



Research Brief

The Commonwealth's Official Source for Population and Economic Statistics

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Census 2010 Shows Hispanic Population the Fastest-Growing Minority Group in Pennsylvania

PENN STATE HARRISBURG – Pennsylvania's Hispanic population is the fastest-growing minority group in the state, according to new Census 2010 data released this week. The population (of any race) who is Hispanic or Latino grew by 82.6 percent between 2000 and 2010, an increase of 325,572 people.

The Hispanic (or Latino) population now accounts for 5.7 percent of the state's population. While the Hispanic population is the fastest-growing of the minority groups in Pennsylvania, it is not the largest: the Black or African American alone race groups, with 1,377,689 people (10.8 percent of the state's total population).

According to U.S. Census Bureau definitions, Hispanic (or Latino) ethnicity is a separate concept from race: people who are Hispanic or Latino can be of any race. This week's data release, the Redistricting Data release (also known as the P.L. 94-171 release) included detailed statistics on the population over 18, race, ethnicity, and housing units. Other data from the 2010 Census will be released throughout 2011 and over the next several years.

Hispanic or Latino Population Change, Pennsylvania Counties 2010

Forest County, which saw the construction of a new state correctional institution in 2004, had the largest percent increase in its Hispanic population (a growth of 596.7 percent), but other than Forest, 25 counties saw their Hispanic population more than double, including three counties whose Hispanic populations more than tripled (see Table 1.). Those counties were Luzerne (478.8 percent), Clearfield (304.9 percent), and Lackawanna (261.1 percent).

Only one county saw a decline in its Hispanic population over the last ten years: Cameron County's Hispanic population declined by 15 people (a 44.1 percent decrease since 2000).

The population change in the Hispanic population is occurring in all parts of the state, but the largest percent population increases are concentrated in the Eastern half of the state, while the counties whose Hispanic population is growing below the state's average are largely contained in the Western half of the state.

The largest numeric increase in the Hispanic population among Pennsylvania Counties was in Philadelphia County, which increased by 58,683. Lehigh and Berks saw the next-largest numeric

increase in their Hispanic population, growing by 33,734 persons and 30,998 persons, respectively.

Other than Cameron County's decline (see above), seven counties saw increases of less than 100 people in the Hispanic population; because of the small size of the Hispanic population in 2000, these counties still saw large percent increases in their Hispanic population.

Hispanic or Latino Populations, Pennsylvania Counties 2010

Lehigh County had the largest proportion of Hispanic persons: 18.8 percent of Lehigh County's total population was of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. Lehigh was followed by Berks and Monroe Counties (16.4 percent and 13.1 percent, respectively).

Cameron (0.4 percent), Armstrong (0.5 percent), and Elk (0.6 percent) Counties had the smallest percentage Hispanic population among the counties.

The largest Hispanic populations are found in Philadelphia (187,611 people), Berks (67,355 people) and Lehigh (65,615 people). The smallest Hispanic populations are in Cameron (19 people), Sullivan (92 people), and Fulton (123 people).

Table 1. Hispanic or Latino Population Change, Pennsylvania Counties, 2000-2010						
Geographic Area	2010		2000		2000-2010	
	Total Population	Hispanic or Latino	Total Population	Hispanic or Latino	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Pennsylvania	12,702,379	719,660	12,281,054	394,088	325,572	82.6%
Forest	7,716	418	4,946	60	358	596.7%
Luzerne	320,918	21,491	319,250	3,713	17,778	478.8%
Clearfield	81,642	1,907	83,382	471	1,436	304.9%
Lackawanna	214,437	10,682	213,295	2,958	7,724	261.1%
Franklin	149,618	6,438	129,313	2,268	4,170	183.9%
Carbon	65,249	2,145	58,802	858	1,287	150.0%
Schuylkill	148,289	4,080	150,336	1,671	2,409	144.2%
Monroe	169,842	22,288	138,687	9,195	13,093	142.4%
Fulton	14,845	123	14,261	52	71	136.5%
Wyoming	28,276	437	28,080	187	250	133.7%
Wayne	52,822	1,816	47,722	811	1,005	123.9%
Montgomery	799,874	34,233	750,097	15,300	18,933	123.7%
Cumberland	235,406	6,448	213,674	2,883	3,565	123.7%
Pike	57,369	5,173	46,302	2,315	2,858	123.5%
Columbia	67,295	1,349	64,151	609	740	121.5%
Northumberland	94,528	2,253	94,556	1,041	1,212	116.4%
York	434,972	24,397	381,751	11,296	13,101	116.0%
Clinton	39,238	437	37,914	205	232	113.2%
Lebanon	133,568	12,410	120,327	5,969	6,441	107.9%
Indiana	88,880	947	89,605	457	490	107.2%
Lehigh	349,497	65,615	312,090	31,881	33,734	105.8%
Tioga	41,981	437	41,373	214	223	104.2%
Mifflin	46,682	534	46,486	263	271	103.0%

**Table 1. Hispanic or Latino Population Change,
Pennsylvania Counties, 2000-2010**

Geographic Area	2010		2000		2000-2010	
	Total Population	Hispanic or Latino	Total Population	Hispanic or Latino	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Washington	207,820	2,366	202,897	1,170	1,196	102.2%
Warren	41,815	305	43,863	151	154	102.0%
Chester	498,886	32,503	433,501	16,126	16,377	101.6%
Susquehanna	43,356	564	42,238	285	279	97.9%
Delaware	558,979	16,537	550,864	8,368	8,169	97.6%
Perry	45,969	588	43,602	301	287	95.3%
Lycoming	116,111	1,559	120,044	799	760	95.1%
Montour	18,267	324	18,236	167	157	94.0%
Bucks	625,249	26,782	597,635	14,005	12,777	91.2%
Butler	183,862	1,941	174,083	1,016	925	91.0%
Fayette	136,606	1,049	148,644	564	485	86.0%
Blair	127,089	1,230	129,144	662	568	85.8%
Berks	411,442	67,355	373,638	36,357	30,998	85.3%
Adams	101,407	6,115	91,292	3,323	2,792	84.0%
Dauphin	268,100	18,795	251,798	10,404	8,391	80.7%
Snyder	39,702	657	37,546	368	289	78.5%
Bradford	62,622	702	62,761	398	304	76.4%
Lawrence	91,108	931	94,643	529	402	76.0%
Potter	17,457	181	18,080	103	78	75.7%
Northampton	297,735	31,179	267,066	17,868	13,311	74.5%
Bedford	49,762	450	49,984	263	187	71.1%
Allegheny	1,223,348	19,070	1,281,666	11,166	7,904	70.8%
Westmoreland	365,169	3,179	369,993	1,869	1,310	70.1%
Juniata	24,636	623	22,821	369	254	68.8%
Lancaster	519,445	44,930	470,658	26,742	18,188	68.0%
Centre	153,990	3,690	135,758	2,243	1,447	64.5%
Venango	54,984	478	57,565	298	180	60.4%
Somerset	77,742	840	80,023	532	308	57.9%
McKean	43,450	757	45,936	485	272	56.1%
Mercer	116,638	1,248	120,293	803	445	55.4%
Erie	280,566	9,518	280,843	6,126	3,392	55.4%
Crawford	88,765	823	90,366	537	286	53.3%
Beaver	170,539	1,998	181,412	1,315	683	51.9%
Cambria	143,679	2,006	152,598	1,352	654	48.4%
Jefferson	45,200	275	45,932	188	87	46.3%
Philadelphia	1,526,006	187,611	1,517,550	128,928	58,683	45.5%
Union	44,947	2,346	41,624	1,622	724	44.6%
Clarion	39,988	245	41,765	172	73	42.4%
Huntingdon	45,913	727	45,586	524	203	38.7%
Greene	38,686	465	40,672	357	108	30.3%
Elk	31,946	183	35,112	142	41	28.9%
Sullivan	6,428	92	6,556	72	20	27.8%
Armstrong	68,941	366	72,392	308	58	18.8%
Cameron	5,085	19	5,974	34	-15	-44.1%

The Pennsylvania State Data Center is the Commonwealth's expert in demographics and Census datasets. To request custom Census 2010 data tables or maps, contact the Pennsylvania State Data Center at 717.772.2710.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Redistricting Data Release
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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.

Visit the *new* PaSDC web site for more details on the recently-released Census 2010 data, including downloadable data tables, maps, and an interactive chart: <http://pasdc.hbg.psu.edu>

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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