Activity 17

Employment In Economic Sectors

Answer or do the following by using the graph "North Carolina's Employment in the Economic Sectors" on the map sheet Geographic Perspectives of North Carolina's Economy.

1. Name the three economic activities for which data is shown on the graph.

2. Years are shown on the X (horizontal) axis of the graph. The years start with _______ and go to _______.

3. How many years of time are represented on the graph? _______

4. The figures for percent of total employment are on the Y (vertical) axis of the graph. The values go from _______ to _______.

5. In what years was the percent of employment in primary economic activities the greatest? _______

6. What percent of total employment was in primary activities in those years? _______

7. When was percent employment in primary activities the lowest? _______

8. What was the percent of employment in primary activities in that year? _______
9. Has the percent employment in primary activities gone up in any year since 1910? 

10. As percent employment in primary activities decreased, what happened to percent employment in the other two sectors?

11. Percent employment in what other sector increased to almost the same level as primary activity?

12. In what year did that occur?

13. Did percent employment in tertiary activities increase in every year since 1900?

14. What has been the trend been in percent employment in the manufacturing sector?

15. In what year was percent employment in manufacturing the highest?

16. What was the percent employment in manufacturing in that year?

17. Why do you think percent employment in the secondary sector has changed?
18. On the graph below plot a trend line (a line that shows how something is changing) for percent employment in secondary economic activity. Get your data from the bar graph on the map sheet. Plot a dot for each percentage value and year. Connect the dots to create a trend line.

North Carolina Employment in Secondary Economic Activity

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

YEAR

Activity 18

Per Capita Income in North Carolina

Answer the following by using the map "Per Capita Income, 1988" on the map sheet Geographic Perspectives of North Carolina's Economy.

1. What is the highest data class of per capita income in North Carolina?

2. How many counties in our state fall in that data class?

3. Name these counties.

4. Most of these counties are in what geographic region?

5. In what geographic region are most of the counties in the lowest per capita income data class?

6. What is the state average per capita income?
7. What is the per capita income in the county where you live?

8. Is it above or below the state average?

9. What is the only county in the Piedmont where the per capita income is below the state average?

10. What is the only mountain county in the highest per capita income data class?

11. Lowest per capita income occurs in those counties where employment in what economic sector is the highest?
Government Assistance

Answer the following by using the map "Government Transfer Payments To Individuals, 1990" on the map sheet Geographic Perspectives of North Carolina's Economy.

1. Give three examples of government transfer payments.

________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

2. What was the total value of government transfer payments to people in North Carolina in 1990?

________________________________________________________________

3. In what data class was your county in 1990?

________________________________________________________________

4. What counties are in the highest data class?

________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________

5. In what geographic region of our state are most of these counties?

________________________________________________________________
6. What is the reason for that?

7. In what geographic regions of our state are most of the counties in the lowest data class?

8. What is the reason for that?

9. What is the only county in the Piedmont that is in the lowest data class?

10. What two Mountain counties are in the highest data class?
Manufacturing Investments

Answer the following by using the map "Announced Manufacturing Firms Investments, 1992" on the map sheet Geographic Perspectives Of North Carolina's Economy.

1. North Carolina's industries are growing. New factories are being built in all regions of our state. This map shows where various companies have announced they will build a new factory or expand one already there. Is there any geographic region of the state where no manufacturing investments are being made? ____________________

2. What was the total amount of announced investments in 1992? ____________________

3. What is the value of the largest data class? ____________________

4. How many counties are in this data class? ____________________

5. Name them.
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6. In what data class is your county? 

7. In what geographic region are most of the counties in the two highest data classes? 

8. How many counties in the Piedmont are in the lowest data class? 

9. Name them. 

10. In what geographic regions of the state are most of the counties in the lowest data classes?
Unemployment

Answer or do the following by using the map "Percentage Of Unemployment 1991" on the map sheet Geographic Perspectives Of North Carolina's Economy.

1. What was the average percentage of unemployment for North Carolina in 1991?

2. How many counties have a percentage of unemployment of 5.7% or less?

3. On the map below, color BLUE the counties with unemployment percentages of 5.7% or less.

4. In what geographic regions of the state are most of these counties?

5. How many counties have the highest percentage of unemployment?
6. Name them.

____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

7. On the map above, color RED the counties in the highest data class of percentage unemployment.

8. In what geographic regions are these counties? _______________________

9. Why do counties have high or low unemployment? Compare unemployment to economic activities. ____________________________

____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
Geographic Information Systems

A geographic information system (GIS) allows you to stack maps of different kinds of data on top of each other. You can then eliminate areas that are not suitable for what you want. For example, let's say you want to go on vacation where you can camp, swim and canoe. Using maps in a vacation guide, you can see what counties in your area have each of the activities you like. On the next page:

MAP 1 shows what counties have camping.
MAP 2 shows what counties have swimming.
MAP 3 shows what counties have canoeing.

If you can overlay all three maps, you could see which counties have all three activities.

On MAP 4, color YELLOW those counties that have camping. Then color ORANGE those counties that have swimming. Now color BLUE those counties that have canoeing. Those counties which have the darkest color (YELLOW, ORANGE and BLUE combined) are the counties where you can go to find all three of your favorite activities. The other counties are unsuitable. This is called suitability mapping and it can help you decide. After you have completed MAP 4 answer these questions:

1. How many counties have the vacation activities you want? ______

2. Which counties are they?

   ____________________________

   ____________________________

   ____________________________

A computer GIS allows you to do all this on a monitor. After eliminating all the unsuitable areas, the final map can be printed with a color printer. Many companies and public agencies (such as city planning departments) use GIS to help make decisions about all kinds of geographic problems.
Activity 23

The Best County For A Ski Resort

Use the maps "Average January Temperatures," "Mean Annual Snowfall" and "Length of Growing Season" on the map sheet Geographic Perspectives Of North Carolina's Climate to do this activity.

You love to ski! And you have decided to go into the ski resort business. But, where is the best area in North Carolina to open a ski resort? Some of the factors you would consider are obvious.

1. What area of the state gets the most snowfall?
2. Where are the lowest temperatures in the state so you could make snow of you needed to?
3. What area of the state has the longest period of temperatures of 32°F or below?
4. Where are the highest elevations? The Mountain region of our state would be the logical place to start.

A Geographic Information System can help you make a decision. It can help find places that are suitable for a ski resort.

On the map of the Mountain Region on the next page:

1. color YELLOW those counties which receive more than 20 inches of snow annually;
2. color BLUE all those counties with average January temperatures of 38°F or less;
3. color RED those counties which have a length of growing season of 160 days or less.

When you have completed your map, those counties which are a combination of BLUE, YELLOW, and RED are most suitable for ski resort development with regard to the three factors (snowfall, temperature, and length of growing season). There are many other factors and laws which must be taken into account also, but this is a start.
North Carolina
Mountain Region

☐ Counties most suitable for ski resort development.

Based on annual snowfall, lowest January average temperature, and shortest growing season (longest period with freezing temperatures).

Name the county or counties most suitable for ski resort development.

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________
Choosing A Place To Work

Use the maps "Secondary Economic Activity," "Per Capita Income," and "Percentage of Unemployment" on the map sheet Geographic Perspectives of North Carolina's Economy to do this activity.

At last, you are going to graduate with a degree in industrial engineering. You've learned how to make manufacturing processes more efficient and to increase company profits. Now you're looking for an area in North Carolina to get a job. A geographic information system can help.

Some of the factors you could consider are:

1. Where is most of the secondary economic activity in our state?
2. Where is per capita income highest?
3. Where is percentage of unemployment the lowest?

On the map on the next page:

1. color BLUE those counties in which percent income from manufacturing is 40.1% to 51.1%;

2. color YELLOW those counties in which per capita income is $14,401 to $18,860;

3. color RED those counties in which percentage of unemployment is 2.8% to 4.6%.

When you have completed your map, those counties which are a combination of BLUE, YELLOW, and RED are most suitable for you to get a job with regard to the three factors. There are many other factors which could influence your decision about where to look for a job, but a geographic information system can help.
Commercial Farming

Use the maps "Primary Economic Activity," "Annual Precipitation," and "Length Of Growing Season" to do this activity.

You are ready to start farming. You have an agricultural technology degree. Now you want some good farm land and a chance to be a commercial farmer. You prefer to raise a crop like soybeans, peanuts, or cotton and you prefer to live in the Coastal Plain.

Some questions you need to answer include?

1. Where is most of the farming activity located in the Coastal Plain?

2. Where is the growing season the longest?

3. Where is there plenty of precipitation for plant growth?

A geographic information system can help you with the answers.

On the map of the coastal plain counties on the next page:

1. color RED those counties where percent income from primary activity is 10.1% to 32.0%;

2. color YELLOW those counties where the growing season is 200 days or more;

3. color BLUE those counties where annual precipitation is 55 inches or more.

When you have completed your map, those counties which are a combination of RED, YELLOW, and BLUE are most like the farming conditions you want. There are many other factors which will influence your decision. All of them can be in the form of maps in a geographic information system. A computer can draw maps based on the information which can help you make a decision.
North Carolina
Coastal Plain

50 Miles