



Research Brief

The Commonwealth's Official Source for Population and Economic Statistics

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2007 Detailed State Population Estimates Released: Hispanic and Other Minority Groups Show Largest Population Gains

MIDDLETOWN, Pa –The U.S. Census Bureau today released July 1, 2007 estimates of the population based on age, sex, race and Hispanic origin. The release includes detailed population estimates for Pennsylvania at the state level. The data illustrates the commonwealth's changing demographics, showing almost one in five Pennsylvania residents is a minority. Overall, the populations of several age groups, including persons 25-44 and children under the age of 18 have declined. The state's total population has increased to 12,432,792, from 12,402,817 in 2006 (0.2 percent increase) and 12,281,054 in 2000 (1.2 percent increase).

Hispanic Origin

The Hispanic population in Pennsylvania (556,132) continued to increase in 2007. The number of persons of Hispanic or Latino Origin increased 5.0 percent from 2006 to 2007, and grew by 41.1 percent since 2000. In comparison, the non-Hispanic population increased by less than 0.1 percent last year and decreased 0.1 percent since 2000. Hispanics account for a significant portion of all population growth in Pennsylvania between 2000 and 2007, increasing 162,044 people from 2000-2007. The Non-Hispanic population fell by 10,306 during the same time period. However, in 2007 Hispanics made up just 4.5 percent of the total population in the commonwealth. Hispanic or Latino origin is considered an ethnicity by the U.S. Census Bureau and persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

Race

No single race group in Pennsylvania lost population, between 2006 and 2007, though the White Alone race group, which makes up 85.6 percent of the state's population, was the slowest-growing, increasing by only 0.1 percent. Since 2000, the White Alone population has fallen by 35,088 persons (-0.3 percent). Between 2006 and 2007, Black and Asian (Alone) populations grew by 9,017 and 9,718 persons, respectively. In the last six years, Pennsylvania's Black (+79,528) and Asian (+74,056) populations increased by 6.3 percent and 32.8 percent, respectively. Also, the population of Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders, and persons of two or more races have each grown quickly since 2000: 30.8 percent and 27.6 percent, respectively. (Table 1)

Age and Sex

Several age groups have declined in population over the last six years. Pennsylvania's elderly population (65 years or older) has dropped by 29,505 persons (-1.5 percent) since 2000. The 25-44 age group experienced a large population loss (-319,950 or -9.1 percent) and children (under 18) declined by 135,502, or -4.6 percent during this period.

Pennsylvania remains one of the oldest states in the nation, ranking 3rd in percentage of persons 65 and over (15.2 percent) in 2007. The median age of all Pennsylvanians has increased from 38.0 to 39.7 since 2000. As of July 1, 2007, the commonwealth's male (6,048,989) and female (6,383,803) populations stood at 48.7 percent and 51.3 percent of the total population, respectively. Among the elderly, the ratio shifts to 40.8 percent male, 59.2 percent female (in 2007).



Table 1. Annual Estimates of the Population by Race Alone and Hispanic or Latino Origin for Pennsylvania: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2007

Race (Alone), and Hispanic or Latino Origin	Population Estimates		April 1, 2000	July 1, 2006 to July 1, 2007 Percent Change	July 1, 2006 to July 1, 2007 Numeric Change	April 1, 2000 Estimates Base to July 1, 2007 Percent Change	April 1, 2000 Estimates Base to July 1, 2007 Numeric Change
	July 1, 2007	July 1, 2006	Estimates Base				
TOTAL	12,432,792	12,402,817	12,281,054	0.2%	29,975	1.2%	151,738
One race	12,308,477	12,281,667	12,183,596	0.2%	26,810	1.0%	124,881
White	10,639,922	10,632,647	10,675,010	0.1%	7,275	-0.3%	-35,088
Black	1,338,477	1,329,460	1,258,949	0.7%	9,017	6.3%	79,528
AIAN	24,813	24,189	19,782	2.6%	624	25.4%	5,031
Asian	299,510	289,792	225,454	3.4%	9,718	32.8%	74,056
NHPI	5,755	5,579	4,401	3.2%	176	30.8%	1,354
Two or more races	124,315	121,150	97,458	2.6%	3,165	27.6%	26,857
NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN	11,876,660	11,873,217	11,886,966	0.0%	3,443	-0.1%	-10,306
One race	11,765,992	11,765,234	11,798,799	0.0%	758	-0.3%	-32,807
White	10,168,238	10,185,427	10,346,307	-0.2%	-17,189	-1.7%	-178,069
Black	1,281,325	1,273,348	1,211,622	0.6%	7,977	5.8%	69,703
AIAN	17,986	17,683	15,289	1.7%	303	17.6%	2,697
Asian	295,032	285,468	222,790	3.4%	9,564	32.4%	72,242
NHPI	3,411	3,308	2,791	3.1%	103	22.2%	620
Two or more races	110,668	107,983	88,167	2.5%	2,685	25.5%	22,501
HISPANIC OR LATINO ORIGIN	556,132	529,600	394,088	5.0%	26,532	41.1%	162,044
One race	542,485	516,433	384,797	5.0%	26,052	41.0%	157,688
White	471,684	447,220	328,703	5.5%	24,464	43.5%	142,981
Black	57,152	56,112	47,327	1.9%	1,040	20.8%	9,825
AIAN	6,827	6,506	4,493	4.9%	321	51.9%	2,334
Asian	4,478	4,324	2,664	3.6%	154	68.1%	1,814
NHPI	2,344	2,271	1,610	3.2%	73	45.6%	734
Two or more races	13,647	13,167	9,291	3.6%	480	46.9%	4,356
Note: The April 1, 2000 Population Estimates base reflects changes to the Census 2000 population from the Count Question Resolution program and geographic program revisions.							
Abbreviations: Black = Black or African American; AIAN = American Indian and Alaska Native; NHPI = Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander							

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 comments on this topic, contact Penn State Harrisburg's Public Information Office at 717.948.6029.

Source: Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau.

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