

County Data Briefs

July 2026

Summary

- In 2025, Pennsylvania's median age was 41.4, the eighth highest in the nation.
- Between 2020 and 2025, the number of senior citizens in Pennsylvania increased 13 percent. The largest increases were in eastern Pennsylvania.
- In 2025, there were more senior citizens in Pennsylvania than children (<18 years old).
- Pennsylvania is not alone. According to the data, over one-half of counties in the U.S., (54 percent) have more seniors than children.

Methodology

Data sources: U.S. Census Bureau Population and Housing Estimates, 2025 Vintage; Pew Research Center; and the IPUMS NHGIS, University of Minnesota, www.nhgis.org

Pennsylvania's Population Continues to Age



Children (<18)

2020 = 2,666,894
2025 = 2,570,631
% Change, = -3.6%



Young Adults (18-34)

2020 = 2,879,249
2025 = 2,868,071
% Change = -0.4%



Working Age Adults (35-64)

2020 = 4,977,967
2025 = 4,820,940
% Change = -3.2%



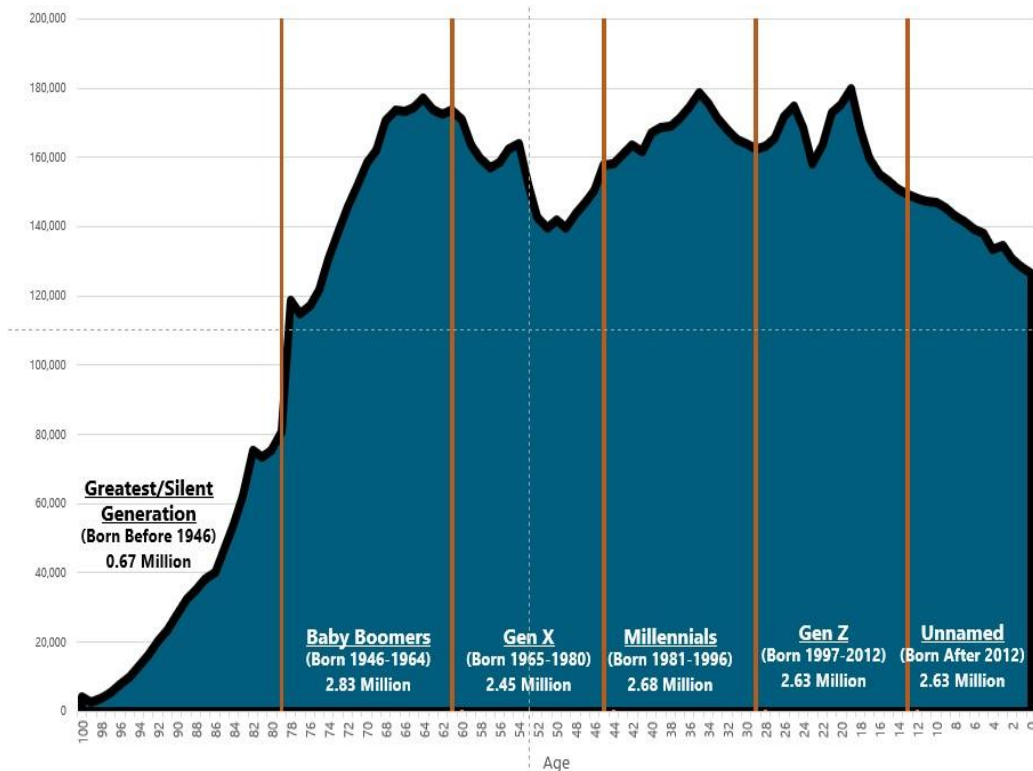
Senior Citizens (65+)

2020 = 2,478,646
2025 = 2,799,790
% Change = 13.0%

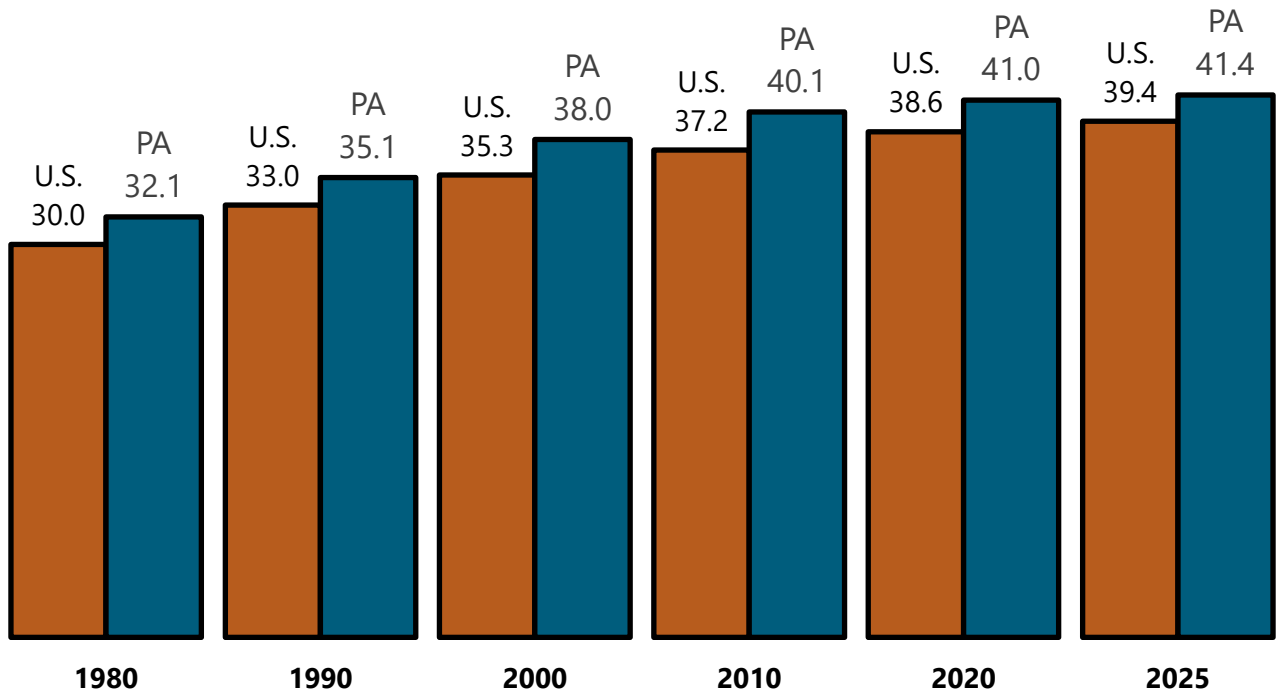
According to the latest Census Bureau estimates, more than one-in-five Pennsylvanians are aged 65 years old or older. At the beginning of the decade, 19 percent of the population were senior citizens.

The increase in senior citizens was fueled by Baby Boomers. Born between 1946 and 1964, Boomers made up the largest generational cohort in the state (22 percent). The rapid increase in senior citizens will likely continue until 2029, when the last Boomer turns 65 years old.

Pennsylvania's Population by Generational Cohorts, 2025

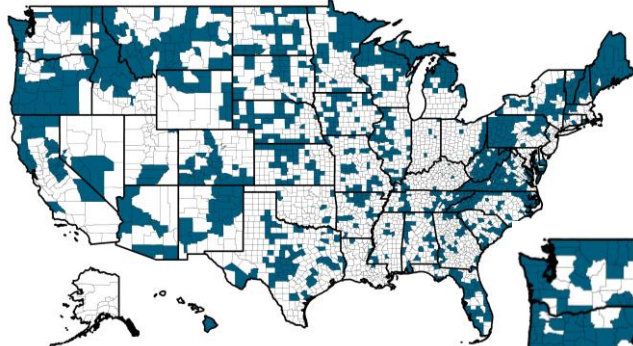


Median Age of the Population, 1980 to 2025



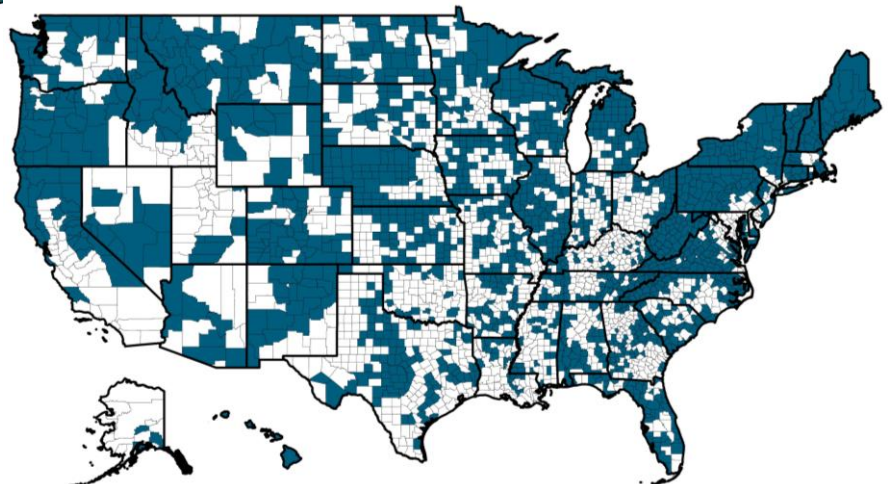
Within Pennsylvania, the change in the median age between 2020 and 2025 was not statistically correlated with the change in number of housing units and population during this period. This could suggest that an aging population has minimal relationship the number on new homes built and the number of new residents.

2020 Counties



Counties with More Senior Citizens Than Children, 2020 and 2025

2025 Counties



-  Counties with More Children (<18) than Seniors (65+)
-  Counties with More Seniors (65+) than Children (<18)