

Name _____

Featured Activity: City Planning With Census Data

- The table below includes the population data for four state capitals in the United States. In the third column, divide the total population of each capital city by 1,000. Then follow your teacher’s instructions to fill in the “Tokens” column.

Note that the data we will be using will represent “per one thousand” people in each city.

Table 1—Population

State Capital	Population	Population Divided by 1,000 (round to the nearest whole number)	Tokens
Montgomery, Alabama	198,218	198	396
Boston, Massachusetts	694,583	695	1,390
Juneau, Alaska	32,113	32	64
Santa Fe, New Mexico	84,612	85	170

Source: *U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 Population Estimates*

www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/santafecitynewmexico,juneaucityandboroughalaska,bostoncitymassachusetts,montgomerycityalabama,US/PST045219



- 2. Once your teacher assigns a city to your group, you are going to use the data on page 1 to plan what types of community services and businesses will be built in your city.

Write the name of the city your teacher assigns to your group. Then, in the table below, record in column 1 each type of service or business your group wants in your city, in column 2 how many of that service or business are in your city, and in column 3 the number of tokens needed to build it. To find out how many tokens are needed for each service, reference **Activity Item: Community Services List**. Record the total number of tokens at the bottom of the table.

Table 2—My City: _____

Community Service or Business	Number in My City	Number of Tokens Needed
	Total Tokens Needed:	



3. How did the population of your assigned city compare to the populations of the other cities? How did that affect the number of resources you received for the people living in that city?

4. After what you learned today, why is it so important for everyone in your community to be counted?

Home Extension










Take your student worksheet home and share it with an adult living in your home. Explain in your own words how the 2020 Census collects information about people in your home and uses this information to allocate resources for your community. Don't forget to share how you allocated resources in your assigned city, too!











Activity Item: Community Services List

Tokens available based on census: 2 tokens per 1,000 people

Cost of community services:

	Police Station = 10 tokens
	Fire Station = 10 tokens
	Hospital = 10 tokens
	School = 10 tokens
	City Hall = 5 tokens
	Library = 5 tokens
	Dentist Office = 5 tokens
	Zoo = 8 tokens
	Grocery Store = 8 tokens

	Gas Station = 4 tokens
	Pet Store = 3 tokens
	Amusement Park = 8 tokens
	Toy Store = 3 tokens
	Candy Store = 3 tokens
	Ice Cream Store = 3 tokens
	Fast Food Restaurant = 3 tokens
	Park/Sports Court/Field (soccer, basketball, etc.) = 8 tokens









Word Bank and Vocabulary

Word Bank

You can use the following words to help you discuss answers with your classmates and to write answers on your worksheet.

greater	less	more
community	fewer	resources
housing	doctors	appropriate
enough	too much	too few
too many	crime	safety

Key Vocabulary

	Census: A process of counting all the people in a country, city, or town and collecting information about them
	Questionnaire: A set of written questions that is given to people to collect facts or opinions about something
	State capital: A city that holds the state government
	Population: The number of people who live in an area
	Community resources: Services and other things that are available to people living in a community. Examples are police stations, fire departments, schools, hospitals, roads, and parks.
	Budget: An amount of money available for spending



Facts about the U.S. Census

- a. The Census Bureau is a government organization that collects information on a variety of topics, such as population, businesses, and size of households, through a number of different surveys.
- b. The Census Bureau is responsible for conducting the decennial census, which is called for in the U.S. Constitution and has happened every 10 years since 1790.
- c. The census counts everyone living in the United States and its territories.
- d. Data from the census is used to allocate \$675 billion in federal money among states and communities. This money goes to things such as schools, roads, public transportation (like buses), and health care (for instance, doctors and hospitals).
- e. The next census will happen soon, in 2020. The 2020 Census will show the government where in the United States the population is growing. This helps the government learn which communities will need new schools, parks, roads, and hospitals.



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