

Primary Document Analysis

Bank Tables from the Great Depression

Document Title: _____

Study the table. What kind of information does it display? What does the table represent in plain English (in your own words)?

What years can you get data from?

What columns are listed in the table?

What are the columns measuring?

What rows are present? What do they represent?

Why do you think the columns are numbered?

Who do you think would use this data? Why?

Pick two years, and calculate to make sure the totals are correct. Record which years you chose, and show your work. Does it match the table? Is the table correct? Is there missing data in the tables? Where, and what is it, and why do you think that is?

Look at the numbers before 1929. What can you determine is happening? Do you see steady growth, or something else?

Look at the numbers after 1929. What is happening? Why?

How long does it take until the numbers are back to pre-crash levels, according to the table? (You'll have to look at the entire table...) Why, in some cases, do you think it takes so long for the numbers to recover?

What other interesting data / information can you find? (How about the wars?)

Make a simple graph of the numbers right before 1929, going forward about 10 years. What can you determine from the graph? (Draw the graph below using the provided graphing area, making sure to label all aspects and axes...)

