



GEOGRAPHIC MOBILITY IN THE UNITED STATES — 1920-1950

Activity Items

This activity uses the following online tools:

- Before and After 1940: Change in Population Density
www.census.gov/dataviz/visualizations/010
- Population Change by Decade, 1910-2010
www.census.gov/dataviz/visualizations/049

Student Learning Objectives

- I will be able to analyze, compare, and interpret maps on U.S. population density from three periods in the early 20th century.
- I will be able to understand how events during these three periods affected geographic mobility.
- I will be able to understand more recent trends in population movement.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

1. Navigate to the Before and After 1940: Change in Population Density data visualization using the URL at the top of this activity. The tool shows population density shifts at the county level in 10-year intervals. Looking at the 1920-1930 map, summarize the trends in population density in your own words.
2. Which U.S. regions saw a decline in population density and which saw a lack of major movement?
3. How could increased industrialization during this time period explain the population density changes you just discovered?
4. Now click on the 1930-1940 map in the data visualization, and summarize the trends in population density in your own words. Were they different from those that occurred between 1920 and 1930?

