

Atlanta, GA



Principal Physiographic Regions

- The Coastal Plain
- The Piedmont
- The Mississippi River Floodplain



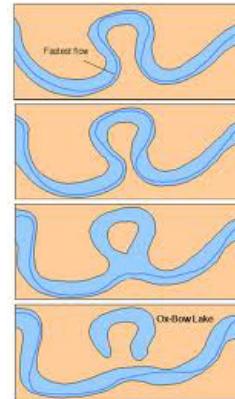
A Portion of the Mississippi River Boundary between the states of Mississippi (right) and Arkansas and Louisiana

A Meandering River



Soils



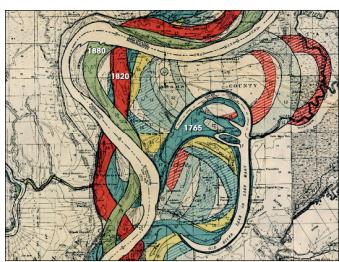


A meandering river over time

Top frame is the oldest

Bottom frame is the most recent

The Meander History of a portion of the Mississippi River



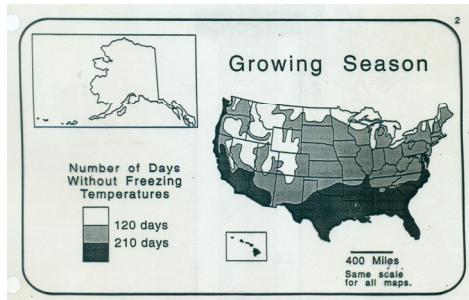
The Inland South vs. The Coastal South

- Different climate
- Different economy
- Different demographics
- Different culture

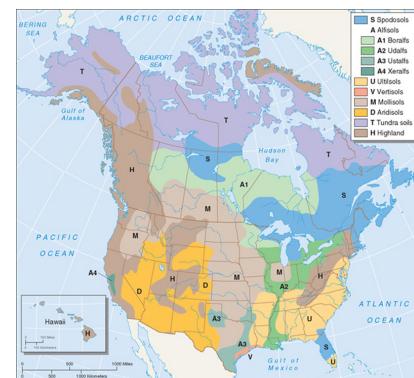


Climates of the U.S. and Canada

Map of the Growing Season (cartography by Phil Gersmehl)



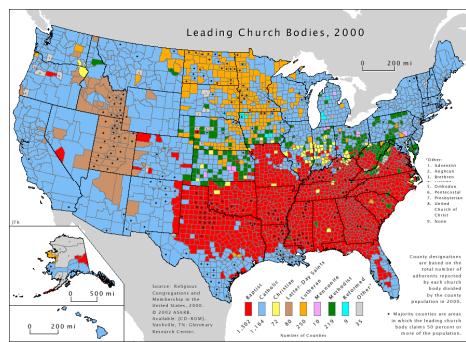
Soils



A Classic Ultisol Soils of warm moist areas High in Iron content; low in other nutrients



Reddish soil in the Southern Piedmont



The Bible Belt and Dixie are vernacular regions that apply to parts of the southeastern United States.

Bible Belt was coined by the journalist H.L. Mencken during the Scopes trial (1925) and implies a region whose people espouse religious fundamentalism – particularly, literal interpretation of the Bible.

The origin of **Dixie** is uncertain. During the U.S. Civil War, the song *Dixie* became the unofficial anthem of the Confederate States of America.



What's “changing” about The Changing South?

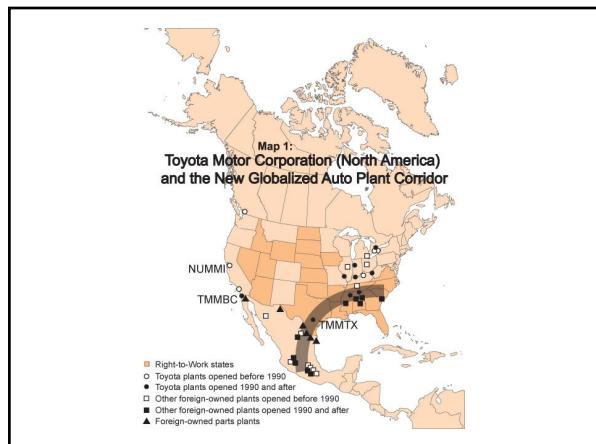
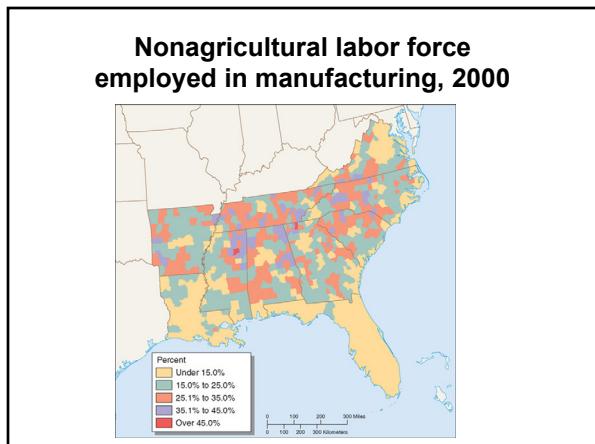
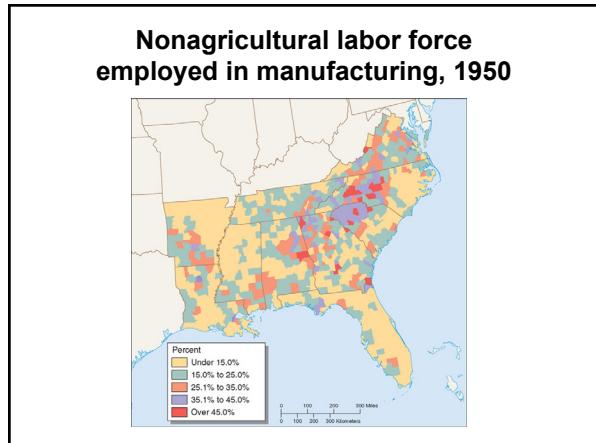
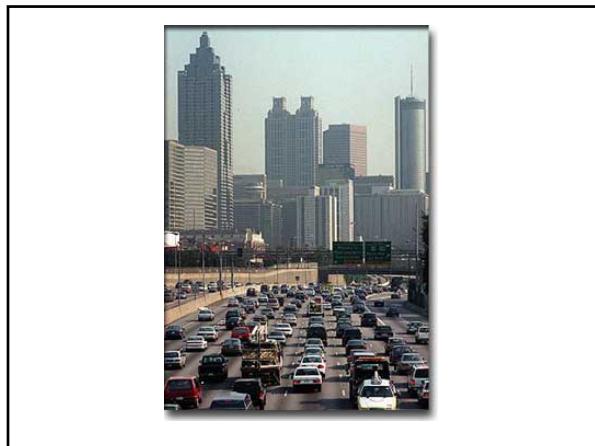
- Growing urbanization
- A growing non-Southern population
- New Manufacturing
- New Agriculture
- Improved race relations

Charlotte, NC
A major center of banking and finance



Atlanta

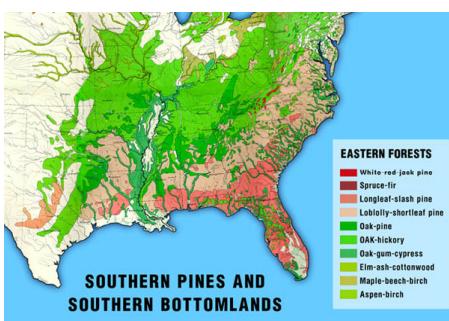




**Mercedes auto-manufacturing plant
Vance, Alabama**



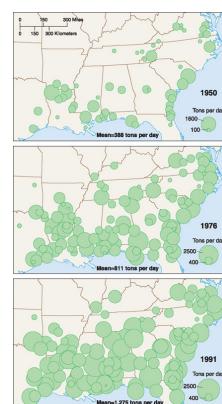
Pulp manufacturing, Plymouth, NC



Pine plantation

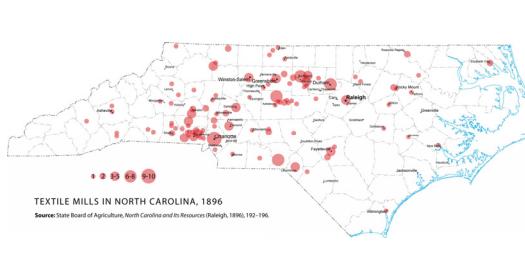


Pine Plantation

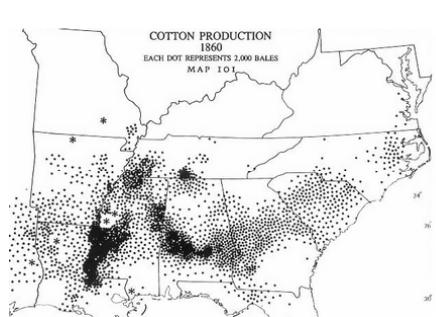


The Fall Line

- the border between a coastal plain and interior lands of higher elevation.
- Marked by rapids and waterfalls as rivers flow out of the highlands.
- In olden times, a prime location for mills powered by rapidly flowing water.

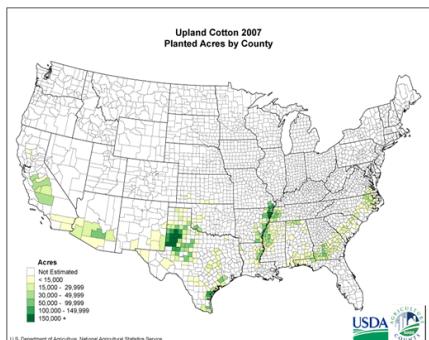


Apparel manufacturing



Mature Cotton in the field

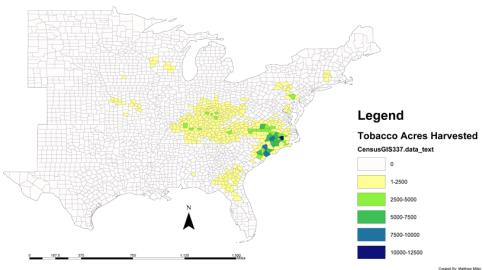




Tobacco Field

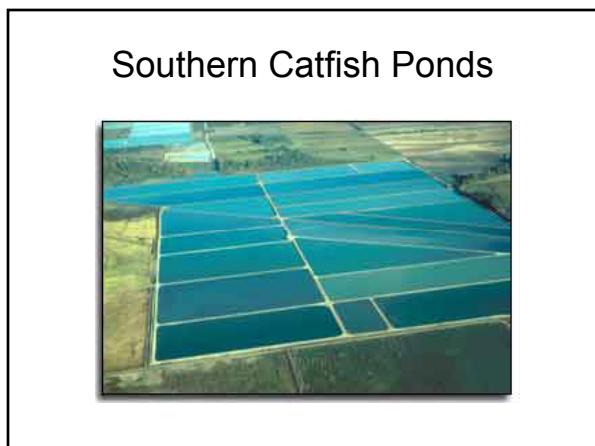
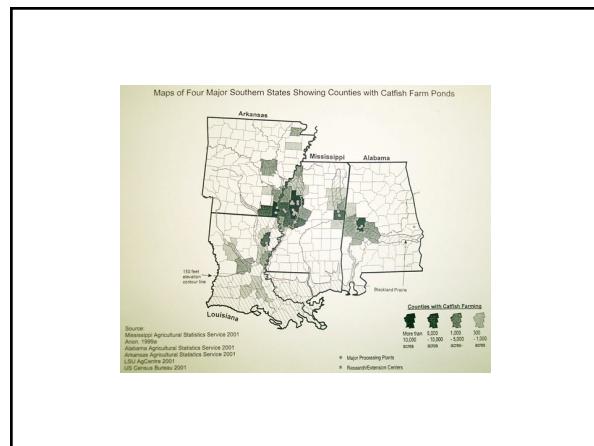
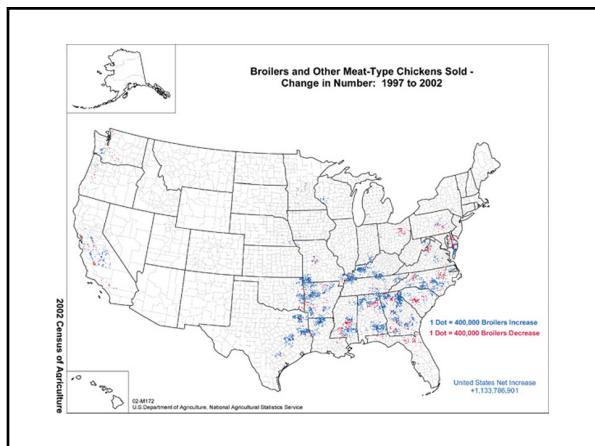
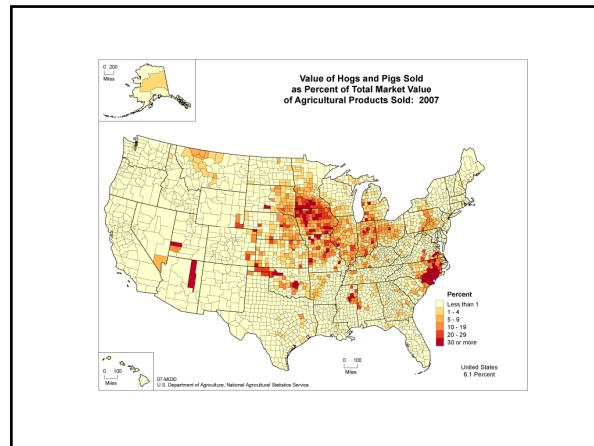
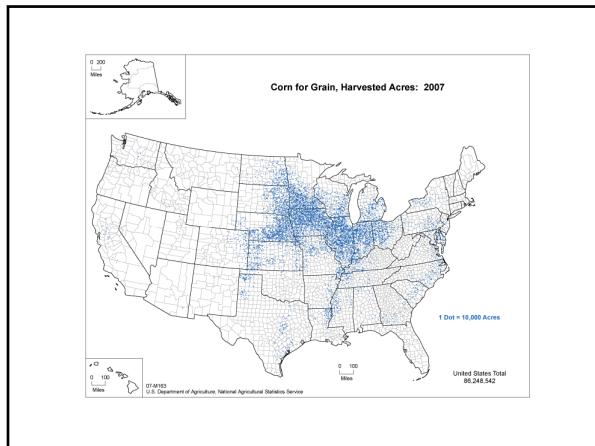


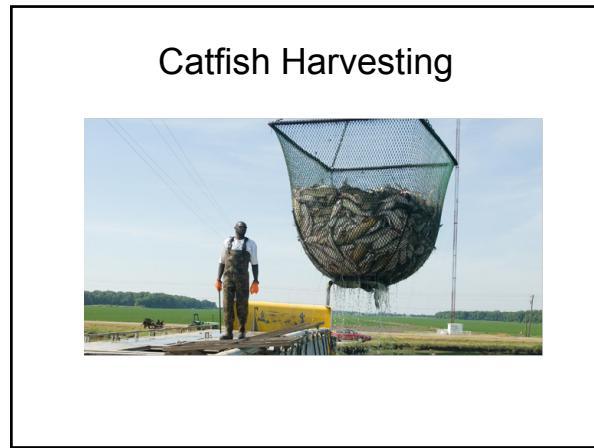
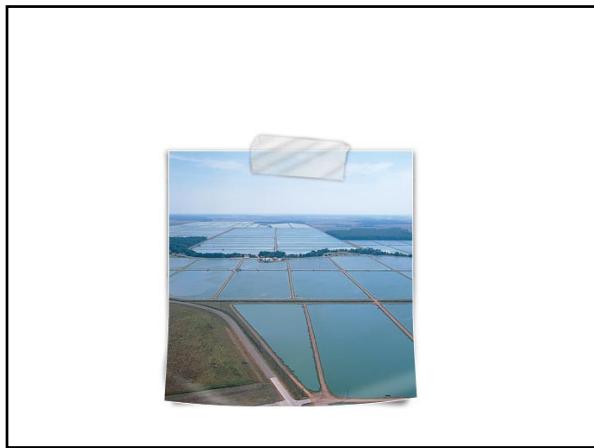
Acres of Tobacco Harvested in 2002



Tobacco curing in a shed







Legal Milestones in the Application of Racial Segregation

- Jim Crow laws
- Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)
- Brown v. Board of Education (1954)

Jim Crow Laws

- Refers to laws passed in Southern states after the formal end of Reconstruction (1877) that prohibited blacks from using the same public facilities as whites.
- “Jim Crow” was/is a pejorative reference to African Americans.
- The term’s origin is traced to a white minstrel performer who became famous for blackening his face and singing the lyrics to the song “Jump Jim Crow” while performing a racially insulting jig.

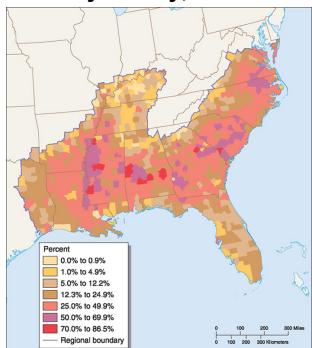
Plessy v. Ferguson

- An 1896 U.S. Supreme Court decision that approved the “separate but equal” principle, leading to official racial segregation in public facilities, including schools.
- The case was a challenge to a Louisiana law requiring separate railroad cars for Blacks and Whites.
- Opponents sought to test the law by having Homer Plessy, an octoroon, sit in a “white car” and be arrested.
- Supreme Court decided 7-1 that as long as the designated facilities were of equal quality, there was no violation of the 14th Amendment’s Equal Protection Clause.

Brown v. Board of Education

- A 1954 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that outlawed racial segregation of public education facilities, thereby overturning Plessy v. Ferguson.
- Stated that “separate but equal” public education could never truly provide black Americans with the same standards available to white Americans.
- Evidence showed segregation laws rather uniformly resulted in “separate and unequal” treatment.

African-American Population by county, 2000



The Great Migration

- The large-scale migration during the 20th century of African Americans from rural areas in the South to urban areas in Northern, Midwestern, and Western States.
- Viewed by historians as either a singular migration between roughly 1916-1930 involving about 1.3 million people, or
- An initial movement between 1910-1940 involving about 1.6 million people destined mainly to the Northeast and Midwest, followed by a secondary migration between 1940-1970 involving perhaps 5 million people, many of whom went to California.
- Result: A people once overwhelmingly southern and rural became more national in their distribution, and much more urban (especially outside the South).

Reasons for the Great Migration

- Oppressive conditions in the South (discrimination, segregation, lynchings . . .)
- A much more receptive legal and social environment in the receiving areas (initially, at least).
- A boll weevil infestation in southern cotton fields (circa 1910) that forced Black sharecroppers and farm laborers to seek new employment.
- An expansion of manufacturing jobs in the North and Midwest during and following World War I.
- The Immigration Act of 1924, which cut the supply of potential new factory workers from Europe.
- The Great Mississippi River Flood of 1927, which displaced hundreds of thousands of people.

African-American Population by county, 2000

