

Research Brief

The Commonwealth's Official Source of Population and Economic Statistics

November 8, 2001

Voter Registration Increases 2.3 Percent in Pennsylvania in 2001

MIDDLETOWN, Pa –The Pennsylvania State Data Center at Penn State Harrisburg reports that Pennsylvania's voter registration increased 2.3 percent from April 2000 to April 2001. This information, from the Pennsylvania Department of State, reports that the commonwealth had 7,698,471 persons registered to vote in the April 2001 elections. This represents 82 percent of Pennsylvania's voting age population, according to Census 2000.

Of those registered to vote in the April 2001 election in Pennsylvania, 48.1 percent were registered Democrats and 41.7 percent were registered Republicans. Other political parties including the Constitutional, Libertarian and Green parties comprised the remaining 10.2 percent of registered voters. Republicans gained 46,895 registered voters from 2000 to 2001, a 1.5 percent increase. Democrats registered 67,420 new voters for an increase of 1.9 percent (see Table 1).

Table 1: Pennsylvania Voter Registration: April 2000 – April 2001

Party	2001 Registered Voters	2000 Registered Voters	Percent Change, 2000-2001	Number Increase, 2000-2001
Republicans	3,208,297	3,161,402	1.5	46,895
Democrats	3,701,242	3,633,822	1.9	67,420
Other	788,932	732,275	7.7	56,657
Total	7,698,471	7,527,499	2.3	170,972

Source: Pennsylvania Dept. of State, Bureau of Elections, Commissions and Legislation
U.S. Census Bureau

Allegheny County led all Pennsylvania counties with the highest percentage of voting age population registered to vote in April 2001 at 92 percent. Pike (91 %) and Bucks counties (90 %) were the only other counties in Pennsylvania that had over ninety percent of their voting age population registered to vote. Four counties had voter registration rates under 70 percent: Clinton (69 %), Indiana (67 %), Snyder (66 %) and Union (55 %).

The greatest increase from 2000 to 2001 of registered voters by percentage was Fulton County with an increase of 10.0 percent. Pike County joined Fulton County as counties with an eight percent or better increase in registered voters. Six counties saw a decrease in registered voters from 2000 to 2001: Delaware (-9.1 %), Venango (-2.9 %), Cambria (-2.7 %), Cumberland (-1.1 %), Somerset (-1.1 %) and Chester (-0.3 %).

Party registrations varied greatly between counties in 2000 and 2001 (see Table 2).

Table 2: Republican and Democrat Registered Voters: April 2000 and April 2001

	Republican Registered Voters				Democrat Registered Voters			
	2000 Total	Percent of Total Voters	2001 Total	Percent of Total Voters	2000 Total	Percent of Total Voters	2001 Total	Percent of Total Voters
PENNSYLVANIA	3,161,402	42.0	3,208,297	41.7	3,633,822	48.3	3,701,242	48.1
Adams	25,565	55.5	27,254	55.4	15,356	33.3	16,047	32.6
Allegheny	253,471	28.5	262,398	28.5	557,276	62.6	570,275	62.0
Armstrong	18,314	43.7	19,079	44.2	20,271	48.4	20,472	47.4
Beaver	32,287	28.4	33,227	28.9	72,020	63.3	72,048	62.6
Bedford	16,540	57.7	17,376	57.8	10,348	36.1	10,621	35.3
Berks	87,397	42.7	91,032	42.5	92,639	45.3	95,796	44.8
Blair	39,712	56.0	40,928	55.8	24,548	34.6	25,106	34.2
Bradford	22,230	61.7	22,598	61.3	10,279	28.5	10,447	28.3
Bucks	188,285	49.6	193,957	48.4	139,569	36.7	148,947	37.2
Butler	49,458	48.8	50,541	49.3	41,301	40.8	41,057	40.0
Cambria	28,126	31.4	27,467	31.5	56,410	62.9	54,489	62.5
Cameron	1,744	49.8	1,789	50.0	1,549	44.2	1,546	43.2
Carbon	13,408	40.8	13,696	40.6	16,529	50.2	16,775	49.7
Centre	38,920	46.2	40,221	45.3	31,712	37.6	33,351	37.6
Chester	157,902	56.7	155,348	56.0	77,448	27.8	78,063	28.1
Clarion	11,168	50.7	11,633	51.1	9,333	42.4	9,462	41.6
Clearfield	19,931	45.6	20,810	45.9	20,498	46.9	20,840	45.9
Clinton	9,235	47.4	9,642	47.2	8,685	44.6	9,013	44.1
Columbia	15,406	43.4	15,978	43.3	16,335	46.0	16,762	45.4
Crawford	27,098	53.5	27,976	52.8	19,880	39.3	20,842	39.4
Cumberland	74,383	58.5	73,272	58.2	37,613	29.6	36,948	29.4
Dauphin	81,136	52.7	83,425	51.8	56,839	36.9	59,674	37.1
Delaware	227,045	62.2	209,032	63.0	104,040	28.5	92,782	27.9
Elk	7,158	37.6	7,372	37.6	10,274	54.0	10,511	53.6
Erie	66,216	39.2	67,577	38.8	88,612	52.5	90,945	52.3
Fayette	17,782	21.7	18,719	22.1	59,830	73.0	61,008	72.1
Forest	1,638	55.2	1,741	55.8	1,178	39.7	1,206	38.7
Franklin	40,421	57.9	41,596	57.9	22,152	31.7	22,286	31.0

	Republican Registered Voters				Democrat Registered Voters			
	2000 Total	Percent of Total Voters	2001 Total	Percent of Total Voters	2000 Total	Percent of Total Voters	2001 Total	Percent of Total Voters
Fulton	4,180	52.8	4,656	53.5	3,277	41.4	3,476	39.9
Greene	5,452	23.5	5,793	24.2	16,617	71.8	16,890	70.6
Huntingdon	14,527	57.3	15,417	57.4	8,724	34.4	9,027	33.6
Indiana	20,098	44.2	20,893	44.0	21,121	46.4	21,737	45.7
Jefferson	13,138	51.8	13,769	50.9	10,547	41.6	11,358	42.0
Juniata	6,716	55.5	6,928	55.8	4,590	37.9	4,619	37.2
Lackawanna	44,462	31.2	45,027	30.6	90,456	63.6	93,776	63.8
Lancaster	157,993	61.7	164,461	61.6	64,623	25.3	67,001	25.1
Lawrence	19,477	35.7	19,701	35.9	31,283	57.3	31,212	56.9
Lebanon	39,650	59.9	41,126	59.5	19,467	29.4	20,194	29.2
Lehigh	77,500	42.9	80,946	42.3	80,866	44.8	85,131	44.5
Luzerne	67,954	35.9	70,256	35.9	110,125	58.1	112,606	57.5
Lycoming	33,481	54.4	34,899	54.1	22,775	37.0	23,582	36.6
McKean	15,529	60.0	16,387	59.9	7,972	30.8	8,340	30.5
Mercer	29,393	41.1	30,436	41.3	35,577	49.8	36,288	49.2
Mifflin	12,839	54.6	13,646	55.0	8,910	37.9	9,195	37.1
Monroe	32,025	42.9	33,329	42.3	29,943	40.1	31,588	40.1
Montgomery	267,723	54.3	260,464	52.7	162,696	33.0	168,557	34.1
Montour	4,831	50.4	5,169	50.6	3,851	40.1	3,986	39.0
Northampton	60,007	37.9	63,651	38.1	77,053	48.7	79,790	47.8
Northumberland	23,043	46.2	23,183	46.2	23,652	47.4	23,461	46.8
Perry	15,041	63.0	15,608	62.9	6,588	27.6	6,718	27.1
Philadelphia	192,604	19.4	191,122	19.0	738,103	74.4	747,583	74.4
Pike	14,599	51.0	15,595	50.3	9,406	32.9	10,205	32.9
Potter	6,961	61.5	7,118	61.4	3,620	32.0	3,650	31.5
Schuylkill	45,647	53.1	46,458	52.8	34,226	39.8	34,857	39.6
Snyder	12,391	67.9	12,783	67.6	4,330	23.7	4,483	23.7
Somerset	23,603	49.0	23,652	49.7	21,867	45.4	21,071	44.2
Sullivan	2,486	55.7	2,582	55.7	1,687	37.8	1,720	37.1
Susquehanna	14,722	59.2	15,241	59.0	8,074	32.5	8,344	32.3
Tioga	15,958	64.5	16,586	64.2	7,010	28.3	7,260	28.1
Union	10,910	62.3	11,214	61.2	4,837	27.6	4,973	27.1
Venango	17,822	53.3	17,179	52.9	12,695	38.0	12,343	38.0
Warren	14,218	52.0	14,354	51.7	10,442	38.2	10,456	37.7
Washington	39,590	29.2	41,606	29.9	85,544	63.1	86,188	61.8
Wayne	16,191	61.4	16,396	60.5	7,415	28.1	7,640	28.2
Westmoreland	74,163	31.8	76,037	32.2	139,354	59.8	139,262	59.1
Wyoming	10,771	60.8	11,039	60.0	5,492	31.0	5,734	31.2
York	111,731	51.8	117,906	51.8	76,483	35.4	79,622	35.0

Source: Pennsylvania Dept. of State, Bureau of Elections, Commissions and Legislation
U.S. Census Bureau

The Pennsylvania State Data Center is the commonwealth's official source of population and economic statistics. It is based at Penn State Harrisburg's Institute of State and Regional Affairs. The Pennsylvania State Data Center is part of the U.S. Census Bureau's National State Data Center Program.

Editors: For additional data, contact the Pennsylvania State Data Center's State Capital Office at 717.772.2710 or for faculty comment on this topic, contact Penn State Harrisburg's Public Information Office at 717.948.6029.

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