Jobs and Industries Around the World Explained

KS2 GEOGRAPHY KS3 GEOGRAPHY Ages 10-14 ⏰ 4 min read

What Are Jobs and Industries?

A **job** is work that someone does to earn money. An **industry** is a group of businesses doing similar work. For example, all the farms that grow food are part of the **agriculture industry**. Every person who works belongs to some industry. Around the world, people work in hundreds of different industries, and the types of jobs vary greatly depending on where they live.

The Four Main Types of Industries

Experts divide industries into four main groups. The **primary industry** involves taking things from nature — like farming, fishing, and mining. The **secondary industry** turns raw materials into products, like factories that make cars or clothes. The **tertiary industry** provides services to people, like teachers, doctors, and shop workers. The **quaternary industry** is the newest, involving information and technology, like software developers and researchers.

Think of it like a pizza business: primary industry cuts the tomatoes from farms, secondary industry makes the pizza in the factory, tertiary industry delivers it to your door, and quaternary industry develops the app where you order it.

Jobs Differ Around the World

The jobs available depend on where you live and what resources your country has. In **developing countries**, many people work in farming because the land is good for growing crops. In **developed countries** like the **UK** and **USA**, more people work in offices, shops, and technology companies. **Island nations** often have large fishing industries. Countries with mountains might focus on mining or tourism.

Changing Industries

The types of jobs people do have changed dramatically over time. **200 years ago**, most people worked on farms. During the **Industrial Revolution**, factories created

millions of new jobs. Today, **technology jobs** are growing fastest in many countries. Some old jobs, like blacksmithing, have almost disappeared, while new ones like **app development** and **renewable energy engineering** are booming.

Why This Matters

Understanding different industries helps us see how countries work together. Your phone might be made in **China**, have software from **America**, and be sold by a shop in your town. All these different industries and jobs are connected globally. Learning about jobs helps you think about what you might do when you grow up and how the world economy really functions.

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