

laborer, was said to have destroyed weaving machinery around 1779. The Luddites attacked whole factories in northern England beginning in 1811, destroying labor-saving machinery. Outside the factories, mob disorder took the form of riots, mainly because of the poor living and working conditions of the workers.

Positive Effects of the Industrial Revolution Despite the problems that followed industrialization, the Industrial Revolution eventually had a number of positive effects. It created jobs for workers. It contributed to the wealth of the nation. It fostered technological progress and invention. It greatly increased the production of goods and raised the standard of living. Perhaps most important, it provided the hope of improvement in people's lives.

The Industrial Revolution produced a number of other benefits as well. These included healthier diets; better housing; and cheaper, mass-produced clothing. Because the Industrial Revolution created a demand for engineers as well as clerical and professional workers, it expanded educational opportunities.

The middle and upper classes prospered immediately from the Industrial Revolution. For the workers it took longer, but their lives gradually improved during the 1800s. Labor eventually won higher wages, shorter hours, and better working conditions.

PATTERNS OF CHANGE: Industrialization

Effects of Industrialization

Size of Cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth of factories, bringing job seekers to cities • Urban areas doubling, tripling, or quadrupling in size • Factories developing near sources of energy • Many new industrial cities specializing in certain industries
Living Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sanitary codes or building controls • Lack of adequate housing, education, and police protection • Lack of running water and indoor plumbing • Frequent epidemics sweeping through slums • Eventually, better housing, healthier diets, and cheaper clothing
Working Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industrialization creating new jobs for workers • Workers trying to keep pace with machines • Factories dirty and unsanitary • Workers running dangerous machines for long hours in unsafe conditions • Harsh and severe factory discipline • Eventually, higher wages, shorter hours, and better working conditions
Emerging Social Classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing middle class of factory owners, shippers, and merchants • Upper class of landowners and aristocrats resentful of rich middle class • Lower middle class of factory overseers and skilled workers • Workers overworked and underpaid • In general, a rising standard of living, with some groups excluded

SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Charts

1. Which social class benefited most and which suffered most from industrialization?
2. What were some of the advantages and disadvantages of industrialization?

The long-term effects of the Industrial Revolution are still evident. Most people today in the industrialized countries can afford consumer goods that would have been considered luxuries fifty or a hundred years ago. Further, their living and working conditions are much improved over those of workers in the 19th century.

As the Industrial Revolution in Manchester demonstrated, economic success can unleash a variety of problems. Even today, the economic pressures of industrialization frequently lead to the overuse of natural resources and the abuse of the environment. The profits derived from industrialization, however, permit thoughtful governments to invest in urban improvements.