



North American trade

from the Esri GeoInquiries™ collection for World Geography

Target audience – World geography learners

Time required – 15 minutes

Activity

Explore the imports, exports, trade, and GNI of countries in North America.

Social studies standards

C3:D2.Geo.5.6-8. Analyze the combinations of cultural and environmental characteristics that make places both similar to and different from other places.
C3:D2.Geo.2.6-8. Use maps, satellite images, photographs, and other representations to explain relationships between the locations of places and regions and changes in their environmental characteristics.

Learning Outcomes

- Explore trade through exports and imports in North America.
- Integrate satellite imagery of a hurricane with a plot of the hurricane's path.

Map URL: <http://esriurl.com/worldGeoInquiry15>

? Ask

What is the gross national income (GNI) in Canada, Mexico, and the United States?

- Click the link above to launch the map.
- With the Details button underlined, click the button, Show Contents.
- $GNI = GDP + [(income\ from\ citizens\ and\ businesses\ earned\ abroad) - (income\ of\ foreigners\ living\ in\ the\ country\ sent\ back\ to\ their\ home\ countries)]$
- In the map, click Canada, Mexico, and the United States to answer the following question.
- ? What is the 2014 GNI of each country? [*Canada: \$43,400; Mexico: \$16,500; U.S.: \$55,860*]

! Acquire

Which countries are the top trading partners of Canada?

- Uncheck the box to the left of the layer name, GNI 2014.
- Turn on the layer, Imports/Exports – North American Countries.
- In the map, click Canada.
- Pause your pointer over the pie graph segments to view the percentage of exports.
- ? Which two countries does Canada export to the most? What are the percentages? [*U.S., 77%; China, 4%*]
- Click the arrow to the right of the export graph to view imports to Canada.
- ? Which three countries does Canada import from the most? What are the percentages? [*U.S, 52%; China, 12%; Mexico, 6%*]
- ? What generalization can you make about Canada's exports and imports? [*Canada exports 25% more goods to the U.S. than it imports from the U.S., and it exports fewer goods to China than it imports from China.*]

🔍 Explore

Which countries are the top trading partners of Mexico?

- In the map, click Mexico.
- Pause your pointer over the pie graph segments to view the percentage of exports.
- ? Which country does Mexico export to the most? What is the percentage? [*U.S., 81%*]
- Click the arrow to the right of the export graph to view imports to Mexico.
- ? Which three countries does Mexico import from the most? What are the percentages? [*U.S., 47.3%; China, 17.7%; Japan, 4.4%*]
- ? What generalization can you make about Mexico's exports and imports? [*Mexico exports most goods to the U.S., with almost half of its imports from the U.S., 18% from China, and 4% from Japan*]

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Analyze

Which countries are the top trading partners of the U.S.?

- In the map, click the United States.
- Pause your pointer over the pie graph segments to view the percentage of exports.
- ? Which four countries does the U.S. export to the most? What are the percentages? [*Canada, 18.6%; Mexico, 15.7%; China, 7.7%; Japan, 4.2%*]
- Click the arrow to the right of the export graph to view imports to the U.S.
- ? Which five countries does the U.S. import from the most? What is the percentage? [*China, 21.5%; Canada, 13.2%; Mexico, 13.2%; Japan, 5.9%; Germany, 5.5%*]
- ? What generalization can you make about U.S. exports and imports? [*The U.S. exported more goods to Canada and Mexico than it imported from them; to China, the U.S. exported a third of what it imported; and a small amount of approximately equal exports and imports were made from/to Japan*]

Act

How does trade compare in other parts of the world?

- ? Can you draw any connections between the GNI and trade in North American countries? [*Answers will vary.*]
- Click the World bookmark. (*See the ToolTip below for details.*)
- Turn on the layer, Imports/Exports – All Countries. Click on a country in Asia, Europe, Africa, and South America to answer the following question.
- ? How does trade vary in those countries compared to in North America? [*Answers will vary.*]

IDENTIFY A MAP FEATURE

- Click a feature on the map, and a pop-up window will open with information.
- Links and images in the pop-up are often clickable.
- An arrow icon in the upper right of the window indicates that multiple features have been selected.
- Click the button to scroll through the features.

ZOOM TO A BOOKMARK

- Click Bookmarks.
- Click a bookmark name to zoom to a map location and scale.

Next Steps

DID YOU KNOW? ArcGIS Online is a mapping platform freely available to public, private, and home schools. A school subscription provides additional security, privacy, and content features. Learn more about ArcGIS Online and how to get a school subscription at <http://www.esri.com/schools>. THEN TRY THIS...

- Having students choose one of the seven countries, use the Data Enrichment tool to compute the 2018 population.
- Click the new country data and compare the previous population to the 2018 population.

TEXT REFERENCES

This GIS map has been cross-referenced to material in sections of chapters from these middle school texts.

- *World Cultures and Geography* by McDougal Littell
- *My World Geography* by Pearson