

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? *the avg. strength of combat divisions on W. Front in 1918*
2. Who has the most troops in combat? Who has the least?
America *French*
3. Think about the context of World War I. How do you think America's late entrance may have affected their numbers?
fewer soldiers died from America; at that point other nations had been fighting for 4 years
American troops were concentrated in one area; needed training; also most-needed there
4. How would this affect how other nations perceived American troops?
relief → needed help & morale boost
disdain → had not been fighting long, lacked experience
5. How would this impact the role of Americans in the decision making during and after the war?
Americans feel they have "saved the day" and should have a large role, while the other nations are not as comfortable with that & want to use their experiences as reason to control the decision-making.

