2018 Detailed Population Estimates

HARRISBURG – The U.S. Census Bureau released today the 2018 Detailed Nation, State, and County Population Estimates. The July 1, 2018 data provide estimates at the nation, state, and county level for population by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin.

Key findings:

- Pennsylvania's fastest growing populations include the 65-and-over population, the Hispanic or Latino population, and the non-Hispanic Asian population
- For every 10 individuals under 25 years of age lost in Pennsylvania since 2010, the state gained 15 persons age 65 or older
- For every 10 non-Hispanic White individuals lost in Pennsylvania since 2010, the state gained 13 persons of color

Trends in Pennsylvania's Population by Age

Pennsylvania's older population cohorts continued to grow from 2010 to 2018 [Figure 1]. The population age 65 to 69 and age 70 to 74 were the fastest growing cohorts at 33.4 percent and 34.3 percent, respectively. Outside of its older population, Pennsylvania also experienced notable growth in its young adult population (e.g., the age 25 to 29 and age 30-34 cohorts).
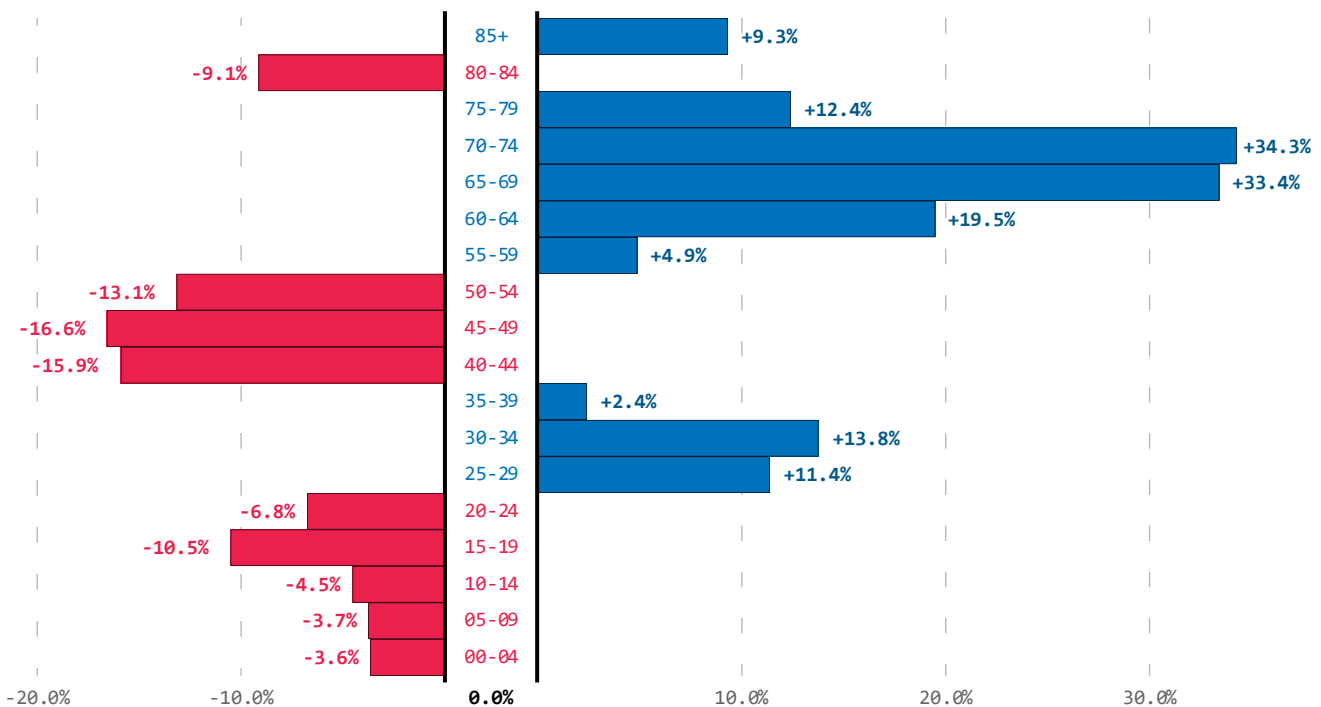

Figure 1. Percent change in Pennsylvania's population by age cohort from 2010 to 2018.

Overall, the population under 25 years of age decreased by nearly 245,000 persons (-6.0%), while the population 25 to 64 years of age remained relatively the same size (-0.4%). The population 65 years of age and over added over 375,000 persons (+19.2%). In 2018, just over 18 percent of the population in Pennsylvania was 65 years of age or older. For every 10 individuals under 25 years of age lost in Pennsylvania since 2010, the state gained 15 persons age 65 or older.

Trends in Pennsylvania's Population by Race & Ethnicity

Pennsylvania's population of color continued to grow from 2010 to 2018 [Table 1]. The non-Hispanic White population experienced the most substantial loss at over 367,000 persons (-3.6%). For every 10 non-Hispanic persons lost in Pennsylvania from 2010 to 2018, the state gained roughly 13 persons of color. The most substantial growth occurred in the Hispanic or Latino population (of any race) at 35.6 percent and the non-Hispanic Asian population at 32.0%.

Table 1. Pennsylvania's population by race/ethnicity* in 2010 and 2018 and numeric and percent change.

Race/Ethnicity	Population		Change	
	2010	**2018**	**Numeric**	**Percent**
White	10,109,232	9,741,631	-367,601	-3.6%
Black	1,333,580	1,388,544	54,964	4.1%
Hispanic	719,696	976,143	256,447	35.6%
Asian	351,465	463,785	112,320	32.0%
Two or More	168,817	214,315	45,498	27.0%
Total	12,704,883	12,809,078	104,195	0.8%

Pennsylvania's non-Hispanic White population accounted for 4-out-of-5 individuals in 2010. By 2018, that majority had shrunk to roughly 3-out-of-4. The gains in the population of color's increasing share of the population were largely due to the Hispanic or Latino population (of any Race) which increased from 5.7 percent of the total population in 2010 to 7.6 percent in 2018 and the non-Hispanic Asian population which increased from 2.8 percent of the total population in 2010 to 3.6 percent in 2018.

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

Trends in Pennsylvania's Population by Age, Race, & Ethnicity

Percent Change by Age, Race, & Ethnicity

Pennsylvania's racial/ethnic groups experienced differential growth across their generational cohorts [Figure 2]. The non-Hispanic White population experienced declines in individuals under 25 years of age (-12.2%) and those 25 to 64 years of age (-5.6%). The non-Hispanic Black or African American population also had a decrease in their population under 25 (-6.2%).
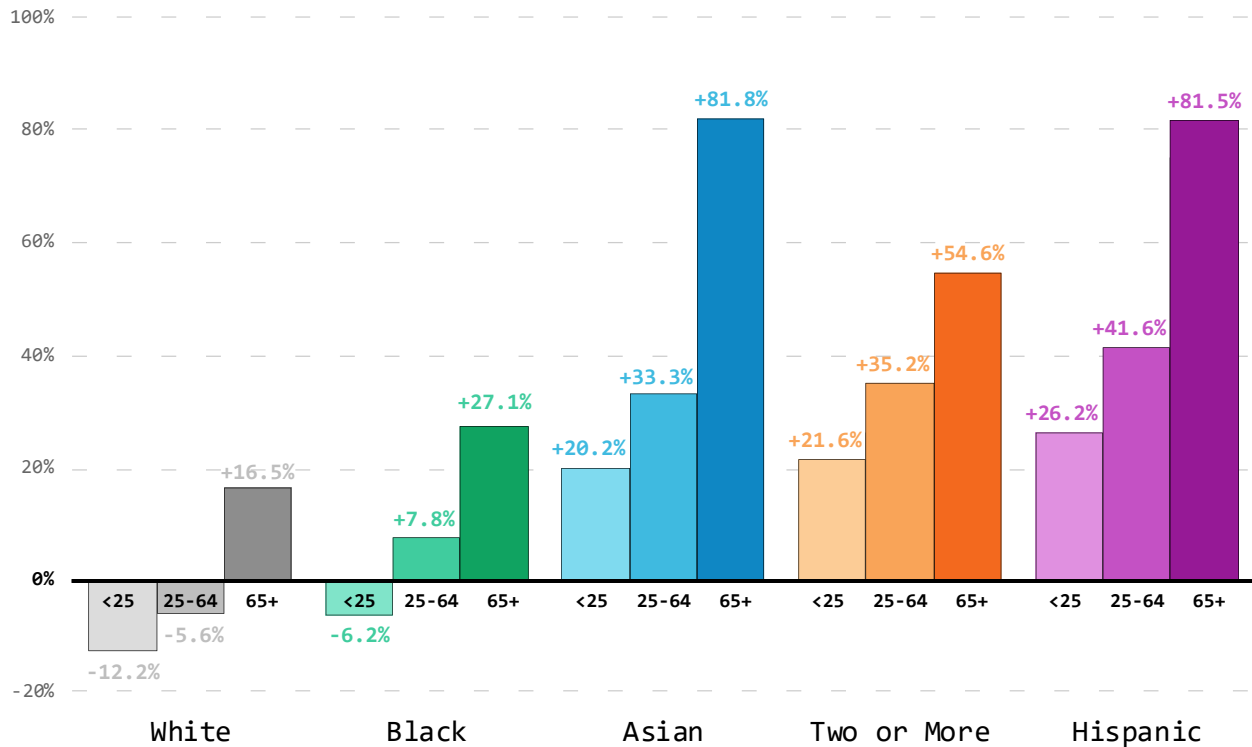

Figure 2. Percent change in Pennsylvania's population by age cohort, race, and ethnicity from 2010 to 2018.

Population increased in every cohort of Pennsylvania's non-Hispanic Asian population, multiracial (Two or More) population, and Hispanic or Latino population. Most notably, the 65 and over cohort grew by over 80 percent in the non-Hispanic Asian and Hispanic or Latino populations.

Age Distribution by Race & Ethnicity

Despite the high growth in the 65 year and over cohorts of the non-Hispanic Asian and Hispanic or Latino populations, those cohorts still represented a small share of the total population for each group [Figure 3]. Those 65 years of age or older represented just 5.6 percent of the total Hispanic or Latino population and 9.7 percent of the total non-Hispanic Asian population.
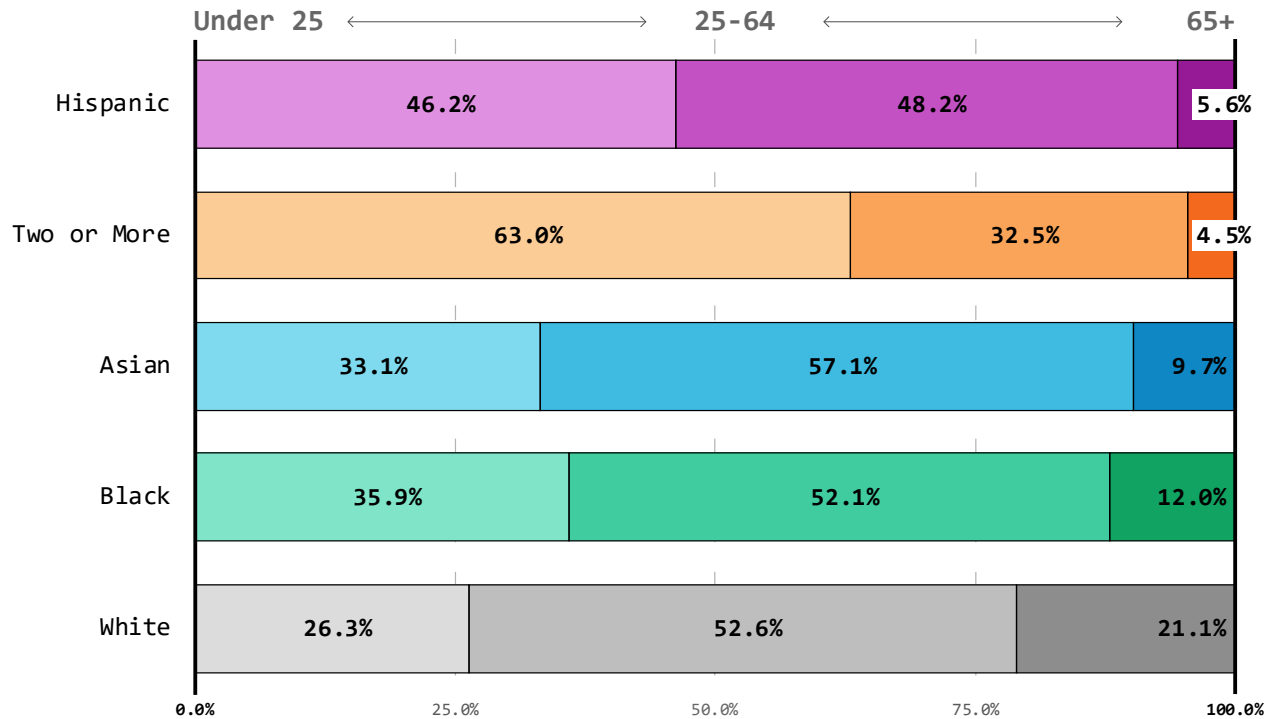
Under 25 ⟵⟶ 25-64 ⟵⟶ 65+

	Under 25	25-64	65+
Hispanic	46.2%	48.2%	5.6%
Two or More	63.0%	32.5%	4.5%
Asian	33.1%	57.1%	9.7%
Black	35.9%	52.1%	12.0%
White	26.3%	52.6%	21.1%

0.0%   25.0%   50.0%   75.0%   100.0%

Figure 3. Breakdown of Pennsylvania's racial/ethnic groups by age in 2018.

Statewide, the average percent of persons that were 65 years of age or older was 18.2 percent in 2018. Among the racial/ethnic groups listed in Figure 3, each group skewed younger than the total population save for the non-Hispanic White population (of which 21.1 percent is 65 years of age or older).

For the population below 65 years of age, the Hispanic or Latino population was split evenly between those under 25 years of age and those who were 25 to 64 years of age, while a greater percentage of multiracial individuals (Two or More) were under 25 years of age in 2018. Non-Hispanic Asians and Non-Hispanic Black or African American individuals had a higher percentage of those who were 25 to 64 years of age than those under age 25.

Notes & Definitions: All mentions of White, Black or African American, Asian, or Two or More Races refer to the non-Hispanic population for those races alone. Hispanic or Latino individuals may be of any race. The population of color refers to individuals other than non-Hispanic White. All references to 2010 refer to the 2010 Estimates Base. All calculations of change compare the 2018 estimate (July 1, 2018) to the 2010 Estimates Base.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program.

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

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