

West Virginia Studies Resource Development

Title of Lesson: Population shift 1950-2010 (graph creation) – (part 1)
Grade level: 8th Grade
Summary: Population decrease is a major concern in West Virginia. With the change in WV industry, the aging population, and the lack of major cities / job opportunities WV's population may continue to decrease. To begin to look into our shift of population students need to understand the census and how it is useful. They need to see how our state is changing.
WV CCR Social Studies Standards: SS.8.15 Investigate climate, landforms, natural resources, and population density in WV's geographical regions using special purpose maps and evaluate the impact of people's lives and settlement patterns using GIS, topographical maps, climate, and census maps
Students will know and understand (content) (Essential Questions): How has WV's population changed since 1950? What county has had a major shift in population throughout the decades? What is one age group that we have we seen have a large decline? How is population broken down when census data is collected? What the census?
Students will be able to do (skills): Analyze 2010 population data through a special purpose map Develop a visual representation by chart or graph showing the change in population by decade Create a visual that shows the largest shift in the appropriate part of the state
Materials & Resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● computer● suggested websites● graph generator
Learning Plan: Intro: Start by asking, How do we know the population of WV? The ages? Discuss their responses. When they start to include the concept of a census have them pull up the following website: https://countallkids.org/what-is-the-census/ - have the kids explore the short website - draw conclusions on what the census is, how it's used and why a lot of times kids are missed in the census data Activity - The most recent census (2010) shows the most up to date information on the population of WV - Have students look at the census viewer (interactive map that provides the census data

from 2010) discuss what they see. See if they can come up with 5 questions that could be answered using the census viewer)

- After that tell the students we are going to shift and look at past data, we are going to draw conclusions using different types of graphs
- Here is a review of different types of graphs if the students need a quick recap - <https://www.lcps.org/cms/lib4/va01000195/centricity/domain/10878/notesandhw.pdf>
- Have the students look at the following article that recaps WV census data - explain how the information is being broken down by the census year - <http://www.wvdhhr.org/bph/hsc/pubs/briefs/008/default.htm>
- The students will be reviewing and gathering information from the report to create a line graph of the population shift from 1950 to 2010 (getting 2010 info from the census viewer we used first) and additional graphs that convey shifts
 - For example, you may want them to do a graph showing the population changes of a particular county over time or a particular age group
 - You may want them to create a circle graph showing what percentage of WV's population is made up by the 3 densest counties
- Students can share the graphs they create and share those shifts and conclusions that were drawn from the data they gathered

Checking for Understanding:

- Creation of graphs
- Discussion on census
- Use of census viewer

Accommodations:

- Limiting the number of additional graphs
- Outline of census info
- Completing graphs by hand
- Extension - comparing population shift to answer state and finding further census data