

Population of the Colonies

The African slave trade brought many captured Africans to the colonies in North America. During the 1700s, because of both births and the slave trade, the number of Africans in the English colonies grew quickly. By 1760 the African population had increased to about ten times what it had been in 1700.

Use the table below and the map on the following page to complete the Map Activity and answer the questions that follow.

Estimated Population of American Colonies, 1760		
Colony	Total Population (White and African)	African Population
New Hampshire	39,093	600
Massachusetts	222,600	4,866
Rhode Island	45,471	3,468
Connecticut	142,470	3,783
New York	117,138	16,340
New Jersey	93,813	6,567
Pennsylvania	183,703	4,409
Delaware	33,250	1,733
Maryland	162,267	49,004
Virginia	339,726	150,570
North Carolina	110,442	33,554
South Carolina	94,074	57,334
Georgia	9,578	3,578

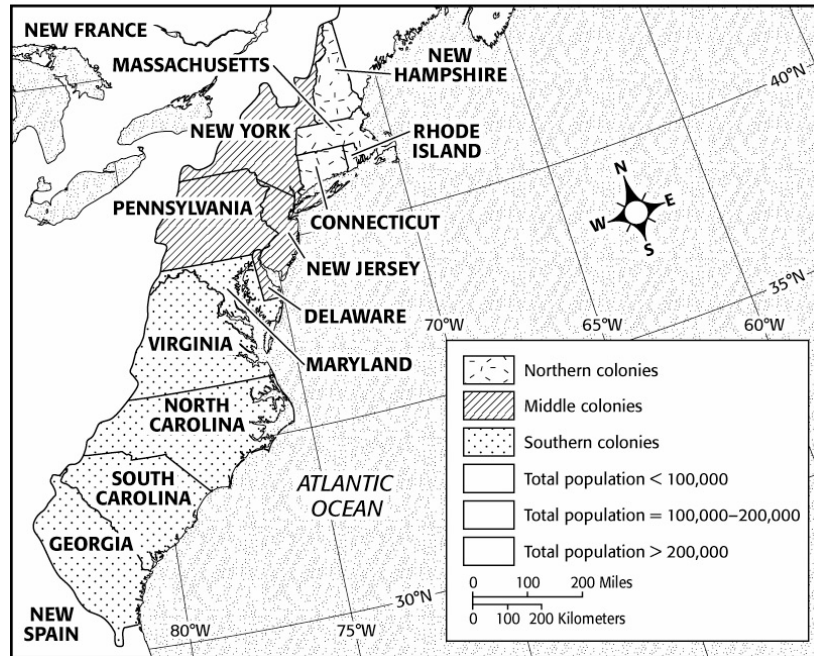
MAP ACTIVITY

1. Gather three highlighters or pens of different colors. With the first highlighter or pen, fill in the box in the map's key next to "Total population < 100,000." Use the same highlighter or pen to shade the colonies on the map that had a total population of less than 100,000.
2. Use the second highlighter or pen to fill in the box in the map's key next to "Total population = 100,000–200,000." Use the same highlighter or pen to shade the colonies on the map that had a population of between 100,000 and 200,000.
3. Use the third highlighter or pen to fill in the box in the map's key next to "Total population > 200,000." Use the same highlighter or pen to shade the colonies on the map that had a population of more than 200,000."

Beginnings of America

History and Geography

Population of the American Colonies, 1760



ANALYZING MAPS

1. **Region** Which northern colony had the smallest total population? Which northern colony had the smallest African population?

2. **Region** Which middle colony had the largest total population? Which middle colony had the largest African population?

3. **Location** Which colony had the largest total population? In what region (northern, middle, southern) was it located?

4. **Analyze** Of all the colonies, which had the largest African population? What was the size of the African population? Which colony had the largest African population as a percentage of its total population? What was the approximate percentage?
