

Virginia Studies  
STANDARD VS.8a-c  
STUDY GUIDE

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## STANDARD VS.8A EFFECTS OF RECONSTRUCTION

### The effects of Reconstruction on life in Virginia.

Virginians faced serious problems in rebuilding the state after the war.

#### Terms to know

- **Reconstruction:** The period following the Civil War in which Congress passed laws designed to rebuild the country and bring the southern states back into the Union

*What were some of the **problems** Virginians faced during the **period of Reconstruction** following the Civil War?*

#### Problems faced by Virginians during Reconstruction

- Millions of freed African Americans **needed housing, education, clothing, food, and jobs.**
- Virginia's **economy** was in ruins:
  - **Money** had no value.
  - **Banks were closed.**
  - **Railroads, bridges, plantations, and crops were destroyed.**

*What **measures** were taken during Reconstruction to resolve Virginia's problems?*

#### Measures taken to resolve problems

- The **Freedmen's Bureau** was a government agency that provided food, schools, and medical care for freed African Americans and others in Virginia -
- **Sharecropping** was a system common in Virginia after the war in which freedmen and poor white farmers rented land from a landowner by promising to pay the owner with a share of the crop.

## STANDARD VS.8B SEGREGATION & "JIM CROW"

Effects of segregation and "Jim Crow" on life in Virginia for whites, African Americans, and American Indians.



The freedoms and rights promised to African Americans were **slowly taken away** after Reconstruction, and it would take years to win them back.

*What happened to the rights of African Americans after Reconstruction?*

#### Terms to know

- **Segregation:** The separation of people, usually based on race or religion
- **Discrimination:** An unfair difference in the treatment of people

During Reconstruction, African Americans began to have **power in Virginia's government**, and men of all races could vote.

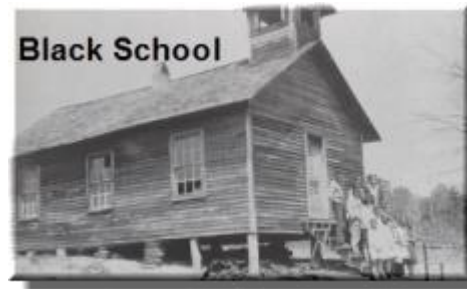
After Reconstruction, these **gains were lost** when "**Jim Crow**" Laws were passed by southern states. "Jim Crow" Laws established **segregation or separation** of the races and reinforced prejudices held by whites.



*What impact did “Jim Crow” laws have on whites, blacks, African Americans, and American Indians in Virginia?*

“Jim Crow” laws had an effect on the lives of African **Americans and American Indians**.

- **Unfair poll taxes and voting tests** were established to keep African American men from voting.



- African Americans found it very **difficult to vote or hold public office**.

- African Americans were forced to use **separate** poor-quality services such as **drinking fountains, restrooms, and restaurants**.

- African American and white children attended **separate schools**.

- “Jim Crow” laws had an **effect on American Indians**.

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## STANDARD VS.8c

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Importance of railroads, new industries, and the growth of cities to Virginia’s economic development.**

*What changes took place in Virginia to boost the economic growth?*

After the Civil War, **industry and technology, transportation, and cities** began to grow and contribute to Virginia’s economy.

Virginia began to **grow** in many areas after the Civil War and Reconstruction.

- Virginia’s **cities grew** with people, businesses, and factories.

**Railroads** were a **key to the expansion** of business, agriculture, and industry. They facilitated the growth of **small towns to cities**.

- Other parts of Virginia grew as other industries developed. **Coal deposits** were discovered in **Tazewell County**. The need for more and better **roads** increased.

- **Tobacco** farming and tobacco products became **important** Virginia industries.

