

LESSON 36

Health and Science in Texas

- *Death, Birth Rates Continue Trends in Texas Statistics*
- *Community Hospitals in Texas*
- *State Institutions for Mental Health Services*
- *Texans in the National Academy of Sciences*

SOCIAL STUDIES TEKS

4 - 5, 20, 21, 22, 23

7 - 20, 21, 22, 23

8 - 28, 29, 30

STAAR

4, 7 - Writing - 1, 2, 3

4, 7, 8 - Reading - 1, 2, 3

8 - Social Studies - 4

INSTRUCTIONAL SUGGESTIONS

1. Assign or allow each student to choose four counties of similar population; for example between 10,000 to 19,999, 20,000 to 29,999, etc. Using the Line/Bar Graph Grid (Appendix) and the “Health Care and Deaths in Texas Counties” table, construct a bar graph comparing the number of physicians, the number of hospital beds, and the total deaths for each county.

Label the x-axis with the county names and their populations. Label the y-axis with numbers in increments of 5, 10, 50, 100, etc., depending on the relative size of the group of counties. Make three bars for each county using different colors—one color for physicians, a second color for hospital beds, and a third color for total deaths.

Students should note which county has the highest numbers of physicians and hospital beds compared with total deaths and which had the lowest.

2. Using the Line/Bar Graph Grid (Appendix) and the “Comparison of Vital Statistics” table, students will construct a line graph showing birth rates and death rates for three states and three countries. Use a different color for each category.
3. Students will use the Line/Bar Graph (Appendix) to make a line graph that shows the numbers of people using Hospitals for Persons with Mental Illnesses (within the section “State Institutions for Mental Health Services”). Label the x-axis with the names of the hospitals and the y-axis with the numbers of people treated from 0–5000. Draw a circle around the hospital that is closest to your school.

4. Using the “Texans in the National Academy of Sciences” section, students will design certificates to be given to the most recent selectees to the Science Academy. Each certificate should include the name of the honoree, the date, and their scientific discipline. Students will create a decorative border for each certificate.

“Old Red” is the original building at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. Robert Plocheck photo.