

Running the Numbers

Figure 1:

Approximate average actual strength of the various combat divisions on the Western Front during the year 1918:	
American	25,500
British	11,800
French	11,400
German	12,300

Figure 1: Source ABMC Blue Book, pg. 501

1. What is being measured in this list?
2. Who has the most troops in combat? Who has the least?
3. Think about the context of World War I. How do you think America's late entrance may have affected their numbers?
4. How would this affect how other nations perceived American troops?
5. How would this impact the role of Americans in the decision making during and after the war?

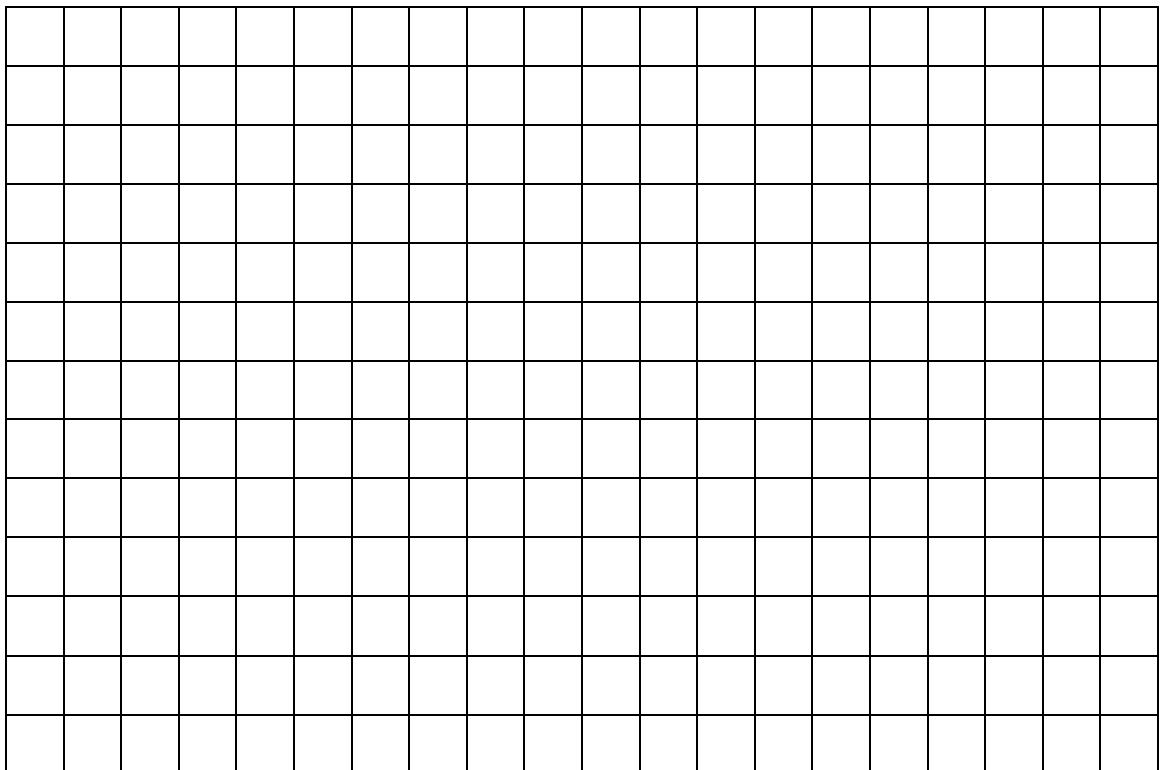
Figure 2:

Miles of Western Front occupied by American and Allied forces in 1918					
Date (1918)	American	British	French ¹	Belgian	Total
Jan. 31	6	116	323	23	468
Mar. 20	17	116	312	23	468
Mar. 30	19	92	353	23	487
Apr. 10	31	92	348	23	494
Apr. 30	34	83	358	23	498
May 30	23	83	393	23	522
June 10	36	83	389	23	531
June 20	65	83	360	23	531
July 10	62	92	354	23	531
July 20	55	92	362	23	532
July 30	68	92	318	23	501
Aug. 10	79	93	277	23	472
Aug. 20	85	93	276	23	477
Aug. 30	90	87	262	23	462
Sept. 10	98	87	241	23	449
Sept. 30	82	83	258	28	451
Oct. 10	101	83	244	15	443
Oct. 30	79	68	248	15	410
Nov. 11	83	70	214	25	392

¹The sections of the front which were held by Italian and Portuguese divisions are included with French.

Figure 2: Source: ABMC Blue Book, pg. 501

1. Graph the miles gained over time for each unit. (A line graph would be most appropriate here).



2. When do American forces peak? What general trend do you notice regarding American forces? Using the timeline in your textbook (or that we have referenced in class), what battles or offensive measures are going on at this time?
3. What general trend do you notice regarding British, French, and Belgian forces?
4. Does the progress gained seem consistent, or are there sharp gains and losses? Why do you think this is?
5. What other variables could affect how many miles of Western front were claimed by Americans?

Figure 3:

Cost of war to the United States:
For the 25 months from April 1917 to May 1919 the war cost the United States more than \$1,000,000 per hour. Its total expenditure, excluding loans to the Allies, was \$22,000,000,000. At the time of the Armistice the cost was about \$2,000,000 per hour. The pay of officers and men amounted to only about 13 per cent of this amount. The total expenditure of 22 billions was practically equal to the entire cost of running the United States Government from 1791 to 1914, inclusive.

Figure 3: Source: ABMC Blue Book, pg. 505

1. What statistic in this paragraph do you find most surprising? Why?
2. What other information would be helpful in order to evaluate America's financial sacrifices in regards to the war?
3. How do you think these expenditures affected life on the home front?

Figure 4:

Foreign loans made by the United States during and after the war:

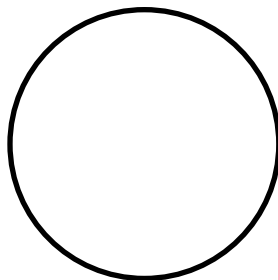
The following table gives the status in 1937 of the foreign loans made by the United States during and after the World War. The last loan made was in 1929.

Country	Pre-Armistice cash loans	Post-Armistice		Total loans	Total payments received to Nov. 1, 1937
		Cash loans	War supplies and relief supplies		
Armenia			\$11,959,917.49	\$11,959,917.49	
Austria			24,055,708.92	24,055,708.92	\$862,668.00
Belgium	\$171,780,000	\$177,434,467.89	29,872,732.54	379,087,200.43	52,191,273.24
Cuba	10,000,000			10,000,000.00	12,286,751.58
Czecho-Slovakia		61,974,041.10	29,905,629.93	91,879,671.03	20,134,092.26
Estonia			13,999,145.60	13,999,145.60	1,248,432.07
Finland			8,281,926.17	8,281,926.17	4,868,891.77
France	1,970,000,000	1,027,477,800.00	407,341,145.01	3,404,818,945.01	486,075,891.00
Great Britain	3,696,000,000	581,000,000.00		4,277,000,000.00	2,024,848,817.09
Greece		¹ 27,167,000.00		27,167,000.00	3,778,384.01
Hungary			1,685,835.61	1,685,835.61	468,466.32
Italy	1,031,000,000	617,034,050.90		1,648,034,050.90	100,829,880.16
Latvia			5,132,287.14	5,132,287.14	761,549.07
Liberia		26,000.00		26,000.00	36,471.56
Lithuania			4,981,628.03	4,981,628.03	1,237,956.58
Nicaragua			431,849.14	431,849.14	168,575.84
Poland			² 159,666,972.39	159,666,972.39	22,646,297.55
Rumania		25,000,000.00	12,911,152.92	37,911,152.92	4,791,007.22
Russia	³ 187,729,750		4,871,547.37	192,601,297.37	8,750,311.88
Yugoslavia	10,605,000	16,175,465.56	24,978,020.99	51,758,486.55	2,588,771.69
Total	7,077,114,750	2,533,288,825.45	740,075,499.25	10,350,479,074.70	2,748,574,488.89

¹ Includes \$12,167,000 authorized under act of Feb. 14, 1929.
² Includes \$3,736,628.42 acquired by U. S. Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corp. for services rendered.
³ Exclusive of \$5,000,000 conditional advance not availed of and returned.

Figure 4: Source: ABMC Blue Book, pg. 506

1. Who received loans before the armistice was signed but not after? Why do you think this is?
2. Create a pie chart showing what percentage of America's loans was made before the armistice and after.



3. Does anything surprise you about this chart? Why or why not?

