

Pendleton's Target Industries

Our rodeo isn't the only world famous thing in Pendleton. In fact, you'd have to look long and hard to find a town of similar size that produces so many world renowned products. Pendleton holds competitive advantages in the following key industries:

Aviation and UAS

Pendleton's airport is the largest between Portland and Boise, and supports up to a Boeing 757. With 300+ VFR days/year and just a short flight to so many major Northwest cities, Pendleton would be an ideal base of operations for freight, charter and fractional jet companies. In addition to our commercial air carrier and several ag spraying operations, we're also one of only 3 FAA-approved UAS test ranges on the West Coast. Our ATC tower is experienced at integrating manned and unmanned vehicles, and the National Guard Base provide UAS-experienced labor. Current UAS clients include Project Vahana, PAE ISR, PNNL, NASC & Yamaha.

Manufacturing

Starting with the world famous Pendleton Woolen Mill, Pendleton has a long and storied manufacturing past. We are home to two of the world's finest saddle makers, Hamley's and Severe Bros, and we're also the western home of Keystone RV Company, the world's largest manufacturer of towable RV's. In addition, Colby Rocky Mountain Pipe, the leading manufacturer of ABS and PVC plumbing products just announced plans to open a new plant. Lastly, when Hollywood needs a cowboy hat made, they don't call Tombstone, AZ, they contact Montana Peaks in...you guessed it...good old Pendleton, Oregon.

Warehousing and Distribution

In the last 15 years, both FEDEX and Wal-mart have chosen to locate distribution centers in Northeastern Oregon. Less than a two hour flight and less than a day's drive from Seattle, Portland, Spokane, Boise, Salt Lake City, and Vancouver B.C., Pendleton is perfectly situated for a regional distribution center. Our regional airport with daily scheduled air service, our at-grade access to I-84, and our close proximity to two major Columbia River ports, offers multiple transportation options, and Union Pacific's main line runs right through town.

Clean Technology

You might not think it, but thanks to all our sunny weather, Pendleton is the most solarized city in the State of Oregon. Our water filtration and wastewater treatment plants use cutting edge technology and boast an excess two million gallons a day...each. You don't have to travel far to find wind farms, hydro-electric, and co-gen plants, which provide us abundant, clean, affordable power. Regionally, more and more farmers are alternating their wheat crops with canola, which can be converted into bio-jet fuel, and offers a far better energy output than corn.

Agriculture and Food Processing

You don't have to look very hard to see that Pendleton is an ag-based economy. We have arguably the finest dry land wheat growing conditions in the world. Most of that wheat gets exported to Asia, but, not surprisingly, we're home to the 100-year old Pendleton Flour Mill and Newly Weds Foods, which deliver bulk flour and food coatings via rail, road, river and ocean. We're also home to Barhyte Specialty Foods, which produces private label specialty sauces for supermarket and restaurant chains and numerous universities. Their neighbor, Hill Meat Company—one of the west coast's largest pork processors—supplies several major supermarket chains with branded and private label pork products.

High-Tech and Bio-Tech

Silicon Valley, Silicon Forest...welcome to the Silicon Wheat Field. We're not making microchips...yet, but we are home to Cayuse Technologies, a partnership between the Umatilla Indians and Accenture offering full life-cycle software application development and business process outsourcing. We're also the headquarters of Interpath Laboratories, the west coast's largest independent medical laboratory. You might be surprised to learn that Pendleton has the fastest internet in the State of Oregon, and our abundant, affordable power and water, combined with cool nights, has attracted several data centers to our region.

Data Centers

Eastern Oregon is becoming very popular for siting data centers. Inexpensive, easily-developed land combined with our semi-arid climate, cool nights, and abundant and affordable power and water, makes us an ideal location. You might be surprised to learn that Pendleton has the fastest internet in the State of Oregon with dark fiber available anywhere in the City. A Level 3 fiber line runs right through the middle of our industrial park where several hundred acres are for sale.

Tourism and Entertainment

Best known for the Pendleton Woolen Mill, Pendleton Roundup, and the Wildhorse Casino Resort, that's really just the tip of the wheat stalk. Pendleton was voted "Most Authentic Western Town in the US" (2011), and our historic Main Street is an attraction all itself. Hamley's is the oldest western store in the US and their steakhouse and saloon would be a destination in any major metropolis. Topnotch eateries and western-themed specialty stores abound, and our Underground Tour is actually larger than Seattle's. The Oregon Trail runs right through town and history buffs will love the Heritage Museum, Roundup Hall of Fame, and the unforgettable Tamastlikt Cultural Institute. Choose from two 18-hole golf courses and world-class hunting, fishing, biking and moto-crossing. The nearby Blue Mountains offer hiking, snowmobiling and skiing. There are 160 wineries within 1 hour of downtown.