

Texas City Patterns

Use census data and location to interpret change across Texas.

7.21 "Social studies skills. The student uses geographic tools to collect, analyze, and interpret data. The student is expected to: create and interpret thematic maps, graphs, and charts representing various aspects of Texas during the 19th..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each geographic tool or map feature named, then circle each word or phrase that tells where a Texas city is located.

Reading Texas Population Data

- ① Geographic tools turn information into patterns people can study. A thematic map focuses on one topic, such as rainfall, railroad lines, or population. On a population map, larger or darker symbols can represent more people. A bar graph can compare city totals across years. Before interpreting either tool, check its title, key, date, scale, and units.
- ② Texas census counts show how several major cities changed from 1900 to 2020. The table lists people living inside each city, not the surrounding metro area. To create a fair bar graph, keep the same scale for every bar and label the years. These numbers can also be shown on a thematic map with graduated circles.

TEXAS CITY POPULATION, U.S. CENSUS COUNTS

City	1900	1950	2020
Austin	22,258	132,459	961,855
Dallas	42,638	434,462	1,304,379
El Paso	15,906	130,485	678,815
Houston	44,633	596,163	2,304,580
San Antonio	53,321	408,442	1,434,625

- ③ Location matters when interpreting the table. Dallas lies in North Texas, Houston is near the Gulf Coast, San Antonio is in south-central Texas, Austin is in Central Texas, and El Paso is far west. A map using these data would show whether large city populations were spread evenly or clustered in certain parts of the state. Comparing dates reveals change over time.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Calculate Houston's population increase from 1900 to 2020.

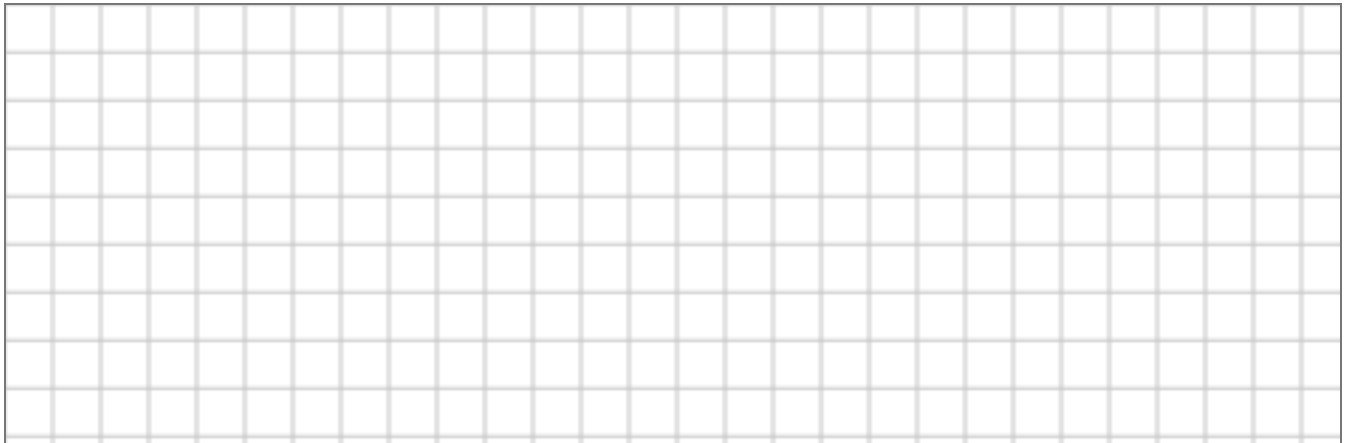
2 Which city had the smallest population increase from 1950 to 2020? Show the increase.

3 If you made a 2020 thematic map with graduated circles, which city would have the largest circle and which would have the smallest circle?

4 Describe one geographic pattern in the 2020 data using the cities' locations from the passage.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Use the grid to create a grouped bar graph comparing the 1900 and 2020 populations of Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio. Include a title, labeled axes, a consistent scale, and a key. Then write two sentences that describe a pattern shown by your graph.



PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each geographic tool or map feature named, then circle each word or phrase that tells where a Texas city is located. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Calculate Houston's population increase from 1900 to 2020.	2,259,947 people
2	Which city had the smallest population increase from 1950 to 2020? Show the increase.	El Paso, 548,330 people
3	If you made a 2020 thematic map with graduated circles, which city would have the largest circle and which would have the smallest circle?	Houston would have the largest circle. El Paso would have the smallest circle.
4	Describe one geographic pattern in the 2020 data using the cities' locations from the passage.	The largest listed 2020 populations are in the eastern or central parts of Texas, including Houston, San Antonio, Dallas, and Austin. Far-west El Paso has the smallest 2020 population in the table.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Graph title: Population Growth in Three Texas Cities, 1900 and 2020. Bars, in people: Dallas, 42,638 and 1,304,379; Houston, 44,633 and 2,304,580; San Antonio, 53,321 and 1,434,625. All three cities grew greatly from 1900 to 2020. Houston had the highest 2020 population of the three cities.

Accept correctly calculated differences and population comparisons based on the table. For the graph, accept any readable consistent scale and accurate bars for the three required cities, plus two evidence-based pattern sentences.