

# great plains economic activities

**great plains economic activities** encompass a diverse range of industries and pursuits that have shaped the region's development and continue to influence its economic landscape today. The Great Plains, a vast expanse of flatlands stretching across central North America, is known primarily for its agricultural productivity, but it also hosts significant energy production, manufacturing, and service sectors. This article will explore the primary economic activities in the Great Plains, detailing agriculture, energy resources, manufacturing, and emerging industries. Additionally, it will consider how natural resources, climate, and geography contribute to the economic fabric of this region. Understanding these facets provides insight into the economic strengths and challenges faced by communities within the Great Plains. The following sections will provide a comprehensive overview of the key economic drivers and their impact on the region's growth.

- Agricultural Activities in the Great Plains
- Energy Production and Natural Resources
- Manufacturing and Industrial Development
- Service Sector and Emerging Economic Activities

## Agricultural Activities in the Great Plains

Agriculture is the cornerstone of great plains economic activities, with the region often referred to as the "breadbasket" of the United States due to its extensive crop production and livestock farming. The fertile soils and expansive flatlands provide ideal conditions for large-scale farming operations that produce a variety of crops and support significant livestock populations.

### Cropping and Crop Production

The Great Plains is a leading producer of staple crops such as wheat, corn, soybeans, and barley. Wheat, particularly hard red winter wheat, dominates the landscape and is essential for both domestic consumption and export markets. Corn and soybeans are also widely cultivated, benefiting from advanced irrigation techniques and modern farming equipment, which enhance yield and efficiency.

### Livestock Farming

Livestock farming is a major component of the agricultural sector in the Great Plains.

Cattle ranching is especially prominent due to the vast grazing lands available, making the region one of the top beef producers in the country. Additionally, hog farming and poultry production contribute significantly to the local economy, supporting related industries such as meat processing and feed production.

## **Technological Advancements in Agriculture**

Modern technology has transformed great plains economic activities in agriculture. Precision farming, GPS-guided equipment, and biotechnology have improved crop yields, reduced waste, and optimized resource use. These advancements help farmers adapt to environmental challenges, such as drought and soil erosion, ensuring sustainable agricultural productivity.

- Wheat, corn, and soybean are primary crops
- Cattle ranching is a leading livestock activity
- Technological innovations enhance productivity
- Irrigation plays a critical role in crop success

## **Energy Production and Natural Resources**

Energy production forms a vital part of great plains economic activities, with the region rich in natural resources such as coal, oil, natural gas, and wind. These resources have fostered a robust energy sector that supports local economies and contributes to national energy supplies.

### **Fossil Fuel Extraction**

The Great Plains contains significant deposits of coal, oil, and natural gas. Coal mining remains an important industry, particularly in states like Wyoming and North Dakota, where large coal reserves exist. Oil and natural gas extraction have expanded in recent decades due to advances in drilling technologies such as hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling, boosting production levels in areas like the Bakken Formation.

### **Wind Energy Development**

Wind power has emerged as a rapidly growing sector within the Great Plains' energy landscape. The region's flat terrain and consistent winds make it one of the best locations in the United States for wind energy generation. Wind farms have been developed extensively, contributing to renewable energy goals and creating jobs in construction, maintenance, and manufacturing of turbine components.

## Challenges and Environmental Considerations

Energy production in the Great Plains faces challenges related to environmental impact, regulatory policies, and market fluctuations. Coal mining, for example, has environmental concerns related to emissions and land degradation, while oil and gas extraction must balance economic benefits with water usage and pollution risks. Wind energy, although renewable, requires careful planning to minimize effects on wildlife and local ecosystems.

- Coal, oil, and natural gas are key fossil fuels
- Wind energy is rapidly expanding
- Technological innovation drives resource extraction
- Environmental management is critical

## Manufacturing and Industrial Development

While agriculture and energy dominate, manufacturing and industrial activities contribute significantly to great plains economic activities by providing employment and supporting regional supply chains. These industries encompass food processing, machinery production, and chemical manufacturing.

### Food Processing Industry

Food processing is closely linked to the region's agricultural output. Facilities that process meat, grains, and dairy products are prevalent, adding value to raw agricultural commodities and supplying both domestic and international markets. This sector provides numerous jobs and stimulates local economies.

### Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing

Manufacturing of agricultural machinery and equipment is an integral part of the Great Plains economy. Companies produce tractors, harvesters, irrigation systems, and other farm implements that support the region's farming operations. The demand for advanced machinery drives innovation and industrial growth.

### Chemical and Related Industries

Chemical manufacturing, including fertilizers and pesticides, supports agricultural productivity and forms a crucial industrial segment. Additionally, other related manufacturing industries such as plastics and metal fabrication contribute to the economic diversity of the Great Plains.

- Food processing adds value to agricultural products
- Agricultural machinery manufacturing supports farming
- Chemical production aids agriculture and other sectors
- Industrial development diversifies the economy

## **Service Sector and Emerging Economic Activities**

The service sector has grown steadily as part of great plains economic activities, reflecting broader economic diversification beyond traditional industries. This sector includes healthcare, education, retail, and tourism, all of which contribute to regional stability and growth.

### **Healthcare and Education Services**

Healthcare and education institutions represent major employers in urban centers across the Great Plains. These services support the well-being and development of the population, playing a critical role in workforce readiness and quality of life.

### **Tourism and Recreation**

Tourism is an emerging area of economic activity, leveraging the region's natural beauty, historic sites, and outdoor recreation opportunities. National parks, wildlife refuges, and cultural heritage sites attract visitors, generating revenue and supporting hospitality businesses.

### **Technology and Innovation**

In recent years, technology-driven enterprises and innovation hubs have begun to establish a presence in the Great Plains. These include information technology, renewable energy research, and agricultural technology startups. Such developments indicate a shift towards a more diversified and resilient economic base.

- Healthcare and education are major service providers
- Tourism capitalizes on natural and cultural assets
- Technology and innovation foster economic diversification
- Service sector growth supports community sustainability

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What are the primary economic activities in the Great Plains?**

The primary economic activities in the Great Plains include agriculture (such as wheat, corn, and cattle farming), energy production (oil, natural gas, and wind energy), and manufacturing.

### **How does agriculture contribute to the economy of the Great Plains?**

Agriculture is the backbone of the Great Plains economy, with extensive cultivation of crops like wheat, corn, soybeans, and livestock farming, which supports both local communities and exports.

### **What role does energy production play in the Great Plains economy?**

Energy production, including oil and natural gas extraction as well as wind energy development, plays a significant role in the Great Plains economy by providing jobs, revenue, and contributing to the region's industrial growth.

### **How has wind energy impacted economic activities in the Great Plains?**

Wind energy has become a major economic driver in the Great Plains by creating jobs in construction and maintenance, attracting investments, and providing landowners with additional income from wind farm leases.

### **Are there any manufacturing industries prominent in the Great Plains?**

Yes, the Great Plains hosts manufacturing industries related to agricultural equipment, food processing, and energy equipment, which support the region's primary economic activities.

### **How do transportation and logistics affect economic activities in the Great Plains?**

Transportation and logistics are crucial for moving agricultural products and energy resources to markets, supported by extensive railroads, highways, and river transport systems that facilitate trade and commerce.

## **What challenges do economic activities in the Great Plains face?**

Challenges include variable weather conditions like droughts, fluctuating commodity prices, rural depopulation, and environmental concerns related to farming and energy extraction.

## **How does livestock farming contribute to the Great Plains economy?**

Livestock farming, including cattle ranching and hog production, is a major economic activity providing meat products for domestic use and export, supporting rural livelihoods and related industries.

## **What impact does technology have on economic activities in the Great Plains?**

Technology improves productivity and efficiency in agriculture through precision farming, enhances energy extraction methods, and supports new industries like biofuels, driving economic growth in the region.

## **How important is export to the Great Plains economic activities?**

Exports are vital, especially for agricultural products like wheat, corn, and beef, as they generate significant revenue and connect the Great Plains economy to global markets.

## **Additional Resources**

### *1. The Economic History of the Great Plains*

This book explores the development of economic activities in the Great Plains region from the 19th century to the present. It covers agriculture, ranching, and the rise of transportation networks that facilitated trade. The author provides detailed analysis of how natural resources shaped local economies and community growth.

### *2. Farming the Frontier: Agriculture and Society in the Great Plains*

Focusing on the agricultural practices that dominated the Great Plains, this book examines the challenges and innovations faced by farmers. It discusses crop selection, soil conservation, and the impact of government policies on rural livelihoods. The narrative also highlights the social and economic transformations within farming communities.

### *3. Ranching and Cattle Economy in the Great Plains*

This title delves into the cattle industry, tracing its origins and evolution across the Great Plains. It addresses ranching techniques, market fluctuations, and the role of cattle drives in shaping regional identity. Additionally, the book looks at environmental and economic pressures that have influenced ranching practices.

#### 4. *Energy and Industry on the Great Plains: From Coal to Wind Power*

Covering the diverse energy sectors in the Great Plains, this book chronicles the transition from traditional fossil fuels to renewable energy sources. It highlights coal mining, oil drilling, and the recent boom in wind energy production. The economic impacts of these industries on local communities and policy implications are thoroughly analyzed.

#### 5. *Transportation and Trade in the Great Plains Economy*

This book investigates how railroads, highways, and river transport have facilitated economic growth in the Great Plains. It explores the development of trade routes and their influence on agricultural and industrial markets. The author also considers the challenges posed by geographic and climatic factors.

#### 6. *Water Resources and Economic Development in the Great Plains*

Water availability is critical in the semi-arid Great Plains, and this book examines its role in supporting agriculture and urban growth. It discusses irrigation technologies, water rights, and the economic consequences of droughts. The book also addresses policy responses to water scarcity and sustainability efforts.

#### 7. *Native Economies and the Great Plains: Past and Present*

This work offers insight into the economic activities of Indigenous peoples in the Great Plains before and after European settlement. It covers traditional hunting, trade networks, and adaptation to changing economic conditions. Contemporary challenges and economic initiatives within Native communities are also presented.

#### 8. *Urbanization and Economic Change in the Great Plains*

Analyzing the growth of cities in a predominantly rural region, this book looks at how urban centers influenced economic diversification. It examines industries such as manufacturing, services, and education, and their impact on regional development. The book also discusses demographic trends and migration patterns.

#### 9. *Climate, Agriculture, and Economic Resilience in the Great Plains*

This title explores how climatic variability affects agricultural productivity and economic stability. It reviews historical droughts, technological adaptations, and risk management strategies employed by farmers and policymakers. The book emphasizes the importance of resilience in sustaining the Great Plains economy.

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# **Great Plains Economic Activities: A Deep Dive into the Heartland's Prosperity**

## **Introduction:**

The Great Plains, a vast expanse stretching across the heart of North America, often conjures images of rolling prairies and boundless skies. But beyond the picturesque landscape lies a robust and diverse economy, shaped by history, geography, and the ingenuity of its people. This comprehensive guide delves into the multifaceted economic activities that drive prosperity in this region, exploring its historical foundations, current trends, and future prospects. We'll examine key industries, challenges faced, and the innovative strategies employed to ensure continued economic growth. Prepare to discover the hidden economic powerhouse within the Great Plains.

## **1. Agriculture: The Backbone of the Great Plains Economy**

Agriculture has long been the cornerstone of the Great Plains economy. The fertile soils and ample sunlight provide ideal conditions for cultivating a wide range of crops, including wheat, corn, soybeans, sorghum, and sunflowers. Large-scale mechanized farming dominates, with operations employing advanced technologies like GPS-guided planting and precision irrigation to maximize yields. However, the sector is not without its vulnerabilities. Climate change, fluctuating commodity prices, and water scarcity pose significant challenges. Sustainable farming practices, including no-till agriculture and water conservation techniques, are increasingly crucial for long-term viability. Furthermore, the diversification of agricultural activities, such as the growth of organic farming and value-added products, is essential for enhancing resilience and profitability.

## **2. Energy: Fueling Economic Growth**

The Great Plains is a significant energy producer, boasting substantial reserves of oil, natural gas, and wind power. The Bakken shale formation in North Dakota and Montana has fueled a boom in oil production, creating thousands of jobs and generating significant revenue for the region. Natural gas production is also substantial, supporting both domestic consumption and export markets. Moreover, the vast open spaces and consistent winds have made the Great Plains a leader in wind energy generation, with numerous wind farms dotting the landscape. This energy production contributes significantly to the region's GDP and supports related industries, such as pipeline construction and transportation. However, environmental concerns related to fossil fuel extraction and the impact of energy infrastructure on wildlife remain important considerations.

## **3. Livestock and Ranching: A Traditional Industry with Modern Adaptations**



Cattle ranching has been a defining feature of the Great Plains for centuries. Vast pastures provide grazing land for millions of cattle, contributing significantly to the region's agricultural output. Technological advancements in animal husbandry, such as improved breeding techniques and disease management, have increased efficiency and productivity. However, challenges such as drought, disease outbreaks, and fluctuating beef prices necessitate continuous adaptation and innovation within the industry. The growing interest in sustainable ranching practices, focused on land stewardship and animal welfare, is reshaping the sector.

## **4. Manufacturing and Processing: Value-Added Industries**

While agriculture and energy dominate, the Great Plains also boasts a growing manufacturing and processing sector. Food processing plants, particularly those focused on meatpacking and grain processing, are major employers. The region's proximity to raw materials and its strategic location facilitate efficient transportation and distribution networks. Furthermore, the increasing emphasis on local sourcing and regional food systems is bolstering the growth of smaller-scale food processing businesses. Other manufacturing activities include the production of agricultural equipment, wind turbines, and other related goods. Attracting and retaining skilled labor and fostering innovation remain key priorities for this sector's continued expansion.

## **5. Tourism and Recreation: Experiencing the Great Plains**

The breathtaking landscapes and abundant outdoor recreational opportunities of the Great Plains are increasingly attracting tourists. National parks, wildlife refuges, and scenic byways offer diverse attractions. Ecotourism, focused on responsible travel and environmental conservation, is a rapidly growing segment. Furthermore, the region's rich history and cultural heritage provide opportunities for historical tourism. Developing sustainable tourism infrastructure and promoting the region's unique attributes are critical for maximizing the economic benefits of this sector.

## **6. Challenges and Opportunities:**

The Great Plains economy faces several challenges, including climate change, fluctuating commodity prices, infrastructure limitations, and workforce shortages. Addressing these challenges requires a multifaceted approach, involving investments in infrastructure, technological innovation, sustainable practices, and workforce development initiatives. However, the region also possesses significant opportunities. The growing demand for renewable energy, the potential for agricultural diversification, and the increasing attractiveness of the region for tourism offer promising avenues for future growth.

## 7. Government Initiatives and Support:

Various levels of government play a significant role in supporting the Great Plains economy. Federal programs aimed at promoting agriculture, energy development, and infrastructure development provide crucial funding and resources. State and local governments also implement policies designed to stimulate economic growth, attract investment, and support businesses. The collaboration between government agencies, private sector actors, and research institutions is essential for creating a sustainable and prosperous economic future for the region.

## Article Outline:

Title: Great Plains Economic Activities: A Comprehensive Overview

Introduction: Hooking the reader and overview of the article's content.

Chapter 1: Agriculture: Detailed exploration of agricultural practices, challenges, and innovations.

Chapter 2: Energy: Analysis of oil, gas, and wind energy production, along with environmental considerations.

Chapter 3: Livestock and Ranching: Examination of the ranching industry, its adaptations, and challenges.

Chapter 4: Manufacturing and Processing: Overview of food processing and other manufacturing activities.

Chapter 5: Tourism and Recreation: Analysis of the tourism sector and its potential for economic growth.

Chapter 6: Challenges and Opportunities: Discussion of the key challenges and opportunities facing the region.

Chapter 7: Government Initiatives and Support: Analysis of government programs supporting economic development.

Conclusion: Summary of key findings and future prospects.

(The detailed content for each chapter is provided above in the main article.)

## FAQs:

1. What is the dominant economic sector in the Great Plains? Agriculture, particularly wheat, corn, and livestock production, historically forms the backbone of the Great Plains economy.
2. How is climate change affecting the Great Plains economy? Climate change impacts the region through droughts, extreme weather events, and shifts in agricultural yields, impacting all sectors.
3. What role does energy play in the Great Plains economy? The region is a significant energy

producer, with oil, natural gas, and wind power contributing substantially to its GDP.

4. What are the challenges facing the agricultural sector in the Great Plains? Fluctuating commodity prices, water scarcity, climate change, and the need for sustainable practices are major challenges.

5. How is the tourism sector developing in the Great Plains? Ecotourism and outdoor recreation are growing, leveraging the region's natural beauty and history.

6. What are the government's initiatives to support the Great Plains economy? Various federal, state, and local programs support agriculture, energy, infrastructure, and economic development.

7. What are the future prospects for the Great Plains economy? Diversification into renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and tourism offer promising avenues for continued growth.

8. What is the role of technology in the Great Plains economy? Precision agriculture, advanced oil and gas extraction techniques, and renewable energy technologies play a crucial role in driving efficiency and growth.

9. How is the Great Plains addressing workforce shortages? Workforce development initiatives and programs attracting skilled labor are being implemented to meet the region's needs.

## Related Articles:

1. Sustainable Agriculture in the Great Plains: Examining sustainable farming practices and their impact on economic viability.
2. The Bakken Shale Boom: Economic Impacts and Environmental Concerns: Analyzing the oil boom's effects on the region.
3. Wind Energy Development in the Great Plains: Exploring the growth of wind power and its contribution to the economy.
4. Water Resources Management in the Great Plains: Discussing strategies for efficient water use and conservation.
5. The Role of Transportation Infrastructure in the Great Plains Economy: Examining the importance of efficient transportation networks.
6. Tourism and Recreation Opportunities in the Great Plains National Parks: Highlighting the economic potential of national parks.
7. Economic Development Strategies for Rural Communities in the Great Plains: Exploring strategies to support economic growth in rural areas.
8. The Impact of Climate Change on Great Plains Agriculture: Analyzing the effects of climate change on agricultural yields and profitability.
9. Government Policies and their Effect on Great Plains Economic Development: Examining the role of government in supporting regional economies.

**great plains economic activities:** Encyclopedia of the Great Plains David J. Wishart, 2004-01-01 Wishart and the staff of the Center for Great Plains Studies have compiled a wide-ranging (pun intended) encyclopedia of this important region. Their objective was to 'give definition to a region that has traditionally been poorly defined,' and they have

**great plains economic activities: Conservation of Great Plains Ecosystems: Current Science, Future Options** S.R. Johnson, Aziz Bouzaher, 2012-12-06 A multidisciplinary and multifaceted approach is employed to identify principal ecosystems and natural resources in the U.S. Great Plains that are at risk and that should receive priority for protection. The authors are drawn from a variety of disciplines and approaches, their ideas being presented as a pooling or harvest, rather than as a consensus. The 25 chapters provide background and in-depth discussion of multiple issues/problems related to Great Plains stewardship for future generations. The status and trends of major resources of the Great Plains within an historical, ecological and management framework are categorized according to common goals across the disciplines and can be used to make recommendations for public policy, research and development, and institutions. The challenge for residents of the Great Plains is to merge multiple ecosystem concepts to improve the environment and to improve economic vitality.

**great plains economic activities: Goals and Priorities of the Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Association** United States. Congress. Senate. Committee on Indian Affairs (1993- ), 2001

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**great plains economic activities: Ecological Regions of North America** , 1997 This volume represents a first attempt at holistically classifying and mapping ecological regions across all three countries of the North American continent. A common analytical methodology is used to examine North American ecology at multiple scales, from large continental ecosystems to subdivisions of these that correlate more detailed physical and biological settings with human activities on two levels of successively smaller units. The volume begins with an overview of North America from an ecological perspective, concepts of ecological regionalization. This is followed by descriptions of the 15 broad ecological regions, including information on physical and biological setting and human activities. The final section presents case studies in applications of the ecological characterization methodology to environmental issues. The appendix includes a list of common and scientific names of selected species characteristic of the ecological regions.

**great plains economic activities: Review of the Draft Fourth National Climate Assessment** National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education, Division on Earth and Life Studies, Board on Environmental Change and Society, Board on Atmospheric Sciences and Climate, Committee to Review the Draft Fourth National Climate Assessment, 2018-06-18 Climate change poses many challenges that affect society and the natural world. With these challenges, however, come opportunities to respond. By taking steps to adapt to and mitigate climate change, the risks to society and the impacts of continued climate change can be lessened. The National Climate Assessment, coordinated by the U.S. Global Change Research Program, is a mandated report intended to inform response decisions. Required to be developed every four years, these reports provide the most comprehensive and up-to-date evaluation of climate change impacts available for the United States, making them a unique and important climate change document. The draft Fourth National Climate Assessment (NCA4) report reviewed here addresses a wide range of topics of high importance to the United States and society more broadly, extending from human health and community well-being, to the built environment, to businesses and economies, to ecosystems and natural resources. This report evaluates the draft NCA4 to determine if it meets the requirements of the federal mandate, whether it provides accurate information grounded in the scientific literature, and whether it effectively communicates climate science, impacts, and responses for general audiences including the public, decision makers, and other stakeholders.

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definitions of local food, estimates market size and reach, describes the characteristics of local consumers and producers, and examines early indications of the economic and health impacts of local food systems. Defining 'local' based on marketing arrangements, such as farmers selling directly to consumers at regional farmers' markets or to schools, is well recognized. Statistics suggest that local food markets account for a small, but growing, share of U.S. agricultural production. For smaller farms, direct marketing to consumers accounts for a higher percentage of their sales than for larger farms. Charts and tables.

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**great plains economic activities: In Defense of Farmers** Jane Gibson, Sara Alexander, 2019-07-01 Industrial agriculture is generally characterized as either the salvation of a growing, hungry, global population or as socially and environmentally irresponsible. Despite elements of truth in this polarization, it fails to focus on the particular vulnerabilities and potentials of industrial agriculture. Both representations obscure individual farmers, their families, their communities, and the risks they face from unpredictable local, national, and global conditions: fluctuating and often volatile production costs and crop prices; extreme weather exacerbated by climate change; complicated and changing farm policies; new production technologies and practices; water availability; inflation and debt; and rural community decline. Yet the future of industrial agriculture depends fundamentally on farmers' decisions. *In Defense of Farmers* illuminates anew the critical role that farmers play in the future of agriculture and examines the social, economic, and environmental vulnerabilities of industrial agriculture, as well as its adaptations and evolution. Contextualizing the conversations about agriculture and rural societies within the disciplines of sociology, geography, economics, and anthropology, this volume addresses specific challenges farmers face in four countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, and the United States. By concentrating on countries with the most sophisticated production technologies capable of producing the largest quantities of grains, soybeans, and animal proteins in the world, this volume focuses attention on the farmers whose labors, decision-making, and risk-taking throw into relief the implications and limitations of our global industrial food system. The case studies here acknowledge the agency of farmers and offer ways forward in the direction of sustainable agriculture.

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**great plains economic activities: Economics of Natural Resources, the Environment and Policies** E. Kula, 2012-12-06 The economic activities of humanity, particularly during the last couple of centuries, have had a profound impact on the natural environment. Fast depletion of the world's forest resources, fish stocks, fossil fuels and mine deposits have raised many moral as well as practical questions concerning present and future generations. Furthermore, a number of global environmental problems such as acid rain, the 'greenhouse effect' and depletion of the ozone layer are causing concern throughout the world. What does economics say about the exploitation of nature's scarce resources? This book, which is a much expanded version of an earlier publication, *Economics of Natural Resources and the Environment*, aims mostly at final-year undergraduates reading subjects such as economics, business studies, environmental science, forestry, marine biology, agriculture and development studies. There is also a good deal of material - especially in the chapters on fisheries, forestry, valuation and discounting - that post-graduate students may find useful as stepping-stones. The material presented stems from my lectures to final-year students at the University of Ulster during the last 12 years, and some of my ongoing research work. When I

moved to Northern Ireland in 1982 I was given a course called 'Economics of Exhaustible Resources' to teach. This has changed its title and focus a number of times along with the structure of the University. My early reading lists included a number of journal articles and books written on the subject.

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**great plains economic activities:** Climate Change Impacts in the United States, Highlights , 2014 This book presents the major findings and selected highlights from Climate Change Impacts in the United States, the third National Climate Assessment. The National Climate Assessment assesses the science of climate change and its impacts across the United States, now and throughout this century. It documents climate change related impacts and responses for various sectors and regions, with the goal of better informing public and private decision-making at all levels. A team of more than 300 experts, guided by a 60-member National Climate Assessment and Development Advisory Committee, produced the full report. The assessment draws from a large body of scientific peer-reviewed research, technical input reports, and other publicly available sources; all sources meet the standards of the Information Quality Act. The report was extensively reviewed by the public and experts, including a panel of the National Academy of Sciences, the 13 Federal agencies of the U.S. Global Change Research Program, and the Federal Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Sustainability.

**great plains economic activities:** **A Regional Geography of the United States and Canada** Chris Mayda, 2012 In this comprehensive new text, Chris Mayda offers an exciting alternative to conventional North American geographies. Throughout her thorough discussion of the physical and human geography of the United States and Canada, the author weaves in the key themes of environment and sustainability. Combining incisive analysis, rich description, human stories, and vibrant photographs, this text offers a complete and vivid portrait of the region from human,

physical, and cultural perspectives. Designed expressly for ease of teaching and learning, the book features color photographs and maps throughout.

**great plains economic activities:** Rocky Mountain Regional Guide , 1992

**great plains economic activities:** **Monthly Notes, Farm Management, and Farm Economics** , 1985

**great plains economic activities:** **Archaeology on the Great Plains** W. Raymond Wood, 1998-07-29 Stretching from the Gulf of Mexico to central Canada, North America's great interior grasslands were home to nomadic hunters and semisedentary farmers for almost 11,500 years before the arrival of Euro-American settlers. Pan-continental trade between these hunters and horticulturists helped make the lifeways of Plains Indians among the richest and most colorful of Native Americans. This volume is the first attempt to synthesize current knowledge on the cultural history of the Great Plains since Wedel's *Prehistoric Man on the Great Plains* became the standard reference on the subject almost forty years ago. Fourteen authors have undertaken the task of examining archaeological phenomena through time and by region to present a systematic overview of the region's human history. Focusing on habitat and cultural diversity and on the changing archaeological record, they reconstruct how people responded to the varying environment, climate, and biota of the grasslands to acquire the resources they needed to survive. The contributors have analyzed archaeological artifacts and other evidence to present a systematic overview of human history in each of the five key Plains regions: Southern, Central, Middle Missouri, Northeastern, and Northwestern. They review the Paleo-Indian, Archaic, Woodland, and Plains Village peoples and tell how their cultural traditions have continued from ancient to modern times. Each essay covers technology, diet, settlement, and adaptive patterns to give readers an understanding of the differences and similarities among groups. The story of Plains peoples is brought into historical focus by showing the impacts of Euro-American contact, notably acquisition of the horse and exposure to new diseases. Featuring 85 maps and illustrations, *Archaeology on the Great Plains* is an exceptional introduction to the field for students and an indispensable reference for specialists. It enhances our understanding of how the Plains shaped the adaptive strategies of peoples through time and fosters a greater appreciation for their cultures.

**great plains economic activities:** *Western North American Juniperus Communities* Oscar van Auken, 2007-12-04 In North America, Juniperus woodlands occupy approximately 55 million hectares, an area larger than the state of Texas. This title addresses various aspects of the biology, ecology, and management of Juniperus woodlands and savannas, synthesizing past and current research findings as well as proposed research. The book provides ecologists, land managers, and foresters with a solid foundation in Juniperus ecosystems, enabling them to manage the communities for maximum sustained productivity and diversity.

**great plains economic activities:** **Water Resources Research Catalog** , 1966

**great plains economic activities:** **The National Climate Program Act and Global Climate Change** United States. Congress. House. Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. Subcommittee on Natural Resources, Agriculture Research, and Environment, 1988

**great plains economic activities:** **Understanding the Changing Planet** National Research Council, Division on Earth and Life Studies, Board on Earth Sciences and Resources, Committee on Strategic Directions for the Geographical Sciences in the Next Decade, 2010-07-23 From the oceans to continental heartlands, human activities have altered the physical characteristics of Earth's surface. With Earth's population projected to peak at 8 to 12 billion people by 2050 and the additional stress of climate change, it is more important than ever to understand how and where these changes are happening. Innovation in the geographical sciences has the potential to advance knowledge of place-based environmental change, sustainability, and the impacts of a rapidly changing economy and society. *Understanding the Changing Planet* outlines eleven strategic directions to focus research and leverage new technologies to harness the potential that the geographical sciences offer.

**great plains economic activities:** **Development of Resources and of Economic**



**Opportunity in the Pacific Northwest** Pacific Northwest Regional Planning Commission, United States. National Resources Planning Board, 1942

**great plains economic activities:** *Water as a Parameter for Development of Energy Resources in the Upper Great Plains* Armand Bauer, Clayton Norman Haugse, Donald Francis Scott, Fred W. Schroer, John Francis Zidon, Won W. Koo, George H. Pfeiffer, Duane E. Gronhovd, 1977

**great plains economic activities:** Using Political Ideas Barbara Goodwin, 2007-05-07 This book offers a critique of contemporary political ideologies and an analysis of the ideas and concepts, which we use in political arguments. By revealing the interplay between ideas and ideologies, it shows us why political opponents so often seem to argue at cross-purposes.

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