

Hoover vs. Roosevelt

Hoover	Roosevelt

Hoover v. Roosevelt questions

1. After learning about the two philosophies of how to handle the economic problems of the 1930's, whose do you agree with?
2. What do you like and dislike about each person's ideas?
3. How do you think we should handle our current economic problems?

Roosevelt's Philosophy of Government

(Summary of basic points in "America Needs a New Deal Speech",
1932)

Roosevelt argues that there are "two ways of viewing the Government's duty...The first sees to it that a favored few are helped and hopes that some of their prosperity will leak through, sift through, to labor, to the farmer, to the small business man."

Roosevelt argues that conservatives believe that government should "help the favored few" and "hope that some of their prosperity will leak through...to labor, to the farmer, to the small business man."

Roosevelt argues that instead of just helping the favored few at the top of the pyramid, government should help all Americans and "ensure the greatest good to the greatest number of our citizens."

Roosevelt argues that government should consider "the top of the pyramid and the bottom of the pyramid together...that each and every one of them is dependent on every other....[We must provide] "relief to all at the same time."

Roosevelt argues that "while primary responsibility for relief rests with localities, now, as ever, yet the Federal Government has always had and still has a continuing responsibility for the broader public welfare. It will soon fulfill that responsibility."

Roosevelt concludes his speech with this promise:

"I pledge you, I pledge myself to a new deal for the American people."

Hoover's Basic Philosophy of Government

(From Hoover's Oct. 31, 1932, speech at Madison Square Garden)

Hoover argues that the government should protect individual freedom, and only "through freedom to the individual, and equal opportunity to the individual, will his initiative and enterprise be summoned to spur the march of progress."

Hoover believes that government should promote individual freedom, and free individuals will then cooperate to "promote and protect the interests of individuals and the smaller units of business."

Hoover argues that the expansion of the federal government will undermine individual freedom and the "American system" of cooperation to create a better society and economy. Instead of working together to create a better society, Americans will come to rely on government to promote their "special interests" at the expense of the larger society. Under big government, America will become divided into competing, special interest groups who will try to benefit at the expense of the larger American society and economy.

CHAPTER
22

GEOGRAPHY APPLICATION: MOVEMENT

Section 2

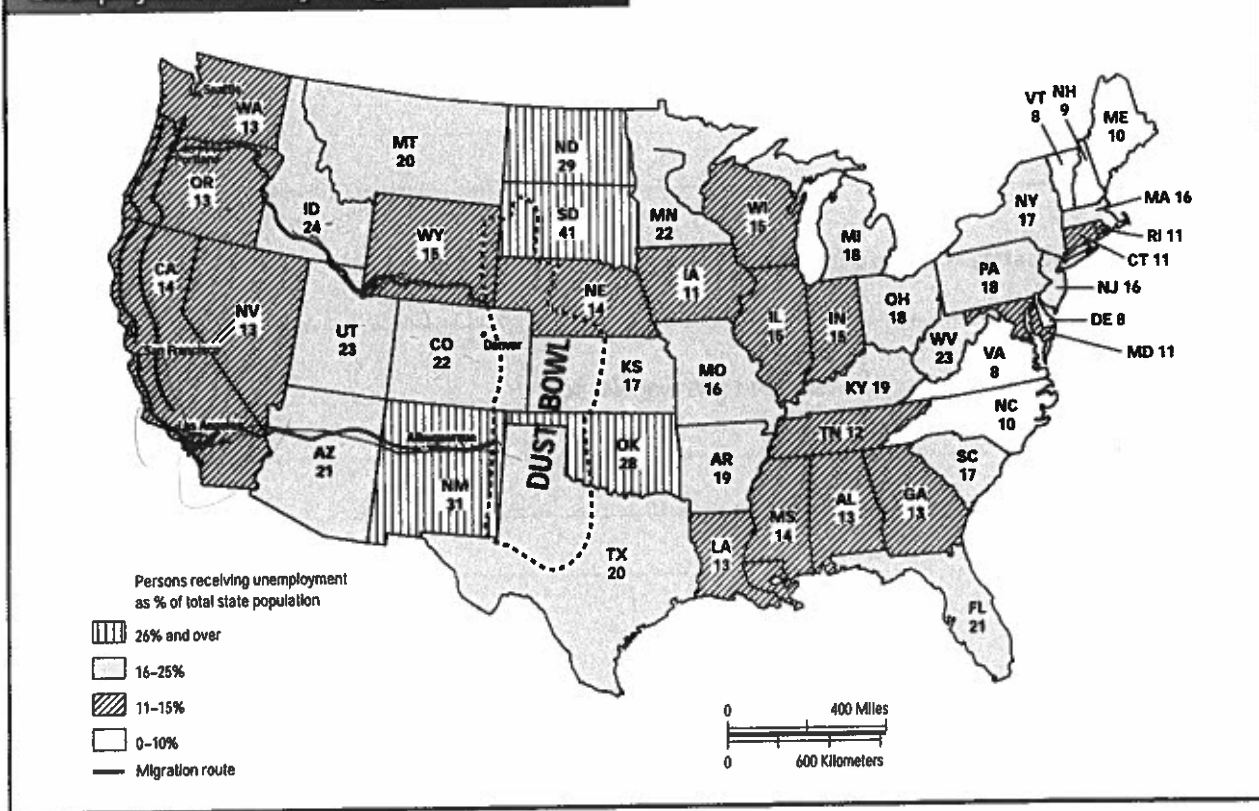
The effects of the Great Depression were heart-breaking. In 1932, for example, not a single person was employed in 28 percent of the families in the United States. Widespread unemployment contributed greatly to the steep 40 percent fall in average family income in the four years 1929–1933. In 1933 nearly 13 million workers, about 25 percent of the U.S. total, had no jobs.

Rates of unemployment, though, were far from uniform across the country. Some states—with industries such as radio and airplane production—were relatively well off, so that at one point, in 1934, there was a 33 percent difference between the highest and lowest state unemployment rates.

This disparity in unemployment rates started people moving all over the country. At the begin-

ning, many unemployed city dwellers moved to the countryside, hoping that farms were better off economically than cities. But soon agriculture suffered just as much as other businesses, especially during the Dust Bowl drought that began in 1933. Tens of thousands of families in the hardest-hit states—North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, and Texas—put everything they owned into cars and trucks and left home. (By 1936, some areas were ghostlike, with more than half of the houses abandoned.) By the end of the decade, all of the hardest-hit states except for Colorado and Texas had experienced population declines, even though the U.S. population grew by 9 million people during the decade.

Unemployment and Major Migration Routes, 1934



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Interpreting Text and Visuals

1. Which four states had the highest unemployment rate in 1934?

2. Which region of the country—east or west of the Mississippi River—was better off in 1934?

What statistics support your choice?

3. Which of the hardest-hit Dust Bowl states lost population in the 1930s?

4. What was the main destination of most people leaving the northern part of the Dust Bowl?

Through which states did they travel?

5. What was the first destination of most people leaving the southern part of the Dust Bowl?

What does the migration northward from Los Angeles imply?

