

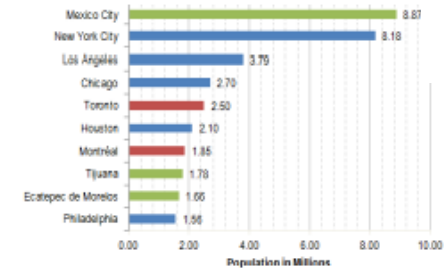
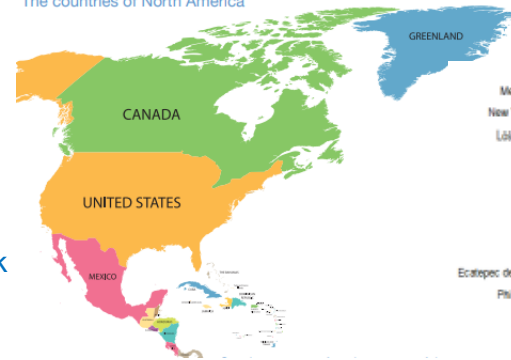
North America:



Quick summary

North America is the third largest continent. The Great Lakes and St Lawrence River act as the boundary between the USA and Canada. Lake Superior is the largest fresh water lake in the world. Mount Mackenzie – an active volcano situated in Alaska – is the highest peak of North America. The world-famous Niagara Falls is located between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario.

The countries of North America



Before the arrival of Europeans in the 1500s and 1600s, the population of North America consisted of Native American tribes in the United States, and the Aztec and Mayan civilisations in what is now Mexico.

In the 1600s, Europeans quickly colonised much of North America. Now the indigenous peoples are far fewer and the majority of people have a European heritage.



Diversity

The biomes in North American include: tropical rainforests and savannah on the lowlands of Central America and areas of permanent ice cap in central Greenland.

These differences contribute to a diverse set of agricultural resources. In the tropical zones of North America, farmers harvest oranges, sugar cane, coffee, cocoa and bananas.



Location

North America has an estimated population of 580 million. The most populous cities are: 1. Mexico City, Mexico 2. New York City, USA 3. Los Angeles, USA 4. Chicago, USA 5. Toronto, Canada

The northern half of North America – Canada and Greenland – is sparsely populated. This is largely due to the sub-polar and polar climate zones which makes agriculture, transport and living more difficult.

Mexico City is the largest city, both in size and population - 21.3 million, which makes it the largest metropolitan area of the western hemisphere and the largest Spanish-speaking city in the world.



Human features



Vocabulary

- Latitude: the distance of a place from the equator
- Lowlands: areas of low, flat land agricultural: relating to farming and its methods
- Predominant: larger in number
- Colonised: took control over
- Indigenous: originally from a country
- Populous: with a large population
- Sparsely: with only a small number of people
- Metropolitan: relating to a large city



Location



Physical features



Human features



Diversity



Physical processes



Human processes



Techniques