Heartland (CORE) VS. Hinterland (PERIPHERY)

Places with good soils, moderate climate, and accessible water transportation were attractive to the early settlers of Canada. The region of Southern Ontario and Southern Quebec, along the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence waterway, offered an abundance of quality soils, a long lengthy growing season, and a transportation system along the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River. Settlements were established, and industrial inertia took over (the attraction of businesses to move next to an area of existing business).

Immigrants flocked to this growing region to find work and have access to services. Today, this area consists of 75% of Canada's industry and 60-65% of its population. This area is called the Industrial Heartland (CORE).

Outside of the Heartland, population distribution is influenced by other factors such as minerals, climate, soils, etc. The area beyond the highly urbanized CORE of the region (Heartland) is the Hinterland (PERIPHERY). The Hinterland serves the Heartland with its raw resources and in turn the Heartland serves the Hinterland with refined products and some services.