

In 1935, the Supreme Court said that many First New Deal programs were unconstitutional. This led to the Second New Deal that same year. It included the Works Progress Administration (WPA), which was a huge public works building campaign. The WPA employed eight million workers, all of whom were paid with taxpayer funds. Social welfare programs, such as Social Security and minimum wage, were also created by the Second New Deal. Roosevelt's New Deal resulted in economic

improvement. However, World War II began in 1939. Because of the need for war materials, such as lumber, metals, fabrics, and medical supplies, the United States economy improved, even before entering the war. For this reason, it is difficult for historians and economists to judge the success of Roosevelt's New Deal and the effectiveness of government intervention in economic problems.

### Who Was President during the Great Depression?

Year(s)	President	Political Party	Influence
1928	Herbert Hoover	Republican	Hands-off approach to the economy; was blamed for America's economic problems
1932; 1936; 1940; 1944	Franklin D. Roosevelt	Democrat	Believed in strong government programs to fix economic problems; strong leader during World War II

### Exercise

1. What caused the Great Depression? \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. What caused the stock market to crash? \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. What made the Great Depression worse? \_\_\_\_\_  
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4. Describe at least one aspect of the New Deal. \_\_\_\_\_  
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5. What helped to end the Depression? \_\_\_\_\_  
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