

World History
Unit XIII
Summary of Statistics Regarding World War I

The following information comes from the U.S. War Department's Statistical Summary written by Colonel Leonard P. Ayres, August 1, 1919. The complete document may be found on the Internet Website at: <http://history1900s.miningco.com> (The War With Germany A Statistical Summary).

1. Of every 100 American soldiers and sailors, who served in the war with Germany, two were killed or died of disease during the period of hostilities.
2. The total battle deaths of all nations in this war were greater than all the deaths in all the wars in the previous 100 years.
3. Russian battle deaths were 34 times as heavy as those of the United States, those of Germany 32 times as great, the French 28 times, and the British 18 times as large. (Battle deaths for Russia were 1,700,000; for Germany 1,600,000; for France 1,385,300; for Great Britain 900,000; and for the United States 50,300).
4. The number of American lives lost was 125,500, of which about 10,000 were in the Navy, and the rest in the Army and the marines attached to it.
5. In the American Army the casualty rate in the Infantry was higher than in any other service, and that for officers was higher than that of enlisted men.
6. For every man killed in battle, six were wounded.
7. Five out of every six men sent to hospitals on account of wounds were cured and returned to duty.
8. In this war the death rate from disease was lower, and the death rate from battle was higher than in any previous American war. Pneumonia killed more soldiers than were killed in battle.
9. The war cost the United States considerably more than \$1,000,000 an hour for over two years.
10. The direct cost was about \$22,000,000,000, or nearly enough to pay the entire cost of running the U.S. government from 1791 up to 1914.
11. In addition nearly \$10,000,000,000 have been loaned by the U.S. to the Allies.
12. During the first three months, our war expenditures were at the rate of \$2,000,000 per day. During the next year, they averaged more than \$22,000,000 per day. For the final 10 months, from April, 1917, to April, 1919, the daily average was over \$44,000,000.
13. The total costs of all nations were about \$186,000,000,000, of which the Allies and the United States spent two-thirds and the enemy one-third.
14. The three nations spending the greatest amounts were Germany, Great Britain, and France, in that order. After them come the United States and Austria-Hungary, with substantially equal expenditures.
15. The United States was involved in the war for one year, seven months, and five days.