

Name: _____

Date: _____

Growth of Slavery

Growth of Slavery Document

Enslaved Population, 1800–1860

Year	Total Number of African Americans	Number of Slaves
1800	1 million	900,000
1810	1.4 million	1.2 million
1820	1.7 million	1.5 million
1830	2.3 million	2 million
1840	3 million	2.5 million
1850	3.5 million	3 million
1860	4.5 million	4 million

**1807 transatlantic slave trade is abolished in the U.S.*

Although the United States prohibited the direct importation of slaves from Africa after January 1, 1808, the law was laxly enforced and it was easy for traders to continue bringing slaves into the country. The historian John Hope Franklin estimates that 250,000 slaves were imported into the American South by smugglers along the unpatrolled coast. Moreover, there was a flourishing interstate slave trade that lasted all through the **antebellum** period up to the Civil War.

antebellum: existing before a war, especially the American Civil War

1) What patterns do you see in the table?

2) How quickly was the slave population growing?

3) Why do you think the U.S. slave population continued to grow after the slave trade ended in 1807?

4) How does the chart connect to the text (paragraph underneath the chart)?

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Cotton and Slavery, 1800–1860



But the vast cotton region, embracing the better part of middle and eastern North Carolina and the accessible lands of the lower South to Eastern Texas, and extending over most of the Mississippi Valley to St. Louis, was the heart of the South, which supported the Polk Administration and waged the war upon Mexico soon to begin. In this fine country, men of ability made fortunes in a few years and learned to imitate the life of the old southern manor houses. Forests were cleared away in winter by the sturdy hands of slaves, and new fields were opened to cotton culture each spring to supply the places of those that had been rapidly worn down by unscientific methods of agriculture.

1) How quickly is the enslaved population growing?

2) What relationship do you see between cotton production and slavery?

3) How would the production of cotton affect the growth of slavery?

4) How does the graph connect to the text (Underneath the graph)?