Minorities Effected 15.3

African Americans were hit especially hard by the depression. The unemployment rate for African Americans was nearly 50%.

Many people urged FDR to help end racial discrimination.

Roosevelt asked advice of members of his Black Cabinet, such as <u>Mary McLeod Bethune.</u>

But he did not always listen. FDR refused to support an antilynching law, fearing political fallout.

Some New Deal measures unintentionally hurt African Americans. Farm subsidies led landowners to evict sharecroppers.

African Americans often did not receive equal wages.

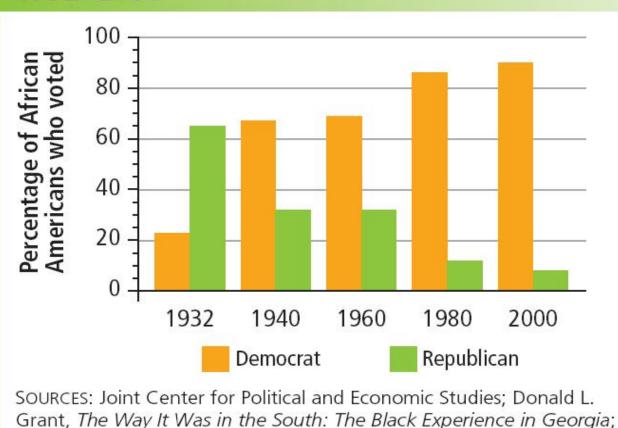
Domestic and farm workers were exempted from New Deal programs. The New Deal's Commissioner of Indian Affairs, John Collier, tried to improve living conditions for Native Americans.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs encouraged native religions, languages, and customs. The Indian New Deal: Provided funds to build schools and hospitals

Created an Indian Civilian Conservation Corps

Roosevelt and the New Deal united diverse groups of Americans into a political powerhouse.

Presidential Vote of African Americans, 1932–2000



The <u>New Deal coalition</u> included southern whites, northern blue-collar workers, midwestern farmers, and African Americans. Democrats were now in the majority.

Sean J. Savage, Roosevelt: The Party Leader, 1932–1945

Minorities Effected 15.3 cont.

Roosevelt's New Deal programs also helped unify a struggling nation.

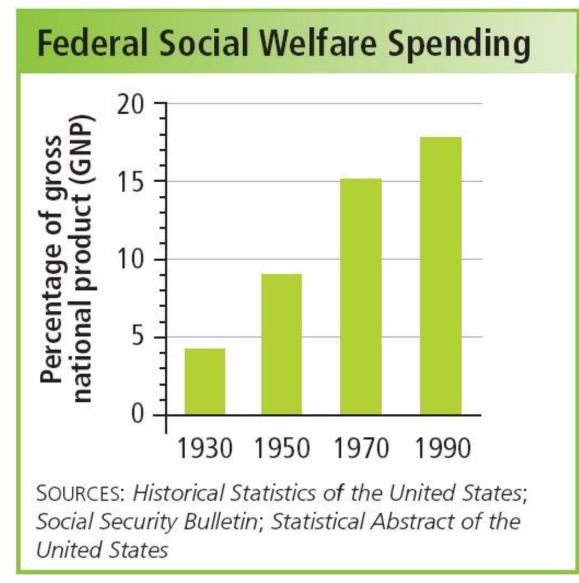
Social and ethnic divisions diminished.

Immigrant communities gained a greater sense of belonging.

Programs such as the WPA and CCC allowed people of different backgrounds to get to know one another.



At the same time, the New Deal led to the rise of the welfare state.



In a major policy change, the New Deal established the principle that the federal government was responsible for the welfare of all Americans. Finally, FDR and the New Deal changed the nature of the presidency itself.

FDR's Effect on the Presidency

- Increased power of the President and the executive branch
- Made mass media, such as radio, an essential tool in advertising and promoting policies
- Expanded role of the President in managing the economy
- Expanded role of the President in developing social policy
- Won third and fourth terms, leading to passage of Twenty-second Amendment, which limited Presidents to two consecutive terms