

UNITED STATES HISTORY Section 4 PRENTICE HALL PresentationEXPRESS PREMIUM

Objectives

- Discuss Theodore Roosevelt's ideas on the role of government.
- Analyze how Roosevelt changed the government's role in the economy.
- Explain the impact of Roosevelt's actions on natural resources.
- Compare and contrast Taft's policies with Roosevelt's.

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What did Roosevelt think government should do for citizens?

After a number of weak and ineffective Presidents, Theodore Roosevelt was a charismatic figure who ushered in a new era.

Roosevelt passed Progressive reforms, expanded the powers of the presidency, and changed how Americans viewed the roles of the President and the government.

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In 1901, 43-year-old Theodore Roosevelt became the United States' youngest president, rising quickly as a Progressive idealist.

- Shortly after graduation from Harvard in 1880, he was elected to the New York State Assembly.
- Following the death of his wife three years later, he headed west to become a rancher.
- He had a reputation for being smart, opinionated, and extremely energetic.

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In 1889 he returned, earning a reputation for fighting corruption on New York City's Board of Police Commissioners.



- Chosen by President McKinley to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy, he resigned to organize the Rough Riders at the start of the Spanish American War.
- He returned a war hero and was elected Governor of New York in 1898.


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As Governor, his Progressive reforms upset Republican leaders. To get him out of New York, President McKinley agreed to make Roosevelt his running mate in 1900. They won easily.

But, in 1901, William McKinley was assassinated.

As President, Roosevelt dominated Washington. He was so popular that even a toy, the teddy bear, was named for him.



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Roosevelt greatly expanded the power of the presidency and the role of government beyond that of helping big business.

- His Square Deal program promised fairness and honesty from government.
- He used the power of the federal government on behalf of workers and the people.

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In 1902, Roosevelt threatened a federal take-over of coal mines when owners refused to compromise on hours.



This was the first time the federal government had stepped into a labor dispute on the side of workers.

The Department of Commerce and Labor was established to prevent capitalists from abusing their power.


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Roosevelt also took on the railroads after the courts stripped the Interstate Commerce Commission's authority to oversee rail rates.

Elkins Act (1903)
Allowed the government to fine railroads that gave special rates to favored shippers, a practice that hurt farmers


Hepburn Act (1906)
Empowered the ICC to enforce limits on the prices charged by railroad companies for shipping, tolls, ferries, and pipelines



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Roosevelt was known as a trustbuster. He used the Sherman Antitrust Act to file suits against what he saw as "bad" trusts, those that bullied small businesses or cheated consumers.



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Roosevelt backed Progressive goals to protect consumers by making the federal government responsible for food safety.

- The **Meat Inspection Act** provided for federal inspections and monitoring of meat plants.
- The **Pure Food and Drug Act** banned the interstate shipments of impure or mislabeled food or medicine.

Today, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) tests and monitors the safety of food and medicine.

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Roosevelt had a deep reverence for nature, which shaped his policies.


As a Progressive, Roosevelt supported **Gifford Pinchot's** philosophy on the preservation of resources.

Pinchot felt that resources should be managed and preserved for public use.

Roosevelt also admired **John Muir**, who helped establish Yosemite National Park, and who advised him to set aside millions of acres of forestland.

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Roosevelt added 100 million acres to the National Park and Forest System.

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In another example of the government's authority, Congress passed the National Reclamation Act of 1902.

This Act gave the federal government power to distribute water in the arid west, effectively giving government the power to decide where and how water would be dispensed.



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In 1908, Roosevelt retired. But he soon disagreed with his successor William Howard Taft on several issues.

1909	Taft approved the Aldrich Act which didn't lower tariffs as much as Roosevelt wanted.
1910	Taft signed the Mann-Elkins Act providing for federal control over telephone and telegraph rates.
1911	Taft relaxed the hard line set by the Sherman Antitrust Act.

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Taft did not share Roosevelt's views on trusts but this was not the only area in which they disagreed.

Taft believed that a monopoly was acceptable as long as it didn't unreasonably squeeze out smaller companies.

When Taft fired Gifford Pinchot and overturned an earlier antitrust decision, Roosevelt angrily decided to oppose Taft and ran for president again.


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Roosevelt promised to restore government trust-busting in a program he called **New Nationalism**.

Roosevelt's candidacy split the Republican Party, which nominated Taft.

Roosevelt then accepted the nomination of the **Progressive Party** setting up a three-way race for the presidency in 1912.

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Objectives

- Evaluate what Wilson hoped to do with his "New Freedom" program.
- Describe Wilson's efforts to regulate the economy.
- Assess the legacy of the Progressive Era.

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What steps did Wilson take to increase the government's role in the economy?

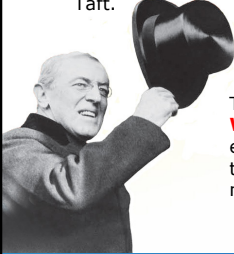
Woodrow Wilson used the expanded power of the presidency to promote a far-reaching reform agenda.

Some of Wilson's economic and antitrust measures are still important in American life today.

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In 1912, the Republican Party was split between Progressives who backed Theodore Roosevelt and those loyal to incumbent William Howard Taft.




The split allowed **Woodrow Wilson**, the Democrat, to win easily in the Electoral College, though he did not receive a majority of the popular votes.

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Woodrow Wilson

- served as a college professor and President of Princeton University
- served as Governor of New Jersey with a Progressive agenda
- was the first southerner elected President in almost sixty years



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Wilson felt that laws shouldn't allow the strong to crush the weak. His **New Freedom** plan was similar to Roosevelt's New Nationalism. It called for **strict government controls over corporations**.

Wilson promised to bring down the "triple wall of privilege," tariffs, banks, and trusts.

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In 1913, the Underwood Tariff Act cut tariffs leading to **lower consumer prices**.

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The Underwood Act also provided for the creation of a **graduated income tax**, first permitted in 1913, under the newly ratified **Sixteenth Amendment**.

Progressives like Wilson felt it was only fair that **the wealthy should pay a higher percentage of their income in taxes than the poor**.




Revenue from the income tax more than offset the loss of funds from the lowered tariff.

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Wilson passed the **Federal Reserve Act of 1913**. It established a system of regional banks to hold reserve funds for the nation's commercial banks.



Still in place today, the **Federal Reserve** protects against any one person, bank, or region from controlling interest rates.

Previously, a few wealthy bankers could manipulate interest rates for their own profit.

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Wilson strengthened antitrust laws. Like Roosevelt, he **focused on trusts that used unfair practices**.

The **Federal Trade Commission** was created in 1914 to monitor businesses to **prevent monopolies, false advertising, and dishonest labeling**.



Still in effect today, the FTC also prosecutes dishonest stock traders and regulates internet sales.

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In 1914, the Clayton Antitrust Act defined specific activities in which businesses could not engage.

- Like Roosevelt, Wilson only **opposed** trusts that engaged in unfair practices.
- The Clayton Act also protected **unions** from being defined as trusts, allowing them **more freedom to organize**.

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Wilson passed several Progressive laws that supported workers.

- In 1916, the Workingman's Compensation Act provided wages for temporarily disabled civil service employees.
- In 1916, the Adamson Act provided an eight-hour day for railway workers.

Federal laws today protect workers who are hurt on the job and limit hours in many industries.

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Wilson did not always support workers, as shown in the Ludlow Massacre.

- In 1913, **coal miners went on strike** in Ludlow, Colorado.
- The **company refused their demands** and evicted workers from company housing.
- **Workers set up tents** outside the company.
- The Colorado National Guard was called. The Guardsmen fired on the tents and **killed twenty-six people**.
- Wilson sent federal troops to restore order and break up the strike.

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The Progressive Era had a lasting effect on government, the economy, and society.

Political reforms included the:	Progressive reforms gave Americans more:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • initiative • referendum • recall • 19th Amendment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protection • control over private lives • control over businesses

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Progressive Era Legislation and Amendments

Sherman Antitrust Act (1890)	Outlawed monopolies and practices that restrained trade
National Reclamation Act (1902)	Provided for federal irrigation projects in arid Western states
Elkins Act (1903)	Imposed fines on railroads that gave special rates to favored shippers
Hepburn Act (1906)	Allowed the government to regulate and sets maximum rates for railroads
Meat Inspection Act (1906)	Provided federal inspection of packing plants and meat sold across state lines
Pure Food and Drug Act (1906)	Provided federal inspection of foods, medicines for purity
Sixteenth Amendment (1913)	Gave Congress the power to collect an income tax

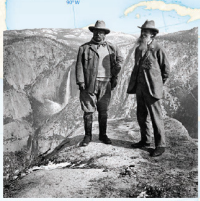
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Progressive Era Legislation and Amendments (continued)

Seventeenth Amendment (1913)	Provided for the direct election of Senators by the voters of each state
Underwood Tariff Act (1913)	Lowered tariffs on imported goods, established a graduated income tax
Federal Reserve Act (1913)	Created the Federal Reserve Board to oversee banks and reserve funds
Federal Trade Commission Act (1914)	Established the Federal Trade Commission to monitor business
Clayton Antitrust Act (1914)	Spelled out specific activities that businesses can not engage in
Eighteenth Amendment (1919)	Banned the making, selling, or transporting of alcoholic beverages
Nineteenth Amendment (1920)	Gave women the right to vote in all elections

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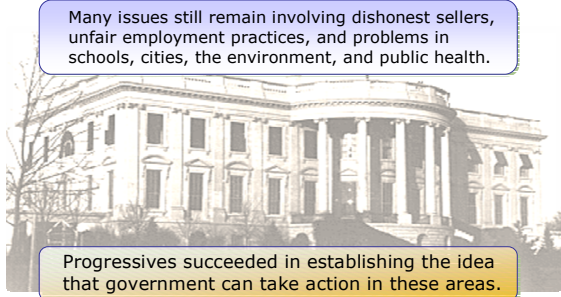


President Theodore Roosevelt and conservationist John Muir at California's Yosemite National Park in 1903

Progressive management of natural resources has impacted our environment including **national parks, dams, and forests.**

Progressive legislation has profoundly impacted our economy including **antitrust laws, the Federal Reserve System, and consumer protection.**

Water distribution remains a hotly debated issue.



Many issues still remain involving dishonest sellers, unfair employment practices, and problems in schools, cities, the environment, and public health.

Progressives succeeded in establishing the idea that government can take action in these areas.