



A LEGISLATIVE AGENCY OF THE PENNSYLVANIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Pennsylvania's Changing Population

January 22, 2024

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www.rural.pa.gov



Center for Rural Pennsylvania

- **Legislative research agency of the Pennsylvania General Assembly**
 - *(Act 16, 1987 & Act 12, 2009)*

Mandates

- Administer grants to conduct research on rural conditions.
- Maintain a database on rural conditions and needs.

Recent Legislative Hearings:

Youth Mental Health, Broadband Access, Opioid Addiction and Overdose, Utility-Scale Solar Development, and more...

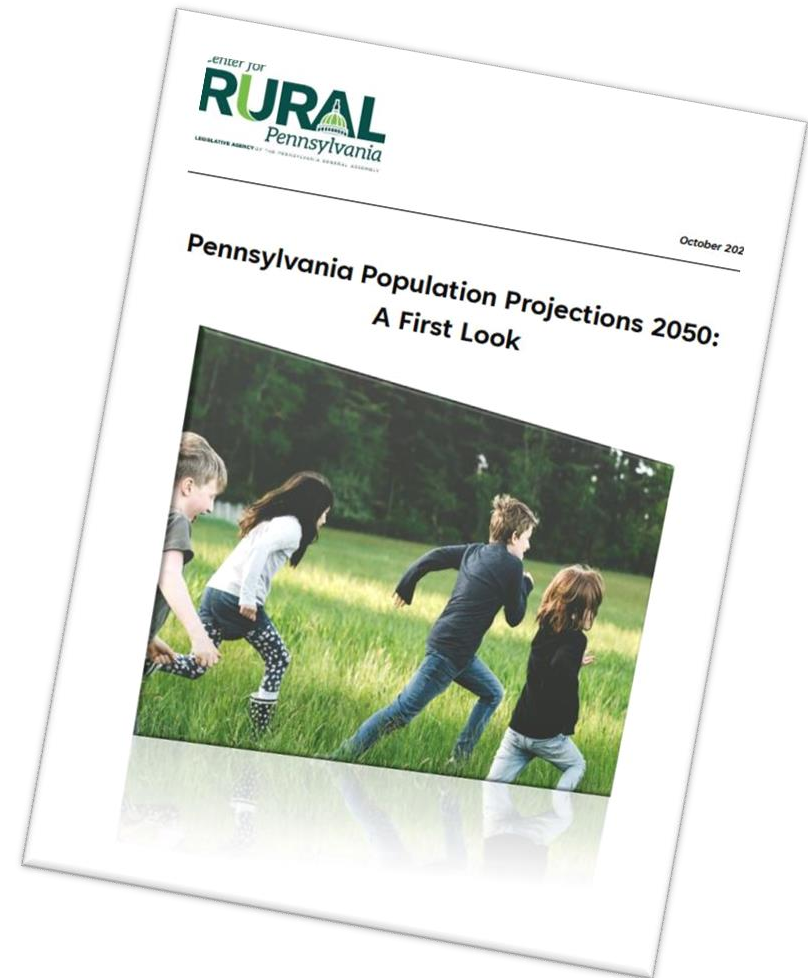
Current & Forthcoming Center Reports

Currently on Website

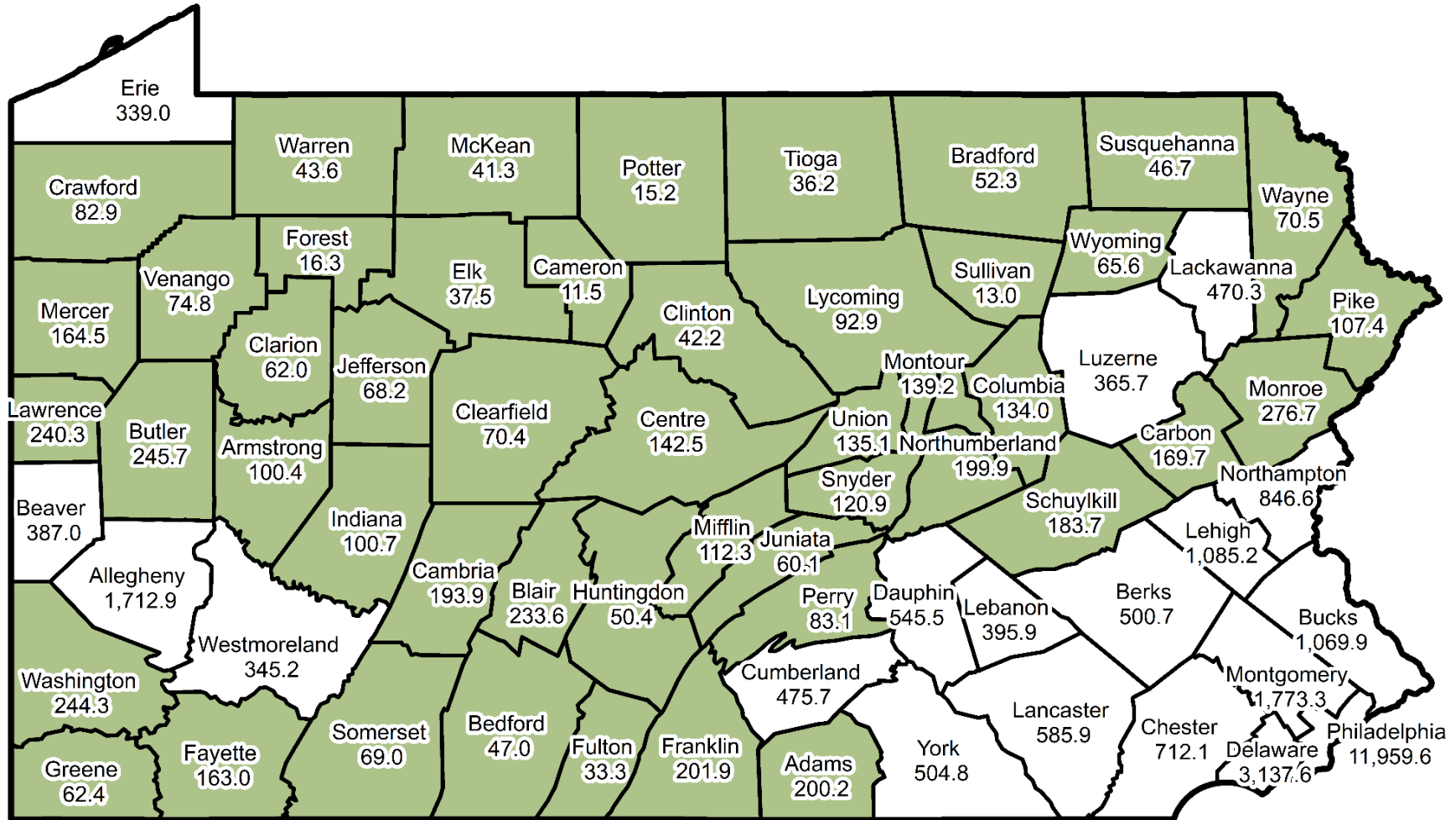
- Pennsylvania Population Projections 2050: A First Look
- Pandemic-Associated Cyber Charter Enrollments and the Impacts on Rural School Districts in Pennsylvania
- Community and Economic Impact of the Pennsylvania Wilds
- Reversing Population Decline in Rural Pennsylvania
- Student mental health report
- Report on college "promise" programs

Spring/Summer 2024

- Caring for Pennsylvanians with Dementia
- Solar Development on Farmland
- Public Libraries and Small Business Growth
- And more!



Pennsylvania Rural and Urban Counties, 2020



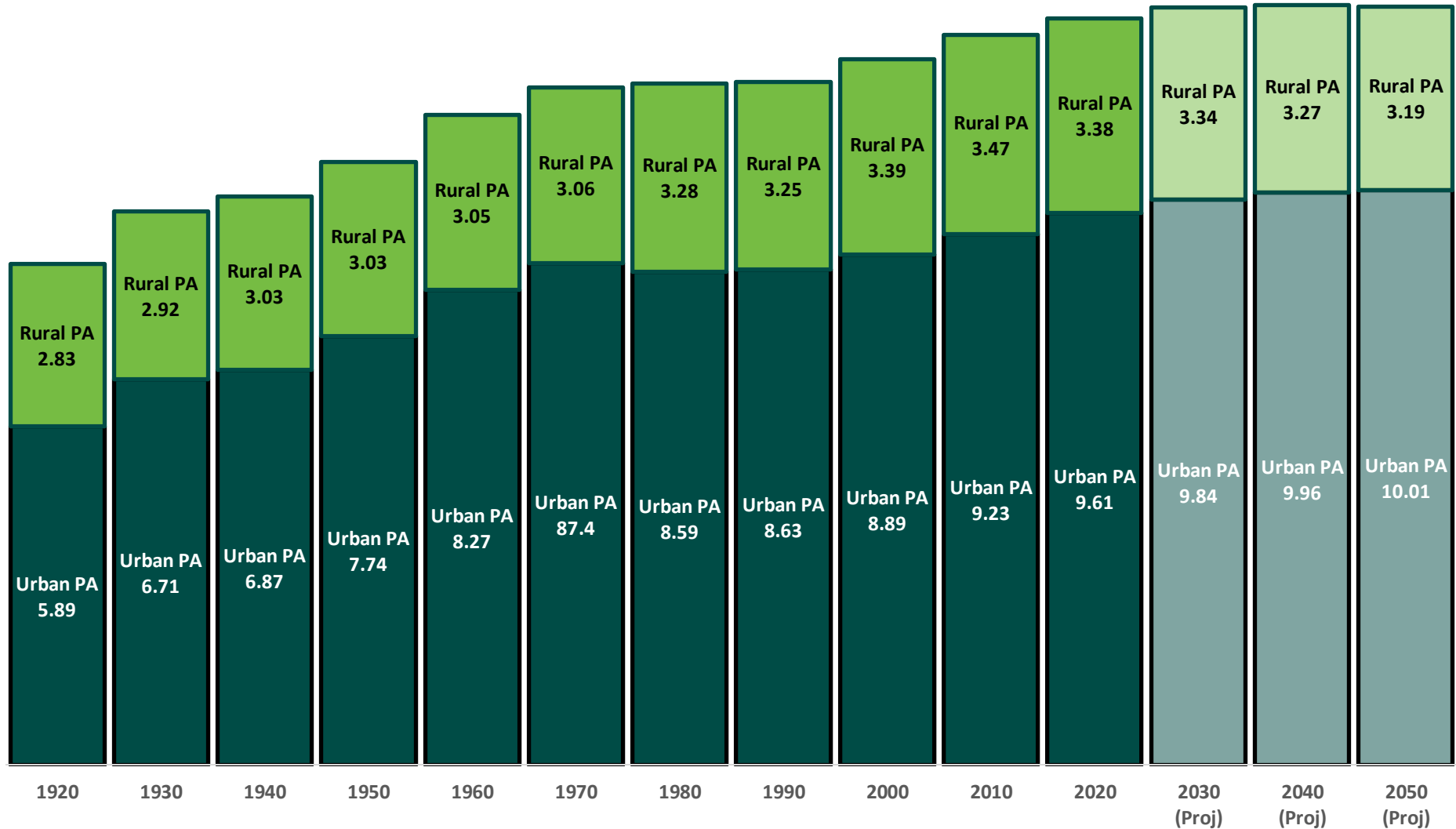
Statewide Population Density = 291 Persons per Square Land Mile, 2020

- 19 Urban Counties - Population Density At or Above Statewide Rate
- 48 Rural Counties - Population Density Below Statewide Rate

Data source: U.S. Census Bureau

Population Change

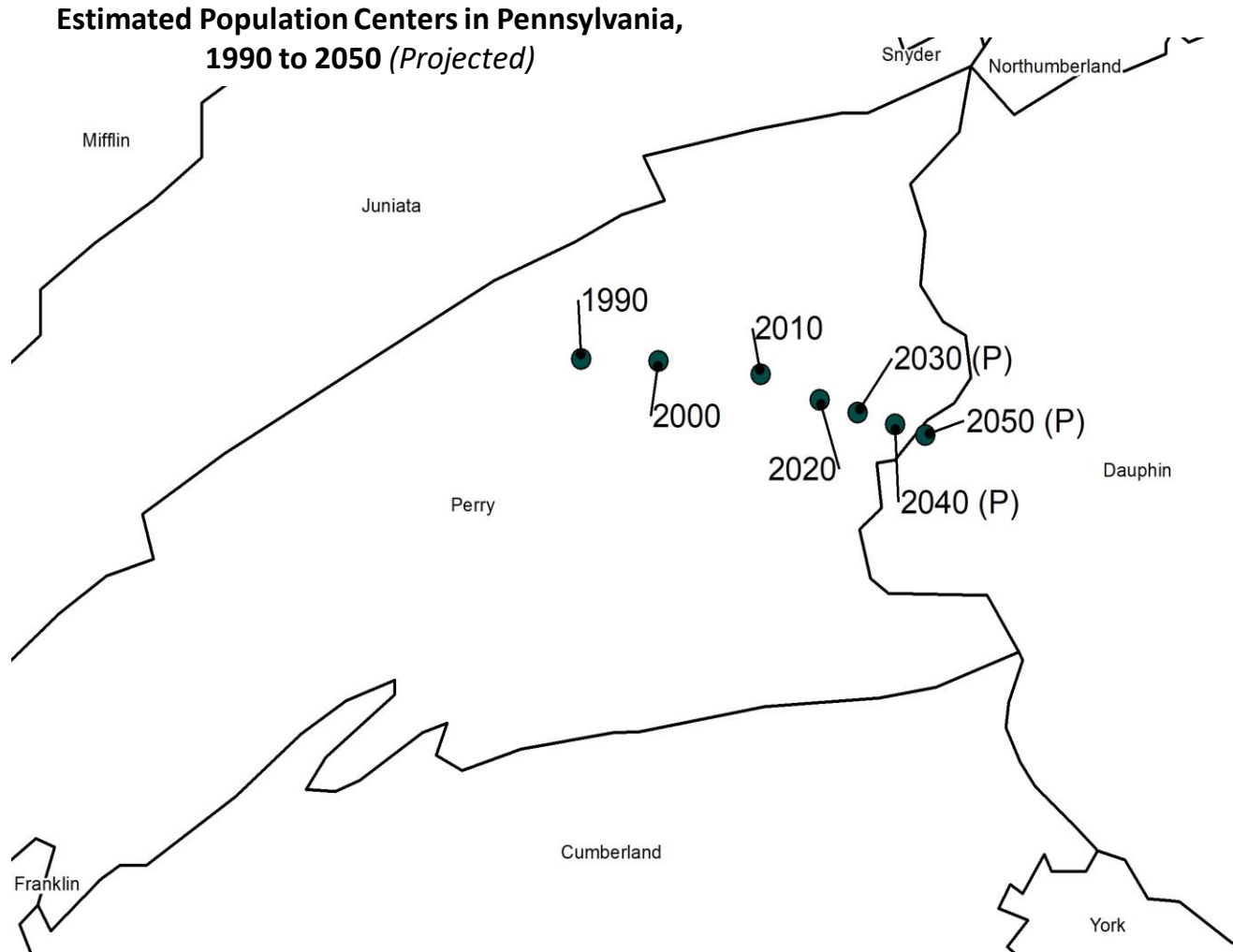
Stagnant Population Change, 1920 to 2050 *(Projected)* *(In Millions)*



Data sources: U.S. Census Bureau and the Pennsylvania State Data Center.

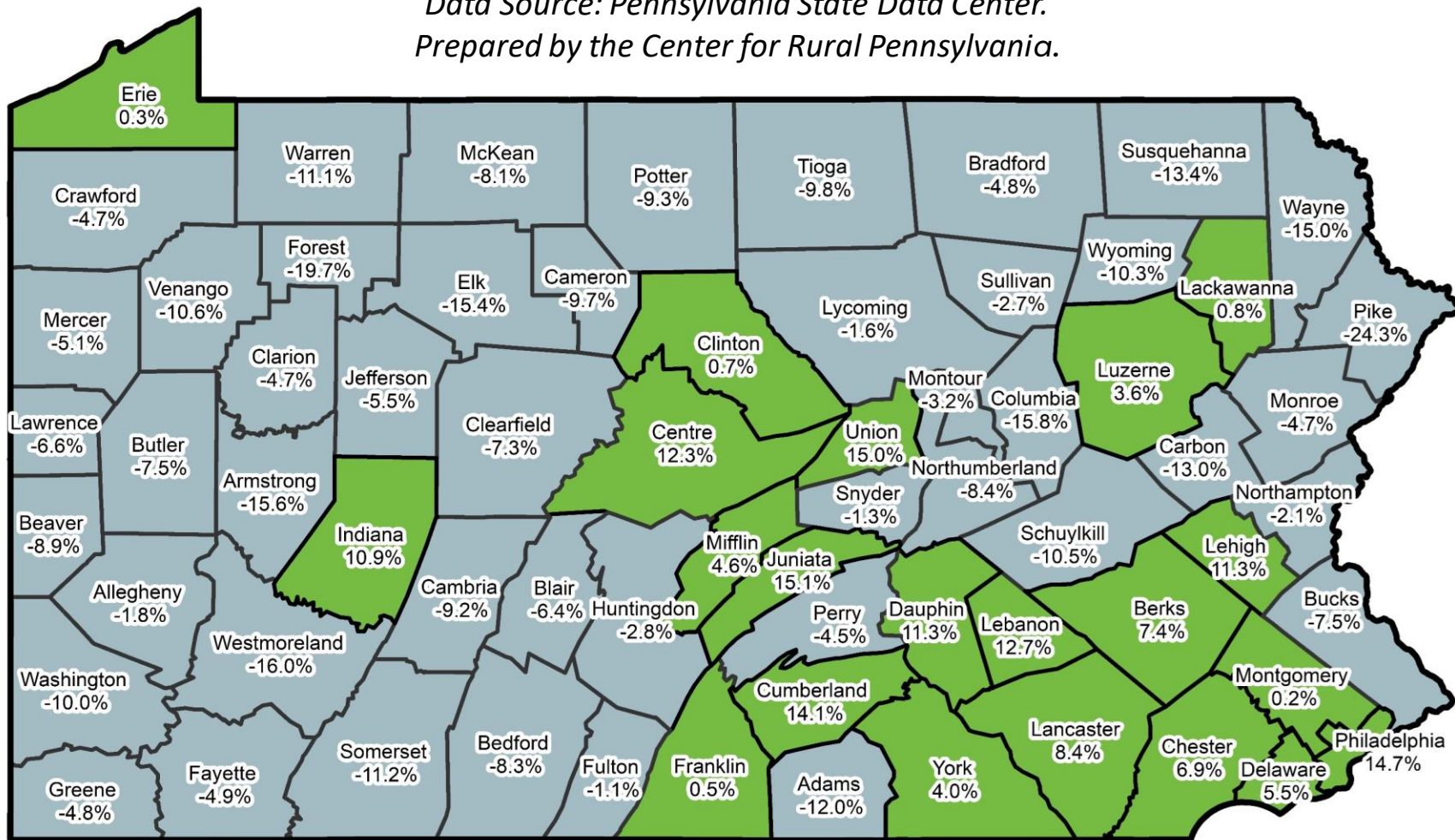
Pennsylvania's Population Shifts Towards the Southeast

Data sources: U.S. Census Bureau and the Pennsylvania State Data Center.



Projected Population Change, 2020 to 2050

*Data Source: Pennsylvania State Data Center.
Prepared by the Center for Rural Pennsylvania.*



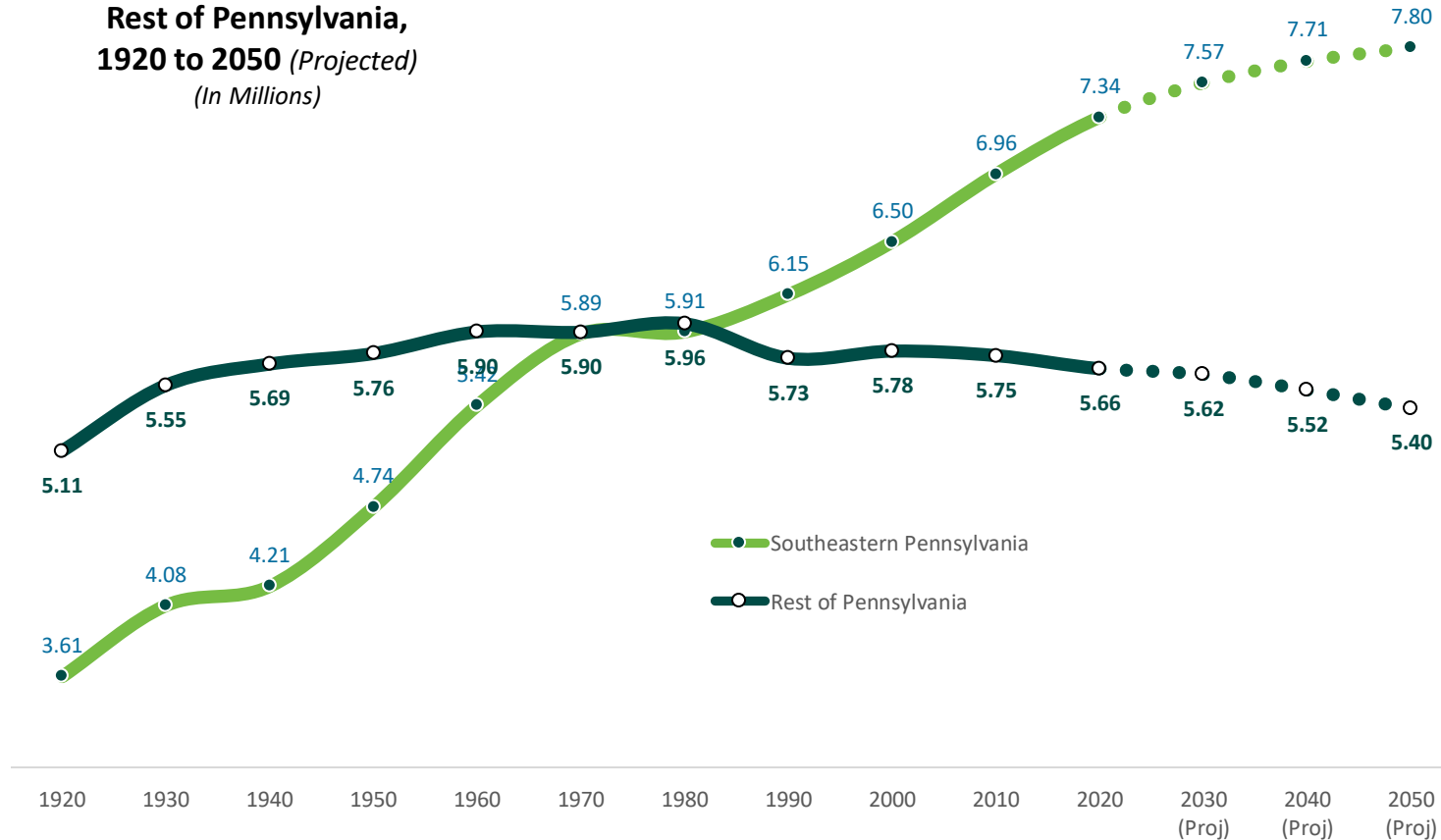
Statewide Population Change: 1.6%

- Population Decrease or No Change
- Population Increase

Pennsylvania's Population Shifts Towards the Southeast

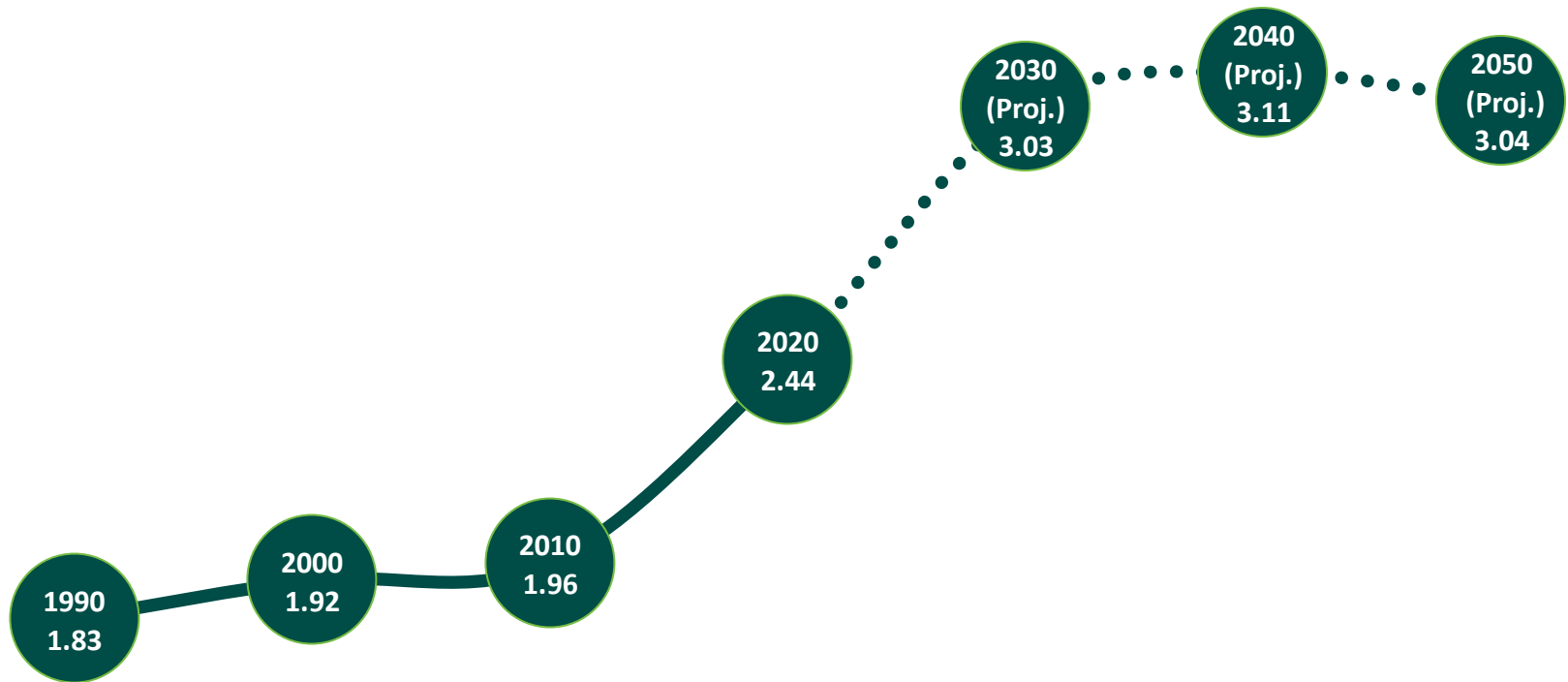
Data sources: U.S. Census Bureau and the Pennsylvania State Data Center.

**Population in Southeastern Pennsylvania and
Rest of Pennsylvania,
1920 to 2050 (Projected)**
(In Millions)



An Older Pennsylvania

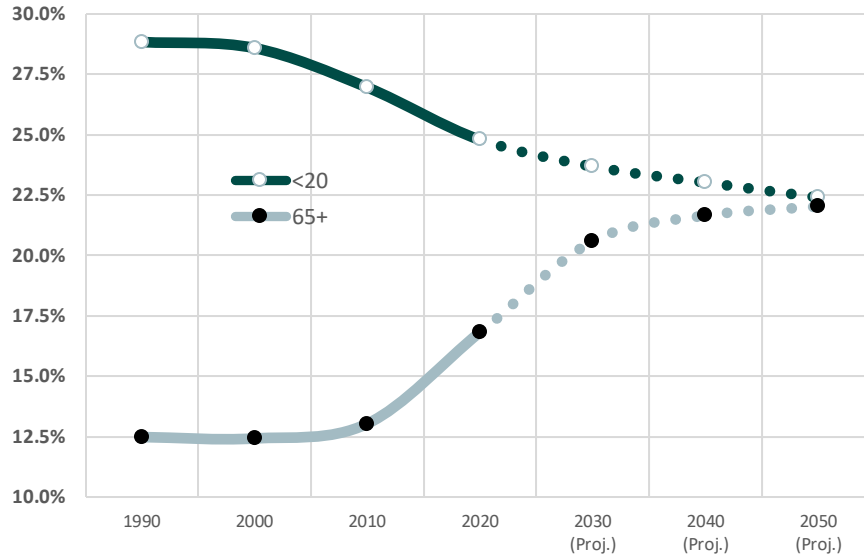
Statewide Projected Total Population Over 65 Years, 1990 to 2050 *(In Millions)*



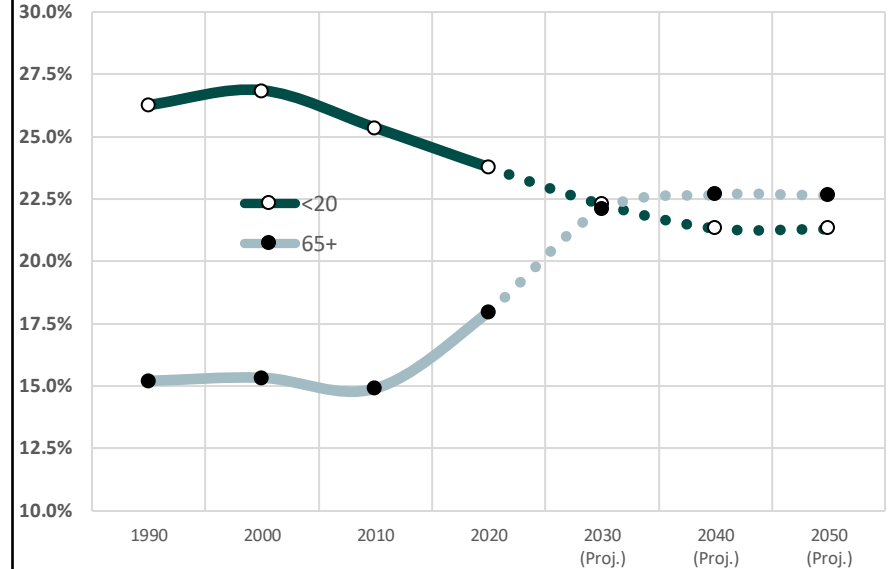
Data Source: Pennsylvania State Data Center.
Prepared by the Center for Rural Pennsylvania.

Percent of Under 20 Years Old and 65 Years Old and Older

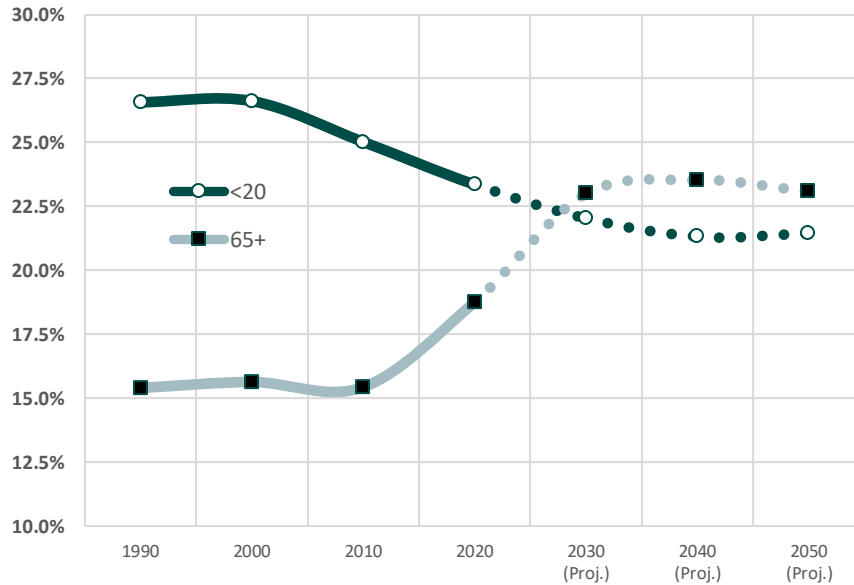
United States



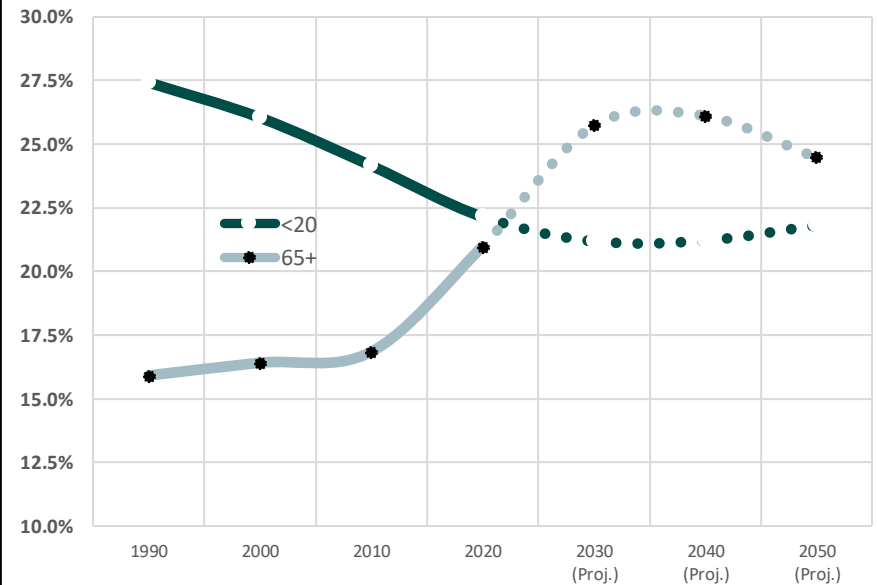
Urban Pennsylvania



Pennsylvania

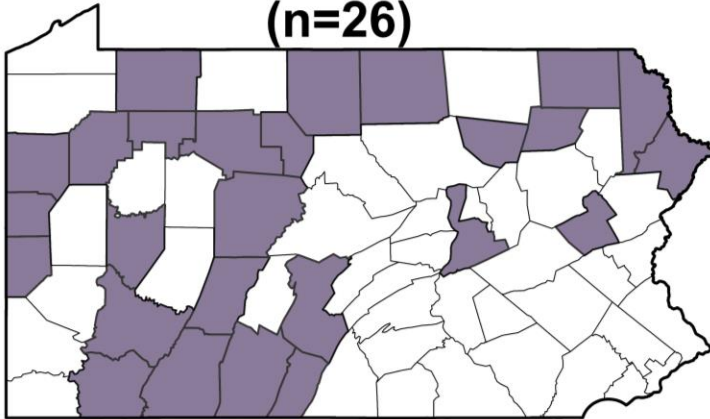


Rural Pennsylvania

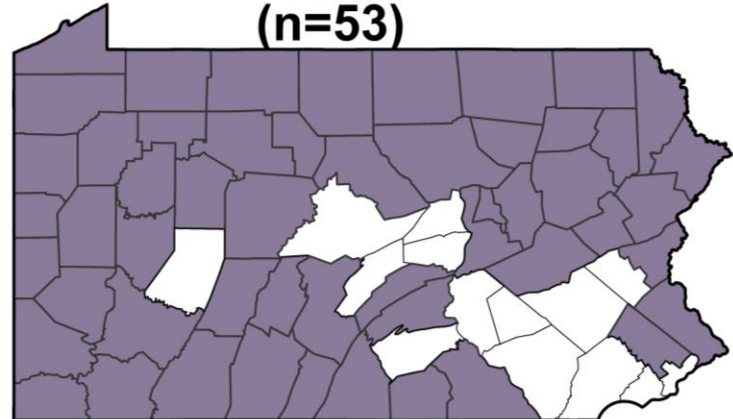


Counties With More People 65+ Than People <20 Years Old

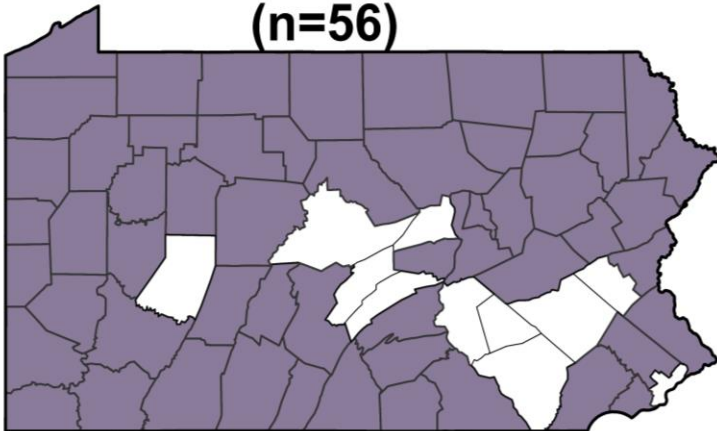
2020
(n=26)



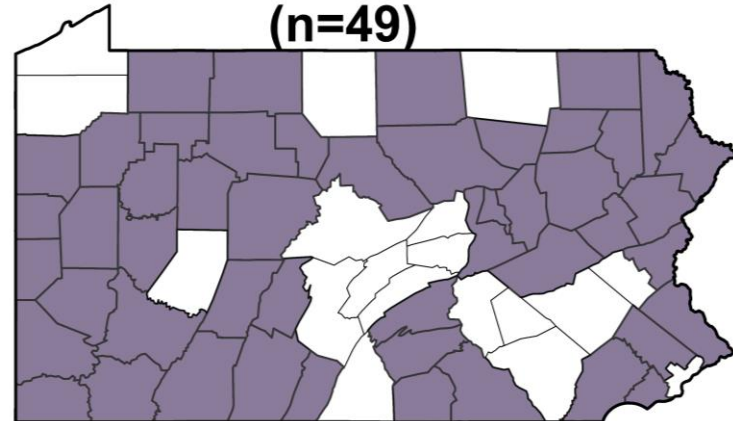
2030 (proj.)
(n=53)



2040 (proj.)
(n=56)



2050 (Proj.)
(n=49)

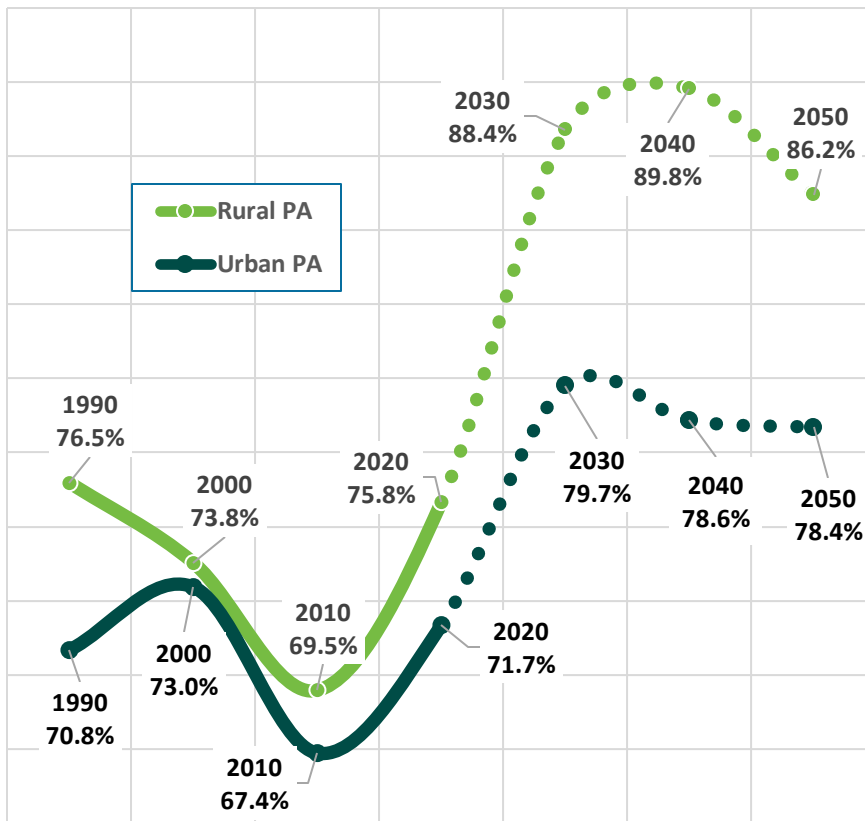


Age Dependency Ratios, 1990 to 2050 (*Projected*)

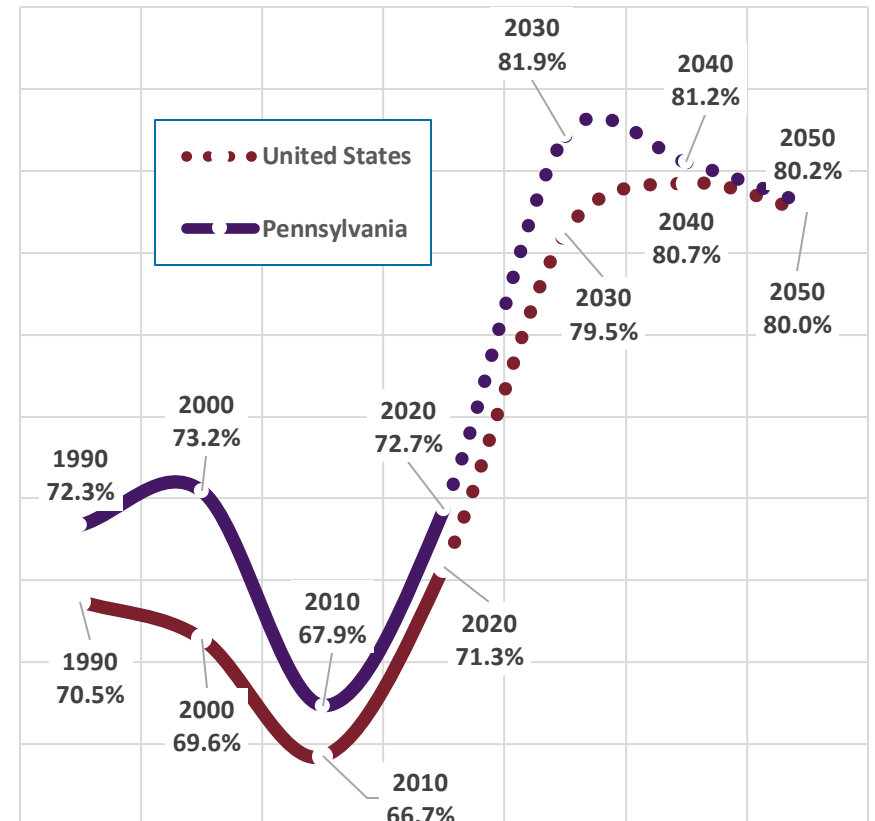
Age Dependency Ratio Formula

$$\frac{\text{Population } <20 \text{ Years Old} + \text{Population } 65+ \text{ Years Old}}{\text{Population } 20 \text{ to } 64 \text{ Years Old}}$$

Rural and Urban Pennsylvania



Pennsylvania and United States

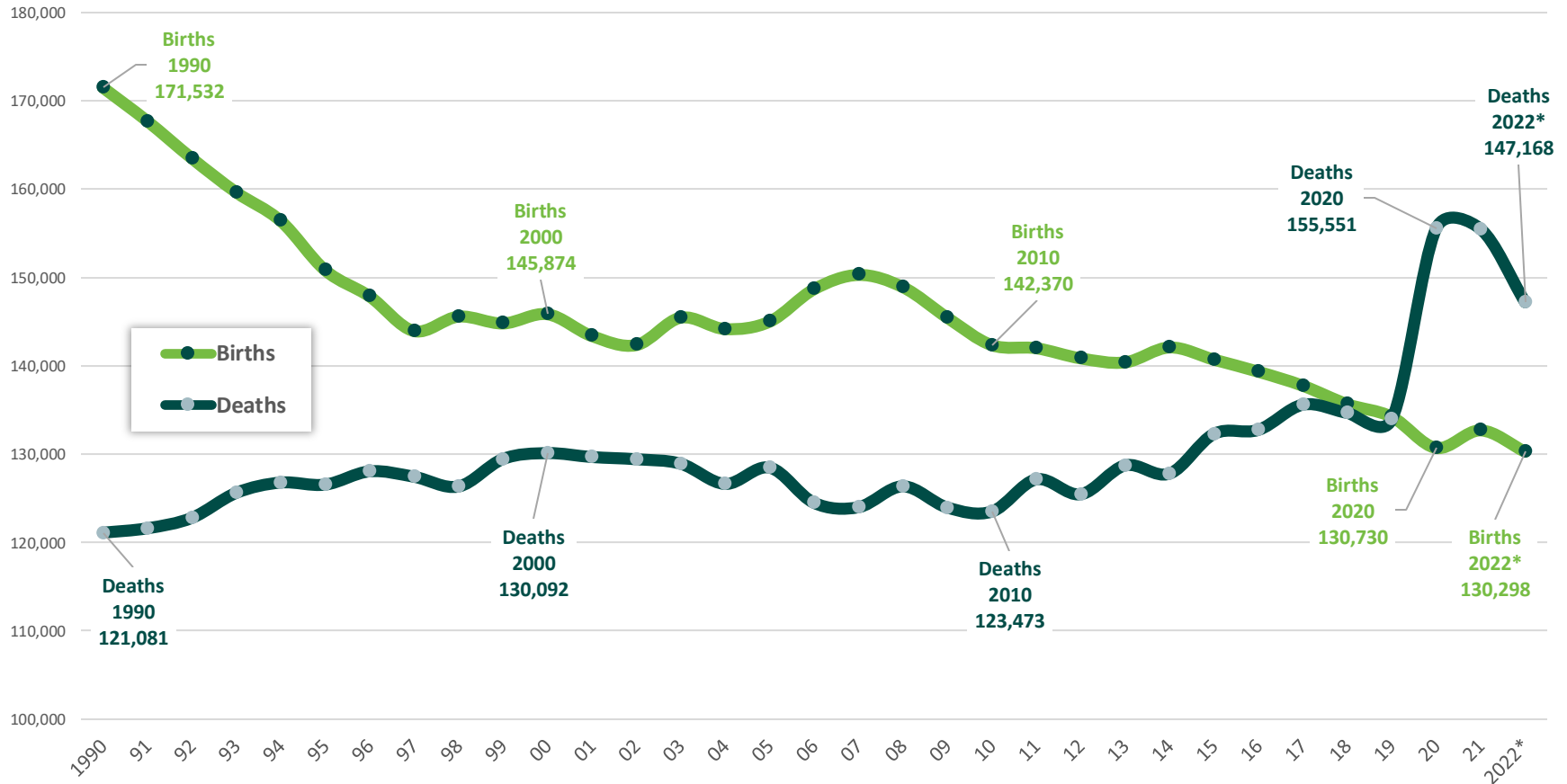


Components of Population Change

Number of Births and Deaths in Pennsylvania, 1990-2020

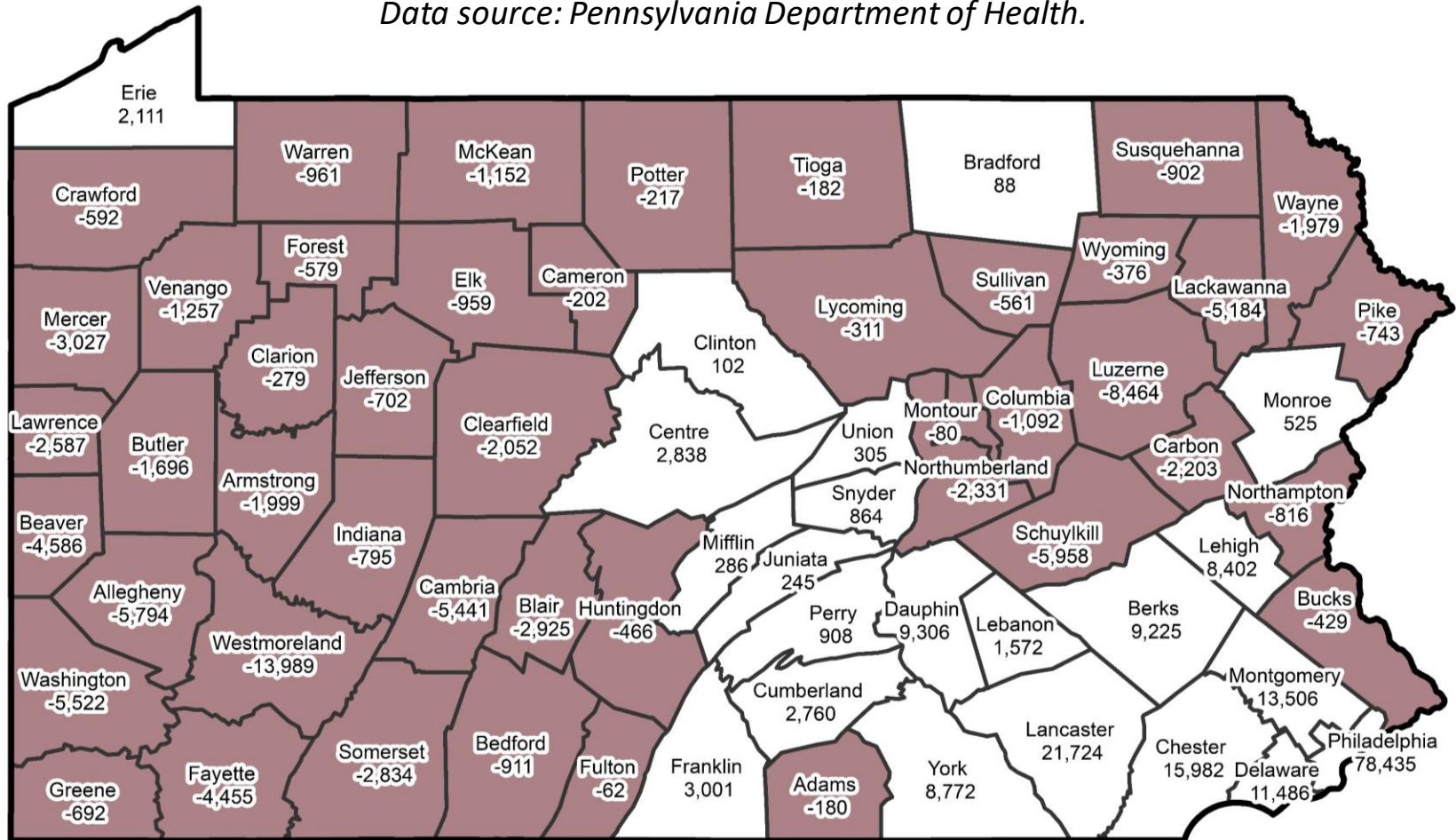
*Preliminary births and deaths.

Data source: Pennsylvania Department of Health.



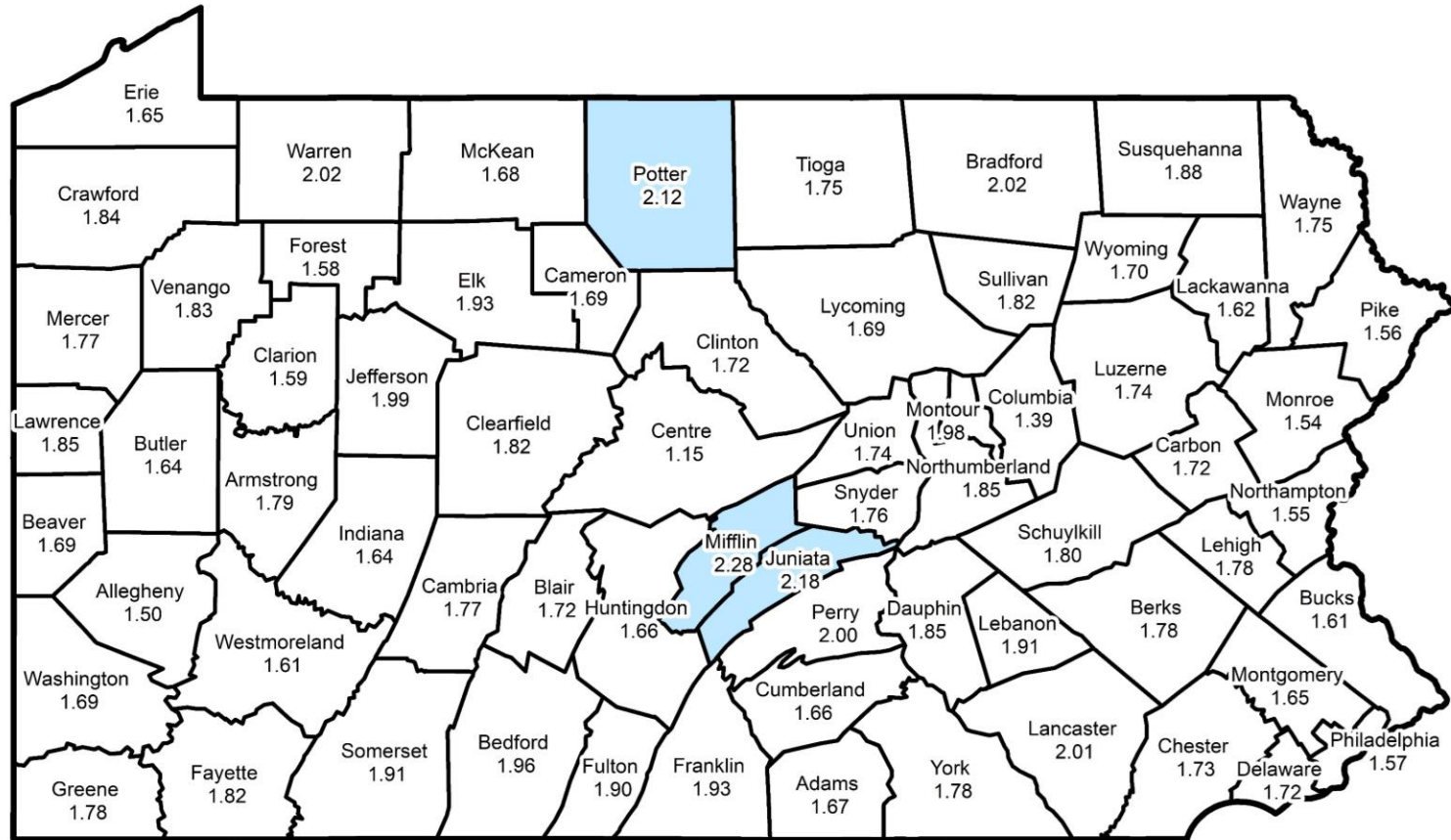
Natural Population Change (Births Minus Deaths) by County, 2010-2019

Data source: Pennsylvania Department of Health.

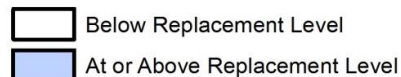


- More Deaths than Births (Neg. Natural Change)
- More Births than Deaths (Pos. Natural Change)

Total Fertility Rates by County, 2016-2020



Total Fertility Rate Replacement Level = 2.10+



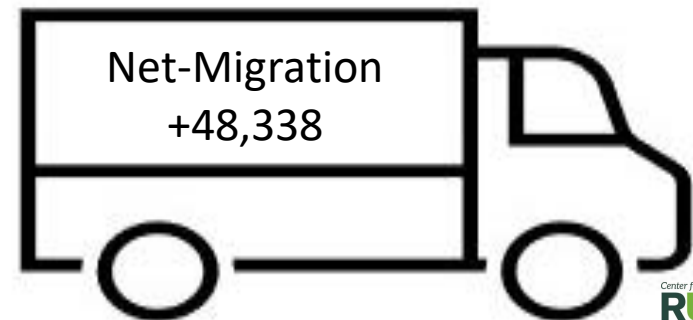
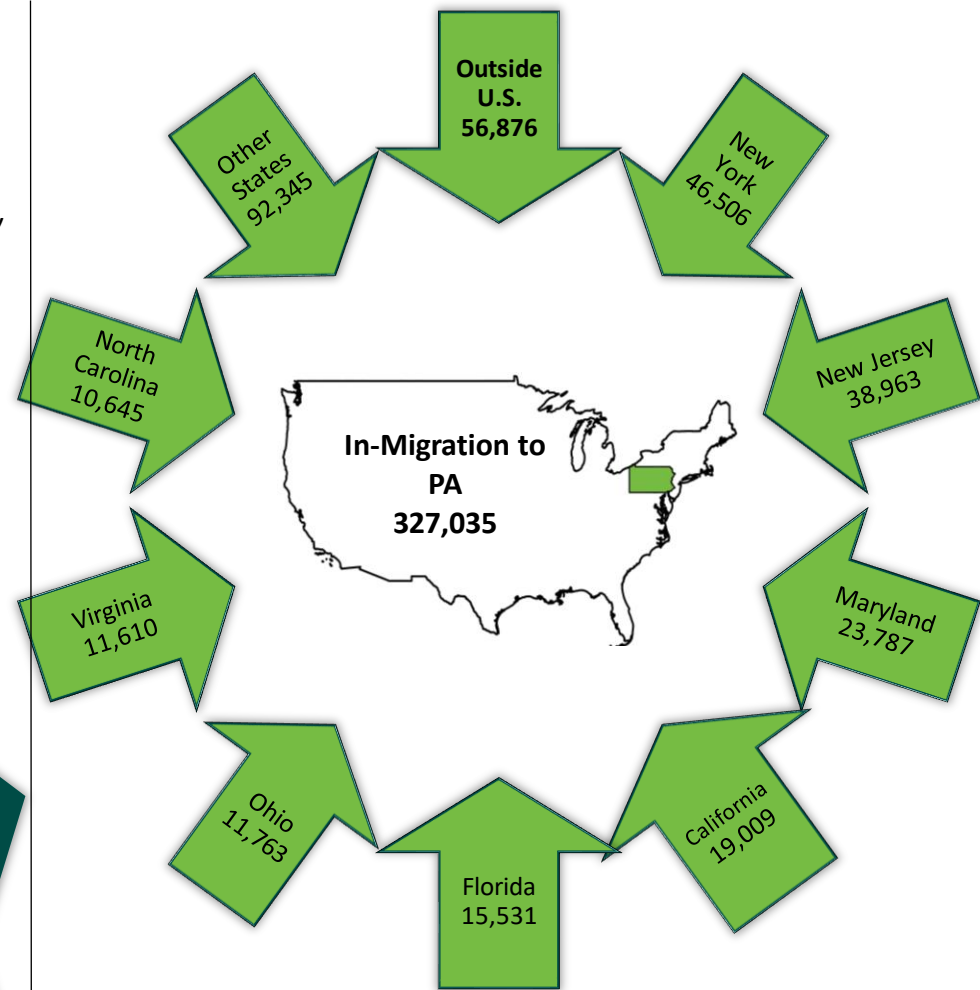
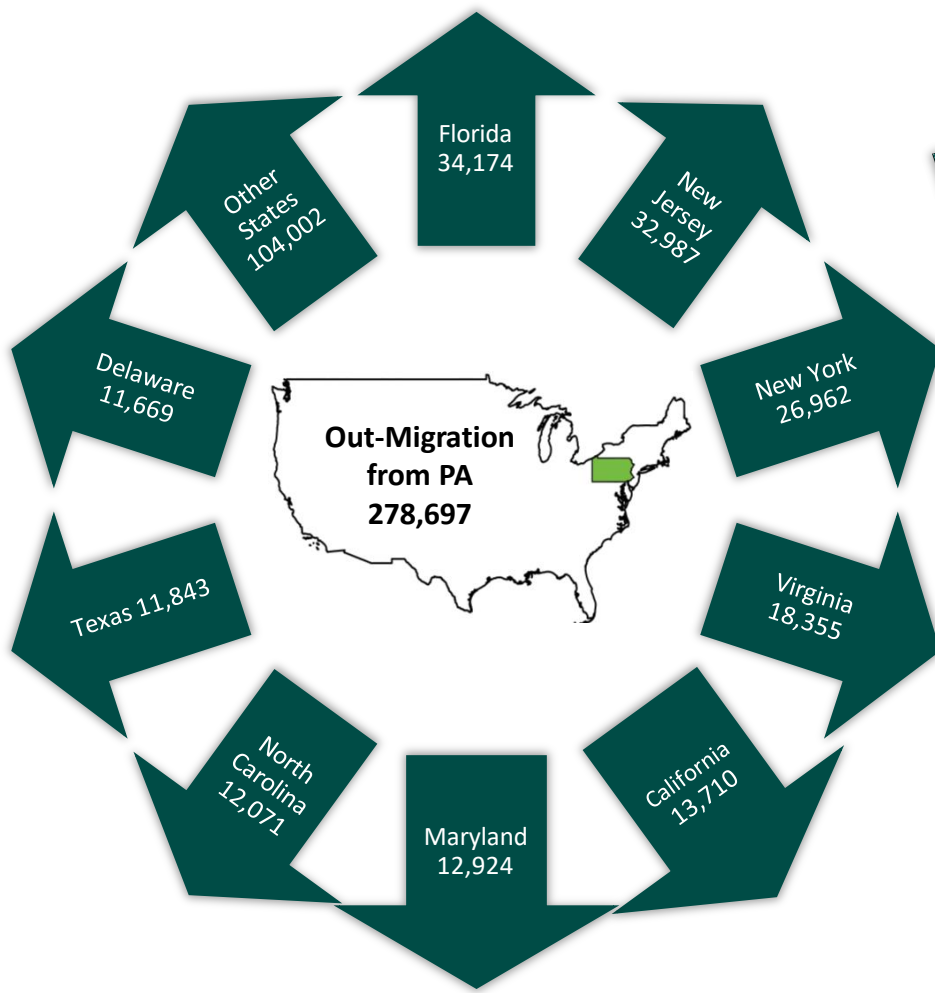
According to the CDC, the total fertility rate (TFR) estimates the number of births that a hypothetical group of women would have over their lifetimes, based on age-specific birth rates in a given year. Replacement level for the TFR is the level at which a given generation can exactly replace itself (generally considered to be 2.1 births per woman). Data for Pennsylvania counties are for women aged 15 to 44 years old. Data sources: Pennsylvania Department of Health and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Top Five States with the Highest Total Fertility Rates, 2016-2020

1. South Dakota = 2.13
2. Utah = 2.05
3. North Dakota = 2.03
4. Nebraska = 2.02
5. Alaska = 1.99
- ...
39. Pennsylvania = 1.67

Migration In and Out of Pennsylvania, 2022

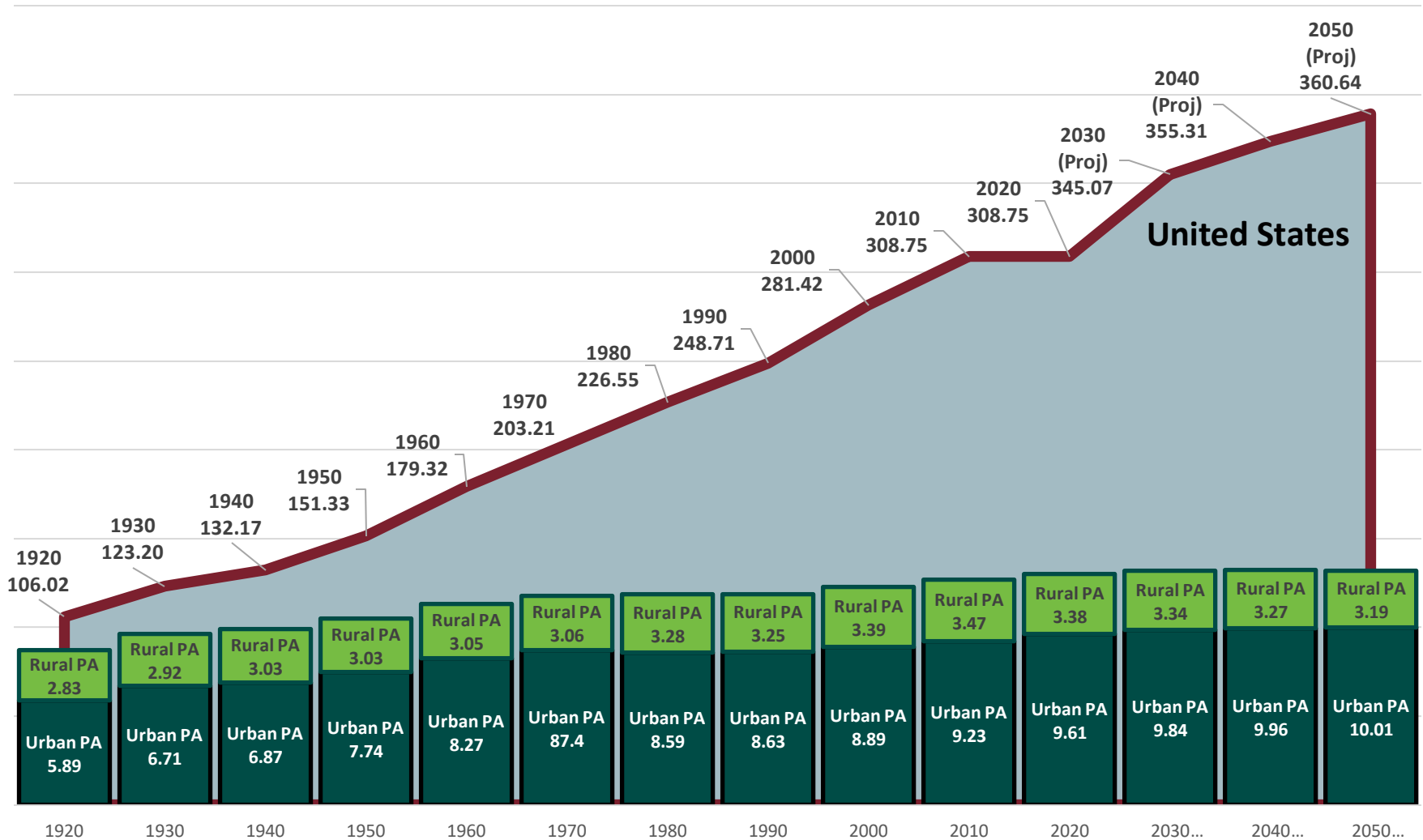
Data source: 2022, 1-year Average, American Community Survey
Public Use Microsample Data, U.S. Census Bureau.



Comparison to the U.S.

United States Population, 1990 to 2050 (Projected)

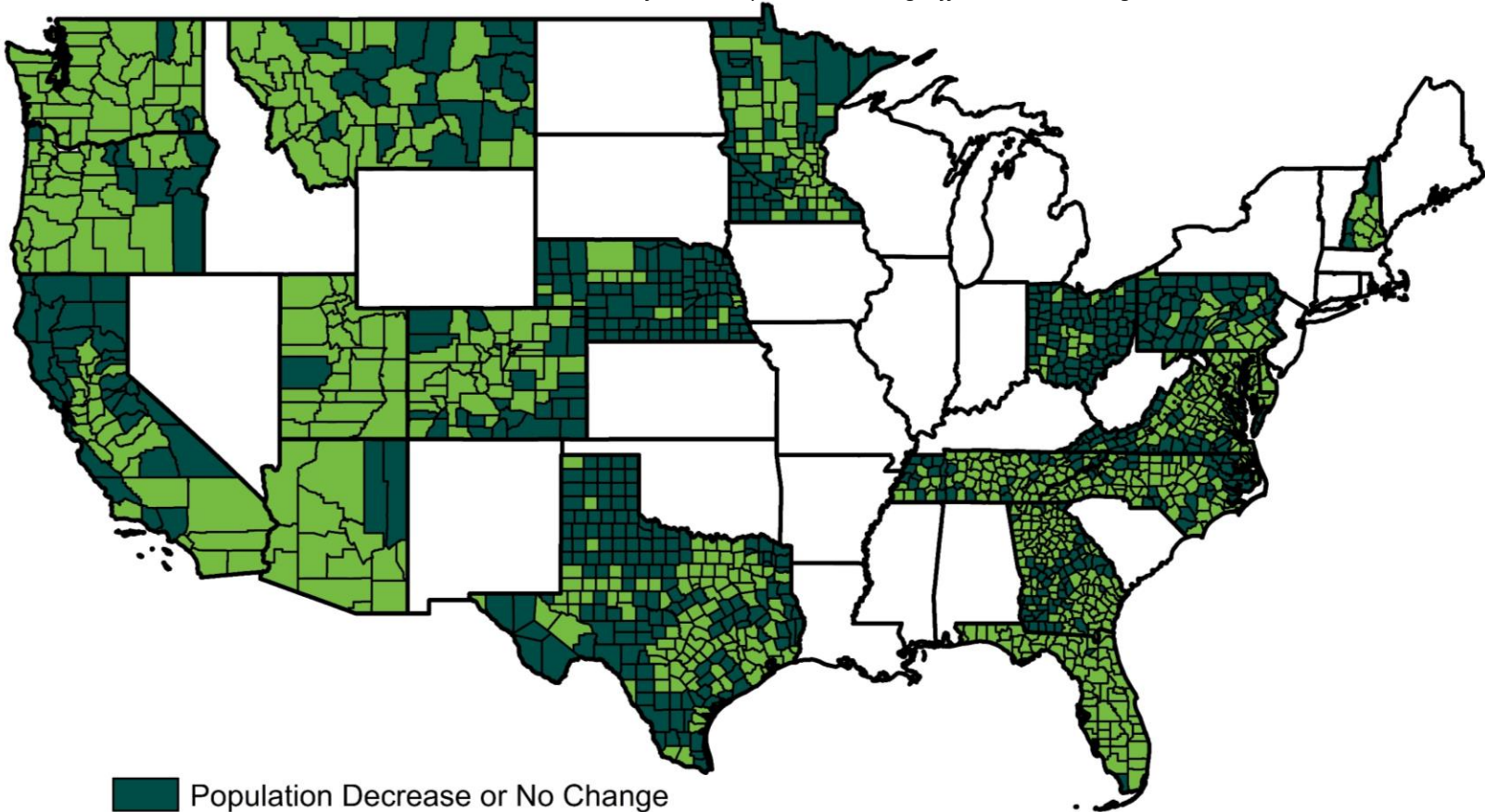
(In Millions – Graph Not to Scale)





U.S. Projection are based on the 2020 Census and created in 2023.
Data sources: U.S. Census Bureau and the Pennsylvania State Data Center.

County Population Change 2020 to 2050 (*Projected*), Includes Only Counties with Population Projections to 2050

Note: Data from multiple sources using different methodologies.



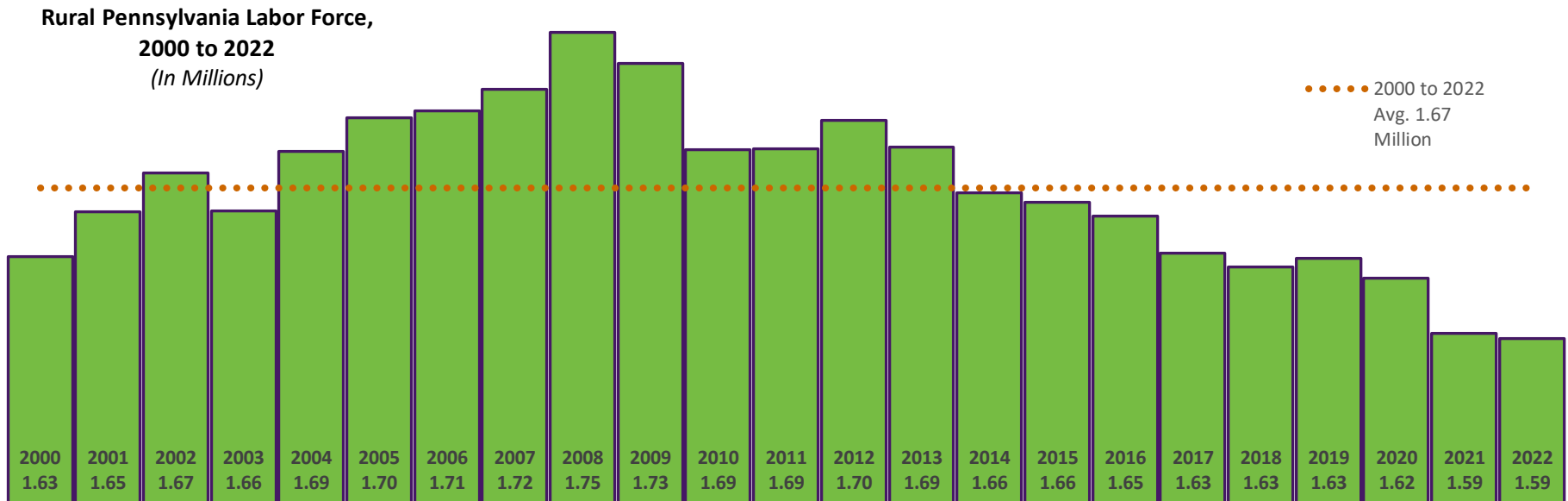
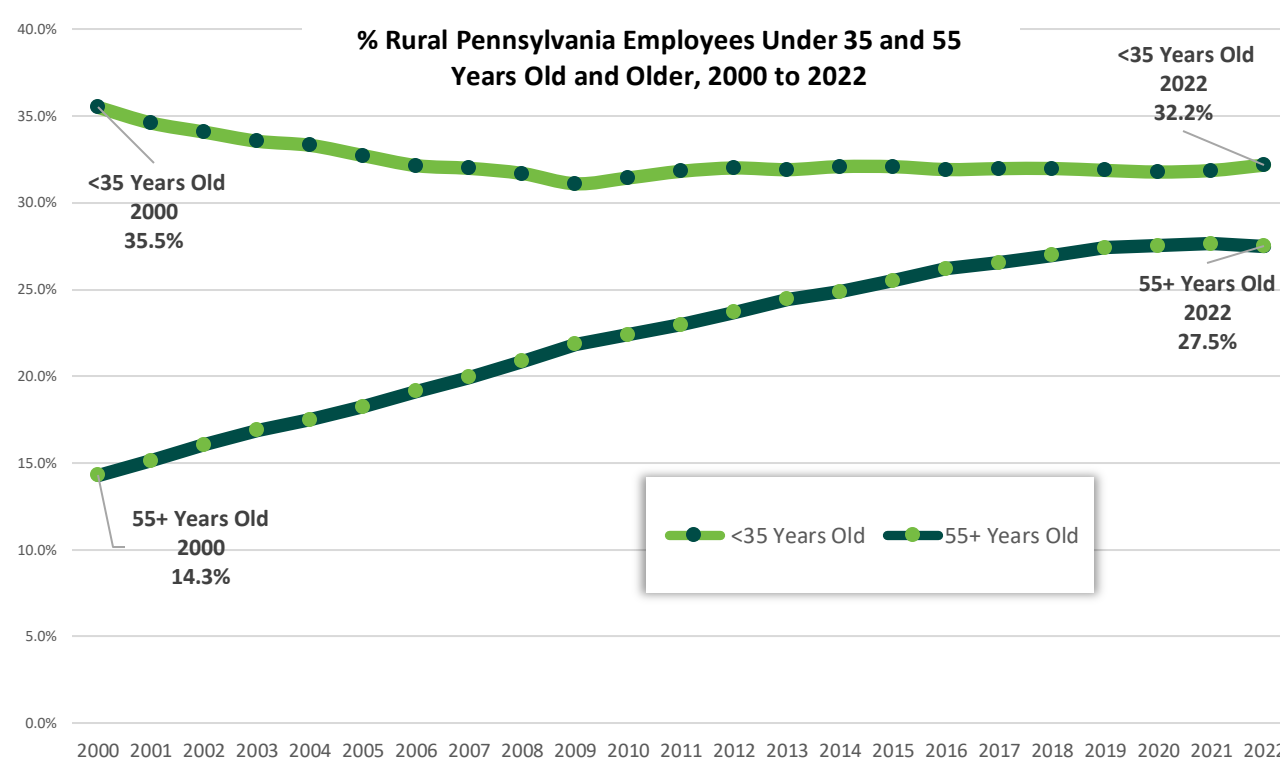
 Population Decrease or No Change
 Population Increase

	Rural Counties	Urban Counties	Total Counties
Population, 2020 (Millions)	55.6	140.7	196.3
Population, 2050 (Millions)	65.1	171.5	236.6
% Change, 2020-2050	17%	22%	21%
# Counties with Decrease or No Change	619	42	661
# Counties with Increase	595	220	815
Total # Counties	1,214	262	1,476

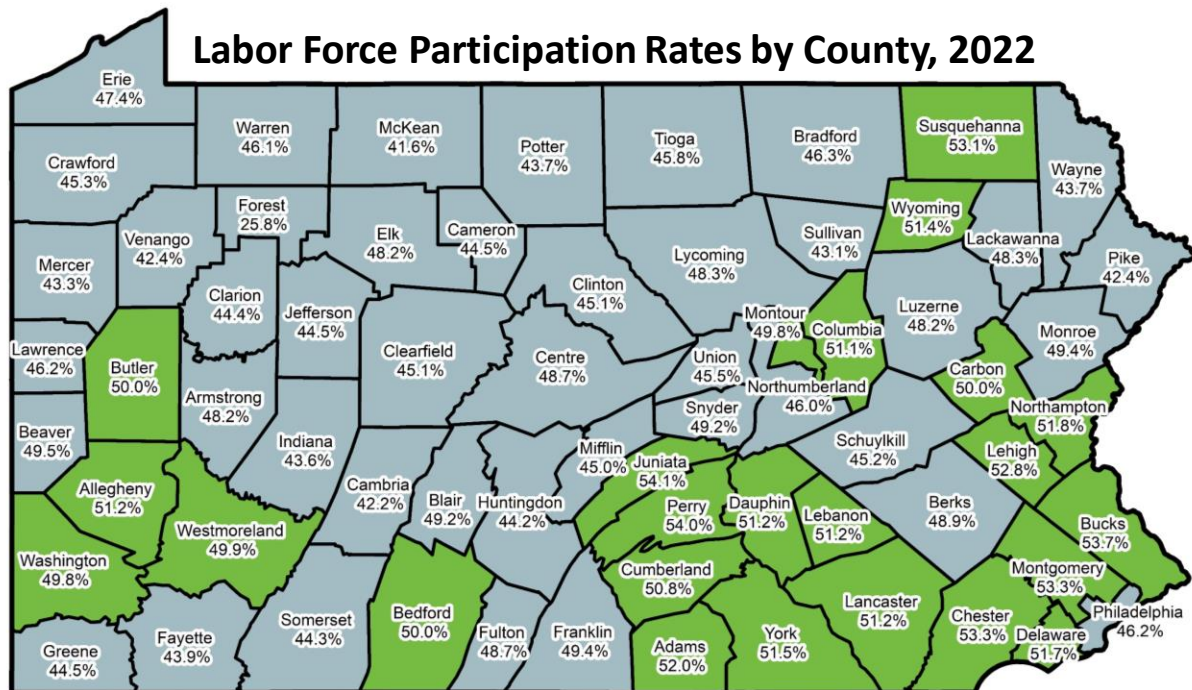
Labor Force Implications

Aging Workforce and Shrinking Labor Force

(Data sources: Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics, U.S. Census Bureau and Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry).



Labor Force Participation Rates by County, 2022



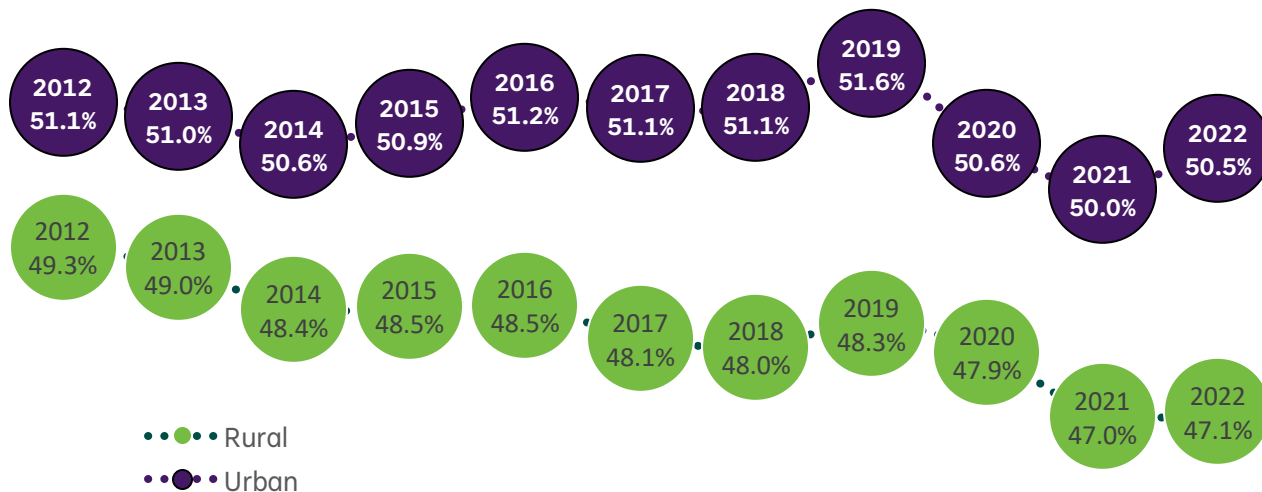
Labor Force Participation Rates

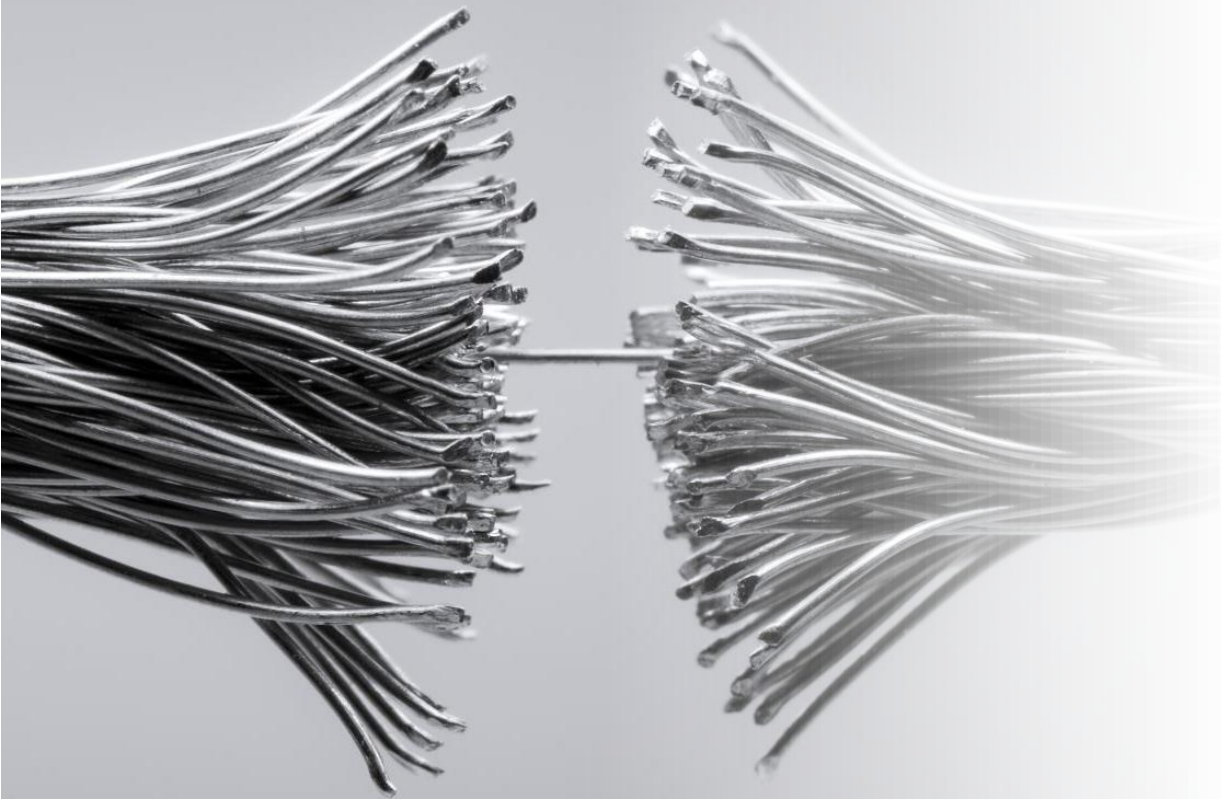
Number of people in labor force divided by total population. Note: the 2022 labor force is the 12-month not seasonally adjusted average. Data sources: U.S. Census Population Estimates and Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.

Statewide Rate = 49.6%



Rural and Urban Labor Force Participation Rates, 2012 to 2022

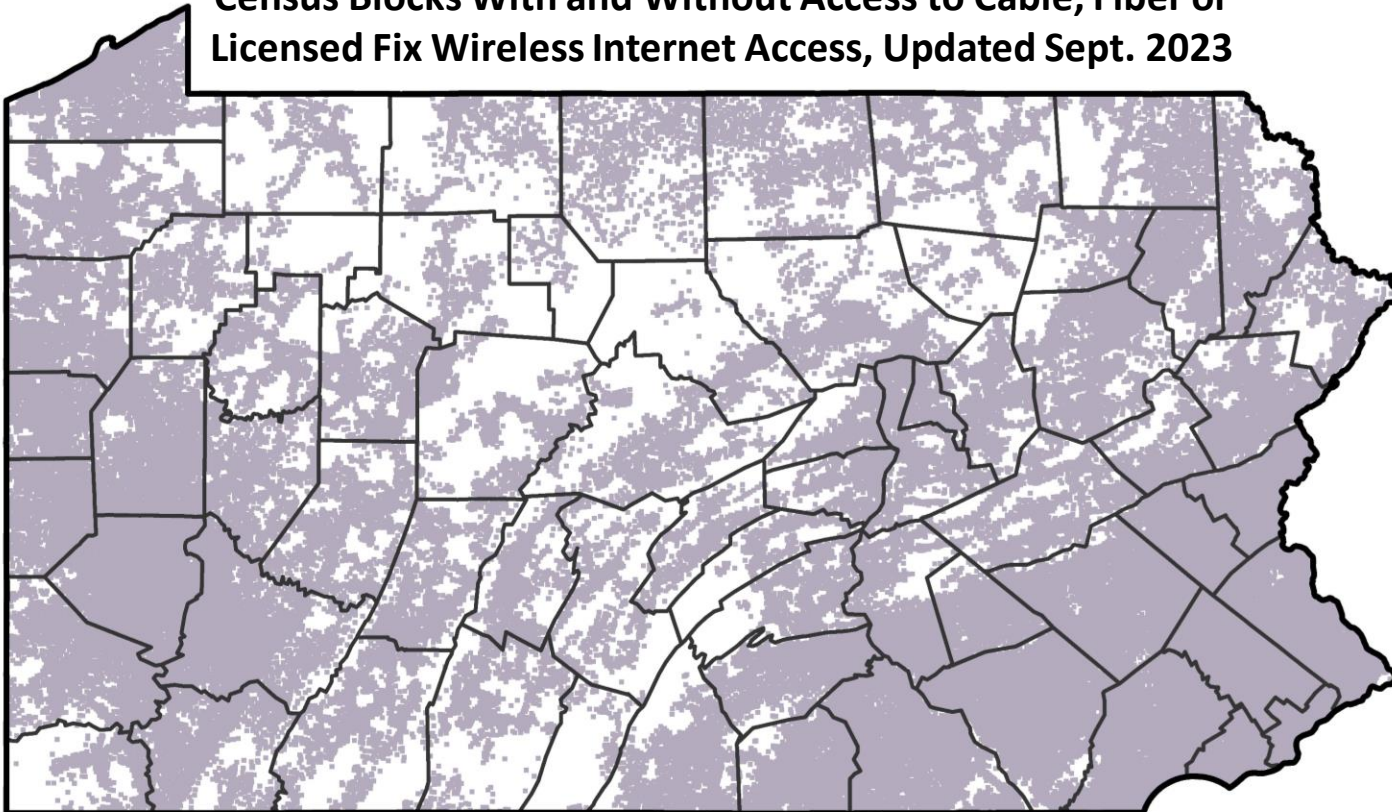




Implications for Broadband

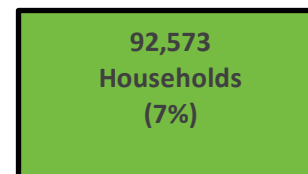
**Census Blocks With and Without Access to Cable, Fiber or
Licensed Fix Wireless Internet Access, Updated Sept. 2023**

Broadband Access

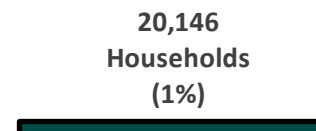


Shaded Areas are Census Blocks With Access to Cable, Fiber or Licensed Fixed Wireless.
White Areas are Census Blocks Without Access to Cable, Fiber or Licensed Fixed Wireless

**% Rural and Urban Households in
Census Blocks Without Access to
Cable, Fiber or Licensed Fixed
Wireless Internet Access, 2023**



% Rural Households



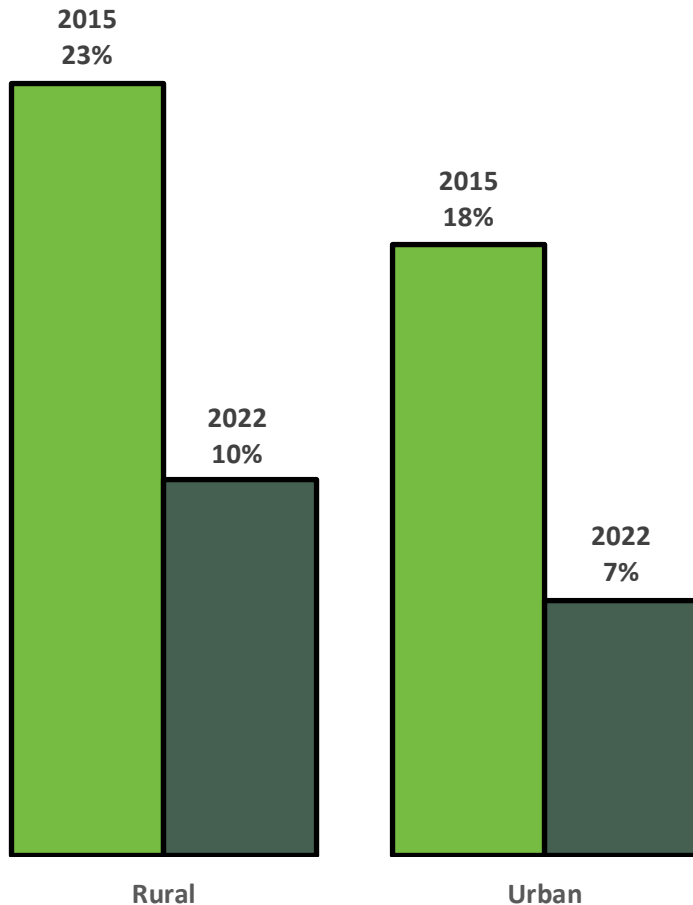
% Urban Households

*Data sources: 2020 Census and the FCC Broadband
Map. Data last updated on Sept. 26, 2023.*



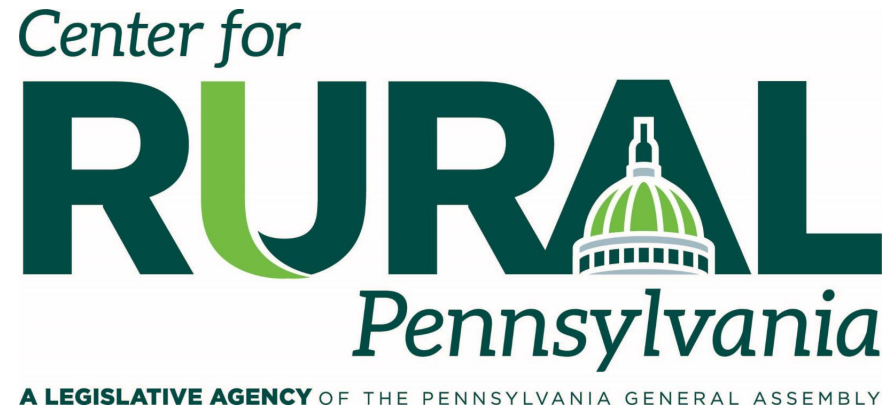
No Home Internet Connection

Percentage of Households Without Internet Connection, 2015 and 2022



Data sources: 2015 and 2022, 1-Year Average, American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample U.S. Census Bureau.

	Rural Households With No Internet Connection, 2022	Urban Households With No Internet, 2022	Households With Internet Connection, 2022
Avg. Age of Householder	68.4	68.6	52.3
Avg. # Persons in Household	1.6	1.6	2.4
Household Income	\$26,579	\$28,038	\$77,027
Poverty Rate	27%	28%	11%
% With Children in Household	8%	7%	27%
% Living Alone	64%	69%	28%
% Householder Person of Color	7%	31%	23%
% Householder with No High School Diploma	21%	27%	5%
% Homeowners	65%	56%	70%
% Householder Not in Labor Force	74%	71%	33%
% No Vehicle Available	28%	41%	8%



Thank You

Dr. Kyle Kopko, Executive Director, kkopko@rural.pa.gov