

Constitutional Convention – Conflicts and Compromises

Virginia Plan:

Great Compromise

New Jersey Plan:

Northern States:

Three-Fifths Compromise

Southern States

Northern States

**Slave Trade & Commerce
Compromise**

Southern States:

Constitutional Convention – Conflicts and Compromises

Virginia Plan:

- 3 separate branches: Exec, Leg, Judicial
- Bicameral (2 houses) legislature, House of Representatives & Senate
 - Representation based on population size in both houses
 - More people → more reps
 - Big states liked this!

Great Compromise

How should states be represented in the govt?

- Bicameral legislature with 2 houses: House of Representatives & Senate
- **Representation based on pop. in House of Reps**
 - **Equal representation in Senate** (each State gets two Senators)
 - Also called *Connecticut Compromise*

New Jersey Plan:

- 3 separate branches: Exec, Leg, Judicial
- Unicameral (1 house) legislature, House of Representatives only
 - Equal representation for all states, like in the Articles of Con.
 - One state → one vote
 - Small states liked this!

Northern States:

- Slaves should NOT be counted for representation, but they SHOULD be counted for taxation.
- This position was best for the non-slavery states (mostly northern and smaller).

Three-Fifths (3/5th) Compromise

How should population be counted for representation and taxation?

- Count some of the slaves. For every 5 slaves, 3 would be counted for population and taxation.

Southern States:

- Slaves SHOULD be counted for representation, but they should NOT be counted for taxation.
- This position was best for the slave-holding states (mostly southern with large #'s of slaves).

Northern States

- Wanted government to regulate business, to help northern industry
- Some northerners wanted the govt to end the slave trade, but all wanted to protect their own property rights
- Most northerners did not want to have to return escaped slaves to owners

Slave Trade & Commerce Compromise

Should the govt regulate business, including the slave trade?

- Govt COULD regulate business, but promised not to end the slave trade for 20 years.
 - Escaped slaves would be returned to owners.

Southern States:

- Did not want government to regulate business, because it would not help southern agriculture
- Were afraid that government would end the slave trade
- Felt that northerners must return escaped slaves (property) to owners