

Resource Page 3-2
Chart: Colonial Recruitment
The King Wants You!
Raising an Army of Provincial Soldiers

Directions: Read the Background and information in the Table; then answer the questions below.

Background

Winter of 1758 Lord Loudoun demands northern colonies provide a specified quota of soldiers for military campaigns in the coming year. Colonial legislators, particularly in Massachusetts, object to the quotas.

Spring 1758 British Secretary of State, William Pitt, recalls Lord Loudoun to England; replaces him with General Abercromby. Pitt's letter assures colonial legislatures that provincial army officers will now be accorded the same rank as British counterparts and that the colonies' expenses will be reimbursed. These and other changes in policy produce a dramatic change in the colonial response to the war; the colonies now become partners with Britain in the war effort.

Recruitment of Soldiers in Selected Northern Colonies, 1758

Colonies	Recruitment Quotas Required by Loudoun (Disputed by Colonies)	Numbers of Recruits Authorized by Colonial Legislatures (After Pitt Letters received)
Rhode Island	608	1,000
New Hampshire	608	800
New York	1,216	2,680
Connecticut	1,520	5,000
Massachusetts	2,128	7,000

Source of Colonial Recruitment Figures: Fred Anderson, *Crucible of War*, pp. 225, 227.

1. What does the chart tell you about the reaction of colonial legislatures to Pitt's Letters?
2. What do the numbers in column 3 indicate about colonial support for the war against the French?
3. Based on information in this table, what levels of recruitment would you expect to find in other colonies following receipt of Pitt's letter in the Spring of 1758? Why?

Take It Further

Calculate the percentage by which each of these colonies exceeded their "quota" after receiving Pitt's letters.