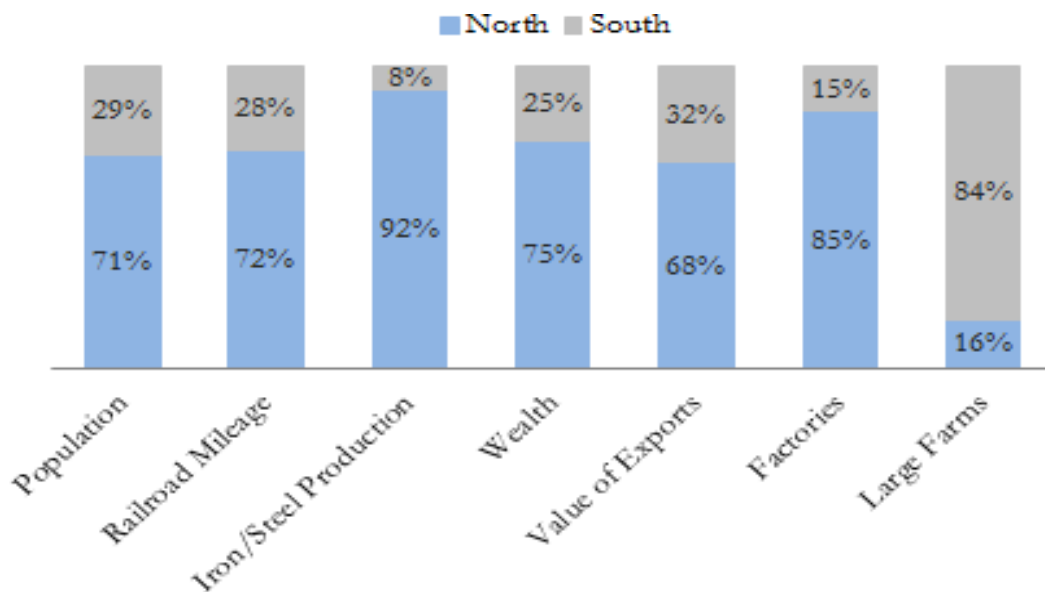


North and South: Different Cultures, Same Country



The Civil War that raged across the nation from 1861 to 1865 was the violent conclusion to decades of diversification. Gradually, throughout the beginning of the nineteenth century, the North and South followed different paths, developing into two distinct and very different regions.

NORTH

The northern soil and climate favored smaller farmsteads rather than large plantations. Industry flourished, fueled by more abundant natural resources than in the South, and many large cities were established (New York was the largest city with more than 800,000 inhabitants). By 1860, one quarter of all Northerners lived in urban areas. Between 1800 and 1860, the percentage of laborers working in agricultural pursuits dropped drastically from 70% to only 40%. Slavery had died out, replaced in the cities and factories by immigrant labor from Europe. In fact, an overwhelming majority of immigrants, seven out of every eight, settled in the North rather than the South. Transportation was easier in the North, which boasted more than two-thirds of the railroad tracks in the country and the economy was on an upswing.

Far more Northerners than Southerners belonged to the Whig/Republican political party and they were far more likely to have careers in business, medicine, or education. In fact, an engineer was six times as likely to be from the North as from the South. Northern children were slightly more prone to attend school than Southern children.

SOUTH

In contrast to the factory, the plantation was a central feature of Southern life. (Library of Congress)



The fertile soil and warm climate of the South made it ideal for large-scale farms and crops like tobacco and cotton. Because agriculture was so profitable few Southerners saw a need for industrial development. Eighty percent of the labor force worked on the farm. Although two-thirds of Southerners owned no slaves at all, by 1860 the South's "peculiar institution" was inextricably tied to the region's economy and culture. In fact, there were almost as many blacks - but slaves and free - in the South as there were whites (4 million blacks and 5.5 million whites). There were no large cities aside from New Orleans, and most of the ones that did exist were located on rivers and coasts as shipping ports to send agricultural produce to European or Northern destinations.

Only one-tenth of Southerners lived in urban areas and transportation between cities was difficult, except by water. Only 35% of the nation's train tracks were located in the South. Also, in 1860, the South's agricultural economy was beginning to stall while the Northern manufacturers were experiencing a boom.

A slightly smaller percentage of white Southerners were literate than their Northern counterparts, and Southern children tended to spend less time in school. As adults, Southern men tended to belong to the Democratic political party and gravitated toward military careers as well as agriculture.

Name: _____ Hr: _____ Date: _____

North and South: Different Cultures, Same Country

Directions: Read the article *North and South: Different Cultures, Same Country*, and answer the following questions below. Answer questions in complete sentences and thoughts.

1. In the chart below, write down if the North or South had the advantage or benefit during the Civil War.

	North or South
Factories	
Wealth	
Iron/Steel Production	
Railroad mileage	
Population	
Large Farms	
Value of Exports	

2. By 1860, how many Northerners lived in urban areas?
3. According to the article, how many immigrants moved to the North vs the South?
4. How much more railroad tracks did the North have over the South?
5. What political party did Northerners belong to?
6. What type of careers were Northerners pursuing?
7. What type of farms were in the North? What type of farms were in the South?
8. What percentage of the workforce worked on farms in the South?
9. How many Southerners did not own slaves by 1860?

10. By 1860, how many whites lived in the South? How many blacks lived in the South?

11. What was the South's biggest city before the Civil War and what percentage lived in urban areas?

12. What percentage of the nations railroad tracks were in the South?

13. What political party did most Southerners belong to?

14. What type of careers did Southerners tend to gravitate toward?

15. Summarize: After looking at the difference between the North and the South at the beginning of the Civil War, overall, who has the advantage and why?