

World Geography

Chapter 8 Canada

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Chapter 8: Canada

Section 1: Regions of Canada

Section 2: The Search for a National Identity

Section 3: Canada Today

Regions of Canada



- **What are the main economic activities in the Atlantic Provinces?**
- **Why have the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Provinces become Canada's heartland?**
- **What economic activities and patterns of settlement are found in the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia?**
- **How have climate and location affected the development of the northern territories?**



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The Atlantic Provinces



- The four Atlantic Provinces are Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick.
- The land in this region forms a part of the Appalachian Mountains.
- The Atlantic Provinces are sometimes called the Maritimes because of their close ties to the sea.
- **Maritime** means “bordering on or related to the sea.”
- The Grand Banks area off Newfoundland and Nova Scotia was once one of the world’s richest fishing areas, but overfishing depleted the supply so much that Canada had to suspend cod fishing in 1992.
- Forestry and farming are also important to the region.
- Tourism and offshore oil extraction have become important to the region’s economy in recent years.



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The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Provinces



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The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Provinces



- Ontario and Quebec share three landscape areas: the barren Canadian Shield, the swampy Hudson Bay Lowlands, and the fertile St. Lawrence Lowlands.
- The bodies of water along the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway differ in elevation, so **locks** have been built to raise and lower boats between levels.
- The economy of Ontario and Quebec is based on farming, forestry, mining, and manufacturing, and Toronto, Ontario's capital, is the financial hub of Canada.
- Quebec is home to most of the French-speaking people in Canada.
- Montreal is Quebec's largest city, while Quebec City is the provincial capital and the oldest city in the province.



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The Prairie Provinces and British Columbia



- **Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta are the Prairie Provinces, while British Columbia lies between the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Ocean.**
- **More than half of the population of the Prairies live in cities, while more than four-fifths of British Columbia's population lives in the Vancouver area.**
- **The largest cities of the region are located at strategic points along the railroads that were built in the 1800s.**
- **The economy of the Prairie Provinces is based on agriculture, while fishing, forestry, and mining are key economic activities in British Columbia.**
- **Tourism and the extraction of oil and natural gas in Alberta have given the region a new source of wealth and have spurred the growth of Calgary and Edmonton.**



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The Northern Territories



- **The Yukon Territory, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut occupy the northern 40 percent of Canada, and they are cold and sparsely inhabited.**
- **Nunavut was established in 1999 as part of a land claim settlement with the native Inuit.**
- **The northern territories contain rich deposits of minerals, including gold, silver, copper, zinc, lead, iron, uranium, petroleum, and natural gas, and a pipeline was built in the 1980s to deliver oil to southern markets.**
- **Many mineral deposits have not been developed because of the harsh climate and rugged terrain.**



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Section 1 Review



Which economic activity did Canada suspend in the Atlantic Provinces in 1992 because of depleted resources?

- a) forestry
- b) cod fishing
- c) offshore oil drilling
- d) crab fishing

What most affected the patterns of settlement in the Prairie Provinces?

- a) the locations of the richest farmland
- b) the presence of rivers and lakes
- c) the construction of railroad lines
- d) the discovery of oil and natural gas deposits

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Section 1 Review



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The Search for a National Identity



- **What are the historical roots of Canada's major culture groups?**
- **Why is Quebec the scene of conflict between two cultures?**
- **How does the multicultural nature of Canada's population represent its policy of welcoming diversity while promoting unity?**



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Understanding the Past



The First Canadians

- The first inhabitants were the Inuit and Native Americans whose ancestors migrated to North America thousands of years ago.
- The native peoples adapted to their environments and developed stable societies.
- European colonization reduced the native population through war and disease.

Colonial Rivalries

- French and English colonists competed over the fur trade and rival land claims.
- The British and French fought four wars in North America.
- British troops defeated the French in the Battle of Quebec in 1759, and France surrendered its Canadian territory in 1763.

Ties to Britain

- Canada remained under direct British rule until 1867, when it was given domestic self-rule as the Dominion of Canada.
- Canada became completely independent in 1931, but the British monarch remains the symbolic ruler of Canada.



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Conflict Between Two Cultures



- The Canadian territory that France lost to Britain was home to many French colonists.
- In 1774, the British government passed laws to ensure French Canadians could maintain their language, laws, and culture.
- Many Quebecois feel discriminated against by the English-speaking majority, and many are in favor of **separatism**.
- After French was made the official language of Quebec in 1974, many English-speaking residents and businesses left Quebec.
- In 1995, a referendum on whether Quebec should **secede** from Canada was narrowly defeated.

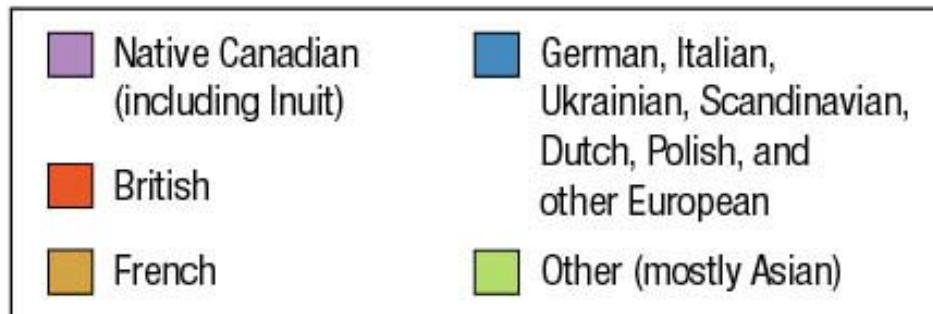
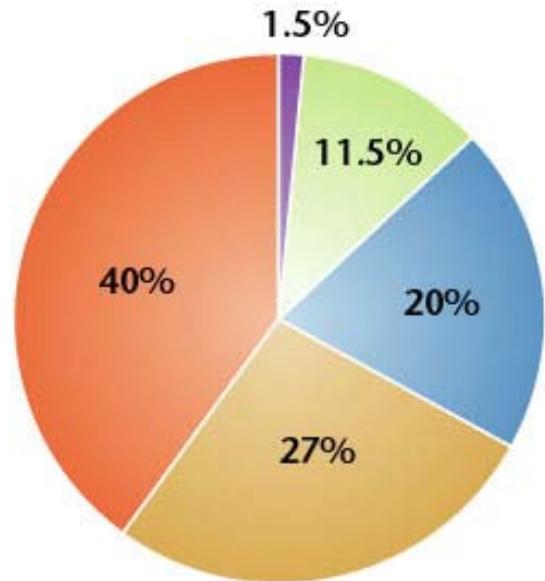


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Welcoming Diversity, Promoting Unity



Source: *The World Almanac and Book of Facts*



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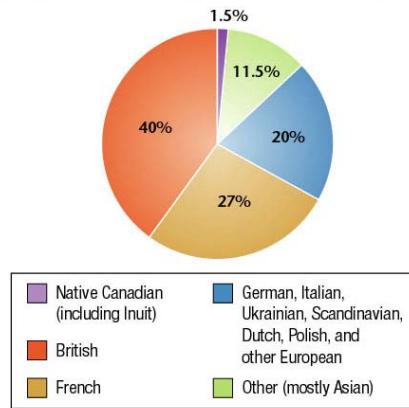
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Welcoming Diversity, Promoting Unity



- **Although most Canadians are of British or French descent, many other groups are represented.**
- **Many Inuit and Native Americans live in Canada, mostly on reserves.**
- **Immigrants from across the world have been welcomed in Canada.**
- **Canada has been successful in uniting its regions and people through transportation and communication links.**
- **Canada's leadership in telecommunications largely results from the need to communicate with residents in remote regions.**



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Section 2 Review



In what year did Canada gain full independence from Britain?

- a) 1763
- b) 1774
- c) 1867
- d) 1931

What effect did Quebec's adoption of French as the official language have on the province?

- a) Many English-speaking residents and businesses left the province.
- b) French language, laws, and customs were preserved.
- c) A secessionist referendum passed by an overwhelming margin.
- d) The Acadians left and resettled in Louisiana.

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Section 2 Review



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Canada Today



- **What geographic challenges does Canada face today in respect to its future development?**
- **What is Canada's relationship with the United States?**
- **How is Canada linked to other countries in the rest of the world?**



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Challenges for Canada Today



Natural Resources

- Canada must balance opportunities offered by its natural resources with the need to preserve the environment.
- Aboveground pipelines minimize the destruction of arctic permafrost, but they create barriers to migration and destroy animal habitats.
- Lumber companies search for ways to produce wood without destroying entire forests.
- Overfishing has led to bans on harvesting some species of fish.

Urbanization

- While only one third of Canada's population lived in cities in 1900, today 77 percent of Canadians live in cities.
- Canada has more than 20 metropolitan areas with a population of 100,000 or more.
- Urbanization has created challenges in providing housing and services, controlling pollution, and preventing overcrowding.



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Links With the United States



- Travelers across the Canada-United States border pay **customs** duties, fees charged by one country's government on goods brought from another country, but no fence exists between the two countries.
- Canada and the United States share a number of cultural links, such as professional sports leagues with teams from both nations.
- The United States and Canada are each other's most important trading partners, and the two countries have signed trade agreements such as the **North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)** to eliminate **tariffs**, or taxes on imports.
- Trade agreements have produced mixed reactions among Canadians, as many Canadians have blamed the agreements for plant closings and the relocation of major firms south of the border.
- Some Canadians are uncomfortable with the uneven nature of the relationship between the two countries.



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Links With the World



The Importance of Location

- With major ports on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, Canada has a unique position.

The Role of Peacekeeper

- Canada has taken on an active role in promoting arms control and disarmament among other countries of the world.

Member of the Commonwealth

- Canada maintains many links with other countries through membership in the Commonwealth of Nations.
- Membership in the Commonwealth gives Canada a favorable position for trade with European countries.



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Section 3 Review



What challenge does Canada face in using its natural resources?

- a) the need to maintain full employment
- b) the need to preserve the environment
- c) the need to promote trade with the United States and European countries
- d) the need to act as peacekeeper

Through which organization does Canada have ties to many countries?

- a) the European Union
- b) the Commonwealth of Nations
- c) the British Empire
- d) the North American Free Trade Agreement

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