The Four Regions of Texas

- Great Plains
- North Central Plains
- Coastal Plains
- Mountains and Basins
Coastal Plains

Post Oak Belt

Gulf Coast Plain

Piney Woods

South Texas Plains
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Blackland Prairie
Climate

- Hot summers, mild winters
- Humid
- Abundant Rainfall (close to Gulf)
- Hurricanes
Landforms

Plains

Barrier Islands

Balcones Escarpment
Balcones Escarpment

- Part of it is in Austin
- Lower elevation on the eastern side
- Flatter on the eastern side
Natural Vegetation

Pine Forests (East TX)

Oak Forests (Post Oak Belt)

Savanna (South Texas Plains)

Grasslands (Gulf Coast Plains)
Natural Resources
Coastal Plains: 30-55” rain/year

Rivers - Brazos, Colorado, Trinity, San Jacinto, Neches, Guadalupe, etc…
Other Natural Resources

- Pine Forests
- Flat Land
- Grass
- Fertile Soil (Blackland Prairie)
- Iron and Coal Deposits
- Oil
- Natural Gas
- Fish
Economic Activities

That use primarily Natural Resources

- Lumber
- Tourism
- Natural Gas
- Farming: cotton, rice, vegetables, citrus
- Fishing
- Ranching
- Ports (Shipping)
- Oil Drilling and Refining
Economic Activities

That use other resources

Medical

Technical

Education

TX Medical Center in Houston

Government
Cities of the Coastal Plains

Houston

San Antonio

Dallas

Austin

Other Cities…
Texarkana
Corpus Christi
Brownsville
The Four Regions of Texas

Mountains and Basins
Great Plains
North Central Plains
The Great Plains

The Great Plains Region is broken into two VERY different types of geography:

The Edwards Plateau and
The High Plains
Climate
Varies. The coldest region during the winter but very hot summers. The average yearly rainfall is 15 – 20 inches.
Landforms

High Plains

High Plains and Llano Estacado (Staked Plains)

Canyons in the Panhandle (Palo Duro Canyon)

Permian Basin

Caprock Escarpment

Edwards Plateau

Edwards Plateau

Llano Basin
Natural Vegetation

High Plains
Grasslands
Very Few Trees

Edwards Plateau
Savanna (grasses, small trees and shrubs)
High Plains Natural Resources

Plains (flat land)
Grass
Fertile Soil

Oil & Natural Gas

Aquifer - Ogallala

In the Permian Basin part of the High Plains (Stinky Armpit)

Edwards Plateau
Savanna
Grasses, Cedar Trees and Live Oak Trees

Animals: Quail, Deer and Wild Turkeys

Aquifers – Edwards Aquifer
Economic Activities

High Plains
- Ranching - Cattle

Farming – Wheat and Cotton

Edwards Plateau
- Ranching – Sheep and Goats

Hunting

Tourism
- Fredericksburg (and other towns)
Mountains and Basins Region

Mexico

Big Bend Nat'l Park
Climate

Hot and dry. Summers are very hot and dry and the winters are very mild. Receives little rainfall with as little as eight inches per year.
LANDFORMS

Mountains, Plateaus and Basins
Part of the Rocky Mountains
3 biggest ranges in TX – Davis Mts., Chisos Mts., Guadalupe Mts.
Permian Basin

NATURAL VEGETATION

Driest part of state
8” rain/yr (20 in mountains)
Hot days, cool nights

Desert plants (cactus, yucca, creosote, small shrubs)
Pine Forests in the mountains
Not a lot of water!!!! This is a desert!!
Coastal Plains had 12 major rivers… M&B only has TWO…

Minerals – (limestone, copper, salt, sulfur, talc, shale, clay)

Wind

Oil and Natural Gas (mostly in the Permian Basin)
ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

Maquiladoras

Wind Energy

Irrigated Farming

Cantaloupes (Pecos River), Cotton and Pecans

Oil & Natural Gas

Permian Basin

Trade with NM, AZ, CA and Mexico (Rest of TX is farther away)
ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

Cont...

Tourism

Big Bend Country

Economic Activities

CITIES (and Towns)

Big Bend National Park

Davis Observatory (Davis Mountains)

El Paso

Marfa

Ft. Davis

Alpine

Pecos

Camping

Hiking
Santa Elena Canyon in Big Bend National Park

Mexico

United States

Rio Grande

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- Great Plains
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North Central Plains

Three Sub-Regions
- Rolling Plains
- Grand Prairie
- Cross Timbers
Climate

- Colder in winter and hotter in summer than Coastal Plains
- Receives less rainfall than East Texas
- Area is part of Tornado Alley
Natural Vegetation

Grasslands

(with some trees)
Natural Resources

- Fertile Soil
- Grass & Flat Land (crops, cattle, cities)
- Oil
- Natural Gas
Economic Activities That use primarily Natural Resources

Farming

Ranching

Peanuts, fruits and vegetables

Dairy Farms and Agribusiness
Other Economic Activities

Aircraft Manufacturing (outside Ft. Worth)

Military (Ft. Hood)

Oil and Natural Gas Services and Marketing

Petroleum Drilling
Cities of the North Central Plains

Other Cities:
- Fort Worth
- San Angelo
- Abilene
- Wichita Falls
- Austin