



## Trade, transportation, and settlement

- The location of the US with its **Atlantic** and Pacific coasts, has provided access to other areas of the **world**.
- The **Atlantic** Ocean served as the highway for **explorers**, early **Settlers**, and later immigrants.
- The **Ohio River** was the gateway to the west.
- Inland port cities grew in the **Midwest** along the **Great Lakes**.
- The **Mississippi** and **Missouri** Rivers were the transportation **arteries** for farm and industrial **products**.  
They were links to ports and other parts of the **world**.
- The Columbia River was explored by **Lewis** and **Clark**.
- The Colorado River was explored by the **Spanish**.
- The Rio Grande forms the **border** with **Mexico**.
- The Pacific Ocean was an early **exploration** route.
- The **Gulf of Mexico** provided the **Spanish** and **French** with exploration routes to **Mexico**.