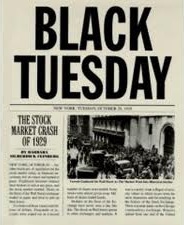
**Stock Market Crash – Info Sheet and Talking Points**



In late October 1929 – just a few days before Halloween – investors in New York City began to panic. Stocks that they had bought at high prices began to drop. More and more investors sold their stocks at whatever price they could get. Over two days, the value of companies being traded on the stock exchange fell almost 13 percent on Monday and another 12 percent the next day. That day became known as "Black Tuesday." Fortunes were wiped out. The stock market had crashed.

All across the country – and all around the world – people paid attention to the news closely. Some investors killed themselves. Millions of people from all over the world who owned stocks waited helplessly as stock values crashed.

After the crash, the amount of goods and services produced by American companies plunged, and many people lost their jobs. People all over the country stood in lines to get bread or eat at free soup kitchens.

Between 1929 and 1933, the U.S. GNP dropped by nearly 33 percent. That means that one third of the goods and services produced before the Depression were no longer produced by the middle of the decade.

The unemployment rate measures the number of people who are looking for work and can't find a job. In 1933, unemployment reached 25 percent. One out of every four people looking for work couldn't find a job – and that is counting only those who were still looking. The unemployment rate did not count the many people who gave up trying to find a job.

[Primary Source - Survivors of the Depression on jobs](http://www.livinghistoryfarm.org/farminginthe30s/money_06.html)

*After going over the basics of the stock market crash, use guided instruction to drive students towards thinking about what causes job growth in certain career clusters.*

* *How did the United States recover the unemployment rate that occurred as a result of the stock market crash and the great depression?*
* *How did World War II help create jobs and lead towards recovery for the economy?*
* *What jobs saw growth when the United States recovered from the great depression?*
* *Why would these jobs have had growth?*
* *What type of role did the federal government in the recovery efforts?*
* *How has the United States attempted to recover from the economic decline and unemployment rates that attacked the country recently?*
* *Has there been an event that would have helped move the United States out of the economic downfall? (The discovery of Marcellus Shale? The Push for S.T.E.M?)*
* *What jobs have seen growth in the recent recovery? (Use* [*www.cfwv.com*](http://www.cfwv.com) *to complete a search for jobs that will have growth)*
* *Why would these professions be listed as jobs that will grow in the future?*