**TIME-CHART OF EUROPEAN ECONOMIC HISTORY, 1300 - 1750**

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| **1301-50** | **1351-1400** | **1401-50** | **1451-1500** | **1501-50** | **1551-1600** | **1601-50** | **1651-1700** | **1701-50** |
| **POPULATION**Culmination of century of rapid demographic growth; possible overpopulation and Malthusian Crisis; Great Famine 1315-22; crises to Black Death | Black Death (1348)Demographic Crises and Rapid Population Decline:100 Years War (1336-1453) and bubonic plagues | Recurrent Plagues and Demographic Stagnation or Decline in most of Europe: 100 Years War ends in 1453; some demographic recovery in Italy | Demographic Stagnation with some regional recovery, in Mediterranean. Relative peace. Signs of a European Marriage Pattern?  | Demographic Recovery and Population Boom: Economic Recovery and Boom (with overseas expansion to Asia and Americas) | Population Growth: Steeply rising food and land prices; evidences for incipient "Malthusian" crises? | Population Growth peaks: Thirty Years War (1618-48) and revival of plagues: More evidence for establishment of the European Marriage Pattern | Population Decline or Stagnation in most of Europe: more plagues; rising mortality and falling birth rates; some emigration to North America | End of Plague in Western Europe (1720); nadir of demographic slump and beginnings of demographic recovery; plague in Turkish and Russian Empires |
| **MONEY & PRICES**Culmination of century of rising prices and inflation; deflation from 1320s to 1340s; gold coinages adopted in northern Europe; silver ‘famines’ | Post-Plague Inflation with excess money and debasements; Silver Mining Crisis develops from 1370s; severe deflation from 1380s | Late-Medieval "Bullion Famines" and Deflation (except during peak war years); bullion outflows to Asia and East? | German and Central European Silver-Copper Mining Boom (1460-1530): new gold supplies from West Africa | Inflation: Beginnings of "Price Revolution."New gold and silver supplies from Spanish America. "Great Debasement" in England (1542-52) | Severe Inflation; Flood of Silver from Peru and Mexico, peaking around 1600; monetary inflation from credit expansion and government debt | Price Revolution and inflation peak; silver influx from Americas begins to decline from 1630s; more silver retained in Americas for colonial needs | Steeper decline in American silver supplies; increasing outflow of silver to the Baltic and Asia. Growing deflation in Europe | Deflation and price slump; larger silver outflows to Asia; Mercantilist Heyday. New gold from Brazil; Expansion in copper coin and paper credit  |
| **AGRICULTURE**: Rising grain and other agricultural prices, soaring during Great Famine; spread of the three-field systems; great expansion in English wool exports; a Malthusian crisis? Italy: mezzadria system | Falling grain prices from 1370s; decline of domain farming and serfdom in western Europe; agricultural innovations in Low Countries (Flanders); Italy and southern France: spread of mezzadria (métayage) | Low grain prices; shift to livestock; virtual end of serfdom in the West. Productivity growth in Flemish and Dutch agriculture | England: increasing enclosures in Midlands, especially for sheep-farming and wool; nadir of (real) grain prices. Expansion of Dutch livestock farming | English enclosure movement reaches its peak; grain prices begin to rise; prosperity of Dutch agriculture. Signs of increasing SERFDOM in eastern Europe (Prussia, Poland, Russia). New crops from the Americas. | "New Husbandry" (re)introduced into England from the Low Countries; convertible husbandry in mixed farming regions. "Rise of the Gentry" at expense of crown, church, old aristocracy. Prussian- Polish grain exports. | England: More enclosures, and more for convertible husbandry; reclamation of eastern fen lands. Shift of landed power to gentry. Greater spread, intensification of serfdom in eastern Europe. | Falling grain prices; greater shift to convertible husbandry and non-grain crops. Resurgence of landed aristocracy; land consolidation in large estates. Poland and Russia: more serfdom, as small farms decline. | Slump in grain prices; Severe contraction in yeomanry and small farmers with growth of large estates with more livestock. More rapid spread of convertible husbandry in England. |
| **COMMERCE**: Height of Italian supremacy in European commerce and finance; European and Mediterranean warfare from 1290s disrupts commerce; decline of Champagne Fairs; rise of German power in Baltic | England: wool trade peaks then declines as cloth exports rise; Hanse & Italians dominant in European commerce and finance; English gains in wool & cloth trades | Rise of the Dutch: gain control of herring fisheries and defeat the Hanse; develop the fluitschip; English cloth trade expansion | Dutch gain control over Baltic trades; Antwerp market dominates trade and finance; final victory of English cloth trade, based on Antwerp and German silver. Portuguese overseas expansion into Africa; then India.  | Dutch commercial expansion; peak of Antwerp market, South German commerce and English woolen trades. Portuguese commercial empire in Africa, Asia, and Brazil. Spain in Americas.; silver influx from Peru | Crisis in Antwerp market and English cloth trade; Revolt of the Netherlands (1568-1609) against Spain; new English overseas trading companies; rise of English shipping. Spanish expansion; Portuguese decline. | Commercial expansion & commercial rivalry by Dutch and English: in Asia, Caribbean, North America; English expand commerce in Mediterranean. Decline of Italy (Venice), Spain, Portugal. | Peak of Dutch commercial power; beginnings of decline. English gain dominance in Caribbean and North America. "New Colonialism" and Mercantilism | Dutch still pre-eminent but more evident decline; English colonial trade from Asia and Americas expands; slave trade. Heyday of Mercantilism.  |
| **FINANCE**. Italians introduce bill of exchange; spread of deposit banking in Italy; large gov’t loans raised in England, France | Italians spread Bill of Exchange while dominating trade and finance; English credit: develops in wool and cloth trades | Italian and Flemish dominance in banking; English develop negotiable credit | South Germans control over Central European silver mining gives them dominance in European banking, based on the Antwerp market | Antwerp financial market peaks, then declines with South German banks; development of better negotiability at Antwerp | Italians(Genoese) regain pre-eminence in European banking and finance; development of discounting in Low Countries (Antwerp) | Rise of Dutch banking based on Wisselbank of Amsterdam; London Goldsmiths become leaders of English banking, with discounting | Dutch financial pre-eminence; London goldsmiths develop modern banking with paper money and other credit instruments  | Bank of England (1694-7) becomes dominant as "bankers' bank" and develops gov't financing and capital market; organizes, monetizes national debt |
| **INDUSTRY** : Flemish/French dominance in European woolen/worsted textiles; industrial crisis in producing cheaper textiles; innovations in shipbuilding | Italians challenge Flemish dominance in textiles, esp in Mediterranean basin; rise of English & Dutch woolen cloth industries; guns and metallurgy;  | Expansion then stagnation in English cloth industry; more rapid decline of Flemish cloth industry | Italian/Flemish industrial decay; final dominance of England's Old Draperies (woolens); introduction of blast smelters in England.  | Expansion of English coal and iron industries; Dutch shipbuilding dominant; spread of sayetteries (light cloths) in the Low Countries  | (Re)introduction of the "New Draperies" (light cloths) in England; rapid expansion of iron and coal-burning industries  | England's New Draperies displace Old Draperies; English iron industry reaches a peak/plateau; Dutch industrial growth | "Energy crisis" in England? Relative decline of iron industry and growth of Swedish iron imports; new coal burning industries; New Draperies expand  | English iron industry reaches nadir; Darby succeeds with coke-smelting (1710), but no "revolution" follows; cotton-fustian industry develops in Lancashire. |
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