



GREATER OMAHA

Omaha's Rank in Manufacturing

The industrial growth of Omaha has kept pace with the development in other activities in the most fertile and prosperous section of the nation. A recent census bulletin on manufacturers, based on returns made in 1905, places Omaha as third in the list of manufacturing cities, on the basis of the value of the product of the manufactories per 1,000 of the population. The census bulletin admittedly errs on the side of conservatism, as the report was based largely on the returns made by the mayors of the different cities and it is known that in Omaha's case many factories were omitted from the report.

It is natural for the average person to think of Pittsburg, Indianapolis and some of the eastern cities as the greatest manufacturing centers. In the production of manufactured goods per capita, however, Omaha ranks far above many cities that are specifically labeled "manufacturing centers." The following table, prepared by the Minneapolis Journal, shows the rating of twelve cities in the value of manufactured products, per 1,000 of population:

TWELVE GREAT INDUSTRIAL CENTERS	Population as Reported by Mayor of each City, Jan. 1, 1908	Value of Manufactures as shown by U. S. Census	Average Value of Manufactures per 1,000 Population	Ranking
Minneapolis	265,000	\$121,593,120	\$459,000	1
Pittsburg	360,000	168,428,881	468,000	2
Milwaukee	350,000	138,881,545	397,000	3
Cincinnati	425,000	166,059,059	391,000	4
Indianapolis	215,000	82,227,530	382,000	5
Cleveland	485,000	172,115,191	370,000	6
Buffalo	409,000	147,377,873	368,000	7
Louisville	238,450	83,204,125	349,000	8
Detroit	400,000	128,761,658	322,000	9
San Francisco	450,000	173,788,233	306,000	10
Kansas City	230,000	35,573,049	155,000	12

The census bureau places the number of Omaha's manufacturing establishments at 218, which was perhaps too low by 30 or 40. Since the census bulletin was taken, the increase in the number of manufacturing establishments has been steadily increased and the output largely augmented. Compared with other western cities, the manufacturing industries in Omaha cover a much wider scope. In Minneapolis, for instance, which is one of the two cities showing a greater per capita production of manufactured goods than Omaha, the bulk of the manufacturing is confined to flour milling. In Omaha it covers a wide range of enterprises, from smelting to ice cream cartons, most of them particularly adapted to the growing needs of the tributary territory.

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