

Goal 3.01: U.S. History



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Slave Population Statistics

Use the figures below to create two pie graphs depicting the distribution of America's slave population at the beginning of the nation's existence and at the beginning of the Civil War. Discuss the figures to help understand the nation as the war began.

1790 Statistics		1850 Statistics	
State	Percentage of the Slave Population	State	Percentage of the Slave Population
* Maryland	15%	* Georgia	12%
* North Carolina	14%	* Maryland	0%
* South Carolina	15%	* Kentucky	7%
* Virginia	41%	* Alabama	10%
* Other	15%	* Mississippi	10%
		* North Carolina	9%
		* South Carolina	12%
		* Tennessee	7%
		* Virginia	15%
		* Others	18%

1. In 1790 the slave population in the US was 698,000. By 1850 the number had quadrupled to 3,204,000. Brainstorm reasons for this growth.
2. What happened to the total number of slaveholding states between 1790 and 1850?
3. Which states became slaveholding as the nation grew from 1790 to 1850?
4. What impact did the early industrial revolution have on the increase of slaves?
5. By 1850, Maryland was no longer a major slaveholding state. How would this have affected their decision to remain with the Union during the Civil War?