

Louisiana: Our History, Our Home

Presentations, Quick Notes & Internet Activities

Chapter 3: Louisiana's Economy

Summary: Students will analyze and use data from the U.S. Census to create and print graphs using Louisiana population and economic data in the 20th and 21st centuries.

Duration: 60-90 minutes

Notes:

- The activity in this lesson makes use of the Create A Graph website at <http://nces.ed.gov/nceskids/createagraph/default.aspx>. The website allows students to easily enter data and create a graph. Teachers should familiarize themselves with this site before students' use.
- Students may want to use a calculator or the calculator website at www.calculator.com to speed their work calculating percentages in Part I.
- As students are working, verify that they are including the correct labels for their graphs.
- Discuss that each of the changes in population can affect Louisiana's economy. For instance, a larger population may show that people are moving to the state for work, which indicates a strong economy. A declining population may indicate a weak economy.

Answer Key:

1. 4,625,470
2. 2,363,880
3. increased by 2,261,590
4. increased by 95.67%
5. increased by 139%
6. (sample) The population of Louisiana nearly doubled in 70 years. The population of the U.S. more than doubled in that time and had about 43% greater growth.
7. see table at right

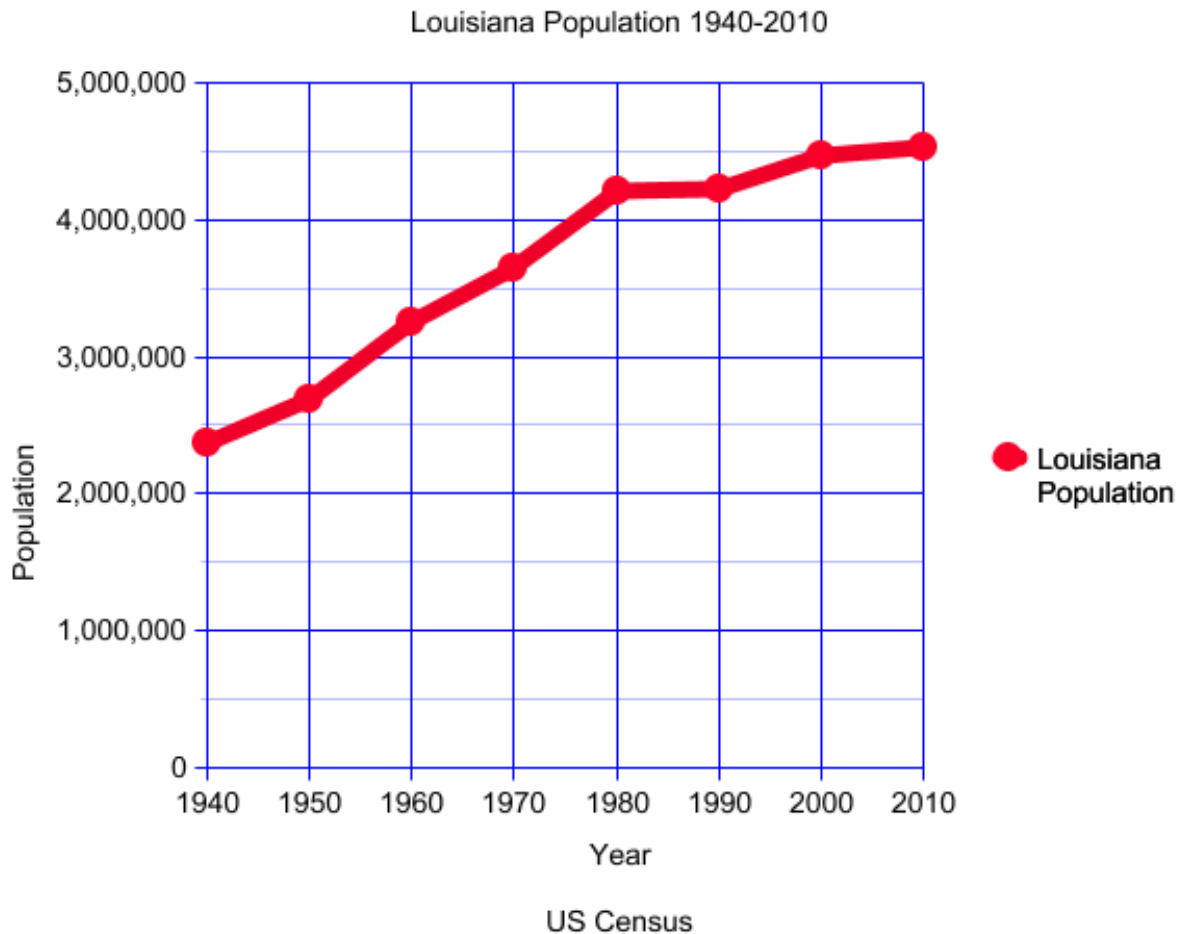
<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>
1940	2,363,880
1950	2,683,516
1960	3,257,022
1970	3,641,306
1980	4,205,900
1990	4,219,973
2000	4,468,976
2010	4,533,372

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Part II: (sample)

A graph should be printed that looks similar to this one.



Part III: Students should attach a graph they completed showing economic data from Louisiana that they found on the U.S. Census website. Students should include a statement summarizing the graph's data.