

By 1775, what were the colonies like?	<p>The colonies expanded at an incredible rate (the population ratio of England:American fell from 20:1 to 3:1 between 1770 and 1775), shifting the balance of power.</p> <p>The colonies were 90% rural, with only four real cities (Philadelphia, New York, Boston, and Charleston). English people accounted for about 62% of the colonies, while 7% were Scottish-Irish (really Scottish lowlanders, not Irish; all Presbyterian), 6% were Germans (mostly Lutherans, living in Pennsylvania), 5% were other ethnic groups (Scottish Highlanders, French Huguenots, Dutch, Swedes, Irish, Swiss, Welsh, and Jews). 20% of the colonies' population was African slaves. The south held the most slaves—about 90%—and the middle colonies were the most diverse; New England was still mostly Puritans. The colonies assumed a multicultural identity.</p> <p>As the colonies grew, the society, which had been open and fluid in terms of social classes, began to become stratified, especially as profiteering during the wars fought in the late 1600s and early 1700s created a wealthy class and a decreasing amount of free land made it harder to become wealthier.</p>
Who were the Scottish-Irish?	<p>Scottish lowlanders. In the 1660's, many of them, faced with infertile land, extremely high “rack rents”, and persecution because of their Presbyterian faith migrated to northern Ireland. However, they found that Ireland was a similar situation to Scotland, so they migrated across the Atlantic. They began in Pennsylvania and spread southwest along the Appalachians to Virginia, the Carolinas, and Georgia. The Scottish-Irish were independent, good on the frontier, and dedicated to their Presbyterian faith; they hated the English government and the Anglican Church.</p> <p>In Pennsylvania, the Scottish-Irish fought with the Indians regularly and led and protested against the [Quaker] government's refusal to do so in 1764 (the Paxton Boys); in North Carolina, they led the Regulator movement that protested the eastern part of the colony's control of affairs.</p>
What was the colonial economy like?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture was the mainstay of the economy. Tobacco was grown in the South (Virginia and Maryland) and grain in the fertile middle colonies. • Fishing was an important industry as well, especially in New England; cod was a major export. The fishing industry also stimulated shipbuilding and helped develop a base of seamen who manned the navy and merchant marine. • Trade was highly profitable and took place between colonies, across North and South America, and even across the Atlantic ocean. • Manufacturing was secondary to other trades, especially agriculture, but skilled craftsmen were vital citizens. The most important part of manufacturing was lumber, used for shipbuilding and also exported. Supplies for the British Navy were colonial made, in large part. <p>As the colonies grew and England did not, there was a higher demand for British goods but not one for American goods; this imbalance led the colonists to seek foreign markets against the will of Parliament.</p>
What was triangular trade?	Trade between three ports, usually New England, Africa, and the Caribbean; traders would make profits on each leg of the journey.
What was the Molasses Act?	An act passed by Parliament in 1733 that tried to tighten control of colonial trade by stopping trade between the colonies and the French West Indies. It would control molasses, which was distilled into rum and then sold or traded for slaves. American merchants bribed and smuggled around the law.
What were the Navigation Acts?	A series of laws created to tighten English control of colonial trade and to restrict trade with other countries. These were enforced, much to the colonists' dislike, during the Dominion of New England and after the French and Indian war; they were ignored between these times

	under the policy of <i>salutary neglect</i> .
What was religion like in the colonies?	<p>A large section of the colonists did not belong to any church, and a minority of people belonged to the “established” (tax-supported) ones. Religious toleration was usually practiced (although Catholics were generally hated or at least discriminated against).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Church of England or Anglican Church was official in many southern colonies (Georgia, Virginia, the Carolinas, Maryland, and some of New York). This church was supported by English taxes (as a result, clergymen were likely to support the king, their provider) and was not as strict or fierce as the Puritan churches. The Anglican church was crippled by the lack of a bishop; ministers had to travel to England for ordination. A plan to add an American bishop was hated by non-Anglican who did not want the crown to have more influence in any way. • The Congregation Church was the Puritan Church. It had influence in New England. Presbyterianism was related but not the same. This church did tend to associate itself with politics and rebellion.
What was the Great Awakening?	<p>A movement in the 1730s and 1740s—the first mass movement in American history—that revitalized religion. A gap had begun to grow between the clergymen, who became overly intellectual and dry, and the people, who became less faithful and liberal, beginning to believe especially in the power of good works.</p> <p>One Massachusetts pastor, Jonathan Edwards, began to speak of the need for complete dependence on G-d's grace. He spoke starkly and learnedly.</p> <p>After Edwards, George Whitefield emerged, preaching with extreme eloquence. His style was taken on by many “new light” preachers, who abused sinners and inspired many to convert and repent.</p> <p>The Awakening brought emotion into religion, replacing the scholarly authority of past clergymen. It brought about schisms and divisions, leading to a large number of competing churches.</p>
What was government like in the colonies?	<p>By 1775, eight had royal governors, three had governors chosen by proprietors, and Rhode Island and Connecticut elected their governors. The governors were sometimes able but sometimes corrupt; colonists were usually able to control them by withholding pay.</p> <p>They also had bicameral legislative bodies (like Parliament) with an Upper House appointed (except in Rhode Island and Connecticut) and a Lower House elected (voters had to be male landowners and meet religious qualifications). Beyond this, the local government varied. Town-meeting government was the first government and retained its importance in New England; in the south, government took place at a county level.</p>