



**LifeSmarts**  
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## Key Points

### THE NEW DEAL RESPONDED TO CRISIS

During the Great Depression, millions were unemployed and struggling. The New Deal created government programs to provide jobs, stabilize banks, and rebuild the economy.

### PROGRAMS CHANGED GOVERNMENT'S ROLE

For the first time, the federal government took a major role in protecting workers, supporting families, and regulating business practices. Many programs set long-lasting precedents.

### RELIEF, RECOVERY, & REFORM

Short-term aid, long-term job creation, and new rules for banks, labor, and business aimed to prevent another economic collapse.

## Core Concepts

### THE GREAT DEPRESSION BACKDROP

Stock market crashes, bank failures, and droughts left millions without jobs, food, or homes, setting the stage for sweeping government action.

### MAJOR NEW DEAL PROGRAMS

Initiatives like Social Security, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), the Works Progress Administration (WPA), and Federal Deposit Insurance (FDIC) reshaped social support and economic safety nets.

### LABOR RIGHTS AND WORKER PROTECTIONS

New laws strengthened workers' rights to unionize, set minimum wages, and improved workplace conditions.

### IMPACT ON BANKING AND FINANCIAL SYSTEMS

Reforms stabilized banks, insured deposits, and introduced regulations to rebuild public confidence in the financial system.

### CRITICISM AND LIMITATIONS

Some thought the New Deal went too far in government control, while others argued it didn't do enough for racial minorities, women, or the very poor.

### LEGACY THAT LASTS TODAY

Programs like Social Security and labor protections remain cornerstones of U.S. policy, influencing future government responses to economic crises.

# The New Deal Era

## 1933 - 1939

## Additional Resources

### Crash Course - The New Deal

How the New Deal changed the relationship between the government and citizens

<https://bit.ly/4mFkQIW>

### YouTube - The Social Security Act

How the Great Depression brought on Social Security

<https://bit.ly/3UqAvtm>

### YouTube - Labor Unions During The New Deal Era

The evolution of the UAW, CIO, and Fair Labor Standards Act

<https://bit.ly/46UgAu0>

### YouTube - TED-Ed

What few people know about the program that "saved" America

<https://bit.ly/4mymcPi>

## Listen to the Podcast



## Explore and Explain

1. How did the Great Depression create the need for New Deal programs?
2. What were the main goals of relief, recovery, and reform during the New Deal?
3. How did New Deal programs change the role of the federal government in people's lives?
4. Which New Deal programs or policies still impact Americans today?

*Learning about the New Deal Era helps you understand how government action can respond to economic crises and shape long-term policies.*

## **The New Deal Era**



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## Acronyms

**CCC**

Civilian Conservation Corps

**FLSA**

Fair Labor Standards Act

**NLRB**

National Labor Relations Board

**NRA**

National Recovery Administration

**SSA**

Social Security Administration

## Vocabulary

### **CONSUMER PROTECTION**

A key goal of New Deal policies, aimed at making markets fairer and safe

### **ELEANOR ROOSEVELT**

A key advocate for civil rights, workers' rights, and consumer welfare

### **FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION (FTC)**

A 1914 agency that enforces consumer protection laws and fights unfair business practices

### **FRANCES PERKINS**

First woman U.S. Cabinet member; led labor reforms and workplace protections during the New Deal

### **HEALTH AND SANITATION**

A major focus of New Deal programs, especially to improve rural living conditions

### **MONOPOLY**

When one company controls a market, reducing competition and limiting consumer choice

### **SHERMAN ANTITRUST ACT (1890)**

First federal law to ban monopolies and promote fair competition

### **TRUTH IN LABELING**

Requires product labels to list honest and accurate information so consumers can make informed choices

### **WAGNER ACT (1935)**

Guaranteed workers the right to form unions and bargain collectively

