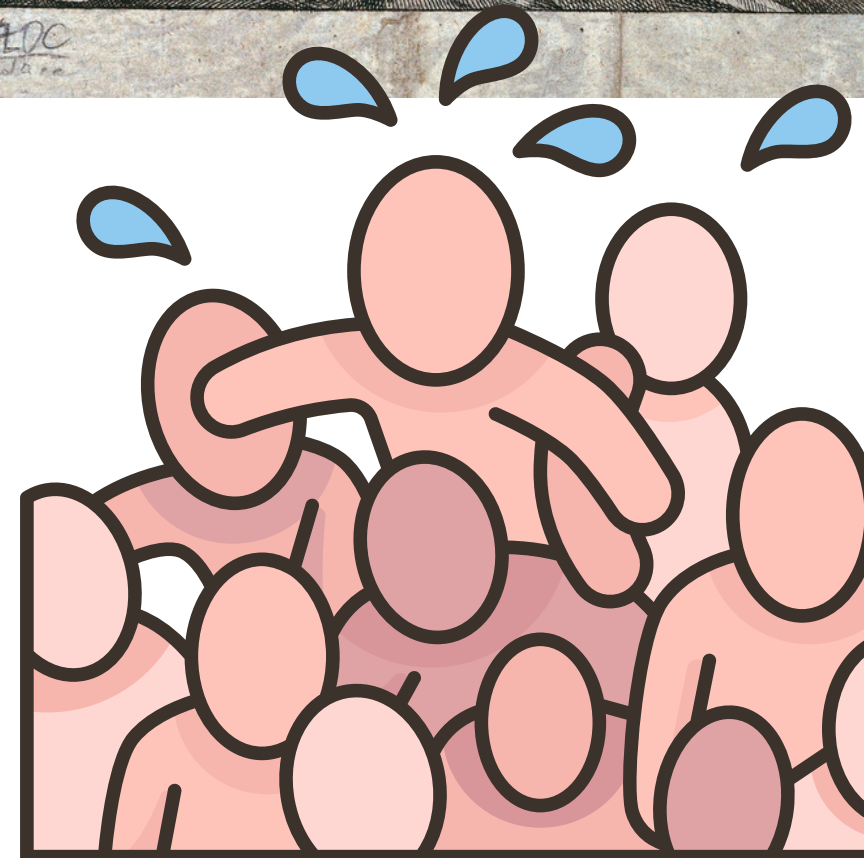






Britain 1348-1351 $\frac{1}{3}$ British population +













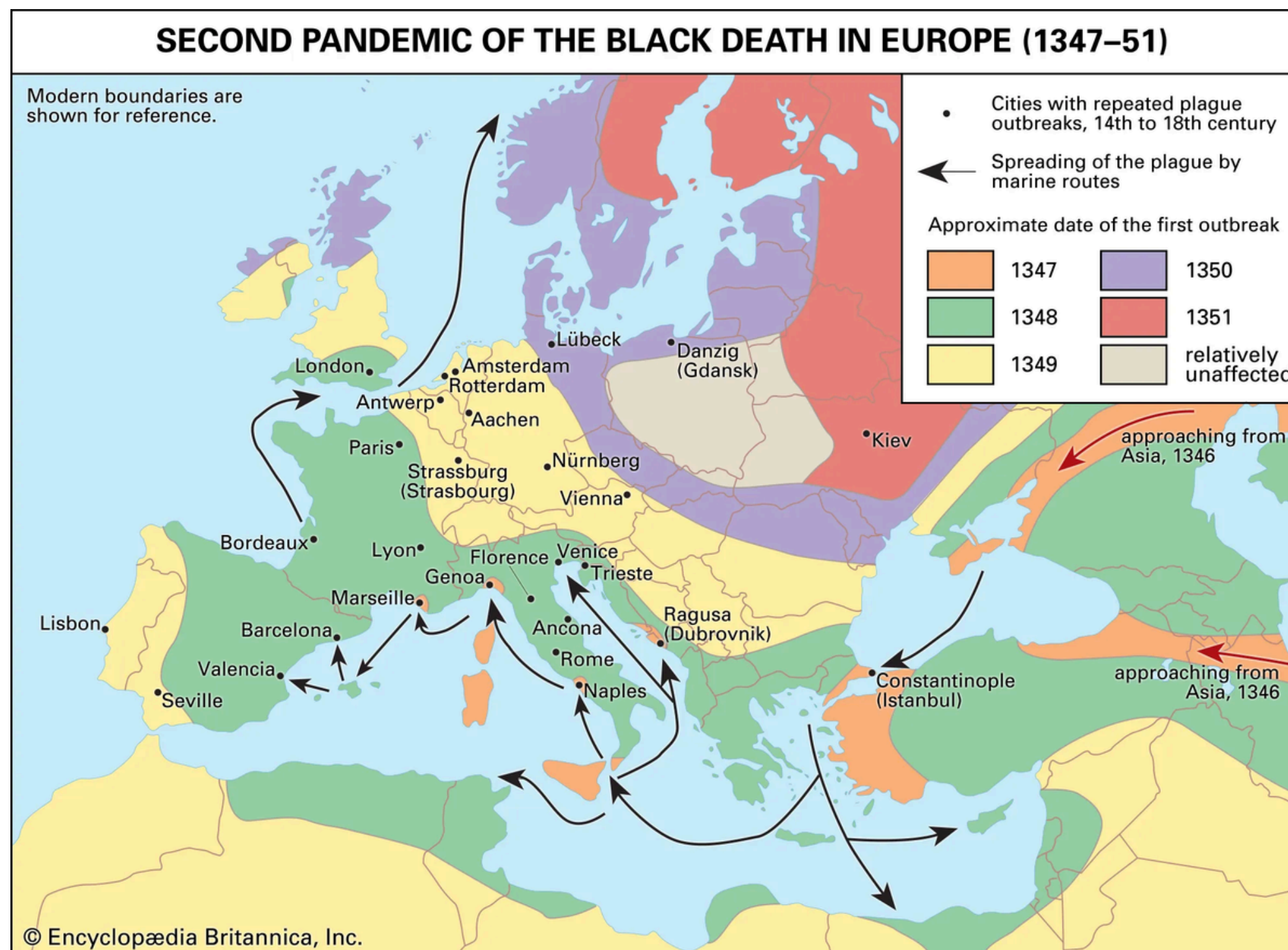
A 14th-century widow controlled a massive part of England's wool trade. Using her late husband's guild rights, Alice de Brygge shipped **142 sacks of wool** a year to Europe. Her success led to a major lawsuit from powerful foreign merchants trying to ruin her business.



Bristol



Southampton



Category	Black Death (14th Century)	COVID-19
Time period	1347–1353	2019–present
Cause	<i>Yersinia pestis</i> (bacterium)	SARS-CoV-2 (virus)
Estimated deaths	75–100 million	≈ 7 million confirmed (WHO); excess mortality estimates are 15–30 million
Estimated world population	~450 million	~7.8–8.2 billion
Share of world population killed	17–22%	<0.4%
Deaths in Europe	25–30 million	≈2.2 million confirmed
Mortality in hardest-hit regions	30–60% of the population	Usually well below 1% of the
Treatment	None available	Vaccines, antivirals, oxygen therapy,
Lasting impact	Labor shortages, economic and	Global recession, healthcare strain,