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**MappingtheNation.net**

**Using Data to Better**

**Understand My Community**

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| **Getting Started:** | **Location – where you live and what you already know** |
| What is the name of the state and county in which you live? |  |
| Where do you see evidence of other countries or cultures in your county?  (Businesses, restaurants, religious institutions, etc) |  |
| **Go to** [**http://mappingthenation.net**](http://mappingthenation.net)**, click on your state and hover your mouse over your county. You can use the menu on the left hand side of the screen to answer these questions:** | |
| **Economics:** | **What are the economic factors relating to a globally competent workforce?** |
| How many people are employed by companies importing and exporting goods? |  |
| How many jobs are related to exports? |  |
| What is the estimated sales value of imports and exports of goods (total)? |  |
| **Demographics:** | **How is a global citizenry reflected?** |
| What percent of the population in your state or county is foreign born? |  |
| Has this increased over time?  Look at the indicator “% of Total Population that is Foreign-Born” |  |
| Are non-English languages spoken in your community? What are they? (Look at "Languages Spoken at Home: % Speaking.") |  |
| Are there Sister City partnerships in your area? |  |
| Are there language or cultural resources in your school? |  |
| **Education:** | **What opportunities do students have to learn about and with their global peers?** |
| Are the languages being taught in your schools those that are being spoken in the community? |  |
| Do the languages being taught align with the top export markets for your state? (check your [state infographic](http://asiasociety.org/mapping-nation/states.html) for this information.) |  |
| What about national security—are critical languages being taught? |  |
| How many students in your high school and local college/university take part in study abroad programs? |  |
| **Take action:** | **Now that you have all of this information, what action will you take to change learning in your school this year?** |
| When is the last time someone from another country came to your school or class to teach about something related to his or her culture—beyond a festival, holiday, or meal? |  |
| How could you find volunteers to come and share their experiences? What would you like to know about their countries? |  |
| Have you ever had someone from a business talk about the global nature of their work? Who could you invite? What questions would you ask them? |  |
| **Brainstorm in teams or on your own:** What resources are around you in your classroom? Do any parents work for a company that imports or exports? Any college students from other countries in your town? How about family members living in other countries who could Skype into your classroom? Is there a chamber of commerce you can connect with and ask more about visiting delegations? What about sister city partnerships? Choose one of these ideas to get started! |  |