

State of Connecticut

Towns and Cities where One or More African American Soldiers and Sailors
Resided or Enlisted During the American Revolution
(Compiled by National Mall Liberty Fund D.C.)

# Patriots	Town	# Patriots	Town
9	Ashford	9	Milford
2	Barkhamsted	17	New Haven
1	Bolton	10	New London
11	Branford	10	New Milford
2	Bridgeport	7	Newtown
1	Bristol	2	Norfolk
1	Brookfield	1	North Stonington
2	Brooklyn	5	Norwalk
1	Canaan	32	Norwich
8	Canterbury	13	Plainfield
2	Cheshire	10	Pomfret
33	Colchester	7	Preston
2	Cornwall	2	Redding
3	Coventry	5	Ridgefield
16	Danbury	6	Saybrook
4	Derby	1	Sharon
4	Durham	1	Shelton
6	East Haddam	6	Simsbury
6	East Hampton	1	Somers
2	East Haven	1	Southbury
5	East Windsor	1	Southington
1	Enfield	4	Stamford
16	Fairfield	28	Stonington
15	Farmington	32	Stratford
8	Glastonbury	4	Suffield
2	Goshen	1	Thompson
1	Granby	2	Tolland
24	Groton	4	Voluntown
11	Guilford	20	Wallingford
7	Haddam	2	Washington
5	Hartford	3	Waterbury
8	Hebron	1	Watertown
6	Kent	1	West Hartford
7	Killingly	6	Wethersfield
8	Lebanon	1	Wilton
1	Lisbon	2	Winchester
4	Litchfield	11	Windham
5	Lyme	9	Windsor
1	Mansfield	17	Woodbury
10	Middletown	6	Woodstock
		562	Town Totals
		258	No residence given
	State Total	820	

Quick Facts about Connecticut's African American Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War

- ✓ At least 820 African American soldiers, and seamen (patriots) served in the Revolutionary War from Connecticut. (This does not include those who provided civilian assistance or demonstrated a personal desire to be liberated from enslavement. Many men, women and children ran away or filed freedom petitions with courts and the General Assembly.)
- ✓ Connecticut's 820 patriots represent 16 percent of the known 5,000 who served from the 13 colonies and territories.
- ✓ Some estimate that up to 10,000 African Americans served in the Revolutionary War.
- ✓ At least 562 African American patriots are connected by birth, enlistment or residence to a town.
- ✓ At least 258 African American patriots are not associated with a town.
- ✓ Of Connecticut's 169 towns, 80 are connected to an African American patriot.
- ✓ At the time of the Revolution, African Americans accounted for 2.6 percent of the population of Connecticut, not including American Indians.
- ✓ According to the Connecticut census of 1774, 2,883 African American males of all ages resided in six counties in the state. (Middlesex County and Tolland County were created in 1785.)
- ✓ If, for example, 50 percent of the African American male population under 20 was over 16 and 80 percent of those over 20 were under 40, the level of eligible African American male participation in the Revolutionary War would be nearly 43 percent.

County	# Towns with Blacks Serving	Black Male Pop. 1774 -20	Black Male Pop. 1774 +20	Est. Eligible 16-20	Est. Eligible 20-40	Total Est. Eligible Black Males	Total Serving	% Eligible Serving	Total White Population	Total Black Population	Black % Total Pop.
Hartford	13	274	370	137	296	433	63	15.47	50,666	1,093	2.11
New Haven	10	199	268	100	214	314	80	29.63	25,896	854	3.19
New London	11	328	335	164	268	432	153	31.71	31,542	1,194	3.65
Fairfield	12	286	358	143	286	429	92	20.49	28,936	1,153	3.83
Windham	9	127	147	64	118	181	67	35.89	27,494	476	1.70
Litchfield	13	92	99	46	79	125	52	49.52	26,844	331	1.22
Middlesex (1785)	6	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	39	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tolland (1785)	6	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	16	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
No residence given	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	258	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	80	1,306	1,577	653	1,262	1,915	820	42.83	191,378	5,101	2.60

* See Table 87, Population of the Colony of Connecticut: Census of 1774, *A Century of Population Growth*, pp. 166-169. This table lists the total black population at 6,464. The population subtotals of American Indians amounting to 1,363 are included erroneously.
 This chart was compiled by **National Mall Liberty Fund D.C.

- ✓ 60 African Americans served in Col. Humphrey's Colored Troops.
- ✓ African Americans served in at least the 1st through 9th Connecticut Regiments and many other units, including the Continental Army and those associated with the names of captains and colonels.
- ✓ African Americans were privateers, marines, sailors and seamen, serving on the Brigantines Marshall, Minerva, Independence, Delight, and Defense, among others.
- ✓ At least 2 African Americans from Connecticut served in the all-black Rhode Island Regiment
- ✓ Slaves and free men served -- some were substitutes for their masters.
- ✓ Some African American patriots were boys, including drummers, fifers and marines.
- ✓ Some slaves received their freedom in exchange for service.
- ✓ At least 90 African American patriots are known to have applied for pensions.

It is but little wonder that when the Revolutionary War began in 1775 Connecticut's blacks were optimistic. In times of upheaval conditions change, and the black American of that era must have believed that change for him had but one way to turn – for the better. – David O. White

Bridgeport

SHELTON, CAESAR/CESAR, aka CAESAR or CAESAR NEGRO, African American, S19764, Bridgeport
 ACHMET, HAMET, African American (“black man,” “coloured”), S38107, [died November 20, 1842 in
 Middletown; widow Mary Ann Achmet], Bridgeport/Middletown

Brookfield /Lebanon

CROSS, NERO, African American (“Negro”), S39370, Brookfield/Lebanon

Danbury

AMOS, African American (“Negro”), Danbury

ANTHONY/ANTONY, JACK, African American, Danbury

BOSTON, TOBY/TOBE, African American, Danbury

CAESAR, African American (“Negro”), slave of John Edwards, Danbury

GRANT, JEHU, African American (“Negro”), waiter, wagon master, R4197, Danbury

JACK, African American (“Negro”) Woodstock

JUBE, African American (“Negro”), Danbury

LOGIN, CATO, African American, Danbury

ROBEN/ROBIN, African American (“Negro”), , (“Conn. Sufferer”), Danbury

ROBIN, African American (“Negro”), Danbury

ROGER, African American (“Negro”), Danbury

ROGER, African American, Patriotic Service (sufferer), Danbury

STARR, ROBIN, African American, S36810, [died April 3, 1832; Abel C. Starr only child; “left no widow”],
 Danbury

URIAH/VARIAH, African American (“Negro”), Danbury

WHITE, FORTUNE/FORTIN, African American, Danbury

WILLIAM, African American (“Negro”), Danbury

Fairfield

COUCH, WILLIAM, “Colored,” R2358, Fairfield

FREEDOM/FREEMAN, NED, African American, S37946, (Served in Capt. David Humphrey’s Company of
 Colored Troops), FPPV, [died January 24, 1839; children: Charles Freedom, Harcy Hubbell, Nancy Hawley,
 Rebecca Monroe, Orvilla Freedom, Charles Freedom, Alton Freedom; no widow], Fairfield

HILL, TONEY/TONY, Fairfield

JAMBERS, JAMES, Fairfield

JEACOCKS/JEACOCKS/JECOX/GEEOCKS, GRESHAM, Fairfield

JEACOCKS/JEACOCKS/GEACOKS, JESSE, 2nd mate on the brig Defense, Fairfield

LYON, TONY, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), Fairfield

MOLATTO/MULATTO, ADAM, Mixed descent (“Mulatto”), Fairfield

NASH, PETER, African American, R7558 [wife Lydia], waiter to Capt. Thomas Nash, Fairfield

NED, African American (“Free Negro”), Patriotic Service (sufferer), Fairfield

NED, African American (“Negro”), , (“Corin. Sufferer”), Fairfield

PETER, African American (“Negro”), Fairfield

PRIME, African American (“Negro”), Fairfield

PRIME, African American (“Negro”), Fairfield

SANFORD, FORTUNE, African American, Fairfield

TRED WELL/TREAD WELL, CATO, African American, S35358, Fairfield

Newtown

BOTSFORD/BOCHFORD, JACK, African American, Newtown

BRISTOL, CAESAR, African American, Newtown

CAESAR/CEASAR/CASAR, BRISTOL/BRISTER, African American, Newtown

JACK, African American ("Negro"), Newtown

SAMPSON, African American ("Negro"), Newtown

TOBE/TOBY, African American ("Negro"), Newtown

JUDD/JUDSON, BRUSTER/BRESTER, Newtown/Waterbury

Norwalk

LEAMING, POMP, African American ("Negro"), Patriotic Service (sufferer), Norwalk

NED, African American ("Negro"), Norwalk

ROGER, JOHN, African American, Norwalk

ST. JOHN, DOVER, African American ("Negro"), Patriotic Service (sufferer), Norwalk

SYPHAX, African American, Patriotic Service (sufferer), ("Conn. Sufferer"), Norwalk

Redding

JACK, African American ("Negro"), Redding

NED, African American ("Negro"), Redding

Ridgefield

CONGO, JACK (or CONGO JACK), African American, (Served in Capt David Humphrey's Company of Colored Troops) Ridgefield

JACK, African American ("Negro"), Ridgefield

JACKLIN, LEWIS, African American, Ridgefield

WILLIAMS, HARRY, African American, (Served in Capt. David Humphrey's Company of Colored Troops), Ridgefield

JACKLIN, EBENEZER, African American, S32891, Ridgefield, 1800MA, Berkshire Co.

Shelton (Huntington)

FREEMAN, DEVONSHIRE, African American, S36519, Huntington

Stamford

BUSH, SAMUEL, African American, S36450, [died November 26, 1835 in Greenwich; widow Hannah Bush], Stamford

CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), Stamford

FREEMAN, JUBE/JUBEL, African American, Stamford

POMP, EBENEZER, , Stamford

Stratford

AMOS, African American ("Negro"), enslaved man of Stiles Curtiss, Stratford

ARABAS/ARIBAS, JACK, (Served in Capt. David Humphrey's Company of Colored Troops), Stratford

CAESAR, African American ("Negro"), Stratford

CUFF, ABEL, African American, Stratford

EDWARDS, CAESAR/CESAR, African American, Stratford

FREEDOM/FREDOM, JACK, African American ("Free Black"), Stratford

FREEMAN, JACK, African American, Stratford

FREEMAN, TONEY/TONA, African American, Stratford

FREEMAN/FREMON, ROBERT, African American ("Negro"), Stratford

GLASCOW/GLASGOW/GLASCO, SILAS/SILUS, African American, Stratford

GOODLUCK, LONDON, African American ("Free Black"), Stratford

HAWLE/HAULEY, NERO, African American ("Negro"), S20784 [died January 30, 1817], 1790CT, Stratford

JACK, African American ("Negro"), slave of Thomas Ivers, Stratford

JACK, African American, ("Thomas Ivers for his Negro Jack"), Stratford

JACKLIN, THOMAS, African American, Stratford

JOHNSON, SHUBAEL, African American, 6018-100, (Served in Capt. David Humphrey's Company of Colored Troops), Stratford

JOSEPH, African American ("Negro"), Stratford

JOSMAN, African American ("Negro"), Stratford

LEWIS, PETER, African American ("Free Negro"), W17463 [in. Patience Brooks], , Stratford

LIVELY, African American ("Negro"), Stratford
MOLATTO, EPHRAIM, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), Stratford
MOSS/MORSE, POMP, Stratford
NEGRO MAN OF DANIEL HAWLEY, African American, Stratford
NEGRO MAN OF JOHN BEACH, African American, Stratford
NEGRO MAN OF JOHN TURNEY, African American, Stratford
NERO, African American ("Negro"), Stratford
POMP, African American ("Negro"), Stratford
PRIMOS/PRIMUS/PRIMAS, JEFFREY/JEFFRY/JESSE/JEFFERY, Stratford
QUASH/QUOSH, EPHRAIM, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), Stratford
SERVANT OF SILUS NICKOLS, Stratford
TONEY, African American ("Negro"), Stratford
USURP, JOSEPH, African American ("Negro to David Wilcockson"), Stratford
Wilton
SOWTRICE/SOUTHREE/SOWTICE/SOWTIS/SOIJTREE/SOUTICE, SOLOMON, African American/and/or Pequot Indian, (Served in Capt. David Humphrey's Company of Colored Troops), P1776, Wilton/Norwalk

References:

A Century of Population Growth, pp. 166-169 (Connecticut State Library)
National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, *Forgotten Patriots, African American and American Indian Patriots of the Revolutionary War* (2008)
David O. White, *Connecticut's Black Soldiers 1775-1783* (Chester, 1973)
Robert Ewell Greene, *Black Courage 1775-1783* (Washington, 1984)