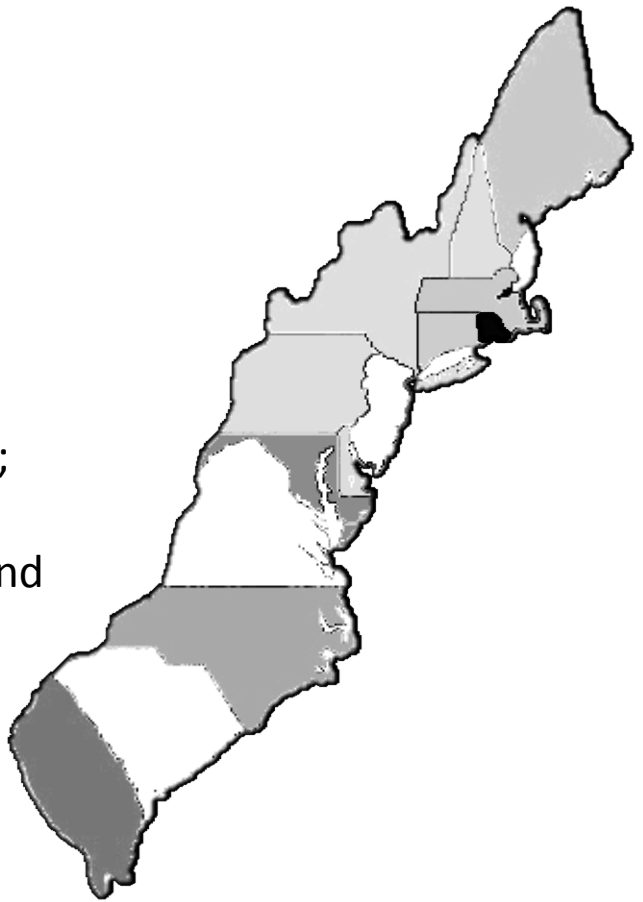
Founded: 1636

Major Cities: Providence

1750 Population: 33,000

Climate: Hot, humid summers;
cold, snowy winters

Economy: Mixed agriculture and
manufacturing



Facts

- Like Connecticut, was founded by a man who felt the Puritans had too much power over the government in Massachusetts.
- Original settlers sought religious freedom.
- Tolerated most Christian denominations and even Jews.
- Early on banned witch trials, the death penalty and slavery (though slaves did eventually end up there... apparently against the law.)
- Major industries: Dairy farming, fishing, lumber, shipbuilding

Connecticut

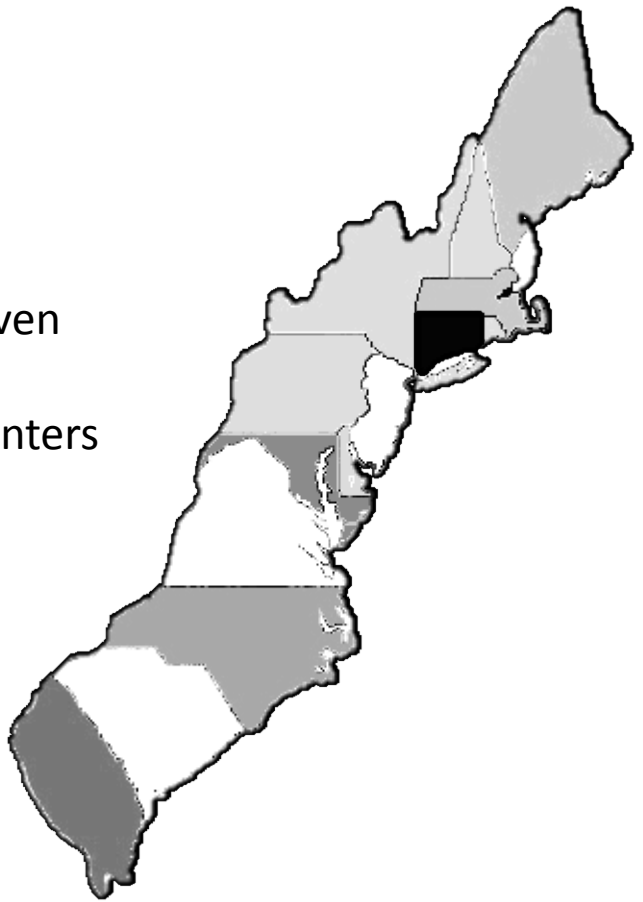
Founded: 1635

Major Cities: Hartford, New Haven

1750 Population: 111,000

Climate: mild summers; cold winters

Economy: Agriculture



Facts

- Founded by a Puritan who left Massachusetts and believed that power should be shared among the people, not just a select few Puritans.
- Major industries: wheat, corn, fish
- All men who owned land could vote.
- People were fined if they did not attend their local church.
- Very few slaves by 1750.
- Had the first written document outlining government power (constitution) in the colonies called the Fundamental Orders.

Pennsylvania

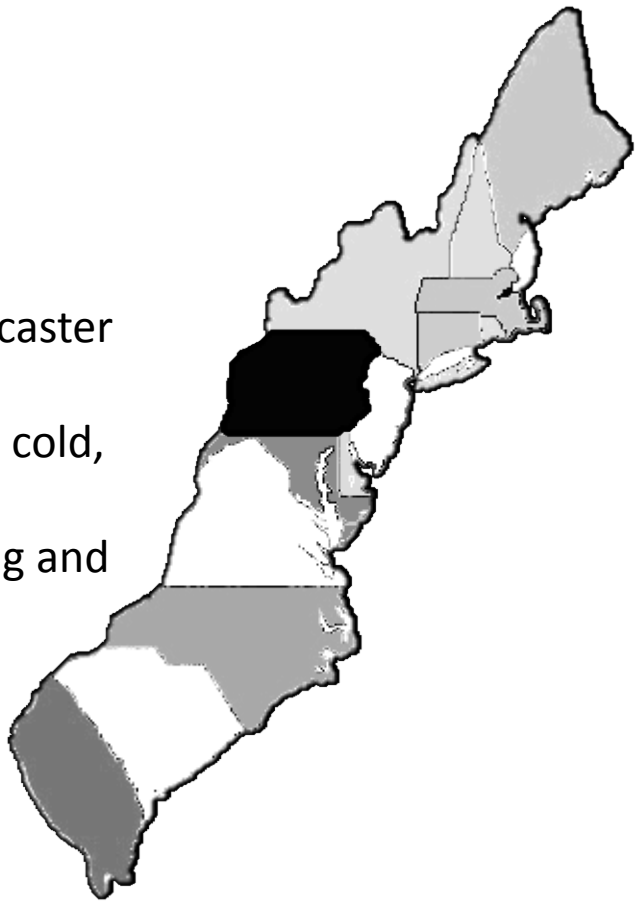
Founded: 1682

Major Cities: Philadelphia, Lancaster

1750 Population: 120,000

Climate: Hot, humid summers; cold, winters

Economy: Mixed manufacturing and agriculture



Facts

- Founded by Quakers fleeing religious persecution
- Quakers believed in direct communication with God not requiring priests in between.
- This meant people were equal and social classes should not exist.
- Granted freedom of religion granted to all monotheistic faiths.
- Government positions originally open to all Christians (even Catholics.)
- Home to the first hospital in the colonies
- Had friendlier contact with Native Americans than most other colonies.
- Only colony not bordering the Atlantic Ocean
- Surprisingly, still well-known for ship building.
- Also successful in other industries such as textiles, iron mining, printing and lumber.
- Main crops: wheat and corn
- Fastest growing population among the colonies.
- Home to the largest city in the colonies; Philadelphia
- Limited slavery by restricting imports.

New Jersey

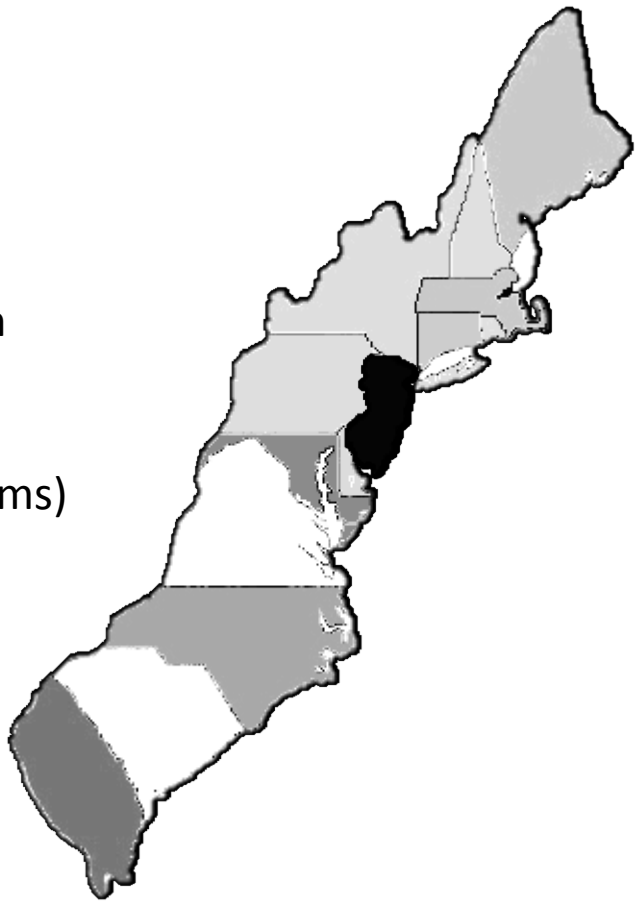
Founded: 1664

Major Cities: Trenton, Princeton

1750 Population: 71,000

mild summers; cold winters

Economy: Agriculture (small farms)



Facts

- Main exports: ironworking, lumber
- Founded by a group that split off from New York for logistic (too hard to govern a land of that size) and economic reasons.
- Originally settled by the Dutch and Swedes.
- Passed a law allowing religious freedom in hope of gaining more settlers to pay rent for land.
- Most settlers were from other colonies – not from Europe.
- The last Northern colony to abolish slavery.
- Home to two of America's oldest universities: Princeton and Rutgers.
- Though the main exports were in manufacturing a huge majority of colonists were small farmers.

Delaware

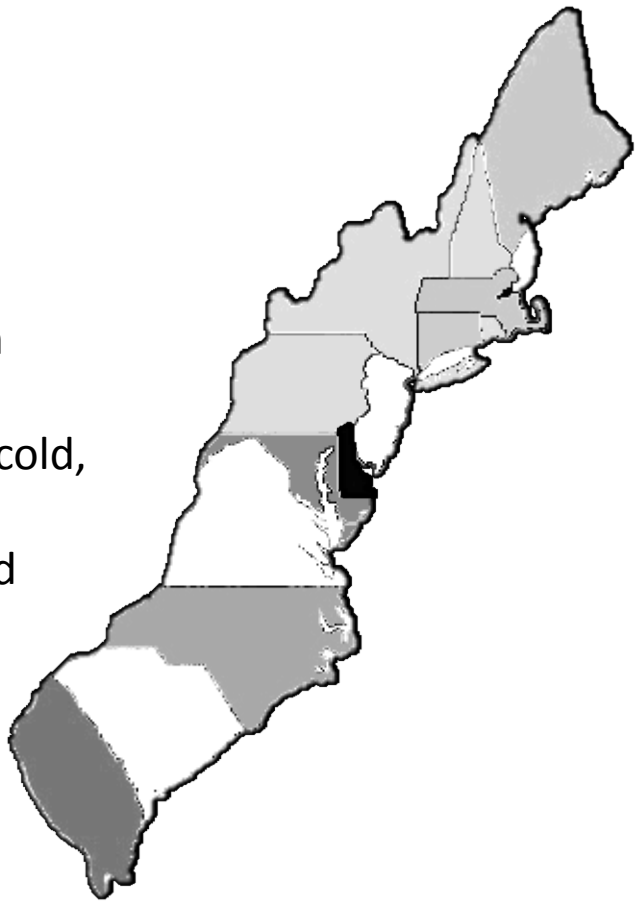
Founded: 1664

Major cities: Dover, Wilmington

1750 Population: 29,000

Climate: Hot, humid summers; cold, rainy winters

Economy: Mixed agriculture and Manufacturing



Facts

- Originally settled by Dutch and Swedes with the Swedes creating the first colony.
- The Swedes banned slavery while in control leaving a small slave population even when the English ultimately took over.
- This resulted in a diverse population of many Europeans in the colony.
- The first English settlers were Pennsylvanians who spread out from Philadelphia looking for economic opportunities.
- For awhile was part of Maryland colony.
- Also later was part of the Pennsylvania colony.
- Main products: fish, lumber, iron products
- One of the “breadbasket” colonies due to growing so much wheat.

Maryland

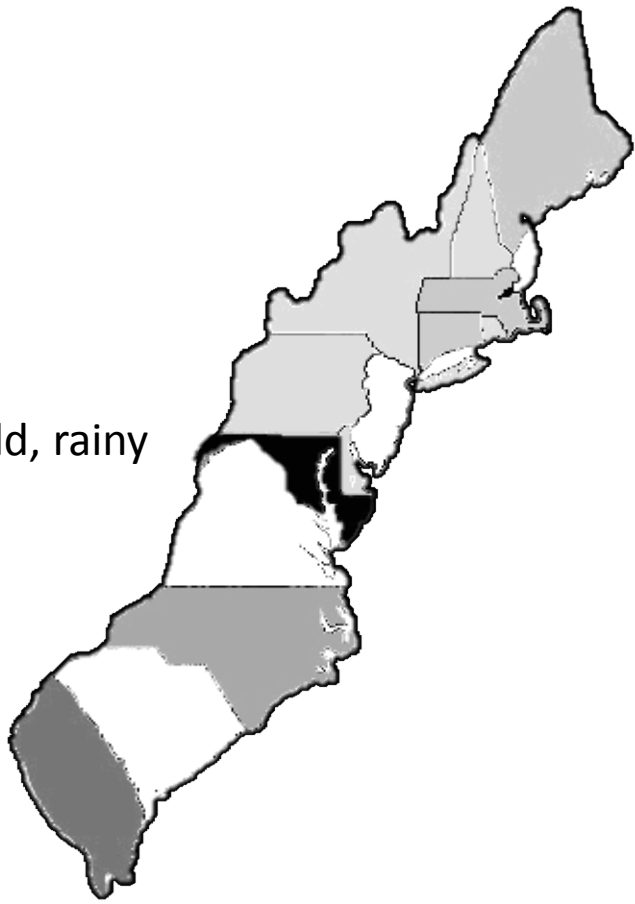
Founded: 1634

Major Cities: Baltimore

1750 Population: 141,000

Climate: Hot, humid summers; cold, rainy winters

Economy: Agriculture



Facts

- Founded as a colony to provide religious freedom for Catholics
- Only colony founded by a Catholic.
- They offered religious freedom to both Catholics and Protestants hoping to show they could live together in peace. (They couldn't.)
- Wars broke out among the Protestants and Catholics with the Protestants ultimately rebelling against their Catholic governor and having him removed.
- Major industries: tobacco, corn, wheat, rice, indigo
- Had many large plantations which were worked by slaves.
- Slaves made up about 30% of the population in 1750.
- Were growing so much tobacco that they government made a law requiring farmers to also grow corn so the people didn't starve.
- Used tobacco as money for awhile
- Access to rivers throughout the colony made transporting goods very easy.

Virginia

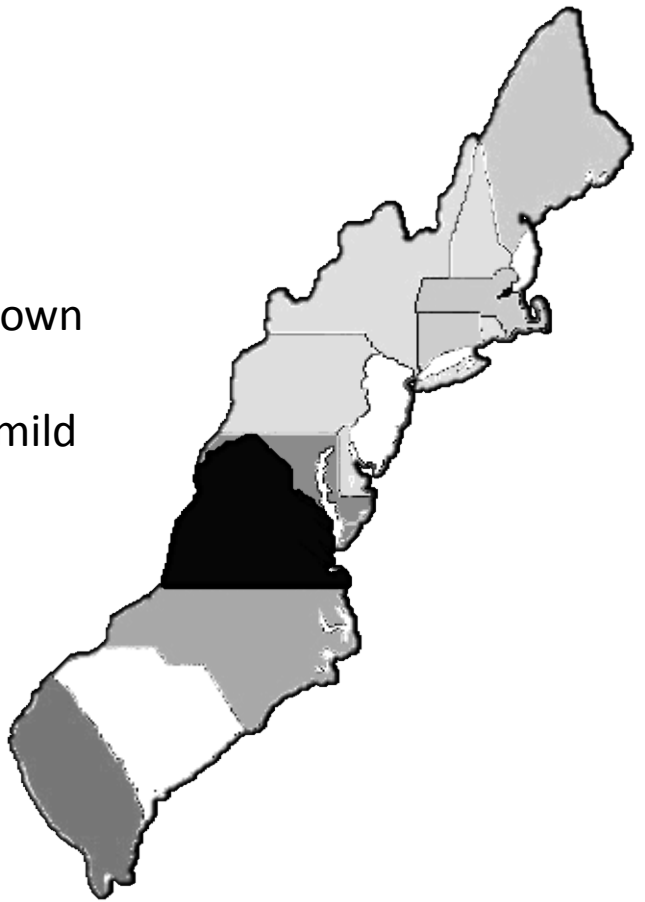
Founded: 1607

Major Cities: Richmond, Jamestown

1750 Population: 231,000

Climate: Hot, humid summers; mild winters

Economy: Agriculture (large plantations and small farms)



Facts

- First colony founded by the English
- Settlers came for economic reasons like farming tobacco or finding gold.
- Early on they were so focused on making money that they neglected growing food for survival.
- Tobacco was so important that it was used as money.
- Main crops: Tobacco, wheat, corn
- Slaves made up about 40% of the population in 1750
- Had one of the first major rebellions against English-backed rule with Bacon's Rebellion in 1676.
- Very limited religious freedom. By law all colonists had to support the Church of England.

North Carolina

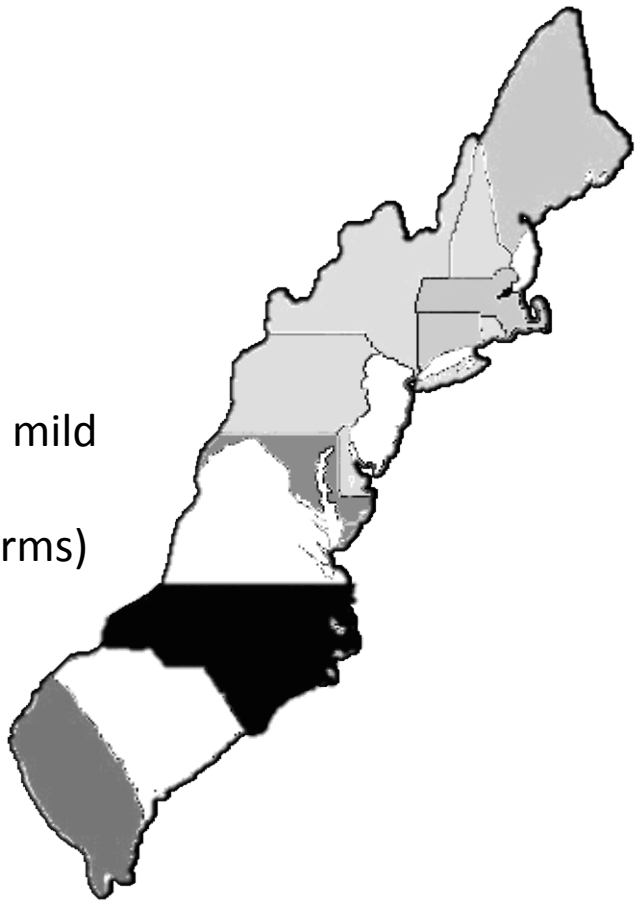
Founded: 1653

Major Cities: Raleigh

1750 Population: 73,000

Climate: Hot, humid summers; mild winters

Economy: Agriculture (small farms)



Facts

- Home to the first two (failed) English settlements in North America.
- Founded by small tobacco farmers from Virginia for economic reasons.
- Main crops: indigo, rice, tobacco
- Very little foreign trade since it had no major seaports.
- Slaves made up approximately 25% of the population in 1750 and nearly all of them were along the coast.
- Inland was made up of many pioneers with very small farms used for survival – not trade.
- The wealthy coastal farmers, though a small part of the population, controlled the government.

South Carolina

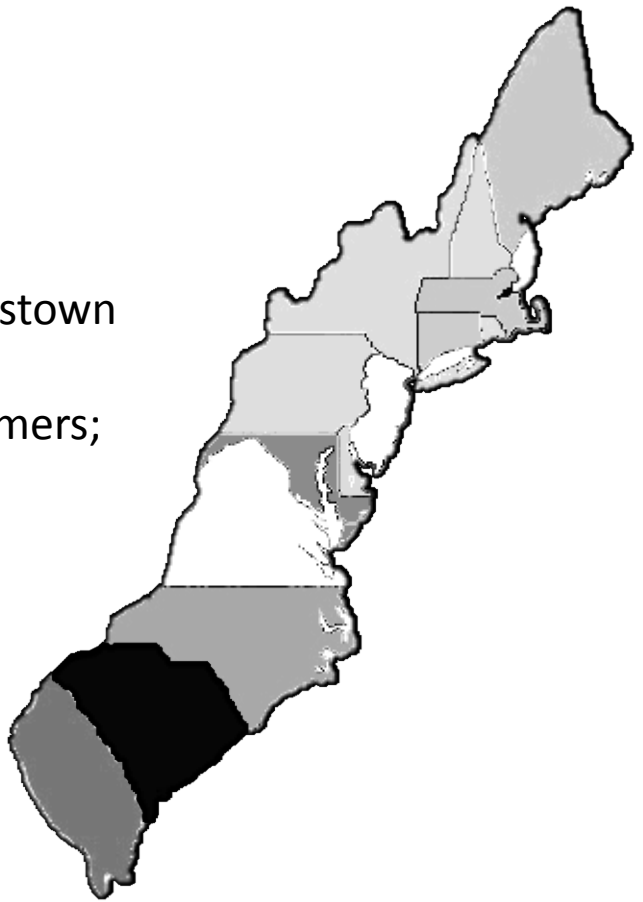
Founded: 1663

Major Cities: Columbia, Charlestown

1750 Population: 64,000

Climate: Long hot, humid summers;
short, mild winters

Economy: Agriculture (large
plantations)



Facts

- Founded by large plantation owners like those from the Caribbean.
- These plantations required a huge amount of workers leading to a massive growth in slavery.
- In 1750 it is estimated that more than half of the colony's population were slaves.
- Main crops: indigo, rice, tobacco, cotton
- Warm, swampy climate meant that crops grew well but it also meant that disease-spreading insects like mosquitoes were rampant.
- Home to one of the largest ports in the colonies making trade with Europe easy and important.
- This also led to a larger number of cities and fewer small farms than in North Carolina.

Georgia

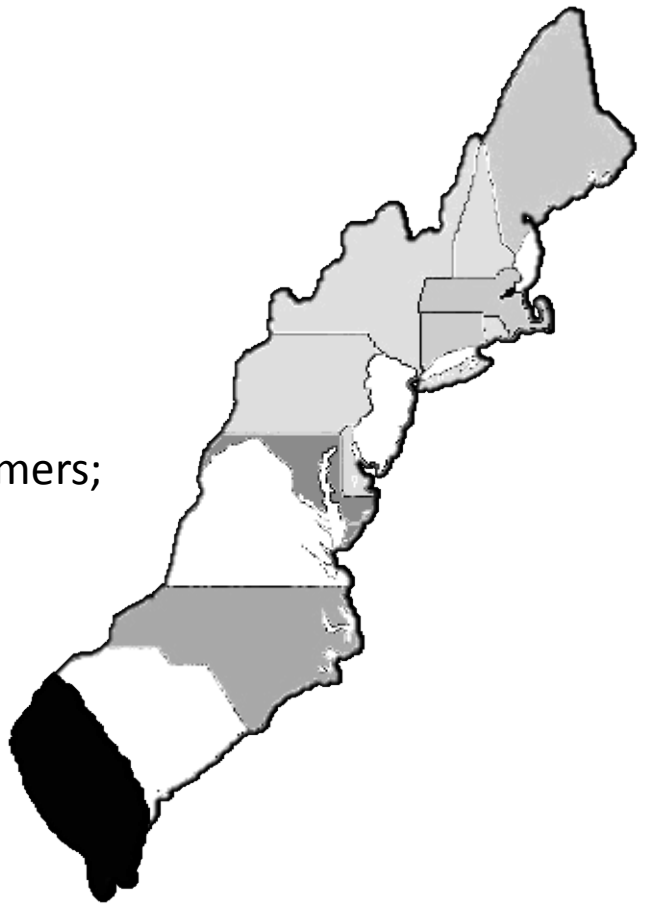
Founded: 1732

Major Cities: Savannah

1750 Population: 5,200

Climate: Long hot, humid summers;
short, mild winters

Economy: Agriculture (large
plantations and small farms)



Facts

- Founded as a colony for debtors where people from England could work to pay off debts instead of going to jail.
- Also provided a military buffer between Spanish Florida and the other colonies.
- Warm climate all year round made it possible to grow crops throughout the year.
- Main crops: rice, indigo, and sugar.
- Earned money exporting these crops to the other colonies.
- Accepted most different Protestant groups (Puritans, Lutherans, etc.) but not Catholics, making it one of the most religiously diverse colonies.
- At first outlawed slavery so more poor farmers could have a chance to compete with rich plantation owners.
- Slavery was eventually legalized which greatly increased the farm production in the colony.

Population source:

<http://merrill.olm.net/mdocs/pop/colonies/colonies.htm> via 1998 world almanac book of facts via the us census

http://thomaslegion.net/population_of_the_original_thirteen_colonies_free_slave_white_and_nonwhite.html via *Historical Statistics of the US*

Main products source:

<http://kathydoty.com/colonies/13coloniesinformation.htm>