**Activity PL-3b: Urbanization**

Open [***Post-1940: Urbanization and Recreation***](http://unco.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=2d65efa897364f33a44f3a5a815ed3d8)*,* Activity PL-3b. Map opens showing population change from 1940 to 1950.

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| **Step 1** | **Your Task** |
| Define your terms! | Talk to the student who is closest to you. Discuss the terms, “urbanization” and “rural.” When you have come to an understanding of these terms, ask your teacher to check your ideas for accuracy or read the background essay and glossary. |
| **Step 2** | **Your Task** |
| Why urbanization? | This time, talk to a different student who is close to you. Write down 3 pros and 3 cons to living in the city. Then, do the same for rural (non-city) areas. Next, watch this video to help understand the factors involved in urbanization: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C4UCknuBNKg>  |
| **Step 3** | **Your Task** |
| On your own! | Decide if you would rather live in a city or a rural area. Using the PL#3 map, speculate why many people began moving to Colorado cities after WWII. Check with your teacher or re-read the background essay to check the accuracy of your answers. Or, you can watch the video again. Write down the names of the 3 cities that grew the most during this time period. Why do you think these cities grew more than other cities or towns during this time period? |
| **Step 4** | **Your Task** |
| It’s all in the numbers! | Denver is the capital of Colorado and the hub of much of its business activity. Using the measuring tool (ruler widget), determine the distance between Denver and the next two largest cities. Do you think the proximity of these cities to Denver contributed to their growth? Why or why not? Support your answer with 3 reasons that can be supported with the PL3 Map. |
| **Step 5** | **Your Task** |
| Into the future! | It has been estimated the by 2020, three million more people will be added to Colorado’s population. Which three cities do you think will see the most growth? Why? Support your guesses with data gathered from the map. |
| **Step 6** | **Your Task** |
| Extension Activity. | Write a paragraph on your preference for urban or rural living. Or, write a paragraph about the Colorado city of the future – where will it be located? What kinds of jobs will be the most prevalent? If art is your thing, draw a sketch of either your ideal urban or rural setting. |