The 3 Main Types of Industry

'Industry' is a broad term, encompassing a wide range of things – from aerospace, to education. Even so, there are a few ways of categorizing the different types of industry. Let's quickly take a look at the definitions of the 3 major **industry types**; primary, secondary, and tertiary.

Primary industry

The most common economic activities in the **primary industry** include harvesting, agriculture, mining, hunting, and many more that revolve around using natural resources (these are often dependent on the specific region that the company is in). Typically, this is considered to be one of the most important forms of industry in developing countries and nations, as well as being essential to more modern parts of the world, too.

Secondary industry

For the most part, those in the **secondary industry** have more of a focus on manufacturing and construction. Most secondary industry companies produce a lot of waste, use a significant amount of energy, cause pollution, and overall contribute the most to environmental issues. Some common examples of types of businesses in the secondary industry include home appliances, food, plastic, cleaning, and many more.

Tertiary industry

Lastly, the **tertiary industry** is largely a service-based sector, generally where an individual or company provides their expertise to help others, perhaps in terms of productivity. Many different types come under this umbrella; from professional services like tax consultancy to franchises, despite the fact that the two can seem very different from an outside perspective.