

Moving Numbers

Use population data to trace migration patterns and community choices.

WG.13 “The student will apply history and social science skills to understand population and migration by explaining how data is used to describe and compare populations; and analyzing the causes, impacts, and responses related to migration.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each number or percent that describes a population. Then circle one migration cause, one impact, and one response, and label them C, I, and R.

Two Counties, Changing Populations

- ① Population data helps communities describe who lives in a place and how the population changes. Census counts, school enrollment, and housing records can show total population, age groups, and growth. Comparing the same measures for two places helps leaders see patterns. A larger total does not automatically mean one community has a higher growth rate.
- ② The table shows data collected by the fictional counties of Pine County and Harbor County between 2020 and 2025. Pine County gained residents when a food-processing plant opened and workers moved in. Harbor County lost residents as repeated drought reduced farm jobs. The data allows a comparison of total population change and the share of residents under age 18.

POPULATION DATA FOR PINE AND HARBOR COUNTIES

County	Population, 2020	Population, 2025	Under Age 18, 2025
Pine County	48,000	54,000	24%
Harbor County	52,000	49,000	19%

- ③ Migration can affect both the place people leave and the place they enter. In Pine County, more families increased demand for classrooms and rental homes. Officials added portable classrooms and extended a bus route to the plant area. In Harbor County, fewer customers strained local stores, while some empty homes became available. Leaders offered job-training programs and water-saving grants to help residents remain or find new work.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Use the table to calculate each county's population change from 2020 to 2025. Which county had the larger change?

2 Which county had the larger share of residents under age 18 in 2025? What was the difference in percentage points?

3 What migration cause affected Pine County, and what migration cause affected Harbor County?

4 Explain one impact of migration in either county and name the related response by local leaders.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Create two fictional communities and write five sentences about migration between them. Include a population number for each community in two different years, a comparison, one migration cause, one impact, and a response by leaders.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each number or percent that describes a population. Then circle one migration cause, one impact, and one response, and label them C, I, and R. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Use the table to calculate each county's population change from 2020 to 2025. Which county had the larger change?	Pine County gained 6,000 residents. Harbor County lost 3,000 residents. Pine County had the larger change.
2	Which county had the larger share of residents under age 18 in 2025? What was the difference in percentage points?	Pine County had the larger share. Its 24% was 5 percentage points higher than Harbor County's 19%.
3	What migration cause affected Pine County, and what migration cause affected Harbor County?	A food-processing plant and its jobs drew workers to Pine County. Repeated drought reduced farm jobs in Harbor County.
4	Explain one impact of migration in either county and name the related response by local leaders.	Answers may identify Pine County's increased need for classrooms or rental homes and its portable classrooms or bus route. They may identify Harbor County's strained local stores or available empty homes and its job-training programs or water-saving grants.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

From 2020 to 2025, Cedar Town grew from 12,000 to 15,000 residents. During the same years, Mill Town declined from 14,000 to 13,000 residents. Cedar Town gained 3,000 people, while Mill Town lost 1,000. New jobs at a solar-panel factory drew workers to Cedar Town, increasing demand for apartments. Cedar Town opened an after-school program, and Mill Town offered training for jobs in building repair.

Accept correct calculations and evidence-based explanations from the passage. For the open response, accept reasonable fictional data and a clear comparison that connects migration cause, impact, and response.