Comparing Colonial Regions

democratic government participate

diverse climate geography

economy

Each of the colonies was settled for **diverse** reasons and by different people. This meant that each colony had unique characteristics.

Some colonists moved to the New World for religious freedom while others moved in hopes of becoming wealthy. Each of these colonies needed to create a set of rules to live by. The leaders of the colonies created a **government** to create the rules. Leaders also decided who was allowed to **participate** in the government. Some colonies limited participation in government to only wealthy white men while others were more **democratic** and allowed all men or all landowners to have a role in creating laws.

Some colonies were founded in the northern sections of our country where the winters were cold and snowy. Other colonies were in the south and the weather was often hot and humid without much snow at all. These differences are called **climate**. The temperature and seasons of the colonies are also affected by its landforms. If a colony is close to the ocean, many of the citizens may become fisherman. If there is good soil and a long growing season, people may choose to farm. The differences in the lands are called **geography**. **Climate** and **geography** have an impact on the types of jobs people choose. As they work, trade goods, or buy and sell items from each other, people create an **economy**. Each region has its own ways of life as different as the reasons it was founded.