

North America's Shifting Political and Economic Landscape: Key Events of the

North America News · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. What was the primary reason cited for Canada's reported trade surplus in March 2026, following a period of deficit?

- A) A surge in technology exports
- B) A significant increase in manufactured goods imports
- C) Stronger commodity exports, particularly in energy and metals**
- D) A decrease in consumer spending leading to lower import demand

2. Which U.S. state's Supreme Court recently struck down a voter-approved congressional map, causing a setback for Democrats in redistricting efforts?

- A) California
- B) Texas
- C) Florida
- D) Virginia**

3. The Trump administration has been criticized for accelerating climate change and reversing environmental progress. Which of the following actions is NOT attributed to the Trump administration's environmental policy rollbacks in recent years?

- A) Reopening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for oil and gas drilling
- B) Repealing the endangerment finding for greenhouse gas emissions
- C) Implementing stricter fuel economy standards for vehicles**
- D) Pausing grant funding for NOAA operations

4. In Canada's April 2026 labor market report, what was the trend observed in employment and the unemployment rate?

- A) Employment increased, and the unemployment rate decreased
- B) Employment decreased, and the unemployment rate remained stable
- C) Employment was little changed (down 18k), and the unemployment rate rose to 6.9%**
- D) Employment increased significantly, and the unemployment rate fell to its lowest point in a year

5. What is a key concern for the Canadian housing market, particularly in major urban centers, as highlighted in recent economic reports?

- A) Rapidly falling property values
- B) A shortage of rental properties
- C) Affordability concerns**
- D) Decreased foreign investment in real estate

6. Which North American country is undertaking efforts to diversify its economy beyond natural resources, with a growing emphasis on clean technology and artificial intelligence?

- A) United States
- B) Mexico
- C) Canada**
- D) Cuba

7. What significant economic event occurred in Mexico recently, as indicated by a trade mission to Canada?

- A) Mexico announced a new trade agreement with the European Union
- B) A Mexican trade mission to Canada highlighted 'enormous opportunities' for close collaboration**
- C) Mexico reported a significant increase in its agricultural exports to the US
- D) Mexico unveiled plans for a new transcontinental railway

8. Which U.S. federal agency is reportedly preparing to replace its commissioner, Marty Makary, amid agency turmoil and criticism over leadership?

- A) Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- B) Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- C) Food and Drug Administration (FDA)**
- D) Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

9. A recent report on U.S. economic activity indicated surprisingly strong job growth in April 2026. What was the approximate number of jobs added?

- A) 25,000
- B) 65,000
- C) 115,000**
- D) 175,000

10. The U.S. military conducted a strike on an alleged drug-trafficking boat in the eastern Pacific Ocean. What was the outcome of this strike?

- A) Three people were killed, and there were no survivors
- B) Two people were killed, with one survivor**
- C) One person was killed, and two survived
- D) No one was killed, but the boat was destroyed

11. The Trump administration has been criticized for actions that potentially undermine international climate agreements. Which of the following is a key aspect of this criticism?

- A) Increased investment in renewable energy projects
- B) Withdrawal from the Paris Agreement and annulment of domestic emissions reduction targets**
- C) Implementation of a carbon tax on major industries
- D) Expansion of federal funding for climate change research

12. What is a notable trend in Canada's export performance in March 2026, as reported by Trading Economics?

- A) Exports fell by 5% month-on-month
- B) Exports remained stagnant compared to the previous month
- C) Exports jumped by 8.5% month-on-month to a one-year high**
- D) Exports of services significantly outpaced goods exports

13. In the context of U.S. politics, what legal development concerning voting rights protections has occurred recently?

- A) New federal legislation was passed to expand voting rights nationwide
- B) A Supreme Court ruling weakened federal Voting Rights Act protections for minorities**
- C) States were mandated to implement automatic voter registration
- D) The National Voting Rights Act was extended for another 25 years

14. What U.S. agency has been involved in denaturalization efforts, with an escalation in cases seeking to strip citizenship from individuals?

- A) Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
- B) Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
- C) Department of Justice (DOJ)**
- D) Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

15. According to recent reports, what was the status of Canada's labor market in April 2026?

- A) It showed strong signs of growth with rapidly declining unemployment
- B) It remained soft, with employment down and the unemployment rate rising to 6.9%**
- C) The labor force participation rate significantly decreased
- D) Wage growth accelerated substantially