

# Community is Global



According to the [World Bank](#), the average country imported over 28% of all products in 2020. In the United States imports were as low as 13.3% of total GDP. However, the percentage of U.S. GDP for international trade (including imports, exports, and capital goods) was 28% in 2018 (before the pandemic reduced it).

Does this mean the local community gets credit for 72% of local land value in the United States?

At national boundaries, the United States, which is fairly self-sufficient, only gets credit for 72% of its land value. However, in 2021, Canada's economy was 61% trade-based. So, Canada only gets credit for 39% of its land value. Some countries, eliminating trade, would have no land value at all. To understand why this text equates production of goods with land value, see [Is Land Value a Fluid](#).

When people talk about returning land value to the community, they rarely mean the national community. Usually they mean the county, or even some smaller jurisdiction.

While county infrastructure and opportunities significantly influence relative location value, economic community is very non-local. Eliminate all goods produced outside of the county's boundary, and it isn't likely that more than a few percent are produced locally.

It is far more problematic than that. Considering the goods actually produced locally, what percentage of them were produced with exclusively locally produced machines and tools? What percentage of that exclusively had producers trained locally?

Consider eliminating the world outside the bounds of the local community. Markets for local products, materials for local products, goods for local consumers, and materials for local infrastructure will be all but eliminated. Should the world outside the bounds of a local community cease to exist, the location value of the community drops to near zero.

Even at the national boundary. If one eliminated all products, all machines, all tools, and all knowledge produced outside of the nation, there would be only a primitive society within.

Get rid of the world beyond the boundaries of the nation and the nation would still be in the Stone Age. In Medieval Europe, there was trade between a few kingdoms, but [Marco Polo started the Renaissance](#) by opening up trade routes to China.

Slowly, as more nations are brought into the community, the community rises above its primitive state. With each added nation, the rate of advance increases until an inflection point is reached and the rate of advancement decreases. Still, even as the rate of advancement slows as the final nations are brought into the community, the community is always advancing.

Location value at any given point reaches a maximum only when all boundaries to community have been removed. Location value is created by the global community.