



Research Brief

The Commonwealth's Official Source for Population and Economic Statistics

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Census Bureau Releases State Population Projections: Pennsylvania continues slow growth

MIDDLETOWN, Pa –The Pennsylvania State Data Center at Penn State Harrisburg reports that Pennsylvania will grow to a population of 12,768,184 people by the year 2030 and maintain its position as the nation's 6th largest state. This data, released today, is from the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Division and were developed for each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia by age and sex for the years 2004 to 2030. The projections are based on results from Census 2000.

Nationally, the U.S. is expected to increase in population by 29.2 percent, or 89.2 million persons by 2030. The U.S. will pass 300 million in 2007 and have a 2030 total population of 363.6 million. Nevada will be the nation's fastest growing state with a 114.3 percent increase in population. Pennsylvania's 4.0 percent increase in population from 2000 to 2030 ranks 45th nationally. Finishing last in percent change in population will be North Dakota who is expected to have a population decrease of 5.5 percent from 2000 to 2030. Although Pennsylvania will increase in population by 487,130 persons from 2000 to 2030, its percent of the nation's total population will decrease from 4.4 percent in 2000 to 3.5 percent in 2030.

A look at the individual years for Pennsylvania's projected population growth shows that the Commonwealth will experience a slow, but steady, increase in population until the year 2024 when the Commonwealth will have a population of 12,803,729. From 2024 until 2030, Pennsylvania will show a slow decline in population (12,768,184). See chart 1

Chart 1

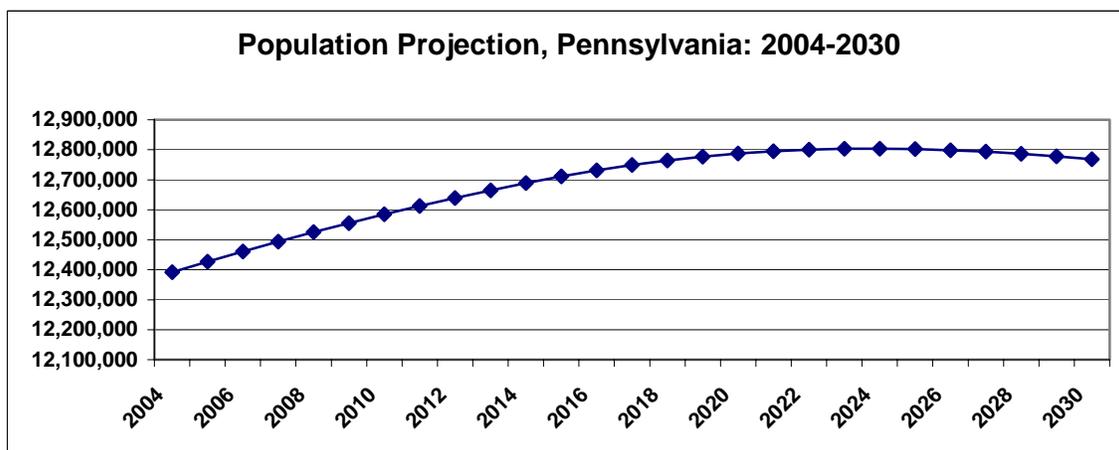


Table 2: Numeric and Percent Population Change, Pennsylvania: 2000 to 2030

Year	Projected Population	From Previous Year	
		Numeric Change	Percent Change
2000	12,281,054	-	-
2004	12,391,530	-	-
2005	12,426,603	35,073	0.28
2006	12,460,844	34,241	0.28
2007	12,493,634	32,790	0.26
2008	12,525,118	31,484	0.25
2009	12,555,469	30,351	0.24
2010	12,584,487	29,018	0.23
2011	12,612,380	27,893	0.22
2012	12,639,226	26,846	0.21
2013	12,664,761	25,535	0.20
2014	12,688,737	23,976	0.19
2015	12,710,938	22,201	0.17
2016	12,731,118	20,180	0.16
2017	12,748,977	17,859	0.14
2018	12,764,432	15,455	0.12
2019	12,777,274	12,842	0.10
2020	12,787,354	10,080	0.08
2021	12,794,939	7,585	0.06
2022	12,800,217	5,278	0.04
2023	12,803,142	2,925	0.02
2024	12,803,729	587	0.00
2025	12,801,945	-1,784	-0.01
2026	12,798,532	-3,413	-0.03
2027	12,793,437	-5,095	-0.04
2028	12,786,628	-6,809	-0.05
2029	12,778,134	-8,494	-0.07
2030	12,768,184	-9,950	-0.08
2000-2030	-	487,130	3.97
2004-2030	-	376,654	3.04

Pennsylvanian's median age will increase to 42.1 by 2030, an increase of over 4 years from the 2000 median age of 38.0. The nation's median age will also increase from 35.3 in 2000 to 39.0 in 2030. As shown by the Demographic Indicators in Table 1, our dependency ratio will rise from 73.2 to 87.2 by 2030. This is the ratio of children under age 20 and elderly age 65 and older to the population age 20 to 64. Our youth dependency ratio will decrease while our old age dependency ratio, the ratio of those age 65 and older to those age 20 to 64, will increase from 27.1 in 2000 to 42.4 by 2030.

Table 1

Demographic Indicator	2000	2030	Change
Median Age	38.0	42.1	4.1
Male	36.5	40.8	4.3
Female	39.4	43.4	4.0
Dependency Ratio (1)	73.2	87.2	14.0
Youth (2)	46.1	44.8	-1.3
Old Age (3)	27.1	42.4	15.3
Child-Women Ratio (4)	28.4	31.6	3.1
Sex Ratio (5)	93.4	92.6	-0.7
Under 18	105.4	102.7	-2.7
18-64	97.0	96.6	-0.3
65-84	71.6	80.8	9.1
85+	38.2	49.6	11.4

(1) Dependency Ratio = (Age under 20 + Age 65 and over) / (Age 20-64) X 100

(2) Youth dependency ratio = Age under 20 / Age 20- 64 X 100

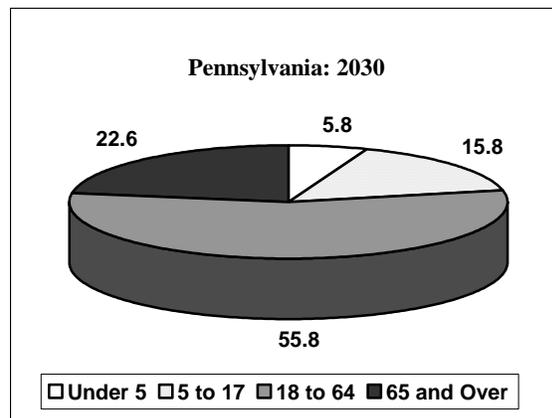
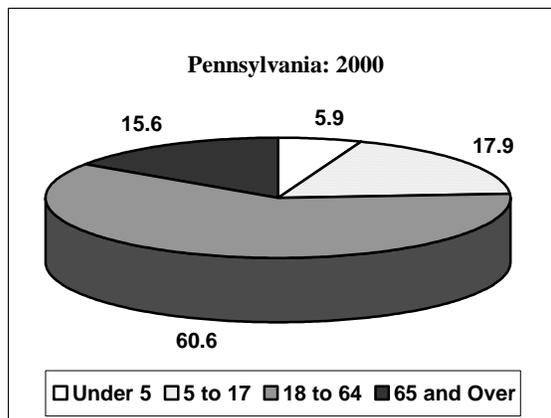
(3) Old age dependency ratio=Age 65 and over/Age 20-64x100

(4) Child-Women ratio= Age under 5/Female 15-44 x 100

(5) Sex Ratio=Male/Female x 100

Pennsylvania had the second highest percent of population age 65 and older in 2000, 15.6 percent. By the year 2030, Pennsylvania will drop to 11th nationally in percent of population age 65 and over. This despite the fact that Pennsylvania's percent of the population age 65 and over will increase to 22.6 percent by the year 2030 and number almost 2.9 million persons, a 50.6 percent increase. To see how other age groupings have changed from 2000 to 2030, see the pie charts that follow.

Percent of Total Population, Selected Age Groupings



Additional charts and graphs about Pennsylvania's population projections to 2030 will be posted on our Web site at: PaSDC.hbg.psu.edu, click on PA STATS and then on Estimates and Projections.

For additional information, please call the Pennsylvania State Data Center at 717.948.6336. State government, legislative and media entities may contact the Pennsylvania State Data Center's State Capital Office at 717.772.2710.

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.