



Research Brief

The Commonwealth's Official Source of Population and Economic Statistics

November 8, 2002

Over 1.2 Million Veterans in Pennsylvania To Be Honored On Veterans' Day

MIDDLETOWN, Pa – Veterans' Day will be observed this November 11, 2002. The Pennsylvania State Data Center at Penn State Harrisburg reports that, according to the 2000 Census, 1,280,788 individuals were veterans of the armed forces in Pennsylvania. Summary File 3, socio-economic data recently released by the Census Bureau, indicates that 13.7 percent of the over 9.3 million people in Pennsylvania 18 years or older were veterans of the armed forces.

According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the beginnings of Veterans' Day can be traced to a resolution passed by Congress on June 4, 1926. Congress officially recognized November 11th as Armistice Day on May 13, 1938. The holiday was renamed Veterans' Day by Congress on June 1, 1954 to honor American veterans of all wars.

At the county level, Allegheny County had the largest number of veterans in 2000 with 142,638. Philadelphia County was second with 123,365 followed by Montgomery County (70,232), Bucks County (57,396), and Delaware County (53,423). Cameron County had the fewest with 800 (See Table 1).

As a percentage of total population 18 years and over, Forest County had the highest percentage of veterans of all Pennsylvania counties at 21.2 percent. Of its 3,818 residents that were 18 years or older in 2000, 811 of them were veterans. Sullivan County was second at 18.2 percent, followed by Cameron County (17.8 percent), Pike County (17.4 percent), and Carbon County (17.3 percent). Centre County, at 9.9 percent, had the lowest percentage of veterans in 2000.

Veteran Status by Sex, Race, and Ethnicity

Males 18 years or older accounted for over 95 percent of the veterans in Pennsylvania in 2000. Nearly 28 percent of the 4,427,313 males 18 years or older were veterans. Of the 4,934,753 females 18 years and over, 60,842, or 1.2 percent, were veterans in Pennsylvania in 2000.

The nearly 1.2 million veterans that classify themselves as white accounted for 90.8 percent of the total veteran population in Pennsylvania. The black or African American population accounted for 7.7 percent, with 98,083 veterans. The remaining races, including Asian, American Indian and Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander, other race alone, and two or more races, accounted for the remaining 1.5 percent, with 19,904 veterans. There were 12,991 persons of the Hispanic or Latino ethnicity that were veterans in Pennsylvania in 2000. Hispanic or Latino persons may be of any race.

Defining “Veteran Status”

The Census Bureau’s classification of a “civilian veteran” is a person 18 years old and over who, at the time of the enumeration, had served on active duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard in the past (even for a short time), but was not then on active duty, or who had served in the Merchant Marine during World War II. People who had served in the National Guard or Military Reserves were classified as veterans only if they had ever been called or ordered to active duty, not counting the 4 to 6 months for initial training or yearly summer camps. All other civilians 18 years old and over were classified as nonveterans.

For additional information on veteran status in Pennsylvania, as well as other data from Census 2000, please contact the Pennsylvania State Data Center’s State Capital Office at 717.772.2710.

Table 1: Veteran Status by Sex, Pennsylvania: 2000

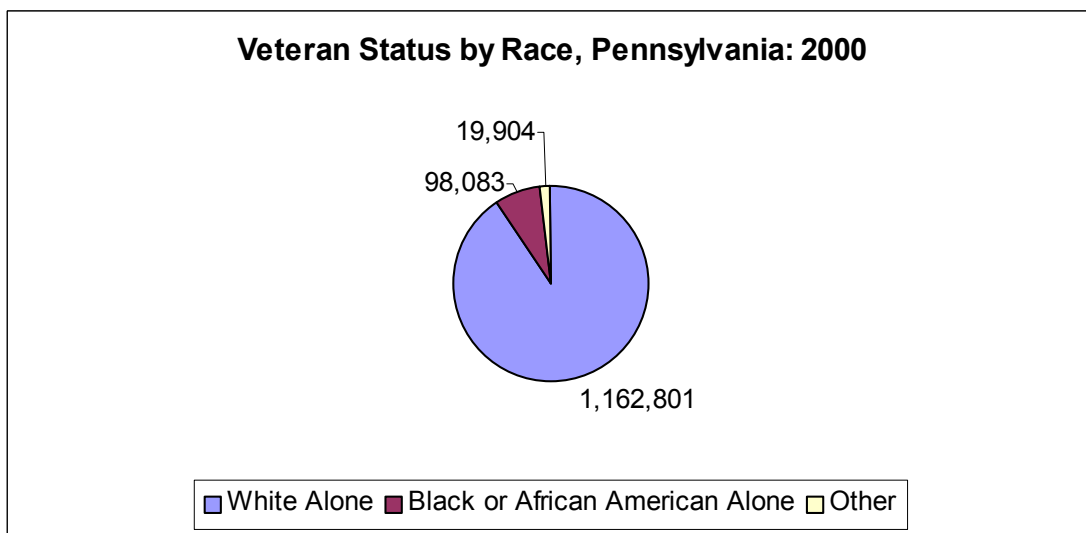
Area	Population 18 Years and Older			Males 18 Years and Older			Females 18 Years and Older		
	Total	Veterans	Percent	Total	Veterans	Percent	Total	Veterans	Percent
Pennsylvania	9,362,066	1,280,788	13.7	4,427,313	1,219,946	27.6	4,934,753	60,842	1.2
Adams	68,650	9,711	14.1	33,349	9,175	27.5	35,301	536	1.5
Allegheny	1,000,758	142,638	14.3	462,794	135,976	29.4	537,964	6,662	1.2
Armstrong	55,833	8,701	15.6	26,752	8,448	31.6	29,081	253	0.9
Beaver	140,390	22,655	16.1	65,695	21,738	33.1	74,695	917	1.2
Bedford	38,181	5,327	14.0	18,562	5,116	27.6	19,619	211	1.1
Berks	281,617	37,758	13.4	135,128	36,140	26.7	146,489	1,618	1.1
Blair	99,848	15,901	15.9	46,949	15,150	32.3	52,899	751	1.4
Bradford	46,769	7,317	15.6	22,378	6,918	30.9	24,391	399	1.6
Bucks	444,292	57,396	12.9	214,369	54,759	25.5	229,923	2,637	1.1
Butler	131,198	18,354	14.0	62,812	17,506	27.9	68,386	848	1.2
Cambria	120,604	18,918	15.7	57,620	18,097	31.4	62,984	821	1.3
Cameron	4,504	800	17.8	2,198	781	35.5	2,306	19	0.8
Carbon	45,795	7,917	17.3	21,972	7,662	34.9	23,823	255	1.1
Centre	111,399	11,027	9.9	56,739	10,468	18.4	54,660	559	1.0
Chester	320,070	38,103	11.9	153,950	36,571	23.8	166,120	1,532	0.9
Clarion	32,692	4,456	13.6	15,500	4,295	27.7	17,192	161	0.9
Clearfield	64,457	9,708	15.1	31,834	9,371	29.4	32,623	337	1.0
Clinton	29,770	4,482	15.1	14,084	4,242	30.1	15,686	240	1.5

Table 1: Veteran Status by Sex, Pennsylvania: 2000, Continued

Area	Population 18 Years and Older			Males 18 Years and Older			Females 18 Years and Older		
	Total	Veterans	Percent	Total	Veterans	Percent	Total	Veterans	Percent
Columbia	50,815	7,256	14.3	23,814	6,963	29.2	27,001	293	1.1
Crawford	68,073	10,589	15.6	32,372	10,038	31.0	35,701	551	1.5
Cumberland	166,769	24,610	14.8	80,206	22,903	28.6	86,563	1,707	2.0
Dauphin	190,731	27,690	14.5	89,800	25,933	28.9	100,931	1,757	1.7
Delaware	414,398	53,423	12.9	192,452	51,047	26.5	221,946	2,376	1.1
Elk	26,672	4,225	15.8	13,010	4,054	31.2	13,662	171	1.3
Erie	210,505	29,306	13.9	100,489	27,720	27.6	110,016	1,586	1.4
Fayette	114,910	16,849	14.7	53,640	16,154	30.1	61,270	695	1.1
Forest	3,818	811	21.2	1,911	782	40.9	1,907	29	1.5
Franklin	98,317	14,702	15.0	47,113	13,901	29.5	51,204	801	1.6
Fulton	10,773	1,482	13.8	5,339	1,427	26.7	5,434	55	1.0
Greene	31,705	4,649	14.7	16,401	4,417	26.9	15,304	232	1.5
Huntingdon	35,720	5,259	14.7	18,760	5,068	27.0	16,960	191	1.1
Indiana	70,742	8,842	12.5	33,523	8,459	25.2	37,219	383	1.0
Jefferson	35,110	5,191	14.8	16,900	4,978	29.5	18,210	213	1.2
Juniata	17,114	2,098	12.3	8,364	1,982	23.7	8,750	116	1.3
Lackawanna	166,886	24,372	14.6	76,761	23,405	30.5	90,125	967	1.1
Lancaster	345,389	41,565	12.0	165,142	39,351	23.8	180,247	2,214	1.2
Lawrence	72,765	10,809	14.9	33,785	10,319	30.5	38,980	490	1.3
Lebanon	91,832	13,528	14.7	43,918	12,903	29.4	47,914	625	1.3
Lehigh	237,657	32,026	13.5	112,287	30,661	27.3	125,370	1,365	1.1
Luzerne	252,130	40,016	15.9	119,092	38,067	32.0	133,038	1,949	1.5
Lycoming	92,198	13,909	15.1	44,373	13,179	29.7	47,825	730	1.5
McKean	35,026	5,842	16.7	17,419	5,594	32.1	17,607	248	1.4
Mercer	92,109	13,775	15.0	43,694	13,203	30.2	48,415	572	1.2
Mifflin	34,996	5,308	15.2	16,597	5,075	30.6	18,399	233	1.3
Monroe	101,754	15,167	14.9	49,447	14,616	29.6	52,307	551	1.1
Montgomery	569,510	70,232	12.3	269,243	67,231	25.0	300,267	3,001	1.0
Montour	13,783	1,947	14.1	6,372	1,840	28.9	7,411	107	1.4
Northampton	204,840	28,039	13.7	97,777	27,012	27.6	107,063	1,027	1.0
Northumberland	73,898	11,851	16.0	35,577	11,400	32.0	38,321	451	1.2
Perry	32,478	4,727	14.6	15,995	4,521	28.3	16,483	206	1.2
Philadelphia	1,134,681	123,365	10.9	509,228	115,581	22.7	625,453	7,784	1.2
Pike	34,019	5,915	17.4	16,727	5,662	33.8	17,292	253	1.5
Potter	13,398	2,233	16.7	6,498	2,107	32.4	6,900	126	1.8
Schuylkill	119,017	18,822	15.8	58,675	17,983	30.6	60,342	839	1.4
Snyder	28,553	3,366	11.8	13,826	3,177	23.0	14,727	189	1.3
Somerset	62,131	8,747	14.1	30,920	8,419	27.2	31,211	328	1.1
Sullivan	5,190	942	18.2	2,605	910	34.9	2,585	32	1.2
Susquehanna	31,471	5,124	16.3	15,442	4,887	31.6	16,029	237	1.5
Tioga	31,567	5,185	16.4	15,200	4,923	32.4	16,367	262	1.6
Union	33,280	3,912	11.8	18,697	3,667	19.6	14,583	245	1.7

Table 1: Veteran Status by Sex, Pennsylvania: 2000, Continued

Area	Population 18 Years and Older			Males 18 Years and Older			Females 18 Years and Older		
	Total	Veterans	Percent	Total	Veterans	Percent	Total	Veterans	Percent
Venango	43,621	7,189	16.5	20,911	6,870	32.9	22,710	319	1.4
Warren	33,284	5,584	16.8	16,043	5,363	33.4	17,241	221	1.3
Washington	157,830	23,986	15.2	74,246	23,087	31.1	83,584	899	1.1
Wayne	36,242	6,011	16.6	17,951	5,739	32.0	18,291	272	1.5
Westmoreland	288,874	45,270	15.7	136,709	43,225	31.6	152,165	2,045	1.3
Wyoming	20,964	3,037	14.5	10,231	2,895	28.3	10,733	142	1.3
York	287,694	40,836	14.2	139,146	38,835	27.9	148,548	2,001	1.3



Pennsylvania Profile Available on Pennsylvania State Data Center Web Site!

The Summary File 3 profile for Pennsylvania may be viewed by visiting our Web site:

Pasdc.hbg.psu.edu

Click on: [Census 2000 Summary File 3 Profiles for Pennsylvania](#)

Other geographic levels may be obtained by contacting our the Pennsylvania State Data Center State Capital Office at 717.772.2710 or by emailing the PaSDC at:

PaSDC-SCO@psu.edu

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.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 3 Census 2000

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