WHERE IS IRON ORE MINED?

V.Ryan © 2000 - 2011

On behalf of The World Association of Technology Teachers

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Iron ore can be found all over the world, in the form of rocks and other minerals. To be economically viable for mining, iron ore must contain at least 20% iron. Magnetite ore has the highest proportion of iron, at 65%. Haematite ore also has a high content of iron at 60%. All iron ore contains ferric oxide and it is from this that iron is extracted. Approximately two billion tonnes of iron ore are mined each year.

The pictogram / graph below, shows the world distribution of iron ore mining. China, Australia and Brazil dominate this world trade.
On the world map, identify the location of the top fourteen countries that mine iron ore. Alongside their names and location, write the percentage of world iron ore that they mine.