Where the Money Is...

Ports to Plains

Primary or contributory industries import money.

Consumptive or dependent industries use and consume this money.

Metropolitan Statistical Areas 381

Micropolitan Statistical Areas 536

Economic Strength

The long term tendency for an area to consistently grow in both size and quality.
Economic Strength

23 Factors Measured

Consistency + Size & Quality

2015 Ten Strongest Metropolitan Areas

1. Washington-Arlington (MSA)
2. Seattle-Tacoma, WA (MSA)
3. Austin-Round Rock, TX (MSA)
4. Des Moines, IA (MSA)
5. Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE-IA (MSA)
6. San Antonio, TX (MSA)
7. Nashville-Davidson, TN (MSA)
8. Sioux Falls, SD (MSA)
9. Salt Lake City, UT (MSA)
10. Houston-The Woodlands, TX (MSA)

2015 Ten Weakest Metropolitan Areas

381. Danville, IL (MSA)
380. Sebring, FL (MSA)
379. Pocatello, ID (MSA)
378. Rocky Mount, NC (MSA)
377. Hickory-Lenoir, NC (MSA)
376. Flint, MI (MSA)
375. Burlington, NC (MSA)
374. Grants Pass, OR (MSA)
373. Rome, GA (MSA)
372. Muskegon, MI (MSA)

2015 Ten Strongest Micropolitan Areas

1. Dickinson, ND (McrSA)
2. Williston, ND (McrSA)
3. Fairmont, WV (McrSA)
4. Winnemucca, NV (McrSA)
5. Indiana, PA (McrSA)
6. Minot, ND (McrSA)
7. Juneau, AK (McrSA)
8. Butte-Silver Bow, MT (McrSA)
9. Clarksburg, WV (McrSA)
10. Columbus, MS (McrSA)

2015 Ten Weakest Micropolitan Areas

536. Summerville, GA (McrSA)
535. Fitzgerald, GA (McrSA)
534. Wauchula, FL (McrSA)
533. Bastrop, LA (McrSA)
532. Arcadia, FL (McrSA)
531. Atchison, KS (McrSA)
530. Espanola, NM (McrSA) (McrSA)
529. Helena-West Helena, AR (McrSA)
528. Silver City, NM (McrSA)
527. Peru, IN (McrSA)

50 Strongest Metropolitan Areas
50 Weakest Metropolitan Areas

50 Strongest Micropolitan Areas

50 Weakest Micropolitan Areas

50 Strongest Micropolitan Areas

Ports to Plains States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>127</td>
<td>Amarillo, TX MSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>137</td>
<td>Rapid City, SD MSA</td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>Aberdeen, SD Micro</td>
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<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Dumas, TX Micro</td>
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<td>NR</td>
<td>Lincoln County, CO</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Williston, ND Micro</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Everyone Understands

Growth in Quality

Great Myth

Any new job will help the economy.
Create more primary industry jobs which pay a wage higher than the area average wage.

Transportation
The more expedient the transportation system the further a producer can be located from its marketplace.

What all areas need to do.
1. Review, objectively, the geographic – economic assets and liabilities.
2. Engage higher education resources in economic development activity.
3. Provide a trained or trainable workforce.
4. Provide for an abundant supply of industrial real estate.
5. Fund a professionally managed economic development program.

- Romans built roads which opened Europe.
- Spice roads linked Asia with Europe.
- Suez Canal linked Africa with the world.
- Corrugated roads built in Pennsylvania and Ohio opened trade with the eastern seaboard.
- Transcontinental railway linked the west to the east.
- Erie Canal expanded commerce throughout the Midwest.
- Panama Canal linked the east to Japan.
- Interstate Highway System tied all of the United States together.
Of the 50 Strong/Weak Micros

- Located on an Interstate: 31
- Located on 4 lane limited access: 10
- Piece of 4 lane roadway in area: 0
- Not located on 4 laned: 9

Of the 9 without 4 lane roadway:

- Two Alaska - Ice Roads.
  - One is an island.
  - One is tourism, wealthy.
- Two related to energy.
- One is a cattle town.
- One military base.

Summary

- Local economies grow and expand in direct proportion to the money being imported by the primary industries.
- The profitability of these companies is influenced by local geo-economic issue.
- Small economies not located on major highways will struggle.