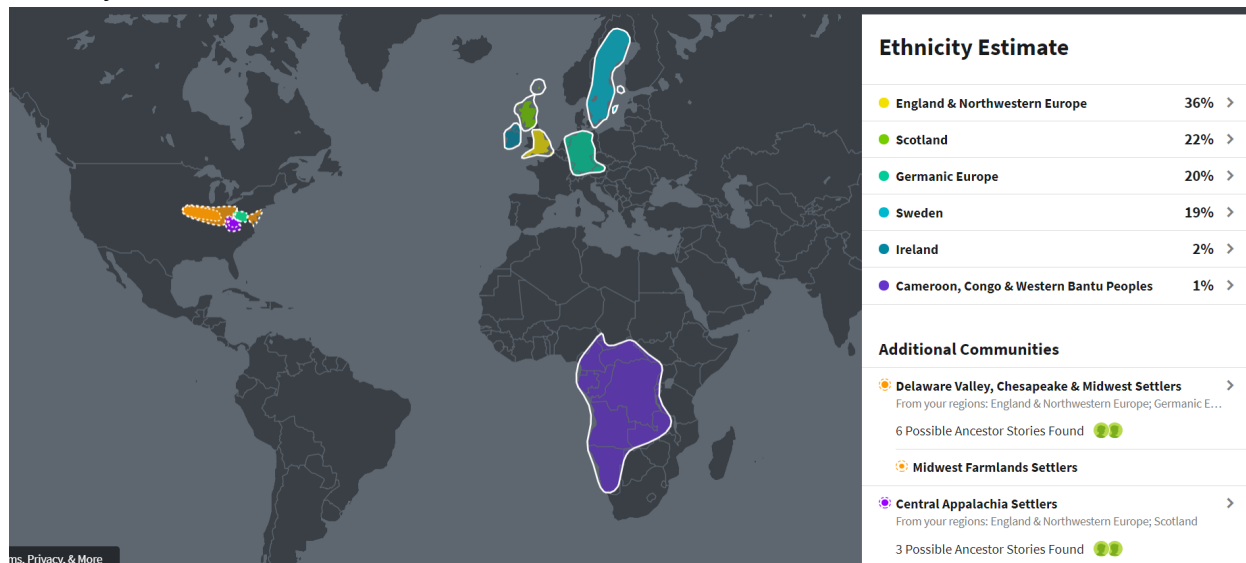


AncestryDNA[®] Communities (Update June 2021)

[Video Link](#)

AncestryDNA[™] has more than 1,400 global regions that make up the ethnicities displayed in your DNA ethnicity results.



What are communities?

According to Ancestry “A community is a group of AncestryDNA members who likely descend from a population of common ancestors, people who lived in the same place around the same time or traveled from the same place around the same time.”

Genetic Communities

Ancestry states their DNA technology detects groups of AncestryDNA members who likely “share recent ancestors who came from the same community.” They analyze the connections between members using “public family trees, ethnicity data, and historical records to determine where this group of people lived over time.”

The good news for us is that Ancestry has the largest network of DNA test takers in the world, with over 18 million (as of this publication). Additionally, they have the largest network of family trees (over 100 million) from which to create these communities.

Source: Ancestry Press Release 26 May 2021



GenealogyTV.org



YouTube.com/GenealogyTV

How many Genetic Communities are there?

Ancestry tends to update their communities about once a year (usually summertime) helping to fine tune the genetic regions. As of this latest release, Ancestry has over 1,400 regions worldwide.

This latest update includes 10 in the Balkans, 30 in the Mediterranean, 15 in Western Asia, and a newly defined community, East Africa.

Check Your Ethnicity Estimates Again

Ancestry recommends that you check your ethnicity results again to see if you have any new communities or updates to your ethnicity results.

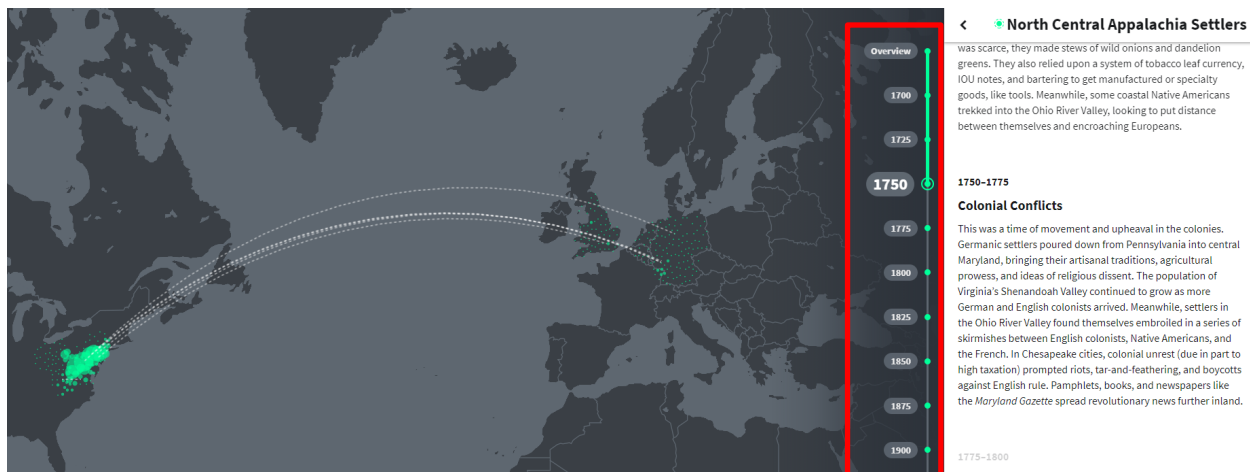
How can Communities Help in Our Family History Research?

If I am working on a specific family tree line and I know about where they are from, I use the Communities to look at the migration patterns in the “Additional Communities” listed below the Ethnicity Estimates.

Here you can look at some of your DNA cousins listed on the right-side panel as they have ancestors in the same region and a genetic connection to you. Click through to those Feature DNA Cousin Matches to see if they have any additional information in their trees.

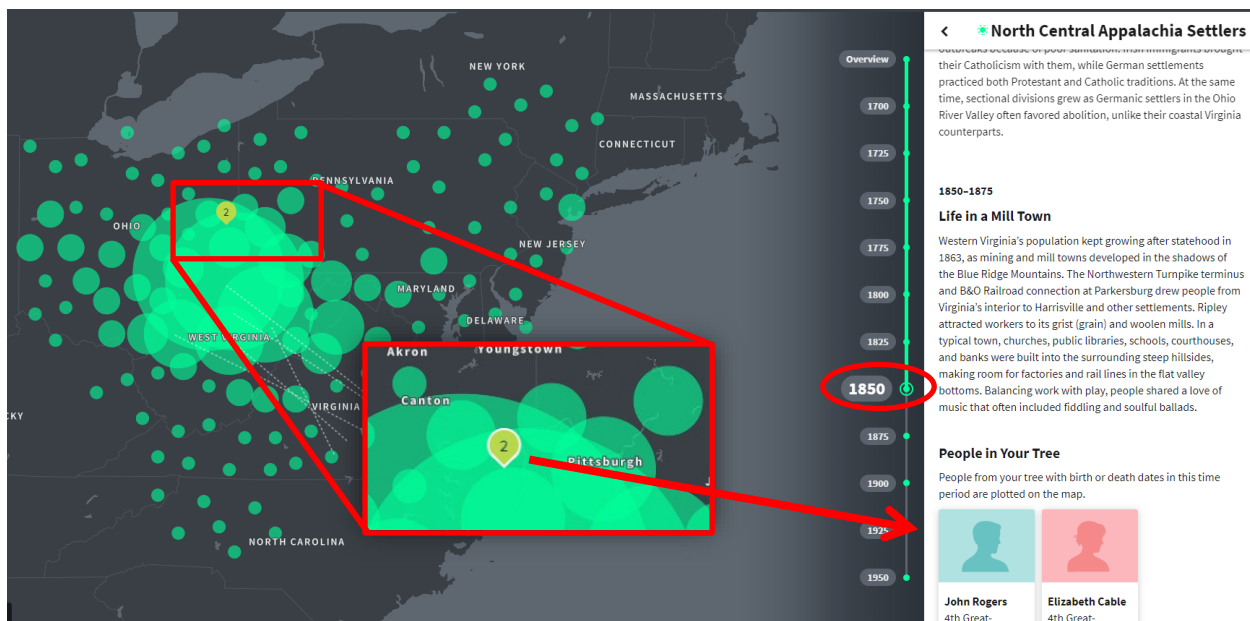
The screenshot displays the AncestryDNA interface. On the left, a map highlights a green region in West Virginia, with labels for cities like Pittsburgh, Johnstown, Altoona, and Harrisonburg. On the right, the 'Overview' panel for the 'North Central Appalachia Settlers' community is shown. It features a scenic image of a mountain landscape and text indicating 608,185 members. A red box highlights the 'Featured Matches' section, which lists three individuals: a 2nd Cousin, a 3rd Cousin, and a 1st Cousin, each with a profile picture and a redacted name.

Clicking on the timeline can show you estimated migrations regions. This can be a clue to help determine from which county your ancestors may have emigrated.



In the image below, scrolling through the timeline further, can show you more DNA cousin locations for the era you are researching.

There are two ancestors in my tree pinpointed for the 1850 era of the North Central Appalachia Settlers. Search your DNA Cousins Matches for these ancestors in the DNA Cousin Match list. Matching DNA Cousins are represented by the green circles.



Additional Information (Likely more than you want to know)

- [List of all regions](#)
- [How to see your Ethnicity Regions](#)
- [Ancestry's Genetic Communities](#)
- Ancestry's Genetic Communities White Paper "[Genetic Communities™ White Paper: Predicting fine-scale ancestral origins from the genetic sharing patterns among millions of individuals](#)"