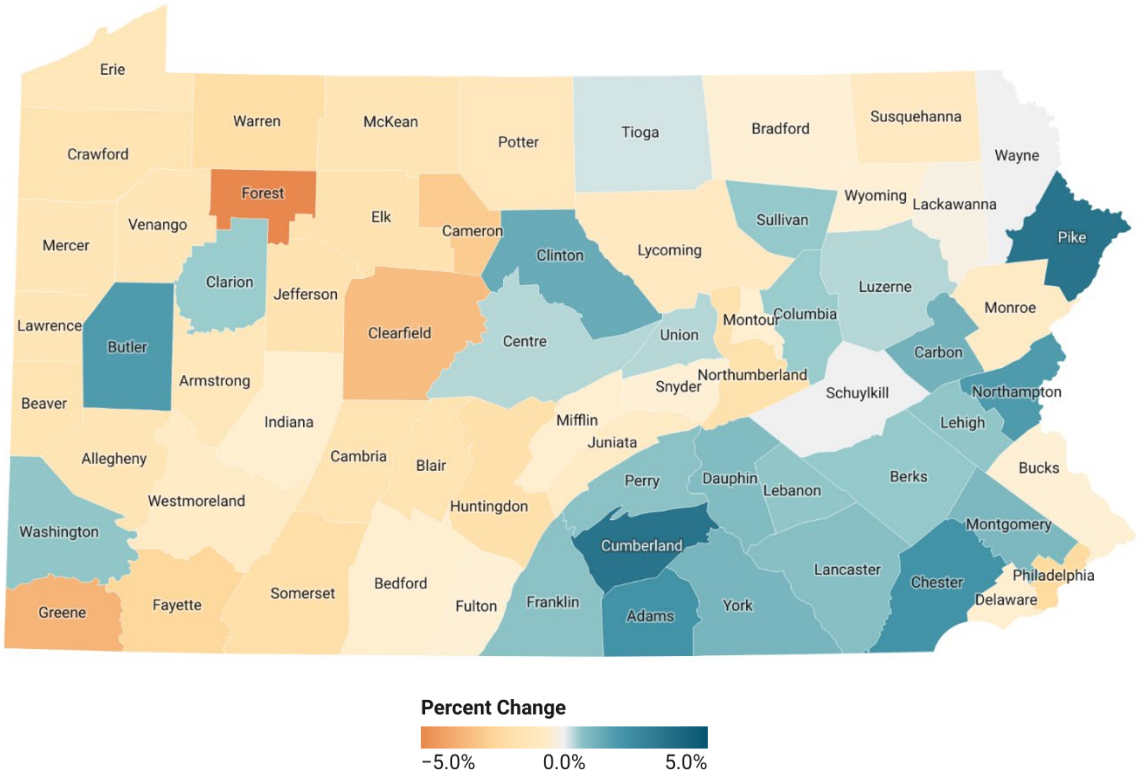
2022 County Total Population Estimates Released

HARRISBURG – The U.S. Census Bureau released today estimates of the total population as of July 1, 2022 at the county level. Population estimates are calculated using administrative records to estimate components of population change such as births, deaths, and migration.

Key Trends in 2022 Population Estimates Data

Pennsylvania experienced an overall population decline just over 30,000 (-0.2%) between 2020 and 2022. Cumberland County (+3.5%) remained the fastest-growing county in Pennsylvania when looking at percent change from 2020 to 2022. Three other counties had populations that grew by 2.0 percent or more, including Pike (+3.5%), Adams (+2.1%), and Chester (+2.1%) counties.

The greatest percent decrease from 2020 to 2022 occurred in Forest County (-5.0%). Six other counties had populations that declined by 2.0 percent or more, including Greene (-3.6%), Clearfield (-3.3%), Cameron (-2.8%), Fayette (-2.4%), Philadelphia (-2.3%), and Warren (-2.0%).



Twenty-seven counties increased in population between 2020 and 2022 with the largest numeric increase in Chester County (+11,415). Nine other counties added at least 2,000 individuals since 2020, including Cumberland (+9,115), Montgomery (+8,124), Northampton (+5,571), York (+4,616), Lancaster (+3,660), Butler (+3,533), Dauphin (+2,401), Adams (+2,198), and Pike (+2,021) counties.

Of the 40 counties that declined in population between 2020 and 2022, 8 counties lost more than 2,000 individuals, including Philadelphia (-36,541), Allegheny (-17,332), Erie (-3,180), Fayette (-3,061), Clearfield (-2,660), Westmoreland (-2,606), Beaver (-2,551), and Cambria (-2,036).

More Information

The Population Estimates Program uses current data on births, deaths, and migration to calculate population change since the most recent decennial census and produce a time series of estimates of population, demographic components of change and housing units.

The annual time series of estimates begins with the most recent decennial census date and extends to the vintage year. This is the third release of population estimates data developed from a base population that integrates the 2020 Census, Vintage 2020 estimates, and 2020 Demographic Analysis estimates. Comparisons to previous years are not recommended.

With each new release of annual estimates, the entire time series of estimates is revised for all years back to the last census. All previously published estimates (i.e., old vintages) are superseded and archived at: https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/datasets/

Information on the timing of specific population and housing unit estimates products is available at: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/about/schedule.html

The Vintage 2020 methodology statement and release notes are available at: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/technical-documentation/methodology.html

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Division, 2022 County Population Estimates.

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