

# Human Geography in the Midwest

One of the largest industries in the Midwest is farming, and many Midwesterners are farmers. One of this region's nicknames is "the breadbasket" of the United States. Wisconsin has dairy farming and is one of the nation's largest producers of cheese. Indiana is famous for growing popcorn kernels, tomatoes, and other crops. Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota grow abundant grain crops. Illinois, Iowa, and Kansas grow soybeans used for food and fuel for automobiles. Minnesota and Michigan grow fruit and berry crops.



Other important Midwest industries are mining, shipping, timber, tourism, and manufacturing. Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, and South Dakota have coal mines. Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, and Minnesota ship goods to Canada through major American rivers and ports. Minnesota has a timber industry. Automobiles are made in Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois. Tourism is also a major source of wealth for the region. For example, many people use the Great Lakes for boating, jet-skiing, canoeing, and fishing. In the winter, across the northern waters of the region, vacationers cut holes in the ice to fish.

1. Name the state most likely to produce great amounts of dairy products.

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2. Coal miners who live in the Midwest are most likely to live in which states?

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3. Name the Midwestern states in which automobiles are manufactured.

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4. Which state is famous for growing popcorn kernels?

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5. Grains are commonly grown in which states?

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6. Which state is known for its timber industry?

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