Answer Key: Texas Today

Warm-up

- Answers will vary but should be related to the information in the chart showing different items that are significant to Texas's economy, including cattle, broilers (young chickens), cotton, milk, and corn.

Lesson

Grade Level and Foundations

Cotton and the Lone Star State

1. (B) – Cotton agriculture became a valuable part of the Texas' economy during the Mexican National era and is still significant to the economy of Texas today.

Station 1: Leading U.S. Cotton Producing States, 2018 – 2020

1. This chart shows <u>the states that produce the most cotton in the U.S.</u>
2. (D) Texas produces more than double the amount of cotton than the other top-producing states in the U.S.
3. (C) Cotton production decreased in Texas over the three years shown in the chart.

Station 2: Acres of Cotton Harvested in the United States, 2017

1. This chart shows <u>the cotton-producing states in the U.S. and how much cotton each state makes.</u>
2. (B) Most cotton production in the United States is located in the southern states.
3. (C) The Great Plains region contains the largest concentration of cotton farms.
4. Answers will vary. Students may be surprised at the location of the majority of Texas cotton agriculture because the Great Plains is not considered the best region for agriculture.

   *Note: In the advanced work, questions 3 and 4 are combined into one question.

Answer Key: Texas Today

Station 3: Top 5 Most Profitable Agricultural Products Texas, 2021

1. This chart shows **(C)** how much money is made for Texas and the U.S. in agricultural items
2. (B) Ranching (the exact items are cattle and calves)
3. (A) While cattle and calves make up a larger portion of the Texas economy, cotton makes up a larger portion of the U.S. economy.
4. Cattle and calves make up **14%** of the U.S. economy, while cotton makes up **38%** of the U.S. economy. Therefore, **cotton** is a larger percentage of the U.S. economy than **cattle and calves.**

   Note: In the advanced work, questions 3 and 4 are combined into one question.

Station 4: Cotton Planted and Harvest in Texas: 2017 - 2022

1. This chart shows **B)** the amount of cotton planted in Texas compared to how much was actually harvested.
2. (B) The amount of cotton planted is much greater than the amount of cotton harvested each year.
3. Answers will vary but may include that it makes sense that there is more cotton planted than harvested because maybe there are issues with harvesting the cotton, or not all of it grows well. It might also seem illogical that the amoung of cotton planted increased but the amount harvested significantly decreased. This might have been due to drought or other environmental factors.

Station 5: Historical Drought Conditions in Texas

1. This chart shows **(A)** trends in the lack of rain in Texas from 2018 to 2022
2. (A) Drought conditions have primarily increased during the time period shown in the chart
3. (A) Cotton production likely decreased during the period of time presented as a result of conditions demonstrated in the chart

Exit Ticket

    A. 3
    B. 5
    C. 1
    D. 4
    E. 2