

## The Great Depression

production Midwest decades stimulate decline at meet economic closures role food failures spending withdraw drought included triggered stability collapsed hours addition downturn effects plummeted storms faced soared children panic crash gained safety

The Great Depression in the United States was a severe economic \_\_\_\_\_ that began with the stock market \_\_\_\_\_ in 1929 and lasted throughout the 1930s. This unprecedented crisis had widespread and lasting \_\_\_\_\_ on the nation's economy, society, and politics.

**Stock Market Crash (1929):** The Great Depression was \_\_\_\_\_ by the Wall Street Crash of 1929, where stock prices \_\_\_\_\_, leading to a financial \_\_\_\_\_. Investors lost substantial amounts of money, and the crash marked the beginning of a prolonged \_\_\_\_\_ downturn.

**Bank Failures and Economic Collapse:** The stock market crash had a cascading effect, causing a wave of bank \_\_\_\_\_ as people rushed to \_\_\_\_\_ their savings. With the contraction of credit and a sharp decline in consumer \_\_\_\_\_, industrial production \_\_\_\_\_, leading to widespread unemployment and business \_\_\_\_\_.

**Unemployment and Poverty:** Unemployment \_\_\_\_\_ during the Great Depression, reaching unprecedented levels. Millions of Americans lost their jobs, and those fortunate enough to retain employment often \_\_\_\_\_ reduced working \_\_\_\_\_ and wages. Poverty and homelessness became widespread, as families struggled to make ends \_\_\_\_\_.

**Dust Bowl:** In \_\_\_\_\_ to economic hardships, the agricultural sector faced severe challenges during the 1930s. A combination of \_\_\_\_\_ and poor land management practices led to the Dust Bowl, a series of severe dust \_\_\_\_\_ that devastated agricultural regions, particularly in the \_\_\_\_\_.

**New Deal Programs:** In response to the economic crisis, President Franklin D. Roosevelt implemented a series of New Deal programs aimed \_\_\_\_\_ providing relief, recovery, and reform. These programs \_\_\_\_\_ public works projects, financial reforms, and social welfare initiatives designed to \_\_\_\_\_.

the economy and alleviate the suffering of the unemployed.

**Social Impact:** The Great Depression had profound social implications. Families struggled to put \_\_\_\_\_ on the table, and homelessness and migration in search of work became widespread. The era witnessed a \_\_\_\_\_ in birth rates, as economic insecurity led many families to postpone having \_\_\_\_\_.

**World War II as Catalyst for Recovery:** The economic recovery from the Great Depression \_\_\_\_\_ momentum with the onset of World War II in the early 1940s. The war effort stimulated industrial \_\_\_\_\_, created jobs, and helped lift the country out of the economic doldrums.

**Lasting Impact:** The Great Depression had a lasting impact on American society and the perception of government's \_\_\_\_\_ in the economy. It led to the creation of social \_\_\_\_\_ nets, financial regulations, and a broader understanding of the need for economic \_\_\_\_\_.

The Great Depression remains a pivotal chapter in American history, shaping public policy and economic thinking for \_\_\_\_\_ to come. The lessons learned from this challenging period influenced subsequent efforts to prevent and mitigate economic crises.