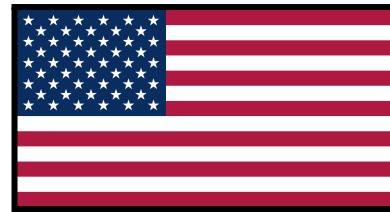


United States of America



Key Facts in 1929

Area: 9'833'520 km²^[1]

With Colonies: 10'118'018 km²^[1,2,3,4,5]

Population: 121'767'000^[6]

With Colonies: 136,100'000^[5,6,7,8]

Literacy Rate: 96%^[9]

With Colonies: 87%^[5,6,7,8,9,10]

Life Expectancy: 55.8 Years^[11]

With Colonies: 53.6 Years^[5,6,7,8,11,12]

Select Main Cities: Washington DC, New York City, Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit, Los Angeles, Boston, Cleveland, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, and San Francisco.

In Colonies: Manila, Davao^[13]

Neighbouring Countries: Canada and Mexico

With Colonies: None, Colonies are islands

Biggest minorities: Blacks, Hispanics, Filipinos^[2,14]

Sea Access: Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, and Gulf of Mexico

In Colonies: South China Sea, Sulu Sea

GDP: 110'300'000'000 \$1929^[15,16]

With Colonies: 112'900'000'000 \$1929^[15,16]



Recent Historical Background

In the late 1920s, following its relatively late entry into World War I, the United States experienced unprecedented economic prosperity, cultural dynamism, and technological advancements, collectively known as the "Roaring Twenties."^[17,18] However, this euphoria abruptly ended with the onset of the Great Depression in 1929, triggered by the stock market crash.^[19] The subsequent economic downturn led to widespread unemployment, business failures, and financial hardship for millions of Americans. Concurrently, the country faced challenges such as environmental issues and health concerns, exacerbated by the economic crisis. Despite these hardships, the period also saw the enforcement of Prohibition, banning the sale, production, and distribution of alcohol, which led to the rise of organised crime and bootlegging.^[20] Another key event was the Spanish Flu Epidemic of 1918, killing 675'000 people in the United States.^[21]

Political Situation

In 1929, the United States operated under a democratic political system with a capitalist ideology dominating government policies.^[1] The President at the time was Herbert Hoover, a Republican.^[22] The two main political parties were the Republicans and the Democrats, with rising tensions between conservative and progressive factions within both.^[23,24] The nation grappled with deep-rooted internal problems, including racial discrimination against minorities, widespread poverty exacerbated by the Great Depression, and growing ideological divides fueled by the rise of radical political movements.^[25]

Economic Situation in 1929

The United States experienced a period of economic prosperity during the 1920s, driven by factors such as increased industrialization, consumer spending, and stock market speculation. Despite this, the decade ended with the Wall Street Crash of 1929, leading to widespread unemployment, bank failures, and economic hardship causing the Great Depression. In 1929, economic policy in the U.S. was shaped by various factors, including governmental actions, market forces, and the decisions of private businesses. However, President Herbert Hoover's administration advocated for limited government intervention and believed in the importance of laissez-faire economics. Following the onset of the Great Depression in 1929, Hoover implemented measures aimed at stabilising the economy, including increasing public works spending, establishing the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to provide loans to struggling businesses and pursuing protective tariffs through legislation like the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act to shield American industries from foreign competition. These efforts reflected a mix of traditional economic principles and emergency measures to address the economic crisis. Sources such as historical records, presidential archives, and scholarly analyses provide insights into the economic policies and actions undertaken by the U.S. government during this period.^[26]

Military Strength in 1929

In 1929, the US military was relatively modern and well-equipped compared to other nations, with ongoing investments in defence capabilities. The US Army boasted 2400 planes, with 900 coming from the navy and 1500 from the Army Air Corps.^[27,28] Its funding was about 0.67% of the US GDP and it had access to about 255'000 Military personnel.^[29,30] One of the most important military trucks of the United States was the Mack AC, with about 20000 of them being produced until 1929.^[31] In 1929, the US boasted 816 ships, out of which 316 Destroyers, 122 Submarines and 203 Coast Guard boats.^[32]

Key Facts about Military Strength of the United States ^[27,28,29,30,31,32]	
Active personnel	255'000
Tanks	Less than 950
Other Vehicles	~20000 Mack AC More unknown
Cavalry	Unknown
Ships	816
Planes	2400
Funding in 1929\$	791'000'000

Allies/Enemies/Existing territorial disputes in 1929

Allies: United Kingdom (Closest ally)^[33], France (Mutual interests in European stability)^[34]

Enemies: None

Territorial Disputes: None

Some of the Main Goals for the 1930s

1. **Achieve Economic Recovery:** In response to the devastating effects of the Great Depression, the US aims to restore stability to the economy, reduce unemployment, and stimulate industrial production through government intervention and public works projects.
2. **Implement Social Reform:** Addressing the widespread poverty and hardship exacerbated by the Great Depression, the US seeks to alleviate these conditions, improve living standards, and provide social safety nets for vulnerable populations, including the elderly, disabled, and unemployed.
3. **Pursue National Interests Through International Diplomacy:** Amidst current global tensions and challenges, the US actively seeks to advance its own national interests by fostering diplomatic efforts aimed at promoting peace, stability, and cooperation among nations.

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