Demographic Trends in Colonial New England

(Source: J. Henretta, The Evolution of American Society, 1700-1815. Empty boxes mean no available data)

Task: These are actual archival records. After you examine the chart:
- Identify crucial **data** (facts) that you feel give insight into events.
- Locate and describe important economic and demographic **trends** (patterns of change).
- Draw **conclusions** about the relationships between different trends.
- Make a list of **questions** for further study.

A. Population Increase by Decade		B. Poor Relief in Boston		
Decade	Pop. Increase	Population	Annual Cost	Per 1,000 pop.
1700-1710	24%	7,500	£173	£23
1710-1720	48%	9,830	181	18
1720-1730	27%	11,840	273	23
1730-1740	33%	15,850	498	31
1740-1750	24%	16,240	806	50
1750-1760	25%	15,660	1204	77
1760-1770	29%	15,520	1909	123
1771-1775		15,500	2478	156

	C. Premarital Sex			D. Land Inheritance Patterns		
Years	Av. Female Age Marriage Andover, MA	Premarital Conception Hingham, MA	Premarital Conception Briston, RI	Adult Males Abbott Family Andover, MA	Av. N.E. Farm size	Period land Left Fallow (unplanted)
1650	19			1	200-300 acres (1/3 cultivated)	7 to 15 years
1660		Under 10%				
1700		10%				
1750	23-24	30%	50%	25	Under 100 acres	
1770						1 to 2 years

E. Comparative Child Mortality		
Place	Year	Mortality Rate
Sweden	1751-1799	50% before 15
France	1750-1800	50% before 21
Andover, MA	1650-1700	10% before 21

F. Migration to Boston			
Group	1747	1759	1771
Single Men	3.0%	8.5%	23.4%
Single Women	4.0%	16.8%	20.0%
Widows/Widowers	7.9%	8.9%	4.4%
Married Couples	33.6%	27.4%	27.5%
Children	51.5%	38.4%	24.7%

G. Division of Estates Among All Male Heirs	
1st generation	95%
2nd generation	75%
3rd generation	58%
4th generation	Under 50%

H. Wealth Distribution in Boston, MA			
Social Class		1687	1771
Wealthiest 5%		30.2%	48.7%
Next Wealthiest 5%		16.1%	14.7%
Next Wealthiest 30%		39.8%	27.4%
Next Wealthiest 30%		11.3%	9.1%
Poorest 30%		2.6%	0.1%