

Name: _____

Date: _____

INTERNET ACTIVITY

Chapter 4: The 21st Century Global Economy

Counting On West Virginia's Human Resources

West Virginia's economy depends on its people. But, how can we know how many people live here? What trends can we find in the population? What are the effects of these trends? To answer these questions, begin by looking at data from the United States Census.

The Constitution of the United States requires that a census be conducted every ten years. This count of people gives us a look at trends in the country such as changes in the economy and the population as a whole. In this activity, you will use data to create graphs showing changes in the population of West Virginia in the last half of the 20th century and early 21st century. You will create other graphs to show information about West Virginia's people and economy.

Instructions: Use the information from the links below to find information to create graphs.

United States Census Data: [1900-1990](#) [2000](#) [2010](#)

Part I: Finding the Facts

Take a moment to see how the data are organized. At the first link, notice years at the top of columns, with each row standing for the national, state, or county population.

1. What was the population of West Virginia in 2010? _____
2. What was the population of West Virginia in 1940? _____
3. By how much did West Virginia's population change between 1940 and 2010?

4. Let's see what that looks like as a percentage increase (Hint: use this equation:
 $((\text{population in 2010} - \text{population in 1940}) \div \text{population in 1940}) \times 100 =$ _____
5. Use the same process to calculate the percent increase in population of the United States during the same period and record that information.

6. In a sentence, compare the population trend of the U.S. with that of West Virginia during this time period.



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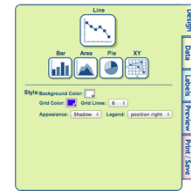
7. Use data from the websites to complete the table with population data from West Virginia. Write a statement to summarize the data.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>
1940	
1950	
1960	
1970	
1980	
1990	
2000	
2010	

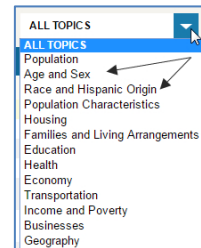
Part II: Graphing Your Data

Click here to visit the [Create-A-Graph](#) website. Use this online tool to create a graph to summarize you data.

- Begin by clicking “Line” since a line graph shows “data over time” and this graph will show how the population of West Virginia changed over 70 years.
- Click the “Data” tab. Complete each field, as shown below. Hint: you may want to put your name in the Source field!
- Click the “Labels” tab and click “No” for Show Label.
- Click the “Preview” tab to inspect the graph. Return to the other tabs, if needed, to improve your graph.
- Click the “Print/Save” tab. Follow onscreen instructions to Print and/or Save the graph. Staple the copy to this sheet.



Part III: Use the directions that you just followed to create another graph. [Click this link](#) then click the links marked to see updated information. Choose a data set about the state of West Virginia and use your technology skills to create of graphic representation of the data.



Print a copy of the completed graph and staple it to this activity sheet. Write a short summary of the information in the graph. What do these data mean for West Virginia? How would this information help planners learn more about the economy of West Virginia?

