



## Number of Rhode Island's African American Patriots by Municipality and Congressional District

Community	# Patriot Connections	County	District
1. South Kingstown	54	<i>Washington</i>	2nd
2. Providence	37	<i>Providence</i>	1st (all included)
3. North Kingstown	30	<i>Washington</i>	2nd
4. Warwick	27	<i>Kent</i>	2nd
5. Newport	25	<i>Newport</i>	1st
6. Foster	23	<i>Providence</i>	2nd
7. East Greenwich	22	<i>Kent</i>	2nd
8. Tiverton	21	<i>Newport</i>	1st
9. Cranston	16	<i>Providence</i>	2nd
10. Johnston	11	<i>Providence</i>	2nd
11. Charlestown	9	<i>Washington</i>	2nd
12. Westerly	7	<i>Washington</i>	2nd
13. Smithfield	6	<i>Providence</i>	1st
14. Jamestown	6	<i>Newport</i>	1st
15. Scituate	6	<i>Providence</i>	2nd
16. Bristol	5	<i>Bristol</i>	1st
17. Hopkinton	5	<i>Washington</i>	2nd
18. West Greenwich	5	<i>Kent</i>	2nd
19. Cumberland	4	<i>Providence</i>	1st
20. Little Compton	4	<i>Newport</i>	1st
21. New Shoreham	4	<i>Washington</i>	2nd
22. Coventry	4	<i>Kent</i>	2nd
23. Portsmouth	3	<i>Newport</i>	1st
24. Barrington	3	<i>Bristol</i>	1st
25. Warren	3	<i>Bristol</i>	1st
26. Glocester	3	<i>Providence</i>	2nd
27. North Providence	1	<i>Providence</i>	1st
28. Richmond	1	<i>Washington</i>	2nd
29. Exeter	1	<i>Washington</i>	2nd

County	# Connections	District
Washington	111	2nd
Providence	107	1st (all incl.)
Newport	59	1st
Kent	58	2nd
Bristol	11	1st

District	# Connections
1st	118
2nd	228

## Facts about Rhode Island's African American Soldiers, Sailors and Patriots of the Revolutionary War



African Americans served in all of the major battles of the Revolutionary War (1775-1783), from Lexington and Concord to Yorktown.

Revised estimates suggest that between 10,000 or more could have served as soldiers, marines and civilian workers (referred to interchangeably as soldiers and patriots).

- For generations, historians had estimated that at least 5,000 served; however, less than half were known until 2008 when *Forgotten Patriots, African American and American Indian Patriots of the Revolutionary War* was published by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and put names to numbers.
- At least 783 patriots served in the Revolutionary War from Rhode Island.
- At least 272 patriots are connected by birth, enlistment, residence, marriage and death to multiple Rhode Island communities. 346 are traceable so far to 29 towns. (The map shows the number of patriot connections.)
- Almost 16 percent of the 5,000 known patriots resided in Rhode Island.
- About 64 percent or 3,174 of the 5,000 known soldiers and patriots resided in Rhode Island (783), **Massachusetts (1,570) and Connecticut (821)**.
- The U.S. Senate Energy Committee approved a bill in January 2012 for a citizen-funded National Liberty Memorial in Washington to honor them and the struggle for freedom of tens of thousands of others who sought liberty, including runaway slaves, civilian war laborers and freedom petitioners.
- The viability of S. 883 and a House companion, H.R. 2181, depends on the response of the Rhode Island delegation, since the state was central to the history.
- Members of Congress will look to Senators Reed and Whitehouse and Reps. Langevin and Cicilline among those who represent the 17 districts in Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Connecticut where 3,174 patriots once resided and whose descendants may still be found.
- 118 patriots are connected by birth, residence, enlistment, marriage and death to the 1st Congressional District (Rep. Langevin) and 228 to the 2<sup>nd</sup> (Rep. Cicilline). The two Senators speak for all 783.
- At least 17 Rhode Island patriots were born in Africa and carried on slave ships to the Americas. 9 of them were from Guinea.
- Communities are the patriots' closest and, likely, their most verifiable connections. They are their obvious voices. The actions sought to be honored are not about a race. They are about the nation's founding principles and our capacity to embrace them while acknowledging one another as one people.
- The descendants of at least two Rhode Island patriots at one time became members of the DAR.
- 29 of the 39 existing municipalities of Rhode Island are connected to one or more patriots. But all communities can claim every Rhode Island patriot as their own.
- Nearly 35 percent, or 272, of the 783 Rhode Island patriots, are associated with a community. At least 511 are yet to be discovered by a city or town. In Massachusetts and Connecticut, the known community connections are far higher at about 75 percent (1,174) and 70 percent (562), respectively.
- Descriptive lists record them as Negro, black, mulatto, mustee, yellow, colored, free, born Africa, part Indian, man of color, mixed descent, slave, and enslaved. Because of their light skin, some patriots may have been later identified in census records and on pension applications as "white."
- Most black patriots had typical European surnames; however, 10 used the surnames "Free" or "Freeman" to express their aspirations.
- The patriots had wives, children, heirs, marriages and funerals. These are the names of a few wives -- Abigail Larkin, Betsy Bent, Lucretia Thomas, Rhoda Irons, Delany Roberts, Phebe, and Marcy.
- Black patriots throughout the states served in many roles: soldier, sailor, marine, patriotic service, laborer, cobbler, cook's mate, waiter, barber, landsman, drummer, fifer, carpenter, servant, and gentleman soldier. (The majority listed in *Forgotten Patriots* were fighting men. All were placed in harm's way by their own decisions.)
- Sailors served on board the privateer *Rattlesnake*, *Lady* and *Joseph*; sloops *Providence*, *Independence*, *Fly* and *Success*; and brigantine *Resistance*, among others.
- Boys served on the brigantine *Famey* and on ships *Alfred* and *Trumbull*. At least three boys served aboard the *Columbus*. One served on a privateer.
- At least 17 of Rhode Island's black soldiers received pensions. Some list wives and children and other heirs.
- At least 91 Rhode Island soldiers and sailors died in service between 1776 and 1782.
- 12 communities in the 2nd Congressional District are connected\*\* to 228 soldiers. South Kingstown (54) had the most. 118 are connected to 17 communities in the 1<sup>st</sup> with Providence (37), Newport (25) and Tiverton (21) having the highest numbers. (The Providence total is not split between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional Districts.)
- Providence, at 37, ranks second behind South Kingstown (54). The totals of North Kingstown (30), Warwick (27), Newport (25), Foster (23), East Greenwich (22) and Tiverton (21) follow.

\*\* Multiple patriots are connected to multiple towns. Listed above are 346 known connections of 272 patriots whose communities are known. For example, **Philo Phillips** was born and resided in North Kingstown. He enlisted in East Greenwich and also resided in Providence. He is included in the lists/totals of each community.

Last Name	First Name	Community	Town's # Patriot Connections	Connection Type **	Congressional District
ALLEN	RICHARD	Barrington	3	R	1st
BANNISTER	CATO	Barrington	3	R	1st
DEWOLF	SCIPIO	Barrington	3	R	1st
ACKMAN	WILLIAM	Bristol	5	R	1st
BOURN	FRANK	Bristol	5	R	1st
LeFAVOUR	THOMAS	Bristol	5	R	1st
SMITH	JUBE	Bristol	5	R	1st
VANDORUM	PLATO	Bristol	5	R	1st
BROWN	TOBY	Cumberland	4	R	1st
OLNEY	BRISTOL	Cumberland	4	R/E	1st
RICHMOND	SIGBY	Cumberland	4	R	1st
STREETER	BARZILLAR	Cumberland	4	R	1st
AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN		Jamestown	6	R	1st
BATTEY	WILLIAM	Jamestown	6	R	1st
DICK	THOMAS	Jamestown	6	R	1st
HAZARD	HENRY	Jamestown	6	R	1st
HOWLAND	ROBIN	Jamestown	6	R	1st
REMYNGTON	JABEZ	Jamestown	6	B	1st
BRIGGS	DUBLIN	Little Compton	4	R	1st
GRAY	EBENEZER	Little Compton	4	R	1st
RICHMOND	EBENEZER	Little Compton	4	R	1st
WILBOUR	BOSTON	Little Compton	4	R	1st
BABCOCK	CEASAR	Newport	25	R	1st
BANNISTER	CATO	Newport	25	R	1st
BATES	BENONI	Newport	25	B	1st
BENTLY	MINGO	Newport	25	B	1st
BOOSE	CATO	Newport	25	R	1st
BROWN	SHARP	Newport	25	R	1st
BROWNING	LAY	Newport	25	R	1st
BURROUGHS	JOHN	Newport	25	R	1st
CHAMPLIN	JACK	Newport	25	B	1st
CHAMPLIN	SHARPER	Newport	25	R	1st
CHAMPLIN	CUDGO	Newport	25	R	1st
CHILDS	PRINCE	Newport	25	R	1st
CODDINGTON	JACK	Newport	25	R	1st
COGGESHALL	ISAAC	Newport	25	R	1st
DONGARON	JOSEPH	Newport	25	R	1st
GOULD	FRANK	Newport	25	R	1st
HANABELL	YORK	Newport	25	R	1st
JACKSON	PRINCE	Newport	25	R	1st
MINTURN	JACK	Newport	25	R	1st
MORRIS	HARRY	Newport	25	R	1st
MUMFORD	CATO	Newport	25	R	1st
SABENS	CEZAR	Newport	25	B	1st
TABER	HENRY	Newport	25	R	1st
VARNUM	CATO	Newport	25	B	1st
WANTON	WILLAM	Newport	25	R	1st

R= Resided B= Born E= Enlisted M= Married D= Died

Source: Forgotten Patriots, African American and American Indian Patriots in the Revolutionary War

Last Name	First Name	Community	Town's # Patriot Connections	Connection Type	Congressional District
WHIPPLE	SIMON	North Providence	1	B/R	1st
HOPKINS	PRIMUS	Portsmouth	3	R	1st
THOMAS	JOHN	Portsmouth	3	R	1st
TOMPKINS	SOMERSET	Portsmouth	3	R	1st
ANGEL	LEPARD	Providence	37	R	1st
ARNOLD	CUFF	Providence	37	E	1st
BATES	BENONI	Providence	37	R/E	1st
BENTLY	MINGO	Providence	37	R	1st
BOOSE	CATO	Providence	37	D	1st
BUCK	AFRICA	Providence	37	R	1st
BUCKLIN	LONDON	Providence	37	R	1st
BUCKLIN	PRINCE	Providence	37	R	1st
CAESAR	WILLIAM	Providence	37	R	1st
COOK	CAESAR	Providence	37	R	1st
CROUCH	PETER	Providence	37	R	1st
EASON	CAESAR	Providence	37	R	1st
FRANK	WILLIAM	Providence	37	B	1st
FREEMAN	CATO	Providence	37	R	1st
GOODWIN	PRINCE	Providence	37	R	1st
GOULD	FRANK	Providence	37	E	1st
GREEN	CATO	Providence	37	E	1st
GREEN	NEWPORT	Providence	37	R	1st
HARRIS	PETER	Providence	37	R	1st
HASZARD	SAMPSON	Providence	37	E	1st
HITT	JAMES	Providence	37	R/E	1st
JENCKS	PRINCE	Providence	37	R	1st
LYNDAL	CATO	Providence	37	R	1st
McCLANNING	PLATO	Providence	37	R/E	1st
MOWNEY	CUTS	Providence	37	R	1st
MUMFORD	CATO	Providence	37	R	1st
PHILLIPS	PHILO	Providence	37	R	1st
POUCHATOUCH	CAESAR	Providence	37	R/E	1st
PROCTOR	CESARUS	Providence	37	R	1st
REEVES	POMP	Providence	37	R	1st
SABENS	CEZAR	Providence	37	R	1st
SLOCUM	PRIME	Providence	37	R/D	1st
SLOCUM	PRINCE	Providence	37	R/E	1st
SWEETING	QUERY	Providence	37	R	1st
TABER	HENRY	Providence	37	R/M	1st
TALBOT	SIGBY	Providence	37	R	1st
THOMPSON	PRINCE	Providence	37	B/R/E	1st
ARNOLD	PRINCE	Smithfield	6	B	1st
BOWEN	CAIN	Smithfield	6	R	1st
JENCKS	PRIMUS	Smithfield	6	R	1st
MOWNEY	CAZAR	Smithfield	6	B/R	1st
PERO		Smithfield	6	R	1st
SPRAGUE	BENJAMIN	Smithfield	6	R	1st

Last Name	First Name	Community	Town's # Patriot Connections	Connection Type	Congressional District
ALMEY	JACK	Tiverton	21	R	1st
ALMY	SHARPER	Tiverton	21	R	1st
AMOS	THOMAS	Tiverton	21	R	1st
COOK	ABRAHAM	Tiverton	21	R	1st
DAVID	SOLOMON	Tiverton	21	R	1st
DAVIDS	JACOB	Tiverton	21	R	1st
DICK	JOSHUA	Tiverton	21	R	1st
FRANK	WILLIAM	Tiverton	21	E	1st
HANABELL	YORK	Tiverton	21	R	1st
HOWLAND	DAVID	Tiverton	21	R	1st
NEGERS	WILLIAM	Tiverton	21	R	1st
QUANWELL	PETER	Tiverton	21	R	1st
SISSON	TACK	Tiverton	21	R	1st
SLADE	CUFF	Tiverton	21	R	1st
SLOCUM	LONDON	Tiverton	21	R	1st
STAFFORD	PRIMUS	Tiverton	21	R	1st
TABOR	HENRY	Tiverton	21	R	1st
TITUS	SETH	Tiverton	21	R	1st
WANTON	JEREMIAH	Tiverton	21	R	1st
WANTON	SOLOMON	Tiverton	21	R	1st
WORDEN	JOHN	Tiverton	21	R	1st
BARTON	HAMPTON	Warren	3	R	1st
COLE	CAESAR	Warren	3	R	1st
MASON	WARREN	Warren	3	R	1st