



The End of WWI

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Main Points

- Demobilization
- Massive Unemployment
- · Recession

Demobilization

- The transition from wartime to peacetime
- The government had no plan as how to demobilize, and so they made decisions that would eventually lead them into a recession

- During the War, the government made contracts with independent weapon factories and manufacturers across the country to have a stable supply of war-related materials
- When the war ended, the government quickly canceled these contracts
- · This had a tremendous effect on the economy:
 - Factories closed
 - Crop priced dropped
 - Millions of Americans were thrown out of work



Unemployment (cont.)

- At the same time, the army released about 4 million soldiers from duty; they were only given \$60 and a one-way ticket home
- Many veterans were unemployed after the war because of the recession

