

EconEdLink: Where Did All the Money Go? – Clue Sheet #2

Labor & Employment

Visit the following web sites and answer each of the questions.

Go to Overall unemployment rate in civilian labor force, 1920-2000
(<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0104719.html>)

1. What occurred in the unemployment rate between 1920 and 1934? (be specific)

2. What events might explain this trend. Refer to Clue Sheet #1. (World and US Events)

Go to Employment status by industry 1929 – 1998
(<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0104719.html>)

1. How many persons were employed in 1929? 1932?

2. What happened to the number employed in farming from 1929-1932?

3. What happened to labor in the goods producing sector between 1929-1932?

4. Which employment category was the only one to rise from 1929-1932?

Go to Women in the civilian labor force 1900-1998
(<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0104673.html>)

1. Compare the percentage change from 1900-1940.

2. Which decade experienced the largest percentage increase before 1940?

3. What factors or events might explain that?

Poverty & Income

Visit the following web sites and answer the questions.

Go to Per capita personal income (<http://www.bea.gov/bea/regional/spi/>)

1. What was per capita personal family income in 1935?

2. What happened to per capita income from 1929-1935?

3. What was the impact on farm incomes in total dollars during this time period?

Go to Farm Income (<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0104738.html>)

1. When did government payment to farmers begin?

2. Why did they start?

3. What happened to cash from crops? Livestock?

4. How long did it take farmers to get back to pre-depression income levels?

Go to Retail prices of selected foods in US cities
(<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0873707.html>)

1. Between 1920 and 1935, what happened to the prices of food? (be specific)

2. Why might this be a bad trend for the economy?

Economy & Government

Visit the following web sites and answer the questions.

Go to GDP 1930-1998 (<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0104575.html>)

1. What was the increase in government spending from 1930 to 1940? (in dollars)

2. What percentage of GDP was government spending in 1930?

3. What would explain the increase from 1930 to 1940?

4. How does the percentage in the decade 1930-1940 compare to the percentage of government spending GDP during the last half of the century?

5. What might explain that trend?

Go to Receipts and outlays of federal government, 1789-2005
(<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0104753.html>)

1. What happened to the federal budget between 1920 and 1930?

2. What might explain this?

3. What was occurring between 1930-1935? Why was this happening?

Go to The Public Debt (<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0104572.html>)

1. What was the trend from 1920-1925? 1925-1930? 1930-1935?

2. What events or factors caused these changes?
