

People Patterns

Use census data to ask and answer geographic questions.

8.29.H “pose and answer questions about geographic distributions and patterns shown on maps, graphs, and charts.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

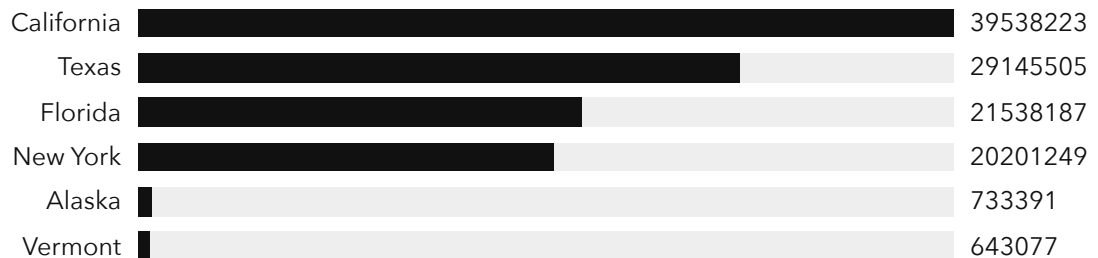
Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the sentence that tells what evidence supports a comparison, and circle the three words that name possible geographic patterns.

Reading a Population Chart

- ① Geographers study where people and places are located. A chart can show a geographic distribution by listing places and a shared measurement. The bar chart gives 2020 Census populations for six states. Before drawing a conclusion, identify the title, unit, and places represented. Then compare values and consider each state's location within the United States.

POPULATION OF SIX STATES, 2020 CENSUS



people

- ② The six locations are spread across three broad U.S. regions. California and Alaska are in the West. Texas and Florida are in the South. New York and Vermont are in the Northeast. A geographic pattern may involve clusters, gaps, or differences among regions. A comparison should name both the places and the numbers that support it.
- ③ Population totals alone do not explain why a distribution occurs. Land area, climate, jobs, and history can influence settlement, but this chart does not measure those factors. Use only what the chart shows when stating a pattern. If you have an explanation, frame it as a question for another source to investigate.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Which state has the largest population? Give the population number as evidence.

2 How many more people lived in Texas than in Florida in 2020?

3 Which two states form the Northeast cluster named in the passage? Include both population values.

4 Write one question about the distribution that the chart can answer. Then answer your question with chart evidence.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Using the chart and passage, write two new questions about the population distribution. Answer each question, then write one sentence that describes an overall pattern shown by the data.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the sentence that tells what evidence supports a comparison, and circle the three words that name possible geographic patterns. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which state has the largest population? Give the population number as evidence.	California, 39,538,223 people.
2	How many more people lived in Texas than in Florida in 2020?	7,607,318 more people.
3	Which two states form the Northeast cluster named in the passage? Include both population values.	New York, 20,201,249, and Vermont, 643,077.
4	Write one question about the distribution that the chart can answer. Then answer your question with chart evidence.	Answers vary. Example: Which state has the smallest population? Vermont, with 643,077 people.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Which two states have populations below 1 million? Alaska and Vermont. How many listed states are in the South? Two, Texas and Florida. The chart shows much larger populations in California, Texas, Florida, and New York than in Alaska and Vermont.

Accept accurate questions that can be answered with the chart and passage, along with correct answers. For the overall pattern, accept a supported comparison of the much larger populations in four states and the much smaller populations in Alaska and Vermont.