

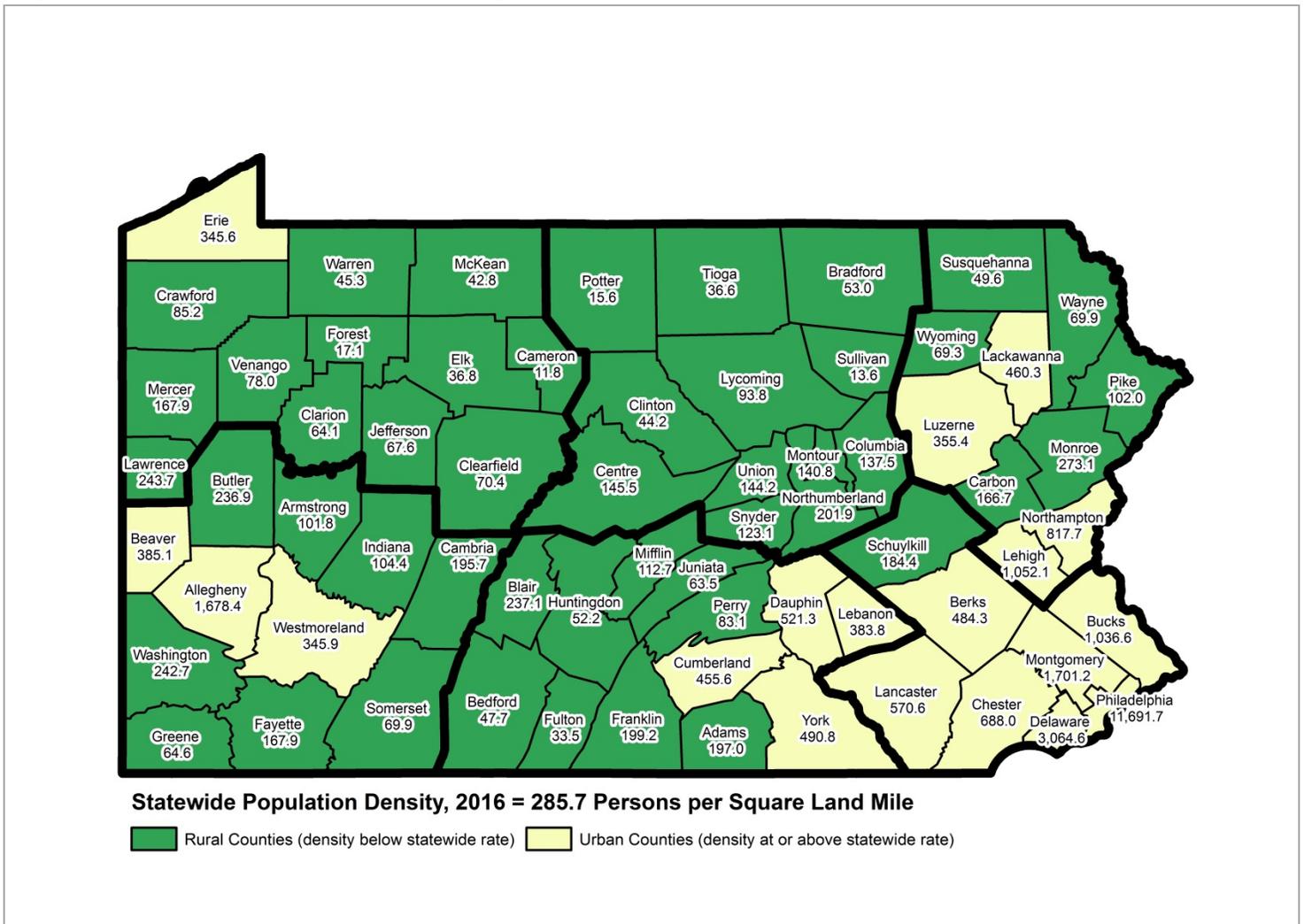
# The Context of Health

## The State and Its People

With more than 12.7 million residents across 44,700 square miles, Pennsylvania is a vast, diverse state comprised of large rural areas and urban centers. It is a dynamic state, changing demographically, economically and socially.

The following demographic and socioeconomic indicators are important for understanding Pennsylvania's residents and the state in which they live and work.

**Figure 1.1 Rural and Urban Counties, Pennsylvania, 2016<sup>1,3</sup>**



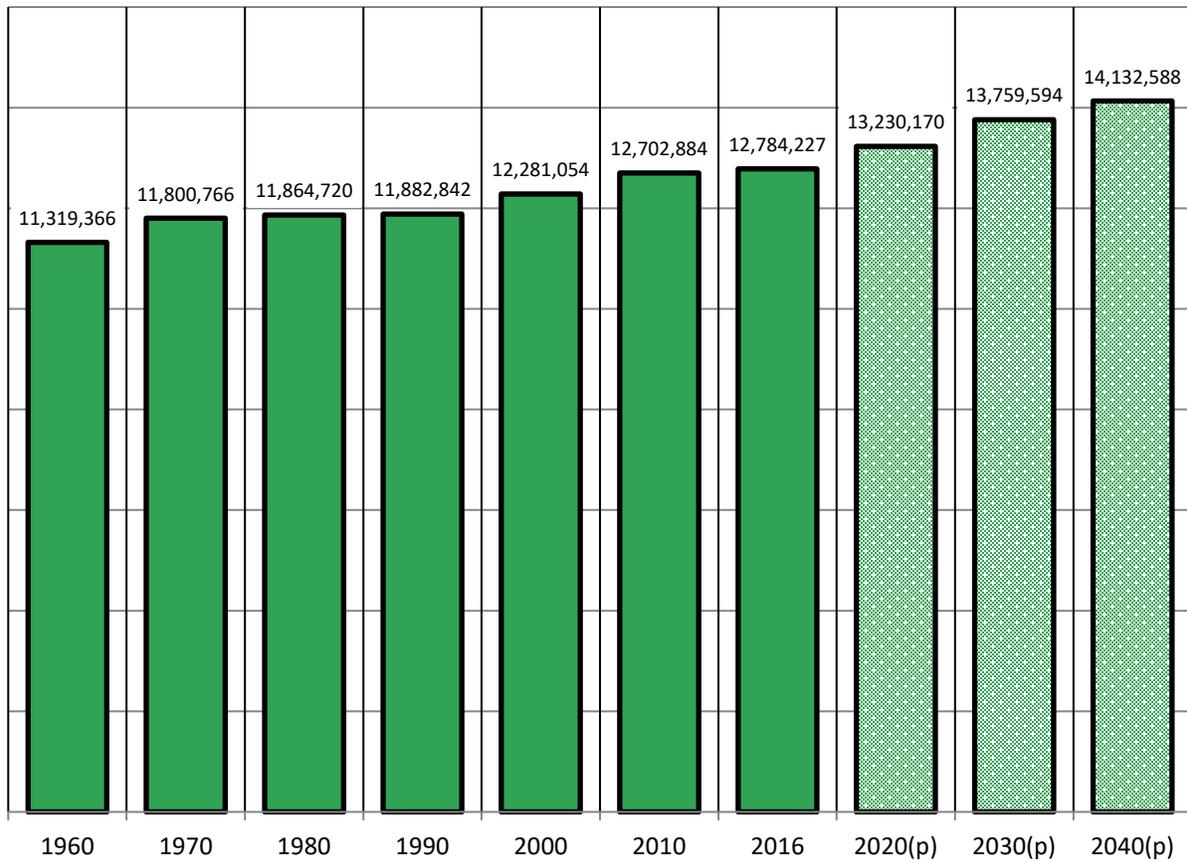
According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Pennsylvania has an estimated 12.78 million residents.<sup>1</sup> Since 2010, the population has increased by an estimated 81,343 people (0.6 percent). Current projections have the state's population increasing to 14.13 million residents by 2040.<sup>2</sup>

Pennsylvania's population is growing more slowly than many other states. From July 1, 2016, to July 1, 2017, the state's rate of population growth was ranked 38th among the fifty U.S. states.<sup>3,4</sup>

According to the Center for Rural Pennsylvania (CRP), a county is considered "rural" if the population density is lower than the population density of the state.<sup>5</sup> For Pennsylvania, that means counties with a population density of less than 285.7

persons per square mile are “rural.” Forty-eight counties meet these criteria; 19 counties do not, and are considered “urban.” (See Table 1.1 for details.) Nearly three-quarters of Pennsylvania residents (73 percent) live in urban counties, according to 2016 data. The remaining 27 percent resided in rural counties.<sup>1,5</sup>

**Figure 1.2 Population Change, Pennsylvania, 1960 to 2040<sup>1,2</sup>. Population**





## Age

In 2016, 21 percent of Pennsylvania’s residents were younger than 18 years of age, 62 percent were between 18 and 64 years of age, and 17 percent were 65 or older. From 2010 to 2016, the number of young Pennsylvanians (younger than 18 years old) decreased 4 percent. At the same time, the number of residents 65 and older increased 13 percent.<sup>6</sup>

In 2016, the median age for the state (40.6 years of age) exceeded the national median age (37.9 years). Pennsylvania, along with Delaware, had the seventh highest median age of any state and was just 3.9 years from the first-ranked state, which was Maine, with a median age of 44.5 years.<sup>7</sup>

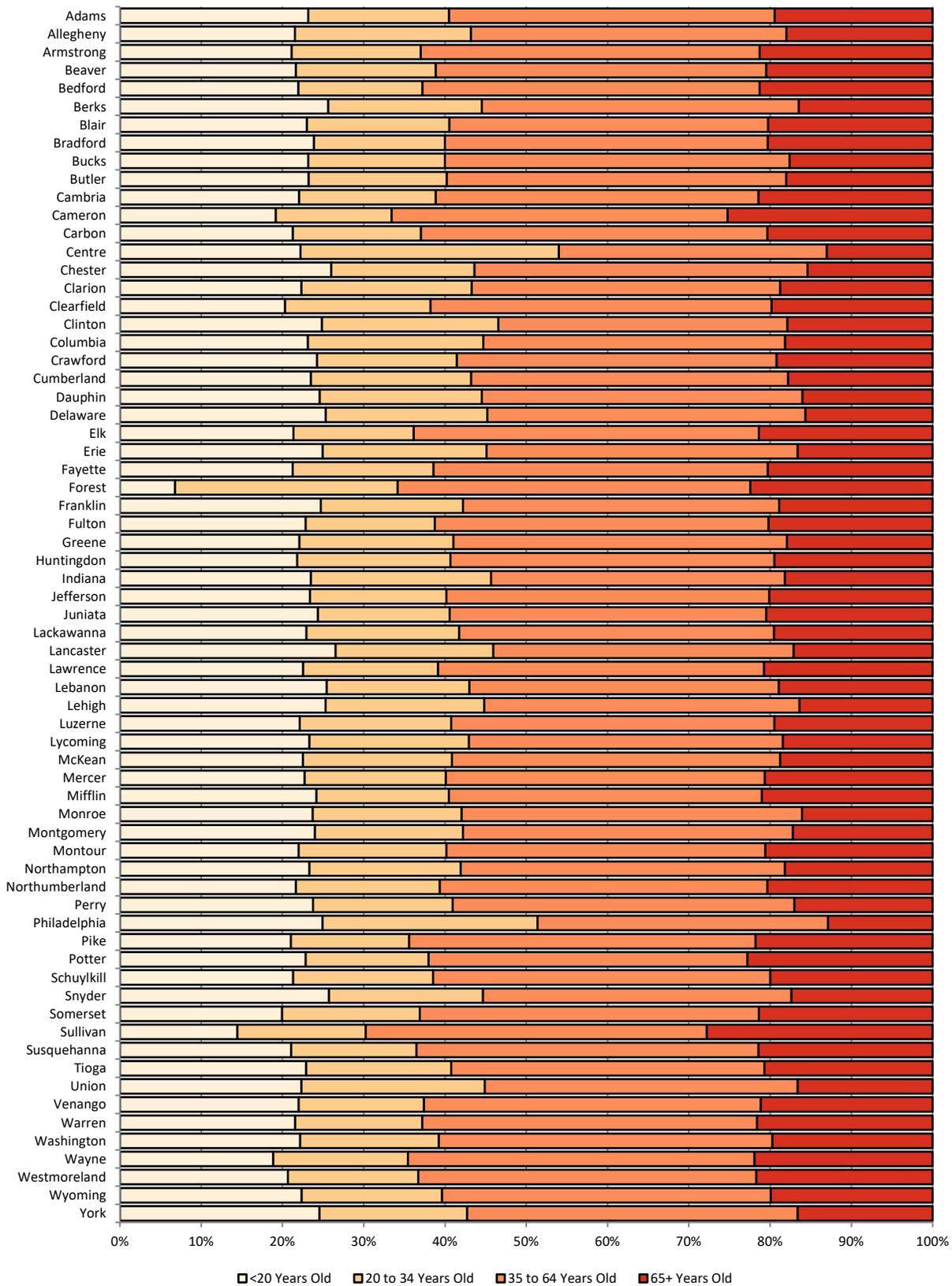
Figure 1.6 shows the proportion of age groups in each of Pennsylvania’s counties in 2016. Centre County had a sizeable percentage of its population younger than 35 years of age, in large part due to the location of Pennsylvania State University within its boundaries. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania’s most populous county, also had a high percentage of residents younger than 35 years old. Forest County includes a prison, resulting in a noticeably smaller percentage of residents under 20 years of age.

**Figure 1.4 Population by Age Groups by Sex, Pennsylvania, 2016<sup>1</sup>**





**Figure 1.6 Population by Age Groups and County, Pennsylvania, 2016<sup>1</sup>**



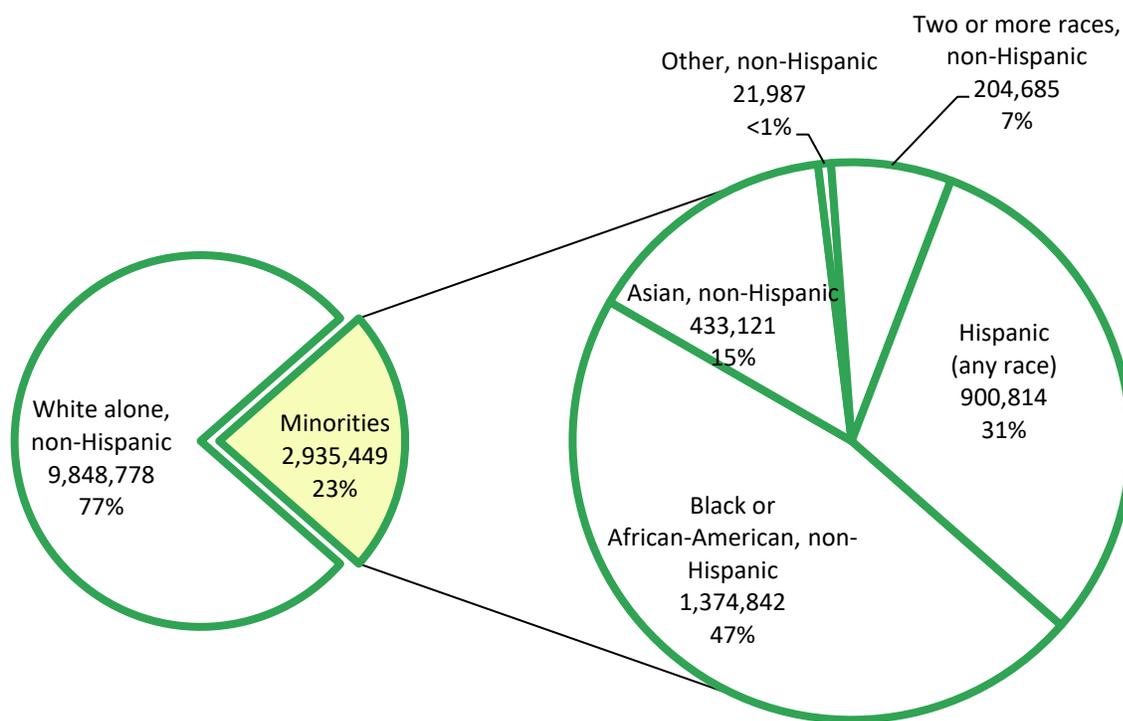
## Race and Ethnicity

Following a national trend, Pennsylvania is becoming more racially and ethnically diverse. In 2010, the U.S. Census Bureau calculated that 21 percent of Pennsylvania residents belonged to a minority group. Six years later, the agency found 23 percent of the state's population belonged to a minority group. During the same period, the percentage of people belonging to at least one minority group increased from 36 percent to 39 percent nationwide.<sup>8,9</sup>

Minority residents comprise a greater percentage of the population in urban areas (30 percent) than in rural areas (9 percent) of Pennsylvania. Urban counties, as defined by the Center for Rural Pennsylvania, include Allegheny, Beaver, Berks, Bucks, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Erie, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, Westmoreland and York. These are indicated without an asterisk in Table 1.2.

Table 1.2 below details the 2010 and 2016 population totals for Pennsylvania counties by race/ethnicity. The population of people who identify as Hispanic in Pennsylvania has increased by 25 percent. The county with the greatest Hispanic population was Philadelphia. The percent of Hispanic population in this county increased by 21 percent. Cambria County has the lowest Hispanic population increase (7%). Cameron County has the highest Hispanic population increase (147%), while, on the other hand, it experienced the greatest drop in the entire population by 7.45 percent.<sup>8,9</sup>

**Figure 1.7 Population by Race and Ethnicity, Pennsylvania, 2016<sup>1</sup>**



**Table 1.2 Population by Race and Ethnicity, Pennsylvania, 2010 and 2016<sup>1</sup>**

	2010						2016					
	White Alone	Black or African-American Alone	Asian Alone	Other Races	Two or More Races	Hispanic (Any Race)	White Alone	Black or African-American Alone	Asian Alone	Other Races	Two or More Races	Hispanic (Any Race)
Pennsylvania	10,664,090	1,431,979	358,198	46,854	201,736	719,701	10,531,113	1,505,204	442,652	56,035	249,223	900,814
Adams*	97,489	1,689	780	336	1,123	6,118	97,458	1,956	864	437	1,465	7,106
Allegheny	1,002,331	163,218	34,657	2,149	20,983	19,070	986,713	164,183	45,921	2,395	26,153	24,889
Armstrong*	67,674	555	155	61	493	366	64,986	605	197	106	592	501
Beaver	156,042	10,756	738	243	2,760	1,998	152,251	10,630	881	315	3,352	2,545
Bedford*	48,932	258	113	94	371	450	47,277	312	149	107	480	589
Berks	369,617	25,447	5,772	3,286	7,450	67,376	365,292	28,854	6,646	4,046	9,974	83,049
Blair*	122,537	2,177	727	183	1,452	1,230	119,457	2,306	912	235	1,740	1,536
Bradford*	61,185	340	348	164	585	702	59,077	408	376	179	730	890
Bucks	566,934	23,196	24,628	1,923	8,574	26,782	557,356	26,433	30,048	1,964	10,598	32,678
Butler*	178,101	2,049	1,871	255	1,586	1,941	179,851	2,269	2,432	343	1,952	2,650
Cambria*	135,697	5,354	749	204	1,670	2,006	126,896	4,788	727	255	2,066	2,143
Cameron*	5,002	13	14	15	41	19	4,552	22	22	22	59	47
Carbon*	63,069	1,034	339	187	621	2,145	61,016	1,255	401	254	668	2,814
Centre*	138,658	4,783	8,096	279	2,211	3,690	142,122	6,022	10,115	369	2,836	4,714
Chester	438,482	31,817	19,675	1,550	7,622	32,507	445,296	32,527	27,186	1,765	9,538	37,734
Clarion*	38,945	489	192	70	295	245	37,245	490	279	95	404	333
Clearfield*	78,460	2,020	419	131	567	1,907	76,863	2,319	547	175	692	2,378
Clinton*	38,030	637	201	57	316	437	37,857	636	269	87	384	565
Columbia*	64,678	1,313	586	122	597	1,349	63,360	1,408	757	159	736	1,790
Crawford*	85,655	1,566	405	189	946	823	82,831	1,636	474	224	1,092	1,072
Cumberland	215,997	7,809	7,238	507	3,857	6,448	222,247	10,026	10,550	628	5,055	9,171
Dauphin	200,727	50,303	8,790	1,008	7,272	18,795	199,476	51,915	12,236	1,333	8,747	24,492
Delaware	409,528	111,689	26,714	1,212	9,583	16,533	395,212	122,502	32,387	1,389	11,912	20,864
Elk*	31,516	100	98	42	190	183	29,910	150	115	55	250	240
Erie	250,613	20,733	3,157	750	5,311	9,518	243,008	21,334	4,635	860	6,370	11,340
Fayette*	127,755	6,402	424	221	1,800	1,049	123,220	6,207	488	617	2,201	1,517
Forest*	6,205	1,413	12	23	63	418	5,731	1,468	18	44	60	452
Franklin*	140,268	5,123	1,378	429	2,420	6,438	142,629	6,103	1,655	560	2,904	8,443
Fulton*	14,489	151	19	29	156	123	14,222	167	28	41	182	177
Greene*	36,793	1,312	121	78	382	465	35,247	1,282	129	92	447	538
Huntingdon*	42,900	2,443	197	53	438	727	42,184	2,563	258	71	558	909
Indiana*	84,694	2,482	786	142	789	947	82,024	2,242	1,029	185	884	1,090
Jefferson*	44,507	161	93	89	346	275	43,176	219	129	117	432	424
Juniata*	24,121	167	86	66	196	623	24,194	207	111	93	258	878
Lackawanna	201,336	5,977	3,744	603	2,780	10,682	193,963	7,326	5,741	779	3,512	14,910
Lancaster	476,447	22,277	10,183	2,280	8,261	44,930	485,915	26,685	12,632	2,701	10,567	55,025
Lawrence*	85,714	3,558	378	91	1,399	932	81,550	3,524	392	135	1,693	1,219
Lebanon	126,248	3,638	1,603	433	1,655	12,410	129,541	4,692	1,993	526	2,111	17,692
Lehigh	301,860	26,550	10,715	3,027	7,474	65,632	304,367	32,936	13,227	3,545	9,072	84,789
Luzerne	299,554	12,523	3,281	1,258	4,302	21,491	287,927	17,116	4,005	1,845	5,490	33,781
Lycoming*	107,991	5,291	683	264	1,879	1,559	106,319	5,452	759	344	2,374	2,157
McKean*	41,728	1,054	194	104	370	757	39,901	1,174	239	135	434	926
Mercer*	107,303	6,783	734	185	1,669	1,248	103,249	6,665	816	239	1,944	1,599
Mifflin*	45,701	317	174	64	426	534	45,074	394	260	87	527	698
Monroe*	137,593	23,911	3,691	905	3,742	22,288	130,861	25,826	3,967	1,112	4,332	25,652
Montgomery	660,986	70,881	52,400	2,033	13,584	34,233	660,721	78,914	62,943	2,207	16,940	40,979
Montour*	17,498	265	334	18	152	324	17,222	316	566	33	206	482
Northampton	267,382	16,591	7,465	1,142	5,155	31,179	265,627	19,674	8,772	1,640	6,581	38,932
Northumberland*	91,031	2,042	345	203	893	2,253	88,231	2,434	437	278	1,161	3,110
Perry*	44,951	317	167	107	423	588	44,498	435	219	130	538	871
Philadelphia	696,866	682,166	99,418	14,126	33,430	187,611	702,222	692,741	116,337	15,904	40,668	226,320
Pike*	52,077	3,495	613	221	938	5,170	49,942	3,517	834	266	1,003	5,920
Potter*	17,162	72	46	46	132	181	16,500	89	63	68	165	220
Schuylkill*	141,740	4,178	730	326	1,315	4,080	136,131	4,546	823	455	1,618	5,743
Snyder*	38,691	451	216	65	286	657	39,177	511	297	80	403	950
Somerset*	74,990	1,918	254	112	472	840	71,853	2,159	364	132	553	1,092
Sullivan*	6,170	168	20	26	44	92	5,805	217	27	31	57	110
Susquehanna*	42,667	158	123	77	327	564	39,949	233	157	108	415	741
Tioga*	40,961	335	185	99	403	437	40,340	332	217	123	455	524
Union*	40,097	3,512	532	256	552	2,346	40,206	3,707	738	280	634	2,689
Venango*	53,513	578	200	104	588	478	51,008	605	236	128	605	586
Warren*	41,100	150	159	100	306	305	39,118	213	187	137	370	431
Washington*	196,296	6,881	1,352	306	3,013	2,366	195,114	6,704	2,135	382	3,646	3,490
Wayne*	50,206	1,728	263	122	506	1,816	47,825	1,855	308	149	573	2,195
Westmoreland	348,966	8,704	2,738	447	4,309	3,179	337,424	8,996	3,354	548	5,136	4,013
Wyoming*	27,667	214	97	60	231	437	26,762	250	145	82	282	511
York	393,967	26,297	5,583	1,497	7,654	24,399	396,535	29,522	6,491	1,809	9,387	31,899

Note: Hispanic origin can be of any race. All five races listed in this table include those of Hispanic origin. Asterisk (\*) indicates rural counties, per Center for Rural Pennsylvania definition.

## Language

Table 1.3 shows that the largest non-English language spoken at home by Pennsylvanians 5 years old and older is Spanish, followed by Chinese and other West Germanic languages at number 2 and 3, respectively.

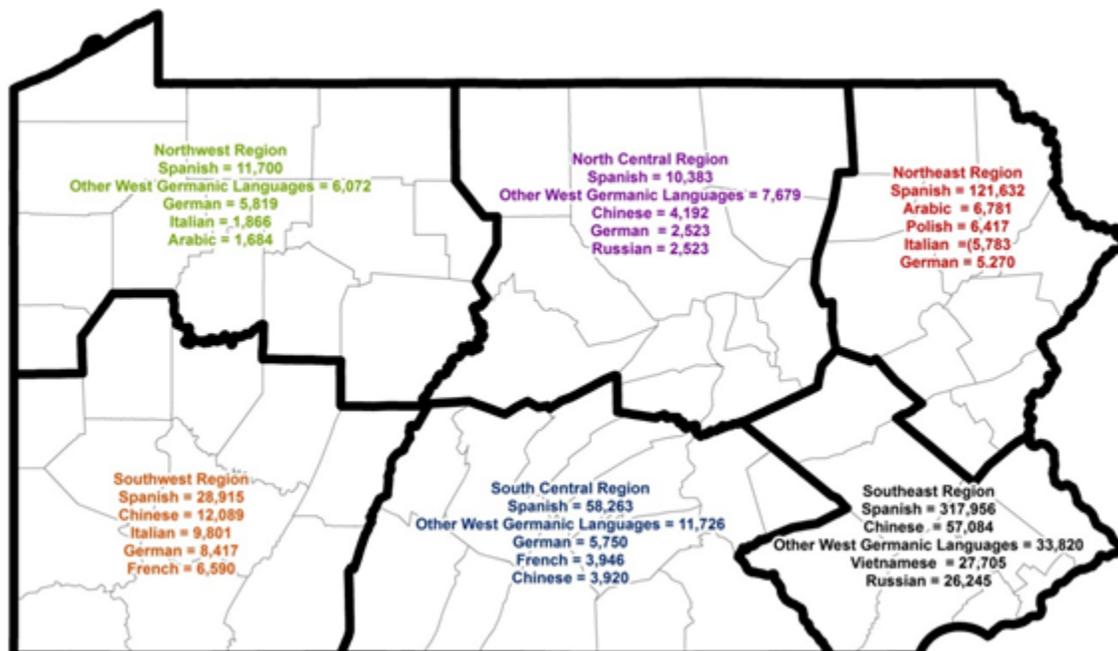
The largest non-English language category spoken at home by Pennsylvanians 5 years old and older in Northwest, Northcentral and Southcentral regions is other West Germanic languages. Chinese is the largest non-English language in Southwest and Southeast regions, Arabic in Northeast region (Figure 1.32).

Immigrants in Pennsylvania fall into wide educational distribution. On one hand, the percentage of adult immigrants who had a college degree or more in 2015 was 38.4 percent, slightly higher than natives (28.9 percent). On the other hand, the percentage of adult immigrants who had than less than high school diploma in 2015 was 20.5 percent, more than twice the rate of the non-immigrants (9.4 percent).<sup>10</sup>

**Table 1.3 Top 10 Non-English Languages Spoken at Home by Pennsylvanians Five Years Old and Older, 2015<sup>11</sup>**

Ranking	Language	Persons Five Years Old and Older
1	Spanish	548,849
2	Chinese	83,896
3	Other West Germanic languages	66,196
4	German	46,385
5	Italian	41,521
6	French	38,750
7	Russian	38,318
8	Other Asian languages	38,187
9	Vietnamese	37,309
10	Arabic	31,399

**Figure 1.8 Top Five Non-English Languages Spoken at Home by Pennsylvanians Five Years Old and Older by Department of Health Regions, 2015<sup>11</sup>**

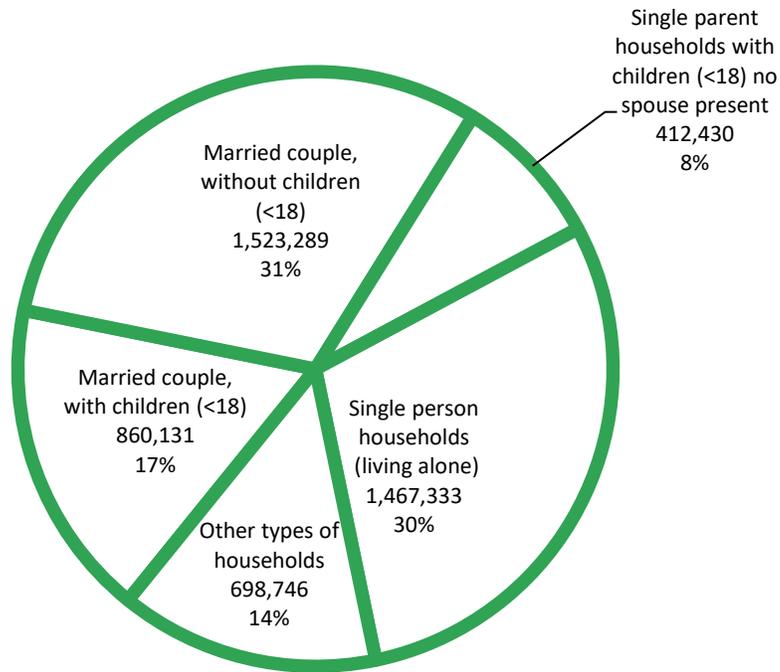


## Households

According to figures from the U.S. Census Bureau, there were about 5 million households in Pennsylvania in 2016, an increase of 0.4 percent since 2010.<sup>12</sup> The average number of people per household changed little between 2010 and 2015 (2.47 to 2.49).<sup>13</sup> In 2016, the percent of married couple households dropped by 1 percent from 2010 (49 to 48 percent).<sup>13</sup> In addition, there was a 7 percent decrease in the number of households with children and a 2 percent increase in single person households from 2010 to 2016.<sup>12,14</sup>

Compared with U.S. figures, Pennsylvania had a lower percentage of households with children (26 percent versus 29 percent U.S.) and a higher percentage of single person households (30 percent versus 28 percent nationwide).<sup>12,14</sup>

**Figure 1.9 Types of Households, Pennsylvania, 2016<sup>14,14</sup>**



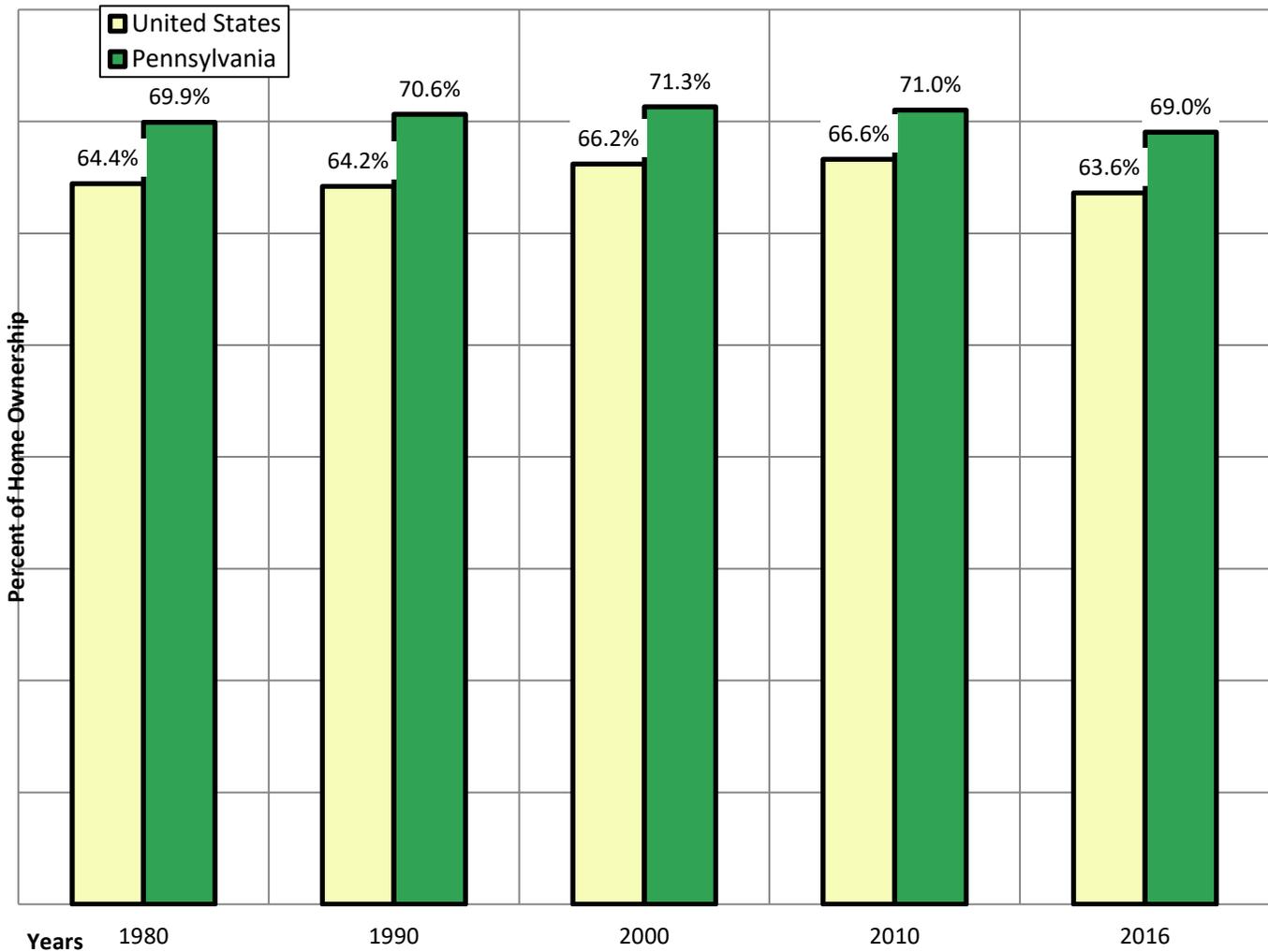
## Home Ownership

According to U.S. Census figures, Pennsylvania's homeownership rate was 71 percent in 2010, about 4.4 percent higher than the national average, and retreated slightly in the next six years (Figure 1.9).

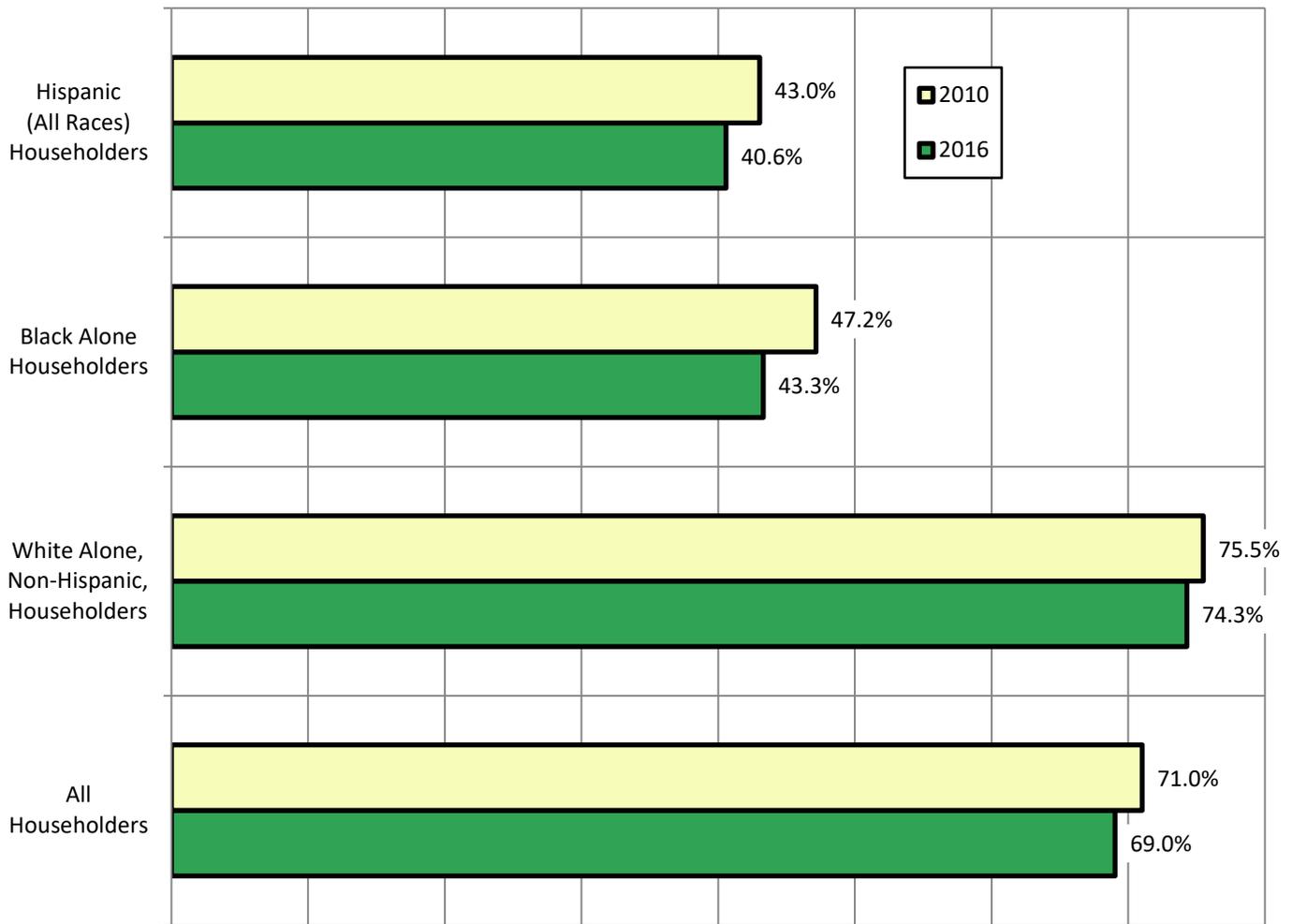
As shown in Figure 1.11, home ownership rates varied for members of differing racial/ethnic groups. In 2016, white householders had the highest rate of homeownership at 74.3 percent; blacks and Hispanics had rates below 50 percent.

In Pennsylvania, the median house value was reported to be \$167,700, approximately \$17,000 lower than the national median of \$184,700 (Figure 1.11).<sup>20</sup> For renters, the median gross rent in Pennsylvania was \$859; nationwide it was \$949.<sup>15</sup>

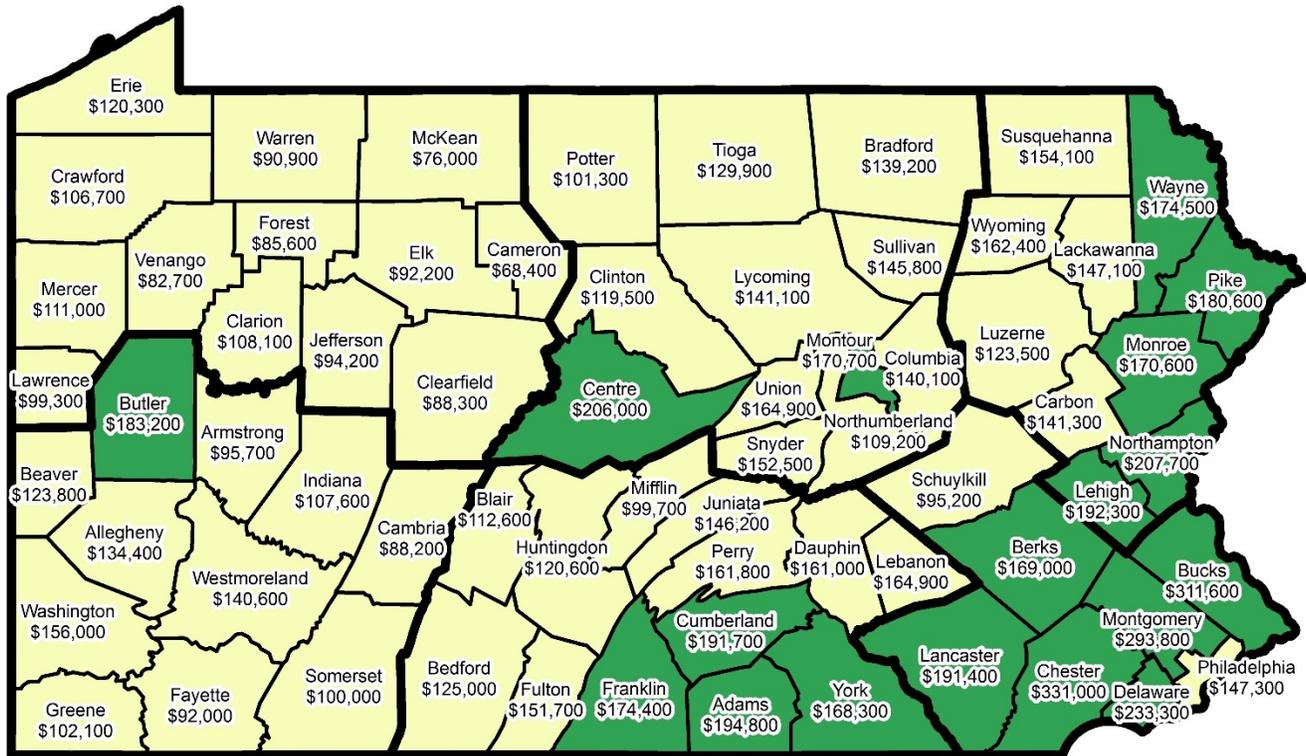
**Figure 1.10 Home Ownership, Pennsylvania and United States, 1980 to 2016** Error! Bookmark not defined.<sup>16,17</sup>



**Figure 1.11 Home Ownership Rates by Race and Ethnicity, Pennsylvania, 2010 and 2016<sup>18,19</sup>**



**Figure 1.12 Median Housing Values by County, Pennsylvania, 2016<sup>20</sup>**



**Statewide Median Housing Value, 2016 = \$167,700**

At or Below Statewide Rate
  Above Statewide Rate

## Economic Status

The table below shows selected characteristics that describe the economic status of Pennsylvania counties in 2016 and 2017 (percent eligible for Medical Assistance). Areas with high percentages of the population in poverty, unemployed and eligible for Medical Assistance, as well as those with lower average per capita personal income and lower educational attainment, typically have a poorer quality of life and poorer health status. Table 1.4 shows that there were 10 counties in Pennsylvania with higher per capita personal income than the state's average. Among these counties, Philadelphia was the only one with higher poverty rate and percentage of population eligible for Medical Assistance than the state's average. It was also the only county amongst the 10 that has a lower rate of persons 18 years and older with high school diploma or equivalency and post-secondary education than the state's average. Pennsylvania Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System shows that, in 2015, Philadelphia had the highest percentage of people who reported having poor physical or mental health that prevented them from having usual activities in one or more days in the past month (26 percent).<sup>21</sup>

**Table 1.4 Economic Indicators by County, Pennsylvania, 2016 and 2017<sup>22,23,24,25</sup>**

	Per Capita Personal Income 2016	Poverty Rate (All Ages) 2016	% Population Eligible for Medical Assistance July 2017	High School Diploma or Equivalency for Persons 18+ Years Old 2016	Postsecondary Education for Persons 18+ Years Old 2016
Pennsylvania	\$50,742	12.9%	22.3%	35.5%	53.8%
Adams	\$45,853	9.4%	15.2%	41.3%	46.6%
Allegheny	\$54,796	11.5%	19.3%	28.6%	64.9%
Armstrong	\$40,522	13.8%	23.9%	48.1%	40.7%
Beaver	\$43,659	9.7%	21.5%	38.7%	52.8%
Bedford	\$37,873	13.7%	23.2%	50.5%	35.7%
Berks	\$45,763	13.1%	22.9%	38.0%	47.6%
Blair	\$41,754	13.6%	26.5%	47.4%	43.3%
Bradford	\$39,237	11.5%	23.2%	47.9%	40.3%
Bucks	\$65,895	6.6%	12.6%	30.4%	62.8%
Butler	\$52,698	7.3%	14.8%	33.9%	59.4%
Cambria	\$39,322	15.6%	25.7%	43.8%	46.6%
Cameron	\$43,879	14.2%	30.7%	46.5%	41.0%
Carbon	\$45,622	13.1%	21.5%	46.3%	42.9%
Centre	\$41,032	17.0%	9.2%	29.0%	65.2%
Chester	\$75,281	7.0%	10.4%	23.3%	69.1%
Clarion	\$37,592	15.2%	21.1%	43.4%	45.6%
Clearfield	\$40,266	14.1%	25.6%	50.1%	36.2%
Clinton	\$36,168	17.8%	22.7%	43.1%	44.7%
Columbia	\$38,671	13.5%	19.1%	40.8%	48.9%
Crawford	\$36,975	14.4%	23.6%	43.8%	44.0%
Cumberland	\$51,384	7.9%	13.3%	32.7%	58.3%
Dauphin	\$47,864	11.3%	24.4%	34.2%	54.2%
Delaware	\$59,594	10.8%	21.0%	31.4%	60.7%
Elk	\$44,772	10.1%	19.8%	48.4%	42.9%
Erie	\$40,764	15.7%	28.5%	38.7%	52.0%
Fayette	\$38,960	17.5%	32.4%	49.8%	37.1%
Forest	\$24,639	24.6%	15.2%	54.9%	24.4%
Franklin	\$42,275	9.1%	18.4%	43.5%	42.5%
Fulton	\$37,026	10.6%	22.2%	52.3%	34.5%
Greene	\$42,565	15.7%	27.1%	47.3%	39.9%
Huntingdon	\$37,077	13.6%	21.4%	50.8%	38.1%

	Per Capita Personal Income 2016	Poverty Rate (All Ages) 2016	% Population Eligible for Medical Assistance July 2017	High School Diploma or Equivalency for Persons 18+ Years Old 2016	Postsecondary Education for Persons 18+ Years Old 2016
Indiana	\$35,482	20.0%	20.9%	39.4%	50.1%
Jefferson	\$38,222	13.3%	25.5%	50.5%	37.8%
Juniata	\$38,715	10.2%	16.8%	51.1%	31.0%
Lackawanna	\$43,616	14.1%	26.0%	36.1%	53.9%
Lancaster	\$45,839	10.7%	17.2%	37.2%	46.9%
Lawrence	\$40,061	13.7%	26.0%	43.4%	46.0%
Lebanon	\$43,576	9.9%	20.2%	42.4%	43.2%
Lehigh	\$48,834	13.8%	23.9%	33.3%	54.5%
Luzerne	\$41,809	14.6%	27.6%	38.3%	50.5%
Lycoming	\$40,185	14.6%	23.6%	39.8%	49.0%
McKean	\$39,416	17.4%	27.0%	46.7%	42.5%
Mercer	\$38,872	16.1%	25.0%	43.3%	45.7%
Mifflin	\$35,717	14.7%	23.9%	50.4%	31.7%
Monroe	\$39,104	12.0%	22.5%	36.5%	53.1%
Montgomery	\$72,780	6.2%	13.0%	25.1%	68.3%
Montour	\$51,877	11.2%	17.1%	41.8%	47.1%
Northampton	\$48,650	9.3%	18.3%	34.6%	55.9%
Northumberland	\$38,764	14.6%	24.1%	49.2%	35.8%
Perry	\$40,573	9.1%	16.7%	46.6%	41.1%
Philadelphia	\$51,645	25.3%	41.8%	33.1%	50.1%
Pike	\$42,332	9.8%	19.0%	34.5%	56.0%
Potter	\$36,338	14.0%	25.6%	47.7%	39.5%
Schuylkill	\$40,325	12.8%	23.9%	47.2%	40.3%
Snyder	\$38,247	12.7%	16.3%	43.1%	40.3%
Somerset	\$37,250	14.1%	21.3%	48.9%	38.2%
Sullivan	\$40,211	12.8%	19.1%	48.7%	38.6%
Susquehanna	\$40,747	12.7%	20.3%	46.4%	42.1%
Tioga	\$36,499	13.3%	23.6%	43.6%	45.4%
Union	\$36,251	11.8%	12.7%	37.1%	49.3%
Venango	\$38,174	14.6%	26.0%	48.8%	39.3%
Warren	\$39,645	15.3%	22.5%	46.6%	44.0%
Washington	\$52,834	9.7%	18.7%	38.4%	53.1%
Wayne	\$38,965	13.7%	20.7%	43.4%	46.1%
Westmoreland	\$47,096	9.8%	19.2%	37.7%	54.9%
Wyoming	\$41,633	11.3%	21.8%	46.1%	44.7%
York	\$45,918	9.8%	19.1%	40.7%	47.6%

Note: Percent with a high school diploma includes those ages 18 and older that have a diploma and no college experience.  
Percent with post-secondary education includes those ages 18 and older that have some college experience.

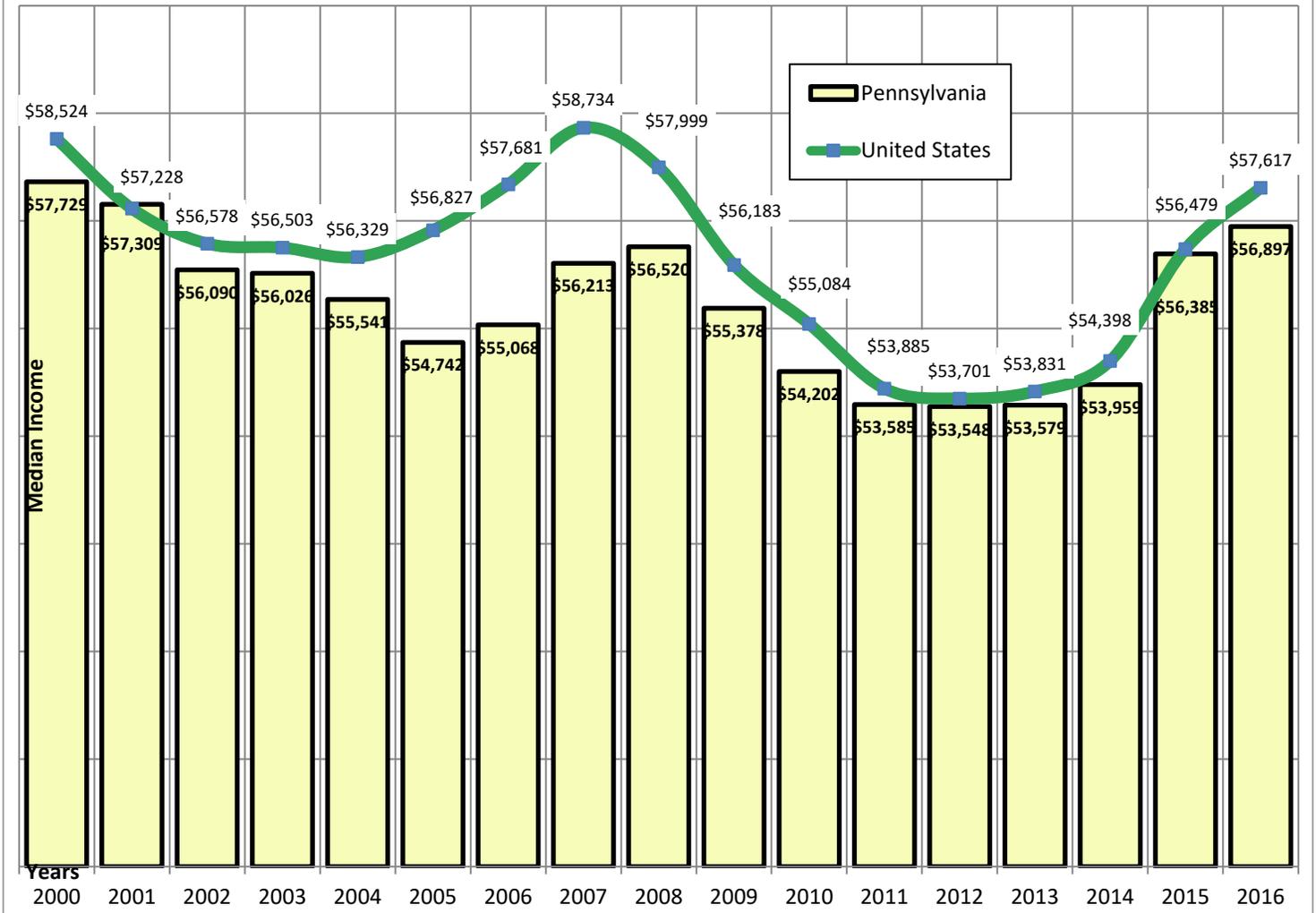
BLACK Same as Pennsylvania  
RED Higher than Pennsylvania  
BLUE Lower than Pennsylvania

# Income

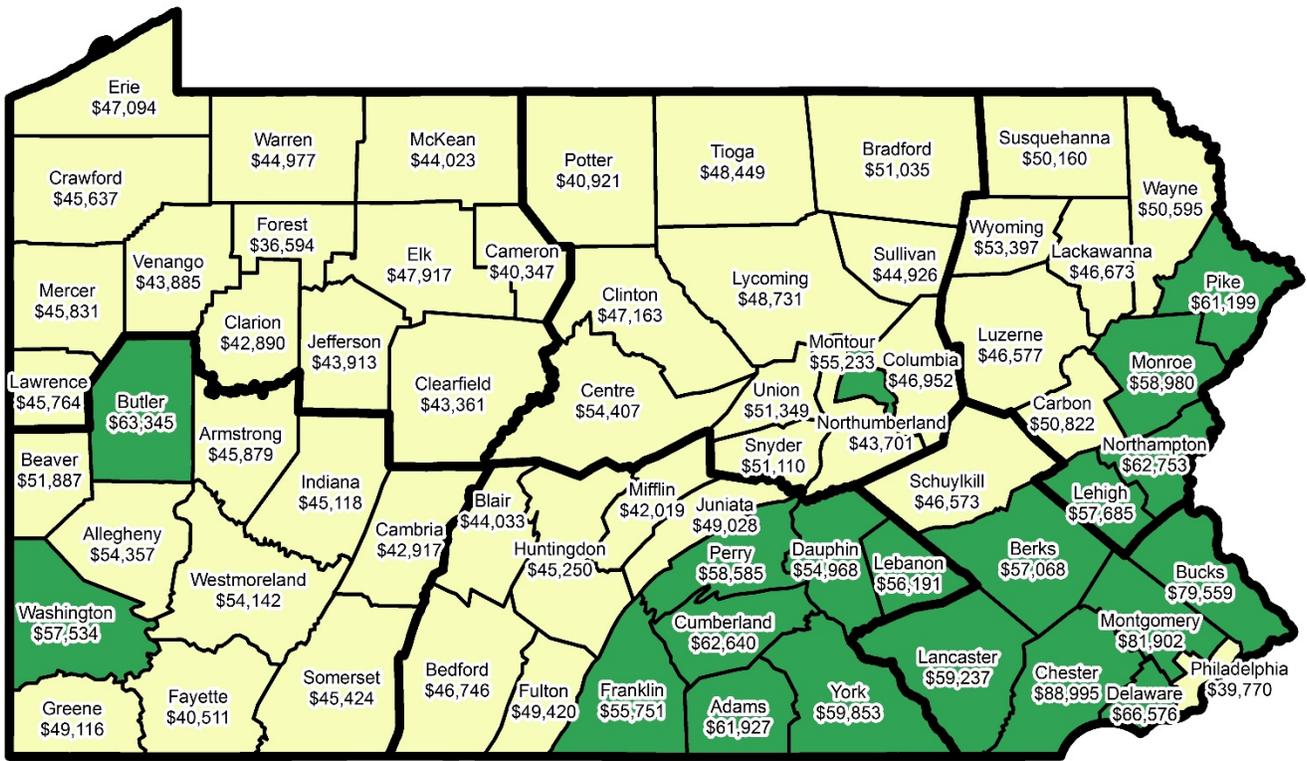
In 2016, according to the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates program, the median household income of Pennsylvania was \$56,897, \$720 lower than the national figure (\$57,617). Still, adjusting for inflation, the median household income for the state declined approximately 1.4 percent since 2000. Chester and Montgomery county had the two highest inflation-adjusted median household incomes with \$88,995 and \$81,902, respectively. Forest and Philadelphia county were the two counties with the lowest inflation-adjusted median household incomes with \$36,594 and \$39,770, respectively (Figure 1.14).

In 2016, 12.9 percent of Pennsylvanians lived below the poverty level. This rate was below the national rate of 14.0 percent. In 2010, the poverty rate in Pennsylvania was 13.4 percent and the national rate was 15.3 percent.<sup>26</sup>

**Figure 1.13 Inflation-Adjusted Median Household Income, Pennsylvania and United States, 2000 to 2016<sup>23</sup>**



**Figure 1.14 Median Household Income by County, Pennsylvania, 2016<sup>27</sup>**



**Statewide Median Household Income, 2016 = \$54,895**

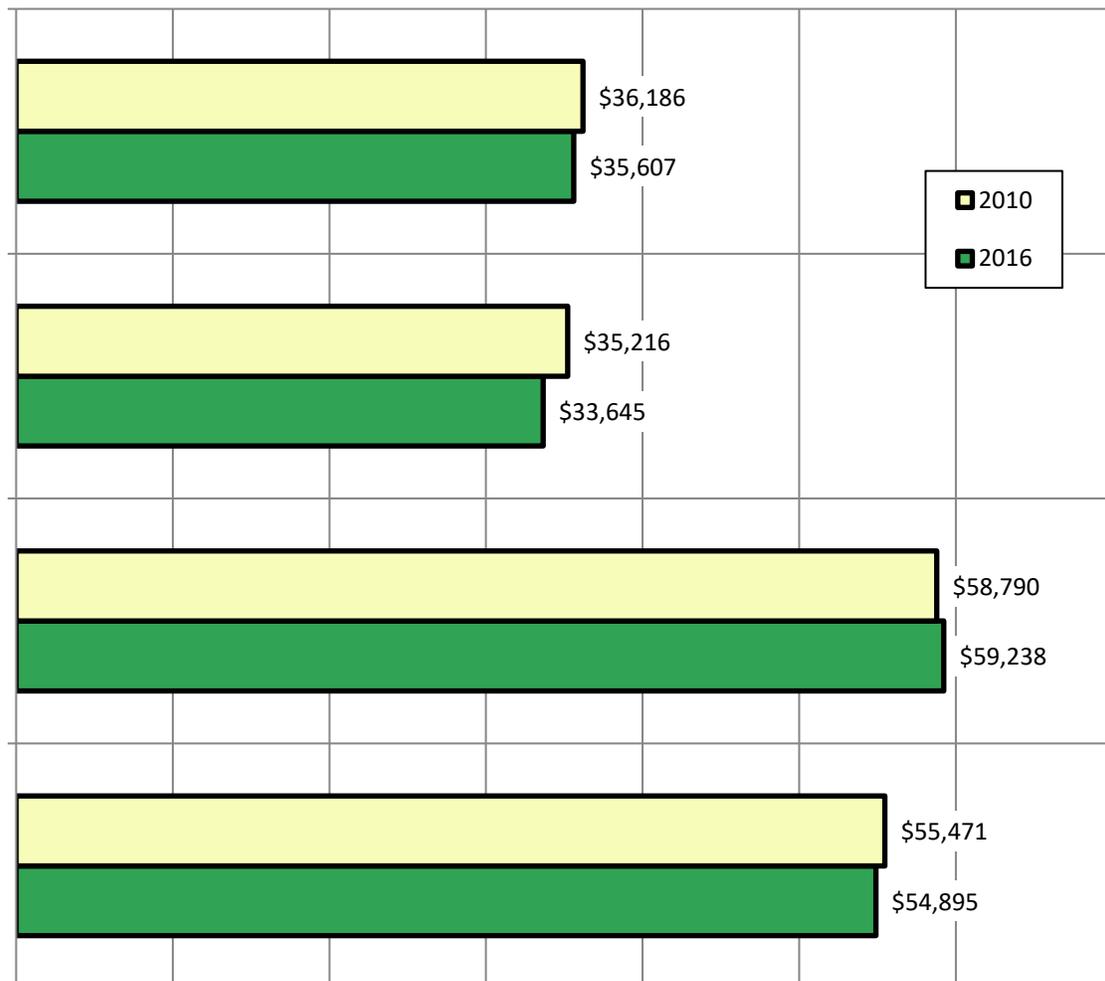
At or Below Statewide Rate
  Above Statewide Rate

## Income by Race and Ethnicity

According to American Community Survey, the inflation-adjusted median household income for Pennsylvania in 2016 (five-year estimates) was \$54,895 (Figure 1.14); this figure was \$427 less than the national median household income of \$55,322. Comparing state and national data, Pennsylvania's white, black and Hispanic households had lower median incomes. However, the biggest gap was among Hispanic households. The U.S. inflation-adjusted median income for Hispanic households was \$44,254; in Pennsylvania, it was just \$35,607.<sup>28</sup>

From 2010 to 2016, the median income across all Pennsylvania households declined by approximately 1 percent, after adjusting for inflation. The group with the largest decline was black householders, who experienced a 4.5 percent decline in median household income. On the other hand, median household income increased 0.8 percent for non-Hispanic white (Figure 1.15).

**Figure 1.15 Inflation Adjusted Median Household Income by Race and Ethnicity, Pennsylvania, 2010 and 2016<sup>28,29</sup>**

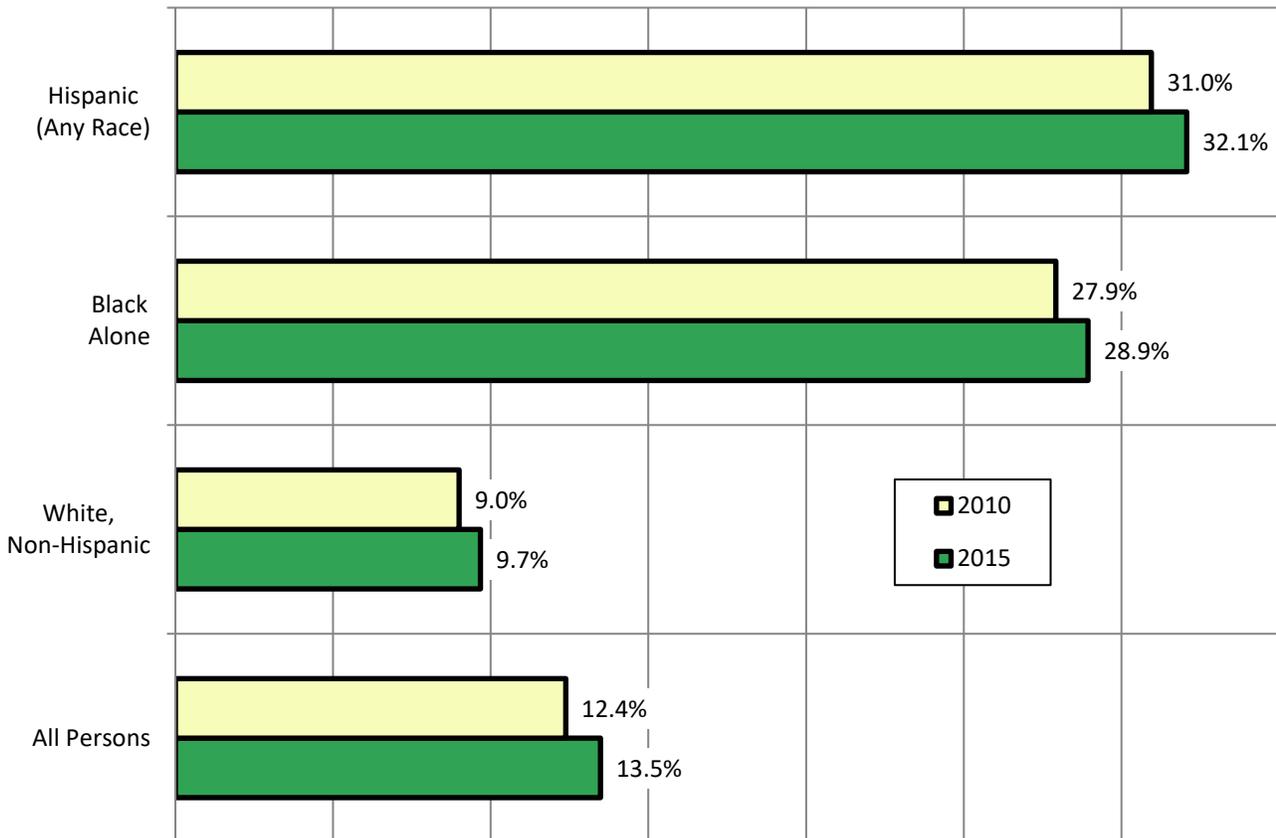


## Poverty

2016 U.S. Census Bureau data indicate that about 12.9 percent of Pennsylvania's residents live in poverty, compared with a national rate of 14.0 percent.

In 2016, for Pennsylvania's black residents, the poverty rate was 26.4 percent; for the state's Hispanic residents, the rate was 30.0 percent. By comparison, the rate for white Pennsylvanians was just 9.2 percent. From 2010 to 2016, the poverty rate decreased for all groups.

**Figure 1.16 Poverty Rate by Race and Ethnicity, Pennsylvania, 2010 and 2015<sup>30</sup>**



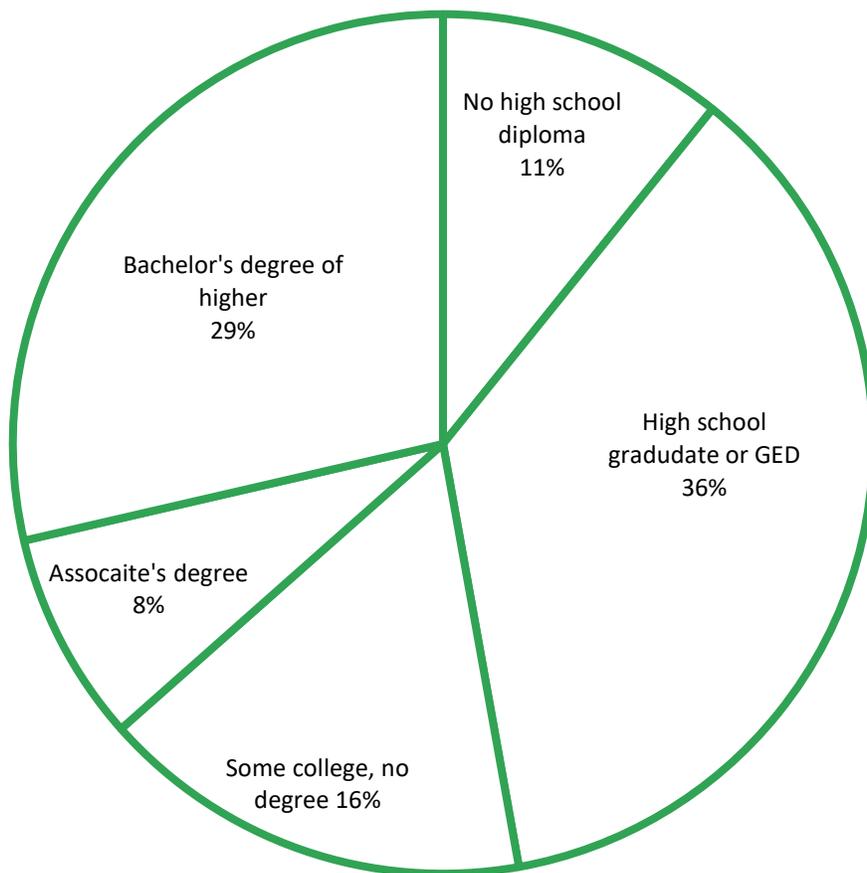
## Education

According to the National Center for Educational Statistics, 86 percent of Pennsylvania's high school students graduated with a regular diploma four years after starting ninth grade in 2012-2013; this is the fourth highest percentage of the 49 states whose data is available for that period. Other states with the same percentage with Pennsylvania are Connecticut, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Missouri and Tennessee. Data for the same year show a national rate of 81 percent.<sup>31</sup>

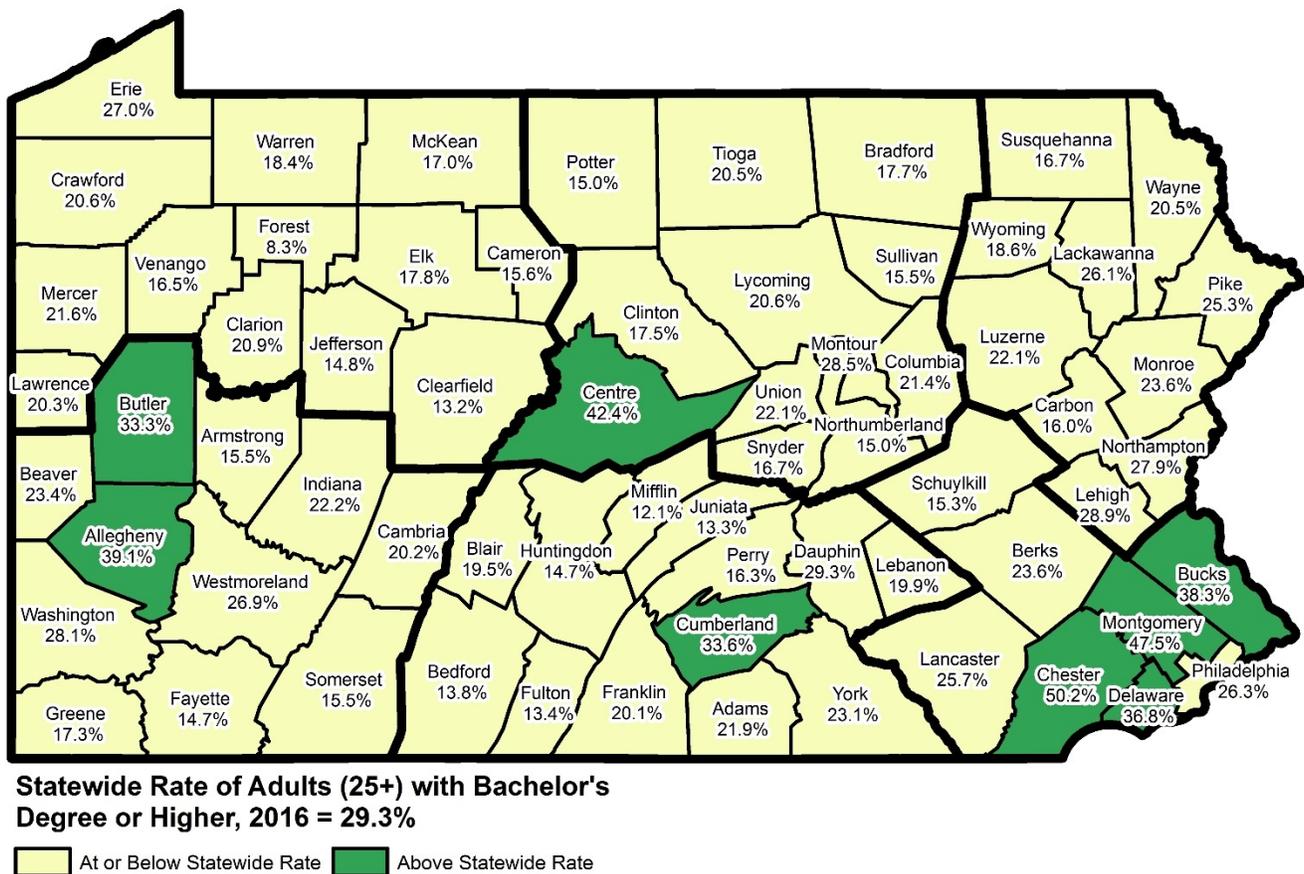
Five years estimates drawn from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (2012-2016) place the rate of Pennsylvania's adults 25 years and older who lack a high school diploma at 11 percent. This is only slightly lower than the U.S. figure of 13 percent.<sup>32</sup> It is also 1 percent lower than the figure between 2008-2012, which was 12 percent.<sup>33</sup> However, it is a dramatic improvement over 1990 figures, which showed one-quarter of Pennsylvania adults lacking a high school diploma.<sup>34</sup>

Figure 1.17 shows that 29 percent of the state's adults 25 years and older had earned a bachelor's degree or higher degree. This was lower than the U.S. number (30 percent).<sup>32</sup> This is a significant increase since 1990, when just 18 percent of Pennsylvanians age 25 and older had earned a bachelor's degree or higher.<sup>34</sup>

**Figure 1.17 Highest Level of Education by Adults 25 Years and Older, Pennsylvania, 2016<sup>32</sup>**



**Figure 1.18 Adults Age 25 and Older with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher by County, Pennsylvania, 2016<sup>32</sup>**



## Education by Race and Ethnicity

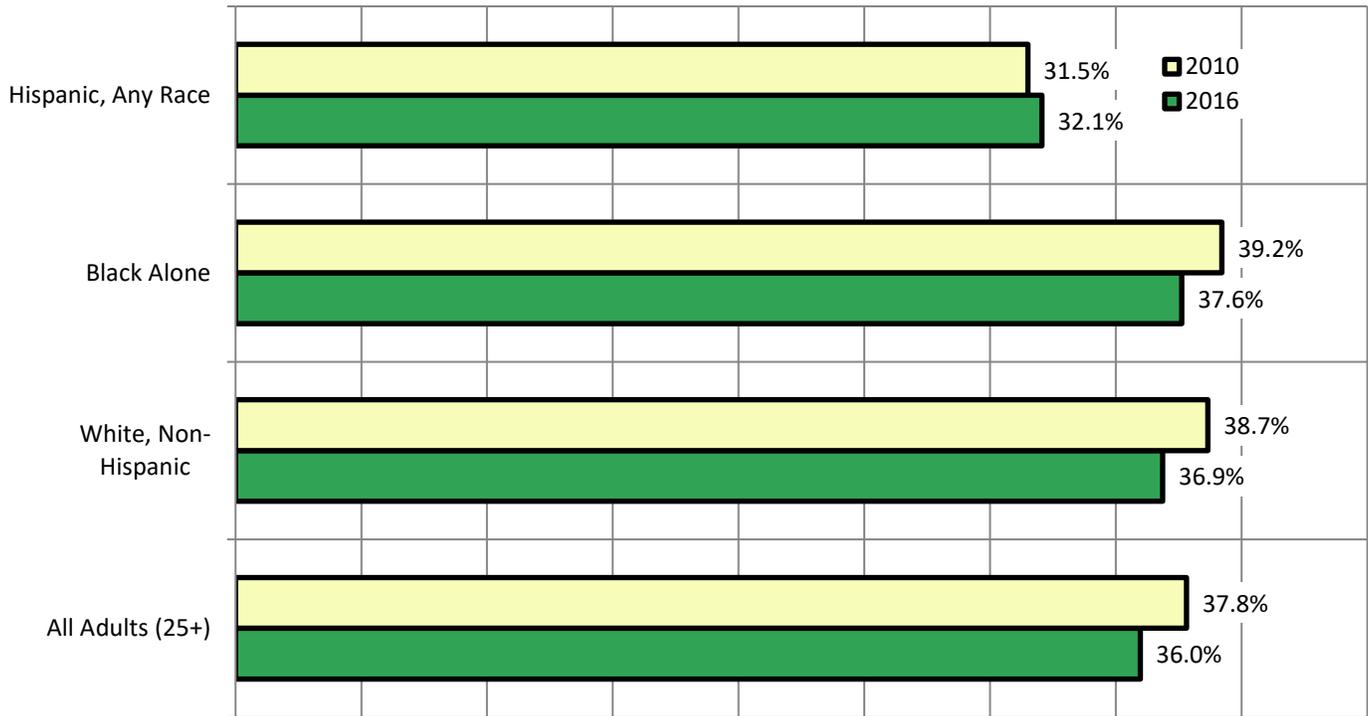
Pennsylvania has seen increases in the rate of educational attainment (e.g., high school diploma/GED, bachelor's degree or higher) in all populations, including minority groups. However, differences persist between the rates for Pennsylvania and the nation.

Recent U.S. Census Bureau data (2016) show that approximately 36 percent of Pennsylvania adults 25 years old and older have only a high school diploma or equivalent, significantly higher than the national average of 27.5 percent.<sup>32</sup> Between 2010 and 2016, the percent of black residents with a high school diploma or GED decreased from 39.2 to 37.6 percent. Also, the percent of white residents with high school diploma or GED decreased from 38.7 to 36.9 percent. During the same time, among Hispanics, the percent remained relatively unchanged, increasing by just under 1 percent.<sup>35</sup>

Figure 1.20 shows that approximately 30.8 percent of Pennsylvania adults (age 25 years old and older) have earned a bachelor's degree or higher, just slightly less than the national rate of 30 percent. Between 2010 and 2016, the percentage increased for all groups. Among black adults, the rate increased by 2.3 percent; among Hispanics, it increased by 1.2 percent. The greatest increase of 3.3 percent occurred among whites.

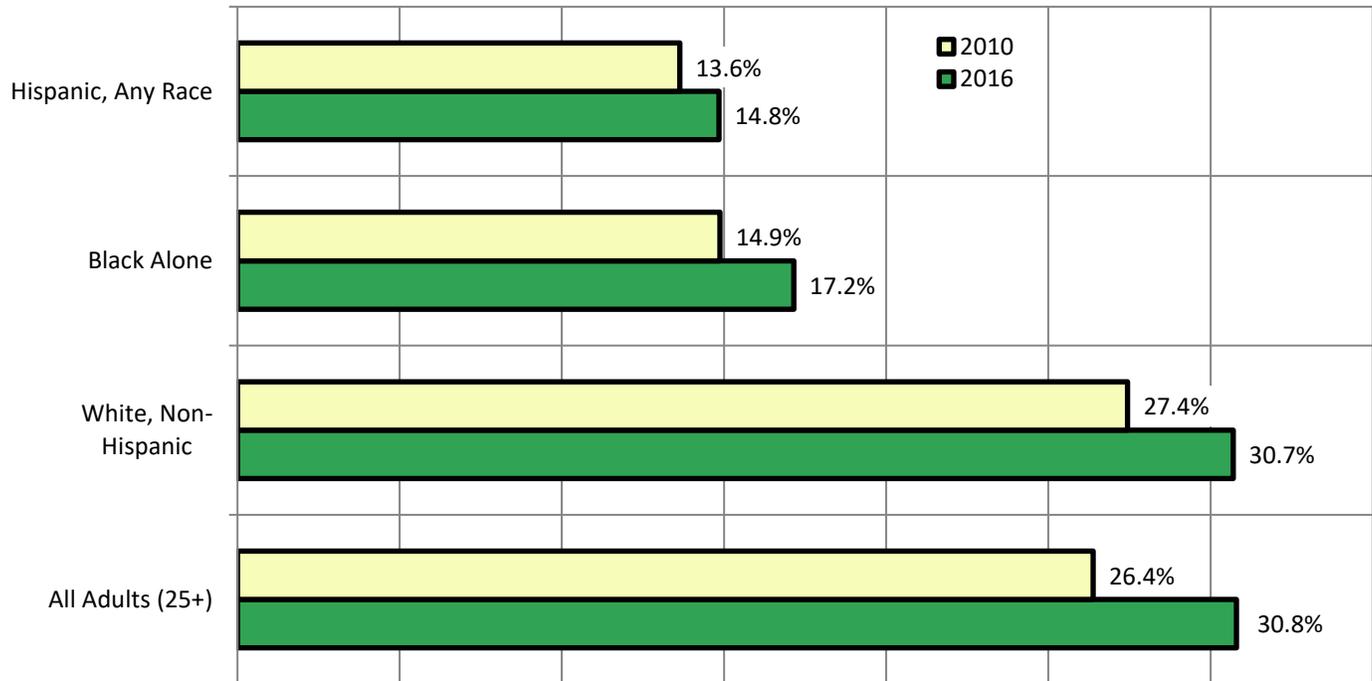
The shift in these numbers may be related to the decrease in the high school dropout rate described in the education section above and reflected in Figure 1.18 below.

**Figure 1.19 Adults Age 25 and Older with Only a High School Diploma or Equivalent by Race and Ethnicity,**



**Pennsylvania, 2010 and 2016<sup>32,35</sup>**

**Figure 1.20 Adults Age 25 and Older with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher by Race and Ethnicity, Pennsylvania, 2010 and 2016<sup>32,35</sup>**

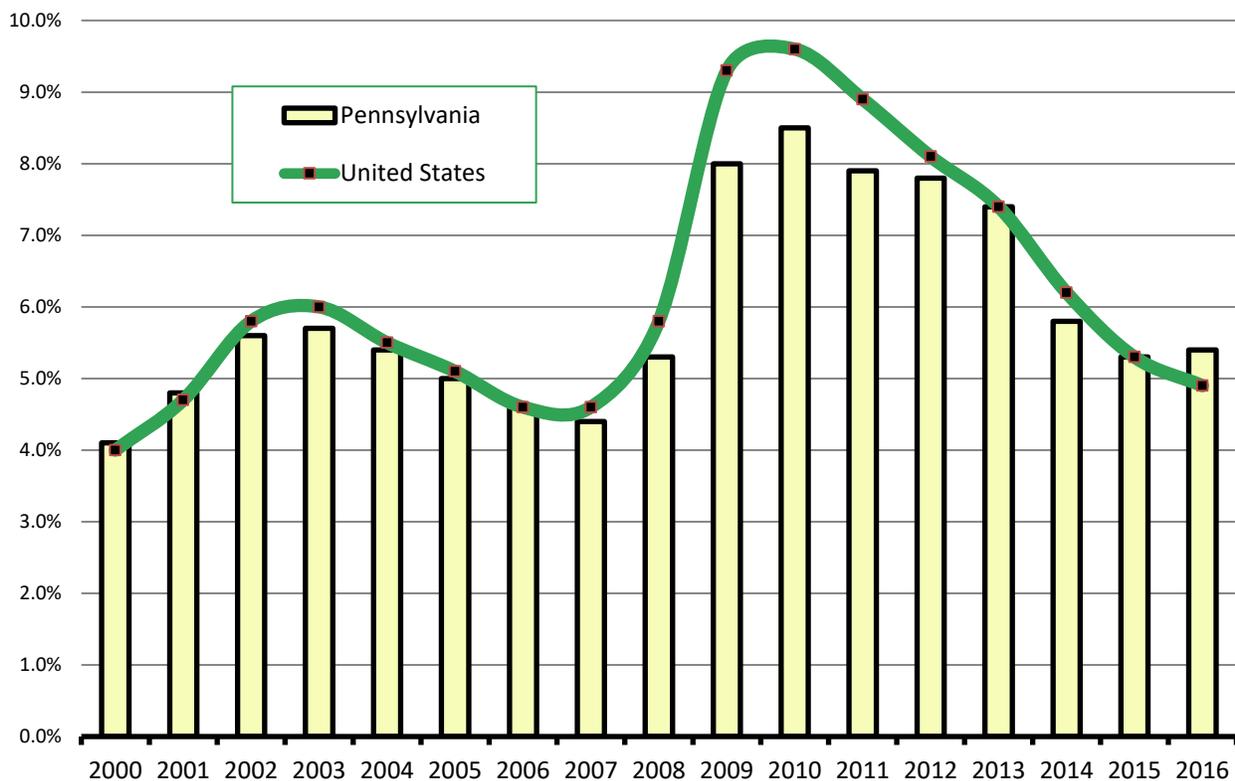


## Unemployment

According to the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry, from 2000 to 2016, Pennsylvania's unemployment rate has followed the national unemployment rate. However, while both the state and national rates increased during the recent "Great Recession," the difference between the two rates widened during the 2009 to 2011 period, with Pennsylvania's unemployment significantly below the national rate.

Interestingly, for the first time in 15 years, the average annual unemployment rate for Pennsylvania (5.4 percent) was slightly above the nationwide rate (4.9 percent) as shown in Figure 1.21. Figure 1.22 shows 2016 average county-level unemployment rates, compared to the statewide average for that year.

**Figure 1.21 Average Annual Unemployment Rates, Pennsylvania and United States, 2000 to 2016<sup>36</sup>**



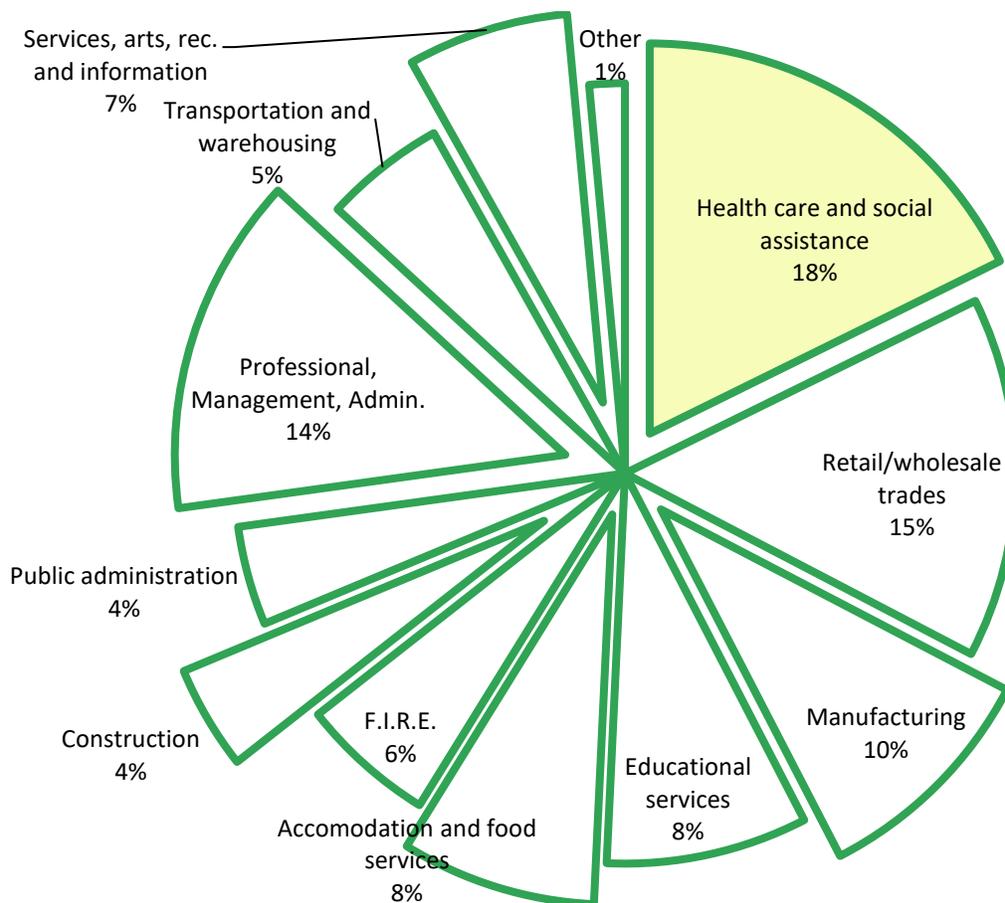


## Employment

Data from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry show that 6.1 million Pennsylvanians were employed in September 2017.<sup>37</sup> The industry with the greatest number of employees was health care and social assistance. While total employment in Pennsylvania increased 3 percent from 2012 to 2016, the percent of people employed in health care and social assistance jobs increased by 6 percent.<sup>39</sup> At the national level, health care support and health care practitioners and technical occupations were projected to grow at the greatest rate, 23 percent and 16 percent, respectively from 2014 to 2024.<sup>38</sup>

Transportation and warehousing was the industry with the sixth greatest number of employees in Pennsylvania. The percent of people employed in this industry increased by 12 percent between 2012 and 2016, which was the highest increase. On the other hand, the percent of people employed in mining, quarrying and oil and gas extraction decreased by 33 percent between 2012 and 2016, which was the highest decrease.<sup>39</sup>

**Figure 1.23 Employment by Industry, Pennsylvania, 2016<sup>39</sup>**





**Figure 1.25 Farm and Mining Employment in Pennsylvania, 2001 to 2016<sup>40</sup>**

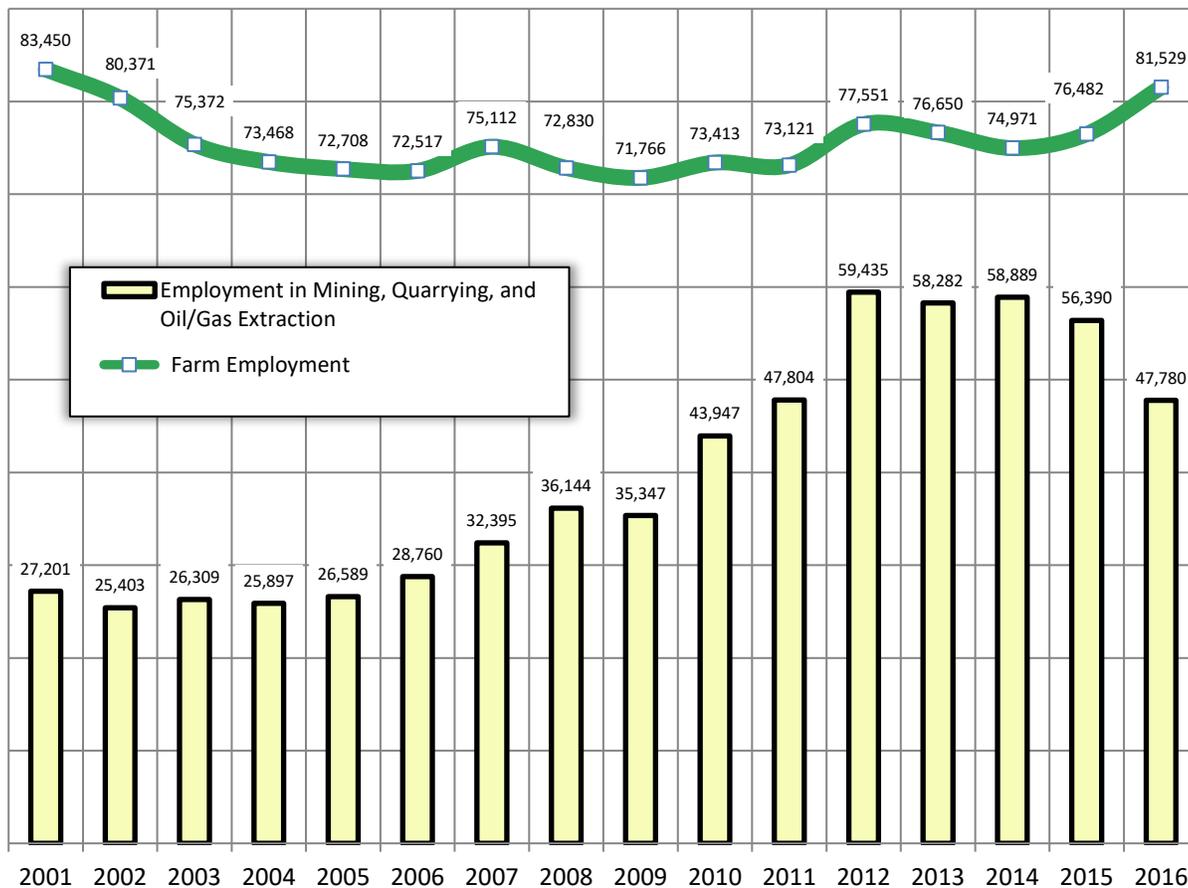


Figure 1.25 shows data from U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. The figure shows that employment in farming has decreased by 7 percent from 2001 to 2012, while employment in mining, quarrying and oil/gas extraction has increased by 118.5 percent throughout the same year period. This trend reversed direction from 2012 to the present. Employment in farming has increased by 5 percent from 2012 to 2016. On the other hand, employment in mining, quarrying and oil/gas extraction has decreased by 19.6 percent throughout the same period.



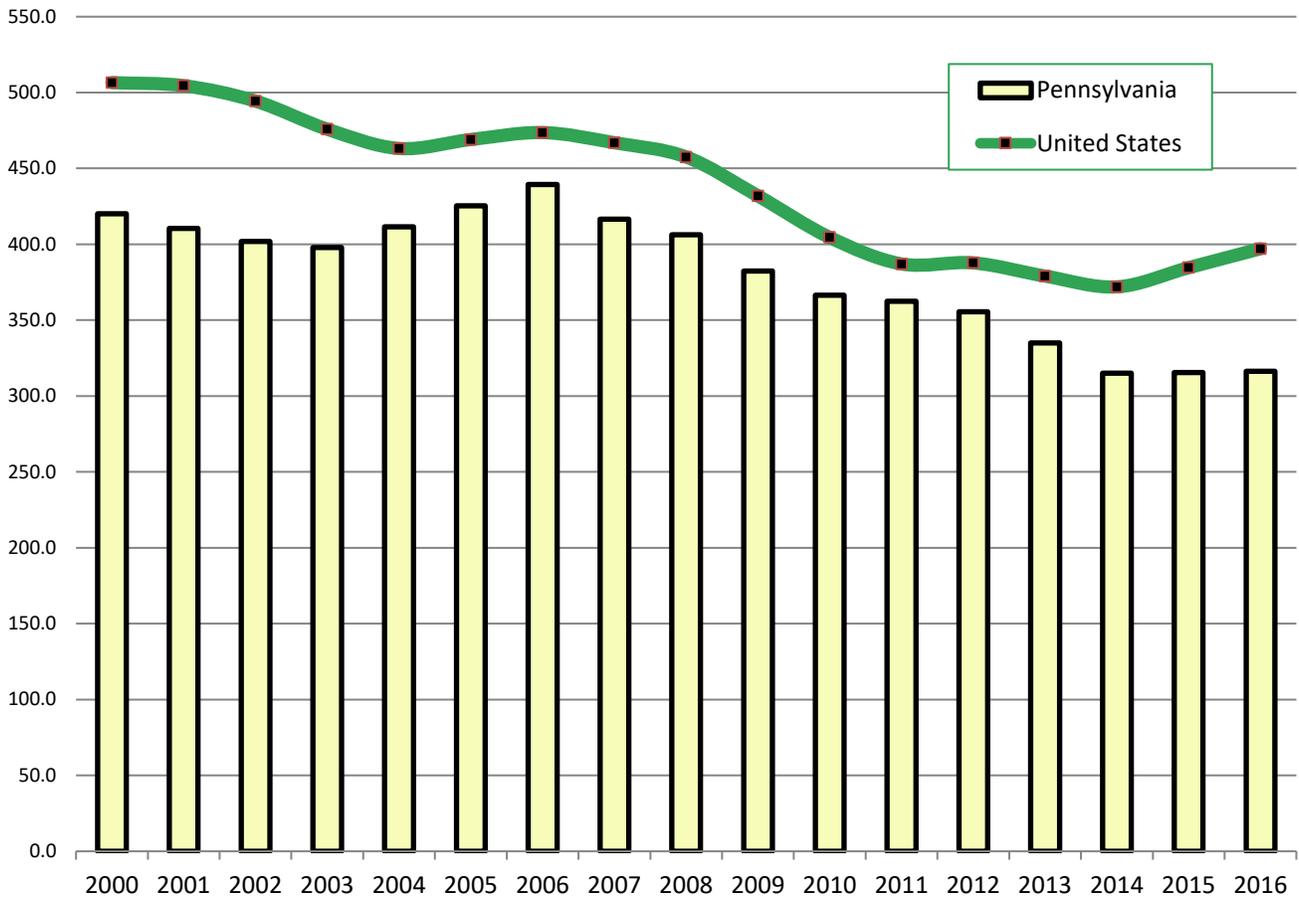


## Crime

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 40,447 violent crimes were reported to the police in Pennsylvania in 2016, a rate of 316.4 violent crimes per 100,000 residents. The incidence of violent crime decreased approximately 22 percent between 2000 and 2016. From 2014 to 2016, the incidence remained relatively unchanged. Nationally, there was an increase of the incidence of 7 percent.

In the U.S, almost 1.3 million violent crimes were reported, a rate of 397.1 per 100,000 residents in 2016. From 2000 to 2016, the number of violent crimes in the U.S. declined by 10 percent.

**Figure 1.288 Reported Violent Crimes per 100,000 Population, Pennsylvania and United States, 2000 to 2016<sup>41</sup>**

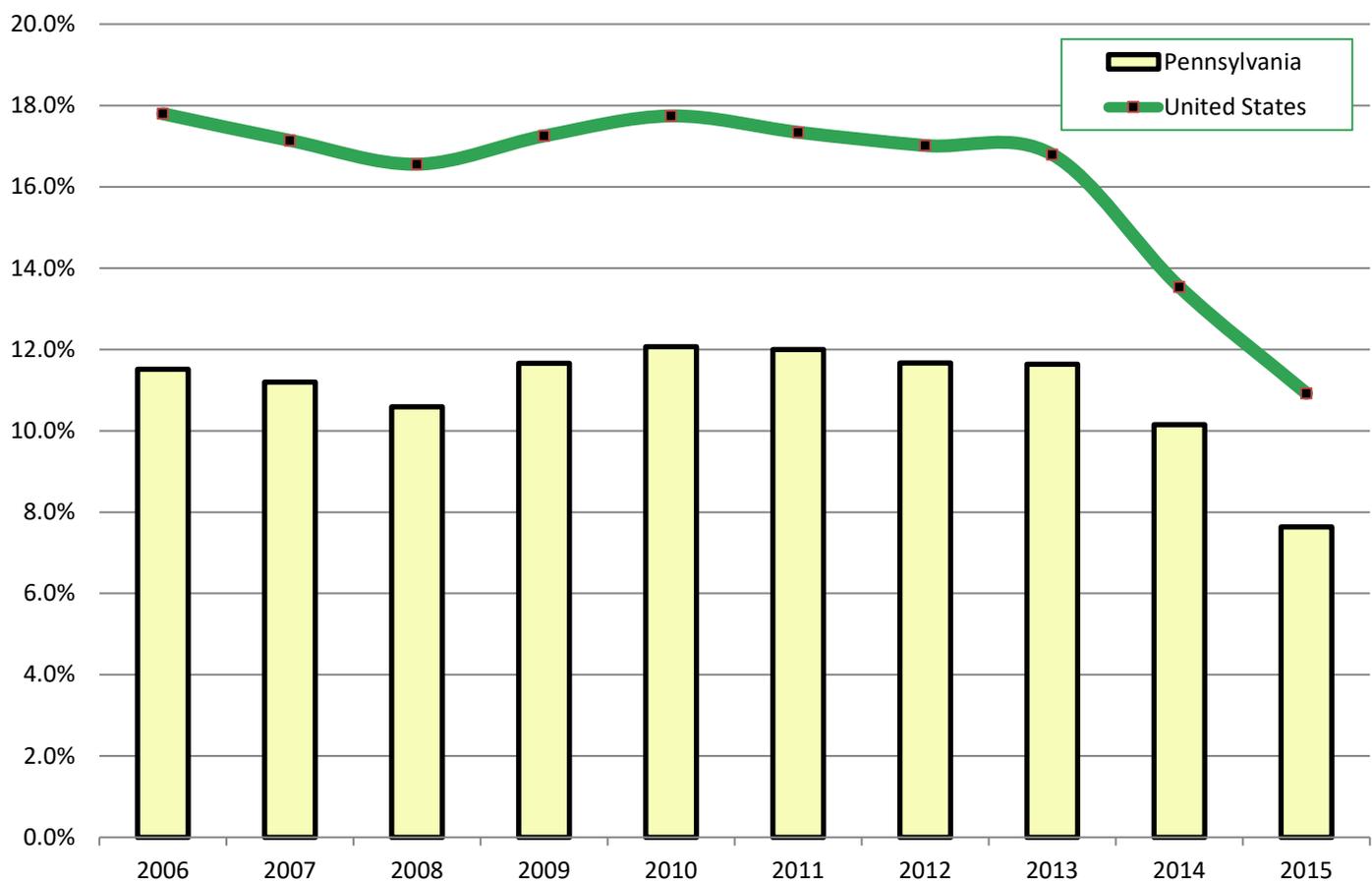


# Health Insurance

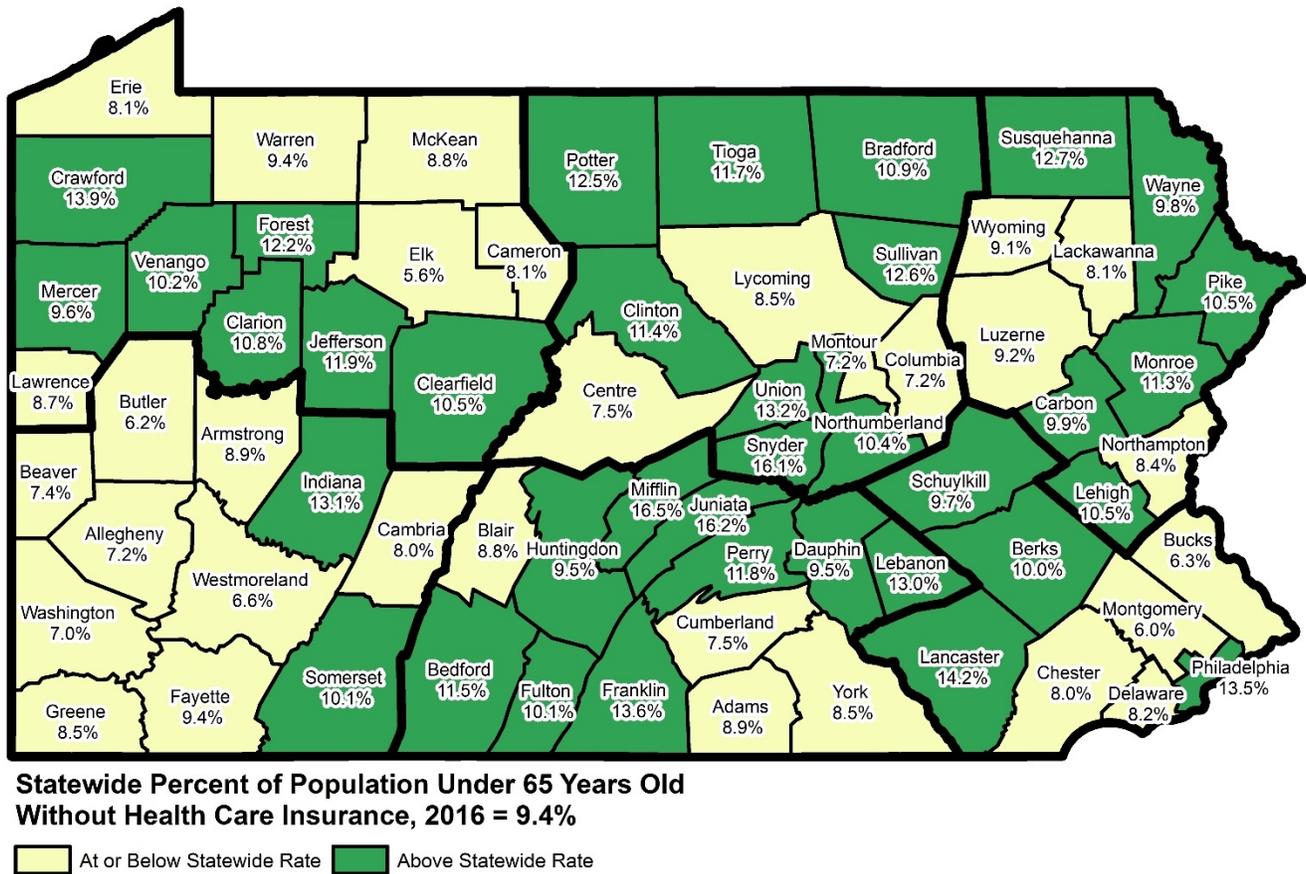
According to the U.S. Census Bureau, about 700,000 Pennsylvanians under the age of 65 were uninsured in 2016. At about 5.6 percent, the state rate continues to be lower than the national average of nearly 10 percent. On the other hand, there were more states (13) in 2015 than in 2010 (9) that had lower rates of uninsured adults younger than 65 years of age, compared to Pennsylvania.<sup>43</sup>

In 2016, the five-year percentage estimate of Pennsylvanians under 65 who were uninsured was 9.4 percent<sup>50</sup> (Figure 1.30). In the same year, 13 percent of Pennsylvania children (under 18 years old) were uninsured.<sup>42</sup> Mifflin County has the highest percent of uninsured individuals in Pennsylvania (16.5 percent); Juniata County is a close second with 16.2 percent. Montgomery and Bucks counties have the lowest rate of uninsured populations (6.0 percent and 6.3 percent, respectively).<sup>48</sup>

**Figure 1.29 Residents Under 65 Years Old Without Health Insurance, Pennsylvania and United States, 2006 to 2015<sup>43</sup>**



**Figure 1.30 Adults Under 65 Years Old Without Health Insurance by County, Pennsylvania, 2016**



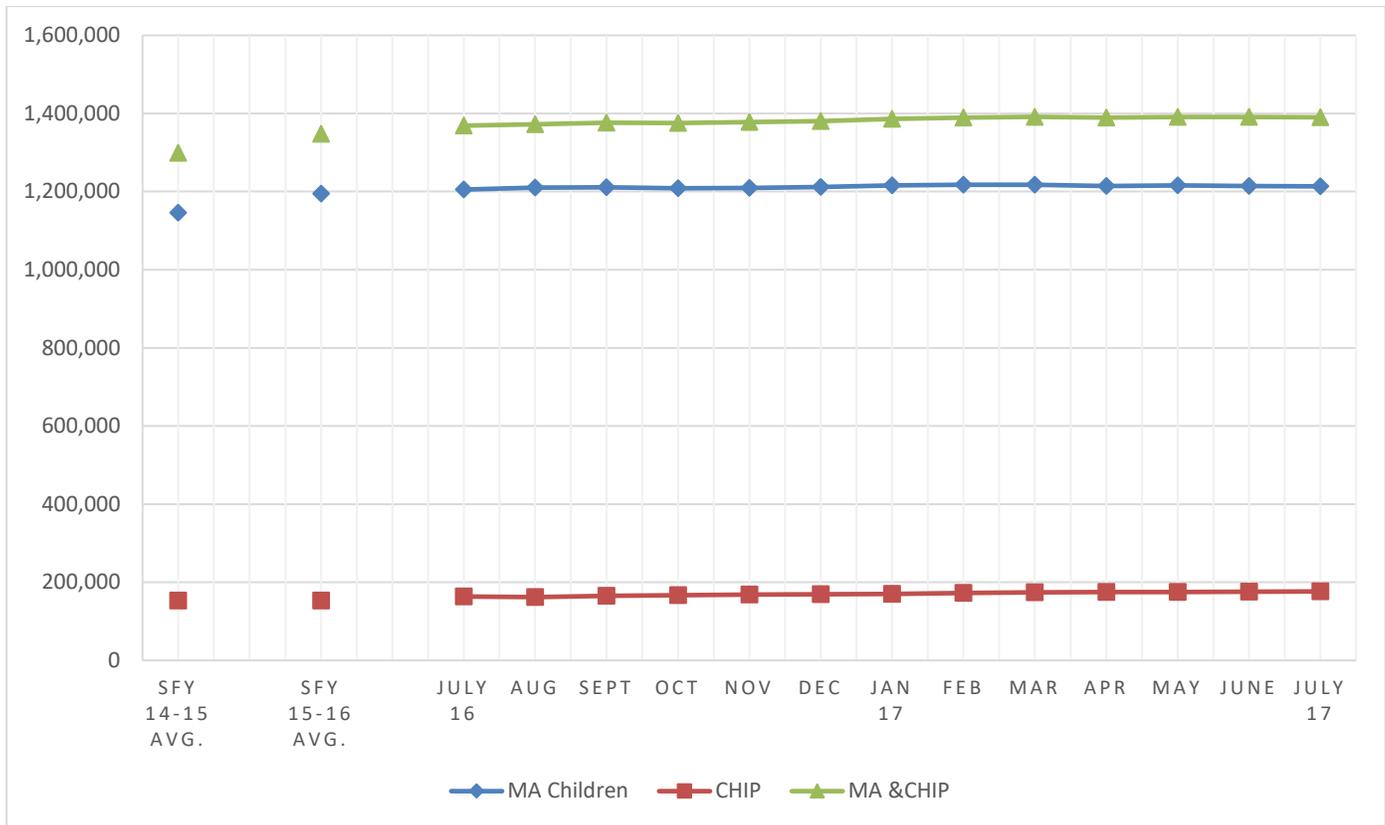
## Public Insurance Coverage

According to the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey, 36 percent of Pennsylvania residents with health insurance had Medicare and Medicaid.**Error! Bookmark not defined.**<sup>44</sup> Specifically, in 2016, 19.2 percent of Pennsylvania residents had Medicare, a federal program available in four parts: hospital coverage, physician coverage, optional health care plan selection and prescription drug coverage. To compare to five years prior, in 2011, the percent of Pennsylvania residents with Medicare was 17.4.

Medicaid, known as Medical Assistance (MA) in Pennsylvania, is a joint federal and state program that provides eligible low-income individuals or families with health insurance coverage for routine care, physician care, chronic disease management, dental and mental health services, hospitalizations, long-term care, prescriptions, transportation, etc. Medicaid programs are administered by the states, and benefits vary from state to state. According to Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Pennsylvania’s mandatory managed care program for Medical Assistance recipients is shown in Table 1.6. This program was expanded in 2015.<sup>45</sup> Figure 1.30 reflects this increase. There were 49,215 additional residents under 21 years of age who were enrolled in Medicaid from July 2014 to June 2016.

Pennsylvania’s Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provides health insurance for residents under 19 years of age who are not enrolled in Medical Assistance. A total of 176,571 individuals were covered by CHIP as of July 2017.<sup>46</sup>

**Figure 1.31 Residents Under 21 Years Old Enrolled in Medicaid and Under 19 Years Old Enrolled in CHIP, Pennsylvania, July 2014 to June 2017<sup>47</sup>**



**Table 1.5 Health Insurance Coverage, Pennsylvania and United States, 2016<sup>48</sup>**

Coverage Type	Pennsylvania	United States
Civilian noninstitutionalized population, 2016	12,579,598	313,576,137
Health insurance coverage	92.0%	88.3%
Employer-based health insurance only	50.5%	46.2%
Direct-purchase health insurance only	6.2%	6.2%
Medicare coverage only	4.4%	4.6%
Medicaid/means-tested public coverage only	12.2%	14.2%
TRICARE/military health coverage only	0.3%	1.0%
VA health care only	0.2%	0.3%
Two or more types of health insurance coverage	18.3%	15.8%
Uninsured	8.0%	11.7%

**Table 1.6 Percentage of Monthly Average of Managed Care Enrollment, Pennsylvania, 2016/2017<sup>49</sup>**

Medicaid Enrollment	Managed Care	Percent in Managed Care
2,840,335	2,535,315	89.26%

## Private Insurance Coverage

TRICARE (formerly the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services, or CHAMPUS) is a health care program of the U.S. Department of Defense Military Health System. It provides civilian health benefits for military personnel, military retirees and their dependents. As shown in Table 1.5, 0.3 percent of Pennsylvania residents received benefit only from TRICARE. By comparison, the national average is 1 percent.

Private health insurance is provided through an employer or union or purchased by an individual from a health insurance company. The percent of Pennsylvania residents with employer-based private health insurance decreased between 2016 and 2011 from 49.7 percent to 49.2 percent. By comparison, national figures for private insurance coverage were 46.2 percent for both years.<sup>50,51</sup>

The Pennsylvania Insurance Department identifies seven major private insurers who have filed rates that comply with the reforms of the Affordable Care Act for 2018: Aetna, Capital, Geisinger, Highmark, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), United Health Care and Independence Blue Cross (IBC). Table 1.7 shows the counties of operation for each.

**Table 1.7 Private Insurance Providers by County, Pennsylvania, 2017<sup>52</sup>**

	Aetna	Capital	Geisinger	Highmark	UPMC	United Health Care	IBC
Adams	X	X	X	X		X	
Allegheny				X	X	X	
Armstrong				X	X	X	
Beaver				X	X	X	
Bedford				X	X	X	
Berks	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Blair	X		X	X	X	X	
Bradford	X		X	X		X	
Bucks	X					X	X
Butler				X	X	X	
Cambria	X		X	X	X	X	
Cameron	X		X	X	X	X	
Carbon	X		X	X		X	
Centre	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Chester	X					X	X
Clarion	X			X	X	X	
Clearfield	X		X	X	X	X	
Clinton	X		X	X		X	
Columbia	X	X	X	X		X	
Crawford				X	X	X	
Cumberland	X	X	X	X		X	
Dauphin	X	X	X	X		X	
Delaware	X					X	X
Elk	X			X	X	X	
Erie				X	X	X	
Fayette				X	X	X	
Forest	X			X	X	X	
Franklin		X	X	X		X	

	Aetna	Capital	Geisinger	Highmark	UPMC	United Health Care	IBC
Fulton	X	X	X	X		X	
Greene				X	X	X	
Huntingdon	X		X	X	X	X	
Indiana				X	X	X	
Jefferson	X		X	X	X	X	
Juniata	X	X	X	X		X	
Lackawanna	X		X	X		X	
Lancaster	X	X	X	X		X	
Lawrence				X	X	X	
Lebanon	X	X	X	X		X	
Lehigh	X	X	X	X		X	
Luzerne	X		X	X		X	
Lycoming	X		X	X	X	X	
McKean	X			X	X	X	
Mercer				X	X	X	
Mifflin	X	X	X	X		X	
Monroe	X		X	X		X	
Montgomery	X					X	X
Montour	X	X	X	X		X	
Northampton	X	X	X	X		X	
Northumberland	X	X	X	X		X	
Perry	X	X	X	X		X	
Philadelphia	X			X		X	X
Pike	X		X	X		X	
Potter	X		X	X	X	X	
Schuylkill	X	X	X	X		X	
Snyder	X	X	X	X		X	
Somerset			X	X	X	X	
Sullivan	X		X	X		X	
Susquehanna	X		X	X		X	
Tioga	X		X	X	X	X	
Union	X	X	X	X		X	
Venango	X			X	X	X	
Warren				X	X	X	
Washington				X	X	X	
Wayne	X		X	X		X	
Westmoreland				X	X	X	
Wyoming	X		X	X		X	
York	X	X	X	X		X	

## Emergency Preparedness

Public health emergency preparedness means readiness to handle any type of emergency related to public health, including: infectious disease outbreaks; natural disasters; biological, chemical, nuclear and radiological events; and disasters caused by terrorism. It is the ability of public health and health care systems, communities and individuals to prevent, protect against, quickly respond to, mitigate, and recover from emergencies and disasters, particularly those whose scale, timing or unpredictability threatens to overwhelm routine capabilities. Pennsylvania residents need to know that emergency response plans have been developed for all levels of government.

Individual and community preparedness are important to this effort. Federal, state and local officials have the responsibility of protecting the life, health and safety of the citizenry, but individuals also have the responsibility of knowing what to do when a disaster strikes. Educating individuals, families and communities on their roles for preparation and response to a major public health incident is a must. While there is no way to predict what the next emergency will be, there are steps that can be taken on all levels to be ready to respond to it.

Evaluating the public's preparedness is challenging but possible. Surveys (e.g., Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System) and participating in volunteer groups (e.g., Statewide Emergency

Registry of Volunteers in Pennsylvania [SERVPA], Medical Reserve Corps [MRC]) can give a sense of readiness for disaster. State and local public health preparedness is often measured by the development, testing and revision of written plans. These are essential for successful response to emergencies.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has identified a list of “Capabilities” necessary for public health departments to ensure the most effective mitigation and/or response to public health emergencies.<sup>53</sup> These are:

- Community Preparedness
- Community Recovery
- Emergency Operations Coordination
- Emergency Public Information and Warning
- Fatality Management
- Information Sharing
- Mass Care
- Medical Countermeasure Dispensing
- Medical Materiel Management and Distribution
- Medical Surge
- Non-pharmaceutical Intervention
- Public Health Laboratory Testing
- Public Health Surveillance and Epidemiological Investigation
- Responder Safety and Health
- Volunteer Management

Further, the Office of Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response identified four capabilities especially pertaining to health care preparedness and response.<sup>54</sup> The four capabilities are:

- Foundation for Health Care and Medical Readiness
- Health Care and Medical Response Coordination
- Continuity of Health Care Service Delivery
- Medical Surge

## Department of Health

To ensure that the health needs of Pennsylvania residents are met in the event of a public health emergency, the Pennsylvania Department of Health receives funding annually through the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Public Health Emergency Preparedness and the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Hospital Preparedness Program, to build capability and capacity to prepare for, respond to and recover from natural and manmade emergencies, including acts of terrorism.

This funding enables the Department of Health to plan, train and practice responding to events. It also funds daily activities and equipment procurement which enhance staff readiness. Preparedness funds directly impact the following:

- Infectious disease/environmental health — epidemiological surveillance and investigation
- Infectious disease/environmental health — public health laboratory
- Health care services infrastructure
- Injury and violence
- Public health staff

Whether the people of Pennsylvania need vaccinations and precautionary information, or its health care providers need generators and personal protective equipment, the Department of Health strives to be ready to respond. The Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of Public Health Preparedness, is responsible for coordinating services to meet such needs, in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA).

There are many potential hazards, and the Department of Health organizes them into two groups: natural or manmade. For reference, the top five hazards of each type, for Pennsylvania, are noted in table 1.8 below. (Note that county or regional lists may be different.) The top five hazards have been changed since 2010. In table 1.8, they were ordered from

highest risk to lowest risk factor. Animal disease and pandemic are new to the natural hazard category, replacing wildfire and extreme temperature in 2010. Also, cyber incidents and terrorism have joined the manmade category, replacing transportation accident and nuclear incident.

**Table 1.8 Top Hazards, Pennsylvania, 2013<sup>55</sup>**

Natural	Manmade
Flood, flashflood, ice jam	Utility interruption
Winter storm	Dam failure
Hurricane, tropical storm, Nor'easter	Environmental hazards
Animal disease	Cyber incidents
Pandemic	Terrorism

As an indicator of the frequency of severe hazards in Pennsylvania which require governmental response, natural disasters caused 18 presidential disaster declarations and 17 additional gubernatorial disaster declarations during the period between 2003 and 2013.<sup>55</sup>

To assist the public and health care systems with the aftermath of disasters, the Department of Health:

- Provides vaccinations, as needed (e.g., tetanus shots);
- Provides staff to assist residents at Disaster Recovery Centers;
- Drafts and distributes informational materials relative to the public health implications of disaster (e.g., carbon monoxide) poisoning warnings during cold months during power outages, West Nile virus warnings during warm months with standing water concerns);
- Provides staff to state and department operations centers and coordinates with PEMA to fill unmet needs, such as in health care settings;
- Increases epidemiological surveillance and investigations, as needed; and
- Provides staff (e.g., general staff, nursing staff, epidemiological staff) to assist with shelters for the general population or those with special medical needs.

## Residents

Disasters increase demand on emergency response personnel, public health systems and acute care hospitals, often causing the disruption of services. Individual preparedness measures (e.g., stocking a three-day supply of food, water and medication; developing a written household evacuation plan) can improve a community's ability to cope with service disruption and decrease the number of persons who might otherwise overwhelm emergency services and health care systems.<sup>56</sup>

To estimate current levels of self-reported household preparedness by state and sociodemographic characteristics, the CDC analyzed Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey data collected in 14 states from 2006 to 2010. Preparedness data was collected with Council of American Survey and Research Organizations response rates indicated from the following states during the indicated years:

- 2006: Connecticut (44.3 percent), Montana (54.8 percent), Nevada (50.1 percent), Tennessee (56.7 percent)
- 2007: Delaware (43.2 percent), Louisiana (41.0 percent), Maryland (31.4 percent), Nebraska (65.4 percent), New Hampshire (37.7 percent)
- 2008: Georgia (55.1 percent), Montana (48.3 percent), Nebraska (65.5 percent), New York (40.0 percent), Pennsylvania (45.6 percent)
- 2009: Mississippi (49.3 percent)
- 2010: Montana (65.4 percent), North Carolina (41.1 percent)

Findings include:

- Eighty-three percent of participants reported having a three-day supply of food (CI: 82-84). Pennsylvania ranked second of the 14 in terms of preparedness on this indicator; 86 percent said they had a three-day supply (CI: 85-88).

- Fifty-four percent of participants said they had a three-day supply of water (CI: 53-54). Pennsylvania ranked ninth, with 53 percent responding positively (CI:52-55).
- Twenty-one percent of all participants reported having a written evacuation plan (CI: 21-22). Pennsylvania ranked lowest among the 14 states, with 15 percent (CI: 14-16).

According to the 2013 Pennsylvania Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System survey, 83 percent said they had a three-day supply of food. This was 4 percent lower than in 2010. Sixty percent said they had a three-day supply of water, which was 6 percent higher than in 2010.

Additional findings include:

- Ninety-three percent of Pennsylvania adults reported they would evacuate if mandated, 1 percent lower than the figure of 2010.
- The percent of Pennsylvania adults who said they are not at all prepared to handle a large-scale emergency was 21 percent, a 4 percent increase from the figure of 2010.

Another indicator of Pennsylvania's level of preparedness is that the state successfully passed all Centers for Disease Control and Prevention measures from the "State-By-State Report on Laboratory, Emergency Operations Coordination, and Emergency Public Information and Warning Capabilities" (2012).<sup>57</sup> For 2016, the state reported there are approximately 14,838 residents enrolled in the Statewide Emergency Registry of Volunteers in Pennsylvania (SERVPA), a decrease of 1913 individuals from what was reported in SHA 2013.<sup>58</sup> Furthermore, there are 4,281 civilians in its Medical Reserve Corps (MRC),<sup>59</sup> a decrease of 1201 individuals from what was reported in SHA 2013. According to SERVPA, the decreases are due to a systematic approach to confirm volunteers' commitment to the program and their assurance of availability in the event of a disaster or emergency.<sup>58</sup>

## End Notes

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