Comparison Chart of Colonial Regions

	New	Míddle	Southern
	England		
Types of Settlers	English, Puritan Farmers	Quakers, Dutch, French, Germans, Scot-Irish; Diverse	English aristocrats, planters, small farmers, slaves
Geography/ Climate	Rocky, forests, hilly, poor soil, long winters, limited farming	Fertile soil, flat land, swift rivers, wide valleys, warmer	Rich, fertile soil, broad coastal plains, tidewater, backcountry
Major Towns	Built around a commons, Boston, Providence, Newport	Seaports, New York City, Philadelphia	Seaports; Savannah, Charleston
Major Economic Activities	Small farms, merchants, craftsmen, boatbuilding, whaling, lumber, fish	Farming grains, livestock, cash crops, mining, trading	Plantations: tobacco, rice, indigo; slavery, fewer crafts and industry
Religious Groups	Puritans, very strict, gloomy, superstitious	Quakers, Catholics, Jews, protestants TOLERANCE	Church of England; Catholics (Maryland) *not as important
Role of Women	Large families, tending gardens and livestock, provided food and supplies	Similar to NE, some worked in manufacturing	Helped manage plantations, cared for sick; supervised slaves
Role of African Americans	More free blacks, could own land and were trained in a skill	Fewer slaves than in South, Quakers started movement to abolish slavery	Treated harshly, no education, live in poverty
Educational Opportunities	Schooling for boys and girls; important that everybody could read the Bible; advanced school for boys; Harvard 1636	Fewer schools than NE; started by religious groups; Princeton	Planters' sons taught at home by tutors; College of William and Mary
Type of Local Government	Town meetings; could speak out; vote; high degree of self-government	Mixture of town meetings and county governments	Counties were basic unit; sheriffs and justice of the peace, appointed by governor