

Compare and  
contrast the critiques  
and solutions  
proposed by the  
reformers of the...

[History](#)



The Progressive Era and the New Deal Era Introduction The two eras were critical in the American history as they majorly focused on helping the American economy that was speedily disintegrating. The progressive era comprised the period between the mid 1890s and early 1920s which is often referred to as the bridge to modern times, as attitudes toward the proper role of administration were altering from the restricted responsibility favored in the 19th century to the ever more expanding role selected in the 20th century. It majorly emphasized on fiscal and political restructuring movements. The economic reforms involved prolonged directives, enhanced antitrust group, revenue, and the extension of collective insurance plans. The drift toward direct democracy throughout the period, allowed women to vote, professionalized rule, allowed voters more voice in selecting and evoking political officials, and even the freedom to vote in referenda on explicit matters. Similarly, the new deal era happened when America was facing one of its darkest moments in history. This is the period when president Franklin Delano Roosevelt, inherited a government that needed serious intervention on one of the most difficult and critical periods of American history. The economy was in total subsidence, unemployment rose to 30%, inflation skyrocketed, and GDP fell by 50%. This period was referred to as the Great depression, and it reached its peak in 1933. This was there Roosevelt took over office and people anticipated fast answers from him. To react to the people's expectations, he and the FDR called an emergency session for congress and drafted the new deal legislation the first weekend of his inauguration (Gordon, 221).

After America overcame the 1890s depression, the economy embarked upon

<https://assignbuster.com/compare-and-contrast-the-critiques-and-solutions-proposed-by-the-reformers-of-the-progressive-era-to-those-of-the-new-deal-era-to-the-problems-posed-by-political-and-economic-inequity/>

an epoch of relatively swift growth. The growth was outstanding although blemished by infrequent downturns (Polenberg, 9). The lasting in industry continued to decrease the farm share of employment while attracting numerous new migrants into the mines and industries in America. This growth in commerce also was allied with speed development in the dimension of manufacturing enterprises. Economic intensification and shifts in the organization of the economy often gave rise to new difficulties. Every downturn revived the fears of the repeat of the ruthlessness of the Depression of the 1890s thus resulting for people advocating for better techniques these recessions and assist those affected by the outcomes. Conversely, during the new deal era legislations were formulated to address issues dealing with unemployment which affected the American population immensely (Polenberg, 77). The first legislation passed during this remarkable session period famed as the 100 days, was the banking bill which was intended to stabilize the US banking system. This included declaring a countrywide bank holiday of closing down all banks aimed at stopping the distressing bank failures. Amazingly the house majorly comprising of democrats passed the bill after a debate that lasted 38 minutes even before seeing the text of legislation. This period witnessed the most conservative government spending ever witnessed the history of the US. The new deal inspired optimism among several Americans that recovery would be attained shortly. Although the new deal did not solve the depression, the economy made significant progress under the leadership of Roosevelt (Polenberg, 71). As time progressed, the economy grew slowly and painfully and eventually it stabilized as unemployment fell from the peak but remained appallingly

<https://assignbuster.com/compare-and-contrast-the-critiques-and-solutions-proposed-by-the-reformers-of-the-progressive-era-to-those-of-the-new-deal-era-to-the-problems-posed-by-political-and-economic-inequity/>

high.

During the progressive era, numerous policies were formulated by the government. Regulation of interstate commerce, establishment of a central bank and application of antitrust policies to large scale companies were all regulated by the federal government. It as well expanded labor and merchandise market conventions and introducing new forms of social insurance. The new deal era made more lasting while arresting a more populist manner by explicitly attacking influential business and the rich.

#### Works Cited

Gordon, Colin. Major Problems in American History, 1920-1945: Documents and Essays.

Boston, MA: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning, 2011. P 221. Print.

Polenberg, Richard. The Era of Franklin D. Roosevelt 1932-1945: A Brief History with Documents. Boston, Mass: Bedford/St Martins, 2000. Pp 71-77. Print.