
Introduction

More than half of Pennsylvania's rural counties are losing population faster than projected. The U.S. Census Bureau's 2025 population estimates—released this spring for counties, incorporated places, and minor civil divisions—show that while the Commonwealth's total population held nearly flat over the past year, that stability masks a widening geographic divide. Population growth was concentrated in a small number of counties, and often within just one or two municipalities inside them, while 37 of the Commonwealth's 67 counties lost residents.

These shifts carry direct implications for the communities the General Assembly serves. School enrollment and funding, health care capacity, housing demand, and infrastructure planning all depend on how many people live in a place and how old they are. Local planning may need to be revisited across the aforementioned policy areas where populations are declining faster than anticipated, including 25 of the 48 rural counties.

This fact sheet examines county and municipal-level population trends, the components driving them, and how observed changes compare with the county-level projections the Center for Rural Pennsylvania (CRP) published in 2023 in collaboration with the Pennsylvania State Data Center.¹ It builds on the Center's February 2026 analysis of the state level estimates² and its 2024 assessment of the projections' early performance.³ For background on population estimates, projections, and decennial census counts, see Appendix 1.

Key findings of the analysis are as follows:

- More than half of Pennsylvania's rural counties, 25 of 48, lost population faster between 2020 and 2025 than the 2023 projections anticipated.
- The statewide population growth rate was a relatively stagnant 0.10 percent, which is consistent with a previously published fact sheet. However, these recent data indicate that rate was due to uneven population growth at the local level. Thirty counties gained population from 2024 to 2025, but that was undercut by the 37 counties that experienced negative population change (32 of which were rural counties).
- Many of the counties that showed population increases only had that growth concentrated within one or two municipalities inside their borders.

¹ See [Pennsylvania's Population Projections 2050: A First Look](#).

² See [Newest Census Data Release: A First Look at Pennsylvania's Population in 2025](#).

³ See [Pennsylvania's Population is Declining Faster Than Expected](#).

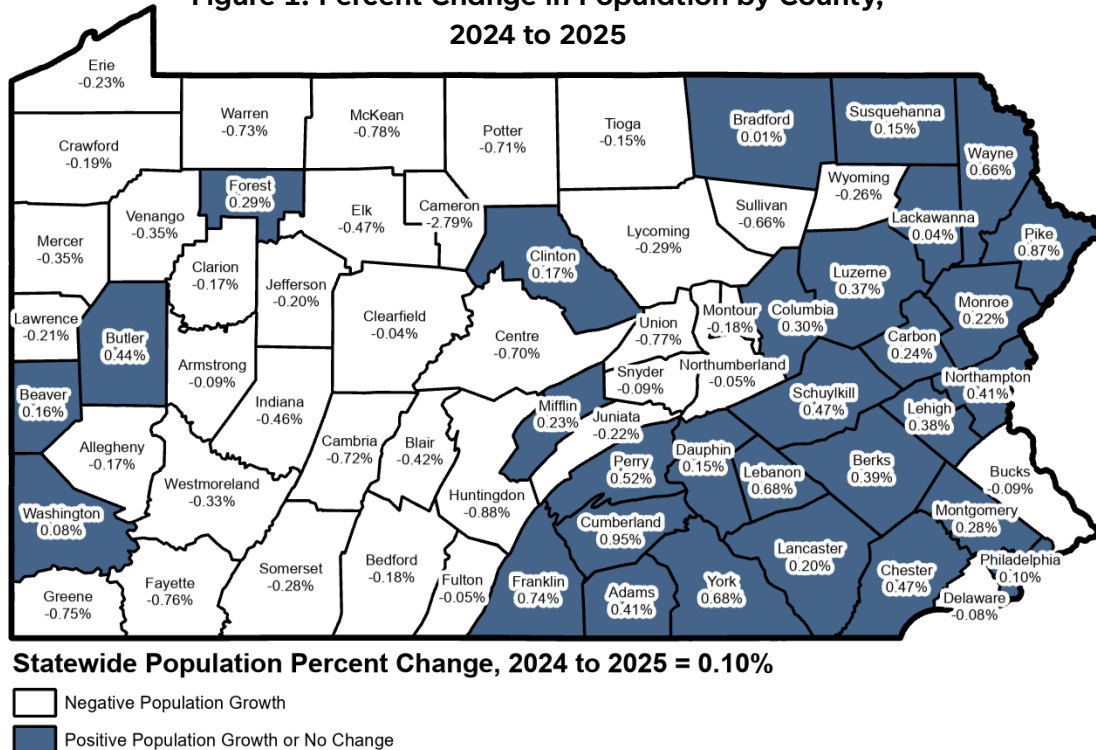
- Without migration, rural Pennsylvania's population would have contracted by roughly 9,300 more residents than it did from 2024 to 2025. Over the past five years, migration has kept rural populations relatively stable; without it, the five-year population decline in rural areas would have been about 1.5 percentage points greater.
- Rural regions proved to be attractive places for relocation. From 2024 to 2025, rural counties gained a net 7,100 residents through domestic migration (moves from other states and other parts of Pennsylvania). By comparison, urban areas experienced a net domestic migration loss of about 10,000 residents.
- Although CRP projections expected an overall contraction of 0.46 percent in the aggregated rural populations by 2025, the latest census data suggest that trend may be even stronger. As of 2025, 13 rural counties are showing population estimates that are at least 2 percent lower than projections, with Cameron and Greene counties showing the largest declines relative to projections.

Population Change by County

From 2024 to 2025, population estimates show that the entire Commonwealth experienced flat growth (0.10 percent). However, as displayed in Figure 1, this was due to uneven population growth throughout the Commonwealth. Growth, predominantly (but not exclusively) in the eastern half of the state, could not outpace the negative population change in other areas, resulting in a flat year-over-year rate.

Pennsylvania's rural population growth from 2024 to 2025 was mainly concentrated in Franklin (0.74 percent; 1,200 additional residents), Pike (0.87 percent; 500 additional residents), and Wayne (0.66 percent; 300 additional residents) counties, while negative growth was driven by McKean (-0.78 percent; 300 fewer residents) and Huntingdon (-0.88 percent; 400 fewer residents) counties, with a sharp decline of 2.79 percent occurring in Cameron County, representing a drop of about 120 residents.

**Figure 1: Percent Change in Population by County,
2024 to 2025**



Data Source: 2025 Population and Housing Unit Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau.

Over the past five years, since 2020, Pennsylvania counties classified as rural had a total population decline of about half a percent. At the same time, urban counties gained population, with those areas experiencing a 0.84-percent increase in total residents over that same period. This trend is a recent phenomenon. Until 2010, rural counties gained population every decennial census. It was not until the 2020 Census that rural counties showed a combined population decline of 2 percent from the prior decade. Since then, that decline has continued.

These recent data show several high-growth rural counties tend to have the majority of that growth coming from older adults. For instance, Butler County's population growth rate of 3 percent from 2020 to 2025 was driven by a nearly 20-percent growth in residents age 65 and older over the same five-year period, and the population of working-age adults (ages 16-64) declined by 1 percent. Pike County, while having the fastest population growth rate in the Commonwealth from 2020 to 2025 (7 percent), also had the fastest growth rate in those age 65 and older (23 percent). By comparison, Pike County's working-age population only increased by 3 percent over the same period.

These trends highlight the importance of taking population characteristics into account, in addition to growth rates, when thinking about projections through 2050 and beyond. Life expectancy decreases as residents age, so a resident who is over the age of 65 in 2025 becomes less likely to survive decades into the future. Therefore, although many rural

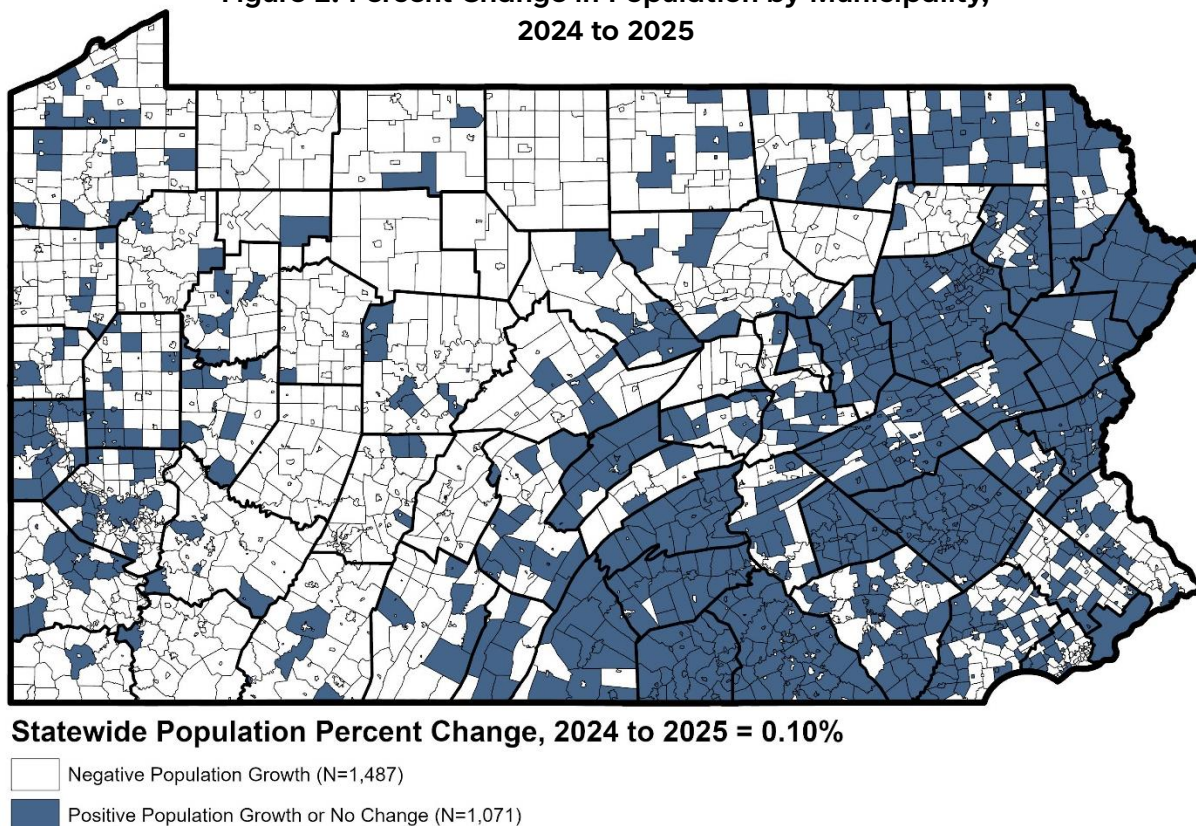
counties are experiencing population increases now, their age composition suggests the potential for decline in the future.

Population Change by Municipality

Many rural municipalities are within the boundaries of counties that are otherwise classified as urban. This analysis reviews population trends at the municipal level to effectively track the changes occurring in these areas. Figure 2 displays the municipalities that experienced a population increase from 2024 to 2025, compared against municipalities that lost population that same year. Compared to numbers aggregated at the county level, Figure 2 shows the varying pockets of growth are scattered across the state.

Figure 2 shows how much of the rural gains in population are concentrated in higher-population municipalities. For example, although Forest County had an increase in population of 0.29 percent, all of that growth occurred in Jenks Township, which is the only municipality in the county with more than 1,000 residents. All other municipalities in Forest County lost population.

**Figure 2: Percent Change in Population by Municipality,
2024 to 2025**



Data Source: 2025 Population and Housing Unit Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau.

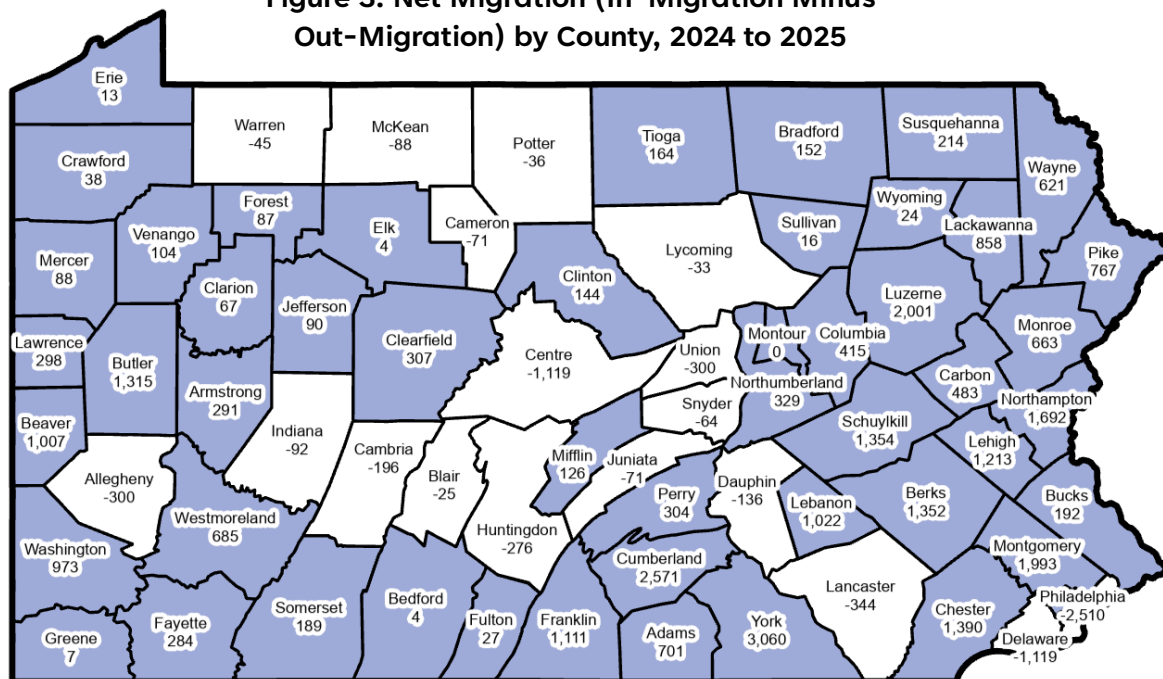
Over the past five years, 967 out of 1,647 municipalities classified as rural (59 percent) experienced a decline in population compared to 520 out of 911 urban municipalities (57 percent). Even though the percent difference between rural and urban municipalities is small, the impact may be greater in rural municipalities that have a smaller population base to absorb losses. Moreover, since 2020, five previously rural municipalities have merged with urban municipalities. These mergers mean the number of rural municipalities has declined over time in addition to the existing rural municipalities' population loss.

Components of Population Change

Population changes are catalyzed by three factors: (1) births, (2) deaths, and (3) migration. From 2024 to 2025, a little over 29,700 babies were born to mothers residing in rural Pennsylvania, while over 97,200 babies were born in urban Pennsylvania. For urban counties, the number of births during that period was greater than the number of deaths, resulting in a positive natural change in the population. However, the same could not be said for rural counties, which experienced nearly 12,000 more deaths than births that same year.

Rural Pennsylvania's population decline would have been much more pronounced without migration. The 2025 population estimates indicate that rural county populations declined in aggregate by about 2,700 residents from 2024 to 2025. Had that figure been based solely on rural Pennsylvania's natural change (i.e., with no offsetting effect from migration), the decline would have been closer to 12,000 residents. Figure 3 displays the total net migration for each county from 2024 to 2025. These figures include both domestic and international migration.

Figure 3: Net Migration (In-Migration Minus Out-Migration) by County, 2024 to 2025



Statewide Total Net Migration, 2024 to 2025 = 23,985

- Negative Net Migration
- Positive Net Migration or No Change

Data Source: 2025 Population and Housing Unit Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau.

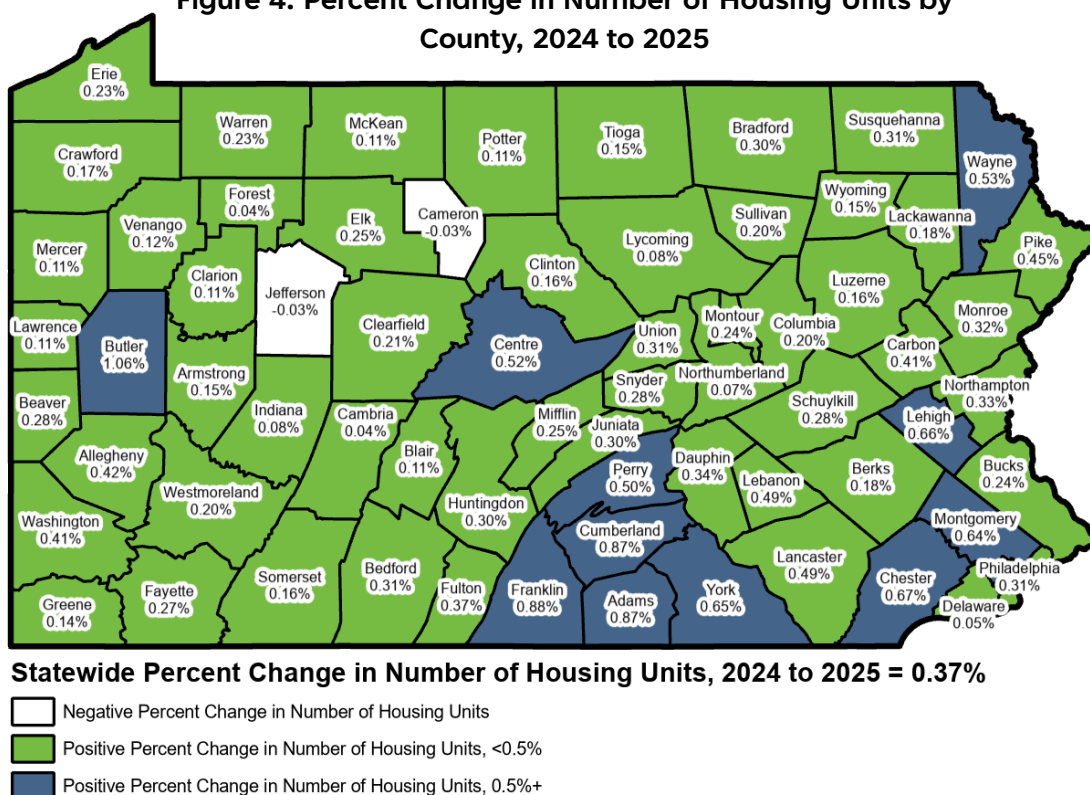
Although international migration primarily occurs in urban counties, rural counties have consistently been attractive to people moving from other states. A total of 35,500 domestic migrants have moved into rural Pennsylvania counties since 2020.

Change in Housing Units

It can be difficult to assess the impact of declining population and growing migration to rural Pennsylvania on specific rural communities. However, one piece of the answer may lie in the number of housing units. Figure 4 shows the percent change in the number of housing units estimated by the U.S. Census Bureau from 2024 to 2025. These data provide insight into where new residential properties are constructed across Pennsylvania and are mainly based on building permit issuances.

Nearly all counties experienced growth in newly available housing units even if the 2025 estimates showed their population was on the decline. Only two counties—Cameron and Jefferson, both rural—did not experience growth in housing units. These additional data provide important context for the population trends by showing that housing demand appears to be growing even in counties without population growth. Still, for the 11 counties with the highest levels of growth in new housing (0.5 percent or more), all but one—Centre County—have positive population growth and positive net migration.

Figure 4: Percent Change in Number of Housing Units by County, 2024 to 2025



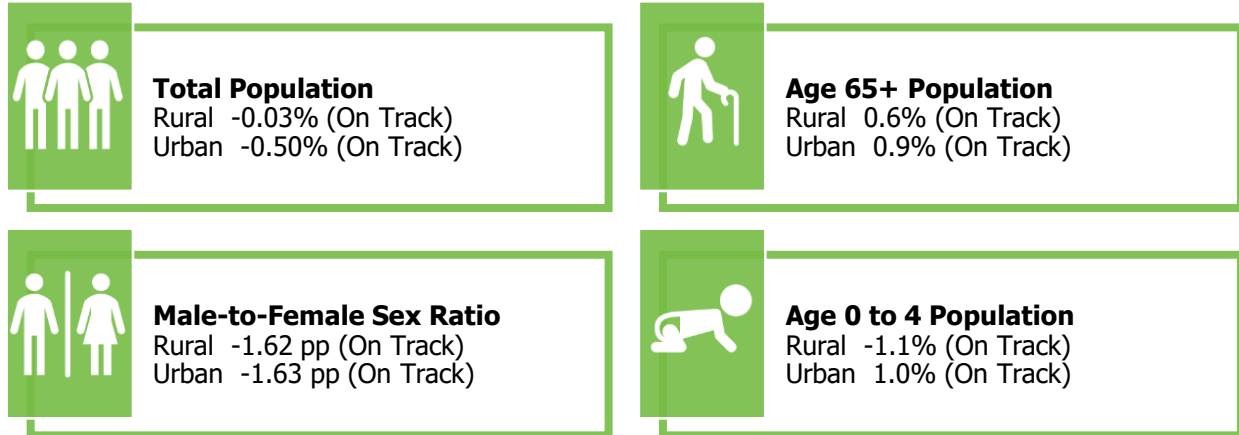
Data Source: 2025 Population and Housing Unit Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau.

Comparison to Population Projections

In 2023, in collaboration with the Pennsylvania State Data Center, the CRP released population projections for years 2020 through 2050, with five-year incremental projections in the years between. The CRP recently funded an exploratory analysis to (1) assess how current methods for producing these projections are measuring up to actual census outcomes, (2) explore potential alternative sources of data or methodological approaches used in the modeling, and (3) examine counties with historically larger discrepancies between projected and observed population changes. The full results of the exploratory analysis will be published in a forthcoming technical report.

The census estimates for 2025 allow for the first examination of the 2023 projections given that 2025 is the first increment in a series of five-year forecasts through 2050. Figure 5 summarizes the differences between the 2025 projections (released in 2023) and the 2025 census estimates released this spring. See Appendix 2 and Appendix 3 for individual county differentials.

Figure 5: Percent Differences in Demographic Characteristics Between 2025 Census Estimates (Observed) and 2025 CRP Projections (Predicted), Rural v. Urban Pennsylvania



Note: A positive percentage indicates the observed statistic was higher than what was anticipated in the projections, while a negative percentage indicates the observed statistic was lower than what was anticipated in the projections. The Male-to-Female Sex Ratio is the number of males divided by the number of females multiplied by 100. Values represent the difference between the observed and projected sex ratios; negative values indicate a lower observed sex ratio than projected. Projections that are “On Track” are less than 5.0 percentage higher or lower than the Census estimates for 2025. See Appendix 1 for details.

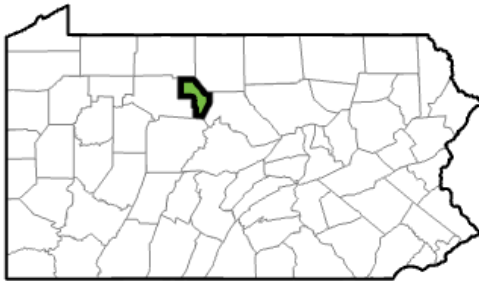
Data Source: 2025 Population and Housing Unit Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau. Population projections by the Pennsylvania State Data Center.

Total population projections for rural and urban Pennsylvania counties were within the acceptable range of error (see Appendix 1 for more detail). Some deviation between projections and observed outcomes is expected over time, particularly for smaller geographic units and specific population characteristics. The deviations observed to date fall within that normal range.

Special County Highlights

This section spotlights three counties with large differentials between their 2025 population estimates and what was projected for them in the 2023 projections release.

Cameron County



Classification: Rural

Population in 2025: 4,211

Projected Population for 2025: 4,489

Difference: -278 (-6.19%)

Total Natural Change (2020-2025): -253

Net Domestic Migration (2020-2025): -77

Net International Migration (2020-2025): 2

Cameron County was founded in 1860 and is known for its outdoor recreation opportunities as it is located centrally within the Pennsylvania Wilds. It is the Commonwealth's least populous county and has been steadily losing population since the 1960s. Much of the decline is driven by falling birth rates. In recent years, negative net domestic migration has also contributed to the decline.

In 2023, the CRP anticipated that Cameron County's population would decline by 0.93 percent from 2020 to 2025. However, Cameron County experienced a 7-percent decline in its total resident population. The county's net domestic migration rates were significantly weaker than predicted, with a net total of 77 residents leaving the county (observed) instead of a net 75 residents migrating to it (projected).

The forthcoming technical report highlights Cameron County as a population outlier and tests changes to the projection model to predict its population more accurately. More detailed information can be found within the technical report once released.

Greene County



Classification: Rural

Population in 2025: 33,885

Projected Population for 2025: 35,739

Difference: -1,854 (-5.19%)

Total Natural Change (2020-2025): -1,123

Net Domestic Migration (2020-2025): -973

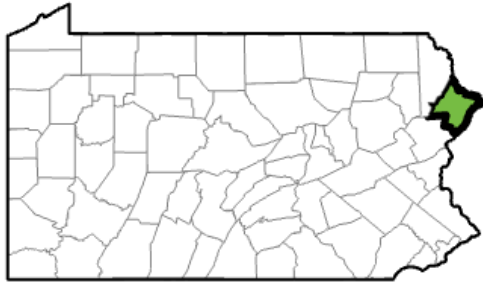
Net International Migration (2020-2025): 13

Greene County traces its roots back to the Revolutionary War but was officially founded in 1796 after the southern portion of then-Washington County was split into two. Today it is home to Waynesburg University and Ryerson State Park. It is the Commonwealth's tenth least populous county; it is somewhat more populated than Elk County. Greene County sits in the state's southwestern corner along the West Virginia border—a region where population decline extends across state lines, as West Virginia is one of the few states to have lost population in recent decades.

The CRP projections expected Greene County's population to be relatively flat from 2020 to 2025, falling only slightly (0.33 percent). However, the updated census estimates for 2025 show that Greene County experienced a substantial decline over that period (-5.53 percent). This divergence occurred because the 2023 projections anticipated there to be more domestic migration into Greene County than what appears to have truly occurred. The projections from the 2023 release expected there to be slightly positive net migration (about 40 net migrants into the county), but the reality was a net of around 970 residents leaving Greene County for other counties or states.

On a technical point, Greene County is noted for having a significantly above-average share of its population residing in group quarters facilities (e.g., nursing homes, university dormitories, prisons). Approximately 9 percent of the county's population lives in group quarters, compared to the statewide average of about 3 percent. This is likely attributable to the presence of both Waynesburg University and State Correctional Institute (SCI) Greene. Waynesburg University has a student population of 1,231 as of the 2024-25 academic year which represents about 4 percent of Greene County's total population. As a result, fluctuations in university enrollment may have a disproportionate impact on the age structure and migration patterns for the county.

Pike County



Classification: Rural

Population in 2025: 62,808

Projected Population for 2025: 56,687

Difference: 6,121 (10.80%)

Total Natural Change (2020-2025): -1,149

Net Domestic Migration (2020-2025): 5,080

Net International Migration (2020-2025): 381

Pike County was founded in 1814 and is known for being the home of Gifford Pinchot who was the first head of the U.S. Forest Service. Much of the county, which borders New York and New Jersey, is heavily forested as it is in the Poconos. Although its population density classifies it as rural, the county has been one of the fastest growing in Pennsylvania since 1960. This growth is mainly due to domestic in-migration with nearly all of the differential between the 2025 census estimates and the 2023 projections attributable to a larger-than-anticipated influx of new residents.

The forthcoming technical report will include an exploratory analysis for Pike County that pays special attention to the issue of migration using multiple alternative data sources to try to better capture the county's unique migration patterns. More details will be available in the report upon release.

Importantly, the age composition of Pike County from 2020 to 2025 presents some interesting findings. In 2020, older adults age 65 and older comprised 23 percent of the county's total population, but over the five-year period, that share increased 3 percentage points to 26 percent in 2025 representing an increase of about 3,000 older adults. While Pike County was number one in the Commonwealth for the fastest total population growth rate from 2020 to 2025, it was also number one in growth for the age 65 and older cohort during that same period. Three older adults migrated into Pike County for every one working-aged adult (ages 16 to 64) over that period. These details are important in analyzing the entire population picture for Pike County. Statistically, the chance of an individual surviving over a given year declines with age. Therefore, while population may currently be growing in Pike County the growth and age demographic changes raise the question: how much of that population will remain alive through 2050 (25 years later)?

Conclusion

Population trends influence nearly every aspect of community planning and public decision-making. Changes in the size and composition of a population affect demand for schools, health care, housing, transportation, public services, and local infrastructure. For those reasons, population estimates and long-term projections provide important context for understanding demographic change across Pennsylvania and for informing planning at both the state and local levels.

The 2025 census estimates provide the first opportunity to evaluate the Center for Rural Pennsylvania's 2023 county population projections against observed demographic change. Overall, the projections remain within expected statistical ranges for most counties, demonstrating that the underlying methodology continues to provide a reliable picture of statewide and regional demographic trends. Simultaneously, the estimates identify several counties where population change diverged more substantially from expectations, highlighting the challenges of forecasting migration and other localized demographic shifts.

The 2025 estimates also reveal important demographic patterns shaping rural Pennsylvania beyond evaluating the projections. While some rural counties continue to attract new residents through domestic migration, many are simultaneously experiencing sustained natural population decline driven by more deaths than births. In many communities, population growth is concentrated in only a small number of municipalities, and several of the fastest-growing counties are also experiencing rapid increases in their older adult populations alongside declines in younger and working-age residents. These findings underscore that changes in total population alone do not fully capture the demographic conditions facing rural communities.

Taken together, these findings suggest that demographic change across rural Pennsylvania is becoming increasingly uneven and complex. Although the Center's projections remain broadly on track, the latest census estimates indicate that population decline may be occurring more rapidly than anticipated in a number of rural counties. Continued evaluation of these trends will help determine whether the patterns observed in 2025 represent short-term variation or the beginning of longer-term demographic changes affecting rural Pennsylvania as additional annual census estimates become available.

Appendix 1: Methods and Definitions

Data were obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau's two main resources for tracking population changes and demographic conditions. Each of these two sources are detailed as follows:

- The **decennial census** data represent a complete count of every resident in the U.S. that occurs every 10 years on April 1st. The data collected by the decennial census are used to apportion the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives. Importantly, the data are actual records of the population at the time the census occurred, not interpolated from multiple other data sources to approximate the population. For more information, see [The Decennial Census of Population and Housing](#).
- **Population and Housing Unit Estimates** (also called vintages) are approximated figures of the population released annually in the years between the Decennial censuses. Since obtaining a complete count of the population every year would be administratively burdensome, these estimates enable researchers the ability to track population trends on a more current basis. These estimates are released on a rolling basis throughout each year for specific geographies, and each new series of estimates is revised annually beginning with the date of the most recent decennial census to incorporate the latest administrative record data, geographic boundaries, and methodology. For more information, see [Population and Housing Unit Estimates](#).

The population projections presented throughout this fact sheet were from a forecasting analysis conducted by the Pennsylvania State Data Center starting in 2020 in partnership with the CRP. The full set of projections and subsequent report are available at the [Population Projections](#) webpage.

There is a generally accepted amount of statistical difference between observed or actual population outcomes and what was projected in demography. Most researchers give five-year projections for smaller levels of geography an acceptable percent difference of less than 5 percent. This acceptable range of error means population outcomes that are less than 5 percentage higher or lower than anticipated are considered on track or within normal variation expectations. A differential greater than 5 percent would indicate deviation from the projected trend, although importantly, this does not necessarily indicate the underlying model or assumptions are incorrect. Population projections are based on the available data at the time the projections are developed, and they therefore cannot be relied upon to anticipate atypical deviations from available data trends. For example, a large employer could move into a county and spur a sudden influx of thousands of new residents that the population modeling could not account for during the development of the projections. For this reason, among others, caution should always be used when interpreting projection outcomes.

Appendix 2: 2025 Population Estimates Compared to CRP Population Projections

Area	2025 Pop. Projections (Released 2023)	2025 Pop. Estimates (Released 2026)	% Diff	Verdict
Pennsylvania	13,108,642	13,059,432	-0.38%	On Track
Adams	102,335	107,594	5.14%	Higher Than Projected
Allegheny	1,255,381	1,225,035	-2.42%	On Track
Armstrong	63,937	63,698	-0.37%	On Track
Beaver	166,577	166,032	-0.33%	On Track
Bedford	47,083	47,480	0.84%	On Track
Berks	435,730	440,072	1.00%	On Track
Blair	122,152	119,541	-2.14%	On Track
Bradford	59,537	59,600	0.11%	On Track
Bucks	642,669	647,828	0.80%	On Track
Butler	193,246	200,169	3.58%	On Track
Cambria	131,409	128,968	-1.86%	On Track
Cameron	4,489	4,211	-6.19%	Lower Than Projected
Carbon	63,692	65,868	3.42%	On Track
Centre	161,886	157,393	-2.78%	On Track
Chester	543,187	557,116	2.56%	On Track
Clarion	37,085	36,680	-1.09%	On Track
Clearfield	80,019	78,100	-2.40%	On Track
Clinton	37,698	37,870	0.46%	On Track
Columbia	63,747	66,193	3.84%	On Track
Crawford	83,549	81,792	-2.10%	On Track
Cumberland	267,572	277,270	3.62%	On Track
Dauphin	294,309	293,351	-0.33%	On Track
Delaware	585,543	580,937	-0.79%	On Track
Elk	30,185	29,926	-0.86%	On Track
Erie	271,986	265,832	-2.26%	On Track
Fayette	128,277	123,021	-4.10%	On Track
Forest	6,773	6,614	-2.35%	On Track
Franklin	156,706	160,652	2.52%	On Track
Fulton	14,548	14,483	-0.45%	On Track
Greene	35,739	33,885	-5.19%	Lower Than Projected
Huntingdon	43,938	43,001	-2.13%	On Track
Indiana	84,855	82,878	-2.33%	On Track
Jefferson	44,099	43,255	-1.91%	On Track
Juniata	23,937	23,403	-2.23%	On Track
Lackawanna	216,658	216,502	-0.07%	On Track
Lancaster	561,093	563,159	0.37%	On Track

Area	2025 Pop. Projections (Released 2023)	2025 Pop. Estimates (Released 2026)	% Diff	Verdict
Lawrence	85,395	83,911	-1.74%	On Track
Lebanon	145,945	146,380	0.30%	On Track
Lehigh	383,097	384,383	0.34%	On Track
Luzerne	328,427	332,126	1.13%	On Track
Lycoming	114,148	112,587	-1.37%	On Track
McKean	40,117	38,984	-2.82%	On Track
Mercer	109,873	107,860	-1.83%	On Track
Mifflin	46,439	46,127	-0.67%	On Track
Monroe	169,319	167,179	-1.26%	On Track
Montgomery	860,812	877,643	1.96%	On Track
Montour	18,079	17,868	-1.17%	On Track
Northampton	313,438	324,411	3.50%	On Track
Northumberland	90,754	89,920	-0.92%	On Track
Perry	45,962	46,806	1.84%	On Track
Philadelphia	1,662,041	1,574,281	-5.28%	Lower Than Projected
Pike	56,687	62,808	10.80%	Higher Than Projected
Potter	16,050	15,897	-0.95%	On Track
Schuylkill	140,804	145,085	3.04%	On Track
Snyder	39,702	39,655	-0.12%	On Track
Somerset	72,772	72,004	-1.06%	On Track
Sullivan	5,830	5,856	0.45%	On Track
Susquehanna	37,620	38,237	1.64%	On Track
Tioga	40,450	40,502	0.13%	On Track
Union	43,435	42,313	-2.58%	On Track
Venango	49,781	49,346	-0.87%	On Track
Warren	37,786	37,038	-1.98%	On Track
Washington	207,484	210,802	1.60%	On Track
Wayne	50,368	51,703	2.65%	On Track
Westmoreland	346,571	349,324	0.79%	On Track
Wyoming	25,763	25,790	0.10%	On Track
York	462,067	473,197	2.41%	On Track

Note: "On Track" counties are within 5 percent of their projections.

Appendix 3: Population Percent Change From 2020 to 2025, Projections v. Estimates

Area	2020-25 Projected Growth Rates (Released 2023)	2020-25 Estimated Growth Rates (Released 2026)	Verdict
Pennsylvania	0.88%	0.49%	Rate As Predicted
Adams	-1.39%	3.64%	Grew Significantly Instead of Declining
Allegheny	0.47%	-1.96%	Declined Instead of Flat Growth
Armstrong	-2.33%	-2.75%	Rate As Predicted
Beaver	-0.76%	-1.09%	Rate As Predicted
Bedford	-1.02%	-0.19%	Flat Growth Instead of Declining
Berks	1.66%	2.66%	Grew Faster
Blair	-0.41%	-2.55%	Declined Faster
Bradford	-0.72%	-0.63%	Rate As Predicted
Bucks	-0.53%	0.25%	Flat Growth Instead of Declining
Butler	-0.42%	3.17%	Grew Instead of Flat Growth
Cambria	-1.34%	-3.18%	Declined Faster
Cameron	-0.93%	-7.02%	Declined Significantly Faster
Carbon	-1.62%	1.70%	Grew Instead of Declining
Centre	2.48%	-0.41%	Flat Growth Instead of Growing
Chester	1.57%	4.16%	Grew Faster
Clarion	-0.29%	-1.40%	Declined Instead of Flat Growth
Clearfield	-0.52%	-2.89%	Declined Faster
Clinton	0.85%	1.31%	Rate As Predicted
Columbia	-1.45%	2.34%	Grew Instead of Declining
Crawford	-0.30%	-2.39%	Declined Instead of Flat Growth
Cumberland	2.82%	6.54%	Grew Faster
Dauphin	2.66%	2.32%	Rate As Predicted
Delaware	1.60%	0.77%	Grew Slower
Elk	-2.40%	-3.28%	Declined Faster
Erie	0.53%	-1.81%	Declined Instead of Growing
Fayette	-0.23%	-4.33%	Declined Instead of Flat Growth
Forest	-2.67%	-5.13%	Declined Faster
Franklin	0.49%	3.02%	Grew Instead of Flat Growth
Fulton	-0.16%	-0.65%	Declined Instead of Flat Growth
Greene	-0.33%	-5.53%	Declined Significantly Instead of Flat Growth
Huntingdon	-0.25%	-2.37%	Declined Instead of Flat Growth
Indiana	2.06%	-0.34%	Flat Growth Instead of Growing
Jefferson	-0.85%	-2.77%	Declined Faster
Juniata	1.99%	-0.31%	Flat Growth Instead of Growing
Lackawanna	0.53%	0.45%	Rate As Predicted

Area	2020-25 Projected Growth Rates (Released 2023)	2020-25 Estimated Growth Rates (Released 2026)	Verdict
Lancaster	1.51%	1.87%	Rate As Predicted
Lawrence	-0.66%	-2.38%	Declined Faster
Lebanon	1.86%	2.17%	Rate As Predicted
Lehigh	2.30%	2.65%	Rate As Predicted
Luzerne	0.99%	2.13%	Grew Faster
Lycoming	0.04%	-1.34%	Declined Instead of Flat Growth
McKean	-0.68%	-3.52%	Declined Faster
Mercer	-0.60%	-2.44%	Declined Faster
Mifflin	0.64%	-0.04%	Flat Growth Instead of Growing
Monroe	0.60%	-0.67%	Declined Instead of Growing
Montgomery	0.45%	2.43%	Grew Instead of Flat Growth
Montour	-0.28%	-1.45%	Declined Instead of Flat Growth
Northampton	0.21%	3.71%	Grew Instead of Flat Growth
Northumberland	-0.86%	-1.77%	Declined Faster
Perry	0.29%	2.13%	Grew Instead of Flat Growth
Philadelphia	3.84%	-1.65%	Declined Significantly Instead of Growing
Pike	-3.20%	7.19%	Grew Significantly Instead of Declining
Potter	-2.04%	-3.00%	Declined Faster
Schuylkill	-1.50%	1.50%	Grew Instead of Declining
Snyder	-0.06%	-0.21%	Rate As Predicted
Somerset	-1.68%	-2.69%	Declined Faster
Sullivan	0.12%	0.57%	Rate As Predicted
Susquehanna	-1.86%	-0.31%	Flat Growth Instead of Declining
Tioga	-1.38%	-1.27%	Rate As Predicted
Union	1.87%	-0.81%	Declined Instead of Growing
Venango	-1.14%	-2.03%	Declined Faster
Warren	-1.90%	-3.83%	Declined Faster
Washington	-0.91%	0.66%	Grew Instead of Declining
Wayne	-1.53%	1.08%	Grew Instead of Declining
Westmoreland	-2.19%	-1.40%	Declined Slower
Wyoming	-1.03%	-0.93%	Rate As Predicted
York	1.18%	3.61%	Grew Faster

Note: "Rate As Predicted" counties are within 0.5 percentage points of their projected growth. "Significantly" refers to counties with growth rate differentials greater than 5 percentage points.