

HOOVER VS. FDR

IB HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS YEAR 1

I2: The Great Depression and the Americas (mid 1920s–1939)

Nature and efficacy of solutions in the United States: Hoover; Franklin D Roosevelt and the New Deal

IB SYLLABUS

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

SWBAT describe the causes and nature of the Great Depression (1920s-1939) and the different solutions adopted by governments in the Americas IOT evaluate its impact on political and economic developments in the region.

How effectively did Hoover deal with the problems caused by the Depression?

INQUIRY



NATURE AND EFFICACY OF SOLUTIONS: USA

**“IN HOOVER WE
TRUSTED
AND NOW WE
ARE BUSTED.”**

**- POPULAR SLOGAN DURING THE 1932
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN**



HERBERT HOOVER'S RESPONSE (HIS PHILOSOPHY)

- Major influence on economic policy in the 1920s, elected President in 1928
- *“A chicken in every pot and two cars in every garage”*
- **“Rugged Individualism”** - Hoover initially strongly opposed federal relief efforts because he believed in this ideal
- Against direct relief
- In favor of balancing the budget & corporate loans



HERBERT HOOVER'S RESPONSE (HIS ACTIONS)

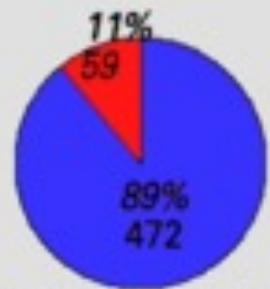
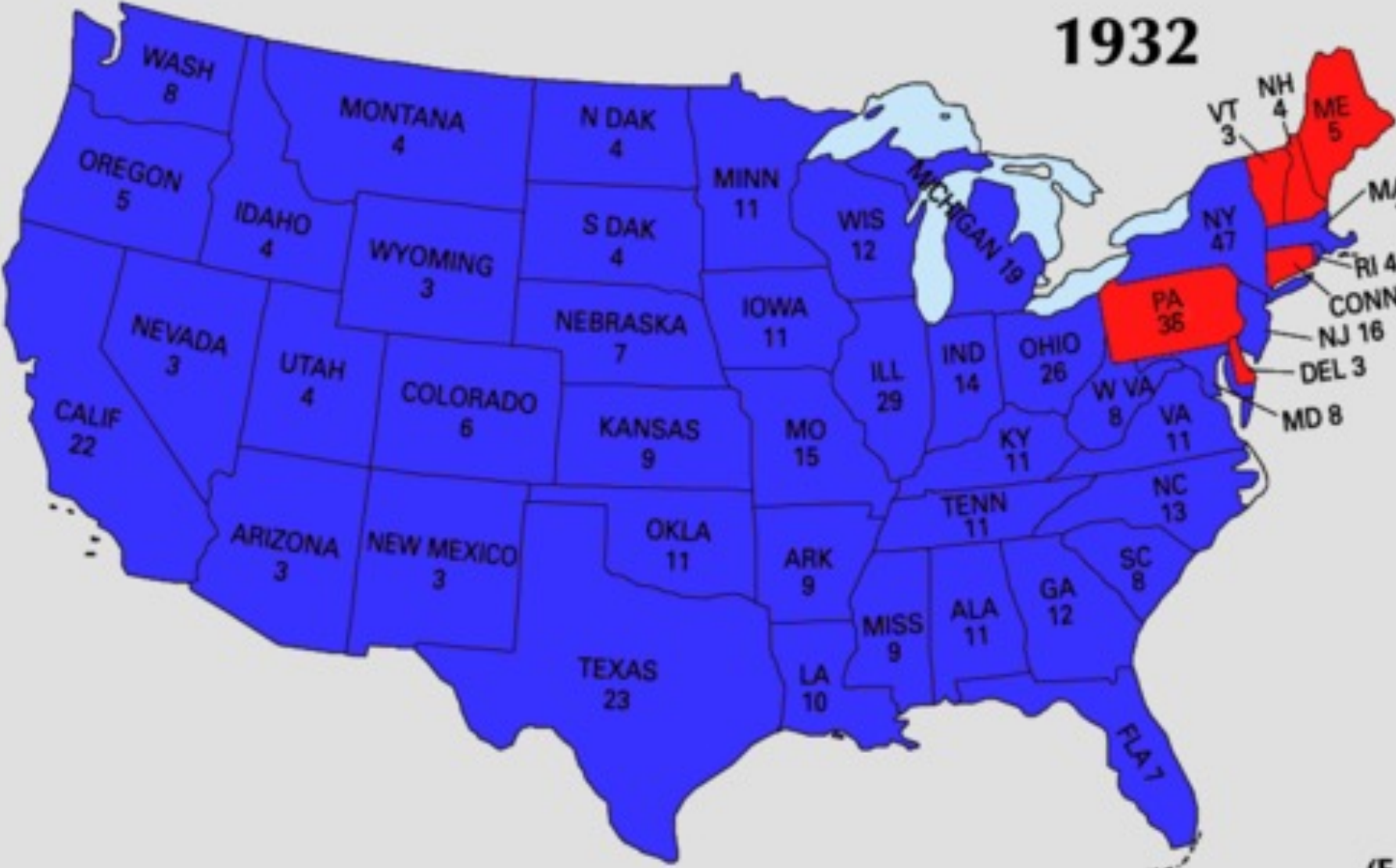
- **Hawley-Smoot Tariff (1930)**- highest protective tariff in U.S. history; froze international trade, worsened the economy
- Failed to respond to inability of state and local governments to cope w/ emergency
- Embarrassing response to the “**Bonus Army**”
 - WWI veterans demonstrating for a bonus were attacked by Army
 - <https://youtu.be/eaGFvHwGwt0>



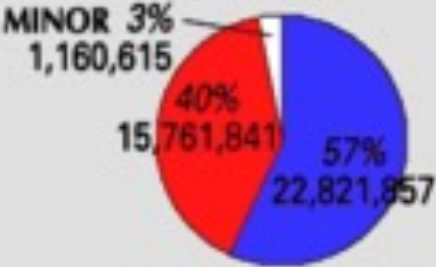
HERBERT HOOVER'S RESPONSE (HIS ACTIONS)

- **Reconstruction Finance Corporation (RFC)** – government lending bank that provided relief to insurance companies, banks, railroads, etc. (“Priming the pump”)
 - Important political effect: This is an extension of federal authority

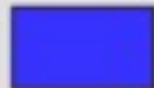

1932



ELECTORAL VOTE TOTAL: 531



POPULAR VOTE TOTAL: 39,744,313

Democratic (F. D. Roosevelt) 
Republican (Hoover) 

Mar. 4, 1933

THE

Price 15 cents

NEW YORKER



FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

- Elected to the presidency by a large electoral margin in 1932
- Served 1933-1945, Democrat
- Stressed the need for reconstructing the nation's economy
- Was much more flexible than Hoover; willing to experiment – did not stick to a particular economic theory
- **Key Policy Objectives:**
 - Government regulation of agriculture to raise farm prices
 - Create federal work relief programs for the unemployed
 - Increase circulation of paper currency
 - Restore faith in the banking system





DOCUMENT COMPARISON – HOOVER VS. FDR

HISTORY LAB DOCUMENT COMPARISON

Herbert Hoover documents

Franklin D. Roosevelt Documents

How are they alike?

How are they different?

with regard to

