[Template:About](/wiki/Template:About" \o "Template:About) [Template:Pp-move-indef](/wiki/Template:Pp-move-indef) [Template:Use mdy dates](/wiki/Template:Use_mdy_dates) [Template:Infobox U.S. state](/wiki/Template:Infobox_U.S._state) [Template:Infobox U.S. state symbols](/wiki/Template:Infobox_U.S._state_symbols) [Template:Stack end](/wiki/Template:Stack_end) **Pennsylvania** [Template:IPAc-en](/wiki/Template:IPAc-en) ([Pennsylvania German](/wiki/Pennsylvania_German_language): *Pennsilfaani*), officially the **Commonwealth of Pennsylvania**, is a [state](/wiki/U.S._state) located in the [northern](/wiki/Northern_United_States#Historical_term) and [Mid-Atlantic](/wiki/Mid-Atlantic_States) regions of the United States. The [Appalachian Mountains](/wiki/Appalachian_Mountains) run through its middle. The [commonwealth](/wiki/Commonwealth_(U.S._state)) borders [Delaware](/wiki/Delaware) to the southeast, [Maryland](/wiki/Maryland) to the south, [West Virginia](/wiki/West_Virginia) to the southwest, [Ohio](/wiki/Ohio) to the west, [Lake Erie](/wiki/Lake_Erie) and the [Canadian](/wiki/List_of_Canadian_provinces_and_territories) province of [Ontario](/wiki/Ontario) to the northwest, [New York](/wiki/New_York) to the north, and [New Jersey](/wiki/New_Jersey) to the east.

Pennsylvania is the [33rd largest](/wiki/List_of_U.S._states_and_territories_by_area), the [6th most populous](/wiki/List_of_U.S._states_and_territories_by_population), and the [9th most densely populated](/wiki/List_of_U.S._states_and_territories_by_population_density) of the [50 United States](/wiki/50_United_States). The state's five most populous cities are [Philadelphia](/wiki/Philadelphia) (1,560,297), [Pittsburgh](/wiki/Pittsburgh) (305,801), [Allentown](/wiki/Allentown,_Pennsylvania) (118,577), [Erie](/wiki/Erie,_Pennsylvania) (100,671), and [Reading](/wiki/Reading,_Pennsylvania) (89,893). The state capital is [Harrisburg](/wiki/Harrisburg,_Pennsylvania). Pennsylvania has [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) of [coastline along Lake Erie](/wiki/Erie_Triangle) and [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert)[[1]](#cite_note-1) of shoreline along the [Delaware](/wiki/Delaware_River) Estuary.

The state is one of the [13 original founding states](/wiki/13_colonies) of the United States; it was originally founded in 1681 as a result of a royal land grant to [William Penn](/wiki/William_Penn), the son of the state's namesake. It was the second state to ratify the [United States Constitution](/wiki/United_States_Constitution), on December 12, 1787. [Independence Hall](/wiki/Independence_Hall), where the [United States Declaration of Independence](/wiki/United_States_Declaration_of_Independence) and United States Constitution were drafted, is located in the state's [largest city](/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Pennsylvania) of Philadelphia. During the [American Civil War](/wiki/American_Civil_War), the [Battle of Gettysburg](/wiki/Battle_of_Gettysburg), which turned the tide of the War, was fought in the [south central](/wiki/South_Central_Pennsylvania) region of the state.

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## Geography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further) [thumb|left|](/wiki/File:Pennsylvania-counties-map.gif)[Counties of Pennsylvania](/wiki/List_of_Pennsylvania_counties) [thumb|left|](/wiki/File:Flickr_-_Nicholas_T_-_Canyon_Vista.jpg)[World's End State Park](/wiki/World's_End_State_Park), Sullivan County Pennsylvania is [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) north to south and [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) east to west.<ref name=pageo>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> Of a total [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) are land, [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) are inland waters, and [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) are waters in Lake Erie.<ref name=statabs>[2006 Statistical Abstract: Geography & Environment: Land and Land Use](http://compendia/statab/tables/06s0347.xls)[Template:Dead link](/wiki/Template:Dead_link)</ref> It is the [33rd largest state](/wiki/List_of_U.S._states_by_area) in the United States.[[2]](#cite_note-2)Pennsylvania has [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert)[[3]](#cite_note-3) of coastline along [Lake Erie](/wiki/Lake_Erie) and [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert)[[1]](#cite_note-1) of shoreline along the [Delaware Estuary](/wiki/Delaware_River).

The boundaries of the state are the [Mason–Dixon line](/wiki/Mason–Dixon_line) (39° 43' N) to the south, the [Twelve-Mile Circle](/wiki/Twelve-Mile_Circle) on the Pennsylvania-Delaware border, the [Delaware River](/wiki/Delaware_River) to the east, 80° 31' W to the west and the [42° N](/wiki/42nd_parallel_north) to the north, with the exception of a short segment on the western end, where a triangle extends north to [Lake Erie](/wiki/Lake_Erie).

Pennsylvania borders six other states: [New York](/wiki/New_York) to the north; [New Jersey](/wiki/New_Jersey) to the east; [Delaware](/wiki/Delaware) to the southeast; [Maryland](/wiki/Maryland) to the south; [West Virginia](/wiki/West_Virginia) to the southwest, and [Ohio](/wiki/Ohio) to the west. Pennsylvania also shares a water border with the Canadian province of [Ontario](/wiki/Ontario) to the northwest across Lake Erie. Of the original [Thirteen Colonies](/wiki/Thirteen_Colonies), Pennsylvania is the only state that does not border the Atlantic Ocean.

It has the cities of [Philadelphia](/wiki/Philadelphia), [Reading](/wiki/Reading,_Pennsylvania), [Lebanon](/wiki/Lebanon,_Pennsylvania) and [Lancaster](/wiki/Lancaster,_Pennsylvania) in the southeast, [Pittsburgh](/wiki/Pittsburgh) in the southwest, the tri-cities of [Allentown](/wiki/Allentown,_Pennsylvania), [Bethlehem](/wiki/Bethlehem,_Pennsylvania), and [Easton](/wiki/Easton,_Pennsylvania) in the central east (known as the [Lehigh Valley](/wiki/Lehigh_Valley)), the tri-cities of [Scranton](/wiki/Scranton,_Pennsylvania), [Wilkes-Barre](/wiki/Wilkes-Barre,_Pennsylvania), and [Hazleton](/wiki/Hazleton,_Pennsylvania) in the northeast, and [Erie](/wiki/Erie,_Pennsylvania) in the northwest. [Williamsport](/wiki/Williamsport,_Pennsylvania) serves as the commonwealth's north-central region, with [York](/wiki/York,_Pennsylvania) and the state capital Harrisburg on the [Susquehanna River](/wiki/Susquehanna_River) in the central region of the commonwealth.

The state has 5 regions, namely the [Allegheny Plateau](/wiki/Allegheny_Plateau), [Ridge and Valley](/wiki/Ridge-and-Valley_Appalachians), [Atlantic Coastal Plain](/wiki/Atlantic_Coastal_Plain), [Piedmont](/wiki/Piedmont_(United_States)), and the [Erie Plain](/wiki/Erie_Plain). [Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)

## Climate[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]

[thumb|Pennsylvania map of Köppen climate classification.](/wiki/File:Pennsylvania_map_of_Köppen_climate_classification.svg) [thumb|Autumn in North Branch Township,](/wiki/File:Flickr_-_Nicholas_T_-_Endless_Mountains_Landscape_(1).jpg) [Wyoming County, Pennsylvania](/wiki/Wyoming_County,_Pennsylvania) [Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) Pennsylvania's diverse topography also produces a variety of climates, though the entire state experiences cold winters and humid summers. Straddling two major zones, the majority of the state, with the exception of the southeastern corner, has a [humid continental climate](/wiki/Humid_continental_climate) ([Köppen climate classification](/wiki/Köppen_climate_classification) *Dfa*). The largest city, [Philadelphia](/wiki/Philadelphia), has some characteristics of the [humid subtropical climate](/wiki/Humid_subtropical_climate) (Köppen *Cfa*) that covers much of [Delaware](/wiki/Delaware) and [Maryland](/wiki/Maryland) to the south.

Moving toward the mountainous interior of the state, the winter climate becomes colder, the number of cloudy days increase, and snowfall amounts are greater. Western areas of the state, particularly locations near [Lake Erie](/wiki/Lake_Erie), can receive over [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) of snowfall annually, and the entire state receives plentiful precipitation throughout the year. The state may be subject to severe weather from spring through summer into fall. Tornadoes occur annually in the state, sometimes in large numbers, such as 30 recorded tornadoes in 2011.[[4]](#cite_note-4){| class="wikitable" style="text-align:center;font-size:90%;"| | colspan="13" style="text-align:center;font-size:120%;background:#E8EAFA;"|Monthly Average High and Low Temperatures For Various Pennsylvania Cities (in °F) |- ! style="background:#e5afaa; color:#000; height:30px;"| City ! style="background:#e5afaa; color:#000;"| Jan. ! style="background:#e5afaa; color:#000;"| Feb. ! style="background:#e5afaa; color:#000;"| Mar. ! style="background:#e5afaa; color:#000;"| Apr. ! style="background:#e5afaa; color:#000;"| May. ! style="background:#e5afaa; color:#000;"| Jun. ! style="background:#e5afaa; color:#000;"| Jul. ! style="background:#e5afaa; color:#000;"| Aug. ! style="background:#e5afaa; color:#000;"| Sep. ! style="background:#e5afaa; color:#000;"| Oct. ! style="background:#e5afaa; color:#000;"| Nov. ! style="background:#e5afaa; color:#000;"| Dec. |- ! style="background:#f8f3ca; color:#000; height:16px;"| Scranton | style="text-align:center; background:#f8f3ca; color:#000;"| 33/19 | style="text-align:center; background:#f8f3ca; color:#000;"| 37/21 | style="text-align:center; background:#f8f3ca; color:#000;"| 46/28 | style="text-align:center; background:#f8f3ca; color:#000;"| 59/38 | style="text-align:center; background:#f8f3ca; color:#000;"| 70/48 | style="text-align:center; background:#f8f3ca; color:#000;"| 78/56 | style="text-align:center; background:#f8f3ca; color:#000;"| 82/61 | style="text-align:center; background:#f8f3ca; color:#000;"| 80/60 | style="text-align:center; background:#f8f3ca; color:#000;"| 72/52 | style="text-align:center; background:#f8f3ca; color:#000;"| 61/41 | style="text-align:center; background:#f8f3ca; color:#000;"| 49/33 | style="text-align:center; background:#f8f3ca; color:#000;"| 38/24 |- ! 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## History[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) [Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

Before the Commonwealth was settled by Europeans, the area was home to the [Delaware](/wiki/Lenape) (also known as Lenni Lenape), [Susquehannock](/wiki/Susquehannock), [Iroquois](/wiki/Iroquois), [Eriez](/wiki/Eriez), [Shawnee](/wiki/Shawnee), and other [American Indian](/wiki/Native_Americans_in_the_United_States) Nations.[[10]](#cite_note-10)

### 17th century[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]

Both the [Dutch](/wiki/New_Netherland) and the [English](/wiki/Virginia_Company) claimed both sides of the Delaware River as part of their colonial lands in America.[[11]](#cite_note-11)[[12]](#cite_note-12)[[13]](#cite_note-13) The Dutch were the first to take possession.[[13]](#cite_note-13) By June 3, 1631, the [Dutch](/wiki/Netherlands) had begun settling the [Delmarva Peninsula](/wiki/Delmarva_Peninsula) by establishing the [Zwaanendael Colony](/wiki/Zwaanendael_Colony) on the site of present-day [Lewes, Delaware](/wiki/Lewes,_Delaware).[[14]](#cite_note-14) In 1638, Sweden established the [New Sweden Colony](/wiki/New_Sweden), in the region of [Fort Christina](/wiki/Fort_Christina), on the site of present-day [Wilmington, Delaware](/wiki/Wilmington,_Delaware). New Sweden claimed and, for the most part, controlled the lower Delaware River region (parts of present-day Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania) but settled few colonists there.[[15]](#cite_note-15)[[16]](#cite_note-16) [thumb|*Penn's Treaty with the Indians*, by](/wiki/File:Edward_Hicks_-_Penn's_Treaty.jpeg) [Edward Hicks](/wiki/Edward_Hicks) On March 12, 1664, [King Charles II of England](/wiki/Charles_II_of_England) gave [James, Duke of York](/wiki/James_II_of_England) a grant that incorporated all lands included in the original Virginia Company of Plymouth Grant plus other lands. This grant was in conflict with the Dutch claim for [New Netherland](/wiki/New_Netherland), which included parts of today's Pennsylvania.[[17]](#cite_note-17) On June 24, 1664, The [Duke of York](/wiki/Duke_of_York) sold the portion of his large grant that included present-day [New Jersey](/wiki/New_Jersey) to [John Berkeley](/wiki/John_Berkeley,_1st_Baron_Berkeley_of_Stratton) and [George Carteret](/wiki/George_Carteret) for a proprietary colony. The land was not yet in British possession, but the sale boxed in the portion of New Netherland on the West side of the [Delaware River](/wiki/Delaware_River). The British conquest of New Netherland began on August 29, 1664, when [New Amsterdam](/wiki/New_Amsterdam) was coerced to surrender while facing cannons on British ships in New York Harbor.[[18]](#cite_note-18)[[19]](#cite_note-19) This conquest continued, and was completed in October 1664, when the British captured [Fort Casimir](/wiki/Fort_Casimir) in what today is [New Castle, Delaware](/wiki/New_Castle,_Delaware).

[thumb|upright|](/wiki/File:John_Dickinson_portrait.jpg)[John Dickinson](/wiki/John_Dickinson_(delegate)) The Peace of Breda between England, France and the Netherlands confirmed the English conquest on July 21, 1667,[[20]](#cite_note-20)[[21]](#cite_note-21) although there were temporary reversions.

On September 12, 1672, as part of the Third Anglo-Dutch War, the Dutch re-conquered [New York Colony](/wiki/New_York_Colony)/[New Amsterdam](/wiki/New_Amsterdam), the Dutch established three County Courts which went on to become original Counties in present-day [Delaware](/wiki/Delaware) and Pennsylvania. The one that later transferred to Pennsylvania was Upland.[[22]](#cite_note-22) This was partially reversed on February 9, 1674, when the [Treaty of Westminster](/wiki/Treaty_of_Westminster_(1674)) ended the Third Anglo-Dutch War, and reverted all political situations to the *status quo ante bellum*. The British retained the Dutch Counties with their Dutch names.[[23]](#cite_note-23) By June 11, 1674, New York reasserted control over the outlying colonies, including Upland, but the names started to be changed to British names by November 11, 1674.[[24]](#cite_note-24) Upland was partitioned on November 12, 1674, producing the general outline of the current border between Pennsylvania and Delaware.[[25]](#cite_note-25) On February 28, 1681, [Charles II](/wiki/Charles_II_of_England) granted a land charter[[26]](#cite_note-26) to [William Penn](/wiki/William_Penn) to repay a debt of £16,000[[27]](#cite_note-27) (around £2,100,000 in 2008, adjusting for retail inflation)[[28]](#cite_note-28) owed to William's father, Admiral William Penn. This was one of the largest land grants to an individual in history.<ref name=quapoly>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> The King named it Pennsylvania in honor of William Penn. Penn, who originally called it New Wales, then Sylvania, was embarrassed at the change, fearing that people would think he had named it after himself, but King Charles would not rename the grant.[[29]](#cite_note-29) Penn established a government with two innovations that were much copied in the New World: the [county commission](/wiki/County_commission) and [freedom of religious conviction](/wiki/Freedom_of_religion).[[30]](#cite_note-30) What had been Upland on what became the Pennsylvania side of the Pennsylvania-[Delaware](/wiki/Delaware) Border was renamed as [Chester County](/wiki/Chester_County,_Pennsylvania) when Pennsylvania instituted their colonial governments on March 4, 1681.[[31]](#cite_note-31)[[32]](#cite_note-32) The Quaker leader [William Penn](/wiki/William_Penn) had signed a peace treaty with [Tammany](/wiki/Tamanend), leader of the Delaware tribe, beginning a long period of friendly relations between the Quakers and the Indians.[[33]](#cite_note-33) Additional treaties between [Quakers](/wiki/Quakers) and other tribes followed. The [treaty](/wiki/Penn_Treaty_Park) of William Penn was never violated.[[34]](#cite_note-34)

### 18th century[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]

Between 1730 and when it was shut down by Parliament with the Currency Act of 1764, the Pennsylvania Colony made its own paper money to account for the shortage of actual gold and silver. The paper money was called [Colonial Scrip](/wiki/Colonial_Scrip). The Colony issued "bills of credit", which were as good as gold or silver coins because of their legal tender status. Since they were issued by the government and not a banking institution, it was an interest-free proposition, largely defraying the expense of the government and therefore taxation of the people. It also promoted general employment and prosperity, since the Government used discretion and did not issue too much to inflate the currency. [Benjamin Franklin](/wiki/Benjamin_Franklin) had a hand in creating this currency, of which he said its utility was never to be disputed, and it also met with the "cautious approval" of [Adam Smith](/wiki/Adam_Smith).[[35]](#cite_note-35) [James Smith](/wiki/James_Smith_(frontiersman)) wrote that in 1763, "the Indians again commenced hostilities, and were busily engaged in killing and scalping the frontier inhabitants in various parts of Pennsylvania." Further, "This state was then a Quaker government, and at the first of this war the frontiers received no assistance from the state."[[36]](#cite_note-36) The ensuing hostilities became known as [Pontiac's War](/wiki/Pontiac's_War).

[thumb|](/wiki/File:PhiladelphiaPresidentsHouse.jpg)[President's House (Philadelphia)](/wiki/President's_House_(Philadelphia)). The Masters-Penn mansion housed Pennsylvania's governor in the early 1770s. It later served as the presidential mansion of [George Washington](/wiki/George_Washington) and [John Adams](/wiki/John_Adams), 1790–1800, while Philadelphia was the temporary national capital. After the [Stamp Act Congress](/wiki/Stamp_Act_Congress) of 1765, Delegate [John Dickinson](/wiki/John_Dickinson_(delegate)) of [Philadelphia](/wiki/Philadelphia) wrote the [*Declaration of Rights and Grievances*](/wiki/Declaration_of_Rights_and_Grievances). The Congress was the first meeting of the [Thirteen Colonies](/wiki/Thirteen_Colonies), called at the request of the [Massachusetts](/wiki/Massachusetts) Assembly, but only nine colonies sent delegates.[[37]](#cite_note-37) Dickinson then wrote [*Letters from a Farmer in Pennsylvania, To the Inhabitants of the British Colonies*](/wiki/Letters_from_a_Farmer_in_Pennsylvania), which were published in the Pennsylvania Chronicle between December 2, 1767, and February 15, 1768.[[38]](#cite_note-38) When the [Founding Fathers of the United States](/wiki/Founding_Fathers_of_the_United_States) convened in Philadelphia in 1774, 12 colonies sent representatives to the [First Continental Congress](/wiki/First_Continental_Congress).[[39]](#cite_note-39) The [Second Continental Congress](/wiki/Second_Continental_Congress), which also met in Philadelphia (in May 1775), drew up and signed the [Declaration of Independence](/wiki/United_States_Declaration_of_Independence) in Philadelphia,[[40]](#cite_note-40) but when that city was captured by the British, the Continental Congress escaped westward, meeting at the [Lancaster](/wiki/Lancaster,_Pennsylvania) courthouse on Saturday, September 27, 1777, and then to [York](/wiki/York,_Pennsylvania). There they and its primary author, John Dickinson, drew up the [Articles of Confederation](/wiki/Articles_of_Confederation) that formed 13 independent colonies into a new nation. Later, the [Constitution](/wiki/United_States_Constitution) was written, and Philadelphia was once again chosen to be cradle to the new American Nation.[[41]](#cite_note-41) The Constitution was drafted and signed at the [Pennsylvania State House](/wiki/Pennsylvania_State_House), now known as Independence Hall, and the same building where the Declaration of Independence was signed.[[42]](#cite_note-42) Pennsylvania became the second state to ratify the [U.S. Constitution](/wiki/U.S._Constitution) on December 12, 1787,[[43]](#cite_note-43) five days after [Delaware](/wiki/Delaware) became the first.

[Dickinson College](/wiki/Dickinson_College) of [Carlisle](/wiki/Carlisle,_Pennsylvania) was the first college founded in the United States. Established in 1773, the college was ratified five days after the [Treaty of Paris](/wiki/Treaty_of_Paris_(1783)) on September 9, 1783. The school was founded by [Benjamin Rush](/wiki/Benjamin_Rush) and named after John Dickinson.

[thumb|The "Hills Capitol", used from 1821 until it burned down in 1897.](/wiki/File:HillsCapitol.jpg) For half a century, the Commonwealth's General Assembly (legislature) met at various places in the general Philadelphia area before starting to meet regularly in Independence Hall in Philadelphia for 63 years.<ref name=legiscap>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)[Template:Dead link](/wiki/Template:Dead_link)</ref> But it needed a more central location, as for example the [Paxton Boys](/wiki/Paxton_Boys) massacres of 1763 had made the legislature aware. So, in 1799 the General Assembly moved to the [Lancaster](/wiki/Lancaster,_Pennsylvania) Courthouse,<ref name=legiscap/> and finally in 1812 to [Harrisburg](/wiki/Harrisburg,_Pennsylvania).[[44]](#cite_note-44)

### 19th century[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]

The General Assembly met in the old [Dauphin County](/wiki/Dauphin_County,_Pennsylvania) Court House until December 1821,<ref name=legiscap/> when the Federal-style "Hills Capitol" (named for its builder, [Stephen Hills](/wiki/Stephen_Hills), a Lancaster architect) was constructed on a hilltop land grant of four acres set aside for a seat of state government by the prescient, entrepreneurial son and namesake of [John Harris, Sr.](/wiki/John_Harris,_Sr.), a Yorkshire native who had founded a trading post in 1705 and ferry (1733) on the east shore of the Susquehanna River.[[45]](#cite_note-45) The Hills Capitol burned down on February 2, 1897, during a heavy snowstorm, presumably because of a faulty [flue](/wiki/Flue).<ref name=legiscap/> The General Assembly met at Grace Methodist Church on State Street (still standing) until a new capitol could be built. Following an architectural selection contest that many alleged had been "rigged", Chicago architect [Henry Ives Cobb](/wiki/Henry_Ives_Cobb) was charged with designing and building a replacement building; however, the legislature had little money to allocate to the project, and a roughly finished, somewhat industrial building (the Cobb Capitol) was completed. The General Assembly refused to occupy the building. Political and popular indignation in 1901 prompted a second contest that was restricted to Pennsylvania architects, and [Joseph Miller Huston](/wiki/Joseph_Miller_Huston) of Philadelphia was chosen to design the present [Pennsylvania State Capitol](/wiki/Pennsylvania_State_Capitol) that incorporated Cobb's building into magnificent public work finished and dedicated in 1907.<ref name=legiscap/>

The [new state Capitol](/wiki/Pennsylvania_State_Capitol) drew rave reviews.<ref name=legiscap/> Its dome was inspired by the domes of [St. Peter's Basilica](/wiki/St._Peter's_Basilica) in Rome and the United States Capitol.<ref name=legiscap/> President [Theodore Roosevelt](/wiki/Theodore_Roosevelt) called it "the most beautiful state Capital in the nation" and said, "It's the handsomest building I ever saw" at the dedication. In 1989, [*The New York Times*](/wiki/The_New_York_Times) praised it as "grand, even awesome at moments, but it is also a working building, accessible to citizens ... a building that connects with the reality of daily life".<ref name=legiscap/>

[James Buchanan](/wiki/James_Buchanan), of [Franklin County](/wiki/Franklin_County,_Pennsylvania), the only bachelor President of the United States,[[46]](#cite_note-46) was the only one to be born in Pennsylvania. The [Battle of Gettysburg](/wiki/Battle_of_Gettysburg)—the major turning point of the Civil War—took place near [Gettysburg](/wiki/Gettysburg,_Pennsylvania).[[47]](#cite_note-47) An estimated 350,000 Pennsylvanians served in the [Union Army](/wiki/Union_Army) forces including 8,600 African American [military volunteers](/wiki/Military_volunteer).

Pennsylvania was also the home of the first commercially drilled oil well. In 1859, near [Titusville, Pennsylvania](/wiki/Titusville,_Pennsylvania), [Edwin Drake](/wiki/Edwin_Drake) successfully drilled the well, which led to the first major oil boom in United States history.

### 20th century[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]

[Template:Expand section](/wiki/Template:Expand_section) [thumb|](/wiki/File:Federal_Emergency_Relief_Administration,_FERA_camp_for_unemployed_women_in_Arcola,_PA_-_NARA_-_196583.tif)[Franklin D. Roosevelt's](/wiki/Franklin_D._Roosevelt) [FERA](/wiki/Federal_Emergency_Relief_Administration) camp for unemployed women, 1934 At the beginning of the 20th century Pennsylvania's economy was centered around steel production, logging, coal mining, textile production and other forms of industrial manufacturing. A surge in immigration to the U.S. during the late 19th and early 20th centuries provided a steady flow of cheap labor for these industries which often employed children and persons who could not speak English.

In 1923 President [Calvin Coolidge](/wiki/Calvin_Coolidge) established the [Allegheny National Forest](/wiki/Allegheny_National_Forest) under the authority of the [Weeks Act](/wiki/Weeks_Act) of 1911 in the northwest part of the state in Elk, Forest, McKean, and Warren Counties for the purposes of timber production and watershed protection in the [Allegheny River](/wiki/Allegheny_River) basin. The Allegheny is the state's only national forest.

### 21st century[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]

[Template:Empty section](/wiki/Template:Empty_section)

## Demographics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further) The [United States Census Bureau](/wiki/United_States_Census_Bureau) estimates that the population of Pennsylvania was 12,802,503 on July 1, 2015, a 0.79% increase since the [2010 United States Census](/wiki/2010_United_States_Census). In an earlier estimate, the state was 78.8% Non-Hispanic White, 11.4% Black or African American, 0.3% Native American, 3.0% Asian, 0.1% Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, 1.7% Two or More Races, and 6.1% Hispanic or Latino.<ref name=PopEstUS>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref>

Of the people residing in Pennsylvania, 74.5% were born in Pennsylvania, 18.4% were born in a different US state, 1.5% were born Puerto Rico, U.S. Island areas, or born abroad to American parent(s), and 5.6% were foreign born.[[48]](#cite_note-48) According to the 2010 Census, 81.9% of the population was White (79.2% [non-Hispanic white](/wiki/Non-Hispanic_white)), 11.3% was [Black](/wiki/African_American) or African American, 0.3% American Indian and Alaska Native, 2.9% [Asian](/wiki/Asian_American), 1.9% from two or more races. 5.9% of the total population was of [Hispanic](/wiki/Hispanic_and_Latino_Americans) or Latino origin (they may be of any race).[[49]](#cite_note-49)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Pennsylvania Racial Breakdown of Population** | | | |
| **Racial composition** | **1990**[**[50]**](#cite_note-50) | **2000**[**[51]**](#cite_note-51) | **2010**[**[52]**](#cite_note-52) |
| [White](/wiki/White_American) | 88.5% | 85.4% | 81.9% |
| [Black](/wiki/African_American) | 9.2% | 10.0% | 10.9% |
| [Asian](/wiki/Asian_American) | 1.2% | 1.8% | 2.8% |
| [Native](/wiki/Native_Americans_in_the_United_States) | 0.1% | 0.1% | 0.2% |
| [Native Hawaiian](/wiki/Native_Hawaiian) and [other Pacific Islander](/wiki/Pacific_Islander) | - | - | - |
| [Other race](/wiki/Race_and_ethnicity_in_the_United_States_Census) | 1.0% | 1.5% | 2.4% |
| [Two or more races](/wiki/Multiracial_American) | - | 1.2% | 1.9% |

As of 2011, 32.1% of Pennsylvania's population younger than age 1 were minorities.[[53]](#cite_note-53) Pennsylvania's Hispanic population grew by 82.6% between 2000 and 2010, making it one of the largest increases in a state's Hispanic population. The significant growth of the Hispanic population is due to immigration to the state mainly from Puerto Rico, which is a US territory, but to a lesser extent from countries such as the Dominican Republic, Mexico, and various Central and South American nations, as well as from the wave of Hispanics leaving New York and New Jersey for safer and more affordable living. The Asian population swelled by almost 60%, which was fueled by Indian, Vietnamese, and Chinese immigration, as well the many Asian transplants moving to Philadelphia from New York. The rapid growth of this community has given Pennsylvania one of the largest Asian populations in the nation by numerical values. The Black and African American population grew by 13%, which was the largest increase in that population amongst the state's peers (New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Illinois, and Michigan).The White population declined by 0.7%, a trend that is beginning to reverse itself. Twelve other states saw decreases in their White populations.[[54]](#cite_note-54) The state of Pennsylvania has a high in-migration of blacks and Hispanics from other nearby states, with eastern and south-central portions of the state seeing the bulk of the increases.[[55]](#cite_note-55)[[56]](#cite_note-56) The [center of population](/wiki/Center_of_population) of Pennsylvania is located in [Perry County](/wiki/Perry_County,_Pennsylvania), in the borough of [Duncannon](/wiki/Duncannon,_Pennsylvania).[[57]](#cite_note-57) [thumb|State population from 1790 to 2000](/wiki/File:PennsylvaniaDemography.svg) [thumb|Pennsylvania's population distribution](/wiki/File:Pennsylvania_population_map_1.png)

As of 2013, Pennsylvania has an estimated population of 12,773,801, which is an increase of 10,265 from the previous year and an increase of 71,422 since the year 2010. Net [migration](/wiki/Human_migration) to other states resulted in a decrease of 27,718, and [immigration](/wiki/Immigration_to_the_United_States) from other countries resulted in an increase of 127,007. Net migration to the Commonwealth was 98,289. Migration of native Pennsylvanians resulted in a decrease of 100,000 people. From 2008 to 2012, 5.8% of the population was foreign born.[[58]](#cite_note-58) The state has an estimated 2005 poverty rate of 12%.<ref name=PAFacts/> The state also has the 3rd highest proportion of elderly (65+) citizens in 2005.<ref name=PAFacts/>

Foreign born Pennsylvanians are largely from Asia (36.0%), Europe (35.9%), and Latin America (30.6%), with the remainder from Africa (5%), North America (3.1%), and Oceania (0.4%).

The majority of Hispanics in Pennsylvania are of [Puerto Rican](/wiki/Puerto_Rican_American) descent, having one of the largest and fastest-growing Puerto Rican populations in the country.[[59]](#cite_note-59)[[60]](#cite_note-60) Most of the remaining Hispanic population is made up of [Mexicans](/wiki/Mexican_American) and [Dominicans](/wiki/Dominican_American). Most Hispanics are concentrated in Philadelphia, [Lehigh Valley](/wiki/Lehigh_Valley) and [South Central Pennsylvania](/wiki/South_Central_Pennsylvania). Pennsylvania's reported population of Hispanics, especially among the Black race, has markedly increased in recent years.<ref name=annest>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> The Hispanic population is greatest in [Allentown](/wiki/Allentown,_Pennsylvania), [Lancaster](/wiki/Lancaster,_Pennsylvania), [Reading](/wiki/Reading,_Pennsylvania), [Easton](/wiki/Easton,_Pennsylvania), and around [Philadelphia](/wiki/Philadelphia), with over 20% being Hispanic. It is not clear how much of this change reflects a changing population and how much reflects increased willingness to self-identify minority status. As of 2010, it is estimated that about 85% of all Hispanics in Pennsylvania live within a [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) radius of Philadelphia, with about 20% living within the city itself.

Of the black population, the vast majority in the state are African American, being descendants of [African slaves brought to the US south](/wiki/Slavery_in_the_United_States) during the colonial era. There are also a growing number of blacks of [West Indian](/wiki/West_Indian_American), [recent African](/wiki/African_immigration_to_the_United_States), and [Hispanic](/wiki/Black_Hispanic) origins.[[61]](#cite_note-61) Most blacks live in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and South Central Pennsylvania, among other areas. Whites make-up the majority of Pennsylvania, they are mostly descended from German, Irish, Italian, and English immigrants, among others. Rural portions of South Central Pennsylvania are famous nationwide for its notable [Amish communities](/wiki/Amish_country).

Pennsylvania's population was reported as 5.9% under 5 and 23.8% under 18, with 15.6% aged 65 or older. Women made up 52% of the population.[[62]](#cite_note-62)The largest ancestry groups are listed below, expressed as a percentage of total people who responded with a particular ancestry for the 2010 census:[[63]](#cite_note-63)<ref name=census>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref>

* 28.50% [German](/wiki/German_American)
* 18.20% [Irish](/wiki/Irish_American)
* 12.80% [Italian](/wiki/Italian_American)
* 9.60% [African American](/wiki/African_American)
* 8.50% [English](/wiki/English_American)
* 7.20% [Polish](/wiki/Polish_American)
* 4.20% [French Canadian](/wiki/French_Canadian)
* 2.90% [Puerto Rican](/wiki/Puerto_Ricans_in_the_United_States)
* 2.20% [Dutch](/wiki/Dutch_American)
* 2.00% [Slovak](/wiki/Slovak_American)
* 2.00% [Scotch Irish](/wiki/Scotch-Irish_American)
* 1.70% [Scottish](/wiki/Scottish_American)
* 1.60% [Russian](/wiki/Russian_American)
* 1.50% [Welsh](/wiki/Welsh_American)
* 1.20% [Hungarian](/wiki/Hungarian_American)
* 1.00% [Ukrainian](/wiki/Ukrainian_American)
* 1.00% [Mexican](/wiki/Mexican_American)

The five largest estimated ancestry groups in Pennsylvania are: [German](/wiki/German_American) (28.5%), [Irish](/wiki/Irish_American) (18.2%), [Italian](/wiki/Italian_American) (12.8%), [African American](/wiki/African_American) (9.6%), and [English](/wiki/English_Americans) [Template:US Census population](/wiki/Template:US_Census_population)

### Languages[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Top 10 Non-English Languages Spoken in Pennsylvania** | |
| **Language** | **Percentage of population (as of 2010)**[**[64]**](#cite_note-64) |
| Spanish | 4.09% |
| German (including [Pennsylvania Dutch](/wiki/Pennsylvania_German_language)) | 0.87% |
| Chinese (including [Mandarin](/wiki/Standard_Chinese)) | 0.47% |
| Italian | 0.43% |
| French | 0.34% |
| Russian and Vietnamese (tied) | 0.29% |
| Korean | 0.25% |
| Polish | 0.21% |
| Arabic | 0.20% |
| Hindi | 0.17% |

As of 2010, 90.15% (10,710,239) of Pennsylvania residents age 5 and older spoke English at home as a [primary language](/wiki/Primary_language), while 4.09% (486,058) spoke Spanish, 0.87% (103,502) German (which includes [Pennsylvania Dutch](/wiki/Pennsylvania_German_language)) and by 0.47% (56,052) Chinese (which includes [Mandarin](/wiki/Standard_Chinese)) of the population over the age of five. In total, 9.85% (1,170,628) of Pennsylvania's population age 5 and older spoke a [mother language](/wiki/Mother_language) other than English.[[64]](#cite_note-64)

#### Pennsylvania German language[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article)

Pennsylvania German is often—even though misleadingly—called "Pennsylvania Dutch". The term "Dutch", when referring to the language spoken by the [Pennsylvania Dutch people](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Dutch) ([Pennsylvania German](/wiki/Pennsylvania_German_language)) means "German" or "Teutonic" rather than "Netherlander". Germans, in their own language, call themselves "Deutsch", (Pennsylvania German: "Deitsch") which in English became, misleadingly, "Dutch".[[65]](#cite_note-65) The [Pennsylvania German language](/wiki/Pennsylvania_German_language) is a descendant of German, in the [West Central German](/wiki/West_Central_German) dialect family. It is closest to [Palatine German](/wiki/Palatine_German_language). Pennsylvania German is still very vigorous as a first language among [Old Order Amish](/wiki/Old_Order_Amish) and [Old Order Mennonites](/wiki/Old_Order_Mennonite) (principally in the [Lancaster County area](/wiki/Lancaster_County,_Pennsylvania)), whereas it is almost extinct as an everyday language outside the [plain communities](/wiki/Plain_people), though a few words have passed into English usage.

### Religion[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]

[thumb|An](/wiki/File:Lancaster_County_Amish_03.jpg) [Amish](/wiki/Amish) family riding in a traditional Amish buggy in [Lancaster County, Pennsylvania](/wiki/Lancaster_County,_Pennsylvania). Of all the colonies, only [Rhode Island](/wiki/Rhode_Island) had religious freedom as secure as in Pennsylvania.[[66]](#cite_note-66) [Voltaire](/wiki/Voltaire), writing of [William Penn](/wiki/William_Penn) in 1733, observed: "The new sovereign also enacted several wise and wholesome laws for his colony, which have remained invariably the same to this day. The chief is, to ill–treat no person on account of religion, and to consider as brethren all those who believe in one God."[[67]](#cite_note-67) One result of this uncommon freedom was a wide religious [diversity](/wiki/Multiculturalism), which continues to the present.

Pennsylvania's population in 2010 was 12,702,379. Of these, 6,838,440 (53.8%) were estimated to belong to some sort of organized religion. According to the [Association of religion data archives](/wiki/Association_of_religion_data_archives) (ARDA) at [Pennsylvania State University](/wiki/Pennsylvania_State_University), the largest religions in Pennsylvania by adherents are the [Roman Catholic Church](/wiki/Roman_Catholic_Church) with 3,503,028 adherents, the [United Methodist Church](/wiki/United_Methodist_Church) with 591,734 members, and the [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](/wiki/Evangelical_Lutheran_Church_in_America) with 501,974 members. The third largest single denomination is the [Presbyterian Church (USA)](/wiki/Presbyterian_Church_(USA)) with 250,000 members and 1,011 congregations. Pennsylvania, especially western part and Pittsburgh area has one of the highest percentage of Presbyterians in the nation. The Presbyterian Church in America has also significant, 112 congregations and 23,000 adherents, the EPC has around 50 congregations, as well as ECO. The next largest [Protestant](/wiki/Protestantism) denomination, the [United Church of Christ](/wiki/United_Church_of_Christ), has 180,000 members and 627 congregations. Pennsylvania was the center state of the [German Reformed](/wiki/German_Reformed) denomination since the 1700s.[[68]](#cite_note-68) [Bethlehem, Pennsylvania](/wiki/Bethlehem,_Pennsylvania), is one of the headquarters of the [Moravian Church](/wiki/Moravian_Church) in America. Pennsylvania also has a very large [Amish](/wiki/Amish) population, second only to [Ohio](/wiki/Ohio) among the states.[[69]](#cite_note-69) While Pennsylvania owes its existence to [Quakers](/wiki/Quakers), and much of the historic character of the Commonwealth is ideologically rooted in the teachings of the [Religious Society of Friends](/wiki/Religious_Society_of_Friends) (as they are officially known), practicing Quakers are a small minority today.

The religious affiliations of the people of Pennsylvania:[[70]](#cite_note-70)

* Christianity – 80%
  + [Protestant](/wiki/Protestantism) – 51%
    - [Mainline Protestant](/wiki/Mainline_(Protestant)) – 25%
    - [Evangelical Protestant](/wiki/Evangelicalism) – 18%
    - [Black Protestant](/wiki/Black_church) – 7%
  + [Jehovah's Witnesses](/wiki/Jehovah's_Witnesses) – 1%
  + [Roman Catholic](/wiki/Roman_Catholic_Church) – 29%
  + [Orthodox](/wiki/Orthodox_Church) – 1%
* [Non-religious](/wiki/Non-religious)/[Unaffiliated](/wiki/Irreligion) – 13%
* Judaism – 2%
* Other religions – 1%
* Don't know/Refused to say – 1%

According to a 2012 [Gallup](/wiki/The_Gallup_Organization) poll, 40% of Pennsylvanians are very religious, 28% are moderately religious, and 32% are non-religious.[[71]](#cite_note-71)

## Economy[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [Template:Multiple image](/wiki/Template:Multiple_image) [thumb|300px|left|"Sorry We're Open" sign,](/wiki/File:Sorry_We're_Open_-_sign._Philadelphia.JPG) [West Chester](/wiki/West_Chester,_Pennsylvania) Pennsylvania's 2013 total [gross state product](/wiki/Gross_state_product) (GSP) of $644 billion ranks the state 6th in the nation.<ref name=stategdp>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> If Pennsylvania were an independent country, its economy would rank as the 18th largest in the world. On a per-capita basis, Pennsylvania's per-capita GSP of $47,274 (in chained 2009 dollars) ranks 26th among the 50 states.<ref name=stategdp/>

[thumb|left|Geo map of average income by location in Pennsylvania. Data shown is from the 2014 American Community Survey 5-year estimate.](/wiki/File:Geo_Map_of_Income_by_Location_in_Pennsylvania.png)

[Philadelphia](/wiki/Philadelphia) in the southeast corner, [Pittsburgh](/wiki/Pittsburgh) in the southwest corner, [Erie](/wiki/Erie) in the northwest corner, [Scranton-Wilkes-Barre](/wiki/Wyoming_Valley) in the northeast corner, and [Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton](/wiki/Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton) in the east central region are urban manufacturing centers. Much of the Commonwealth is rural; this dichotomy affects state politics as well as the state economy.[[72]](#cite_note-72) Philadelphia is home to six Fortune 500 companies,<ref name=F500>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref> with more located in suburbs like [King of Prussia](/wiki/King_of_Prussia,_Pennsylvania); it is a leader in the financial[[73]](#cite_note-73) and insurance industry.

Pittsburgh is home to eight Fortune 500 companies, including [U.S. Steel](/wiki/U.S._Steel), [PPG Industries](/wiki/PPG_Industries), and [H.J. Heinz](/wiki/H.J._Heinz).[[74]](#cite_note-74) In all, Pennsylvania is home to fifty [Fortune 500](/wiki/Fortune_500) companies.[[74]](#cite_note-74)Erie is also home to [GE Transportation Systems](/wiki/GE_Transportation_Systems), which is the largest producer of train locomotives in the United States.

As in the US as a whole and in most states, the largest private employer in the Commonwealth is [Wal-Mart](/wiki/Wal-Mart), followed by the [University of Pennsylvania](/wiki/University_of_Pennsylvania).[[75]](#cite_note-75)[[76]](#cite_note-76) Pennsylvania is also home to the oldest investor-owned utility company in the U.S.A, [The York Water Company](/wiki/The_York_Water_Company).

As of June 2014, the state's unemployment rate is 5.6%.[[77]](#cite_note-77)

### Banking[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]

The first nationally chartered bank in the United States, the [Bank of North America](/wiki/Bank_of_North_America), was founded in 1781 in Philadelphia. After a series of mergers, the Bank of North America is part of [Wells Fargo](/wiki/Wells_Fargo), which uses national charter 1.

Pennsylvania is also the home to the first nationally chartered bank under the 1863 [National Banking Act](/wiki/National_Banking_Act). That year, the Pittsburgh Savings & Trust Company received a national charter and renamed itself the First National Bank of Pittsburgh as part of the National Banking Act. That bank is still in existence today as [PNC Financial Services](/wiki/PNC_Financial_Services) and remains based in Pittsburgh. PNC is the state's largest bank, and the sixth-largest in the United States.

### Agriculture[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) **Pennsylvania ranks 19th overall in agricultural production**.<ref name=ag>[Agricultural Census 2002](http://www.nass.usda.gov/census/census02/profiles/pa/cp99042.PDF) [Template:Wayback](/wiki/Template:Wayback)</ref>

* The 1st is [mushroom](/wiki/Fungiculture) production,
* The 2nd is apples,
* The 3rd is [Christmas trees](/wiki/Christmas_tree) and [layer chickens](/wiki/Egg_(food)),
* The 4th is [nursery](/wiki/Nursery_(horticulture)) and [sod](/wiki/Sod), milk, [corn](/wiki/Maize) for [silage](/wiki/Silage), grapes grown (including [juice grapes](/wiki/Grape_juice)), and horses production.

It also ranks 8th in the nation in [Winemaking](/wiki/Winemaking).<ref name=PAwine>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)[Template:Need Citation](/wiki/Template:Need_Citation)</ref>

The [Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Department_of_Agriculture) worked with private companies to establish "PA Preferred" as a way to brand agricultural products grown or made in the state to support and promote Pennsylvania products and locally-grown food.[[78]](#cite_note-78) The financial impact of agriculture in Pennsylvania[[79]](#cite_note-79) includes employment of more than 66,800 people are employed by the food [manufacturing](/wiki/Manufacturing) industry; and over $1.7 billion in food product [export](/wiki/Export) (in 2011).

### Gambling[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=16)]

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) Casino gambling was legalized in Pennsylvania in 2004. Currently, there are nine casinos across the state with three under construction or in planning. Only horse racing, slot machines and electronic table games were legal in Pennsylvania, although a bill to legalize table games was being negotiated in the fall of 2009.[[80]](#cite_note-80) Tables games such as poker, roulette, black jack and dice were finally approved by the state legislature in January 2010, being signed into law by the Governor on January 7. Sports betting is illegal.

Former Governor [Ed Rendell](/wiki/Ed_Rendell) had considered legalizing video poker machines in bars and private clubs in 2009, since an estimated 17,000 operate illegally across the state.[[81]](#cite_note-81) Under this plan, any establishment with a liquor license would be allowed up to 5 machines. All machines would be connected to the state's computer system, like commercial casinos. The state would impose a 50% tax on net gambling revenues, after winning players have been paid, with the remaining 50% going to the establishment owners.

### Film[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]

The [Pennsylvania Film Production Tax Credit](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Film_Production_Tax_Credit) began in 2004 and stimulated the development of a film industry in the state.[[82]](#cite_note-82)

## Governance[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Presidential elections results**[[83]](#cite_note-83) | | |
| **Year** | [**Republican**](/wiki/Republican_Party_(United_States)) | [**Democratic**](/wiki/Democratic_Party_(United_States)) |
| [2012](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_2012) | 46.58% *2,680,434* | **51.97%** *2,990,274* |
| [2008](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_2008) | 44.15% *2,655,885* | **54.47%** *3,276,363* |
| [2004](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_2004) | 48.42% *2,793,847* | **50.92%** *2,938,095* |
| [2000](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_2000) | 46.43% *2,281,127* | **50.60%** *2,485,967* |
| [1996](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1996) | 39.97% *1,801,169* | **49.17%** *2,215,819* |
| [1992](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1992) | 36.13% *1,791,841* | **45.15%** *2,239,164* |
| [1988](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1988) | **50.70%** *2,300,087* | 48.39% *2,194,944* |
| [1984](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1984) | **53.34%** *2,584,323* | 45.99% *2,228,131* |
| [1980](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1980) | **49.59%** *2,261,872* | 42.48% *1,937,540* |
| [1976](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1976) | 47.73% *2,205,604* | **50.40%** *2,328,677* |
| [1972](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1972) | **59.11%** *2,714,521* | 39.13% *1,796,951* |
| [1968](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1968) | 44.02% *2,090,017* | **47.59%** *2,259,405* |
| [1964](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1964) | 34.70% *1,673,657* | **64.92%** *3,130,954* |
| [1960](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1960) | 48.74% *2,439,956* | **51.06%** *2,556,282* |

{| class=wikitable ! colspan = 6 | Voter Registration and Party Enrollment as of November 4, 2014[[84]](#cite_note-84)|- ! colspan = 2 | Party ! Number of Voters ! Percentage [Template:American politics/party colors/Democratic/row](/wiki/Template:American_politics/party_colors/Democratic/row) | [Democratic](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Democratic_Party) | style="text-align:center;"| 4,088,149 | style="text-align:center;"| 49.55% |- [Template:American politics/party colors/Republican/row](/wiki/Template:American_politics/party_colors/Republican/row) | [Republican](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Republican_State_Committee) | style="text-align:center;"| 3,030,017 | style="text-align:center;"| 36.72% |- [Template:American politics/party colors/Libertarian/row](/wiki/Template:American_politics/party_colors/Libertarian/row) | [Libertarian](/wiki/Libertarian_Party_of_Pennsylvania) | style="text-align:center;"| 47,501 | style="text-align:center;"| 0.58% |- | colspan="2" style="text-align:left;"| Other Parties | style="text-align:center;"| 1,085,383 | style="text-align:center;"| 13.15% |- ! colspan = 2 | Total ! style="text-align:center;"| 8,251,050 ! style="text-align:center;"| 100% |}

### Government[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=19)]

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) [Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) Pennsylvania has had five [constitutions](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Constitution) during its statehood:<ref name=jenkinslaw>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> 1776, 1790, 1838, 1874, and [1968](http://sites.state.pa.us/PA_Constitution.html). Before that the province of Pennsylvania was governed for a century by a [Frame of Government](/wiki/Frame_of_Government), of which there were four versions: 1682, 1683, 1696, and 1701.[[85]](#cite_note-85) The capital of Pennsylvania is [Harrisburg](/wiki/Harrisburg,_Pennsylvania). The legislature meets in the State Capitol there.

[Template:Further](/wiki/Template:Further) Since 1992, Pennsylvania has been trending Democratic in Presidential elections (though the Pittsburgh metropolitan area trended more Republican in the 2008 Presidential election), voting for Bill Clinton twice by large margins, and slightly closer in 2000 for Al Gore. In the 2004 Presidential Election, Senator [John F. Kerry](/wiki/John_F._Kerry) beat President [George W. Bush](/wiki/George_W._Bush) in Pennsylvania 2,938,095 (50.92%) to 2,793,847 (48.42%). Most recently, in the [2008 Presidential Election](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_2008), Democrat [Barack Obama](/wiki/Barack_Obama) defeated Republican [John McCain](/wiki/John_McCain) in Pennsylvania, 3,184,778 (54%) to 2,584,088 (44%). The state holds 20 [electoral](/wiki/Electoral_college) votes.<ref name=PAFacts>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref>

In recent elections, Pennsylvania has leaned [Democratic](/wiki/Democratic_Party_(United_States)) in national elections. The state has voted for the Democratic ticket for president in every election since 1992 and during the 2008 election campaign a recruitment drive saw registered Democrats outnumber registered Republicans by 1.2 million. However, Pennsylvania has a history of electing Republican senators. From 2009 to 2011, the state was represented by two Democratic senators for the first time since 1947. In 2010, Republicans recaptured a U.S. Senate seat as well as a majority of the state's congressional seats, control of both chambers of the state legislature and the governor's mansion. Democrats won back the governor's mansion 4 years later in the [2014 election](/wiki/Pennsylvania_gubernatorial_election,_2014) which marked the first time an incumbent Governor running for re-election in Pennsylvania lost. Democratic political consultant [James Carville](/wiki/James_Carville) once pejoratively described Pennsylvania as "Philadelphia in the east, Pittsburgh in the west and Alabama in the middle". Political analysts and editorials refer to central Pennsylvania as the "T" in statewide elections. Philadelphia and its suburbs (in the southeastern corner of the state) and Allegheny County and Pittsburgh (in the southwestern corner) generally vote for Democratic candidates, while the majority of the counties in the central part of the state vote Republican. As a result, maps showing the results of statewide elections invariably form a "T" shape.

#### Governor[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=20)]

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) [thumb|right|](/wiki/File:PAState_Capitol_Back_a_Bit.JPG)[Pennsylvania State Capitol](/wiki/Pennsylvania_State_Capitol) in [Harrisburg](/wiki/Harrisburg,_Pennsylvania) The current Governor is [Tom Wolf](/wiki/Tom_Wolf_(politician)). The other elected officials composing the executive branch are the [Lieutenant Governor](/wiki/Lieutenant_Governor_of_Pennsylvania) [Michael Stack](/wiki/Michael_J._Stack_III), [Attorney General](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Attorney_General) [Kathleen Kane](/wiki/Kathleen_Kane_(politician)), [Auditor General](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Auditor_General) [Eugene DePasquale](/wiki/Eugene_DePasquale), and there currently is an Acting [State Treasurer](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Treasurer).[[86]](#cite_note-86)[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

#### General Assembly[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=21)]

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) Pennsylvania has a [bicameral legislature](/wiki/Bicameral_legislature) set up by Commonwealth's constitution in 1790. The original Frame of Government of William Penn had a unicameral legislature.[[87]](#cite_note-87) The [General Assembly](/wiki/Pennsylvania_General_Assembly) includes 50 [Senators](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Senate)[[88]](#cite_note-88) and 203 [Representatives](/wiki/Pennsylvania_House_of_Representatives).[[89]](#cite_note-89) [Joe Scarnati](/wiki/Joseph_B._Scarnati_III) is currently [President Pro Tempore](/wiki/President_Pro_Tempore) of the State Senate,[[90]](#cite_note-90) [Dominic Pileggi](/wiki/Dominic_Pileggi) the [Majority Leader](/wiki/Majority_Leader),[[91]](#cite_note-91) and [Jay Costa](/wiki/Jay_Costa) the [Minority Leader](/wiki/Minority_Leader).[[92]](#cite_note-92) [Sam Smith](/wiki/Samuel_H._Smith_(politician)) is [Speaker](/wiki/Speaker_of_the_Pennsylvania_House_of_Representatives) of the House of Representatives,[[93]](#cite_note-93) with [Mike Turzai](/wiki/Mike_Turzai) as Majority Leader[[94]](#cite_note-94) and [Frank Dermody](/wiki/Frank_Dermody) as Minority Leader.[[95]](#cite_note-95) As of the [2012 elections](/wiki/Pennsylvania_House_of_Representatives_elections,_2012), the Republicans hold the majority in the State House and Senate.

#### Judiciary[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=22)]

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) Pennsylvania is divided into 60 judicial districts,<ref name=courts>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> most of which (except [Philadelphia](/wiki/Philadelphia_County,_Pennsylvania)) have magisterial district judges (formerly called district justices and justices of the peace), who preside mainly over preliminary hearings in felony and misdemeanor offenses, all minor (summary) criminal offenses, and small civil claims.[[96]](#cite_note-96) Most criminal and civil cases originate in the Courts of Common Pleas, which also serve as [appellate courts](/wiki/Appellate_court) to the district judges and for local agency decisions.<ref name=courts/> The [Superior Court](/wiki/Superior_Court_of_Pennsylvania) hears all appeals from the Courts of Common Pleas not expressly designated to the [Commonwealth Court](/wiki/Commonwealth_Court_of_Pennsylvania) or Supreme Court. It also has [original jurisdiction](/wiki/Original_jurisdiction) to review [warrants](/wiki/Warrant_(law)) for [wiretap](/wiki/Telephone_tapping) surveillance.<ref name=courts/> The Commonwealth Court is limited to appeals from final orders of certain state agencies and certain designated cases from the Courts of Common Pleas.<ref name=courts/> The [Supreme Court of Pennsylvania](/wiki/Supreme_Court_of_Pennsylvania) is the final appellate court. All judges in Pennsylvania are elected; the [chief justice](/wiki/Chief_justice) is determined by seniority.<ref name=courts/>

#### Taxation[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=23)]

Pennsylvania has the 10th highest tax burden in the United States.[[97]](#cite_note-97) Residents pay a total of $83.7 billion in state and local taxes with a per capita average of $6,640 annually. Residents share 76% of the total tax burden. Many state politicians have tried to increase the share of taxes paid by out of state sources. Suggested revenue sources include taxing natural gas drilling as Pennsylvania is the only state without such a tax on gas drilling.[[98]](#cite_note-98) Additional revenue prospects include trying to place tolls on interstate highways; specifically [Interstate 80](/wiki/Interstate_80_in_Pennsylvania) which is used heavily by out of state commuters with high maintenance costs.[[99]](#cite_note-99) [Sales tax](/wiki/Sales_tax) provides 39% of Commonwealth's revenue; [personal income tax](/wiki/State_income_tax) 34%; motor vehicle taxes about 12%, and taxes on [cigarettes](/wiki/Cigarette_tax#Taxation) and alcohol beverage 5%.[[100]](#cite_note-100) Personal income tax is a flat 3.07%. An individual's taxable income is based on the following eight types of income: compensation (salary); interest; dividends; net profits from the operation of a business, profession or farm; net gains or income from the dispositions of property; net gains or income from rents, royalties, patents and copyrights; income derived through estates or trusts; and gambling and [lottery](/wiki/Lottery) winnings (other than [Pennsylvania Lottery](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Lottery) winnings).[[101]](#cite_note-101) Counties, municipalities, and [school districts](/wiki/School_district) levy taxes on real estate. In addition, some local bodies assess a [wage tax](/wiki/Income_tax) on personal income. Generally, the total wage tax rate is capped at 1% of income but some municipalities with [home rule](/wiki/Home_rule) charters may charge more than 1%. Thirty-two of the Commonwealth's sixty-seven counties levy a [personal property tax](/wiki/Property_tax) on stocks, bonds, and similar holdings.

### Representation in the 113th Congress[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=24)]

Pennsylvania's two [U.S. Senators](/wiki/United_States_Senate) in the [113th Congress](/wiki/113th_Congress) are [Bob Casey, Jr.](/wiki/Bob_Casey,_Jr.) and [Pat Toomey](/wiki/Pat_Toomey).

Pennsylvania's [U.S. Representatives](/wiki/U.S._Representatives) for the term beginning January 2013 are [Bob Brady](/wiki/Bob_Brady) ([1st](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_1st_congressional_district)), [Chaka Fattah](/wiki/Chaka_Fattah) ([2nd](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_2nd_congressional_district)), [Mike Kelly](/wiki/Mike_Kelly_(Pennsylvania)) ([3rd](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_3rd_congressional_district)), [Scott Perry (politician)](/wiki/Scott_Perry_(politician)) ([4th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_4th_congressional_district)), [Glenn "G.T." Thompson](/wiki/Glenn_%22G.T.%22_Thompson) ([5th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_5th_congressional_district)), [Jim Gerlach](/wiki/Jim_Gerlach) ([6th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_6th_congressional_district)), [Pat Meehan](/wiki/Pat_Meehan) ([7th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_7th_congressional_district)), [Mike Fitzpatrick](/wiki/Mike_Fitzpatrick) ([8th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_8th_congressional_district)), [Bill Shuster](/wiki/Bill_Shuster) ([9th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_9th_congressional_district)), [Tom Marino](/wiki/Tom_Marino) ([10th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_10th_congressional_district)), [Lou Barletta](/wiki/Lou_Barletta) ([11th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_11th_congressional_district)), [Keith Rothfus](/wiki/Keith_Rothfus) ([12th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_12th_congressional_district)), [Allyson Schwartz](/wiki/Allyson_Schwartz) ([13th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_13th_congressional_district)), [Mike Doyle](/wiki/Michael_F._Doyle) ([14th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_14th_congressional_district)), [Charlie Dent](/wiki/Charlie_Dent) ([15th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_15th_congressional_district)), [Joe Pitts](/wiki/Joe_Pitts) ([16th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_16th_congressional_district)), [Matt Cartwright](/wiki/Matt_Cartwright) ([17th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_17th_congressional_district)), [Tim Murphy](/wiki/Tim_Murphy_(congressman)) ([18th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_18th_congressional_district)).[[102]](#cite_note-102) [*See map of congressional districts*](/wiki/List_of_United_States_congressional_districts#Pennsylvania)

### Municipalities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=25)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|275px|](/wiki/File:Allentown.jpg)[Allentown, Pennsylvania](/wiki/Allentown,_Pennsylvania), 2010

Pennsylvania is divided into 67 [counties](/wiki/County_(United_States)).[[103]](#cite_note-103) Counties are further subdivided into municipalities that are either incorporated as cities, [boroughs](/wiki/Borough_(Pennsylvania)), or [townships](/wiki/Township_(Pennsylvania)).[[104]](#cite_note-104) One county, [Philadelphia County](/wiki/Philadelphia_County,_Pennsylvania), is coterminous with the city of Philadelphia after it was [consolidated in 1854](/wiki/Act_of_Consolidation,_1854). The most populous county in Pennsylvania is Philadelphia, while the least populous is [Cameron](/wiki/Cameron_County,_Pennsylvania) (5,085).[[55]](#cite_note-55) There are a total of 56 cities in Pennsylvania, which are classified, by population, as either first, second, or third class cities.[[103]](#cite_note-103)[[105]](#cite_note-105) Philadelphia, Pennsylvania's largest city, has a population of 1,526,006 and is the state's only first class city.[[104]](#cite_note-104) [Pittsburgh](/wiki/Pittsburgh) (305,704) and [Scranton](/wiki/Scranton,_Pennsylvania) (76,089) are second class and second class 'A' cities, respectively.[[104]](#cite_note-104) The rest of the cities, like the third and fourth largest—[Allentown](/wiki/Allentown,_Pennsylvania) (118,032) and [Erie](/wiki/Erie,_Pennsylvania) (101,786)—to the smallest—[Parker](/wiki/Parker,_Pennsylvania) with a population of only 840—are third class cities.[[106]](#cite_note-106) First and second class cities are governed by a "strong mayor" form of [mayor–council government](/wiki/Mayor–council_government), whereas third class cities are governed by either a "weak mayor" form of government or a [council–manager government](/wiki/Council–manager_government).[[104]](#cite_note-104) Boroughs are generally smaller than cities, with most Pennsylvania cities having been incorporated as a borough before being incorporated as a city.[[104]](#cite_note-104) There are 958 boroughs in Pennsylvania, all of which governed by the "weak mayor" form of mayor–council government.[[103]](#cite_note-103)[[104]](#cite_note-104) The largest borough in Pennsylvania is [State College](/wiki/State_College,_Pennsylvania) (42,034) and the smallest is [Centralia](/wiki/Centralia,_Pennsylvania) (10).

Townships are the third type of municipality in Pennsylvania and are classified as either first class or second class townships. There are 1,454 second class townships and 93 first class townships.[[107]](#cite_note-107) Second class township can become first class townships if it has a population density greater than [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) and a [referendum](/wiki/Referendum) is passed supporting the change.[[107]](#cite_note-107) Pennsylvania's largest township is [Upper Darby Township](/wiki/Upper_Darby_Township,_Delaware_County,_Pennsylvania) (82,795), and the smallest is [East Keating Township](/wiki/East_Keating_Township,_Clinton_County,_Pennsylvania) (11).

There is one exception to the types of municipalities in Pennsylvania: [Bloomsburg](/wiki/Bloomsburg,_Pennsylvania) was incorporated as a town in 1870 and is, officially, the only town in the state.[[108]](#cite_note-108) In 1975, [McCandless Township](/wiki/McCandless_Township,_Allegheny_County,_Pennsylvania) adopted a home-rule charter under the name of "Town of McCandless", but is, legally, still a first class township.[[109]](#cite_note-109) The total of 56 cities, 958 boroughs, 93 first class townships, 1454 second class townships, and 1 town (Bloomsburg) is 2562 municipalities.

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [Template:Largest cities](/wiki/Template:Largest_cities)

## Health[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=26)]

Pennsylvania has a mixed health record, and is ranked as the 29th overall healthiest state according to the 2013 United Health Foundation's Health Rankings.<ref name=ahr>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref>

## Education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=27)]

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) [thumb|The](/wiki/File:Penn_campus_2.jpg) [University of Pennsylvania](/wiki/University_of_Pennsylvania) quadrangle in [Philadelphia](/wiki/Philadelphia)

Pennsylvania has 500 public school districts, thousands of private schools, publicly funded colleges and universities, and over 100 private institutions of higher education.

### Primary and secondary education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=28)]

In general, under state law, school attendance in Pennsylvania is mandatory for a child from the age of 8 until the age of 17, or until graduation from an accredited high school, whichever is earlier.[[110]](#cite_note-110) As of 2005, 83.8% of Pennsylvania residents age 18 to 24 have completed high school. Among residents age 25 and over, 86.7% have graduated from high school. Additionally, 25.7% have gone on to obtain a bachelor's degree or higher.[[111]](#cite_note-111) State students consistently do well in standardized testing. In 2007, Pennsylvania ranked 14th in mathematics, 12th in reading, and 10th in writing for 8th grade students.[[112]](#cite_note-112) In 1988, the Pennsylvania General Assembly passed Act 169, which allows parents or guardians to homeschool their children as an option for compulsory school attendance. This law specifies the requirements and responsibilities of the parents and the school district where the family lives.[[113]](#cite_note-113)

### Higher education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=29)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also)

The [Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education](/wiki/Pennsylvania_State_System_of_Higher_Education) (PASSHE) is the [public university](/wiki/Public_university) system of the Commonwealth, with 14 state-owned schools. The [Commonwealth System of Higher Education](/wiki/Commonwealth_System_of_Higher_Education) is organizing body of the 4 state-related schools in Pennsylvania, these schools are independent institutions that receive some state funding. There are also 15 publicly funded two-year [community colleges](/wiki/Community_colleges_in_the_United_States) and technical schools that are separate from the PASSHE system. Additionally there are many private two- and four-year [technical schools](/wiki/Technical_school), colleges and universities.

[Carnegie Mellon University](/wiki/Carnegie_Mellon_University), [The Pennsylvania State University](/wiki/The_Pennsylvania_State_University), the [University of Pennsylvania](/wiki/University_of_Pennsylvania), and the [University of Pittsburgh](/wiki/University_of_Pittsburgh), are members of the [Association of American Universities](/wiki/Association_of_American_Universities), an invitation only organization of leading research universities. [Lehigh University](/wiki/Lehigh_University) is also another renowned private research university located in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.The Pennsylvania State University is the Commonwealth's [Land-grant university](/wiki/Land-grant_university), [Sea Grant College](/wiki/National_Sea_Grant_College_Program) and, [Space Grant College](/wiki/National_Space_Grant_College_and_Fellowship_Program). The University of Pennsylvania, located in Philadelphia, is considered the [first university in the United States](/wiki/First_university_in_the_United_States) and established the country's [first](/wiki/First_university_in_the_United_States#Establishment_of_quartary-education_schools,_issuance_of_any_kind_of_"doctoral"_degree) [medical school](/wiki/Medical_school_in_the_United_States). The University of Pennsylvania is also the Commonwealth's only, and geographically the most southern, [Ivy League](/wiki/Ivy_League) school. The [Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Academy_of_the_Fine_Arts) is the first and oldest [art school](/wiki/Art_school) in the United States.<ref name=pafa.org>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> [Philadelphia College of Pharmacy](/wiki/Philadelphia_College_of_Pharmacy), now a part of [University of the Sciences in Philadelphia](/wiki/University_of_the_Sciences), was the first [pharmacy school](/wiki/Pharmacy_school) in the United States.<ref name=usciences.edu>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref>

## Recreation[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=30)]

[thumb|](/wiki/File:Dorney_Park_Steel_Force_Thunderhawk.jpg)[Dorney Park and Wildwater Kingdom's](/wiki/Dorney_Park_&_Wildwater_Kingdom) [Steel Force](/wiki/Steel_Force) and [Thunderhawk](/wiki/Thunderhawk_(Dorney_Park)) roller coasters in [Allentown](/wiki/Allentown,_Pennsylvania)

Pennsylvania is home to the nation's first zoo, the [Philadelphia Zoo](/wiki/Philadelphia_Zoo).[[114]](#cite_note-114) Other long-accredited AZA zoos include the [Erie Zoo](/wiki/Erie_Zoo) and the [Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium](/wiki/Pittsburgh_Zoo_&_PPG_Aquarium). The [Lehigh Valley Zoo](/wiki/Lehigh_Valley_Zoo) and [ZOOAMERICA](/wiki/Hersheypark) are other notable zoos. The Commonwealth boasts some of the finest museums in the country, including the [Carnegie Museums](/wiki/Carnegie_Museums) in Pittsburgh, the [Philadelphia Museum of Art](/wiki/Philadelphia_Museum_of_Art), and [several others](/wiki/Category:Museums_in_Pennsylvania). One unique museum is the [Houdini Museum](/wiki/Houdini_Museum) in Scranton, the only building in the world devoted to the legendary magician.[[115]](#cite_note-115) Pennsylvania is also home to the [National Aviary](/wiki/National_Aviary), located in Pittsburgh. [thumb|](/wiki/File:Baughman's_Rock_Overlook.ogv)[Ohiopyle State Park](/wiki/Ohiopyle_State_Park) timelapse

All 121 [state parks](/wiki/List_of_Pennsylvania_state_parks) in Pennsylvania feature free admission.

Pennsylvania offers a number of notable amusement parks, including [Camel Beach](/wiki/Camel_Beach), [Conneaut Lake Park](/wiki/Conneaut_Lake_Park), [Dorney Park & Wildwater Kingdom](/wiki/Dorney_Park_&_Wildwater_Kingdom), [Dutch Wonderland](/wiki/Dutch_Wonderland), [DelGrosso Amusement Park](/wiki/DelGrosso_Amusement_Park), [Hersheypark](/wiki/Hersheypark), [Idlewild Park](/wiki/Idlewild_Park), [Kennywood](/wiki/Kennywood), [Knoebels](/wiki/Knoebels), [Lakemont Park](/wiki/Lakemont_Park), [Sandcastle Waterpark](/wiki/Sandcastle_Waterpark), [Sesame Place](/wiki/Sesame_Place), [Great Wolf Lodge](/wiki/Great_Wolf_Lodge) and [Waldameer Park](/wiki/Waldameer_Park). Pennsylvania also is home to the largest indoor waterpark resort on the East Coast, [Splash Lagoon](/wiki/Splash_Lagoon) in Erie.

There are also notable music festivals that take place in Pennsylvania. These include [Musikfest](/wiki/Musikfest) and [NEARfest](/wiki/NEARfest) in [Bethlehem](/wiki/Bethlehem,_Pennsylvania), the [Philadelphia Folk Festival](/wiki/Philadelphia_Folk_Festival), [Creation Festival](/wiki/Creation_Festival), the [Great Allentown Fair](/wiki/Great_Allentown_Fair), and Purple Door.

There are nearly one million licensed hunters in Pennsylvania. Whitetail deer, black bear, cottontail rabbits, squirrel, turkey, and grouse are common game species. Pennsylvania is considered one of the finest wild turkey hunting states in the Union, alongside Texas and [Alabama](/wiki/Alabama). Sport hunting in Pennsylvania provides a massive boost for the Commonwealth's economy. A report from The Center for Rural Pennsylvania (a Legislative Agency of the Pennsylvania General Assembly) reported that hunting, fishing, and furtaking generated a total of $9.6 billion statewide.

The [Boone and Crockett Club](/wiki/Boone_and_Crockett_Club) shows that five of the ten largest (skull size) [black bear](/wiki/American_black_bear) entries came from the state.<ref name=blackbear>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> The state also has a tied record for the largest [hunter](/wiki/Hunter) shot black bear in the Boone & Crockett books at [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) and a [skull](/wiki/Skull) of 23 3/16 tied with a bear shot in California in 1993.<ref name=blackbear/> The largest bear ever found dead was in [Utah](/wiki/Utah) in 1975, and the second largest was shot by a [poacher](/wiki/Poaching) in the state in 1987.<ref name=blackbear/> Pennsylvania holds the second highest number of Boone & Crockett-recorded record black bears at 183, second only to [Wisconsin's](/wiki/Wisconsin) 299.<ref name=blackbear/>

## Transportation[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=31)]

[thumb|left|210 px|Map of Pennsylvania, showing major cities and roads](/wiki/File:National-atlas-pennsylvania.png)

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [Template:Multiple image](/wiki/Template:Multiple_image) The [Pennsylvania Department of Transportation](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Department_of_Transportation), abbreviated as PennDOT, owns [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) of the [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) of roadway in the state, making it the fifth largest state highway system in the United States.[[116]](#cite_note-116) The [Pennsylvania Turnpike](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Turnpike) system is [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) long, with the mainline portion stretching from Ohio to Philadelphia and New Jersey.[[116]](#cite_note-116) It is overseen by the [Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Turnpike_Commission). Another major east–west route is [Interstate 80](/wiki/Interstate_80_in_Pennsylvania), which runs primarily in the northern tier of the state from Ohio to New Jersey at the [Delaware Water Gap](/wiki/Delaware_Water_Gap). [Interstate 90](/wiki/Interstate_90_in_Pennsylvania) travels the relatively short distance between Ohio and New York through [Erie County](/wiki/Erie_County,_Pennsylvania), in the extreme northwestern part of the state.

[thumb|left|210 px|](/wiki/File:Appalachian_Throughway.jpg)[U.S. Route 220](/wiki/U.S._Route_220) as it passes through [Lamar Township](/wiki/Lamar_Township,_Clinton_County,_Pennsylvania). Primary north–south highways are [Interstate 79](/wiki/Interstate_79_in_Pennsylvania) from its terminus in Erie through Pittsburgh to West Virginia, [Interstate 81](/wiki/Interstate_81_in_Pennsylvania) from New York through [Scranton, Lackawanna County](/wiki/Scranton,_Pennsylvania) and Harrisburg to Maryland and [Interstate 476](/wiki/Interstate_476), which begins [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) north of the [Delaware](/wiki/Delaware) border, in [Chester, Delaware County](/wiki/Chester,_Pennsylvania) and travels [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) to [Clarks Summit, Lackawanna County](/wiki/Clarks_Summit,_Pennsylvania), where it joins I-81. All but [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) of I-476 is the Northeast Extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike, while the highway south of the main line of the Pennsylvania Turnpike is officially called the "Veterans Memorial Highway", but is commonly referred to by locals as the "Blue Route".

The [Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority](/wiki/SEPTA) (SEPTA) is the sixth largest transit agency in the United States and operates the [commuter](/wiki/Commuter_rail), [heavy](/wiki/Heavy_rail) and [light rail](/wiki/Light_rail) transit, and [transit bus](/wiki/Transit_bus) service in the Philadelphia metropolitan area. The [Port Authority of Allegheny County](/wiki/Port_Authority_of_Allegheny_County) is the 25th largest transit agency and provides transit bus and light rail service in and around Pittsburgh.[[117]](#cite_note-117) Intercity passenger rail transit is provided by [Amtrak](/wiki/Amtrak), with the majority of traffic occurring on the [*Keystone Service*](/wiki/Keystone_Service) in the high-speed [Keystone Corridor](/wiki/Keystone_Corridor) between Harrisburg and Philadelphia's [30th Street Station](/wiki/30th_Street_Station) before heading north to New York City; the [*Pennsylvanian*](/wiki/Pennsylvanian_(Amtrak)) follows the same route from New York City to Harrisburg, but extends out to Pittsburgh. The [*Capitol Limited*](/wiki/Capitol_Limited_(Amtrak_train)) also passes through Pittsburgh, as well as [Connellsville](/wiki/Connellsville,_Pennsylvania), on its way from Chicago to Washington, D.C.[[118]](#cite_note-118) Traveling between Chicago and New York City, the [*Lake Shore Limited*](/wiki/Lake_Shore_Limited) passes through Erie once in each direction.[[118]](#cite_note-118) There are 67 [short-line](/wiki/Short-line_railroad), freight railroads operating in Pennsylvania, the highest number in any U.S. state.[[118]](#cite_note-118) Pennsylvania has seven major airports: [Philadelphia International](/wiki/Philadelphia_International_Airport), [Pittsburgh International](/wiki/Pittsburgh_International_Airport), [Lehigh Valley International](/wiki/Lehigh_Valley_International_Airport), [Harrisburg International](/wiki/Harrisburg_International_Airport), [Erie International](/wiki/Erie_International_Airport), [University Park Airport](/wiki/University_Park_Airport) and [Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International](/wiki/Wilkes-Barre/Scranton_International_Airport). A total of 134 public-use airports are located in the state.[[118]](#cite_note-118) The port of Pittsburgh is the second largest [inland port](/wiki/Inland_port) in the United States and the 18th largest port overall; the [Port of Philadelphia](/wiki/Port_of_Philadelphia) is the 24th largest port in the United States.[[119]](#cite_note-119) Pennsylvania's only port on the [Great Lakes](/wiki/Great_Lakes) is located in Erie.

The [Allegheny River Lock and Dam Two](/wiki/Allegheny_River_Lock_and_Dam_Two) is the most-used [lock](/wiki/Lock_(water_transport)) operated by the [United States Army Corps of Engineers](/wiki/United_States_Army_Corps_of_Engineers) of its 255 nationwide.[[120]](#cite_note-120) The dam impounds the [Allegheny River](/wiki/Allegheny_River) near [Downtown Pittsburgh](/wiki/Downtown_Pittsburgh).

## Sports[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=32)]

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) [thumb|](/wiki/File:%22Full_House_at_Citizens_Bank_Park%22_(Photo).jpg)[Citizens Bank Park](/wiki/Citizens_Bank_Park) in [South Philadelphia](/wiki/South_Philadelphia,_Pennsylvania), home of the [Philadelphia Phillies](/wiki/Philadelphia_Phillies) Pennsylvania is home to many major league professional sports teams; the [Pittsburgh Steelers](/wiki/Pittsburgh_Steelers) and [Philadelphia Eagles](/wiki/Philadelphia_Eagles) of the [National Football League](/wiki/National_Football_League), the [Philadelphia Phillies](/wiki/Philadelphia_Phillies) and [Pittsburgh Pirates](/wiki/Pittsburgh_Pirates) of [Major League Baseball](/wiki/Major_League_Baseball), the [Philadelphia 76ers](/wiki/Philadelphia_76ers) of the [National Basketball Association](/wiki/National_Basketball_Association), the [Philadelphia Flyers](/wiki/Philadelphia_Flyers) and [Pittsburgh Penguins](/wiki/Pittsburgh_Penguins) of the [National Hockey League](/wiki/National_Hockey_League), the [Philadelphia Union](/wiki/Philadelphia_Union) of [Major League Soccer](/wiki/Major_League_Soccer). Among them, these teams have accumulated 7 [World Series](/wiki/World_Series) Championships (Pirates 5, Phillies 2), 16 [National League](/wiki/National_League) Pennants (Pirates 9, Phillies 7), 3 pre-[Super Bowl](/wiki/Super_Bowl) era NFL Championships (Eagles), 6 Super Bowl Championships (Steelers), 2 NBA Championships (76ers), and 6 [Stanley Cups](/wiki/Stanley_Cup) (Penguins 4, Flyers 2).

Pennsylvania also has minor league and semi-pro sports teams: the [Triple-A](/wiki/Triple-A_(baseball)) baseball [Lehigh Valley IronPigs](/wiki/Lehigh_Valley_IronPigs) and the [Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders](/wiki/Scranton/Wilkes-Barre_RailRiders) of the [International League](/wiki/International_League); the [Double-A](/wiki/Double-A_(baseball)) baseball [Altoona Curve](/wiki/Altoona_Curve), [Erie SeaWolves](/wiki/Erie_SeaWolves), [Harrisburg Senators](/wiki/Harrisburg_Senators), and [Reading Fightin Phils](/wiki/Reading_Fightin_Phils) of the [Eastern League](/wiki/Eastern_League_(baseball)); the [Class A-Short Season](/wiki/Class_A-Short_Season) baseball [State College Spikes](/wiki/State_College_Spikes) and [Williamsport Crosscutters](/wiki/Williamsport_Crosscutters) of the [New York–Penn League](/wiki/New_York–Penn_League); the independent baseball [Lancaster Barnstormers](/wiki/Lancaster_Barnstormers) and [York Revolution](/wiki/York_Revolution) of the [Atlantic League of Professional Baseball](/wiki/Atlantic_League_of_Professional_Baseball); the independent baseball [Washington Wild Things](/wiki/Washington_Wild_Things) of the [Frontier League](/wiki/Frontier_League); the [Erie Bayhawks](/wiki/Erie_Bayhawks) of the [National Basketball Association Development League](/wiki/National_Basketball_Association_Development_League); the [Lehigh Valley Phantoms](/wiki/Lehigh_Valley_Phantoms), [Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins](/wiki/Wilkes-Barre/Scranton_Penguins), and [Hershey Bears](/wiki/Hershey_Bears) of the [American Hockey League](/wiki/American_Hockey_League); the [Reading Royals](/wiki/Reading_Royals) and of the [ECHL](/wiki/ECHL); and the [Philadelphia Soul](/wiki/Philadelphia_Soul) of the [Arena Football League](/wiki/Arena_Football_League). Among them, these teams have accumulated 12 triple and double A baseball league titles (RailRiders 1, Senators 6, Fightin Phils 4 Curve 1), 1 Arena Bowl Championship (Soul), and 11 [Calder Cups](/wiki/Calder_Cup) (Bears).

Since 1959, the [Little League World Series](/wiki/Little_League_World_Series) is held each summer in [South Williamsport](/wiki/South_Williamsport,_Pennsylvania), near where [Little League Baseball](/wiki/Little_League_Baseball) was founded in [Williamsport](/wiki/Williamsport,_Pennsylvania).[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

Also, the first World Series between the Boston Pilgrims (which became the [Boston Red Sox](/wiki/Boston_Red_Sox)) and [Pittsburgh Pirates](/wiki/Pittsburgh_Pirates) was played in [Pittsburgh](/wiki/Pittsburgh) in 1903.

Soccer is gaining popularity within the state of Pennsylvania as well. With the addition of the [Philadelphia Union](/wiki/Philadelphia_Union) in the MLS, the state now boasts three teams that are eligible to compete for the [Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup](/wiki/Lamar_Hunt_U.S._Open_Cup) annually. The other two teams are the [Pittsburgh Riverhounds](/wiki/Pittsburgh_Riverhounds) and the [Harrisburg City Islanders](/wiki/Harrisburg_City_Islanders), both of the United Soccer Leagues Second Division ([USL-2](/wiki/USL-2)). Within the [American Soccer Pyramid](/wiki/American_Soccer_Pyramid), the MLS takes the first tier, while the USL-2 claims the third tier. [thumb|](/wiki/File:Pocono_Victory_Lane.JPG)[NASCAR](/wiki/NASCAR) racing at [Pocono Raceway](/wiki/Pocono_Raceway) in [Long Pond](/wiki/Long_Pond,_Pennsylvania) In motorsports, the [Mario Andretti](/wiki/Mario_Andretti) dynasty of race drivers hails from [Nazareth](/wiki/Nazareth,_Pennsylvania) in the Lehigh Valley. Notable racetracks in Pennsylvania include the [Jennerstown Speedway](/wiki/Jennerstown_Speedway) in [Jennerstown](/wiki/Jennerstown,_Pennsylvania), the [Lake Erie Speedway](/wiki/Lake_Erie_Speedway) in [North East](/wiki/North_East,_Pennsylvania), the [Mahoning Valley Speedway](/wiki/Mahoning_Valley_Speedway) in [Lehighton](/wiki/Lehighton,_Pennsylvania), the [Motordome Speedway](/wiki/Motordome_Speedway) in [Smithton](/wiki/Smithton,_Pennsylvania), the [Mountain Speedway](/wiki/Mountain_Speedway) in [St. Johns](/wiki/St._Johns,_Pennsylvania), the [Nazareth Speedway](/wiki/Nazareth_Speedway) in [Nazareth](/wiki/Nazareth,_Pennsylvania) (closed); and the [Pocono Raceway](/wiki/Pocono_Raceway) in [Long Pond](/wiki/Long_Pond,_Pennsylvania), which is home to two [NASCAR Cup Series](/wiki/NASCAR_Cup_Series) races and an [IndyCar Series](/wiki/IndyCar_Series) race. The state is also home to Maple Grove Raceway, near Reading, which hosts major [National Hot Rod Association](/wiki/National_Hot_Rod_Association) sanctioned drag racing events each year.

There are also two [motocross](/wiki/Motocross) race tracks that host a round of the AMA Toyota Motocross Championships in Pennsylvania. [High Point Raceway](http://www.highpointmx.com/) in located in Mt. Morris, Pennsylvania, and Steel City is located in Delmont, Pennsylvania.

Horse racing courses in Pennsylvania consist of [The Meadows](/wiki/The_Meadows_Racetrack) near Pittsburgh, [Pocono Downs](/wiki/Pocono_Downs) in Wilkes-Barre, and [Harrah's Philadelphia](/wiki/Harrah's_Philadelphia) in Chester, which offer [harness racing](/wiki/Harness_racing), and [Penn National Race Course](/wiki/Penn_National_Race_Course) in [Grantville](/wiki/Grantville,_Pennsylvania), [Parx Racing](/wiki/Parx_Casino_and_Racing) (formerly Philadelphia Park) in [Bensalem](/wiki/Bensalem,_Pennsylvania), and [Presque Isle Downs](/wiki/Presque_Isle_Downs) near Erie, which offer [thoroughbred racing](/wiki/Thoroughbred_racing). [Smarty Jones](/wiki/Smarty_Jones), the 2004 [Kentucky Derby](/wiki/Kentucky_Derby) and [Preakness Stakes](/wiki/Preakness_Stakes) winner, had Philadelphia Park as his home course.

[Arnold Palmer](/wiki/Arnold_Palmer), one of the 20th century's most notable pro golfers, comes from [Latrobe](/wiki/Latrobe,_Pennsylvania), while [Jim Furyk](/wiki/Jim_Furyk), a current [PGA](/wiki/Professional_Golfers'_Association_of_America) member, grew up near in [Lancaster](/wiki/Manheim_Township,_Lancaster_County,_Pennsylvania). PGA tournaments in Pennsylvania include the 84 Lumber Classic, played at Nemacolin Woodlands Resort, in [Farmington](/wiki/Farmington,_Pennsylvania) and the Northeast Pennsylvania Classic, played at Glenmaura National Golf Club, in [Moosic](/wiki/Moosic,_Pennsylvania).

Philadelphia is home to [LOVE Park](/wiki/LOVE_Park), once a popular spot for [skateboarding](/wiki/Skateboard), and across from City Hall, host to [ESPN's](/wiki/ESPN) [X Games](/wiki/X_Games) in 2001 and 2002.[[121]](#cite_note-121)

### College sports[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=33)]

College football is popular in Pennsylvania[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed). There are three colleges in Pennsylvania that play at the highest level of collegiate football competition, the [NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision](/wiki/NCAA_Division_I_Football_Bowl_Subdivision). Two play in [Power Five conferences](/wiki/Power_Five_conferences), the [Penn State University](/wiki/Penn_State_University) [Nittany Lions](/wiki/Penn_State_Nittany_Lions_football) of the [Big Ten Conference](/wiki/Big_Ten_Conference) and the [University of Pittsburgh](/wiki/University_of_Pittsburgh) [Panthers](/wiki/Pittsburgh_Panthers_football) of the [Atlantic Coast Conference](/wiki/Atlantic_Coast_Conference), while the [Temple University](/wiki/Temple_University) [Owls](/wiki/Temple_Owls_football) play in the [American Athletic Conference](/wiki/American_Athletic_Conference). Penn State, claims two [national championships](/wiki/College_football_national_championships_in_NCAA_Division_I_FBS) (1982 & 1986) as well as seven undefeated seasons (1887, 1912, 1968, 1969, 1973, 1986 and 1994). Penn State plays its home games in the second largest stadium in the United States, [Beaver Stadium](/wiki/Beaver_Stadium), which seats 107,282, and is currently led by head coach [James Franklin](/wiki/James_Franklin_(American_football_coach)). The [University of Pittsburgh](/wiki/University_of_Pittsburgh) [Panthers](/wiki/Pitt_Panthers) claims nine national championships (1915, 1916, 1918, 1929, 1931, 1934, 1936, 1937 and 1976) and has played eight undefeated seasons (1904, 1910, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1920, 1937 and 1976).[[122]](#cite_note-122) Pitt plays its home games at [Heinz Field](/wiki/Heinz_Field), a facility it shares with the [Pittsburgh Steelers](/wiki/Pittsburgh_Steelers), and is led by current head football coach [Pat Narduzzi](/wiki/Pat_Narduzzi). Other Pennsylvania schools that have won national titles in football include [Lafayette College](/wiki/Lafayette_College) (1896), Villanova University ([FCS](/wiki/NCAA_Division_I_Football_Championship) 2009), the [University of Pennsylvania](/wiki/Penn_Quakers_football) (1895, 1897, 1904 and 1908)[[123]](#cite_note-123) and Washington and Jefferson College (1921).

College basketball is also popular in the state, especially in the Philadelphia area where five universities, collectively termed the [Big Five](/wiki/Philadelphia_Big_5), have a rich tradition in [NCAA Division I](/wiki/NCAA_Division_I) basketball. National titles in college basketball have been won by the following Pennsylvania universities: [La Salle University](/wiki/La_Salle_University) (1954), [Temple University](/wiki/Temple_University) (1938), [University of Pennsylvania](/wiki/Penn_Quakers_men's_basketball) (1920 and 1921), [University of Pittsburgh](/wiki/University_of_Pittsburgh) (1928 and 1930), and [Villanova University](/wiki/Villanova_University) (1985 and 2016).[[124]](#cite_note-124)[[125]](#cite_note-125)

## Food[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=34)]

[thumb|right|](/wiki/File:Hershey_Pennsylvania_1976.jpg)[Hershey Chocolate Factory](/wiki/The_Hershey_Company) In his book *Yo Mama Cooks Like a Yankee*, author Sharon Hernes Silverman calls Pennsylvania the snack food capital of the world.[[126]](#cite_note-126) It leads all other states in the manufacture of [pretzels](/wiki/Pretzel) and potato chips. The [Sturgis Pretzel House](/wiki/Sturgis_Pretzel_House) introduced the pretzel to America, and companies like Anderson Bakery Company, Intercourse Pretzel Factory, and [Snyder's of Hanover](/wiki/Snyder's_of_Hanover) are leading manufacturers in the Commonwealth. Two of the three companies that define the U.S. potato chip industry are based in Pennsylvania: [Utz Quality Foods](/wiki/Utz_Quality_Foods), which started making chips in [Hanover, Pennsylvania](/wiki/Hanover,_Pennsylvania) in 1921, and [Wise Foods](/wiki/Wise_Foods) which started making chips in [Berwick](/wiki/Berwick,_Pennsylvania) in 1921 (the third, [Lay's Potato Chips](/wiki/Frito-Lay), is a Texas company). Other companies such as [Herr's Snacks](/wiki/Herr's_Snacks), Martin's Potato Chips, Snyder's of Berlin (not associated with Snyder's of Hanover) and Troyer Farms Potato Products are popular chip manufacturers.

The U.S. chocolate industry is centered in [Hershey, Pennsylvania](/wiki/Hershey,_Pennsylvania), with [Mars](/wiki/Mars,_Incorporated), [Godiva](/wiki/Godiva_Chocolatier), and [Wilbur Chocolate Company](/wiki/Wilbur_Chocolate_Company) nearby, and smaller manufacturers such as Asher's[[127]](#cite_note-127) in [Souderton](/wiki/Souderton,_Pennsylvania),[[128]](#cite_note-128) and [Gertrude Hawk Chocolates](/wiki/Gertrude_Hawk_Chocolates) of [Dunmore](/wiki/Dunmore,_Pennsylvania). Other notable companies include [Just Born](/wiki/Just_Born) in [Bethlehem, Pennsylvania](/wiki/Bethlehem,_Pennsylvania), makers of [Hot Tamales](/wiki/Hot_Tamales), [Mike and Ikes](/wiki/Mike_and_Ike), the Easter favorite marshmallow [Peeps](/wiki/Peeps), and [Boyer Brothers](/wiki/Boyer_Brothers) of [Altoona, Pennsylvania](/wiki/Altoona,_Pennsylvania), which is well known for its Mallo Cups. [Auntie Anne's Pretzels](/wiki/Auntie_Anne's) began as a market-stand in Downingtown, Pennsylvania, and now has corporate headquarters in Lancaster City.[[129]](#cite_note-129) Traditional Pennsylvania Dutch foods include chicken potpie, ham potpie, schnitz un knepp (dried apples, ham, and dumplings), [fasnachts](/wiki/Fasnacht_(doughnut)) (raised doughnuts), scrapple, pretzels, bologna, chow-chow, and [Shoofly pie](/wiki/Shoofly_pie). [Martin's Famous Pastry Shoppe, Inc.](/wiki/Martin's_Famous_Pastry_Shoppe,_Inc.), headquartered in [Chambersburg, Pennsylvania](/wiki/Chambersburg,_Pennsylvania), specializes in potato bread, another [traditional Pennsylvania Dutch food](/wiki/Cuisine_of_the_Pennsylvania_Dutch). [D.G. Yuengling & Son](/wiki/D.G._Yuengling_&_Son), America's oldest brewery, has been brewing beer in [Pottsville](/wiki/Pottsville,_Pennsylvania) since 1829.

Among the regional foods associated with Philadelphia are [cheesesteaks](/wiki/Cheesesteaks), hoagie, [soft pretzels](/wiki/Soft_pretzels), [Italian water ice](/wiki/Italian_water_ice), [Irish potato candy](/wiki/Irish_potato_candy), [scrapple](/wiki/Scrapple), [Tastykake](/wiki/Tastykake), Wawa, and [strombolis](/wiki/Stromboli_(food)). In Pittsburgh, tomato ketchup was improved by [Henry John Heinz](/wiki/H._J._Heinz_Company) from 1876 to the early 20th century. Famous to a lesser extent than Heinz ketchup are the Pittsburgh's [Primanti Brothers Restaurant](/wiki/Primanti_Brothers_Restaurant) sandwiches, [pierogies](/wiki/Pierogies), and [city chicken](/wiki/City_chicken). Outside of [Scranton](/wiki/Scranton), in [Old Forge](/wiki/Old_Forge,_Lackawanna_County,_Pennsylvania) there are dozens of Italian restaurants specializing in pizza made unique by thick, light crust and American cheese. [Erie](/wiki/Erie) also has its share of unique foods, including Greek sauce and [sponge candy](/wiki/Sponge_candy). [Sauerkraut](/wiki/Sauerkraut) along with pork and mashed potatoes is a common meal on New Year's Day in Pennsylvania.

## State symbols[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=35)]

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) [right|thumb|upright|The US brig *Niagara*|](/wiki/File:USBrigNiagaraInPort.JPG)[Template:USS](/wiki/Template:USS) in port

* [**Motto**](/wiki/State_motto): "Virtue, liberty, and independence"
* [**Tree**](/wiki/List_of_U.S._state_trees): [Eastern hemlock](/wiki/Tsuga_canadensis)[[130]](#cite_note-130)\*[**State bird**](/wiki/List_of_U.S._state_birds): [Ruffed grouse](/wiki/Ruffed_grouse)[[131]](#cite_note-131)\*[**Flower**](/wiki/List_of_U.S._state_flowers): [Mountain laurel](/wiki/Kalmia_latifolia)[[131]](#cite_note-131)\*[**Insect**](/wiki/List_of_U.S._state_insects): [Pennsylvania firefly](/wiki/Photuris_pennsylvanica)[[131]](#cite_note-131)\*[**Animal**](/wiki/List_of_U.S._state_animals): [White-tailed deer](/wiki/White-tailed_deer)[[131]](#cite_note-131)\*[**Dog**](/wiki/List_of_U.S._state_dogs): [Great Dane](/wiki/Great_Dane)[[131]](#cite_note-131)\*[**Fish**](/wiki/List_of_U.S._state_fish): [Brook trout](/wiki/Brook_trout)[[131]](#cite_note-131)\*[**Fossil**](/wiki/List_of_U.S._state_fossils): [*Phacops rana*](/wiki/Phacops_rana)[[130]](#cite_note-130)\*[**Beverage**](/wiki/List_of_U.S._state_beverages): Milk[[130]](#cite_note-130)\*[**Song**](/wiki/List_of_U.S._state_songs): "[Pennsylvania](/wiki/Pennsylvania_(song))"[[132]](#cite_note-132)\* [**Ship**](/wiki/List_of_U.S._state_ships): [US Brig *Niagara*](/wiki/USS_Niagara_(1813))[[130]](#cite_note-130)\*[**Electric locomotive**](/wiki/Electric_locomotive): [GG1 4859](/wiki/PRR_4859)[[130]](#cite_note-130)\*[**Steam locomotive**](/wiki/Steam_locomotive): [K4s 1361](/wiki/PRR_1361) and [K4s 3750](/wiki/PRR_3750)[[130]](#cite_note-130)\*[**Beautification and conservation plant**](/wiki/List_of_U.S._state_flowers): [Penngift crown vetch](/wiki/Coronilla)[[130]](#cite_note-130)

### Nicknames[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=36)]

Pennsylvania has been known as the [*Keystone*](/wiki/Keystone_(architecture)) *State* since 1802,<ref name=autogenerated1>[PHMC: State Symbols](http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/pahist/symbols.asp?secid=31) [Template:Wayback](/wiki/Template:Wayback)</ref> based in part upon its central location among the original [Thirteen Colonies](/wiki/Thirteen_Colonies) forming the United States, and also in part because of the number of important American documents signed in the state (such as the [Declaration of Independence](/wiki/United_States_Declaration_of_Independence)). It was also a keystone state economically, having both the industry common to the [North](/wiki/Northern_United_States) (making such wares as [Conestoga wagons](/wiki/Conestoga_wagons) and [rifles](/wiki/Long_rifle))[[133]](#cite_note-133)[[134]](#cite_note-134) and the agriculture common to the [South](/wiki/Southern_United_States) (producing feed, fiber, food, and tobacco).[[135]](#cite_note-135) Another one of Pennsylvania's nicknames is the [*Quaker*](/wiki/Religious_Society_of_Friends) *State*; in colonial times, it was known officially as the [*Quaker Province*](/wiki/Province_of_Pennsylvania),[[136]](#cite_note-136) in recognition of Quaker[[137]](#cite_note-137) [William Penn's](/wiki/William_Penn) [*First Frame of Government*](/wiki/Frame_of_Government_of_Pennsylvania)[[138]](#cite_note-138) constitution for Pennsylvania that guaranteed [liberty](/wiki/Freedom_(political)) of [conscience](/wiki/Conscience). He knew of the hostility[[139]](#cite_note-139) Quakers faced when they opposed religious ritual, taking oaths, violence, war and military service, and what they viewed as ostentatious [frippery](/wiki/Wiktionary:frippery).[[140]](#cite_note-140) "**The Coal State**", "**The Oil State**", "**The Chocolate State**", and "**The Steel State**" were adopted when those were the state's greatest industries.[[141]](#cite_note-141) "The State of Independence" currently appears on many road signs entering the state.

## Notable people[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=37)]

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## See also[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=38)]

[Template:Portal](/wiki/Template:Portal)

* [Outline of Pennsylvania](/wiki/Outline_of_Pennsylvania)
* [Index of Pennsylvania-related articles](/wiki/Index_of_Pennsylvania-related_articles)

## References[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=39)]

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### Bibliography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=40)]

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* [Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)
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## External links[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=41)]

[Template:Sister project links](/wiki/Template:Sister_project_links)

* [Template:Dmoz](/wiki/Template:Dmoz)
* [Gov. Andrew Curtin's Pennsylvania Reserve Volunteer Corps, Civil War 1861–1864](http://www.pareserves.com/)
* [Official state government site](http://www.pa.gov/)
* [Pennsylvania Department of Transportation](http://www.dot.state.pa.us/)
* [Allegheny National Forest](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/allegheny/)
* [Pennsylvania Wilds](http://www.pawilds.com/)
* [USGS real-time, geographic, and other scientific resources of Pennsylvania](http://www.usgs.gov/state/state.asp?State=PA)
* [Energy Data & Statistics for Pennsylvania](http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/state/state_energy_profiles.cfm?sid=PA)
* [Pennsylvania State Facts from USDA](http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/state-fact-sheets/state-data.aspx?StateFIPS=42&StateName=Pennsylvania#.U8BEwPldUeo)
* [Official state tourism site](http://www.visitPA.com/)
* [Biography of William Penn from 1829](http://www.antiquebooks.net/readpage.html#penn)
* [Free Original Documents Online: Pennsylvania State Archives 1600s to 1800s](http://www.footnote.com/topicpage.php?tp=88)
* [Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development](http://newpa.com/)
* [National Association of Counties (information on each Pennsylvania County)](http://toolserver.org/~dispenser/cgi-bin/webchecklinks.py?page=en:Pennsylvania#view=0,0,0,0,1,1)
* [Template:Osmrelation-inline](/wiki/Template:Osmrelation-inline)

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