

Regions2

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The Middle Atlantic

This region, as the name suggests, is _____ two very different regions, New England and the South. Out of these, it shares more cultural _____ with New England, but it is set apart by its _____ social and _____ history. It consists of the states of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland. The Middle Atlantic States are often referred _____ as the _____ of the Nation, because this is the area where the nation _____ born by drafting the Declaration of _____ and the Constitution (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania).

Unlike New England, the Middle Atlantic area was never homogeneous in nationality or religion: in fact, some of the first _____ of this region did not come from England. They were Dutch, Swedish, German immigrants. The region has always had a great _____ of ethnic groups, religions and economic activities. The two _____ cities, New York, and Philadelphia, became prosperous as the largest ports as well as business and commercial centres of the English colonies by the late 18th century. Therefore, they have attracted huge numbers of foreign _____ all through their history.

Territories further west, however, remained _____ and agricultural (like upstate New York or eastern Pennsylvania), while other areas like western Pennsylvania or New Jersey became _____ industrialized during the 19th century: Pittsburgh, for example, became the centre of the American iron and _____ industry, drawing on nearby coal mines. By the late 20th century, the coastal part of the Middle Atlantic states became the most _____ populated region in the whole United States: there is practically a continuous string of cities and suburbs all the way from the Virginian suburbs of Washington D.C. (located between Maryland and Virginia) up to New York City and beyond to the northern suburbs of Boston, including such cities as Baltimore (Maryland) and Philadelphia.

Some authors prefer to consider New England and the Middle Atlantic

together as one single, heavily urbanized _____ under such names as the Northeast, the East Coast, or Megalopolis. Nevertheless, differences in history and immigration still justify the separation of this larger area into two regions.