General Economy
The United States has the largest and most technologically powerful economy in the world. Although U.S. business firms enjoy greater flexibility than those in Western Europe and Japan, the U.S. faces high barriers to enter these foreign markets.

Following the September 11 terroist attacks, the U.S. economy showed remarkable resilience. Most recently the U.S. has been negatively impacted by the decline in the stock market, fueled in part by the exposure of accounting practices of certain major corporations.

The total number of workers in 2000 was 140,863,000, of which one percent were involved in agriculture, forestry and fishing; 24 percent in industry; and 37 percent in services.

Despite recent problems, the U.S. still remains as the world’s leading industrial power and is highly diversified and technologically advanced.

Agriculture
The chief agriculture items produced in the United States are cattle, dairy products, corn, soybeans, vegetables, broiler chickens, fruits and nuts, greenhouse and nursery products, hogs, wheat and cotton. The country’s principal crops are corn, soybeans and wheat.
Manufacturing
Primary items manufactured are chemicals, transportation equipment, food products, industrial machinery, electronic equipment, printed materials and fabricated metal products.

Foreign Trade
Exports, 2001: $723 billion
Commodities: capital goods, automobiles, industrial supplies and raw materials, consumer goods, agricultural products
Partners: Canada (22.4%), Mexico (13.9%), Japan (7.9%), U.K. (5.6%), Germany (4.1%), France, Netherlands

Imports, 2001: $1.148 trillion
Commodities: crude oil and refined petroleum products, machinery, automobiles, consumer goods, industrial raw materials, food and beverages
Partners: Canada (19%), Mexico (11.5%), Japan (11.1%), China (8.9%), Germany (5.2%), U.K., Taiwan

Transportation
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Highways</th>
<th>Railways</th>
<th>Waterways</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6,370,031 km</td>
<td>212,433 km</td>
<td>41,009 km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paved</td>
<td>5,733,028 km</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>