

### Immigrants and Urban Challenges

#### The Big Idea

The population of the United States grew rapidly in the early 1800s with the arrival of millions of immigrants.

#### Main Ideas

- Millions of immigrants, mostly German and Irish, arrived in the United States despite anti-immigrant movements.
- Industrialization led to the growth of cities.
- American cities experienced urban problems due to rapid growth.



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### **Main Idea 1: Millions of immigrants, mostly German and Irish, arrived in the United States despite anti-immigrant movements.**

- Large numbers of immigrants crossed the Atlantic in the mid-1800s to begin new lives in the United States.
- More than 4 million came between 1840 and 1860, mostly from Europe.
- More than 3 million of them were from Ireland and Germany.



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## Push-Pull Factors of Immigration

### Push Factors

- Starvation
- Poverty
- Lack of political freedom

### Pull Factors

- Jobs
- Greater freedom and equality
- Abundant land



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### Immigrants from Ireland and Germany

#### Irish Immigrants

- Fled Ireland because of potato famine in 1840s
- Most were very poor.
- Settled in cities in Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania
- Men worked at unskilled jobs or by building canals and railroads.
- Women worked as domestic servants for wealthy families.

#### German Immigrants

- Some educated Germans fled for political reasons.
- Most were working class and came for economic reasons.
- Many became farmers and lived in rural areas.
- In cities they had to take low-paying jobs, such as tailors, seamstresses, bricklayers, servants, clerks, and bakers.



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### Anti-Immigration Movements

- Many native-born Americans feared losing jobs to immigrants, who might work for lower wages.
- Most Americans were Protestants before the new immigration.
  - Conflict between Protestants and newly arrived Catholic immigrants
- Americans who opposed immigration were called **nativists**.
- Nativists founded a political organization called the **Know-Nothing Party** in 1849 to make it difficult for immigrants to become citizens or hold public office.
  - Wanted to keep Catholics and immigrants out of public office
  - Wanted immigrants to live in United States for 21 years before becoming citizens



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### Main Idea 2: Industrialization led to the growth of cities.

- Industrial Revolution led to creation of new jobs in cities.
  - Drew rural Americans and immigrants from many nations
- Transportation Revolution helped to connect cities and make movement easier.
- Rise of industry and growth of cities led to creation of new **middle class**.
  - Merchants, manufacturers, professionals, and master craftspeople
  - New economic level between wealthy and poor
- People found entertainment and enriched cultural life in cities.
- Cities were compact and crowded during this time.



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### Main Idea 3: American cities experienced urban problems due to rapid growth.

Many city dwellers, particularly immigrants, lived in **tenements**: poorly designed apartment buildings that housed large numbers of people.

Public services were poor—no clean water, public health regulations, or healthful ways to get rid of garbage.

Cities became centers of criminal activity, and most had no organized police force.

Fire was a constant and serious danger in crowded cities.



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### Changes in Working Life

#### The Big Idea

New movements in art and literature influenced many Americans in the early 1800s.

#### Main Ideas

- Transcendentalists and utopian communities withdrew from American society.
- American Romantic painters and writers made important contributions to art and literature.



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### Main Idea 1: Transcendentalists and utopian communities withdrew from American society.

- **Transcendentalism** was the belief that people could transcend, or rise above, material things.
- Important transcendentalists included **Ralph Waldo Emerson**, **Margaret Fuller**, and **Henry David Thoreau**.
- Some formed a community at Brook Farm, Massachusetts, in the 1840s.
  - It was one of many experiments in **utopian communities**, places where people tried to form a perfect society.
  - Few communities lasted long.



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### **Main Idea 2: American Romantic painters and writers made important contributions to art and literature.**

- Ideas about simple life and nature inspired painters and writers.
  - Some joined the Romantic movement that had begun in Europe.
- Romanticism involved an interest in nature, emphasis on individual expression, and rejection of many established rules.
- Painters and writers felt that each person brings a unique view to the world.
- They believed in using emotion to guide their creativity.



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### Art of the Romantic Movement

- Some Romantic artists, like Thomas Cole, painted the American landscape.
- Their works celebrated the beauty and wonder of nature in the United States.
- Their images contrasted with the huge cities and corruption of nature that many Americans saw as typical of Europe.



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### American Romantic Writers

Many women writers, including Ann Sophia Stephens, wrote historical fiction that was popular in the mid-1800s.

**Nathaniel Hawthorne** wrote *The Scarlet Letter*, one of the great classics of Romantic literature. Herman Melville wrote *Moby Dick*, a novel about the sea that many people believe is the finest American novel ever written.

American Romantic authors also wrote poetry, including **Edgar Allen Poe**, who became famous for “The Raven.”

Other gifted poets included **Emily Dickinson**, **Henry Wadsworth Longfellow**, and **Walt Whitman**.



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### Reforming Society

#### The Big Idea

Reform movements in the early 1800s affected religion, education, and society.

#### Main Ideas

- The Second Great Awakening sparked interest in religion.
- Social reformers began to speak out about temperance and prison reform.
- Improvements in education reform affected many segments of the population.
- Northern African American communities became involved in reform efforts.



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### Main Idea 1: The Second Great Awakening sparked interest in religion.

- **Second Great Awakening** was a Christian renewal movement during 1790s and early 1800s.
  - Swept upstate New York and frontier regions and later spread to New England and the South.
- **Charles Grandison Finney** was an important leader.
  - Believed each person was responsible for own salvation.
  - Should prove faith by doing good works.
- These ideas angered some traditional ministers, like Boston's **Lyman Beecher**
- Church membership increased significantly during this period.
  - Renewed religious faith of people throughout America.



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### Main Idea 2: Social reformers began to speak out about temperance and prison reform.

- **Reform Movements** — Renewed religious faith led to movements to reform society.
  - Renewed religious faith led to movements to reform society.
  - Urban growth had caused problems.
  - Members of the middle class, especially women, led the efforts.
  - They tackled alcohol abuse, prison and education reform, and slavery.



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### Reform Movements

#### Temperance Movement

- Many Americans thought alcohol abuse caused family violence, poverty, and criminal behavior.
- **Temperance Movement** was effort to have people stop drinking hard liquor.
- Message spread by American Temperance Society and American Temperance Union

#### Prison Reform

- **Dorothea Dix** led movement to reform prison system.
- Reformers worked to remove the mentally ill, runaway children, and orphans from prisons.
- Governments responded by building mental hospitals, reform schools for children, and houses of correction that provided education for prisoners.



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### Main Idea 3: Improvements in education reform affected many segments of the population.

#### Education in the Early 1800s

- Few teachers were trained.
- Schoolhouses were small and had only one room for all students.
- Social background and wealth affected education quality.

#### Common-School Movement

- **Common-school movement** reformers wanted all children taught in a common place regardless of wealth.
- **Horace Mann** was a leader in this movement.
  - Became Massachusetts's first secretary of education.
  - Convinced the state to double the school budget, raise teachers' salaries, lengthen the school year, and begin the first school for teacher training.



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### More Educational Reforms

- Education reform created opportunities for women.
- **Catharine Beecher** started an all-female academy.
- Women's colleges opened, the first in 1821.
- Education reform also helped people with special needs.
- **Thomas Gallaudet** opened a school for the hearing impaired in 1817; a school for the blind opened in 1831.



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### Main Idea 4: Northern African American communities became involved in reform efforts.

- Free African Americans usually lived in segregated, or separate, communities in the North.
- The Free African Religious Society, founded by former slave Richard Allen, became a model for other groups that worked for racial equality and education for blacks.
- Many influential African Americans pushed for the creation of schools for black Americans.
  - New York, Philadelphia, and Boston opened elementary schools for African American children.
  - Few colleges would accept African Americans, however.
- In the South, laws barred most enslaved people from receiving any education.



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### The Movement to End Slavery.

#### The Big Idea

In the mid-1800s, debate over slavery increased as abolitionists organized to challenge slavery in the United States.

#### Main Ideas

- Americans from a variety of backgrounds actively opposed slavery.
- Abolitionists organized the Underground Railroad to help enslaved Africans escape.
- Despite efforts of abolitionists, many Americans remained opposed to ending slavery.



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### Main Idea 1: Americans from a variety of backgrounds actively opposed slavery.

- Some Americans opposed slavery before the country was even founded.
- Americans took more organized action supporting **abolition**, or the complete end to slavery, in the 1830s.
- Abolitionists came from different backgrounds and opposed slavery for various reasons.
  - Some believed African Americans should have the same treatment as white Americans, while others were opposed to full equality.
- These inventions allowed farmers to plant and harvest huge crop fields, helping the country prosper.
  - Liberia was founded on the west coast of Africa in 1822.



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### Spreading the Abolitionist Message

**William Lloyd Garrison** published an abolitionist newspaper, the *Liberator*, and helped found the **American Anti-Slavery Society**.

**Angelina and Sarah Grimké**, two white southern women, were activists who wrote antislavery works, including *American Slavery As It Is*.

**Frederick Douglass** escaped slavery and became one of the most important African American leaders of the 1800s.

**Sojourner Truth**, another former slave, traveled around the country preaching the truth about slavery and women's rights. Other African Americans also wrote narratives about their experiences as slaves in order to expose slavery's cruelties.



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### Main Idea 2: Abolitionists organized the Underground Railroad to help enslaved Africans escape.

- By the 1830s a loosely organized group had begun helping slaves escape from the South.
- Abolitionists created the **Underground Railroad**— a network of people who arranged transportation and hiding places for fugitives, or escaped slaves.
- Fugitives would travel along routes leading them to northern states or to Canada.
- **Harriet Tubman**, an escaped slave, led her family and more than 300 slaves to freedom.



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### The Underground Railroad

- Enslaved African Americans followed many routes to freedom.
- They could not be certain of freedom in the free states.
- U.S. law still considered them property.
- Bounty hunters were paid to capture and return any fugitive slaves they found.



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### Main Idea 3: Despite efforts of abolitionists, many Americans remained opposed to ending slavery.

- Many white northerners agreed with the South and supported slavery.
  - Thought that ending slavery would take jobs from white workers
- Congress forbade its members from discussing antislavery petitions.
- Many white southerners saw slavery as vital to the South's economy and culture.



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### Women's Rights

#### The Big Idea

Reformers sought to improve women's rights in American society.

#### Main Ideas

- Influenced by the abolition movement, many women struggled to gain equal rights for themselves.
- Calls for women's rights met opposition from men and women.
- The Seneca Falls Convention launched the first organized women's rights movement in the United States.



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### **Main Idea 1: Influenced by the abolition movement, many women struggled to gain equal rights for themselves.**

- Fighting for the rights of African Americans led many women abolitionists to fight for their own rights.
- They found that they had to defend their right to speak in public.
- Critics did not want women to leave traditional female roles.



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### Early Women Reformers

#### Grimké Sisters

- Sarah Grimké wrote pamphlet in 1838 arguing for equal rights for women.
- Angelina Grimké refused to promise to obey her husband during their marriage ceremony.
- Transcendentalist Margaret Fuller wrote *Woman in the Nineteenth Century* (1845), stressing importance of individualism to people, especially to women.

#### Sojourner Truth

- Powerful supporter of both abolition and women's rights
- Born into slavery in 1797
- Took name Sojourner Truth because she felt her mission was to be a sojourner, or traveler, and spread the truth
- Never learned to read or write, but impressed people with her speeches.



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### Main Idea 2: Calls for women's rights met opposition from men and women.

#### The Movement Grows

- Women's concerns became a national issue when women took a more active and leading role in reform and abolition.
- Some men also began to fight for women's rights.

#### Opposition to Women's Rights

- Some women believed they did not need new rights.
- Some people thought that women lacked the physical or mental strength to survive without men's protection.



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### Main Idea 3: The Seneca Falls Convention launched the first organized women's rights movement in the United States.

- **Elizabeth Cady Stanton** and **Lucretia Mott** organized the **Seneca Falls Convention**.
- The convention was the first public meeting about women's rights held in the United States.
- The convention opened on July 19, 1848, in Seneca Falls, New York.
- Organizers wrote a **Declaration of Sentiments**.



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### Declaration of Sentiments

- Document detailed beliefs about social injustice toward women.
  - Used Declaration of Independence as basis for language
  - Authors included 18 charges against men
  - Signed by some 100 people
- About 240 people attended Seneca Falls Convention.
  - Men included such reformers as Frederick Douglass.
  - Many other reformers who worked in the temperance and abolitionist movements were present.



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### Women's Rights Leaders

#### Lucy Stone

- Well-known spokesperson for Anti-Slavery Society
- Was a gifted speaker who stirred the nation on women's rights

#### Susan B. Anthony

- Turned fight for women's rights into a political movement
- Argued for equal pay for equal work—no woman could be free without a “purse of her own”

#### Elizabeth Cady Stanton

- Wrote many documents and speeches of the movement
- Founder and leader of National Woman Suffrage Association



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