



# Research Brief

The Commonwealth's Official Source for Population and Economic Statistics

July 1, 2009

## Population Estimates Released for Pennsylvania Cities, Boroughs and Townships

PENN STATE HARRISBURG – The U.S. Census Bureau today released July 1, 2008 population estimates for sub-county geographies, including Pennsylvania cities, boroughs and townships.

### Pennsylvania Municipalities

Penn Township (5,699), in Chester County, is the state's fastest growing municipality. The population of Penn Township increased 102.7 percent between 2000 and 2008. (Jenks Township and Waymart Borough both increased by larger margins, but those population increases were due to construction of new prison facilities.) Two other Pennsylvania municipalities grew by more than 75 percent since 2000: Hallam Borough in York County (87.1 percent) and Bethel Township in Delaware County (75.3 percent). See Table 1.

Since 2000, ninety-four Pennsylvania municipalities experienced growth of 25 percent or higher, while twenty-nine declined by ten percent or more.

### Population Growth and Decline in Large Cities

Philadelphia is the sixth-largest city in the nation, with a population of 1.45 million. Philadelphia continues to lose population, with 70,155 fewer people in the city in 2007 than in 2000 (a 4.6 percent loss). Pittsburgh (310,037) also continues to lose population, having 24,526 fewer people in 2007 than in 2000, representing a 7.3 percent decrease.

Only five of Pennsylvania's 15 largest cities increased in population between 2007 and 2008: combined, the state's 15 largest municipalities declined by 3,334 persons between 2007 and 2008. An analysis of the nation's large cities (those with a population greater than 100,000 persons) shows no northeastern cities ranked in the top 25 for percent growth between 2006 and 2007.

Population growth in Pennsylvania municipalities was concentrated in the eastern and south-central region, especially in the counties surrounding Philadelphia and bordering Maryland and New Jersey. Population decline was most prevalent in municipalities in the Western and North-central regions of the state.

The July 1, 2008 sub-county estimates for Pennsylvania include the state's cities, townships and boroughs. Please note that due to changes based on the count resolution program, updates from the Boundary and Annexation Survey and geographic programs revisions, an April 1, 2000 estimates base was used in the estimating process.

**Table 1: Pennsylvania Municipalities Experiencing the Fastest Population Growth (Percent Increase), 2000-2008**

Municipality	April 1, 2000 Estimates Base	July 1, 2007 Estimate	July 1, 2008 Estimate	Numeric Change 2000 Estimate Base to July 1, 2008	Numeric Change July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008	Percent Change 2000 Estimate Base to July 1, 2008	Percent Change July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008
Jenks township	1,261	3,303	3,276	2,015	-27	159.8	-0.8
Waymart borough	1,429	3,132	3,135	1,706	3	119.4	0.1
Penn township	2,812	5,565	5,699	2,887	134	102.7	2.4
Hallam borough	1,532	2,863	2,867	1,335	4	87.1	0.1
Bethel township	6,421	10,798	11,255	4,834	457	75.3	4.2
Allen township	2,630	4,400	4,524	1,894	124	72.0	2.8
Forks township	8,424	14,076	14,340	5,916	264	70.2	1.9
Ivyland borough	492	808	805	313	-3	63.6	-0.4
Upper Uwchlan township	6,850	10,431	11,106	4,256	675	62.1	6.5
East Caln township	2,857	4,346	4,410	1,553	64	54.4	1.5
Lower Macungie township	19,220	29,003	29,680	10,460	677	54.4	2.3

To view our July Map of the Month: Estimated Population Percent Change April 1, 2000 Estimates Base to July 1, 2008, Pennsylvania Municipalities, please visit:

[http://pasdc.hbg.psu.edu/pasdc/whats\\_new/Map\\_of\\_the\\_month.html](http://pasdc.hbg.psu.edu/pasdc/whats_new/Map_of_the_month.html)

Additional tables can be found at:

[http://pasdc.hbg.psu.edu/pasdc/PA\\_Stats/estimates\\_and\\_projections/estimates.html](http://pasdc.hbg.psu.edu/pasdc/PA_Stats/estimates_and_projections/estimates.html)

The Pennsylvania State Data Center will be publishing its annual edition of Pennsylvania's municipal population estimates in the near future. Look for it on our Web site at: [PaSDC.hbg.psu.edu](http://PaSDC.hbg.psu.edu)

For additional information, please 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 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.

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