

## Child Diversity in Pennsylvania, 2009 to 2017

HARRISBURG – This month's brief accompanies our new Child Diversity Dashboard which visualizes statewide trends in the racial and Hispanic composition of Pennsylvania's child population, or those under 20 years of age, by school district. The Child Diversity Dashboard and this accompanying report compare the racial and Hispanic composition based on five-year estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey.

### Key trends in child diversity:

- One-in-three Pennsylvania children are children of color
- One-in-ten Pennsylvania children are of Hispanic or Latino origin
- Four-of-five school districts now have a higher share of children of color than in 2009

### General Trends in the Population of Color by Age

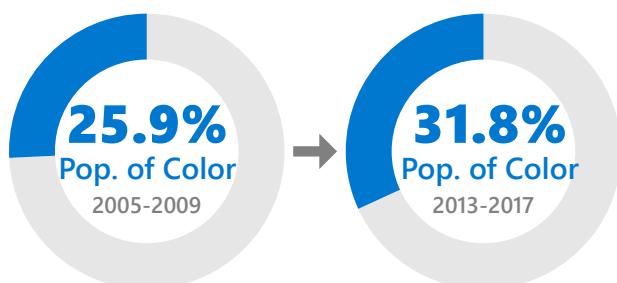
Pennsylvania's population of color\* grew from 2.3 million (18.5%) as of 2009 to 2.9 million (22.7%) as of 2017. While children constituted less than a quarter (23.8%) of the general population of Pennsylvania and only one-fifth of the white population (21.0%) by 2017, they accounted for approximately one-third (33.2%) of the population of color.

Greater change occurred in the youth's racial and Hispanic composition than in adult age cohorts. The population of color increased by nearly six percentage points from 2017 as a share of the total child population in Pennsylvania. For those 20 years of age or older, the population of color's share of the population increased by less than four percentage points.

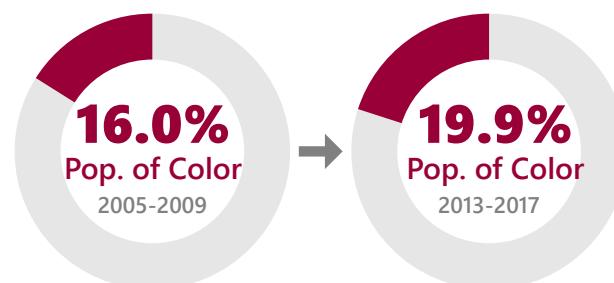
### Pennsylvania's Child Population Continues to Become More Diverse

Population of Color as Percentage of General Population by Age

#### Child Population (<20 years old)



#### Adult Population (20+ years old)



\*See the end of the report for notes and definitions.

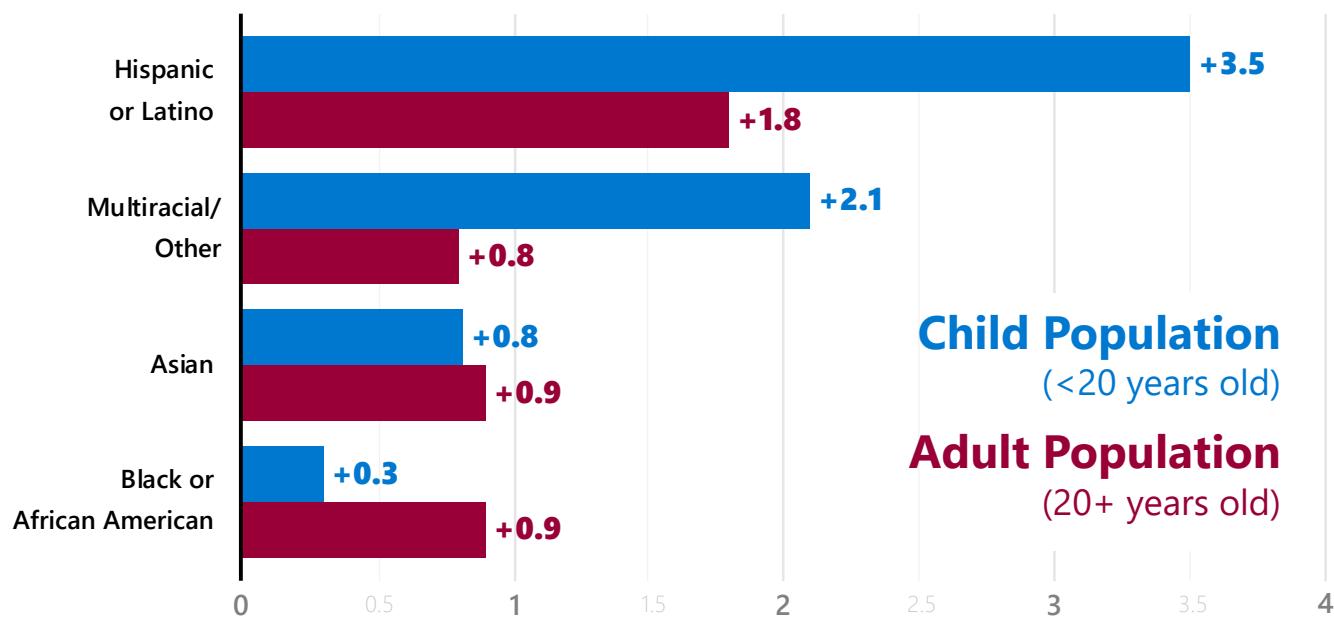
## Trends among Racial and Ethnic Subgroups

Hispanic or Latino children saw the largest growth in their share of the total child population in Pennsylvania from 7.6 percent of all those under 20 years of age as of 2009 to 11.1 percent as of 2017. The percent of adults that were Hispanic (3.7% as of 2009) grew half as much, only to 5.5 percent by 2017.

Multiracial children, or those of other races, also saw large gains in their share of the total child population from 6.4 percent of all those under 20 years of age in Pennsylvania as of 2009 to 8.5 percent as of 2017. The adult population, of which multiracial individuals or individuals of other races made a lesser percentage as of 2009 (2.5%), grew by less - only to 3.3 percent by 2017.

## Hispanic or Latino, Multiracial Children Make Gains in Child Population

Difference in Share of Population by Race (in Percentage Points), 2009 to 2017



The Asian population experienced gains in its share of the total population for both children and adults of just under one percent. As of 2017, the Asian population accounted for 3.5 percent of the child population and 3.2 percent of the adult population in Pennsylvania.

The Black or African American population saw the smallest gains in its share of the child population but shared similar gains to other races in the adult population. As of 2017, the Black or African American population accounted for 13.6 percent of the child population and 10.3 percent of the adult population of Pennsylvania.

## Trends in Pennsylvania School Districts

The population of color increased its share of the total population in 407 school districts (81.6%) in Pennsylvania from 2009 to 2017. Three-quarters (75.2%) of school districts had a higher percentage of Hispanic children (375 districts), and nearly as many saw increases in the percentage of multiracial children or children of other races (364 districts, 72.9%).

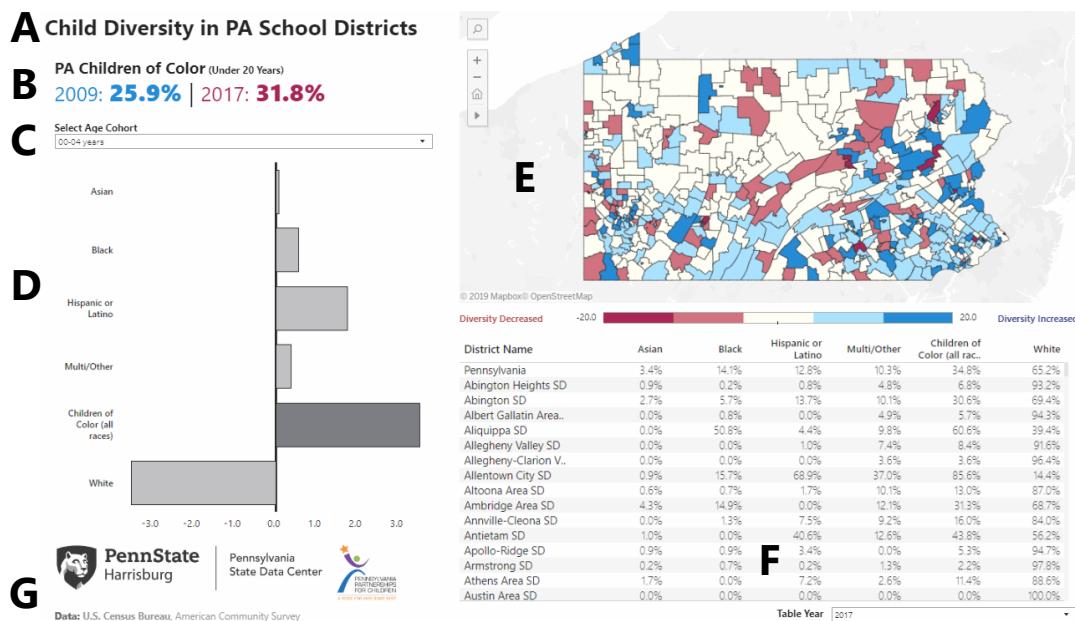
Over half of Pennsylvania school districts saw increases in the percentage of children who were Black or African American (281 districts, 56.3%) or Asian (269 districts, 53.9%). Table 1 lists the top five school districts by increases in share of the population for each race and ethnicity.

**Table 1.** Top five school districts that have had the highest increase (in percentage points) in population of color by race & ethnicity from 2009 to 2017.

Group	Rank	School District	Increase
Asian	1	Tredyffrin-Easttown SD	8.6
	2	Unionville-Chadds Ford SD	7.6
	3	Lower Moreland Township SD	7.0
	4	Garnet Valley SD	6.9
	5	Baldwin-Whitehall SD	6.8
Black or African American	1	Southeast Delco SD	23.6
	2	Clairton City SD	17.6
	3	Upper Darby SD	16.0
	4	Wilson Area SD	12.7
	5	McKeesport Area SD	11.4
Hispanic or Latino	1	Antietam SD	30.0
	2	Hazleton Area SD	26.9
	3	Old Forge SD	21.7
	4	Lebanon SD	19.5
	5	Wyomissing Area SD	16.8
Multiracial/ Other	1	Hanover Public SD	4.4
	2	Lebanon SD	4.3
	3	Greater Johnstown SD	4.1
	4	Shenandoah Valley SD	4.1
	5	Big Beaver Falls Area SD	4.0
Population of Color	1	Antietam SD	31.8
	2	Shenandoah Valley SD	30.1
	3	Muhlenberg SD	28.8
	4	Hazleton Area SD	24.8
	5	Southeast Delco SD	22.7

## Child Diversity Dashboard

Our new Child Diversity Dashboard, a collaboration between the Pennsylvania State Data Center and Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children, provides statistics on the racial and ethnic composition of Pennsylvania's child population by school district. Use the guide below to find statistics on your school district. Click here to access the Child Diversity Dashboard.



- Title**
- Statewide Statistic:** Percentage of population under 20 years of age that is of color. Use this to make comparisons to different school districts.
- Age Cohort Selector:** Select from four age groups representing those under five, five to nine, ten to fourteen, and fifteen to nineteen. Data in the chart, map, and table will update accordingly.
- Change by Race & Ethnicity Chart:** Shows the change in the share or percentage of the population that is Asian, Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, etc. in percentage points for the selected age cohort. Defaults to Pennsylvania average when no school district is selected.
- Change in Population of Color by School District Map:** Shows the change in the share or percentage of the population that is of color by school district for the selected age cohort. Selecting a school district filters the chart and table. Click again to remove the filter.
- Racial/Ethnic Composition Table:** Lists the percentage of the population that is Asian, Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, etc. for Pennsylvania and school districts. Click a row to filter the chart and highlight the district on the map. Click again to remove the filter and highlight. Click the header (e.g. "Asian") to sort by subgroup (each click toggles ascending sorting, descending sorting, or turns the sorting off). Use the "Table Year" selector to change the table data from 2009 to 2017.
- Citation.**

Insights from the Child Diversity Dashboard show that:

- The percent of children under five who were Black or African American increased by 9.6 percentage points in William Penn School District (Delaware) which had the highest percentage of Black or African American children under five (74.5%) in 2017 among Pennsylvania school districts.
- Lebanon School District (Lebanon) had the highest percentage of children age 5 to 9 who were multiracial or some other race in 2017 (51.9%).
- Reading School District (Berks) had the highest share of children age 10 to 14 who were Hispanic or Latino as of 2017 (82.4%).
- The share of children of color in Hazleton Area School District (Luzerne/Schuylkill/Carbon) increased by 27.6 percentage points to 47.1% in the population 15 to 19 years of age.

Click [here](#) to visit the Child Diversity Dashboard and explore race and ethnicity in your school district.

**Notes & Definitions:** The population of color is defined as individuals that identify as a race other than white, as multiracial, or as Hispanic or Latino (i.e. the population of color is the total population minus the non-Hispanic white population).

All mentions of "white" refer to the non-Hispanic white population. For all other races, individuals may be of Hispanic origin while Hispanic individuals may be of any race. For these reasons, percentages may not total to 100%.

The "Multiracial/Other" category includes multiracial persons and those who identify as American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, or some other race.

All single-year references denote the end year in the ACS five-year survey period.

All mentions of growth refer to a group's portion of the total population and are reported in percentage points.

**Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 & 2013-2017 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates.

Questions? Contact the Pennsylvania State Data Center at 717.948.6336 or online at [pasdc.hbg.psu.edu](http://pasdc.hbg.psu.edu).

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The Pennsylvania State Data Center would like to thank Kelly Hoffman and Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children for their guidance and assistance with the creation of this visualization and report.