



# Research Brief

The Commonwealth's Official Source for Population and Economic Statistics

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## Census Bureau Releases 2006 County Population Estimates by Sex, Age, Race and Hispanic Origin for Pennsylvania

**MIDDLETOWN, Pa** – The U.S. Census Bureau today released July 1, 2006 estimates of Pennsylvania's counties based on sex, age, race and Hispanic origin. According to these estimates, Philadelphia County is one of the 303 counties in the United States, and the only county in Pennsylvania, that is "majority-minority," meaning more than 50 percent of its population comes from minority groups.

### Minority Population

Minority is defined as anyone who indicated that they were either Hispanic or a race other than white alone. Sixty-one percent of Philadelphia's 1,448,394 residents consider themselves part of a minority group. Elk County has the smallest percentage minority population, with 1.6 percent from minority groups, and 98.4 percent of its population from the White Alone, non-Hispanic racial and ethnic group.

### Race

The population in the White Alone (10,660,136), Black Alone (1,336,278) and Asian Alone (292,507) racial groups accounted for 98.9 percent of the total estimated population in Pennsylvania in 2006. (Table 1)

At the county level, Philadelphia has the highest percentages of both Black Alone (45.8 percent of Philadelphia's population, representing 49.6 percent of the state's total Black Alone population) and Asian Alone (5.4 percent of Philadelphia County's population, representing 27.0 percent of the state's Asian Alone population) populations in 2006. Philadelphia County remains the most populous county in Pennsylvania.

The Black Alone population increased statewide by 1.0 percent, or 13,829 persons during the 2005 to 2006 time period. Delaware County saw the largest numeric increase in the Black Alone population, increasing by 3,507 persons between 2005 and 2006. Carbon County saw the largest percent increase in the Black Alone population, with a 16.2 percent increase from 2005 to 2006, or 110 people.

### Hispanic or Latino Origin\*

There were 526,976 persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity in the commonwealth in 2006, representing 4.2 percent of Pennsylvania's total population. Lehigh County, with a total Hispanic population of 48,288, was home to the highest percentage (14.4 percent) of persons of Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity. Luzerne County saw the largest percent increase in its Hispanic population between 2005 and 2006, increasing 17.9 percent, from 8,693 to 10,246. The largest numeric increase in Hispanic population in the 2005-2006 time period occurred in Philadelphia County, which saw an increase of 4,169 from 2005 to

2006, representing a 2.8 percent increase. Lehigh County followed Philadelphia, with an increase in the Hispanic population of 3,759, or 8.4 percent.

Only two counties saw a decrease in their Hispanic populations between 2005 and 2006, Juniata and Clinton Counties, and both decreases were less than 15 persons.

### **Age and Sex**

Since 2000, Pennsylvania's elderly population (65 years or older) has declined, dropping by 33,842 persons. From 2005 to 2006, the state's elderly population decreased from 1,887,801 to 1,885,323. Sullivan County had the highest percentage of elderly persons in the commonwealth, with 23.2 percent of its estimated 2006 population being 65 years or older, while Allegheny is estimated to have the largest numeric population of elderly at 208,070. Centre County had the lowest median age among Pennsylvania Counties, at 29.1, largely due to the student population of Penn State University located within the county. Philadelphia County followed, with a 2006 median age of 35.5. Sullivan County had the highest median age, at 45.5, followed by Cameron County at 43.6.

Fifty-six of Pennsylvania's counties saw a decrease in the population under 18 between 2005 and 2006. Potter County saw the largest percent decrease among persons under age 18, with a 1.0 percent decrease in the 2005 to 2006 time period.

As of July 1, 2006, the commonwealth's male (6,047,537) and female (6,393,084) populations stood at 48.6 percent and 51.4 percent of the total population, respectively. Philadelphia County had both the largest estimated number and highest estimated percentage of women in the commonwealth in 2006. An estimated 771,033 women lived in Philadelphia in 2006, accounting for 53.2 percent of the county's total population. The county with the largest proportion of men was Forest County, which was estimated to have 62.5 percent of its population male. This large proportion of men in Forest County is due, in large part, to a State Correctional Institution within the county.

### **Methodology**

The Census Bureau used a distributive cohort component method to develop the July 1, 2006 state estimates of the resident population by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin, for all of the nation's states and counties. Using previously developed resident national population estimates by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin, the Census Bureau estimated the age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin distributions for each state by estimating post-censal change in the corresponding populations with a cohort component model. The same method was then used to develop the county-level estimates.

\* Note: People who identify their origin as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino may be of any race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division  
Release Date: August 9, 2007

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.

**Table 1: Annual Estimates of the Population by Race and Hispanic Origin for Pennsylvania Counties, 2006**

County	Total Population	Race						Ethnicity	
		White Alone	Black Alone	American Indian and Alaska Native Alone	Asian Alone	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone	Two or more races	Not Hispanic or Latino	Hispanic or Latino
<b>Pennsylvania Total</b>	<b>12,440,621</b>	<b>10,660,136</b>	<b>1,336,278</b>	<b>24,077</b>	<b>292,507</b>	<b>5,446</b>	<b>122,177</b>	<b>11,913,645</b>	<b>526,976</b>
Adams County	101,105	97,390	1,890	235	758	25	807	95,899	5,206
Allegheny County	1,223,411	1,016,452	162,517	2,447	28,035	581	13,379	1,208,319	15,092
Armstrong County	70,096	68,809	699	78	123	15	372	69,740	356
Beaver County	175,736	161,873	10,968	233	641	27	1,994	174,108	1,628
Bedford County	49,927	49,193	215	78	168	6	267	49,624	303
Berks County	401,149	370,848	19,738	958	5,094	329	4,182	349,713	51,436
Blair County	126,494	122,896	1,833	140	629	28	968	125,704	790
Bradford County	62,471	61,223	288	207	352	4	397	62,064	407
Bucks County	623,205	573,109	22,369	1,011	21,068	213	5,435	603,943	19,262
Butler County	182,901	178,256	1,838	196	1,486	70	1,055	181,432	1,469
Cambria County	146,967	140,063	4,796	161	805	41	1,101	145,413	1,554
Cameron County	5,489	5,401	36	11	9	3	29	5,446	43
Carbon County	62,567	60,973	787	105	275	17	410	61,140	1,427
Centre County	140,953	128,181	4,280	229	6,679	161	1,423	138,104	2,849
Chester County	482,112	429,906	30,353	799	16,304	165	4,585	461,348	20,764
Clarion County	40,385	39,542	395	57	175	2	214	40,198	187
Clearfield County	82,442	80,075	1,570	100	294	12	391	81,848	594
Clinton County	37,232	36,394	291	51	241	8	247	36,927	305
Columbia County	65,014	63,238	693	109	492	29	453	64,109	905
Crawford County	89,389	86,478	1,648	199	317	22	725	88,704	685
Cumberland County	226,117	211,275	6,863	315	5,275	76	2,313	221,783	4,334
Dauphin County	254,176	196,851	45,643	537	6,595	115	4,435	241,266	12,910
Delaware County	555,996	423,216	102,060	722	24,026	131	5,841	544,664	11,332
Elk County	33,179	32,788	82	43	154	14	98	33,007	172
Erie County	279,811	254,917	18,557	507	2,314	77	3,439	272,796	7,015
Fayette County	145,760	137,841	5,997	191	430	33	1,268	145,067	693
Forest County	6,506	5,475	961	24	19	0	27	6,257	249
Franklin County	139,991	133,262	3,963	230	1,160	74	1,302	136,201	3,790
Fulton County	14,783	14,502	117	32	22	2	108	14,723	60
Greene County	40,432	38,172	1,812	65	125	7	251	40,013	419
Huntingdon County	45,771	42,701	2,556	53	151	3	307	45,207	564
Indiana County	88,234	85,160	1,559	93	891	6	525	87,641	593
Jefferson County	45,725	45,137	102	90	160	4	232	45,504	221
Juniata County	23,512	23,115	134	34	98	47	84	23,056	456
Lackawanna County	209,728	201,740	4,094	246	2,074	39	1,535	204,702	5,026
Lancaster County	494,486	462,490	17,486	882	8,301	218	5,109	461,591	32,895
Lawrence County	91,795	86,669	3,781	95	351	11	888	91,133	662

**Table 1: Annual Estimates of the Population by Race and Hispanic Origin for Pennsylvania Counties, 2006, continued**

County	Total Population	Race						Ethnicity	
		White Alone	Black Alone	American Indian and Alaska Native Alone	Asian Alone	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone	Two or more races	Not Hispanic or Latino	Hispanic or Latino
Lebanon County	126,883	121,807	2,552	249	1,261	52	962	119,049	7,834
Lehigh County	335,544	302,612	18,130	835	9,702	218	4,047	287,256	48,288
Luzerne County	313,020	300,143	7,927	361	2,508	74	2,007	302,774	10,246
Lycoming County	117,668	110,374	5,279	316	588	15	1,096	116,714	954
McKean County	44,065	42,450	969	173	210	14	249	43,526	539
Mercer County	118,551	110,093	6,455	137	662	27	1,177	117,622	929
Mifflin County	46,057	45,348	272	45	156	3	233	45,729	328
Monroe County	165,685	139,975	18,956	440	3,609	71	2,634	147,348	18,337
Montgomery County	775,688	660,464	64,995	1,347	39,818	304	8,760	753,385	22,303
Montour County	17,934	17,248	265	19	288	0	114	17,700	234
Northampton County	291,306	269,110	12,249	530	6,411	170	2,836	267,214	24,092
Northumberland County	91,654	88,940	1,782	103	229	18	582	90,289	1,365
Perry County	45,087	44,356	313	60	107	4	247	44,712	375
Philadelphia County	1,448,394	681,470	662,714	5,401	78,884	1,515	18,410	1,296,824	151,570
Pike County	58,195	53,797	3,124	131	578	8	557	53,870	4,325
Potter County	17,568	17,167	136	42	97	5	121	17,443	125
Schuylkill County	147,405	141,953	3,777	141	817	18	699	144,958	2,447
Snyder County	38,226	37,357	380	21	247	4	217	37,747	479
Somerset County	78,508	76,117	1,808	73	251	6	253	77,807	701
Sullivan County	6,277	5,990	180	52	12	0	43	6,183	94
Susquehanna County	41,889	41,279	160	82	122	6	240	41,468	421
Tioga County	41,137	40,245	338	99	206	3	246	40,870	267
Union County	43,387	38,872	3,361	74	612	18	450	41,505	1,882
Venango County	55,488	54,073	694	114	164	18	425	55,133	355
Warren County	41,742	41,146	118	92	161	8	217	41,545	197
Washington County	206,432	196,089	7,064	209	1,196	47	1,827	204,920	1,512
Wayne County	50,929	49,108	1,136	75	305	1	304	49,737	1,192
Westmoreland County	366,440	352,150	8,645	387	2,514	62	2,682	364,251	2,189
Wyoming County	28,093	27,559	192	52	108	2	180	27,764	329
York County	416,322	387,233	19,336	854	4,593	140	4,166	399,908	16,414