

Username: Serena Zabin **Book:** Discovering the American Past: A Look at the Evidence, Volume I: To 1877, 7th Edition. No part of any book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form by any means without the publisher's prior written permission. Use (other than pursuant to the qualified fair use privilege) in violation of the law or these Terms of Service is prohibited. Violators will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Working with historical statistics is not so difficult as it may first appear. Often it is helpful to assemble a small study group with a few of your classmates. As members of the group discuss the problem, each individual can contribute something that possibly the

other members of the group did not see, thereby broadening every student's understanding of the problem. Analyzing statistics can be a challenging undertaking, but the results can be immensely satisfying, especially as you come to "see" the *people* the statistics represent.



The Evidence

THE CHESAPEAKE (VIRGINIA & MARYLAND)

Sources 1 and 2 data from the U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Historical Statistics of the United States* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1975), pt. 2, p. 1168; and Jim Potter, "Demographic Development and Family Structure," in Jack P. Greene and J. R. Pole, eds., *Colonial British America: Essays in the New History of the Early Modern Era* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1984), p. 138.

1. Population Growth, Virginia, 1640–1770.

| Year | Whites | Increase (%) | Blacks | Increase (%) | Blacks as % of Total Pop. |
|------|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|---------------------------|
| 1640 | 10,292 | — | 150 | — | 1 |
| 1650 | 18,326 | 78 | 405 | 170 | — |
| 1660 | 26,070 | 42 | 950 | 135 | — |
| 1670 | 33,309 | 28 | 2,000 | 111 | 6 |
| 1680 | 40,596 | 22 | 3,000 | 50 | — |
| 1690 | 43,701 | 8 | 9,345 | 212 | — |
| 1700 | 42,170 | −4 | 16,390 | 75 | 28 |
| 1710 | 55,163 | 31 | 23,118 | 41 | — |
| 1720 | 61,198 | 11 | 26,559 | 15 | — |
| 1730 | 84,000 | 37 | 30,000 | 13 | 26 |
| 1740 | 120,440 | 43 | 60,000 | 100 | — |
| 1750 | 129,581 | 8 | 101,452 | 69 | — |
| 1760 | 199,156 | 35 | 140,570 | 39 | 41 |
| 1770 | 259,411 | 30 | 187,605 | 33 | 42 |