

WWII population and deaths — major countries

Country	Population ~1939	Military deaths	Civilian deaths	Total deaths	Population ~1945
Soviet Union	~192.4M	~8.8–11.9M	~13–17.4M	~22–29M	~175.3M
China	~516–518M	~3.0–3.75M	~12–16M	~15–20M	~532.6M
Germany	~69.3M	~3.8–4.5M	~1.8–3.0M+	~5.7–7.4M	~67.0M*
Poland	~34.8M	~240–320K	~5.3–5.5M	~5.6M	~26.6M
Japan	~72.4M	~2.1M	~0.5–1.0M	~2.6–3.1M	~76.2M
France	~42.0M	~210–218K	~330–350K	~540–570K	~41.1M**
Italy	~43.4M	~300K	~150K	~450K	~45.5M
United Kingdom	~48.0M	~384K	~67–150K	~451–534K	~49.2M
United States	~131–133M	~417K	~1–2K	~418K	~140.5M
Canada	~11.3M	~42K	~1.6K	~43.6K	~12.7M
Australia	~7.0M	~39.7K	~700	~40.4K	~7.7M

The 1939 population figures and casualty estimates vary by source and by whether territories, changing borders, famine, disease, and displaced populations are included. One widely used compilation gives, for example, Germany at 69.3 million in 1939, China at about 517.6 million, Canada at 11.27 million, and the U.S. at about 131.5–133 million. ([Wikipedia](#))

The 1945 estimates in the demographic series give approximately **140.5 million for the U.S., 175.3 million for the USSR, 532.6 million for China, 76.2 million for Japan, 67 million for Germany, and 49.2 million for Britain.** ([GSAF](#))

US America is especially interesting

The United States is very different demographically from most of the combatant countries:

United States

- Population around 1939/1940: **~131–132 million**
- Population 1945: **~140.5 million**
- Military deaths: **~416,800**
- Civilian deaths attributable to WWII: **roughly 1,700**
- Total deaths: **~418,500**
- Population therefore **increased substantially during the war**, despite the American military death toll. ([GSAF](#))

That makes America a useful comparison with countries such as **Poland, Germany, France, Japan, and the Soviet Union**, where the demographic consequences were radically different.