

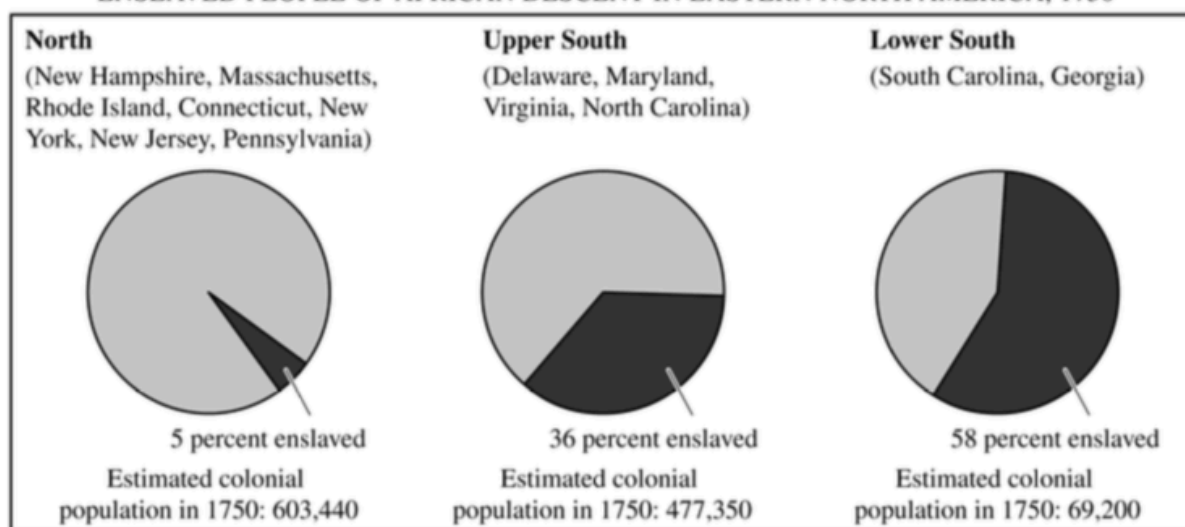
Document A

“In 1739 arrived among us from Ireland the Reverend Mr. [George] Whitefield, who had made himself remarkable there as an itinerant preacher. He was at first permitted to preach in some of our churches; but the clergy, taking a dislike to him soon refused him their pulpits, and he was obliged to preach in the fields. The multitudes of all sects and denominations that attended his sermons were enormous... It was wonderful to see the change soon made in the manners of our inhabitants. From being thoughtless or indifferent about religion, it seemed as if all the world were growing religious, so that one could not walk thro’ the town in an evening without hearing psalms sung in different families of every street.”

Benjamin Franklin, *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin*

Document B

ENSLAVED PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT IN EASTERN NORTH AMERICA, 1750



Document C

“New France enter[ed] its golden age in the first decades of the eighteenth century. . . . In Louisiana, the Illinois country, and the Great Lakes basin, French cities and villages developed alongside Indian villages. . . . Here, natives and Europeans found that their different goals were complementary. The French posed no demographic threat. . . . The landscape of Indian life had not been seriously altered. The fur trade depended on the integrity of that landscape.”

Jay Gitlin, historian, “Empires of Trade, Hinterlands of Settlement,” 1994

Document D

“For the increase of shipping . . . from thenceforward, no goods or commodities whatsoever shall be imported into or exported out of any lands, islands, plantations, or territories to his Majesty belonging . . . but in ships or vessels as do . . . belong only to the people of England . . . and whereof the master and three-fourths of the mariners at least are English. . . .

“And it is further enacted . . . that . . . no sugars, tobacco, cottonwool, indigos, ginger, fustic, or other dyeing wood, of the growth, production, or manufacture of any English plantations in America, Asia, or Africa, shall be . . . transported from any of the said English plantations [colonies] to any land . . . other than to such other English plantations as do belong to his Majesty.”

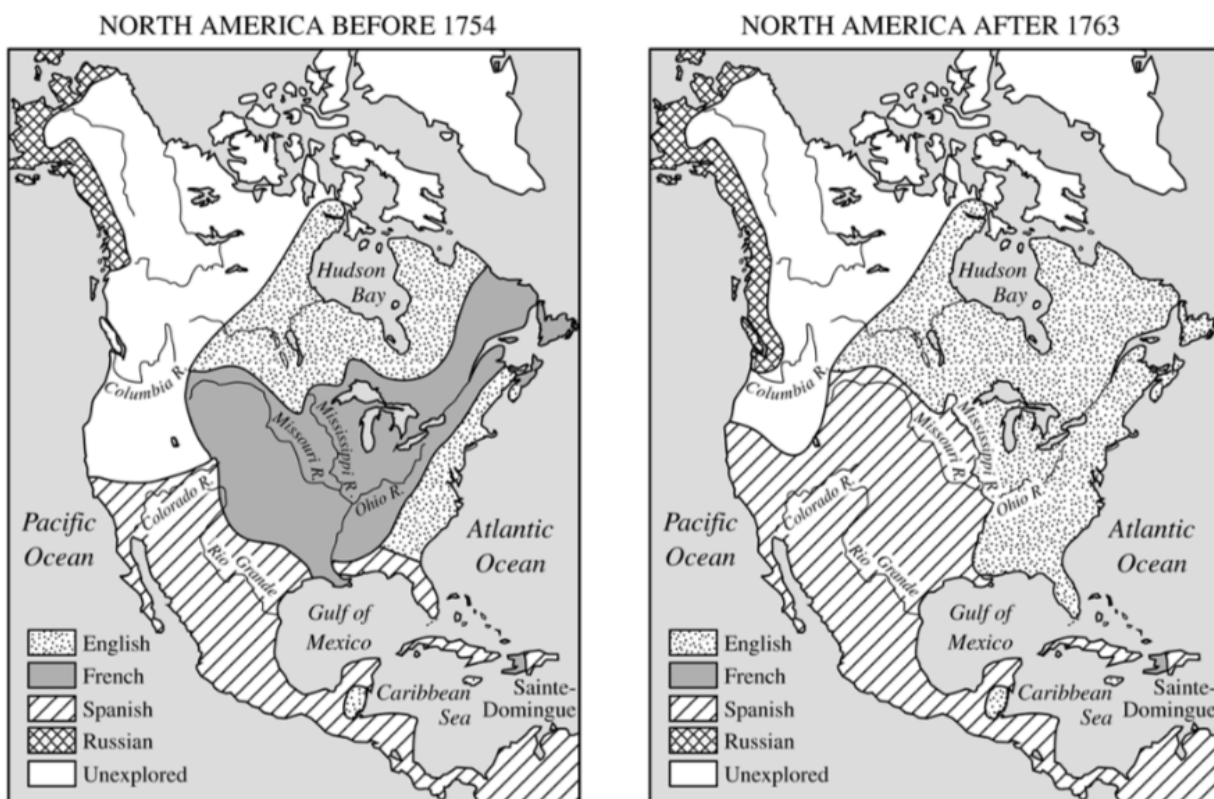
English Parliament, Navigation Act of 1660

Document E

The population of the 13 colonies, although mainly Anglo Saxon, was perhaps the most mixed to be found anywhere in the world. New England, mostly staked out by the original Puritan migrants, showed the least ethnic diversity. The middle colonies, especially Pennsylvania, received the bulk of later white immigrants and boasted an astonishing variety of peoples. Outside of New England, about one-half of the population was non-English in 1775. As these various immigrant groups mingled and intermarried, they laid the foundations for a new multicultural American national identity unlike anything known in Europe.

David Kennedy, Historian, 2017

Document F



Document G

Source: George Washington, letter to Robert Orme, aide-de-camp to General Edward Braddock, March 15, 1755.

It is true Sir, that I have . . . expressed an Inclination to serve the ensuing Campaign as a Volunteer; and this inclination is not a little increased since it is likely to be conducted by a Gentleman of the General's Experience. But, besides this and the laudable desire I may have to serve (with my best abilities) my King & Country, I must be ingenuous enough to confess, that I am not a little biased by selfish considerations. To be plain, Sir, I wish earnestly to attain some knowledge of the Military Profession: and, believing a more favourable opportunity cannot offer, than to serve under a Gentleman of General Braddock's abilities and experience.

Document H

Source: Massachusetts soldier's diary, 1759.

September 30. Cold weather is coming on apace, which will make us look round about us and put [on] our winter clothing, and we shall stand in need of good liquors [in order] to keep our spirits on cold winter's days. And we, being here within stone walls, are not likely to get liquors or clothes at this time of the year; and though we be Englishmen born, we are debarred [denied] Englishmen's liberty. Therefore we now see what it is to be under martial law and to be with the [British] regulars, who are but little better than slaves to their officers. And when I get out of their [power] I shall take care of how I get in again.

[October] 31. And so now our time has come to an end according to enlistment, but we are not yet [allowed to go] home.

November 1. The regiment was ordered out . . . to hear what the colonel had to say to them as our time was out and we all swore that we would do no more duty here. So it was a day of much confusion with the regiment.

Document I

Source: British Order in Council, 1763.

We, the Commissioners of your Majesty's Treasury beg leave humbly to represent to your Majesty that having taken into consideration the present state of the duties of customs imposed on your Majesty's subjects in America and the West Indies, we find that the revenue arising therefrom is very small and inconsiderable, . . . and is not yet sufficient to defray a fourth part of the expense necessary for collecting it. We observe with concern that through neglect, connivance, and fraud, not only is revenue impaired, but the commerce of the colonies diverted from its natural course. . . [This revenue] is more indispensable when the military establishment necessary for maintaining these colonies requires a large revenue to support it, and when their vast increase in territory and population makes the proper regulation of their trade of immediate necessity.

Document J

Source: Rev. Thomas Barnard, sermon, Massachusetts, 1763.

Auspicious Day! when Britain, the special Care of Heaven, blessed with a patriot-Sovereign, served by wise and faithful Councillors, brave Commanders, successful Fleets and Armies, seconded in her Efforts by all her Children, and by none more zealously than by those of New England . . .

America, mayest well rejoice, the Children of New England may be glad and triumph, in Reflection on Events past, and Prospect for the future . . .

Now commences the Era of our quiet Enjoyment of those Liberties which our Fathers purchased with the Toil of their whole Lives, their Treasure, their Blood. Safe from the Enemy of the Wilderness, safe from the gripping Hand of arbitrary Sway and cruel Superstition, here shall be the late founded Seat of Peace and Freedom. Here shall our indulgent Mother, who has most generously rescued and protected us, be served and honored by growing Numbers, with all Duty, Love and Gratitude, till Time shall be no more.

Document K

Source: Benjamin Franklin (in London) letter to John Hughs (in Pennsylvania), August 9, 1765.

As to the Stamp Act, tho we purpose [propose] doing our Endeavour to get it repeal'd in which I am sure you would concur with us, yet the Success is uncertain. If it continues, your undertaking to execute it may make you unpopular for a Time, but your Coolness and Steadiness, and with every Circumstance in your Power of Favour to the People, will by degrees reconcile them. In the meantime, a firm Loyalty to the Crown and faithful Adherence to the Government of this Nation, which it is the Safety as well as Honour of the Colonies to be connected with, will always be the wisest Course for you and I to take.