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## The Expanding Franchise

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## THE EXPANDING FRANCHISE

Church Membership: Required in the New England Bible Commonwealths.

- Requirement abolished following passage of the Act of Toleration in 1690.

Freehold Property Requirement: Generally used until the early nineteenth century.

- Requirement largely abolished in the 1820s with the rise of Jacksonian democracy.

Black Suffrage: Dred Scott decision (Scott v. Sandford, 1857) denied citizenship to blacks.

- Restriction abolished with ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment in 1870.

Women's Suffrage: Wyoming led the way in 1869.

- Restriction abolished by Nineteenth Amendment in 1920.

Eighteen Year Old Vote: Military draft during the Vietnam era helped lower age requirement.

- Uniform age standard came with ratification of the Twenty-Sixth Amendment in 1971.