# **Government and the Economy Portfolio Worksheet**

**Directions**: Use the worksheet below to complete the Government and the Economy Portfolio.

## Part One

Select one of the following government policies to research:

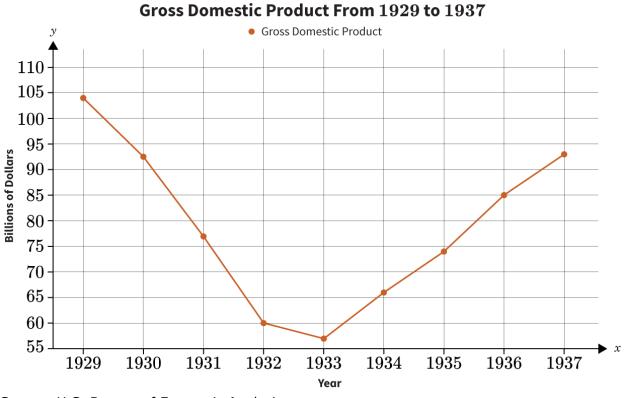
- The First New Deal Legislation 1933-1934
- Economic Stimulus Act of 2008
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
- The CARES Act of 2020
- 1. What occurred in the economy to prompt the government to pass or enact this legislation or act?

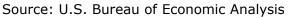
2. What were the actions enacted in the policy?

3. What was the intended goal of the economic policy?

#### <u>Part Two</u>

The Great Depression is the most well-known and heavily researched economic downturn in our nation's history. Examine the following graph and answer the questions.



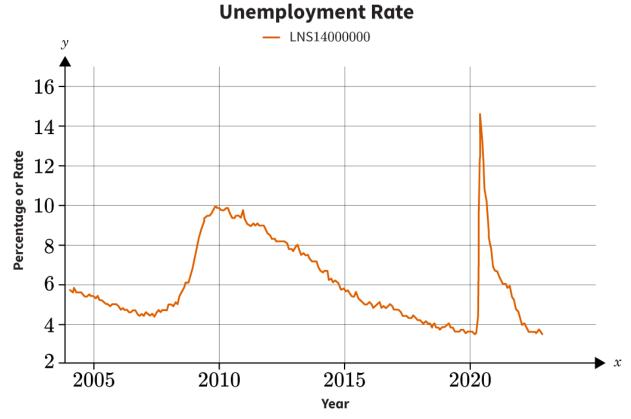


1. What does Gross Domestic Product tell us about the health of our economy?

2. According to the graph above, what happened to GDP after the First New Deal Legislation was enacted?

### Part Two (continued)

In 2008 and 2009, the Federal Government enacted legislation to help the economy recover from the Great Recession. Examine the following graph showing the unemployment rate from 2005 to 2022 and answer the questions.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

- 3. What happened to the unemployment rate between 2010 and 2019?
- 4. Why does unemployment increase during a recession?
- 5. What do you think caused the spike in unemployment in 2020?

#### Part Three

1. In your opinion, was the policy effective based on the impact to the economic indicators such as GDP, unemployment rate, and inflation? Explain your response. (6-8 sentences)

 Determine alternative actions that could have been used by the federal government or the central bank to alleviate or divert the economic crisis that prompted your selected government policy from part 1. Explain if your alternative action is better for the overall health of the economy or not. (6-8 sentences)