

Enslavement in Delaware - Origins and Growth

Unit 4, Lesson 7

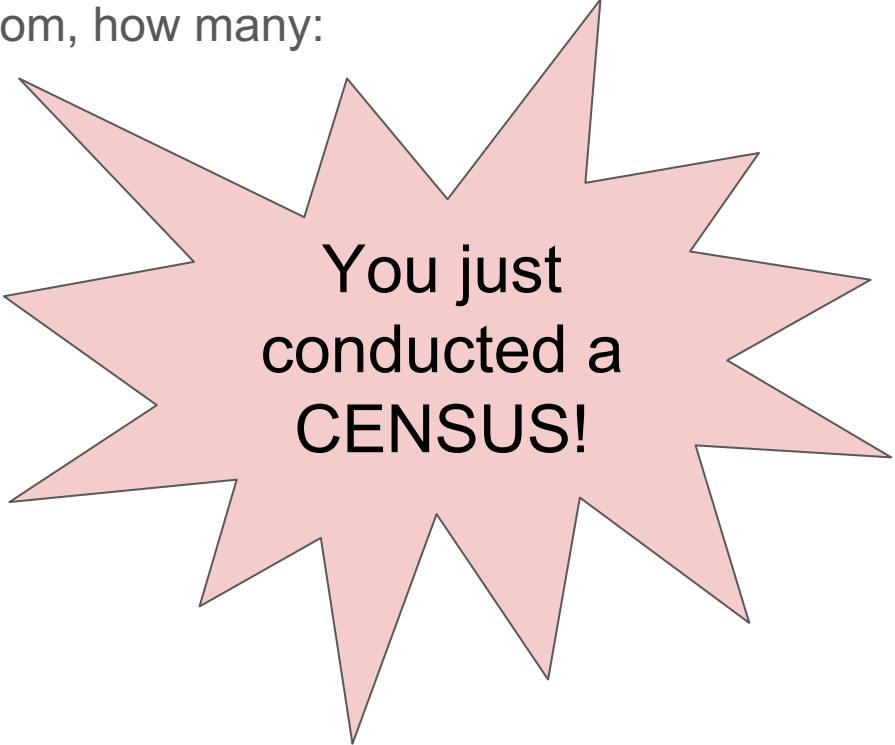
Essential Question

How and when did Black enslavement begin in what is now the state of Delaware?

How many do we have?

As we look at the students in our classroom, how many:

- Total students are there?
- Have blue/green eyes?
- Have brown eyes?
- Have curly/ wavy hair?
- Have straight hair?
- Have freckles?



**You just
conducted a
CENSUS!**

A census is...

... an official count of a country's population. The first census for our country - the United States - began on August 2, 1790 and was completed nine months later. The people who gathered the information were instructed to visit every house and find out how many people lived in the country. They were told that they needed to find out the name of the head of the family and the number of...

- Free White males aged 16 years and older
- Free White males under 16 years
- Free White females
- All other free persons
- Slaves

They finished counting nine months later and released a [report](#).


1790 Census Report

Let's take a look...

Draw one conclusion that you find most interesting. What details on the census report made you think about this?

Work with a partner to answer the remaining four questions.

DISTRICTS	Free white Males of 16 years and upwards, including heads of families.	Free white Males under sixteen years.	Free white Females, including heads of families.	All other free persons.	Slaves.	Total.
Vermont	22435	22328	40505	255	16	85539
N. Hampshire	36086	34851	70160	630	158	141885
Maine	24384	24748	46870	538	NONE	96540
Massachusetts	95453	87289	190582	5463	NONE	378787
Rhode Island	16019	15799	32652	3407	948	68825
Connecticut	60523	54403	117448	2808	2764	237946
New York	83700	78122	152320	4654	21324	340120
New Jersey	45251	41416	83287	2762	11423	184139
Pennsylvania	110788	106948	206363	6537	3737	434373
Delaware	11783	12143	22384	3899	8887	59094
Maryland	55915	51339	101395	8043	103036	319728
Virginia	110936	116135	215046	12866	292627	747610
Kentucky	15154	17057	28922	114	12430	73677
N. Carolina	69988	77506	140719	4975	100572	393751
S. Carolina	35576	37722	66880	1801	107094	249073
Georgia	13103	14044	25739	398	29264	82548
	807094	791850	1541263	59150	694280	3893635
Total number of Inhabitants of the United States exclusive of S. Western and N. Territory.	Free white Males of 21 years and upwards.	Free Males under 21 years of age.	Free white Females.	All other free persons.	Slaves.	Total
S. W. territory	6271	10277	15365	361	3417	35691
N. Ditto	—	—	—	—	—	—

A young girl with dark hair, wearing a bright pink short-sleeved shirt with a small bow at the collar, stands with her arms outstretched in a shrug. She has a questioning or confused expression on her face. Above her head are two large, pink, cloud-shaped thought bubbles. The bubble on the left contains the text 'Does anyone know when enslavement first started in Delaware?'. The bubble on the right contains the text 'Does anyone know how enslavement started?'. There are also three smaller pink circles of varying sizes leading from the main bubbles to the girl's head.

Does anyone
know when
enslavement
first started in
Delaware?

Does anyone
know how
enslavement
started?



Let's find out!

The Beginning of Enslavement in Delaware

After you read Resource 3: The Beginning of Enslavement in Delaware, be prepared to answer the following:

- Who were the Lenni Lenape?
- Who was Anthony?
- Why is Anthony an important figure in Delaware history?

Resource 3: The Beginning of Enslavement in Delaware

Who First Lived and Came to Delaware?

The first people to live in the area that is now our state of Delaware were the indigenous people who called themselves *Lenni Lenape*, which means "original people." It was not until 1629 that the first Europeans arrived and started a settlement here. They were from the country called the Netherlands. People from the Netherlands are called "*Dutch*." Twenty-eight Dutch people landed near where the Delaware River flows into the Atlantic Ocean, in the town that we now call Lewes. The Dutch called that first European settlement *Zwaanendael* which means "Valley of the Swans." That first European settlement lasted only three years before it was destroyed in a conflict with the Lenni Lenape.



The second group of Europeans to settle in what today is Delaware came from Sweden. In 1638, the Swedes arrived near the present-day city of Wilmington on a ship named the *Kalmar Nyckel*. The Swedes built a fort and named it after their Queen - Fort Christina.

So, What Does That Have to do with How Enslavement Started in Delaware?

The *Kalmar Nyckel* was one of two ships that brought the Swedes to Delaware. The other, smaller ship was called the *Fogel Grip*. The *Fogel Grip* brought the first enslaved African to Delaware in June of 1638. It was not part of the Swede's original plan.

The *Fogel Grip* was sent from Delaware out into the waters around the Atlantic Ocean and West Indies islands to search for Spanish ships carrying gold back from Central and South America. They were on a pirate mission. Yes, there were pirates back then. But they did not find any ships carrying gold. Instead, as Black historian Patience Essah has written, the found "black gold," a "negro named Anthony." According to the Delaware Historical Society, "it is believed that he was purchased in St. Kitts in the Leeward Islands, possibly because his agricultural or sailing experience could help support the new colony. Anthony became the only passenger from the *Fogel Grip*'s voyage to...the West Indies to remain in New Sweden."

Unfortunately, little is known about Anthony. Records that have survived indicate that by 1648 he was working for New Sweden's Governor Johan Printz, cutting hay, and sailing Printz's "little sloop" (boat). In 1654 Anthony bought some items from a store in the colony, which may suggest that he was a free man by that time. No other records have been found to help us know what Anthony's life was like or what finally happened to him.

What we do currently know is that Black enslavement in Delaware started in 1638 when a group of Swedes brought Anthony to Zwaanendael. By 1790, 1 out of 5 people in Delaware was enslaved.

Use information on the bulleted statements (below) and Resource 3 (*The Beginning of Enslavement in Delaware*) to fill in the dates and events on the timeline in correct chronological order. Write the dates in the gray shaded boxes.

- Enslaved Anthony is brought to Delaware
- Native Americans destroy the first Dutch Settlement
- 8,887 people are enslaved in Delaware
- Swedes set up Fort Christina
- First Europeans settle Zwaanendael

Timeline History of Delaware

A vertical timeline diagram for the History of Delaware. It features a central vertical line with five horizontal lines extending to the left and right. On the left side, there are five gray shaded rectangular boxes for dates. On the right side, there are five white rectangular boxes for event descriptions.

Draw a Conclusion

Use the information on your timeline to describe what you think is the most important change that occurred between 1638 and 1790.