

U.S. History: 1865 to the Present Study Guide

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE STANDARDS OF LEARNING CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK—2015 STANDARDS
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STANDARD USII.2A – WESTWARD MOVEMENT AFTER 1865

The student will use maps, globes, photographs, pictures, or tables for

- a) explaining how physical features and climate influenced the movement of people westward.

Perceptions of the Great Plains change after the Civil War

Physical features and climate of the Great Plains

- Flatlands that rise gradually from east to west
- Land eroded by wind and water
- Low rainfall
- Frequent dust storms

Because of new technologies, people saw the Great Plains not as a “treeless wasteland” but as a vast area to be settled.

Technological advances allowed people to live in more challenging environments.

Inventions

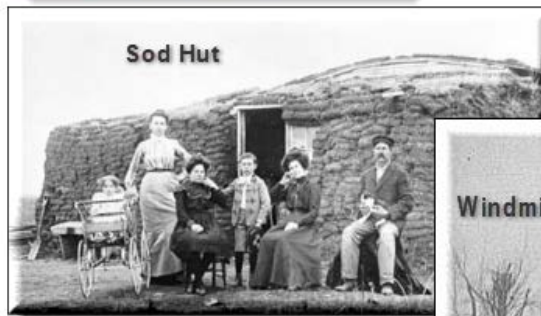
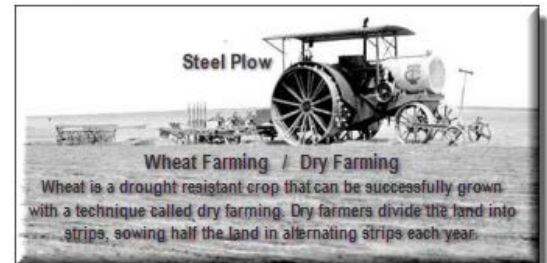
- Barbed wire
- Steel plows
- Railroads
- Windmills

Adaptations

- Dry farming
- Sod houses
- Beef cattle
- Wheat farming



Inventions & Adaptations



STANDARD USII.2B – RESOURCES, TRANSPORTATION & INDUSTRY AFTER 1865

b) relationships among **natural resources**, **transportation**, and **industrial development** after 1865.

Advances in transportation link resources, products, and markets

Transportation resources

- Moving **natural resources** to eastern factories (e.g., iron ore to steel mills)
- **Transporting** finished products to national markets
- Locating **factories** near **rivers** and **railroads** to move resources and finished goods to **markets**

Manufacturing areas were clustered near centers of population.

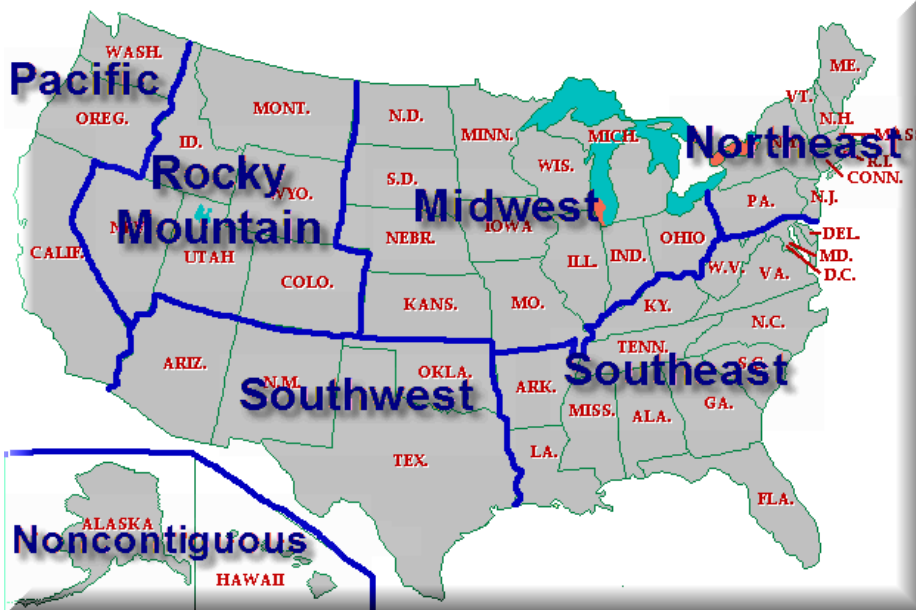
Examples of manufacturing areas

- **Textile industry:** New England
- **Automobile industry:** Detroit
- **Steel industry:** Pittsburgh
- **Meatpacking industry:** Chicago



STANDARD USII.2C – 50 STATES & IMPORTANT CITIES

c) locate the **50 states** and the **cities** most significant to the historical development of the United States and explain what makes those cities significant.



A state is an example of a political region.

States may be grouped as part of different regions, depending upon the criteria used.

States grouped by geographic region

- **Northeast:** Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania
- **Southeast:** Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas
- **Midwest:** Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota

- **Southwest:** Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona
- **Rocky Mountains:** Colorado, Utah, Nevada, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho
- **Pacific:** Washington, Oregon, California
- **Noncontiguous:** Alaska, Hawaii

Cities serve as centers of trade and have political, economic, and/or cultural significance.

Cities grouped by geographic region

Northeast:

- New York
- Boston
- Pittsburgh
- Philadelphia

Southeast:

- Washington, D.C
- Atlanta
- New Orleans

Midwest:

- Chicago
- St. Louis
- Detroit

Southwest:

- San Antonio,
- Santa Fe

Western (Rocky Mountains):

- Denver
- Salt Lake City

Pacific:

- San Francisco
- Los Angeles
- Seattle

Noncontiguous:

- Juneau
- Honolulu

