Suggested Groupings: Small groups, individuals

Getting Started:
Ask students to guess the answers to the following questions. Write some of their answers on the board, then give them the correct answers.

1. What is the population of Guam? (133,152, based on 1990 census)
2. Are there more males or females in Guam? (males — 70,945; females — 62,207, based on 1990 census)
3. What is the median age of the population in Guam? (25, based on 1990 census)
4. What was the population of Guam in 1901, three years after it became part of the U.S.? (9,676)

Tell students that we can know the answers to these questions through data collected by the census. The U.S. Census Bureau conducts a complete count of all the people living in Guam every 10 years. The information collected by the census includes the population of our island, as well as people’s ages, education, occupations, etc.

Explain to students that the first census was taken in 1710 when the island was still a possession of Spain. The population count at that time was 3,614. From 1710 through 1897, the government of Spain conducted 20 additional censuses. Spain ceded Guam to the United States in 1898 as a result of the Spanish-American War. In 1901 and 1910 the naval governor took the census in Guam, and since 1920 Guam has been included in every decennial census.

Using the Activity Worksheets:
Photocopy and distribute the Activity Worksheet (page 10) and maps (pages 9 and 28), along with “Census at a Glance” (page 8).

Review “Census at a Glance” (page 8) and discuss with students why the census is so important.

Explain that they will be working in groups of four or fewer to solve the word puzzle on page 10.

Wrapping Up:
Review the students’ answers to the questions on page 10 and discuss them. Use these answers to initiate a discussion about population trends in Guam and how they influence the island’s future.

Extension Activity:
Ask students to write their own questions based on the maps (pages 9 and 28) and/or the population table (page 10). Then have them exchange questions with their classmates and research the answers.

Grades 9-12: Have students review the history of their district. Ask: When was their district established? Are its boundaries the same today as when it was established? What factors have affected the population growth of their district? To answer these questions, students will need to obtain census information for Guam and their district. Have them start with a visit to their local or school library.

Answers:
9. A surge in the local economy during the 1980s, fueled in large part by the development of a robust tourist industry, led to an increase in immigration, mostly from Asia.
Lesson 2  Activity Worksheet

Name: ____________________________

Census at a Glance

- The U.S. Census is mandated by Article 1, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, which requires an enumeration of the population of the United States every 10 years.

- Title 13 of the United States Code, which sets out the basic laws under which we conduct a census, specifies that Guam shall be included in the decennial census.

- On March 27, 2000, the U.S. Postal Service will deliver questionnaires called Advance Census Reports (ACRs) to every household in Guam. ACRs ask for information about every person living in every household. A few days before the ACR arrives, each household will receive an advance letter alerting them to its delivery. Each household will be asked to complete the questionnaire and hold it until a census worker picks it up on or soon after March 31, 2000. If the ACR is not complete when the census worker arrives, then he or she will help complete it by conducting a personal interview.

- All individual information collected for the census is confidential. Census workers can be fined and/or jailed for releasing this information, and the Census Bureau itself is forbidden by law from sharing such information with other government agencies.

- The first census of the United States was taken in 1790. The first U.S. decennial census in Guam was taken in 1920. Guam became a part of the United States in 1898 as a result of the Spanish-American War. Between 1898 and 1920 two censuses were conducted by the naval governor.

- In addition to taking a complete count of the population, the U.S. Census Bureau also collects information about housing, age, marital status, education, and economic indicators.

- The census is important because the information obtained from the form helps federal and local governments determine where new roads, parks, schools, hospitals, and other services are needed. A new school and library, for example, could be built in your neighborhood based on data indicating a large increase in the number of school-age children living there.

- The U.S. Census Bureau plans long in advance for every census. While conducting a census, the Census Bureau is already planning for the next census, even though it is 10 years away.

- Census day is April 1, 2000: All people living in the U.S. and its territories on this day are included in the official count.
All information on this map is based on 1930 Census data.
A History of the Census in Guam

To answer the following questions and solve the word puzzle, you’ll need to compare the 1930 and 1990 population maps of Guam.

1. The district with the smallest population in 1990 was: __ __ __ __

2. You won’t find this district on the 1930 map of Guam:
   __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ _______