

“Bordering on a Boom: Mexico Manufacturing Builds a Future,” by Galina Alexeenko, REIN director at the Nashville Branch of the Atlanta Fed, and Ed English, staff writer for *EconSouth*

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### Discussion questions

1. According to *Economist* magazine, where will Mexico rank among the world’s economies at the end of the decade? In what export markets is it already a world leader? What other areas are strong export drivers for Mexico’s economy?
2. How did Mexico’s economy grow between 2000 and 2010? How has this changed in the last two years? What two factors were behind the change?
3. How has Mexico’s growth affected its GDP per capita? In which industries is Mexico most prominent globally? What area is growing especially fast? How does Mexico rank globally in terms of its auto and aerospace exports?
4. How has Mexico benefited from developments in China? What other four factors are behind Mexico’s manufacturing boom? Where do the majority of Mexican exports go? What happened in 1994 that changed Mexican trade with its North American neighbors? Does Mexico hold trade agreements with other countries?
5. How did changes in the value of the Mexican peso affect wages? Would this help or hurt Mexican trade? Why is skilled labor becoming more important? How has Mexico’s commitment to education helped their economy grow?
6. How have rising oil prices contributed to demand for Mexican exports? How does Mexico’s proximity to the United States help it to be a key trading partner of the United States?
7. What is foreign direct investment? How has it played a role in the strengthening of Mexico’s economy?
8. What is “reshoring”? Why do you think that 40 percent of Mexican imports goods originated in the United States?

### Related links

["For Mexico, an Edge on China"](#)

[The World Factbook \(Mexico\): CIA](#)

[Mexico: Office of the United States Trade Representative](#)

[“NAFTA Key to Economic, Social Growth in Mexico”](#)

[North American Free Trade Agreement: Office of the United States Trade Representative](#)

[“Senores, Start Your Engines”: \*The Economist Magazine\*](#)

["Some Manufacturers Say ‘Adios’ to China"](#)