

ThinkSheet: How many white people lived in Maryland?

Some questions to think about:

1. What areas had the largest population of white people? What are some reasons this may have occurred?
2. In your county, did the number of free white people grow or decline over the years?
3. Between 1840 and 1850, there was a change in the way numbers like these were reported. In 1840, information was collected on free white people. In 1850, information was collected on white people. What does this tell you about our society during that time?
4. Orioles Park at Camden Yards has a seating capacity of 48,262. During which year could a whole county's white population sit in the park? For which counties is this true?
5. Compare the white population in your area to the white population in 1800 or 1860. How much has it changed?
6. How could you compare the number of slaves, free black people, and free whites in Maryland during a certain year? As a historian, why would you want to do that? What might you learn?