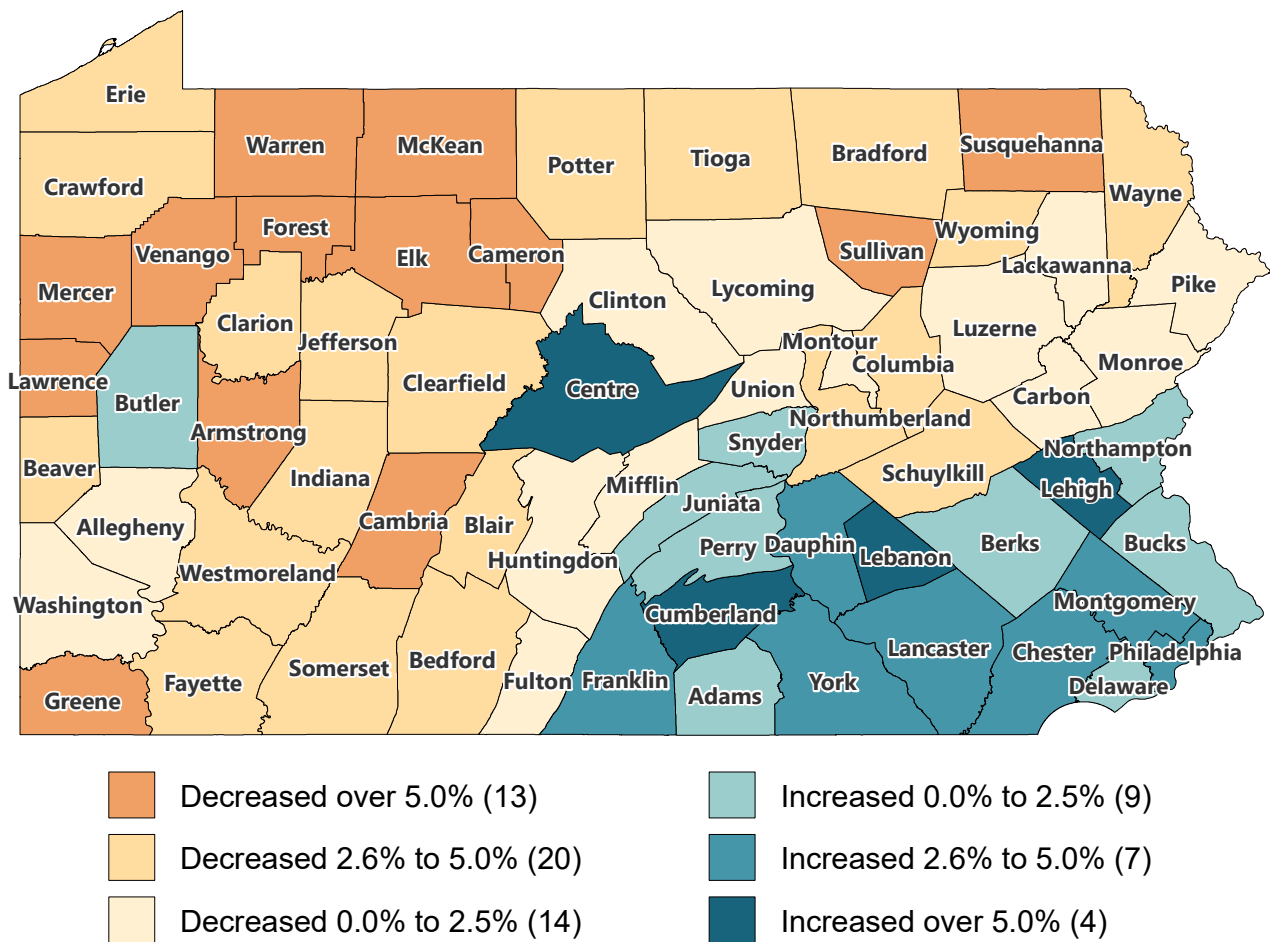# 2018 County Total Population Estimates Released

HARRISBURG – The U.S. Census Bureau today released estimates of the total population as of July 1, 2018 at the county level. Population estimates are calculated using administrative records to estimate components of population change such as births, deaths, and migration. Total population for sub-county areas (municipalities) will be released in May. Nation, state, and county-level totals by age, sex, race and ethnicity will be available in June.

Key trends in county population change:

- Cumberland County remained fastest growing county in PA
- Lebanon County surpassed Centre and Lehigh, now the second-fastest growing county
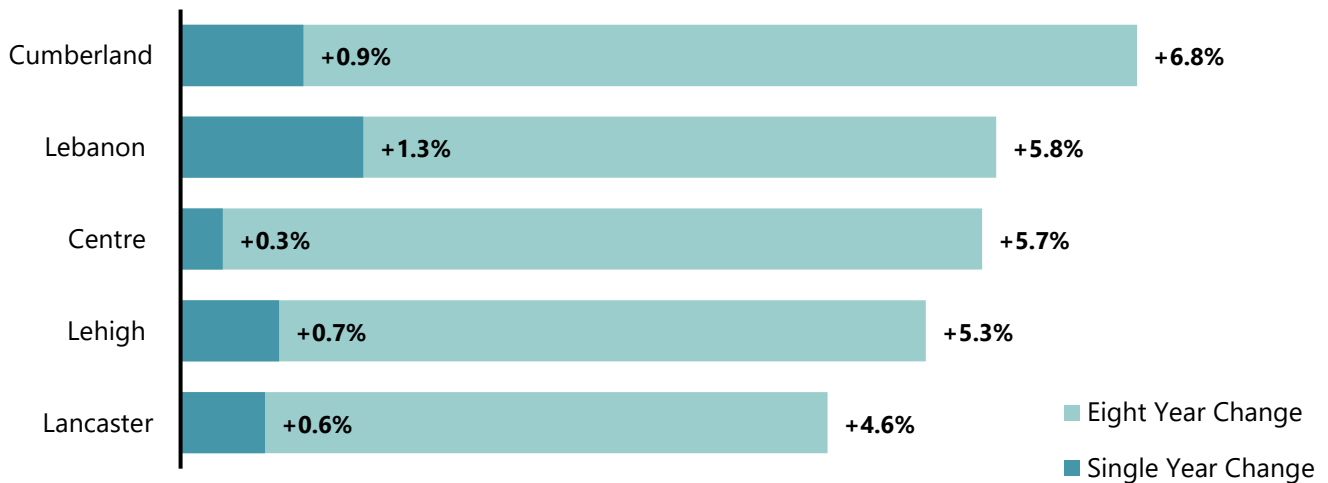- Southeastern and South Central PA continue to grow as the north and west decline

Southeastern and South Central regions continue growth into 2018

▨ Decreased over 5.0% (13)	▨ Increased 0.0% to 2.5% (9)
▨ Decreased 2.6% to 5.0% (20)	▨ Increased 2.6% to 5.0% (7)
▨ Decreased 0.0% to 2.5% (14)	▨ Increased over 5.0% (4)

Population Growth in Pennsylvania

Philadelphia County, the Commonwealth's most populous county, reported the largest growth numerically at 58,129 persons since 2010, although Montgomery (+4,042) outpaced Philadelphia's growth (+3,917) from 2017 to 2018. Montgomery (+28,732), Lancaster (+24,111), Chester (+22,913), and Lehigh (+18,424) followed the Birthplace of America as the highest grossing counties numerically since 2010.

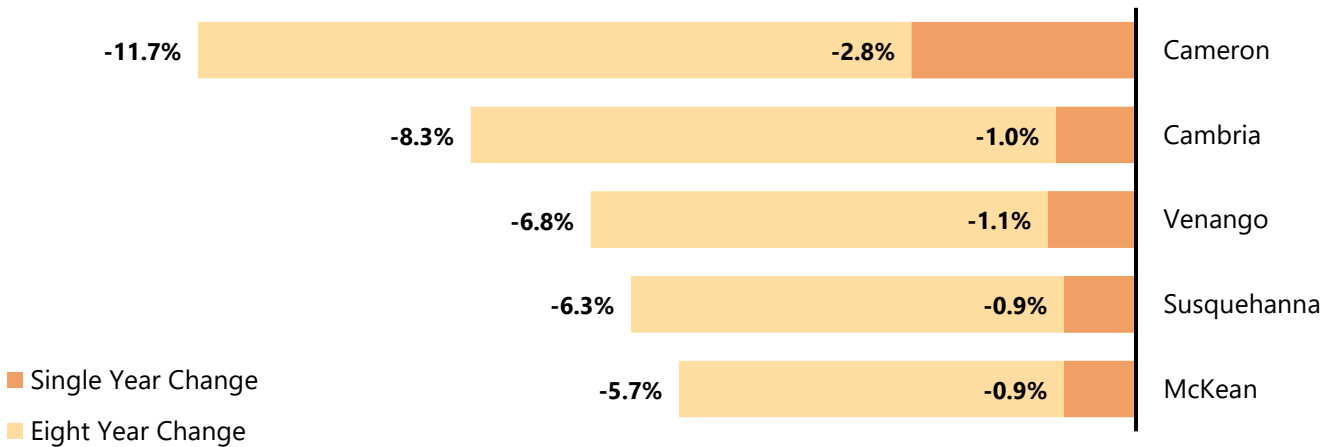## Top Five Fastest Growing Counties in PA, 2010 to 2018

Cumberland County remained the fastest growing county since 2010 (+0.9%), although Lebanon County had the highest percent gain from 2017 to 2018 (+1.3%). Lebanon, Centre, Lehigh, and Lancaster rounded out the top 5 counties by percent change since 2010 while also boasting modest increases since the previous year. Lebanon County, which ranked fourth by percentage change in the 2017 estimates, outpaced Centre and Lehigh by overall rate of growth since 2010 to become the second-fastest growing according to this year's estimates.

Population Decline in Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania experienced population decreases in 47 counties since 2010, and 38 counties decreased in population between 2017 and 2018. Westmoreland (-14,583), Cambria (-11,951), Erie (-8,523), Schuylkill (-6,224), and Fayette (-6,154) had the highest decreases since 2010 while Allegheny County, the state's second-most populous county, experienced the highest numeric decrease from 2017 to 2018 (-2,204).

Top Five Fastest Declining Counties in PA, 2010 to 2018

-11.7% ▭ **-2.8%**	Cameron
-8.3% ▭ **-1.0%**	Cambria
-6.8% ▭ **-1.1%**	Venango
-6.3% ▭ **-0.9%**	Susquehanna
-5.7% ▭ **-0.9%**	McKean

■ Single Year Change
■ Eight Year Change

Cameron County retained the largest decadal losses in percent change and the largest percent lost from 2017 to 2018 (-2.8%). In addition to Cameron, Cambria, Venango, Susquehanna, and McKean Counties constituted the five highest counties in percent loss since 2010.

Births, Deaths, and Migration in the Commonwealth

There were an estimated 1,160,725 births in Pennsylvania since 2010 with 135,905 of those occurring in 2018. A total of 1,071,084 deaths occurred since 2010 resulting in a natural increase of 89,641 persons. In 2018, 133,562 deaths resulted in a natural increase of 2,343 for the state. International migration continued to make up for the state's outmigration of natural-born residents with a net migration of 22,862 for the eight-year period.

From 2010 to 2018, Philadelphia (+65,932), Lancaster (+17,749), and Chester (+13,779) had the highest natural increases in the state while Westmoreland (-11,212), Luzerne (-6,868), and Schuylkill (-4,936) had the most natural losses. The largest net migration occurred in Montgomery (+17,253), Cumberland (+13,679), and Lehigh (+12,032) with largest losses in Erie (-11,067), Cambria (-7,980), and Philadelphia (-6,770).

From 2017 to 2018, Philadelphia (+5,406), Lancaster (+1,729), and Chester (+1,120) had the highest natural increases while Westmoreland (-1,624), Allegheny (-1,045), and Luzerne (-848) experienced the most natural loss. Net migration was highest in Montgomery (+3,359), Chester (+2,032), and Northampton (+2,007) and negative net migration was seen in Erie (-1,935), Philadelphia (-1,402), and Allegheny (-1,099) from 2017 to 2018.

County	April 1, 2010 Estimate	July 1, 2018 Estimate	Numeric Change	Percent Change	County	April 1, 2010 Estimate	July 1, 2018 Estimate	Numeric Change	Percent Change
Pennsylvania	**12,702,379**	**12,807,060**	**104,681**	**0.8%**	Juniata	24,635	24,704	69	0.3%
Adams	101,424	102,811	1,387	1.4%	Lackawanna	214,439	210,793	-3,646	-1.7%
Allegheny	1,223,323	1,218,452	-4,871	-0.4%	Lancaster	519,446	543,557	24,111	4.6%
Armstrong	68,944	65,263	-3,681	-5.3%	Lawrence	91,140	86,184	-4,956	-5.4%
Beaver	170,549	164,742	-5,807	-3.4%	Lebanon	133,577	141,314	7,737	5.8%
Bedford	49,763	48,176	-1,587	-3.2%	Lehigh	349,676	368,100	18,424	5.3%
Berks	411,556	420,152	8,596	2.1%	Luzerne	320,895	317,646	-3,249	-1.0%
Blair	127,116	122,492	-4,624	-3.6%	Lycoming	116,114	113,664	-2,450	-2.1%
Bradford	62,704	60,833	-1,871	-3.0%	McKean	43,459	40,968	-2,491	-5.7%
Bucks	625,266	628,195	2,929	0.5%	Mercer	116,668	110,683	-5,985	-5.1%
Butler	183,856	187,888	4,032	2.2%	Mifflin	46,679	46,222	-457	-1.0%
Cambria	143,681	131,730	-11,951	-8.3%	Monroe	169,832	169,507	-325	-0.2%
Cameron	5,085	4,492	-593	-11.7%	Montgomery	799,872	828,604	28,732	3.6%
Carbon	65,252	64,227	-1,025	-1.6%	Montour	18,258	18,240	-18	-0.1%
Centre	154,001	162,805	8,804	5.7%	Northampton	297,694	304,807	7,113	2.4%
Chester	499,133	522,046	22,913	4.6%	Northumberland	94,483	91,083	-3,400	-3.6%
Clarion	39,991	38,779	-1,212	-3.0%	Perry	45,940	46,139	199	0.4%
Clearfield	81,616	79,388	-2,228	-2.7%	Philadelphia	1,526,009	1,584,138	58,129	3.8%
Clinton	39,240	38,684	-556	-1.4%	Pike	57,346	55,933	-1,413	-2.5%
Columbia	67,303	65,456	-1,847	-2.7%	Potter	17,449	16,622	-827	-4.7%
Crawford	88,750	85,063	-3,687	-4.2%	Schuylkill	148,291	142,067	-6,224	-4.2%
Cumberland	235,405	251,423	16,018	6.8%	Snyder	39,719	40,540	821	2.1%
Dauphin	268,123	277,097	8,974	3.3%	Somerset	77,737	73,952	-3,785	-4.9%
Delaware	558,759	564,751	5,992	1.1%	Sullivan	6,429	6,071	-358	-5.6%
Elk	31,946	30,169	-1,777	-5.6%	Susquehanna	43,328	40,589	-2,739	-6.3%
Erie	280,584	272,061	-8,523	-3.0%	Tioga	41,902	40,763	-1,139	-2.7%
Fayette	136,595	130,441	-6,154	-4.5%	Union	44,963	44,785	-178	-0.4%
Forest	7,710	7,279	-431	-5.6%	Venango	54,992	51,266	-3,726	-6.8%
Franklin	149,619	154,835	5,216	3.5%	Warren	41,811	39,498	-2,313	-5.5%
Fulton	14,844	14,523	-321	-2.2%	Washington	207,841	207,346	-495	-0.2%
Greene	38,689	36,506	-2,183	-5.6%	Wayne	52,850	51,276	-1,574	-3.0%
Huntingdon	46,009	45,168	-841	-1.8%	Westmoreland	365,194	350,611	-14,583	-4.0%
Indiana	88,889	84,501	-4,388	-4.9%	Wyoming	28,283	27,046	-1,237	-4.4%
Jefferson	45,189	43,641	-1,548	-3.4%	York	435,008	448,273	13,265	3.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Division, 2018 County Population Estimates.

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

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