



Government Policies

Instructional Slides



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

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Topic 1: Government Policy and Spending

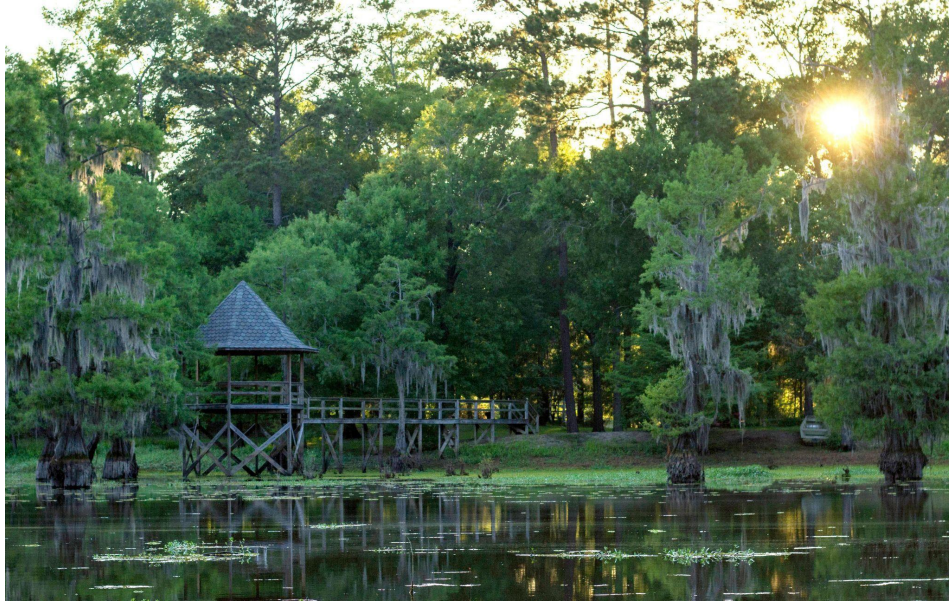


Framing Question:

How do government policies affect the daily lives and well-being of American citizens and people around the world?



Topic 1: Government Policy and Spending



Bayous are rich in wildlife, natural resources, and scenic beauty, but they require protection from human activity, including industrial pollution.



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Debate continues over how much influence lobbyists should have in U.S. politics.



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The Food and Drug Administration, first established through provisions in the Pure Food and Drug Act, is responsible for inspecting food, medicines, cosmetics, and other products to ensure they are safe and effective.



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This political cartoon from 1898 shows how U.S. policy in the Western Hemisphere gradually expanded under the Monroe Doctrine. Here, Uncle Sam helps representatives of Puerto Rico, Cuba, the Philippines, and the Mariana Islands (formerly called the Ladrones Islands) into a wagon filled with other cheering, flag-waving children.

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Interventionism, which some saw as imperialism, provoked mixed reactions among Americans. In the wake of the Spanish-American War, President Theodore Roosevelt (1901–9) favored peaceful negotiation with other countries in the Americas, backed by the threat of military force. This combination was informally called “big stick” diplomacy.

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Adam Smith described how a free-market system works in his book *The Wealth of Nations*.



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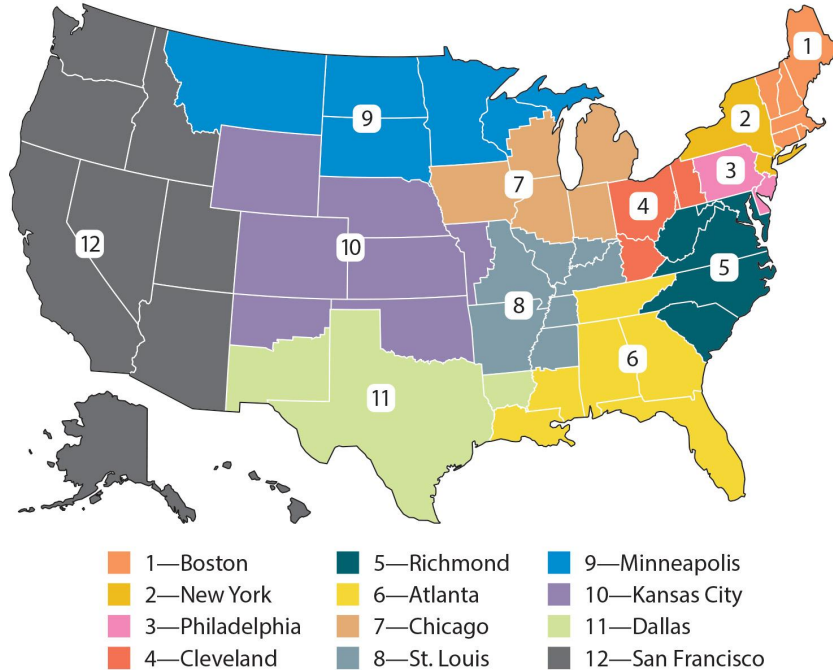


Fiscal policy deals with balancing the government's budget, which can include borrowing money to make up for a deficit. The National Debt Clock in New York City tracks the country's debt.



Topic 1: Government Policy and Spending

Federal Reserve Banks and Districts



The Federal Reserve banks are organized into districts that serve different areas of the United States. The districts are larger in the historically less populous western and midwestern states and smaller in the densely urbanized Atlantic region.

Topic 1: Government Policy and Spending

Expansionary Policy



When the Federal Reserve lowers its interest rates for lending to other banks...

%



Banks lower their interest rates for lending to each other and consumers.

\$



Consumers and businesses spend more.

JOBS



Employment rate increases—but inflation may also increase.

Contractionary Policy



When the Federal Reserve raises its interest rates for lending to other banks...

%



Banks increase their interest rates for lending to each other and consumers.

\$



Consumers and businesses spend less.

JOBS



Employment rate decreases—but inflation may also decrease.

Subject Matter Expert

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Portrait de Adam Smith (1723–1790), philosophe
et economiste ecossais./© Iberfoto / Bridgeman
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