



# Research Brief

The Commonwealth's Official Source for Population and Economic Statistics

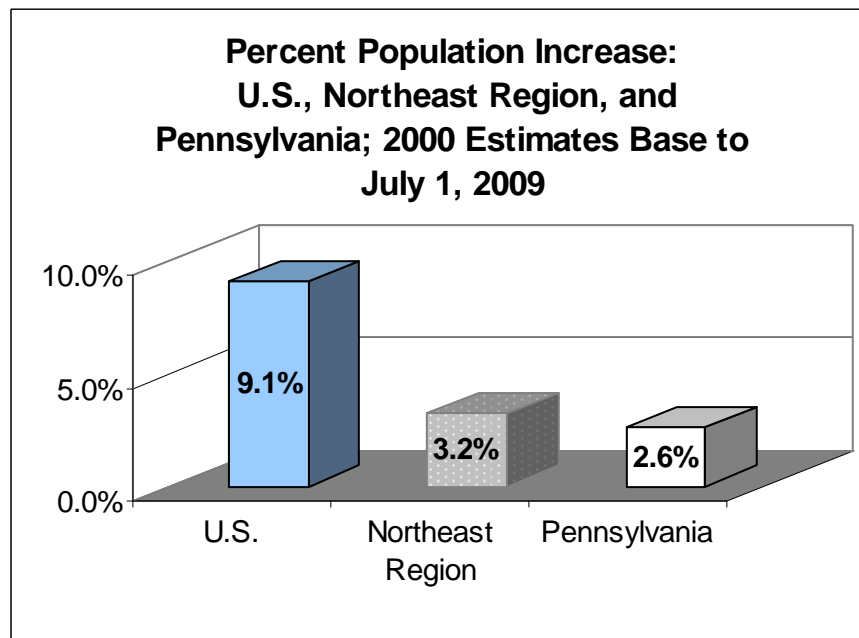
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## U.S. Census Bureau Releases 2009 National and State Population Estimates – Nation Gained 2.6 Million People Last Year, Commonwealth Increased by 38,399

**PENN STATE HARRISBURG**  
– Pennsylvania continues its trend of slow growth, according to the 2009 National and State Population Estimates released today by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Pennsylvania's estimated population grew to 12,604,767, representing a growth rate of 2.6 percent between 2000 and 2009. Pennsylvania remains the 6th largest state in the nation behind California, Texas, New York, Florida and Illinois.

Pennsylvania's growth mirrors that of the region: the Northeast region ranked last in both numeric (1,688,851) and percent (3.2 percent) population increase from 2000-2009. The Census Bureau classifies the nation into four regions: the South, West, Midwest, and Northeast.



### The U.S. and Pennsylvania Since Census 2000

Since April 1, 2000 (Census Day), the United States has experienced a population increase of 25,581,948, an increase of 9.1 percent. In the same timeframe (April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2009), Pennsylvania has increased in population by 323,696 persons, or 2.6 percent. Pennsylvania ranks 21<sup>st</sup> nationally in numeric increase in population and 44<sup>th</sup> nationally in percent increase in population since 2000.

## Population Growth from 2008 to 2009

The data also shows that the nation's population grew by 0.9 percent (2.6 million people) between July 1, 2008 and July 1, 2009. The United States estimated population as of July 1, 2009 is 307,006,550

Pennsylvania ranked 21st in numeric change (38,399 people) in population between 2008 and 2009 and 44th in percent change (0.3 percent) in population. A look at numeric population increase shows that Texas had the largest increase at 478,012 followed by California (381,293). Wyoming had the highest percent increase in population from 2008 to 2009 at 2.1 percent. Michigan (-32,759), Maine (-1,390) and Rhode Island (-293) were the only states in the nation that experienced a decrease in population from 2008 to 2009.

Regionally, the South had the highest numeric increase from 2008-2009 in population with an increase of about 1.3 million persons. The West had the highest percent increase in population at 1.2 percent. The Northeast finished last in numeric increase (223,483) while the Midwest Region was last for percent increase (0.4 percent) during the same time period.

## Components of Population Change in Pennsylvania, 2000 to 2009

Census Bureau Population Estimates are created by taking the last Decennial Census count, and updating the count using counts of births, deaths, and migration (both domestic and international). The addition of births, and subtraction of deaths, results in the 'natural increase' of an area. Pennsylvania's natural increase was ranked 47<sup>th</sup> among the states between 2000 and 2009. It was ranked 46<sup>th</sup> in births but 2<sup>nd</sup> in deaths over the same time period.

## Migration

Migration has been a significant source of Pennsylvania's population growth, particularly international migration. Compared to other states, a larger share of Pennsylvania's population growth has come from international migration than from natural increase (births minus deaths) or domestic migration.

Between 2008 and 2009, that trend has continued, with Pennsylvania gaining 136,359 people from total migration. Domestic migration alone, however, resulted in a net migration loss of 40,139 people, while international migration accounted for an increase of 176,498.

Data tables are available on the Pennsylvania State Data Center website.

[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)

Source: Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau

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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