

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Civil War and Reconstruction Era and its importance as a major turning point in American history by c) examining the political, economic, and social impact of the war and Reconstruction, including the adoption of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America.

## Reconstruction

The economic and political gains of former slaves were temporary.

The Southern states were left embittered and devastated by the war.

Farms, railroads, and factories had been destroyed throughout the South, and the cities of Richmond and Atlanta lay in ruins.

The South would remain a backward, agriculture-based economy and the poorest section of the nation for many decades afterward.

## Economic and social impact

The North and Midwest emerged with strong and growing industrial economies, laying the foundation for the sweeping industrialization of the nation (other than the South) in the next half-century and the emergence of the United States as a global economic power by the beginning of the 20th century.



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The completion of the Transcontinental Railroad soon after the war ended intensified the westward movement of settlers into the states between the Mississippi River and the Pacific Ocean.