



# Research Brief

The Commonwealth's Official Source for Population and Economic Statistics

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## **Experts Address Demographic and Socio-Economic Issues in Pennsylvania at Annual Data User Conference**

MIDDLETOWN, Pa – Users of demographic and socio-economic data in Pennsylvania are expected to converge on Harrisburg this year for the state's **Annual Data User Conference**. Hosted by the Pennsylvania State Data Center, based at Penn State Harrisburg, the Annual Data User conference will be held at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey **September 20, 2005**.

### **Conference to Address Urban Housing Issues**

At this year's conference, experts will address a variety of topics, ranging from information resources to public policy implications and economic/community development issues in Pennsylvania, and what role data plays in these matters. Among this year's featured speakers is Mr. Jeri Stumpf, Special Assistant for Urban Affairs in the Governor's Office of Housing and Community Revitalization. Mr. Stumpf, with extensive experience in planning and economic development, is currently assisting the office in the development of a new statewide strategy for housing and community revitalization. He will share his expertise in a session that explains how older urban areas in Pennsylvania, lacking financial resources, can obtain and use currently available information and statistics to sell their communities to potential investors.

### **Penn State University Professor to Discuss Economic and Community Development in PA**

Also on the agenda is keynote speaker Dr. Martin Shields, Director of the Center for Economic and Community Development and Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Regional Economics at Penn State. Dr. Shields will discuss *Update on PA: The Road to 2005, The Economy, Jobs, Income, Population, and Forecasts*. The publication is the 17<sup>th</sup> in an annual series intended as a ready reference for business, banks, development groups, public officials, educators, and concerned citizens.

### **American Community Survey Kicks-Off the Conference**

The opening speaker, Dr. Linda Jacobsen, is Director of Domestic Programs at the Population Reference Bureau in Washington, D.C. The bureau is a leader in providing timely and objective information on U.S. and international population trends and their implications. Dr. Jacobsen will discuss an upcoming bulletin that the Population Reference Bureau is publishing on the American Community Survey.

The conference is also an opportunity for attendees to become familiar with the American Community Survey (ACS), a major part of the Census Bureau's re-engineered 2010 census plan. ACS, which has already begun a phased rollout, will replace the census long form currently collected every 10 years and provide yearly socio-economic data.

The Data User Conference includes numerous additional breakout and training sessions. The *2005 Annual Data User Conference* is designed to inform data users of the most up-to-date technologies and procedures for locating and utilizing Pennsylvania data. Most of the day's speakers will be available throughout the day to handle questions and discuss topics of relevance. Members of the PaSDC staff as well as Census Bureau representatives will be available to provide information and hands-on instruction in the following areas:

- Using American FactFinder, the primary vehicle for data dissemination of the 1990 and 2000 Census, the American Community Survey and 2002 Economic Census
- Using Census Data Products
- Current Population Survey
- Population Estimates and Projections

Breakout session topics include:

- Agricultural Statistics
- The 2002 Economic Census
- Census Bureau: The Other Nine Years
- American Community Survey: An Overview
- CPS - Current Population Survey of Rural Pennsylvania
- Historical Census Data: Finding the Past
- Migration: The Coming and Going of Pennsylvanians

Training sessions include:

- Using American Fact Finder
- American Community Survey
- Emerging GIS Applications and Technologies

The Early Bird registration fee for the conference is \$120. After **August 26<sup>th</sup>**, the regular fee of \$149 will be assessed. Participants may register for the conference online with a credit card or check using our secure transaction server. Online registration is fast, easy, and secure.

For more information, to register, or to view our conference brochure, visit our website and click on the "Annual Data User Conference" icon at:

<http://pasdc.hbg.psu.edu/>, or contact Mike DeFrank at 717.948.6310, or email [PaSDC@psu.edu](mailto:PaSDC@psu.edu).

The Pennsylvania State Data Center is the commonwealth's official source for 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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