**Early Population Growth Activity: 1880 to 1900**

Open[***Late 19th Century Growth***](http://unco.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappbuilder/index.html?id=267d34742d074436a40ee1abec073190): Activity PE-3. The **Major Mountain Ranges**, **Major Rivers,** and **Current County Boundaries** layers are visible. Most of Colorado’s counties did not have these boundaries before 1900. (The current county lines are shown to make it easier for you to locate places.)

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| **Step 1** | **Your Task** |
| Check ON the Regions layer           Check ON the **City Pop. 1880** layer | **Population from 1880 to 1890**  What economic activity was important in the Colorado’s Mountains region between 1880 and 1890?  Other than the Mountains region, in which other region were most of the larger towns in Colorado at this time? |
| **Step 2** | **Your Task** |
| Check OFF the **Major Mountain Ranges** and **Major Rivers** layers. Only the **Current County Boundaries**, **Regions**, and **City Pop. 1880** layers should be showing now    Check ON the **City Pop. 1890** layer    Turn the **City Pop. 1890** off and on several times to get a feel for the changes that occurred in Colorado’s population from 1880 to 1890 | Compare the pattern and size of towns in 1880 (yellow) and 1890 (blue). From the map symbols, how can you tell which towns grew in population between 1880 and 1890?          What was the state’s largest community in 1890?      What was its population? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ people |
| **Step 3** | **Your Task** |
| Find the town that you live in currently. *You may need to zoom out if you are currently zoomed in* | Did your town have a population in 1890? If so, list it below: |
| **Step 4** | **Your Task** |
|  | For each region, write one or two sentences to describe how the population changed between 1880 and 1890. An example is given to get you started:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Region** | **Population Growth between 1880 and 1890** | | Western Plateaus & Valleys | *About 10 new towns were established in this region. Most of these towns had a population of less than 2,500.* | | Mountains |  | | San Luis Valley Area |  | | Front Range |  | | Eastern Plains |  | |
| **Step 5** | **Your Task** |
| *Zoom out to see the whole state of Colorado* | Which map layer would you add to see if there was more growth in the mining areas during this decade (1880 to 1890)?  Check ON this layer and describe what you notice: |
| **Step 6** | **Your Task** |
| Check OFF all the layers except **Current County Boundaries** and **City Pop. 1890** layers  Check ON the **City Pop. 1900** layer. Turn this layer off and on several times to get a feel for the city/town population changes from 1890 to 1900  Find Denver. Click in the exact center of the city and read the table to see how its population grew from 1890 to 1900 | **Population from 1890 to 1900**  Which statement best describes the population changes between 1890 and 1900?  \_\_ Population decreased dramatically in most towns/cities  \_\_ Population increased dramatically in most towns/cities  \_\_Population grew at a modest level in most places, with a few areas of the Front Range growing dramatically  Denver’s population in 1900 was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| **Step 7** | **Your Task** |
| Check ON the **Regions** layer  *Zoom in to towns and click on them to see their names. Scroll along the table to find exact population figures for 1890 and 1900 for at least one town in each region that changed a lot* | For each Colorado region, describe whether it had a lot of growth or very little growth between 1890 and 1900. Be as specific as possible:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Region** | **Population Growth between 1890 and 1900** | | Western Plateaus & Valleys | *There was little change in most of the towns. About five towns grew a lot. Grand Junction grew the most, from 2,030 in 1890 to 3,503 in 1900.* | | Mountains |  | | San Luis Valley Area |  | | Front Range |  | | Eastern Plains |  |   In general, how was Colorado’s population change between 1890 and 1900 different from the previous decade (1880 to 1890)? |