

Sample Chart of Answers for Teacher

Property Distribution	Social Structure
<p>— Increasing concentration of property in hands of rich; by 1773, 90% of property held by richest 40% of population; lowest 50% held only 5.2% of property (B)</p> <p>— Number of landless nearly doubled between 1756–1773; may suggest shift to other occupations (C)</p> <p>— Wealth passed from father to son; some evidence of downward mobility among individuals (D)</p> <p>+ Opportunity for merchant (Deane) to join ranks of wealthy (D,F)</p> <p>+ 50% had property equal in value to that of Titus Buck; house similar to that of wealthy (E)</p> <p>+ Substantial (but limited) land distribution proposed for those who move to the colony's Western Reserve in Ohio (F)</p> <p>— Little available land in East (F)</p> <p>(Landholding was still widespread even though it was increasingly concentrated in the hands of the wealthy, and newcomers may have had little choice but to transfer to other occupations.)</p>	<p>+ Fewer slaves, more free blacks (A)</p> <p>+ Towns encouraged education; mainstay of democracy, by requiring support of schoolmaster (F)</p> <p>— Ministers expect deference, respect, and obedience (J)</p> <p>— Ministers tax exempt (K)</p> <p>+ Poem suggests man is judged by character rather than riches or birth (O)</p> <p>+ Traditional deference to betters may be crumbling (L)</p> <p>— Wealthy still chosen for top leadership (H)</p> <p>+ Suggestion that militia may be unwilling to give blind obedience (M)</p> <p>(There may have been greater opportunities for blacks and lower classes to be judged by their character rather than by their birth although privileges for traditional leaders remained.)</p>

conflicting evidence

Religion	Politics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Towns still required to support Protestant (preferably Congregational) minister in 1775 (F) - Separatist minister jailed for preaching in Wethersfield without permission in 1745 (I) + Freedom of religion limited only if person fails to attend church of choice (N) - Ministers got tax breaks <p>(Apparently there was greater tolerance by 1780s, but no separation of church and state has been enacted.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + No taxation until represented in General Assembly (F) + Frequent elections (F) + Local control over local matters (F) + Large increase in number registering and actually voting, although Revolution may have sparked greater interest (G) + Increased chance for men in seventh and eighth deciles of assessed property value to hold major town offices; fewer from top 10% (H) - Mob forced tax collector to resign (L) + Militia chose own officers although there may have been pressures to select the rich (M) <p>(The documents suggest steady growth of interest and participation in local politics although the rich still dominated the leadership.)</p>