

Slavery Compared: Brazil and the United States

	Brazil	United States
African Slave Trade	<p>Bergad notes that “the development of slavery in the Americas was conditioned by the volume, timing, and destinations of the trans-Atlantic slave trade.”</p> <p>About 4.8 million African slaves imported.</p> <p>Slave importation lasted from 1530 to 1850.</p>	<p>About 390,000 African slaves imported.</p> <p>Slave importation lasted from 1619 to 1808.</p>
Slave Population	<p>Slave population could only be sustained through continued importation. When Thomas Ewbanks visited Brazil in the 1850s, he commented on the short lives of Brazilian slaves. The 1872 census counted 1.5 million slaves.</p> <p>Multiple factors included worse diet, tropical climate (in many areas, such as Bahia), substantial disease factors (including chronic and infectious diseases), and substantial gender imbalance. Prompted lower birth rate and higher death rate.</p> <p>Backbreaking and deadly nature of sugar production in some areas.</p> <p>High manumission rates and the comparative greater number of slaves fleeing captivity lessened numbers.</p>	<p>Slave population grew through natural reproduction (as early as 1724). The 1810 census (right after slave importation ended) counted 1.1 million slaves. The 1860 census counted 4 million slaves.</p> <p>Multiple factors included better diet, subtropical or temperate climate, fewer disease factors, and greater gender balance. Prompted higher birth rate and lower death rate.</p> <p>Slave population concentrated in one region of the country (South).</p>

Manumission Rate	<p>Significant manumission rates encouraged declining slave population.</p> <p>Free blacks made up 58% of Afro-Brazilian population in 1872 census.</p>	<p>Free blacks made up 10% of African American population in 1860 census.</p>
Cultural Continuities	<p>Extensive cultural continuities with Africa. When slavery ended in 1888, many slaves had firsthand memories of Africa. Movement back and forth between Africa and Brazil continued.</p>	<p>More limited cultural continuities with Africa. When slavery ended in 1865, very few slaves had firsthand memories of Africa. Most were generations removed.</p>
Slave Resistance (conv. AF. words)	<p>Higher degree of rebellion and flight. Encouraged declining slave population.</p> <p>WARRIOR JERRY MACANEO - Hiding place</p> <p>Hundreds of <u>quilombos</u> established in remote areas by runaway slaves.</p> <p>Massive slave rebellions, especially in Bahia between 1807 and 1835.</p> <p>(H) MALE UPRISING IN BAHIA 1835</p>	<p>Lesser degree of rebellion and flight – a factor was the importance of the slave family.</p> <p>Perhaps 100,000 slaves ran away to the North and Canada.</p> <p>A few rebellions (Stono, 1739; Louisiana, 1811; Nat Turner, 1831). Limited by white majority population, slaveholder presence, and more settled terrain.</p>

Recommended Readings:

Bergad, Laird W. "Comparative Slavery," in *Understanding and Teaching American Slavery*, ed. Bethany Jay and Cynthia Lynn Lyerly. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2016.

Bergad, Laird W. *The Comparative Histories of Slavery in Brazil, Cuba, and the United States*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2007.

Degler, Carl N. *Neither Black nor White: Slavery and Race Relations in Brazil and the United States*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1971.

Reis, Joao Jose, *Slave Rebellion in Brazil: The Muslim Uprising of 1835 in Bahia*, trans. By Arthur Brakel. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.