

2020 Census Redistricting Data: Housing Units

HARRISBURG – The U.S. Census Bureau has released the official 2020 Census P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data file, including user-friendly file formats available through the Bureau’s site.

Introduction

The Census Bureau released the 2020 Census Redistricting Data for all states on August 12, 2021. This data is used by states to redraw congressional and legislative district boundaries. This data was released on the Census Bureau’s public [FTP site](#) in legacy data format and re-released September 30, 2021 via data.census.gov.

To help Pennsylvania data users access this data, the Pennsylvania State Data Center has data files and visualizations available on its [website](#). The Redistricting Data release includes information on:

- Race for Total Population
- Hispanic/Latino and Not Hispanic/Latino by Race for Total Population
- Race for the 18+ Population
- Hispanic/Latino and Not Hispanic/Latino by Race for the 18+ Population
- Group Quarters Population by Group Quarters Type for the Total Group Quarters Population
- Occupancy Status for Housing Units

Highlights: Housing units in PA grew by 3.2% over the last decade

The total number of housing units in Pennsylvania increased 175,513 (+3.2%) from 2010 to 2020 with occupied units increasing 191,694 (+3.8%) and vacant units declining 16,181 (-3.0%). This is a smaller increase than from 2000 to 2010 when the state’s total housing units increased 317,565 (+6.0%). Similarly, occupied units increased 241,901 (+5.1%) from 2000 to 2010 while vacant units increased 75,664 (+16.0%) during that time.

Twenty-two counties in the state gained more than 1,000 housing units from 2010 to 2020 while thirteen counties lost more than 1,000 units. The county with the largest increase in total housing units was Philadelphia (+56,626). Montgomery County saw the second largest increase (+21,142), followed by Chester (+15,778), Lancaster (+13,550) and Allegheny (+12,894).

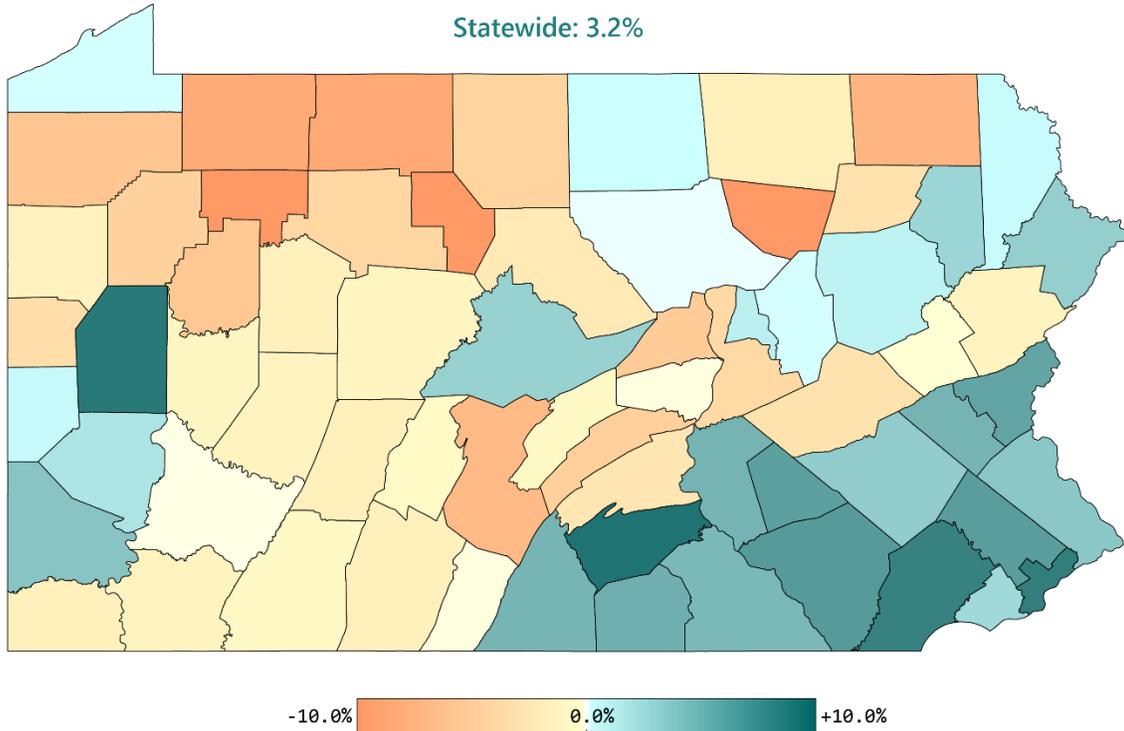
Two counties lost over 2,000 units from 2010 to 2020: Crawford (-2,623) and Schuylkill (-2,195). Other counties with large losses include Warren (-1,973), Northumberland (-1,825) and Forest (-1,811).

The largest decreases in occupied housing units were seen in Cambria (-2,580), Schuylkill (-2,242), Fayette (-1,908), Indiana (-1,719), and Susquehanna (-1,501). These counties were among the top ten counties for population loss from 2010 to 2020.

Census 2020: Percent Change in Housing Units since 2010

Percent Change in P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data by County

Statewide: 3.2%



Prepared by
PASDC

U.S. Census Bureau
2010 & 2020 P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data

The largest increases in vacant housing units from 2010 to 2020 were in Erie (+1,695), Chester (+1,559), Lackawanna (+1,464), Cambria (+1,325), and Washington (+1,215) counties. Chester, Lackawanna, and Washington counties gained population from 2010 to 2020.

More than half of Pennsylvania's fifty-seven cities lost housing units from 2010 to 2020 with the largest declines in Erie (-1,165) and McKeesport (-1,123). Four cities lost more than 10% of their housing units: Farrell (-14.2%), Parker (-13.8%), McKeesport (-11.1%) and Duquesne (-10.1%).

In addition to the cities, large declines in housing units were seen in Wilkesburg borough (-849), Shenandoah borough (-683), Middle Smithfield township (-578) and Smithfield township (-462). Among the municipalities with large losses of housing units from 2010 to 2020, only Middle Smithfield township and Smithfield township gained population over the decade.

Resources from PaSDC & the Census Bureau

County and municipal level [visualizations](#) are available on our website for analyzing additional statistics.

If you need to analyze data for all Pennsylvania counties or municipalities, we have provided an excel [file](#) with the 2020 and 2010 populations and the percent change. If you are looking for historical data, our updated product provides population for counties and municipalities from 1960 to 2020 with percent change included. This is an electronic product only and can be purchased on our [eStore](#).

The Census Bureau used a new method of privacy protection for the 2020 Census, Differential Privacy. To learn more about privacy protections for the 2020 Census Redistricting Data, please see this Census [Fact Sheet](#). There is additional information about the [Census Disclosure Avoidance Modernization](#) on their website.

As governments begin reviewing their official 2020 Census data, the Count Question Resolution Program provides a method to request a review of Census results to ensure that population and housing units were correctly allocated. In December of 2021, the Census Bureau will notify tribal, state and local government officials of their eligibility for the program and governments can begin filing challenges through the program in January of 2020. For additional information about this program, visit the [Count Question Resolution Program](#) page on the Census website.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000, 2010, and 2020 P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data file.

Questions? Contact the Pennsylvania State Data Center at 717.948.6336 or online at pasdc.hbg.psu.edu.

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