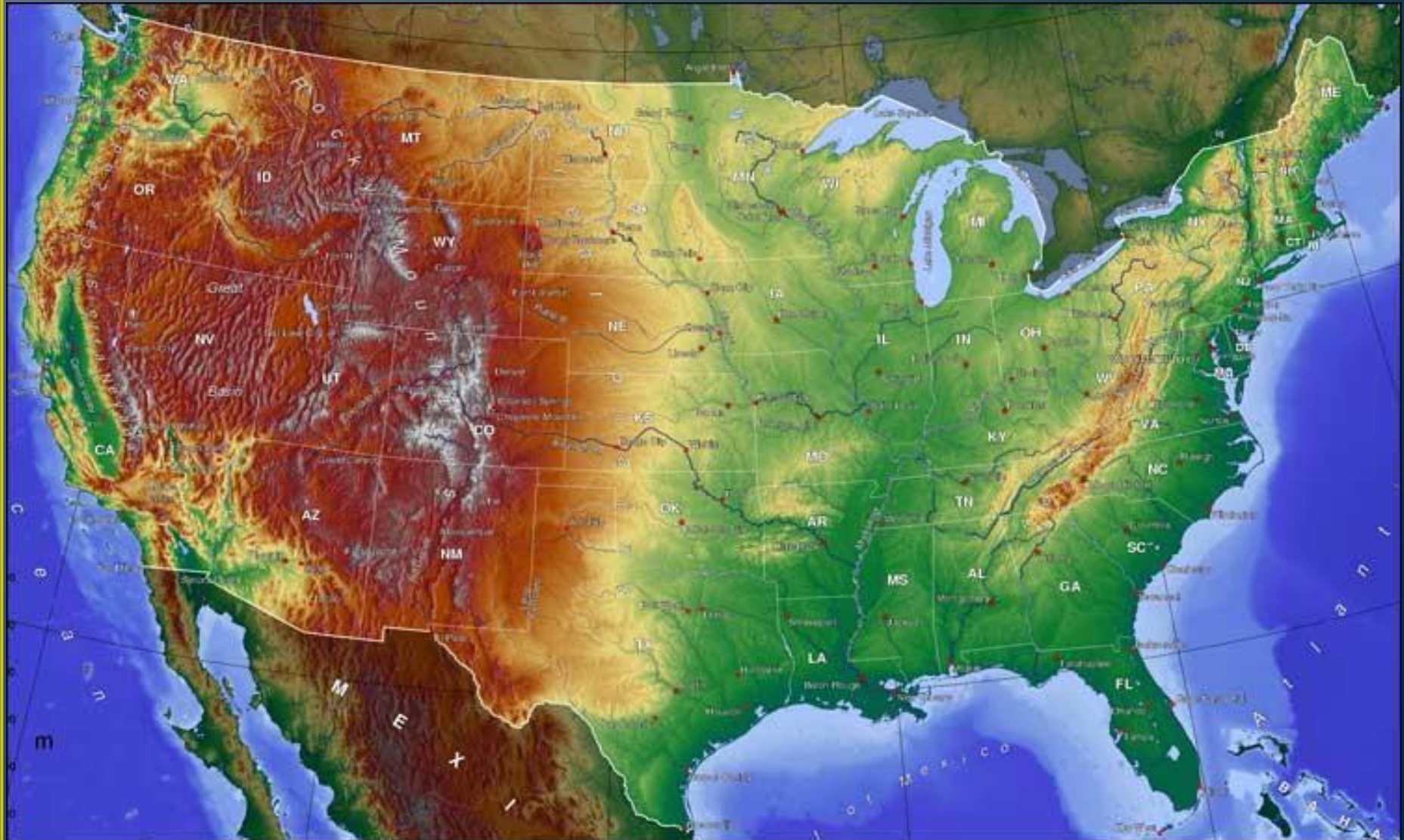


Mountains

About half of the US territory is covered by plateaus and mountains



The Eastern part of the country is occupied the Appalachian Mountains, which is in the North come close to the Atlantic coast and in the South are separated from it by the Atlantic lowland.



West to the Appalachians stretch to the Central plains in the West and the Mexican Lowland in the South. This region is situated in the central part of the USA and considered to be the heart of the USA having good soil.



The Western part of the country is made up of High Mountain Ranges, tablelands and plateaus of the Cordilleras system, which accounts for 1/3 of the USA.

West of the Rockies lies vast plateaus and tablelands:

- **The Colombia plateau**
- **The Colorado plateau**
- **The Great Basin**
- **A Dessert tablelands**

Vegetation and wild life

In the North East of the country and the region Great Plateaus there are mixed forests of pine, lime, ash. Further south they are replaced by broadleaf forests of oak and maple; still further south there appear magnolia, laurel. In the Central Plains the tall-grass prairie vegetation can be found in the East, while in the West the soil is rather dry.

In the Great Basin there are desserts and semi desserts. The vegetation in the Cordilleras is represented by coniferous forests and at the height meters are alpine meadows.

In the North-West Coast there are forests of huge sequoia.

The mixed forest zone is the home of the brown bear, lynx, glutton, marten. In the forests of the Appalachians various Virginia deer, chipmunk, mole, bats.

The South-East is represented by alligator, turtle, opossum, coyote and many kinds of gopher and badgers.

The semi dessert zones are inhabited by different rodents and reptiles. In the Cordillera region there is Rocky Mountain goat, Rocky Mountain Sheep, grizzly bear and further south jaguar and armadillo.

