

Hardship and Suffering During the Depression 14.2

The Depression Devastates People's Lives

Women in the Workplace

People lose jobs, are evicted from homes

Shantytowns, settlements consisting of shacks, arise in cities

People dig through garbage, beg

Soup kitchens offer free or low-cost food

Bread lines—people line up for food from charities, public agencies

African Americans, Latinos have higher unemployment, lower pay



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The remaining farmers on the Great Plains suffered a terrible drought, which led to the **Dust Bowl.**

Dust storms destroyed millions of acres of farmland.

Hardship and the Family

Family is source of strength for most Americans

Some families break apart under strain of making ends meet

Men in the Streets

**Many men used to working, supporting families have difficulty coping
— cannot find jobs**

About 300,000 hoboes wander country on railroad box cars

No federal system of direct relief—cash or food from government



Family life was hurt by the Great Depression.

Those who still had jobs lived in fear that their next paycheck would be their last.

Poor diets, health care lead to serious health problems in children

America's birthrate fell to its lowest level on record.

Some teens ran away and families broke up.