

Name: _____

Crime and Immigration Rates

Read the article, "The Myth of the Criminal Immigrant." Answer the questions on this page working in pairs.

Answer the following 4 questions using the graph titled "Change Since 1980" and from information written in the article.

-What are three cities where the number of immigrants increased and the rate of violent crime increased? In how many cities total did the number of immigrants and the crime rate increase?

-What are three cities where the number of immigrants increased and the rate of violent crime decreased? How many cities total did the number of immigrants increase while the crime stayed stable or decreased?

-What are three cities where the number of immigrants decreased and the rate of violent crime increased?

-What are three cities where the number of immigrants decreased and the rate of violent crime decreased?

Answer the following 3 questions using the two graphs preceded by a blank "Find a metro area" and from information written in the article.

-How has the immigrant population and crime rate changed in Asheville, NC between 1980 and 2016?

-Based on their experience in their own city, what would you predict someone from Milwaukee thinks about the relationships between immigration and crime? Someone from Detroit?

-On average, how much did the immigrant population change between 1980 and 2016 in the cities studied? On average, how much the crime rate change between 1980 and 2016 in the cities studied?

Answer the following questions alone based on your own experiences and opinions.

-How can mathematics be important for understanding social and political issues?

-How can mathematics be used (and also abused) to guide policy?

-What do you think are the factors that most influence people's political opinions? Data? Personal experiences? Family/community/religious values? Something else?

-According to the article, "almost half of Americans agreed that immigrants make crime worse" even though the data shows that this is not true. What do you think are the most effective ways to engage people about their political opinions, especially if you are trying to convince them to change their opinions?

-The US government was recently shut down for 35 days over a conflict in the Senate about whether to appropriate money for expanding the wall on the US-Mexico border (the stated purpose of the wall is to prevent immigration by undocumented migrants). Do you agree with expanding the wall? Why or why not?

*Several government departments and agencies stopped receiving funding to operate. More than 420,000 federal employees have been required to work without pay and an additional 380,000 were not allowed to come to work or get paid. Those who worked without pay will be reimbursed once the shutdown ends. Funding for some programs like climate research and safety inspections was also halted.