

Economic Comparison between the United States and Russia

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Abstract:

In contemporary international relations, the United States and Russia are undoubtedly enemies. Although both countries are permanent United Nations Security Council members and have strong global influence, they share different ideologies and geopolitical interests. In terms of area, Russia has a land area of approximately 17 million square kilometers, ranking first globally; The United States has an area of 9.37 million square kilometers, ranking fourth globally.

Keywords: Economic, United Nations, Russia, United States

Introduction

In contemporary international relations, the United States and Russia are undoubtedly enemies. Although both countries are permanent United Nations Security Council members and have strong global influence, they share different ideologies and geopolitical interests. In terms of area, Russia has a land area of approximately 17 million square kilometers, ranking first globally; The United States has an area of 9.37 million square kilometers, ranking fourth globally. Russia has a total population of approximately 146 million, ranking 9th globally; The United States has approximately 333 million, ranking third globally, second only to China and India.

According to data from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), in 2021, the GDP of the United States is approximately \$22.9 trillion, with a per capita GDP of approximately \$68000; Russia's GDP is approximately 1.6 trillion U.S. dollars, with a per capita GDP of approximately 11000 US dollars. That is to say, the GDP of the United States is about 14.3 times that of Russia, and the per capita GDP is about 6.1 times that of Russia. Objectively speaking, the U.S. economy is significantly ahead of Russia. Of course, this phenomenon is caused by multiple factors. Next, we will conduct a detailed analysis of the economies of the United States and Russia.

The economy of the United States

The United States was the birthplace of the Second Industrial Revolution, with many scientists and advanced technology emerging. By 1900, the United States had become the world's largest economy and has remained so until today. In the two world wars, the flames of war did not baptize the United States, and the open social atmosphere, modern infrastructure, and urban construction attracted outstanding talents from various countries worldwide.

In addition, global investors and funds have also flowed to the United States. Subsequently, international trade relations based on the U.S. dollar were officially established, and most countries regarded the U.S. dollar as an important foreign exchange reserve. Therefore, the United States, responsible for issuing and circulating U.S. dollars, holds an absolute advantage in international trade and relations.

From the perspective of the primary industry, the United States has approximately 1.68 million square kilometers of arable land, ranking second globally after India. The United States is the birthplace of modern agriculture, with a high degree of mechanization and high yields. In addition, the United States has abundant coal, oil, natural gas resources, and mineral resources such as copper, lead, zinc, sulfur, phosphate, and potassium salts. From the perspective of the secondary industry, the United States is the second largest industrial producer in the world, second only to China. Especially in the steel, automotive, aircraft manufacturing, arms, and electronic equipment industries of the United States, it is in a leading position globally.

The tertiary industry is the most important in the United States, accounting for over 80% of GDP. Among them, the most important is the financial industry, which has created many high-quality jobs in the United States. They control the lifeline of the U.S. economy and influence the world economy's trendy.

Russia's economy

After the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Russia inherited most of the Soviet economic sectors, possessing a large amount of technology, talent, and natural resources, leading in fields such as aerospace, nuclear industry, and basic science. However, after experiencing drastic social changes, Russia's economy experienced a downturn. Nowadays, Russia's economy relies more on exports of energy and minerals. As shown in the above figure,

mineral energy exports account for about 48%, while metals and precious metals account for about 13%. Therefore, Russia's economy is better when these commodity prices become popular. Once global commodity prices fluctuate, Russia's economy will face significant problems. For Russia's economy, it is necessary to actively expand the sales channels of natural gas, oil, coal, and other products and stabilize the prices of these products. We know there was a "honeymoon period" between the United States and Russia. However, for various reasons, the current economic and trade relations between the two countries are not close, with an annual trade volume of only about 30 billion U.S. dollars. Of course, we still hope that the United States and Russia can have good relations, which will benefit all countries.

1. Overall GDP Comparison

Russia and the United States are independent countries with economic systems. According to the latest data released by the World Bank, the GDP of the United States in 2019 was \$21.44 trillion, while the GDP of Russia was \$1.70 trillion, indicating a significant gap between the two countries.

2. Comparison of GDP growth rates

The GDP growth rate is one of the important indicators of a country's economic development. According to statistics, the GDP growth rate of the United States in 2019 was 2.33%, while that of Russia was 1.28%. The difference in growth rates between the two countries is not very significant, but it can be seen that the overall economic development of the United States is more stable.

3. Comparison of Gross Domestic Product

Gross domestic product (GDP) refers to the monetary value of a country's final products and services during a certain period. According to the latest data released by the International Monetary Fund, in 2019, the GDP of the United States accounted for 24.54% of global GDP, while Russia's GDP accounted for 1.69%. From this perspective, it can be seen that the economic influence of the United States is much higher than that of Russia.

4. Comparison of per capita GDP

Per capita GDP refers to a country's GDP ratio to its total population. According to the latest data, the per capita GDP of the United States in 2019 was \$65600, while the per capita GDP of Russia was \$11700. It can be seen that the people of the United States are relatively wealthier and have a higher standard of living.

5. Comparison of GDP composition

GDP composition refers to the contribution of different industries to a country's total economic output value. There are differences in GDP composition between the United States and Russia. The economic composition of the United States is relatively diversified, with the service industry as the dominant sector, accounting for 79.6% of GDP, followed by the manufacturing and construction industries. However, Russia's GDP structure is relatively single, mainly consisting of resource-based products such as oil and natural gas, which is also the origin of Petrostate.

Russia is one of the most geographically diverse countries in the world, with huge labor resources. However, since 2008, Russia has been facing problems such as a high unemployment rate and an imbalanced employment structure. This article analyzes and argues from five perspectives: labor market, education, gender, region, and immigration, hoping to help understand the current employment situation in Russia.

Labor market

Russia's unemployment rate has always been higher than other developed countries. In July 2019, the country's unemployment rate was 4.5%, but structural issues remain. The unemployment rate among young people is much higher than the overall unemployment rate, partly due to the mismatch between education and the labor market. In addition, many workers worked in industrial cities during the Soviet era, and with the cities' slow development, it was difficult to find new employment opportunities. Overall, there are issues in the Russian labor market, such as a lack of flexibility, opacity, and "zombie enterprises," which limit employment opportunities in some fields and regions.

Education

The Russian education system is complete, but there is a mismatch problem with employment. Many students choose traditional humanities education, while the demand for fields such as engineering and computer science continues to increase. Enterprises and state-owned enterprises often prefer to hire experienced individuals rather than newly graduated ones. This poses a huge challenge to the employment of young people.

Gender

Although the employment rates of men and women in Russia are the same, gender discrimination is still prevalent in certain industries and regions. Meanwhile, women are often more vulnerable to economic crises and

unemployment. For example, in the current COVID-19 pandemic, the unemployment rate of women is higher than that of men. In addition, women typically receive lower wages than men, although the wage gap between women has narrowed in certain industries, such as healthcare and education.

Region

Russia has a vast territory, and there are significant differences in employment situations between regions. The main industrial cities are Moscow and St. Petersburg, as well as some cities in the Urals and Siberia. High unemployment rates are prevalent in some areas far from city centers and industrial parks. For example, the employment rate in the North Caucasus region is only 52.1%, much lower than in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

Immigration

Along the borders with many countries, Russia has immigrants from all over the world. Immigrant groups hold short-term, informal, or low-skilled jobs in Russia and are often more susceptible to higher unemployment rates and social welfare issues. Therefore, in the Russian job market, the employment opportunities for immigrants are very limited, and they are prone to racial and gender discrimination in the job market.

Conclusion

Although Russia has extremely abundant labor resources, its employment structure, gender and regional imbalances, and immigrant employment issues have challenged the country. The Russian government and enterprises must take practical and comprehensive measures to address these issues to increase economic development and social stability. Due to the insufficient size of Russia's domestic market, the country needs to strengthen its connections and competition with the international market to increase the quantity and quality of job opportunities.

The current employment situation of young people in the United States

In recent years, with the continuous development of the economy, young people in the United States are facing many difficulties in employment. This article will explore the current employment situation of young people in the United States from five perspectives.

1. Unclear employment prospects

Affected by globalization and technological upgrading, many traditional professions are facing decline and change. In addition, the impact of the epidemic has

also exacerbated the decline of many industries. The employment prospects of young people in the United States are uncertain, and they often need to receive diverse training and education to cope with the complex employment situation.

2. High pressure on student loan debt

Most young Americans must apply for student loans during college, which becomes a burden for them after graduation. Young Americans need to spend a lot of time and money to repay these debts, which also limits their career development and choices in the workplace.

3. Lack of employment opportunities

Although new job opportunities are constantly being created in the current labor market in the United States, many young people still face the dilemma of lacking job opportunities. In some cities and regions, the unemployment rate can reach over 20% during peak periods. This makes it difficult for many young people to find jobs and even give up their job search plans.

4. Low salary level

Even if young people can find jobs, they often only get low-paid positions. The current minimum wage in the United States is \$7.25 per hour, which makes it impossible for them to cope with the high cost of living. Many young people even have to double their efforts in their work to obtain higher income and livelihood security.

5. Career instability

With the continuous fluctuations and economic changes, many young people often need to frequently switch career positions. This puts pressure on their personal development and makes it difficult for them to establish a stable life and career foundation. This also makes young people often lack confidence and motivation in their work. The employment situation of young people in the United States is closely linked to economic and social development. Although many difficulties are difficult to eliminate, we must work together to create a more fair and stable employment environment for young people.

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