

## The United States in Today's World

Advances in technology and high hopes for the global economy are marred by White House scandals and terrorism, including attacks on the World Trade Center that kill thousands.

# The United States in Today's World

**SECTION 1** The 1990s and the New Millennium

**SECTION 2** The New Global Economy

**SECTION 3** Technology and Modern Life

**SECTION 4** The Changing Face of America

## Section 1

# The 1990s and the New Millennium

The Democrats gain control of the White House by moving their party's platform toward the political center.

## SECTION

# 1 The 1990s and the New Millennium

## Clinton Wins the Presidency

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### The Election of 1992

- Pres. Bush cannot convince public he can end recession, create jobs
- Third-party candidate **H. Ross Perot**: deficit is biggest problem
- Gov. **William Jefferson Clinton** of AR first baby-boomer president

### A “New” Democrat

- Clinton moves from traditional Democratic positions toward center
- - wants to create “new,” more inclusive party

## SECTION

## 1

## Moderate Reform and Economic Boom

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### Health Care Reform

- Clinton pledges affordable health care, especially for uninsured
- First Lady **Hillary Rodham Clinton** heads team creating plan
- 1993, President presents health care reform bill to Congress
  - bill controversial, does not get voted on

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## SECTION

## 1

*continued* **Moderate Reform and Economic Boom****Balanced Budget and an Economic Boom**

- Clinton, Republican Congress agree on legislation to balance budget
- Federal budget has surplus; used to pay off national debt
- Economy booms: unemployment drops, stocks soar, tax revenues rise

**Reforming Welfare**

- 1996, states get block grants for welfare, other social programs
  - limits placed on how long people can receive welfare benefits
- Millions of people successfully move from welfare to work

## SECTION

## 1

## Crime and Terrorism

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### Americans Are Shocked by Violent Events

- 1999, 2 Columbine students kill 13, wound 23; copycat crimes follow
- 1993, terrorists bomb World Trade Center in NYC
- 1995, federal office building in Oklahoma City bombed, 168 dead
- 1990s, U.S. embassies, military targets abroad subject to attacks
- Sept. 11, 2001 terrorists hijack 4 planes; 1 crashes into Pentagon
  - two planes destroy World Trade Center, fourth crashes in field

## SECTION

## 1

## New Foreign Policy Challenges

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### Relations with Former Cold War Foes

- 1990s, U.S., Russia cooperate on economic, arms-control issues
- Clinton supports giving China permanent trade rights

### Troops Abroad

- 1994, Clinton sends troops to Haiti to oust military rulers
- 1995, helps negotiate peace agreement in Bosnia, sends peacekeepers
- 1999, U.S., NATO bomb Serbia to stop attacks in Kosovo
  - later sends peacekeepers

*Continued . . .*



NEXT

## SECTION

## 1

*continued* **New Foreign Policy Challenges****Trade and the Global Economy**

- Clinton wants **North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)**:
  - free-trade for Canada, Mexico, U.S; critics fear lose jobs to Mexico
- 1999, demonstrators protest World Trade Organization Seattle meeting
- Anti-globalization protests held worldwide
- Police, demonstrators clash at 2001 Summit of the Americas, Quebec
  - plans made for Free Trade Area of the Americas by 2006

## SECTION

## 1

## Partisan Politics and Impeachment

### Republicans Take Control of Congress

- **Newt Gingrich** turns unhappiness with Clinton into Republican support
- **Contract with America**—items Republicans will pass if get elected
- 1994, Republicans win both houses; Gingrich elected Speaker
- Clinton, republicans clash over budget, refuse to compromise
- Federal government shut down for several weeks, winter 1995–1996

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NEXT

## SECTION

## 1

*continued* **Partisan Politics and Impeachment****The 1996 Election**

- Budget standoff, strong economy, welfare reform help reelect Clinton
- Gets 49% popular vote; defeats Senator Bob Dole, H. Ross Perot

**Clinton Impeached**

- Clinton accused of improperly using money for 1984 governor's race
- Accused of lying under oath about improper relationship
- House approves impeachment articles: perjury, obstruction of justice
- Trial January 1999; Senate acquits president

## SECTION

## 1

## The Race for the White House

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### Election Night Confusion

- Democrats nominate Vice President **Al Gore**
- Republicans choose Texas governor **George W. Bush**
- Ralph Nader, Green Party, promote environment, liberal causes
- Close race: Florida electoral votes needed to win presidency
- As votes counted, lead shifts repeatedly between Gore, Bush
- Bush wins by narrow margin, triggers automatic recount

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NEXT

## SECTION

## 1

*continued* **The Race for the White House**

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**Dispute Rages in Florida**

- Recount gives Bush narrow win
- Alleged voting irregularities in several counties
  - Gore campaign requests manual recount in 4 Democratic counties

**The Battle Moves to the Courts**

- Republicans sue to stop manual recounts; court battles begin
- Supreme Court votes to stop recounts: lack uniform standards
- Bush gets electoral votes from Florida, wins presidency

## SECTION

## 1

## The Bush Administration

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### Antiterrorist Measures

- After September 11, antiterrorism bill passes
- Department of Homeland Security created to combat terrorism
- U.S.-led coalition breaks up al-Qaeda in Afghanistan
- 2004, Hamid Karzai is first democratically elected Afghan leader

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## SECTION

## 1

*continued* **The Bush Administration**

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**War Against Iraq**

- Bush says Iraq has weapons of mass destruction (WMD)
  - fears Saddam Hussein will give WMD to terrorists
- Bush calls for renewed arms inspections; Saddam limits cooperation
- 2003, U.S., Britain oust Iraqi regime, capture Saddam
- No WMD found

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## SECTION

## 1

*continued* **The Bush Administration**

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**Domestic Agenda**

- Bush education reform plan, No Child Left Behind, passes
- Corporate accounting scandals negatively affect weak economy
- Congress sets up regulatory board over accounting industry
- Congress passes Bush's \$350 billion tax cut
  - Bush says will strengthen economy, create jobs
  - Democrats say will mostly benefit the rich

## SECTION

## 1

## Republicans Gain More Power

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### California Recall

- Rare recall vote ousts California Governor Gray Davis
- Actor Arnold Schwarzenegger becomes governor

### Bush Reelected in 2004

- Bush has wide support for war on terrorism
  - still, Americans question decision to invade Iraq
- Democrats chose Massachusetts senator John Kerry to run against Bush
- Bush gets a majority of popular vote and wins reelection

## Section 2

# The New Global Economy

Because of technological advances and new trade laws, the U.S. economy undergoes a boom during the late 20th century.

## SECTION

## 2 The New Global Economy

### The Shifting Economy

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#### More Service, Less Security

- Unemployment falls; many low-paying, part-time, temporary jobs
- Most jobs in **service sector**—provide services to consumers
- Many companies **downsize**—cut jobs for efficiency, higher profits

#### Farms and Factories

- Manufacturing surpassed farming mid-1900s, declines 1980s–90s
- Loss of industrial jobs leads to drop in union membership
- Computer-driven robots eliminate jobs, spur high-tech economy

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NEXT

## SECTION

## 2

*continued* The Shifting Economy**High-Tech Industries**

- **Bill Gates** founds software company Microsoft, makes fortune
- **NASDAQ**—technology-dominated stock index on Wall Street
- High-tech companies called **dotcoms** expand rapidly
- 2000, 38% of dotcoms make profit; many go out of business
- Internet investment drops; corporate scandals create loss of faith
  - both NASDAQ, Dow Jones Industrial Average decline

## SECTION

## 2

## Change and the Global Economy

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### International Trade

- 1990s, U.S. trade with other countries over 25% of the economy
- Economic competition among trading blocs increasing
- **General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)** revised
  - lowers trade barriers
  - establishes World Trade Organization to resolve disputes

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NEXT

## SECTION

## 2

*continued* **Change and the Global Economy****International Competition**

- 1990s, U.S. businesses move operations to lower-wage countries
- Post-NAFTA, over 100,000 jobs lost in U.S. manufacturing
- U.S. companies pay low wages so can compete with foreign ones

**International Slowdown**

- Turn of 21<sup>st</sup> century, global economy slows down
- Developing countries suffer from drop in foreign direct investment
- Many analysts think U.S. economic recovery vital to world recovery



### Section 3

# Technology and Modern Life

Advances in technology increase the pace but also the comfort of many Americans' daily lives.

## SECTION

## 3 Technology and Modern Life

### The Communications Revolution

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#### Entering the Information Age

- **Information superhighway**—global network of communication devices
- **Internet**—international computer network, sends text, images, sound
- World Wide Web provides visual interface to unlimited audience

#### New Tools, New Media

- Users access media through electronic connection—TV cable, phone line
- By 2000, 97 million Americans use Internet
- New communications allow people to **telecommute**, work from home

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NEXT

## SECTION

## 3

*continued* The Communications Revolution**Legislating Technology**

- Federal Communications Commission auctions rights to airways
- Congress passes **Telecommunications Act of 1996**
  - allows communication companies to start up or buy related ones
  - increases competition; permits major media mergers
  - consumer, civil rights advocates criticize some provisions
- Courts strike down parts of act

## SECTION

## 3

## Scientific Advances Enrich Lives

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### Simulation, Robotics, and Machine Intelligence

- Users navigate virtual landscapes with headset, data glove
- Computer capability increases, like natural language understanding
- High-capacity chips simulate brain function, humanize robots

### Space Exploration

- Mars missions transmit live pictures to Internet users
- *International Space Station*: zero-gravity lab for research
- Hubble Space Telescope, observatories enable discoveries

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## SECTION

## 3

*continued* **Scientific Advances Enrich Lives****Biotechnology**

- 2000, human genome almost completely sequenced
- DNA evidence used to prove guilt, innocence of defendants
- Cloning, gene therapy, other advances spark debate
- **Genetic engineering**—artificially changing organism's cells
- Scientists engineer foods for resistance to pests, more nutrition
  - remains controversial

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## SECTION

## 3

*continued* **Scientific Advances Enrich Lives**

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**Medical Progress**

- Advances in therapy increase survival rates of cancer, HIV patients
- Improved technologies help medical diagnoses

**Environmental Measures**

- Scientists seek ways to reduce dependence on polluting fossil fuels
- Public reduces consumption of raw materials through recycling

## Section 4

# The Changing Face of America

At the end of the 20th century, the U.S. population grows more diverse both in ethnic background and in age.

## SECTION

## 4 The Changing Face of America

### Urban Flight

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#### Causes of Urban Change

- **Urban flight**—movement of people from cities to suburbs
- Business follows educated labor to suburbs; cities' tax base shrink
- People return to cities; want excitement, unique neighborhoods
- **Gentrification**—rehabilitation of urban property; poor displaced

#### Suburban Living

- 1990s trends: more telecommuting; Latinos, Asians move to suburbs
- Suburbs, cities compete for businesses to increase tax revenues

## SECTION

## 4

## The Aging of America

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### The Social Effects of Increased Longevity

- Median age up as result of:
  - greater longevity, big baby boom generation, slowed birthrate
- Programs that pay for elderly are growing part of budget
- Medicare pays medical expenses for senior citizens
- Social Security pays retirement benefits
  - must be restructured to avoid paying more than takes in in future

## SECTION

## 4

## The Shifting Population

### A Changing Immigrant Population

- 1970–2000, U.S. population grows from 204 million to 284 million
- 2,000 legal and 4,000–10,000 illegal immigrants enter U.S. daily

### Debates over Immigration Policy

- Since 1960s, most immigrants from Americas, Asia, Europe
  - debates over number of immigrants allowed to enter
- **Proposition 187** cut education, health benefits to illegal immigrants
- Patterns of immigration changing country's racial, ethnic makeup

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NEXT

## SECTION

## 4

*continued* **The Shifting Population****Native Americans Continue Legal Battles**

- Most Native Americans have difficult lives
  - poverty, suicide, alcoholism rates much higher than whites
- Reservation gambling controversial
  - provides money for jobs, education, social services, infrastructure
- Native Americans get recognition of land rights through courts

## SECTION

## 4

## America in a New Millennium

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### The United States Today

- Environmental concerns are global issue
- Continuing problems: poverty, terrorist threat
- Effort, cooperation can result in growth, tolerance

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