

Objectives

- Explain how World War II increased opportunities for women and minorities.
- Analyze the effects of the war on civil liberties for Japanese Americans and others.
- Examine how the need to support the war effort changed American lives.



Terms and People

- **A. Philip Randolph** – African American labor leader
- **Executive Order 8802** – measure that assured fair hiring practices in jobs funded with government money
- **bracero program** – program in which laborers were brought from Mexico to work on American farms
- **internment** – temporary imprisonment

Terms and People (continued)

- ***Korematsu v. United States*** – Supreme Court case that upheld the government's wartime internment policy
- **442nd Regimental Combat Team** – Japanese American combat team that became the most decorated military unit in American history
- **rationing** – system that limits the amount of certain goods people can buy
- **OWI** – Office of War Information, encouraged support of the war effort



How did the war change America at home?

The war stirred patriotism even as it brought out long-simmering fears and tensions.

Americans from different backgrounds living in different places across the country made huge sacrifices to support the war effort.

Wartime America saw industries gearing up to **produce military goods**.

With men joining the army in huge numbers, women stepped into jobs in businesses and factories.

Unlike the past,

- Women worked in both **light and heavy industries**.
- **Married and older women** worked.

Wartime changes to the workforce had long-lasting effects.

- Women earned paychecks and gained knowledge and experience.
- Future generations benefited from new opportunities.
- Day-care options for children expanded.



African Americans hoped for similar job opportunities, but were disappointed.

Leaders called for a
"Double V" campaign.

Victory against fascism
abroad

Victory against
discrimination at home

Yet many jobs, including those in the government and the military, remained **segregated**.

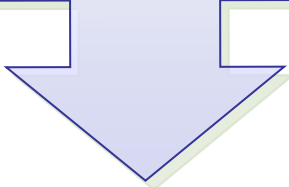
Labor leader **A. Phillip Randolph** urged Roosevelt to end discrimination in government-funded training, employment, and military service.

Under pressure, FDR issued **Executive Order 8802**.

Assured fair hiring practices in government jobs

Such victories set the stage for the civil rights struggles to come.


Migration patterns changed as people moved across the country—especially to cities—seeking jobs in wartime industries.



Bracero program

- To alleviate the **loss of workers in rural areas**, Mexican laborers were brought in to work on American farms.
- Agricultural industries would continue to hire migratory labor in the West for years to come.

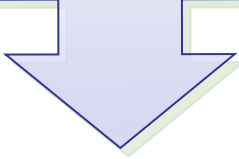
Population changes and racial tensions at times **triggered violence.**



- Urban riots
- Zoot suit attacks

Despite this, African Americans and Mexican Americans **continued to contribute to the war effort.**

Wartime fears also led to discrimination against Americans from Germany, Italy, and Japan.



In time, **suspicion focused on Japanese Americans.**
They were targeted for a combination of reasons.

- Racism
- Lack of political clout
- Their fewer numbers and relative isolation

By **executive order**, more than 100,000 Japanese Americans were forced to sell their homes and belongings.

They were then sent to isolated internment camps.





They remained in the camps for the rest of the war.

Some Japanese Americans went to court to fight for their civil liberties.

Their efforts failed.

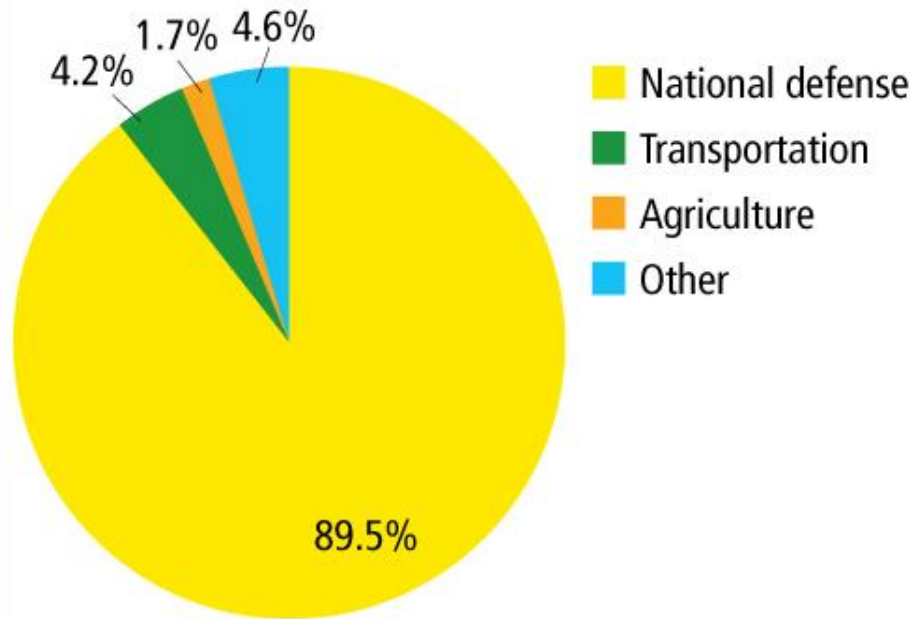
Korematsu v. United States (1944)

The Facts	The Issue	The Decision
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 1942, FDR ordered that select people could be banned from war zones. • The army relocated Japanese Americans on the West Coast to internment camps. • Fred Korematsu was arrested for resisting the army's orders. 	<p>Korematsu argued that he was denied equal protection under the law because he was a Japanese American.</p>	<p>The court held that the military order was justified for security reasons.</p>

The war effort had a huge effect on the economy.

- The **national debt** skyrocketed.
- **Taxes** increased.
- **Wages and prices** were controlled.

Federal Spending, 1945



SOURCE: *Budget of the United States Government, Historical Tables*

As industries cranked out military goods, consumer goods became scarce.

Americans made many sacrifices, looking toward victory.

Americans were urged to do all they could to support the war effort, and they responded to the call.

- Shopped with ration books
- Bought war bonds
- Planted victory gardens
- Collected scrap metal and other materials

