



2017 ACS 1-Year Estimates Released

The release of the 2017 American Community Survey 1-Year estimates provides an array of new data on Pennsylvania’s communities and constituents relating to education, income, employment, housing and more.

Data Highlights

The median income of Pennsylvania households increased to \$59,195 in 2017 trailing behind the median household income for the entire nation (\$60,336). Pennsylvania joined 42 other states that experienced declines in their poverty rate from 2016 to 2017. Pennsylvania’s poverty rate (12.5%) was lower than the nation’s (13.4%).

Pennsylvania experienced statistically significant increases in the median value of owner-occupied housing, educational attainment, and households with broadband Internet subscriptions. The Commonwealth saw significant decreases in homeowner vacancy rates, poverty rates, and single-mother family households. See **Table 1** for a comparison of select socioeconomic indicators in 2016 and 2017.

Table 1. *Select socioeconomic indicators for Pennsylvania in 2017 and previous year.*

Indicator (in percent, unless specified)	2017	2016	Trend	Significance
Median household income (\$)	59,195	58,038	↑	*
Median value, owner-occupied units (\$)	181,200	174,100	↑	*
Renter-occupied units	31.7	31.5	↑	
Homeowner vacancy rate	1.5	1.8	↓	*
HS graduate or higher, population 25+ years	90.6	90.1	↑	*
Bachelor’s degree or higher, population 25+ years	31.4	30.8	↑	*
Below poverty level, total population	12.5	12.9	↓	*
Civilian noninstitutionalized population with no health insurance	5.5	5.6	↓	
Civilian noninstitutionalized population with a disability	14.1	14.2	↓	
Veterans, civilian population 18+ years	7.3	7.8	↓	*
Spanish spoken at home, population 5+ years	5.1	4.9	↑	
Households with broadband Internet	81.5	80.5	↑	*

Dollar values are 2017-adjusted dollars.

New to the American Community Survey

New tables on a variety of subjects accompany the release of the 2017 1-Year Estimates and include:

- Group Quarters Population
- Citizen Voting-Age Population
- Health Insurance
- Income and Earnings

Two new national-level subject tables (S2602 and S2603) have replaced table S2601B. Table S2602 provides estimates for the characteristics of the adult correctional facility, nursing facility/skilled nursing facility, and college/university housing populations. Table S2603 provides estimates for the same populations and those in juvenile facilities and military quarters. New detailed tables have also been added on characteristics of the Group Quarters population.

A new subject table (S2901) provides estimates of the citizen voting-age population by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, educational attainment, poverty status, and household income. Four new detail tables provide additional estimates of the citizen voting-age population by age (B29001), educational attainment (B29002), poverty status (B29003), and median household income (B29004).

A new table on living arrangements (C27021) provides estimates of health coverage status by household/family characteristics. Living arrangement categories include non-family households and three types of family arrangements (married couple, male-householder only, female-householder only). This living arrangements table is available using the 1-year data file only.

Two new detailed tables provide estimates for the number of earners in family (B19122) and median earnings for total population 16 years and over who worked full-time, year-round in the past 12 months (B20018).

For more information on new, modified, or deleted tables, click [here](#).

New Table Highlights

Median earnings for the population 16 years and over who worked full-time, year round were \$48,275 in 2017, ranking sixteenth among other states. Pennsylvania's median earnings were higher than the nation's median earnings for the same population (\$46,881) but lower than the Northeast region (\$52,229) and the Middle Atlantic division (\$51,662)¹.

Approximately 15.5 percent of families in Pennsylvania, or nearly 500,000 families, had zero earners in their household in 2017, slightly more than the percentage of families with no earners at the national level (14.8%). Most families had at least two or more earners in Pennsylvania (54.1%)

¹ The Northeast region contains the Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, PA) and New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT) divisions.

Non-institutionalized citizens in married-couple families had the lowest percentage of persons with no health insurance at just 4.7 percent in Pennsylvania during 2017. Single-male householder families had the highest percent uninsured at 9.8 percent followed by single-female householder families (6.7%). Approximately 5.6 percent of those in non-family households lacked health insurance.

Pennsylvania's citizen, voting-age population was less racially and ethnically diverse in 2017 than the total population of Pennsylvania. The percent of the citizen, voting age population in Pennsylvania that was white alone in 2017 was 84.3 percent compared to 80.7 percent of the total population of Pennsylvania that was white alone. Also, the percent of the citizen, voter age population that was Hispanic in 2017 was 5.1 percent, lower than the total population of Pennsylvania that had Hispanic origins (7.3%).

About the American Community Survey

The 2017 ACS estimates are based on an annual, nationwide household sample of about 295,000 addresses per month, or nearly 3 percent of the population per year.

The estimates aggregate the sample responses from Pennsylvania households collected from January 1 to December 31 of 2017. One-year estimates data are available only for geographic areas with populations of 65,000 or more.

The 2013-2017 ACS five-year estimates will be released in December. The five-year estimates will include data for all Pennsylvania counties, municipalities, and other census geographies down to the block group level regardless of population size.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2017 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Released 9/13/2018.

The Pennsylvania State Data Center is the Commonwealth's official source for population and economic statistics. 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.

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

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