

The 13 English Colonies

Directions: While reading “The 13 English Colonies,” use the chart below to take notes. Your notes should be in your own words. Organize your notes so you are able to look horizontally to see similarities and differences between the 3 regions.

New England Colonies	Middle Colonies	Southern Colonies
<p>Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New Hampshire</p> <p>Culture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong community ties: worshiped and governed together. Built town around community squares and shared resources • Local communities more important than the colony as a whole • Puritan laws were severe and did use the death penalty (witch craft) • Had to attend religious services by law. Sabbath was very important. • Divided communities: men and women separated from each other along with separation of other races. • Had very large families with a good survival rate. • Suspicious of outsiders <p>Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetinghouse was a place for religion and government. Like town hall meetings today. Settlers met and discussed their issues. • More focused on community politics than what was going on in the entire colony. Men were accustomed to having their voice heard. • Up until the mid-1700s, ministers had a huge influence on politics <p>Economy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Puritans believed hard work was godly. The land was not good for full scale farming because of poor, rocky soil, but they learned to grow successful crops from natives (corn, squash, pumpkins, and beans). Subsistence farming • Fur trapping and trade, lumber, shipbuilding, fishing, and whaling 	<p>New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware</p> <p>Large farms and big cities (New York and Philadelphia) very different from Backcountry</p> <p>Economy: Very diverse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial agriculture as the Breadbasket colonies growing wheat barley, and rye for cash crops. • fertile soil and a longer growing season (than New England colonies) lead to large farms • “Ranching” - Cattle and pigs traded throughout colonies, Europe and the West Indies • Skilled craftsmen-furniture, guns, glass, hardware, and more • Mining- iron ore <p>Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused more on representative government because of large distance between neighbors. Government centered at the county level because of large farms. <p>Culture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culturally diverse because many Dutch, Swedes, and Germans (many skilled craftsmen) were present in the colonies before the English took over. • Backcountry, along the mountains, was culturally and geographically different. Many German and Scotch-Irish settlers followed the great wagon road to settle on the Appalachian's eastern slopes. • Forests very important, but they made farming difficult. Became excellent hunters and learned from the natives (Iroquois) how to use the forest to live well. • The backcountry experienced hard times with natives when new land was needed. 	<p>Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia</p> <p>Two distinct regions: Southern Backcountry vs. Coastal areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economy: FARMING long growing season and fertile soil • Tidewater Plantations-coastal areas VA, Maryland, and N.C. Tobacco S.C and GA rice and indigo • Not many large plantations, even though large plantations were the best method to make money. Slaves were the basis of the economic success. Often located on rivers, creeks, and coasts for fertile land. Also, access to water allowed for easy trade. • Traded raw materials for manufactured goods. • Few large seaports in the South because large plantation owners ship goods directly from their property rather than sending to cities. • Backcountry farming- small farms that take advantage of excellent soil at the base of the Appalachian Mountains and use the forests for supplies • Culture • Economic hierarchy develops that shapes culture. Though few in number, plantation owners establish “life in the South” • Tidewater: • Slaves greatly outnumbered whites. Planters learned a great deal about farming from the slaves. At first slaves had some rights, but as slaves became more important to the colony and increased in number, Slave Codes were developed to maintain control. It was okay due to their “inferiority.” • Backcountry: • Life was hard and settlers had strong communities that focused on the common good. More economically equal. • Government: • Representative government where economic hierarchy determines who has a say in government. Large planters have the largest influence

