

USHC 4.1 Summarize the impact that government policy and the construction of the transcontinental railroads had on the development of the national market and on the culture of Native American peoples.

The Transcontinental Railroads

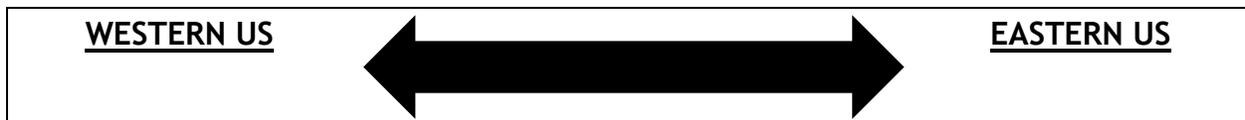
The Civil War was a turning point in the economic history of the United States. When Southern states seceded from the Union, Congress lost many of its members who believed in the **Jeffersonian** vision of a limited government and a *laissez-faire* economy. The Republican majority shared **Hamilton's** vision of an active government that would provide direct funding for **internal improvements**.

The federal government sought to encourage the settlement of the West and used _____ **grants** to encourage Western settlement and economic development. The federal government owned (and still owns) most of the land in the West and passed legislation aimed at populating and developing the West:

_____ ACT	<i>Provided Western settlers with 160 acre parcels of land for free as long as they improved and developed it</i>
_____ RAILWAY ACT	<i>Granted land subsidies to corporations involved in building a transcontinental railroad</i>



The _____ railroads linked the Eastern and Western United States and helped to create a national market.



The government-led development did not come without a price. Corporations schemed to get as much government money as possible, with some even resorting to fraud (e.g., Credit Mobilier Scandal).

Subjugation of the Western Indian Tribes

The _____ Indians depended on buffalo herds as their primary source of food. Unfortunately, buffalo herds and railroads cannot coexist. The railroad companies hired men like “Buffalo Bill” Cody to shoot bison in order to clear the way (and to feed railroad workers).

The Plains Indians were forced to live on _____, often away from their ancestral lands (these lands often had gold and silver deposits). These Indians, unable to hunt for food, became dependent on the federal government, which took advantage of them.

The _____ **Act** took Indian lands away from the tribes and gave parcels to individual Indian families in return for U.S. citizenship.

The goal of the Dawes Act was to encourage the _____ of Native Americans (get them to adopt mainstream American culture). Boarding schools, such as the *Carlisle Indian School*, were founded with this goal in mind.

Many Native Americans resisted, resulting in a series of **Indian Wars** launched by the U.S. government.

The _____ **Massacre** was the last major armed encounter between Native Americans and the U.S. Cavalry.



Buffalo herds and railroads cannot coexist.