



NUMBERS THAT TELL A STORY

Activity Item

This activity uses the following online tool:

- State Facts for Students
www.census.gov/schools/facts

Student Learning Objectives

- I will be able to analyze census data for my state, focusing on what has changed over time.
- I will be able to make opinion statements in order to develop explanations for changes in data over time.
- I will be able to evaluate my classmates' opinion statements by asking clarifying questions and/or providing comments that back up or disprove the statements based on census data.

Part 2: Making Opinion Statements Using Data

7. Choose any two pieces of State Facts for Students data from your state that have changed over time and that you can voice an opinion about. For example, did the number of ice cream and frozen dessert makers decrease in your state, and do you have an idea why? Fill in the table with your answers. (You can use data points that you already used in Part 1, or new ones.)

	The data say ...	I know that ...	My opinion is ...
Answer 1			
Answer 2			

8.
 - a. Choose two pieces of data (different from those in the table on the previous page) from your state that could be related to each other. For example, did the population of your state increase over a period of time, and did the number of dentist offices also increase over that same time period? And could these two data points be related? How? Fill in the table with your answers.

	Change in 1st Piece of Data	Change in 2nd Piece of Data
Answer 1		
Answer 2		

- b. Using the data points you put in the table above, explain how the changes in data may be related, or how they may have a direct effect on each other. Explain your hypothesis in a two- to three-sentence summary.

Part 3: Presenting Your Ideas

Take turns explaining one of your answers for Part 2 to the people in your group. After each person shares one, each group member should provide a comment or ask a question. See the sentence starters below to help you brainstorm questions and comments, and feel free to use the space provided below that to write them down. After a question is asked or a comment is made, the person who shared his or her answer should then respond.

Sentence Starters:

- I agree with _____ because _____
_____.
- I agree with _____, but I want to add _____
_____.
- I don't understand _____
_____.
- Looking at the data, I think that _____
_____.

My Questions/Comments:
