Student Resource 2.4

Summary: Reading and Translating Graphs

Student Name: Date:

Directions: Look at the example graph “Infant Mortality Rates in North America.” Then read the example summary of the graph. Follow your teacher’s instructions to fill in the table explaining how the example summary accomplishes the points given in the checklist.

Example Summary

The graph “Infant Mortality Rates in North America” compares the estimated infant mortality rates from 2013 for all three North American countries: Canada, the United States, and Mexico. The infant mortality rate is the estimated number of infants that died per 1,000 live births. Canada has the lowest infant mortality rate in North America. At more than 15, Mexico’s infant mortality rate is significantly higher than that of both Canada and the United States. This graph raises questions about why Mexico’s infant mortality rate is so much higher than Canada’s and the United States’, and what efforts could be taken to lower the rate.

Summary Example Checklist

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| --- | --- |
| Checklist | How the example summary accomplishes this point |
| The summary mentions the title of the graph. |  |
| The summary explains the purpose of the graph. |  |
| The summary explains the health status indicator expressed in the graph. | Infant mortality rate is the health status indicator expressed in the graph. The second sentence of the summary explains that the infant mortality rate is the estimated number of infants that died per 1,000 live births. |
| The summary puts into words important statistics shown in the graph. |  |
| The summary points out why the graph is important. |  |

Create Your Summary

Now that you’ve reviewed the example summary, write one yourself. First, analyze the graph “Life Expectancy at Birth, 2007” at the top of the next page. Then write a short paragraph that summarizes the information given in the graph. Make sure that your paragraph includes all the points on the checklist shown at the end of this resource.