[Template:About](/wiki/Template:About" \o "Template:About) [Template:Redirect](/wiki/Template:Redirect) [Template:Pp-semi-indef](/wiki/Template:Pp-semi-indef) [Template:Pp-move-indef](/wiki/Template:Pp-move-indef) [Template:Use mdy dates](/wiki/Template:Use_mdy_dates) [Template:Infobox settlement](/wiki/Template:Infobox_settlement)

**Philadelphia** ([Template:IPAc-en](/wiki/Template:IPAc-en)) is the largest city in the [Commonwealth](/wiki/Commonwealth_(U.S._state)) of [Pennsylvania](/wiki/Pennsylvania) and the [fifth-most populous](/wiki/List_of_United_States_cities_by_population) in the [United States](/wiki/United_States), with an estimated population in 2014 of 1,560,297.[[1]](#cite_note-1)[[2]](#cite_note-2)[[3]](#cite_note-3)[[4]](#cite_note-4)<ref name=2014metroest>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> In the [Northeastern United States](/wiki/Northeastern_United_States), at the confluence of the [Delaware](/wiki/Delaware_River) and [Schuylkill](/wiki/Schuylkill_River) rivers, Philadelphia is the economic and cultural anchor of the [Delaware Valley](/wiki/Delaware_Valley), a metropolitan area home to 7.2 million people and the [eighth-largest combined statistical area](/wiki/Table_of_United_States_Combined_Statistical_Areas) in the United States.

In 1682, [William Penn](/wiki/William_Penn) founded the city to serve as capital of the [Pennsylvania Colony](/wiki/Province_of_Pennsylvania).[[5]](#cite_note-5) Philadelphia played an instrumental role in the [American Revolution](/wiki/American_Revolution) as a meeting place for the [Founding Fathers of the United States](/wiki/Founding_Fathers_of_the_United_States), who signed the [Declaration of Independence](/wiki/United_States_Declaration_of_Independence) in 1776 and the [Constitution](/wiki/United_States_Constitution) in 1787. Philadelphia was one of the nation's [capitals](/wiki/List_of_capitals_in_the_United_States) in the [Revolutionary War](/wiki/American_Revolutionary_War), and served as temporary U.S. capital while [Washington, D.C.](/wiki/Washington,_D.C.), was under construction. In the 19th century, Philadelphia became a major industrial center and railroad hub that grew from an influx of European [immigrants](/wiki/Immigration). It became a prime destination for African-Americans in the [Great Migration](/wiki/Great_Migration_(African_American)) and surpassed two million occupants by 1950.

Based on the similar shifts underway the nation's economy in the late 1960s Philadelphia experienced a loss of manufacturing companies and jobs to lower taxed regions of the USA and often overseas. As a result, the economic base of Philadelphia, which had historically been manufacturing, declined significantly. In addition, consolidation in several American industries (retailing, financial services and health care in particular) reduced the number of companies headquartered in Philadelphia. The economic impact of these changes would reduce Philadelphia's tax base and the resources of local government. Philadelphia struggled through a long period of adjustment to these economic changes, coupled with significant demographic change as wealthier residents moved into the nearby suburbs and more immigrants moved into the city. The city in fact approached bankruptcy in the late 1980s.[[6]](#cite_note-6)[[7]](#cite_note-7) Revitalization began in the late 1990s, with [gentrification](/wiki/Gentrification) turning around many neighborhoods and reversing its decades-long trend of population loss.

The area's many universities and colleges make Philadelphia a top international study destination, as the city has evolved into an educational and economic hub.[[8]](#cite_note-8)[[9]](#cite_note-9) With a gross domestic product of $388 billion, Philadelphia ranks ninth among world cities and fourth in the nation.[[10]](#cite_note-10) Philadelphia is the center of economic activity in Pennsylvania and is home to seven [Fortune 1000](/wiki/Fortune_1000) companies. The [Philadelphia skyline](/wiki/Philadelphia_skyline) is growing, with several nationally prominent [skyscrapers](/wiki/Skyscraper).<ref name=Comcast2>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> The city is known for its arts, culture, and history, attracting over 39 million domestic tourists in 2013.[[11]](#cite_note-11) Philadelphia has more outdoor [sculptures](/wiki/Sculpture) and [murals](/wiki/Mural) than any other American city,[[12]](#cite_note-12) and [Fairmount Park](/wiki/Fairmount_Park) is the largest landscaped [urban park](/wiki/Urban_park) in the world.[[13]](#cite_note-13) The 67 [National Historic Landmarks](/wiki/List_of_National_Historic_Landmarks_in_Philadelphia) in the city helped account for the $10 billion generated by tourism.[[11]](#cite_note-11) Philadelphia is the birthplace of the [United States Marine Corps](/wiki/United_States_Marine_Corps),[[14]](#cite_note-14)[[15]](#cite_note-15) and is also the home of many U.S. [firsts](/wiki/List_of_Pennsylvania_firsts), including the first [library](/wiki/Library_Company_of_Philadelphia) (1731),[[16]](#cite_note-16) first [hospital](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Hospital) (1751)[[16]](#cite_note-16) and [medical school](/wiki/Perelman_School_of_Medicine_at_the_University_of_Pennsylvania) (1765),[[17]](#cite_note-17) first [Capitol](/wiki/United_States_Capitol) (1777),[[16]](#cite_note-16) first [stock exchange](/wiki/Philadelphia_Stock_Exchange) (1790),[[16]](#cite_note-16) first [zoo](/wiki/Philadelphia_Zoo) (1874),[[18]](#cite_note-18) and first [business school](/wiki/Wharton_School_of_the_University_of_Pennsylvania) (1881).[[19]](#cite_note-19) Philadelphia is the only [World Heritage City](/wiki/Organization_of_World_Heritage_Cities) in the United States.[[20]](#cite_note-20)[Template:TOC limit](/wiki/Template:TOC_limit)

## Contents

* 1 History[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]
* 2 Geography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]
  + 2.1 Topography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]
  + 2.2 Cityscape[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]
    - 2.2.1 City planning[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]
    - 2.2.2 Architecture[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]
  + 2.3 Climate[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]
* 3 Demographics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]
  + 3.1 Languages[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]
* 4 Economy[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]
* 5 Culture[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]
  + 5.1 Accent[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]
  + 5.2 Arts[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]
  + 5.3 Cuisine[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]
  + 5.4 Marijuana[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]
* 6 Parks[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]
* 7 Law and government[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]
  + 7.1 Courts[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=19)]
  + 7.2 Politics[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=20)]
  + 7.3 Crime[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=21)]
* 8 Education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=22)]
  + 8.1 Primary and secondary education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=23)]
  + 8.2 Higher education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=24)]
* 9 Media[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=25)]
  + 9.1 Newspapers[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=26)]
  + 9.2 Radio and television[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=27)]
* 10 Infrastructure[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=28)]
  + 10.1 Transportation[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=29)]
    - 10.1.1 Airports[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=30)]
    - 10.1.2 Roads[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=31)]
    - 10.1.3 Bus service[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=32)]
    - 10.1.4 Rail[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=33)]
    - 10.1.5 Walkability[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=34)]
  + 10.2 Utilities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=35)]
* 11 Notable people[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=36)]
* 12 Twin towns – Sister cities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=37)]
* 13 Image gallery[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=38)]
* 14 See also[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=39)]
* 15 Notes[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=40)]
* 16 References[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=41)]
* 17 Further reading[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=42)]
* 18 External links[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=43)]

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

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) [Template:External media](/wiki/Template:External_media) [thumb|210px|An 18th century map of Philadelphia.](/wiki/File:A_Map_of_Philadelphia_and_Parts_Adjacent_vc6b.1.jpg) Before Europeans arrived, the Philadelphia area was home to the [Lenape (Delaware)](/wiki/Lenape) [Indians](/wiki/Native_Americans_in_the_United_States) in the village of [Shackamaxon](/wiki/Shackamaxon). The Lenape are a [Native American](/wiki/Native_Americans_in_the_United_States) tribe and [First Nations](/wiki/First_Nations) [band government](/wiki/Band_government).<ref name=p422>Pritzker 422</ref> They are also called Delaware Indians<ref name=josephy>Josephy 188–189</ref> and their historical territory was along the [Delaware River](/wiki/Delaware_River) [watershed](/wiki/Drainage_basin), western [Long Island](/wiki/Long_Island) and the [Lower Hudson Valley](/wiki/Lower_Hudson_Valley).[Template:Efn](/wiki/Template:Efn) Most Lenape were pushed out of their Delaware homeland during the 18th century by expanding European colonies, exacerbated by losses from intertribal conflicts.<ref name=josephy/> Lenape communities were weakened by newly introduced diseases, mainly [smallpox](/wiki/Smallpox), and violent conflict with Europeans. [Iroquois](/wiki/Iroquois) people occasionally fought the Lenape. Surviving Lenape moved west into the upper [Ohio River](/wiki/Ohio_River) basin. The [American Revolutionary War](/wiki/American_Revolutionary_War) and United States' independence pushed them further west. In the 1860s, the United States government sent most Lenape remaining in the [eastern United States](/wiki/Eastern_United_States) to the [Indian Territory](/wiki/Indian_Territory) (present-day Oklahoma and surrounding territory) under the [Indian removal](/wiki/Indian_removal) policy. In the 21st century, most Lenape now reside in the US state of [Oklahoma](/wiki/Oklahoma), with some communities living also in [Wisconsin](/wiki/Wisconsin), [Ontario](/wiki/Ontario) (Canada) and in their traditional homelands.

Europeans came to the [Delaware Valley](/wiki/Delaware_Valley) in the early 17th century, with the first settlements founded by the Dutch, who in 1623 built [Fort Nassau](/wiki/Fort_Nassau_(South_River)) on the [Delaware River](/wiki/Delaware_River) opposite the [Schuylkill River](/wiki/Schuylkill_River) in what is now [Brooklawn, New Jersey](/wiki/Brooklawn,_New_Jersey). The Dutch considered the entire Delaware River valley to be part of their [New Netherland](/wiki/New_Netherland) colony. In 1638, Swedish settlers led by renegade Dutch established the colony of [New Sweden](/wiki/New_Sweden) at [Fort Christina](/wiki/Fort_Christina) (present day Wilmington, Delaware) and quickly spread out in the valley. In 1644, [New Sweden](/wiki/New_Sweden) supported the [Susquehannocks](/wiki/Susquehannocks) in their military defeat of the English colony of Maryland. In 1648, the Dutch built [Fort Beversreede](/wiki/Fort_Beversreede) on the west bank of the Delaware, south of the Schuylkill near the present-day [Eastwick](/wiki/Eastwick,_Philadelphia,_Pennsylvania) section of Philadelphia, to reassert their dominion over the area. The Swedes responded by building [Fort Nya Korsholm](/wiki/Fort_Nya_Korsholm), named New Korsholm after a town that is now in Finland. In 1655, a Dutch military campaign led by New Netherland Director-General [Peter Stuyvesant](/wiki/Peter_Stuyvesant) took control of the Swedish colony, ending its claim to independence, although the Swedish and Finnish settlers continued to have their own militia, religion, and court, and to enjoy substantial autonomy under the Dutch. The English conquered the New Netherland colony in 1664, but the situation did not really change until 1682, when the area was included in [William Penn's](/wiki/William_Penn) charter for Pennsylvania.

[thumb|upright=1.1|](/wiki/File:Treaty_of_Penn_with_Indians_by_Benjamin_West.jpg)[*Penn's Treaty with the Indians*](/wiki/Penn's_Treaty_with_the_Indians) by [Benjamin West](/wiki/Benjamin_West) In 1681, in partial repayment of a debt, [Charles II of England](/wiki/Charles_II_of_England) granted [William Penn](/wiki/William_Penn) a [charter](/wiki/Charter) for what would become the [Pennsylvania colony](/wiki/Province_of_Pennsylvania). Despite the royal charter, Penn bought the land from the local Lenape to be on good terms with the Native Americans and ensure peace for his colony.[[21]](#cite_note-21) Penn made a treaty of friendship with Lenape chief [Tammany](/wiki/Tamanend) under an elm tree at [Shackamaxon](/wiki/Shackamaxon), in what is now the city's [Fishtown section](/wiki/Fishtown,_Philadelphia,_Pennsylvania).[[22]](#cite_note-22) Penn named the city Philadelphia, which is [Greek](/wiki/Greek_language) for brotherly love (from *philos*, "love" or "friendship", and *adelphos*, "brother"). As a [Quaker](/wiki/Religious_Society_of_Friends), Penn had experienced religious persecution and wanted his colony to be a place where anyone could worship freely. This tolerance, far more than afforded by most other colonies, led to better relations with the local Native tribes and fostered Philadelphia's rapid growth into America's most important city.[[23]](#cite_note-23)Penn planned a city on the Delaware River to serve as a port and place for government. Hoping that Philadelphia would become more like an English rural town instead of a city, Penn laid out roads on a [grid plan](/wiki/Grid_plan) to keep houses and businesses spread far apart, with areas for gardens and orchards. The city's inhabitants did not follow Penn's plans, as they crowded by the Delaware River, the port, and subdivided and resold their lots.[[24]](#cite_note-24) Before Penn left Philadelphia for the last time, he issued the Charter of 1701 establishing it as a city. It became an important trading center, poor at first, but with tolerable living conditions by the 1750s. [Benjamin Franklin](/wiki/Benjamin_Franklin), a leading citizen, helped improve city services and founded new ones, such as fire protection, a library, and one of the American colonies' first hospitals.

[thumb|upright=1.1|](/wiki/File:Benjamin_Franklin_by_Jean-Baptiste_Greuze.jpg)[Benjamin Franklin](/wiki/Benjamin_Franklin), 1777 A number of important philosophical societies were formed, which were centers of the city's intellectual life: the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture (1785), the Pennsylvania Society for the Encouragement of Manufactures and the Useful Arts (1787), the [Academy of Natural Sciences](/wiki/Academy_of_Natural_Sciences_of_Philadelphia) (1812), and the [Franklin Institute](/wiki/Franklin_Institute) (1824).[[25]](#cite_note-25) These worked to develop and finance new industries and attract skilled and knowledgeable immigrants from Europe.

Philadelphia's importance and central location in the colonies made it a natural center for [America's revolutionaries](/wiki/American_Revolution). By the 1750s, Philadelphia had surpassed [Boston](/wiki/Boston) to become the largest city and busiest port in [British America](/wiki/British_America), and second in the British Empire, behind [London](/wiki/London).[[26]](#cite_note-26)[[27]](#cite_note-27) The city hosted the [First Continental Congress](/wiki/First_Continental_Congress) before the [American Revolutionary War](/wiki/American_Revolutionary_War); the [Second Continental Congress](/wiki/Second_Continental_Congress),<ref name=WDL1>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> which signed the [United States Declaration of Independence](/wiki/United_States_Declaration_of_Independence), during the war; and the [Constitutional Convention](/wiki/Philadelphia_Convention) (1787) after the war. [Several battles](/wiki/Philadelphia_campaign) were fought in and near Philadelphia as well.

[thumb|upright=1.1|](/wiki/File:PhiladelphiaPresidentsHouse.jpg)[President's House](/wiki/President's_House_(Philadelphia,_Pennsylvania)), Philadelphia. This mansion at 6th & Market Streets served as the presidential mansion of George Washington and John Adams, 1790–1800. Philadelphia served as the temporary capital of the United States, 1790–1800, while the [Federal City](/wiki/Washington,_D.C.) was under construction in the [District of Columbia](/wiki/District_of_Columbia).[[28]](#cite_note-28) In 1793, the largest [yellow fever epidemics](/wiki/Yellow_Fever_Epidemic_of_1793) in U.S. history killed at least 4,000 and up to 5,000 people in Philadelphia, roughly 10% of the city's population.[[29]](#cite_note-29)[[30]](#cite_note-30) The state government left Philadelphia in 1799, and the federal government was moved to Washington, DC in 1800 with completion of the White House and Capitol. The city remained the young nation's largest with a population of nearly 50,000 at the turn of the 19th century; it was a financial and cultural center. Before 1800, its free black community founded the [African Methodist Episcopal Church](/wiki/African_Methodist_Episcopal_Church) (AME), the first independent black denomination in the country, and the first black Episcopal Church. The free black community also established many schools for its children, with the help of Quakers. [New York City](/wiki/New_York_City) soon surpassed Philadelphia in population, but with the construction of roads, [canals](/wiki/Canal), and railroads, Philadelphia became the first major industrial city in the United States.

[thumb|upright=1.1|Opening day ceremonies at the](/wiki/File:Centennial_Exhibition,_Opening_Day.jpg) [Centennial Exhibition](/wiki/Centennial_Exhibition) at [Memorial Hall](/wiki/Memorial_Hall_(Philadelphia)), 1876, first World's Fair in the US.Throughout the 19th century, Philadelphia had a variety of industries and businesses, the largest being textiles. Major corporations in the 19th and early 20th centuries included the [Baldwin Locomotive Works](/wiki/Baldwin_Locomotive_Works), [William Cramp and Sons Ship and Engine Building Company](/wiki/William_Cramp_and_Sons), and the [Pennsylvania Railroad](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Railroad).[[31]](#cite_note-31) Industry, along with the [U.S. Centennial](/wiki/United_States_Centennial), was celebrated in 1876 with the [Centennial Exposition](/wiki/Centennial_Exposition), the first official [World's Fair](/wiki/World's_fair) in the United States. Immigrants, mostly Irish and German, settled in Philadelphia and the surrounding districts. The rise in population of the surrounding districts helped lead to the [Act of Consolidation of 1854](/wiki/Act_of_Consolidation,_1854), which extended the city limits of Philadelphia from the 2 square miles of present-day [Center City](/wiki/Center_City_(Philadelphia)) to the roughly 130 square miles of [Philadelphia County](/wiki/Philadelphia_County,_Pennsylvania).[[32]](#cite_note-32)[[33]](#cite_note-33)[thumb|upright=1.1|](/wiki/File:WBirchLib1800.jpg)[Library and Surgeon's Hall](/wiki/Library_Company_of_Philadelphia), Fifth-street. These immigrants were largely responsible for the [first general strike in North America](/wiki/1835_Philadelphia_General_Strike) in 1835, in which workers in the city won the ten-hour workday. The city was a destination for thousands of Irish immigrants fleeing the [Great Famine](/wiki/Great_Famine_(Ireland)) in the 1840s; housing for them was developed south of South Street, and was later occupied by succeeding immigrants. They established a network of Catholic churches and schools, and dominated the Catholic clergy for decades. Anti-Irish, anti-Catholic [Nativist riots](/wiki/Philadelphia_Nativist_Riots) had erupted in Philadelphia in 1844. In the latter half of the century, immigrants from Russia, Eastern Europe and Italy; and African Americans from the [southern U.S.](/wiki/Southern_United_States) settled in the city.[[34]](#cite_note-34) Between 1880 and 1930, the African-American population of Philadelphia increased from 31,699 to 219,559.[[35]](#cite_note-35)[[36]](#cite_note-36) Twentieth-century black newcomers were part of the [Great Migration](/wiki/Great_Migration_(African_American)) out of the rural South to northern and midwestern industrial cities. [thumb|upright=1.1|An](/wiki/File:Philadelphia1844riot.jpg) [anti-Irish Catholic](/wiki/Anti-Catholic) [nativist riot](/wiki/Philadelphia_Nativist_Riots) in [Southwark](/wiki/Southwark,_Philadelphia,_Pennsylvania), July 7, 1844. [thumb|upright=1.1|Eighth and Market Streets, 1840](/wiki/File:Philadelphia_8th_&_Market_1840.jpg)

In the American Civil War, Philadelphia was represented by the [Washington Grays (Philadelphia)](/wiki/Washington_Grays_(Philadelphia)).

[thumb|upright=1.1|8th and Market Street, showing the](/wiki/File:Phila8thMarket.jpg) [Strawbridge and Clothier](/wiki/Strawbridge_and_Clothier) department store, 1910s By the 20th century, Philadelphia had become known as "corrupt and contented", with a complacent population and an entrenched [Republican](/wiki/Republican_Party_(United_States)) [political machine](/wiki/Political_machine).[[37]](#cite_note-37) The first major reform came in 1917 when outrage over the election-year murder of a police officer led to the shrinking of the [Philadelphia City Council](/wiki/Philadelphia_City_Council) from two houses to just one.[[38]](#cite_note-38) In July 1919, Philadelphia was one of more than 36 industrial cities nationally to suffer a race riot of ethnic whites against blacks during [Red Summer](/wiki/Red_Summer), in post-World War I unrest, as recent immigrants competed with blacks for jobs. In the 1920s, the public flouting of [Prohibition](/wiki/Prohibition_in_the_United_States) laws, [mob](/wiki/Mafia) violence, and police involvement in illegal activities led to the appointment of [Brigadier General](/wiki/Brigadier_General) [Smedley Butler](/wiki/Smedley_Butler) of the [U.S. Marine Corps](/wiki/United_States_Marine_Corps) as director of public safety, but political pressure prevented any long-term success in fighting crime and corruption.[[39]](#cite_note-39) In 1940, non-Hispanic whites constituted 86.8% of the city's population.[[40]](#cite_note-40) The population peaked at more than two million residents in 1950, then began to decline with the restructuring of industry, which led to the loss of many middle-class union jobs. In addition, suburbanization had been drawing off many of the wealthier residents to outlying railroad commuting towns and newer housing. Revitalization and [gentrification](/wiki/Gentrification) of neighborhoods began in the late 1970s and continues into the 21st century, with much of the development in the [Center City](/wiki/Center_City,_Philadelphia) and [University City](/wiki/University_City,_Philadelphia,_Pennsylvania) areas of the city. After many of the old manufacturers and businesses left Philadelphia or shut down, the city started attracting service businesses and began to more aggressively market itself as a tourist destination. Glass-and-granite skyscrapers were built in Center City. Historic areas such as [Independence National Historical Park](/wiki/Independence_National_Historical_Park) located in Old City and Society Hill were renovated during the reformist mayoral era of the 1950s through the 1980s. They are now among the most desirable living areas of Center City. This has slowed the city's 40-year population decline after it lost nearly one-quarter of its population.[[41]](#cite_note-41)[[42]](#cite_note-42)

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

[thumb|A simulated-color image of Philadelphia and the Delaware River, taken by](/wiki/File:Large_Philadelphia_Landsat.jpg) [NASA's](/wiki/NASA) [Landsat 7](/wiki/Landsat_7) satellite

### Topography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]

Philadelphia is at 39° 57′ north latitude and 75° 10′ west longitude, and the [40th parallel north](/wiki/40th_parallel_north) passes through the northern parts of the city. The city encompasses [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), of which [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) is land and [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), or 5.29%, is water. Bodies of water include the [Delaware](/wiki/Delaware_River) and [Schuylkill](/wiki/Schuylkill_River) rivers, and [Cobbs](/wiki/Cobbs_Creek), [Wissahickon](/wiki/Wissahickon_Creek), and [Pennypack](/wiki/Pennypack_Creek) creeks.

The lowest point is [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) above sea level, while the highest point is in [Chestnut Hill](/wiki/Chestnut_Hill,_Philadelphia), about [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) above [sea level](/wiki/Sea_level) (near the intersection of Germantown Avenue and Bethlehem Pike).[[43]](#cite_note-43) Philadelphia sits on the [Fall Line](/wiki/Atlantic_Seaboard_fall_line) that separates the [Atlantic Coastal Plain](/wiki/Atlantic_Coastal_Plain) from the [Piedmont](/wiki/Piedmont_(United_States)).[[44]](#cite_note-44) The rapids on the Schuylkill River at [East Falls](/wiki/East_Falls,_Philadelphia) were inundated by the completion of the Fairmount Dam.[[45]](#cite_note-45) The city is the seat of [its own county](/wiki/Philadelphia_County,_Pennsylvania). The adjacent counties are [Montgomery](/wiki/Montgomery_County,_Pennsylvania) to the north; [Bucks](/wiki/Bucks_County,_Pennsylvania) to the northeast; [Burlington County, New Jersey](/wiki/Burlington_County,_New_Jersey), to the east; [Camden County, New Jersey](/wiki/Camden_County,_New_Jersey), to the southeast; [Gloucester County, New Jersey](/wiki/Gloucester_County,_New_Jersey), to the south; and [Delaware County](/wiki/Delaware_County,_Pennsylvania) to the west.

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

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

[Template:Wide image](/wiki/Template:Wide_image) [Template:Wide image](/wiki/Template:Wide_image)

#### City planning[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) [thumb|left|The heart of](/wiki/File:Cathedral-Basilica-HDR.jpg) [Logan Square](/wiki/Logan_Square,_Philadelphia) at night.

Philadelphia's central city was created in the 17th century following the plan by [William Penn's](/wiki/William_Penn) surveyor [Thomas Holme](/wiki/Thomas_Holme). [Center City](/wiki/Center_City_(Philadelphia)) is structured with long straight streets running east-west and north-south forming a grid pattern. The original city plan was designed to allow for easy travel and to keep residences separated by open space that would help prevent the spread of fire.[[46]](#cite_note-46) The [Delaware River](/wiki/Delaware_River) and [Schuylkill Rivers](/wiki/Schuylkill_River) served as early boundaries between which the city's early street plan was kept within. In addition, Penn planned the creation of five public parks in the city which were renamed in 1824[[46]](#cite_note-46) (in parenthesis): [Centre Square](/wiki/Centre_Square_(Building)), North East Publick Square ([Franklin Square](/wiki/Franklin_Square_(Philadelphia))), Northwest Square ([Logan Square](/wiki/Logan_Circle_(Philadelphia))), Southwest Square ([Rittenhouse Square](/wiki/Rittenhouse_Square)), and Southeast Square ([Washington Square](/wiki/Washington_Square_(Philadelphia))).[[47]](#cite_note-47) Center City has grown into the second-most populated downtown area in the United States, after [Midtown Manhattan](/wiki/Midtown_Manhattan) in New York City, with an estimated 183,240 residents in 2015.[[48]](#cite_note-48) Philadelphia's neighborhoods are divided into large sections—[North](/wiki/North_Philadelphia,_Pennsylvania), [Northeast](/wiki/Northeast_Philadelphia), [Northwest](/wiki/Northwest_Philadelphia), [West](/wiki/West_Philadelphia), [South](/wiki/South_Philadelphia) and [Southwest Philadelphia](/wiki/Southwest_Philadelphia)—all of which surround [Center City](/wiki/Center_City,_Philadelphia), which corresponds closely with the city's limits before consolidation in 1854. Each of these large areas contains numerous neighborhoods, some of whose boundaries derive from the boroughs, townships, and other communities that made up Philadelphia County before their absorption into the city.[[49]](#cite_note-49) [thumb|](/wiki/File:Elfreth's_Alley.JPG)[Elfreth's Alley](/wiki/Elfreth's_Alley), "Our nation's oldest residential street", dating to 1702.[[50]](#cite_note-50)

The [City Planning Commission](/wiki/City_Planning_Commission_(Philadelphia)), tasked with guiding growth and development of the city, has divided the city into 18 planning districts as part of the *Philadelphia2035* physical development plan.[[51]](#cite_note-51)[[52]](#cite_note-52) Much of the city's 1980 zoning code was overhauled from 2007–2012 as part of a joint effort between former mayors [John F. Street](/wiki/John_F._Street) and [Michael Nutter](/wiki/Michael_Nutter). The zoning changes were intended to rectify incorrect zoning mapping that would streamline future community preferences and development, which the city forecasts an additional 100,000 residents and 40,000 jobs to be added to Philadelphia in 2035.

The [Philadelphia Housing Authority](/wiki/Philadelphia_Housing_Authority) is the largest landlord in Pennsylvania. Established in 1937, it is the nation's fourth-largest housing authority, housing about 84,000 people and employing 1,250. In 2013, its budget was $371 million.[[53]](#cite_note-53) The [Philadelphia Parking Authority](/wiki/Philadelphia_Parking_Authority) works to ensure adequate parking for city residents, businesses and visitors.[[54]](#cite_note-54)

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

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) [thumb|left|](/wiki/File:Christ_Church_Phila_crop.JPG)[Christ Church](/wiki/Christ_Church,_Philadelphia), a sophisticated example of Georgian architecture.[[55]](#cite_note-55) Philadelphia's architectural history dates back to [Colonial](/wiki/Colonial_America) times and includes a wide range of styles. The earliest structures were of [logs](/wiki/Log_home) construction, but brick structures were common by 1700. During the 18th century, the [cityscape](/wiki/Cityscape) was dominated by [Georgian architecture](/wiki/Georgian_architecture), including [Independence Hall](/wiki/Independence_Hall_(United_States)) and [Christ Church](/wiki/Christ_Church,_Philadelphia). [thumb|](/wiki/File:OneLiberyPlacePhiladelphia.jpg)[Center City Philadelphia](/wiki/Center_City_Philadelphia), showing the [One Liberty Place](/wiki/One_Liberty_Place) [skyscraper](/wiki/Skyscraper) behind [City Hall](/wiki/Philadelphia_City_Hall) and their contrast in architectural styles.

[thumb|left|Georgian style homes in](/wiki/File:Georgian_Homes,_Philadelphia.jpg) [Society Hill](/wiki/Society_Hill,_Philadelphia). In the first decades of the 19th century, [Federal architecture](/wiki/Federal_architecture) and [Greek Revival architecture](/wiki/Greek_Revival_architecture) were dominated by Philadelphia architects such as [Benjamin Latrobe](/wiki/Benjamin_Latrobe), [William Strickland](/wiki/William_Strickland_(architect)), [John Haviland](/wiki/John_Haviland), [John Notman](/wiki/John_Notman), [Thomas U. Walter](/wiki/Thomas_U._Walter), and [Samuel Sloan](/wiki/Samuel_Sloan_(architect)).<ref name=Philadelphia-Page251>[Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)</ref> [Frank Furness](/wiki/Frank_Furness) is considered Philadelphia's greatest architect of the second half of the 19th century, but his contemporaries included [John McArthur, Jr.](/wiki/John_McArthur,_Jr.), [Addison Hutton](/wiki/Addison_Hutton), [Wilson Eyre](/wiki/Wilson_Eyre), the [Wilson Brothers](/wiki/Wilson_Brothers_&_Company), and [Horace Trumbauer](/wiki/Horace_Trumbauer). In 1871, construction began on the [Second Empire](/wiki/Second_Empire_(architecture))-style [Philadelphia City Hall](/wiki/Philadelphia_City_Hall). The [Philadelphia Historical Commission](/wiki/Philadelphia_Historical_Commission) was created in 1955 to preserve the cultural and architectural history of the city. The commission maintains the [Philadelphia Register of Historic Places](/wiki/Philadelphia_Register_of_Historic_Places), adding historic buildings, structures, sites, objects and districts as it sees fit.[[56]](#cite_note-56) In 1932, Philadelphia became home to the first [International Style](/wiki/International_Style_(architecture)) skyscraper in the United States, The [PSFS Building](/wiki/PSFS_Building), designed by [George Howe](/wiki/George_Howe_(architect)) and [William Lescaze](/wiki/William_Lescaze). It is the United States' first modern skyscraper and considered the most important one built in the first part of the 20th century.

The [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) City Hall remained the tallest building in the city until 1987 when [One Liberty Place](/wiki/One_Liberty_Place) was constructed. Numerous glass and granite skyscrapers were built in Philadelphia's Center City from the late 1980s onwards. In 2007, the [Comcast Center](/wiki/Comcast_Center_(office_building)) surpassed One Liberty Place to become the city's tallest building. The [Comcast Innovation and Technology Center](/wiki/Comcast_Innovation_and_Technology_Center) is under construction in Center City and is planned to reach a height of 1,121 feet (342 meters); upon completion, the tower is expected to be the tallest skyscraper in the United States outside of New York City and Chicago.<ref name=Comcast2/>

For much of Philadelphia's history, the typical home has been the [row house](/wiki/Terraced_house). The row house was introduced to the United States via Philadelphia in the early 19th century and, for a time, row houses built elsewhere in the United States were known as "Philadelphia rows".<ref name=Philadelphia-Page251/> A variety of row houses are found throughout the city, from Victorian-style homes in North Philadelphia to twin row houses in West Philadelphia. While newer homes are scattered throughout the city, much of the housing is from the early 20th century or older. The great age of the homes has created numerous problems, including blight and vacant lots in many parts of the city, while other neighborhoods such as [Society Hill](/wiki/Society_Hill,_Philadelphia,_Pennsylvania), which has the largest concentration of 18th-century architecture in the United States, have been rehabilitated and gentrified.[[57]](#cite_note-57)[[58]](#cite_note-58)

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

[Template:Climate chart](/wiki/Template:Climate_chart) Under the [Köppen climate classification](/wiki/Köppen_climate_classification), Philadelphia falls in the northern periphery of the [humid subtropical climate](/wiki/Humid_subtropical_climate) zone (Köppen *Cfa*).[[59]](#cite_note-59) Though under the [Trewartha climate classification](/wiki/Trewartha_climate_classification), the city has a [temperate](/wiki/Temperate) [maritime climate](/wiki/Maritime_climate) (*Do*).[[60]](#cite_note-60) Summers are typically hot and muggy, fall and spring are generally mild, and winter is cold.

Snowfall is highly variable, with some winters bringing only light snow and others bringing several major snowstorms, with the normal seasonal snowfall standing at [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert); snow in November or April is rare, and a sustained snow cover is rare.<ref name = NOAA/> Precipitation is generally spread throughout the year, with eight to twelve wet days per month,[[61]](#cite_note-61) at an average annual rate of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), but historically ranging from [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) in 1922 to [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) in 2011.<ref name = NOAA/> The most rain recorded in one day occurred on July 28, 2013, when [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) fell at [Philadelphia International Airport](/wiki/Philadelphia_International_Airport).<ref name = NOAA/>

The January daily average is [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert),[[62]](#cite_note-62) though, in a normal winter, the temperature frequently rises to [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) during thaws and dips to [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) for 2 or 3 nights.[[62]](#cite_note-62) July averages [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert),[[62]](#cite_note-62) although heat waves accompanied by high humidity and [heat indices](/wiki/Heat_index) are frequent; highs reach or exceed [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) on 27 days of the year. The average window for freezing temperatures is November 6 thru April 2,<ref name = NOAA/> allowing a growing season of 217 days. Early fall and late winter are generally dry; February's average of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) makes it the area's driest month. The dewpoint in the summer averages between [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) to [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert).<ref name = NOAA/>

Seasonal snowfall accumulation has ranged from trace amounts in 1972–73 to [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) in the winter of 2009–10.<ref name = NOAA/>[Template:Efn](/wiki/Template:Efn) The city's [heaviest single-storm snowfall](/wiki/North_American_blizzard_of_1996#Philadelphia), at [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert), occurred in January 1996.

The highest recorded temperature was [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) on August 7, 1918, but [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert)+ temperatures are uncommon.[[63]](#cite_note-63)[Template:Efn](/wiki/Template:Efn) The lowest officially recorded temperature was [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) on February 9, 1934,[[63]](#cite_note-63) but with the last such occurrence being [January 19, 1994](/wiki/1994_North_American_cold_wave),<ref name = NOAA/> temperatures at or below the [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) mark are rare. The record low maximum is [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) on February 10, 1899 and December 30, 1880, while the record high minimum is [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) on July 23, 2011 and July 24, 2010.

In the [American Lung Association](/wiki/American_Lung_Association) 2015 State of the Air report, Philadelphia County received an [ozone](/wiki/Ozone) grade of F and a 24-hour [particle pollution](/wiki/Particulates) rating of C. The county passed the annual particle pollution rating.[[64]](#cite_note-64)[Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear) [Template:Philadelphia weatherbox](/wiki/Template:Philadelphia_weatherbox)

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

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) [Template:Historical populations](/wiki/Template:Historical_populations)

According to the 2014 United States Census estimates, there were 1,560,297 people residing in the City of Philadelphia,[[65]](#cite_note-65) representing a 2.2% increase since 2010. From the 1960s up until 2006, the city's population declined year after year. It eventually reached a low of 1,488,710 residents in 2006 before beginning to rise again. Since 2006, Philadelphia added 71,587 residents in eight years. A study done by the city projected that the population would increase to about 1,630,000 residents by 2035, an increase of about 100,000 from 2010.[[66]](#cite_note-66) The racial makeup of the city in 2014 was 45.3% White (35.8% Non-Hispanic), 44.1% Black or African American, 0.8% Native American and Alaska Native, 7.2% Asian, 0.1% Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, 2.5% Two or More Races, and 13.6% were Hispanic or Latino.[[67]](#cite_note-67)[[68]](#cite_note-68)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Census Racial composition** | **2010**[**[69]**](#cite_note-69) | **2000** | **1990** | **1980**[**[70]**](#cite_note-70) | **1970**[**[70]**](#cite_note-70) |
| [White](/wiki/White_American) (includes [White Hispanics](/wiki/White_Hispanic)) | 41.8% | 45.0% | 53.5% | 58.2% | 65.6% |
| —Non-Hispanic White | 36.9% | 42.5% | 52.1% | 57.1% | 63.8[[71]](#cite_note-71) |
| [Black or African American](/wiki/African_American) | 43.6% | 43.2% | 37.8% | 39.9% | 33.6% |
| —Non-Hispanic Black | 42.2% | 42.6% | 39.3% | 37.5% | 33.3%[[71]](#cite_note-71) |
| Native American | 0.5% | 0.3% | 0.2% | 0.1% | 0.1% |
| [Asian](/wiki/Asian_American) | 6.3% | 4.5% | 2.7% | 1.1% | 0.3% |
| [Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander](/wiki/Pacific_Islander_American) | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Some other race | 5.9% | 4.8% | 3.7% | 2.7% | 0.4% |
| [Two or more races](/wiki/Multiracial_American) | 2.8% | 2.2% | n/a[[72]](#cite_note-72) | n/a[[72]](#cite_note-72) | n/a |
| [Hispanic or Latino](/wiki/Hispanic_and_Latino_Americans) (of any race) | 12.3% | 8.5% | 5.6% | 3.8% | 2.4%[[71]](#cite_note-71) |

In comparison, the 2010 Census Redistricting Data indicated that the racial makeup of the city was 661,839 (43.4%) [African American](/wiki/African_American_(U.S._Census)), 626,221 (41.0%) [White](/wiki/White_(U.S._Census)), 6,996 (0.5%) [Native American](/wiki/Native_American_(U.S._Census)), 96,405 (6.3%) [Asian](/wiki/Asian_(U.S._Census)) (2.0% Chinese, 1.2% Indian, 0.9% Vietnamese, 0.6% Cambodian, 0.4% Korean, 0.3% Filipino, 0.2% Pakistani, 0.1% Indonesian), 744 (0.0%) [Pacific Islander](/wiki/Pacific_Islander_(U.S._Census)), 90,731 (5.9%) from [other races](/wiki/Race_(United_States_Census)), and 43,070 (2.8%) from two or more races. [Hispanic](/wiki/Hispanic_(U.S._Census)) or [Latino](/wiki/Latino_(U.S._Census)) of any race were 187,611 persons (12.3%); 8.0% of Philadelphia is Puerto Rican, 1.0% Dominican, 1.0% Mexican, 0.3% Cuban, and 0.3% Colombian.[[73]](#cite_note-73) The racial breakdown of Philadelphia's Hispanic/Latino population was 63,636 (33.9%) White, 17,552 (9.4%) African American, 3,498 (1.9%) Native American, 884 (0.47%) Asian, 287 (0.15%) Pacific Islander, 86,626 (46.2%) from other races, and 15,128 (8.1%) from two or more races.[[69]](#cite_note-69) The five largest European ancestries reported in the [2010 United States Census](/wiki/2010_United_States_Census) Census included [Irish](/wiki/Irish_American) (12.5%), [Italian](/wiki/Italian_American) (8.4%), [German](/wiki/German_American) (8.1%), [Polish](/wiki/Polish_American) (3.6%), and [English](/wiki/English_American) (3.0%).[[74]](#cite_note-74) According to a 2014 study by the [Pew Research Center](/wiki/Pew_Research_Center), 68% of the population of the city identified themselves as [Christians](/wiki/Christians), with 41% professing attendance at a variety of churches that could be considered [Protestant](/wiki/Protestant), and 26% professing [Roman Catholic](/wiki/Roman_Catholic) beliefs,[[75]](#cite_note-75)[[76]](#cite_note-76) while 24% claim [no religious affiliation](/wiki/Irreligion). The same study says that other religions (including [Judaism](/wiki/Judaism), [Buddhism](/wiki/Buddhism), [Islam](/wiki/Islam), and [Hinduism](/wiki/Hinduism)) collectively make up about 8% of the population

[thumb|left|"Leacht Quimhneachain Na Gael",](/wiki/File:Irish_famine_memorial_philadelphia_01.jpg) [Irish famine](/wiki/Great_Famine_(Ireland)) memorial located in [Penn's Landing](/wiki/Penn's_Landing), honoring Philadelphia's large [Irish](/wiki/Irish_American) community (14.2% of the city's population).[[77]](#cite_note-77) The average population density was 11,457 people per square mile (4,405.4/km²). The Census reported that 1,468,623 people (96.2% of the population) lived in households, 38,007 (2.5%) lived in non-institutionalized group quarters, and 19,376 (1.3%) were institutionalized.[[69]](#cite_note-69) In 2013, the city reported having 668,247 total housing units, down slightly from 670,171 housing units in 2010. [Template:As of](/wiki/Template:As_of), 87 percent of housing units were occupied, while 13 percent were vacant, a slight change from 2010 where 89.5 percent of units were occupied, or 599,736 and 10.5 percent were vacant, or 70,435.[[69]](#cite_note-69)[[78]](#cite_note-78) Of the city's residents, 32 percent reported having no vehicles available while 23 percent had two or more vehicles available, [Template:As of](/wiki/Template:As_of).[[78]](#cite_note-78) In 2010, 24.9 percent of households reported having children under the age of 18 living with them, 28.3 percent were married couples living together and 22.5 percent had a female householder with no husband present, 6.0 percent had a male householder with no wife present, and 43.2 percent were non-families. The city reported 34.1 percent of all households were made up of individuals while 10.5 percent had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.45 and the average family size was 3.20.[[69]](#cite_note-69) In 2013, the percentage of women who gave birth in the previous 12 months who were unmarried was 56 percent. Of Philadelphia's adults, 31 percent were married or lived as a couple, 55 percent were not married, 11 percent were divorced or separated, and 3 percent were widowed.[[78]](#cite_note-78) According to the Census Bureau, the median household income in 2013 was $36,836, down 7.9 percent from 2008 when the median household income was $40,008 (in 2013 dollars). For comparison, the median household income among metropolitan areas was $60,482, down 8.2 percent in the same period, and the national median household income was $55,250, down 7.0 percent from 2008.[[78]](#cite_note-78) The city's wealth disparity is evident when neighborhoods are compared. Residents in [Society Hill](/wiki/Society_Hill,_Philadelphia) had a median household income of $93,720 while residents in one of [North Philadelphia's](/wiki/North_Philadelphia) districts reported the lowest median household income, $14,185.[[78]](#cite_note-78) During the last decade, Philadelphia experienced a large shift in its age profile. In 2000, the city's [population pyramid](/wiki/Population_pyramid) had a largely stationary shape. In 2013, the city took on an expansive pyramid shape, with an increase in the three [millennial](/wiki/Millennial) age groups, 20 to 24, 25 to 29, and 30 to 34. The city's 25- to 29-year-old age group was the city's largest age cohort.[[78]](#cite_note-78) According to the 2010 Census, 343,837 (22.5%) were under the age of 18; 203,697 (13.3%) from 18 to 25; 434,385 (28.5%) from 25 to 44; 358,778 (23.5%) from 45 to 64; and 185,309 (12.1%) who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 33.5 years. For every 100 females there were 89.4 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 85.7 males.[[69]](#cite_note-69) The city had 22,018 births in 2013, down from a peak 23,689 births in 2008. Philadelphia's death rate was at its lowest in at least a half-century, 13,691 deaths in 2013.[[78]](#cite_note-78) Another factor attributing to the population increase is Philadelphia's immigration rate. In 2013, 12.7 percent of residents were foreign-born, just shy of the national average, 13.1 percent.[[78]](#cite_note-78) [thumb|right|](/wiki/File:Italian_Market_Vegetable_Stand_3000px.jpg)[Italian Market](/wiki/Italian_Market,_Philadelphia), reflecting [South Philadelphia's](/wiki/South_Philadelphia) [Italian](/wiki/Italian_American) heritage.[[79]](#cite_note-79) Irish, Italians, Polish, Germans, English, and Greeks are the largest ethnic European groups in the city.[[74]](#cite_note-74) Philadelphia has the second-largest Irish and Italian populations in the United States, after New York City. [South Philadelphia](/wiki/South_Philadelphia) remains one of the largest Italian neighborhoods in the country and is home to the [Italian Market](/wiki/Italian_Market). The [Pennsport](/wiki/Pennsport,_Philadelphia) neighborhood and [Gray's Ferry](/wiki/Gray's_Ferry) section of South Philadelphia, home to many [Mummer](/wiki/Mummers_Parade) clubs, are well known as Irish neighborhoods. The [Kensington section](/wiki/Kensington,_Philadelphia), [Port Richmond](/wiki/Port_Richmond,_Philadelphia), and [Fishtown](/wiki/Fishtown,_Philadelphia) have historically been heavily Irish and Polish. Port Richmond is well known in particular as the center of the Polish immigrant and Polish-American community in Philadelphia, and it remains a common destination for Polish immigrants. [Northeast Philadelphia](/wiki/Northeast_Philadelphia), although known for its Irish and Irish-American population, is also home to a large Jewish and Russian population. [Mount Airy](/wiki/Mount_Airy,_Philadelphia) in [Northwest Philadelphia](/wiki/Northwest_Philadelphia) also contains a large Jewish community, while nearby [Chestnut Hill](/wiki/Chestnut_Hill,_Philadelphia) is historically known as an [Anglo-Saxon Protestant](/wiki/White_Anglo-Saxon_Protestant) stronghold.

[left|thumb|](/wiki/File:13th_Gayborhood.jpg)[Washington Square West](/wiki/Washington_Square_West,_Philadelphia), the heart of the [Gayborhood](/wiki/Gayborhood).[[80]](#cite_note-80) There has also been an increase of [yuppie](/wiki/Yuppie), bohemian, and hipster types particularly around Center City, the neighborhood of [Northern Liberties](/wiki/Northern_Liberties), and in the neighborhoods around the city's universities, such as near Temple in North Philadelphia and particularly near Drexel and University of Pennsylvania in West Philadelphia. Philadelphia is also home to a significant [gay](/wiki/Gay) and [lesbian](/wiki/Lesbian) population. Philadelphia's [Gayborhood](/wiki/Gayborhood), which is located near [Washington Square](/wiki/Washington_Square,_Philadelphia), is home to a large concentration of gay and lesbian friendly businesses, restaurants, and bars.[[81]](#cite_note-81) The [Black American](/wiki/African_American) population in Philadelphia is the third-largest in the country, after New York City and Chicago. Historically, [West Philadelphia](/wiki/West_Philadelphia) and North Philadelphia were largely black neighborhoods, but many are leaving these areas in favor of the Northeast and Southwest sections of Philadelphia. There is a higher proportion of Muslims in the Black American population than most cities in America. West Philadelphia also has significant Caribbean and African immigrant populations.[[82]](#cite_note-82) The [Puerto Rican](/wiki/Puerto_Rican_American) population in Philadelphia is the second-largest after New York City, and the second fastest-growing after Orlando.[[74]](#cite_note-74)[[83]](#cite_note-83) There are large Puerto Rican and [Dominican](/wiki/Dominican_American) populations in [North Philadelphia](/wiki/North_Philadelphia) and the Northeast, as well as a significant Mexican population in South Philadelphia.[[84]](#cite_note-84) Philadelphia has significant [Asian](/wiki/Asian_American) populations mainly hailing from countries like India, China, Vietnam, and South Korea. [Chinatown](/wiki/Chinatown,_Philadelphia) and the Northeast have the largest Asian presences, with a large Korean community in [Olney, Philadelphia](/wiki/Olney,_Philadelphia). South Philadelphia is also home to large Cambodian, Vietnamese, and Chinese communities. It has the fifth largest [Muslim](/wiki/Muslim) population among American cities.[[85]](#cite_note-85)

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

[Template:As of](/wiki/Template:As_of), 79.12% (1,112,441) of Philadelphia residents age 5 and older spoke [English](/wiki/English_language) at home as a [primary language](/wiki/Primary_language), while 9.72% (136,688) spoke [Spanish](/wiki/Spanish_language), 1.64% (23,075) [Chinese](/wiki/Chinese_language), 0.89% (12,499) [Vietnamese](/wiki/Vietnamese_language), 0.77% (10,885) [Russian](/wiki/Russian_language), 0.66% (9,240) [French](/wiki/French_language), 0.61% (8,639) [other Asian languages](/wiki/Languages_of_Asia), 0.58% (8,217) [African languages](/wiki/Languages_of_Africa), 0.56% (7,933) [Cambodian](/wiki/Cambodian_language) ([Mon-Khmer](/wiki/Austroasiatic_languages)), and [Italian](/wiki/Italian_language) was spoken as a [main language](/wiki/Main_language) by 0.55% (7,773) of the population over the age of five. In total, 20.88% (293,544) of Philadelphia's population age 5 and older spoke a [mother language](/wiki/Mother_language) other than English.[[86]](#cite_note-86)

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Top publicly traded companies in Philadelphia for 2014** | | |
| **Corporation** | **Rank** |  |
| [Comcast](/wiki/Comcast) | 44 |  |
| [Aramark](/wiki/Aramark) | 209 |  |
| [Crown Holdings](/wiki/Crown_Holdings) | 313 |  |
| [FMC](/wiki/FMC_Corporation) | 581 |  |
| [Urban Outfitters](/wiki/Urban_Outfitters) | 715 |  |
| [Chemtura](/wiki/Chemtura) | 775 |  |
| [Pep Boys](/wiki/Pep_Boys) | 945 |  |
| ***Notes*** | | | |
| *Rankings for fiscal year ended 2014.* | | | |
| **Source:** [*Fortune*](/wiki/Fortune_(magazine))[[87]](#cite_note-87) | | | |

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

Philadelphia is the center of economic activity in [Pennsylvania](/wiki/Pennsylvania) with the headquarters of seven [Fortune 1000](/wiki/Fortune_1000) companies located within city limits. According to the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Philadelphia area had a total gross metropolitan product of $347 billion in 2010, the [seventh-largest metropolitan economy](/wiki/List_of_metropolitan_areas_in_the_United_States_by_GMP) in the United States.[[88]](#cite_note-88) Philadelphia was rated by the [GaWC5](/wiki/Globalization_and_World_Cities_Research_Network) as an 'Alpha- City' in its categorization of [world cities](/wiki/Global_city#GaWC_study).[[89]](#cite_note-89) Philadelphia's economic sectors include information technology, manufacturing, oil refining, food processing, health care, biotechnology, tourism, and financial services. Financial activities account for the largest sector of the metropolitan area's economy, and it is one of the largest health education and research centers in the United States.

[thumb|left|](/wiki/File:WTP_D05_AMP_2.jpg)[Philadelphia Stock Exchange](/wiki/Philadelphia_Stock_Exchange), the oldest [stock exchange](/wiki/Stock_exchange) in the United States. The city is home to the [Philadelphia Stock Exchange](/wiki/Philadelphia_Stock_Exchange) and some of the area's largest companies including cable television and internet provider [Comcast](/wiki/Comcast), insurance companies [Colonial Penn](/wiki/Colonial_Penn), [CIGNA](/wiki/CIGNA), [Independence Blue Cross](/wiki/Independence_Blue_Cross), energy company [Sunoco](/wiki/Sunoco), food services company [Aramark](/wiki/Aramark) and [Crown](/wiki/Crown_Holdings_Incorporated), chemical makers [Rohm and Haas](/wiki/Rohm_and_Haas) and [FMC](/wiki/FMC_Corporation), pharmaceutical company [GlaxoSmithKline](/wiki/GlaxoSmithKline), [Boeing Rotorcraft Systems](/wiki/Boeing_Rotorcraft_Systems), and automotive parts retailer [Pep Boys](/wiki/Pep_Boys).

Philadelphia's an annualized unemployment rate was 7.8% in 2014, down from 10.0%the previous year.[[78]](#cite_note-78) This is higher than the national average of 6.2%. Similarly, the rate of new jobs added to the city's economy lagged behind the national job growth. In 2014, about 8,800 jobs were added to the city's economy. Sectors with the largest number of jobs added were in education and health services, leisure and hospitality, and professional and business services. Declines were seen in the city's manufacturing and government sectors.[[78]](#cite_note-78) While about 31.9% of the city's population is not in the labor force, the city's largest employers are the federal and city governments, respectively. Philadelphia's largest private employer is the [University of Pennsylvania](/wiki/University_of_Pennsylvania) followed by the [Children's Hospital of Philadelphia](/wiki/Children's_Hospital_of_Philadelphia).[[78]](#cite_note-78) A study commissioned by the city's government projected 40,000 jobs to be added to the city by 2035, raising the city's 2010 number of jobs from 675,000 total to an estimated 715,000 jobs.[[66]](#cite_note-66) Philadelphia's history attracts many tourists, with the [Independence National Historical Park](/wiki/Independence_National_Historical_Park) (which includes the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, and other historical sites) receiving over 3.6 million visitors in 2014.[[90]](#cite_note-90) The Greater Philadelphia region was visited by 39 million people in 2013 generating $10 billion in economic impact.[[11]](#cite_note-11)

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

[thumb|left|](/wiki/File:Amer0024_-_Flickr_-_NOAA_Photo_Library.jpg)[Independence Hall](/wiki/Independence_Hall), where both the [United States Declaration of Independence](/wiki/United_States_Declaration_of_Independence) and the [United States Constitution](/wiki/United_States_Constitution) were debated and adopted. [Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) Philadelphia is home to many [national historical sites](/wiki/National_Historical_Park) that relate to the founding of the United States. [Independence National Historical Park](/wiki/Independence_National_Historical_Park) is the center of these historical landmarks being one of the country's 22 [UNESCO](/wiki/UNESCO) [World Heritage Sites](/wiki/World_Heritage_Site). [Independence Hall](/wiki/Independence_Hall), where the [Declaration of Independence](/wiki/United_States_Declaration_of_Independence) was signed, and the [Liberty Bell](/wiki/Liberty_Bell) are the city's most famous attractions. Other historic sites include homes for [Edgar Allan Poe](/wiki/Edgar_Allan_Poe_National_Historic_Site), [Betsy Ross](/wiki/Betsy_Ross_House), and [Thaddeus Kosciuszko](/wiki/Thaddeus_Kosciuszko_National_Memorial), early government buildings like the [First](/wiki/First_Bank_of_the_United_States) and [Second Banks of the United States](/wiki/Second_Bank_of_the_United_States), [Fort Mifflin](/wiki/Fort_Mifflin), and the [Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church](/wiki/Gloria_Dei_(Old_Swedes')_Church).[[91]](#cite_note-91) Philadelphia alone has 67 [National Historic Landmarks](/wiki/National_Historic_Landmarks), the third most of any city in the country.[[92]](#cite_note-92)[thumb|right|](/wiki/File:FirstBankofUS00_crop.jpg)[First Bank of the United States](/wiki/First_Bank_of_the_United_States) Philadelphia's major science museums include the [Franklin Institute](/wiki/Franklin_Institute), which contains the [Benjamin Franklin National Memorial](/wiki/Benjamin_Franklin_National_Memorial); the [Academy of Natural Sciences](/wiki/Academy_of_Natural_Sciences); the [Mütter Museum](/wiki/Mütter_Museum); and the [University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology](/wiki/University_of_Pennsylvania_Museum_of_Archaeology_and_Anthropology). History museums include the [National Constitution Center](/wiki/National_Constitution_Center), the [Atwater Kent Museum of Philadelphia](/wiki/Atwater_Kent_Museum_of_Philadelphia) History, the [National Museum of American Jewish History](/wiki/National_Museum_of_American_Jewish_History), the [African American Museum in Philadelphia](/wiki/African_American_Museum_in_Philadelphia), the [Historical Society of Pennsylvania](/wiki/Historical_Society_of_Pennsylvania), the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the state of Pennsylvania and The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania and [Eastern State Penitentiary](/wiki/Eastern_State_Penitentiary). Philadelphia is home to the United States' first [zoo](/wiki/Philadelphia_Zoo)[[93]](#cite_note-93) and [hospital](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Hospital),[[94]](#cite_note-94) as well as [Fairmount Park](/wiki/Fairmount_Park), one of America's oldest and largest urban parks.[[95]](#cite_note-95) The city is home to important archival repositories, including the [Library Company of Philadelphia](/wiki/Library_Company_of_Philadelphia), established in 1731, and the [Athenaeum of Philadelphia](/wiki/Athenaeum_of_Philadelphia), founded in 1814. The [Presbyterian Historical Society](/wiki/Presbyterian_Historical_Society), the country's oldest continuous denominational historical society, is also located there.

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

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) The Philadelphia dialect, which is spread throughout the [Delaware Valley](/wiki/Delaware_Valley) and [South Jersey](/wiki/South_Jersey), is part of [Mid-Atlantic American English](/wiki/Mid-Atlantic_American_English), and as such it is identical in many ways to the [Baltimore dialect](/wiki/Baltimore_dialect). Unlike the Baltimore dialect, however, the Philadelphia accent also shares many similarities with the [New York accent](/wiki/New_York_accent). Thanks to over a century of linguistics data collected by researchers at the [University of Pennsylvania](/wiki/University_of_Pennsylvania), the Philadelphia dialect under sociolinguist [William Labov](/wiki/William_Labov) has been one of the best-studied forms of [American English](/wiki/American_English).[[96]](#cite_note-96)[[97]](#cite_note-97)[Template:Efn](/wiki/Template:Efn)

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

[thumb|](/wiki/File:Walnut_Street_Theatre_from_east.jpg)[Walnut Street Theatre](/wiki/Walnut_Street_Theatre), the oldest continuously operating [theatre](/wiki/Theatre_(structure)) in the English-speaking world and the oldest in the United States.

The city contains many art museums, such as the [Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Academy_of_the_Fine_Arts) and the [Rodin Museum](/wiki/Rodin_Museum), which holds the largest collection of work by Auguste Rodin outside France. The city's major art museum, the [Philadelphia Museum of Art](/wiki/Philadelphia_Museum_of_Art), is one of the largest art museums in the United States. Its long flight of [steps](/wiki/Rocky_Steps) to the main entrance became famous after the film [*Rocky*](/wiki/Rocky) (1976).[[98]](#cite_note-98) [thumb|left|](/wiki/File:Philadelphia_Art_Museum.jpg)[Philadelphia Museum of Art](/wiki/Philadelphia_Museum_of_Art), amongst the largest [art museums](/wiki/Art_museum) in the United States.[[99]](#cite_note-99) The city is home to the [Philadelphia Sketch Club](/wiki/Philadelphia_Sketch_Club), one of the country's oldest artists' clubs, and [The Plastic Club](/wiki/The_Plastic_Club), started by women excluded from the Sketch Club. It has a profusion of art galleries, many of which participate in the [First Friday](/wiki/First_Friday_(public_event)) event. The first Friday of every month, galleries in [Old City](/wiki/Old_City,_Philadelphia,_Pennsylvania) are open late. Annual events include film festivals and parades, the most famous being the New Year's Day [Mummers Parade](/wiki/Mummers_Parade).

Areas such as South Street and [Old City](/wiki/Old_City_(Philadelphia)) have a vibrant night life. The [Avenue of the Arts](/wiki/Avenue_of_the_Arts,_Philadelphia) in Center City contains many restaurants and theaters, such as the [Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts](/wiki/Kimmel_Center_for_the_Performing_Arts), which is home to the [Philadelphia Orchestra](/wiki/Philadelphia_Orchestra), generally considered one of the [top five orchestras](/wiki/Big_Five_(orchestras)) in the United States, and the [Academy of Music](/wiki/Academy_of_Music_(Philadelphia)), the nation's oldest continually operating opera house, home to the [Opera Company of Philadelphia](/wiki/Opera_Company_of_Philadelphia) and the [Pennsylvania Ballet](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Ballet).[[98]](#cite_note-98) The [Wilma Theatre](/wiki/Wilma_Theater_(Philadelphia)) and [Philadelphia Theatre Company](/wiki/Philadelphia_Theatre_Company) have new buildings constructed in the last decade on the avenue. They produce a variety of new works. Several blocks to the east are the [Walnut Street Theatre](/wiki/Walnut_Street_Theatre), America's oldest theatre and the largest subscription theater in the world; as well as the Lantern Theatre at St. Stephens Church, one of a number of smaller venues.

[Template:See also](/wiki/Template:See_also) Philadelphia has more [public art](/wiki/Public_art) than any other American city.[[100]](#cite_note-100) In 1872, the [Association for Public Art](/wiki/Association_for_Public_Art) (formerly the Fairmount Park Art Association) was created, the first private association in the United States dedicated to integrating public art and [urban planning](/wiki/Urban_planning).[[101]](#cite_note-101) In 1959, lobbying by the Artists Equity Association helped create the [Percent for Art](/wiki/Percent_for_Art) [ordinance](/wiki/Law), the first for a U.S. city.[[102]](#cite_note-102) The program, which has funded more than 200 pieces of public art, is administered by the Philadelphia Office of Arts and Culture, the city's art agency.[[103]](#cite_note-103) [thumb|](/wiki/File:2013_Academy_of_Music_from_south.jpg)[Academy of Music](/wiki/Academy_of_Music_(Philadelphia)), home of the [Philadelphia Orchestra](/wiki/Philadelphia_Orchestra), 1900–2001 [thumb|left|](/wiki/File:Pennsylvania_Academy_of_the_Fine_Arts.jpg)[Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Academy_of_the_Fine_Arts), the nation's oldest art school and art museum Philadelphia has more murals than any other U.S. city, thanks in part to the 1984 creation of the Department of Recreation's [Mural Arts Program](/wiki/Mural_Arts_Program), which seeks to beautify neighborhoods and provide an outlet for [graffiti](/wiki/Graffiti) artists. The program has funded more than 2,800 [murals](/wiki/Mural) by professional, staff and volunteer artists and educated more than 20,000 youth in underserved neighborhoods throughout Philadelphia.[[104]](#cite_note-104) Philadelphia artists have had a prominent national role in popular [music](/wiki/Music_of_Philadelphia). In the 1970s, [Philadelphia soul](/wiki/Philadelphia_soul) influenced the music of that and later eras. On July 13, 1985, Philadelphia hosted the American end of the [Live Aid](/wiki/Live_Aid) concert at [John F. Kennedy Stadium](/wiki/John_F._Kennedy_Stadium_(Philadelphia)). The city reprised this role for the [Live 8](/wiki/Live_8) concert, bringing some 700,000 people to the [Ben Franklin Parkway](/wiki/Ben_Franklin_Parkway) on July 2, 2005.[[105]](#cite_note-105) Philadelphia is home to the world-renowned [Philadelphia Boys Choir & Chorale](/wiki/Philadelphia_Boys_Choir_&_Chorale), which has performed its music all over the world. Dr. Robert G. Hamilton, founder of the choir, is a notable native Philadelphian. The Philly Pops is another famous Philadelphia music group. The city has played a major role in the development and support of American rock music and [rap music](/wiki/Rap_music). Hip-hop/Rap artists such as [The Roots](/wiki/The_Roots), [DJ Jazzy Jeff & The Fresh Prince](/wiki/DJ_Jazzy_Jeff_&_The_Fresh_Prince), [The Goats](/wiki/The_Goats), [Freeway](/wiki/Freeway_(rapper)), [Schoolly D](/wiki/Schoolly_D), [Eve](/wiki/Eve_(entertainer)), and [Lisa "Left Eye" Lopes](/wiki/Lisa_Lopes) hail from the city.

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

[thumb|right|](/wiki/File:Pats_and_Genos.jpg)[Pat's Steaks](/wiki/Pat's_King_of_Steaks) in the foreground and [Geno's Steaks](/wiki/Geno's_Steaks) in the background [thumb|left|](/wiki/File:McGillin's_Olde_Ale_House.jpg)[McGillin's Olde Ale House](/wiki/McGillin's_Olde_Ale_House) [Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) The city is known for its [hoagies](/wiki/Submarine_sandwich), [scrapple](/wiki/Scrapple), [soft pretzels](/wiki/Soft_pretzel), [water ice](/wiki/Italian_ice), [Irish potato candy](/wiki/Irish_potato_candy), [Tastykake](/wiki/Tastykake), and is home to the [cheesesteak](/wiki/Cheesesteak), developed by German and Italian immigrants. Philadelphia boasts a number of cheesesteak establishments, however two locations in [South Philadelphia](/wiki/South_Philadelphia) are perhaps the most famous among tourists: [Pat's King of Steaks](/wiki/Pat's_King_of_Steaks) and its across the street rival [Geno's Steaks](/wiki/Geno's_Steaks).

Its high-end restaurants include Morimoto, [*Iron Chef*](/wiki/Iron_Chef) [Masaharu Morimoto's](/wiki/Masaharu_Morimoto) first restaurant, Vetri, famous on the East Coast for its take on Northern Italian cuisine, and Lacroix, a staple restaurant situated in Rittenhouse Square. Italian specialties have been supplemented by many new Vietnamese and other Asian restaurants, both budget and high-end.

[McGillin's Olde Ale House](/wiki/McGillin's_Olde_Ale_House), located on Drury Street in Center City, is the oldest continuously operated [tavern](/wiki/Tavern) in the city.[[106]](#cite_note-106) Philadelphia is also home to a landmark eatery founded in 1892, the [Reading Terminal Market](/wiki/Reading_Terminal_Market). The enclosed public market hosts over a hundred merchants offering [Pennsylvania Dutch](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Dutch) specialties, [artisan cheese](/wiki/Artisan_cheese) and meat, locally grown groceries, and specialty and ethnic foods.[[107]](#cite_note-107)

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

Philadelphia has decriminalized small amounts of marijuana in the city, reducing penalties for possession and public use to minor fines and community service. The move makes Philadelphia the largest city in the United States to decriminalize pot.[[108]](#cite_note-108) [Boathouse Row](/wiki/Boathouse_Row) is a symbol of Philadelphia's rich rowing history, and each [Big Five](/wiki/Philadelphia_Big_5) member has its own boathouse.[[111]](#cite_note-111) Philadelphia hosts numerous local and collegiate rowing clubs and competitions, including the annual [Dad Vail Regatta](/wiki/Dad_Vail_Regatta), the largest [intercollegiate rowing](/wiki/College_rowing_(United_States)) event in the U.S, the [Stotesbury Cup Regatta](/wiki/Stotesbury_Cup_Regatta), and the [Head of the Schuylkill Regatta](/wiki/Head_of_the_Schuylkill_Regatta), all of which are held on the [Schuylkill River](/wiki/Schuylkill_River).[[112]](#cite_note-112)[[113]](#cite_note-113)[[114]](#cite_note-114) The regattas are hosted and organized by the [Schuylkill Navy](/wiki/Schuylkill_Navy), an association of area rowing clubs that has produced numerous [Olympic](/wiki/Rowing_at_the_Summer_Olympics) rowers.[[115]](#cite_note-115)[thumb|tight|Historic](/wiki/File:A358,_Philadelphia,_Pennsylvania,_USA,_Boathouse_Row_at_night,_2009.JPG) [Boathouse Row](/wiki/Boathouse_Row) at night on the [Schuylkill](/wiki/Schuylkill_River), an enduring symbol of Philadelphia's rich rowing history.

Philadelphia is home to professional, semi-professional and elite amateur teams in cricket, rugby league ([Philadelphia Fight](/wiki/Philadelphia_Fight)), rugby union and other sports. Major sporting events in the city include the [Penn Relays](/wiki/Penn_Relays), [Philadelphia Marathon](/wiki/Philadelphia_Marathon), [Broad Street Run](/wiki/Broad_Street_Run), and the [Philadelphia International Championship](/wiki/Philadelphia_International_Championship) [bicycle race](/wiki/Bicycle_racing). The [Collegiate Rugby Championship](/wiki/Collegiate_Rugby_Championship) is played every June at [Talen Energy Stadium](/wiki/Talen_Energy_Stadium); the CRC is broadcast live on NBC and regularly draws attendances of 18,000.

Philadelphia is home to the [Philadelphia Big 5](/wiki/Philadelphia_Big_5), a group of five Division I college basketball programs. The Big 5 are [Saint Joseph's University](/wiki/Saint_Joseph's_University), University of Pennsylvania, [La Salle University](/wiki/La_Salle_University), [Temple University](/wiki/Temple_University), and [Villanova University](/wiki/Villanova_University). The sixth NCAA Division I school in Philadelphia is [Drexel University](/wiki/Drexel_University). At least one of the teams is competitive nearly every year[Template:Vague](/wiki/Template:Vague) and at least one team has made the NCAA tournament for the past four decades.[Template:Which](/wiki/Template:Which)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Club** | **League** | **Sport** | **Venue** | **Attendance** | **Founded** | **Championships** |
| [Philadelphia Eagles](/wiki/Philadelphia_Eagles) | [NFL](/wiki/National_Football_League) | American Football | [Lincoln Financial Field](/wiki/Lincoln_Financial_Field) | 69,144 | 1933 | [1948](/wiki/1948_NFL_season), [1949](/wiki/1949_NFL_season), [1960](/wiki/1960_NFL_season) |
| [Philadelphia Phillies](/wiki/Philadelphia_Phillies) | [MLB](/wiki/Major_League_Baseball) | Baseball | [Citizens Bank Park](/wiki/Citizens_Bank_Park) | 29,924 | 1883 | [1980](/wiki/1980_World_Series), [2008](/wiki/2008_World_Series) |
| [Philadelphia Flyers](/wiki/Philadelphia_Flyers) | [NHL](/wiki/National_Hockey_League) | Ice Hockey | [Wells Fargo Center](/wiki/Wells_Fargo_Center_(Philadelphia)) | 19,786 | 1967 | [1973–74](/wiki/1973–74_NHL_season), [1974–75](/wiki/1974–75_NHL_season) |
| [Philadelphia Union](/wiki/Philadelphia_Union) | [MLS](/wiki/Major_League_Soccer) | Soccer | [Talen Energy Stadium](/wiki/Talen_Energy_Stadium) | 18,053 | 2010 | none |
| [Philadelphia 76ers](/wiki/Philadelphia_76ers) | [NBA](/wiki/National_Basketball_Association) | Basketball | [Wells Fargo Center](/wiki/Wells_Fargo_Center_(Philadelphia)) | 13,869 | 1963 | [1966–67](/wiki/1966–67_NBA_season), [1982–83](/wiki/1982–83_NBA_season) |
| [Philadelphia Soul](/wiki/Philadelphia_Soul) | [AFL](/wiki/Arena_Football_League_(2010–)) | Arena Football | [Wells Fargo Center](/wiki/Wells_Fargo_Center_(Philadelphia)) | 9,000[[116]](#cite_note-116) | 2004 | [2008](/wiki/2008_Arena_Football_League_season) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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

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

[thumb|left|Fairmount Park, ca. 1900](/wiki/File:Detroit_Photographic_Company_(0757).jpg) The total parkland amounts to about [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert).[[117]](#cite_note-117) Philadelphia's largest park, [Fairmount Park](/wiki/Fairmount_Park), encompasses [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) of this parkland and includes 63 neighborhood and regional parks.[[118]](#cite_note-118) The largest tract of Fairmount Park is on the west side of the city along the Schuylkill River and [Wissahickon Creek](/wiki/Wissahickon_Creek) and includes the [Philadelphia Zoo](/wiki/Philadelphia_Zoo).

The total expenditures of the park in 2005 were $164 million. Fairmount Park is the world's largest landscaped [urban park](/wiki/Urban_park).[[13]](#cite_note-13)

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

[thumb|](/wiki/File:Philadelphia-CityHall-2006.jpg)[City Hall](/wiki/Philadelphia_City_Hall), Philadelphia's tallest building until 1987. From a governmental perspective, Philadelphia County is a [legal nullity](/wiki/Legal_nullity), as all county functions were assumed by the city in 1952, which has been coterminous with the county since 1854.

Philadelphia's 1952 Home Rule Charter was written by the City Charter Commission, which was created by the Pennsylvania General Assembly in an Act of April 21, 1949, and a city ordinance of June 15, 1949. The existing City Council received a proposed draft on February 14, 1951, and the electors approved it in an election held April 17, 1951.[[119]](#cite_note-119) The first elections under the new Home Rule Charter were held in November 1951, and the newly elected officials took office in January 1952.[[120]](#cite_note-120) The city uses the strong-mayor version of the [mayor-council](/wiki/Mayor-council) form of government, which is headed by one mayor, in whom executive authority is vested. Elected [at-large](/wiki/At-large), the mayor is limited to two consecutive four-year terms under the city's [home rule](/wiki/Home_rule) charter, but can run for the position again after an intervening term. The Mayor is [Jim Kenney](/wiki/Jim_Kenney), who replaced [Michael Nutter](/wiki/Michael_Nutter), who served two terms from 2009 to January 2016. Kenney, as all Philadelphia mayors have been since 1952, is a member of the [Democratic Party](/wiki/United_States_Democratic_Party), which tends to dominate local politics so thoroughly that the Democratic Mayoral primary is often more widely covered than the general election. The legislative branch, the [Philadelphia City Council](/wiki/Philadelphia_City_Council), consists of ten council members representing individual districts and seven members elected at large. Democrats currently hold 14 seats, with Republicans representing two allotted at-large seats for the minority party, as well as the [Northeast-based](/wiki/Northeast_Philadelphia) Tenth District. The current council president is [Darrell Clarke](/wiki/Darrell_L._Clarke_(politician)).

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

The Philadelphia County [Court of Common Pleas](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Courts_of_Common_Pleas) (First Judicial District) is the [trial court](/wiki/Trial_court) of general jurisdiction for Philadelphia, hearing [felony](/wiki/Felony)-level criminal cases and civil suits above the minimum jurisdictional limit of $7000 (excepting small claims cases valued between $7000 and $12000 and landlord-tenant issues heard in the Municipal Court) under its [original jurisdiction](/wiki/Original_jurisdiction); it also has [appellate jurisdiction](/wiki/Appellate_jurisdiction) over rulings from the Municipal and Traffic Courts and over decisions of certain Pennsylvania state agencies (e.g. the [Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Liquor_Control_Board)). It has 90 legally trained judges elected by the voters. It is funded and operated largely by city resources and employees.[[121]](#cite_note-121) The current [District Attorney](/wiki/District_Attorney_of_Philadelphia) is [Seth Williams](/wiki/R._Seth_Williams), a Democrat. The last Republican to hold the office is [Ron Castille](/wiki/Ronald_D._Castille), who left in 1991 and is currently the Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

The [Philadelphia Municipal Court](/wiki/Philadelphia_Municipal_Court) handles matters of limited jurisdiction as well as landlord-tenant disputes, appeals from traffic court, preliminary hearings for felony-level offenses, and misdemeanor criminal trials. It has 25 legally trained judges elected by the voters.[[122]](#cite_note-122) Philadelphia Traffic Court is a court of special jurisdiction that hears violations of traffic laws. It has seven judges elected by the voters.[[123]](#cite_note-123) As with magisterial district judges, the judges need not be lawyers, but must complete the certifying course and pass the qualifying examination administered by the Minor Judiciary Education Board.[[124]](#cite_note-124) Pennsylvania's three [appellate courts](/wiki/Appellate_court) also have sittings in Philadelphia. The [Supreme Court of Pennsylvania](/wiki/Supreme_Court_of_Pennsylvania), the court of last resort in the state, regularly hears arguments in [Philadelphia City Hall](/wiki/Philadelphia_City_Hall). Also, the [Superior Court of Pennsylvania](/wiki/Superior_Court_of_Pennsylvania) and the [Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania](/wiki/Commonwealth_Court_of_Pennsylvania) sit in Philadelphia several times a year. Judges for these courts are elected at large. Each court has a [prothonotary's](/wiki/Prothonotary) office in Philadelphia as well.

Additionally, Philadelphia is home to the federal [United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania](/wiki/United_States_District_Court_for_the_Eastern_District_of_Pennsylvania) and the [Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit](/wiki/United_States_Court_of_Appeals_for_the_Third_Circuit), both of which are housed in the [James A. Byrne United States Courthouse](/wiki/James_A._Byrne_United_States_Courthouse).

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

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Presidential election results** | | |
| **Year** | [**Republican**](/wiki/Republican_Party_(United_States)) | [**Democratic**](/wiki/Democratic_Party_(United_States)) |
| [2012](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_2012) | 13.97% *96,467* | **85.25%** *588,806* |
| [2008](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_2008) | 16.33% *117,221* | **83.01%** *595,980* |
| [2004](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_2004) | 19.3% *130,099* | **80.4%** *542,205* |
| [2000](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_2000) | 18.0% *100,959* | **80.0%** *449,182* |
| [1996](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1996) | 16.0% *85,345* | **77.5%** *412,988* |
| [1992](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1992) | 20.9% *133,328* | **68.2%** *434,904* |
| [1988](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1988) | 32.5% *219,053* | **66.6%** *449,566* |
| [1984](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1984) | 34.6% *267,178* | **64.9%** *501,369* |
| [1980](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1980) | 34.0% *244,108* | **58.7%** *421,253* |
| [1976](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1976) | 32.0% *239,000* | **66.3%** *494,579* |
| [1972](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1972) | 43.4% *340,096* | **55.1%** *431,736* |
| [1968](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1968) | 30.0% *254,153* | **61.8%** *525,768* |
| [1964](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1964) | 26.2% *239,733* | **73.4%** *670,645* |
| [1960](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1960) | 31.8% *291,000* | **68.0%** *622,544* |

As of December 31, 2009, there were 1,057,038 registered voters in Philadelphia.[[125]](#cite_note-125) Registered voters constitute 68.3% of the total population.[[126]](#cite_note-126)

* [Democratic](/wiki/Democratic_Party_(United_States)): 829,873 (78.5%)
* [Republican](/wiki/Republican_Party_(United_States)): 134,216 (12.7%)
* [Libertarian](/wiki/Libertarian_Party_(United_States)) 2,631 (0.2%)
* Other Parties and No party: 90,318 (8.5%)[[125]](#cite_note-125)

From the [American Civil War](/wiki/American_Civil_War) until the mid-20th century, Philadelphia was a bastion of the [Republican Party](/wiki/Republican_Party_(United_States)), which arose from the staunch pro-Northern views of Philadelphia residents during and after the war (Philadelphia was chosen as the host city for the first [Republican National Convention](/wiki/Republican_National_Convention) in [1856](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1856)). After the [Great Depression](/wiki/Great_Depression), Democratic registrations increased, but the city was not carried by Democrat [Franklin D. Roosevelt](/wiki/Franklin_D._Roosevelt) in his landslide victory of [1932](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1932) (in which Pennsylvania was one of the few states won by Republican [Herbert Hoover](/wiki/Herbert_Hoover)). Four years later, however, voter turnout surged and the city finally flipped to the Democrats. Roosevelt carried Philadelphia with over 60% of the vote in [1936](/wiki/United_States_presidential_election,_1936). The city has remained loyally Democratic in every presidential election since. It is now one of the most Democratic in the country; in 2008, Democrat [Barack Obama](/wiki/Barack_Obama) drew 83% of the city's vote. Obama's win was even greater in 2012, capturing 85% of the vote.

Philadelphia once comprised six [congressional districts](/wiki/Congressional_district). However, as a result of the city's declining population, it now has only four: [the 1st district](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_1st_congressional_district), represented by [Bob Brady](/wiki/Bob_Brady); [the 2nd](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_2nd_congressional_district), represented by [Chaka Fattah](/wiki/Chaka_Fattah); [the 8th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_8th_congressional_district), represented by [Mike Fitzpatrick](/wiki/Mike_Fitzpatrick); and [the 13th](/wiki/Pennsylvania's_13th_congressional_district), represented by [Brendan Boyle](/wiki/Brendan_F._Boyle). All but Fitzpatrick are Democrats. Although they are usually swamped by Democrats in city, state and national elections, Republicans still have some support in the area, primarily in [the northeast](/wiki/Northeast_Philadelphia). A Republican represented a significant portion of Philadelphia in the House as late as 1983, and [Sam Katz](/wiki/Sam_Katz_(Philadelphia)) ran competitive mayoral races as the Republican nominee in both [1999](/wiki/Philadelphia_mayoral_election,_1999) and [2003](/wiki/Philadelphia_mayoral_election,_2003).

Pennsylvania's longest-serving [Senator](/wiki/List_of_United_States_Senators_from_Pennsylvania),[[127]](#cite_note-127) [Arlen Specter](/wiki/Arlen_Specter), was from Philadelphia; he served as a Republican from 1981 and as a Democrat from 2009, losing that party's primary in [2010](/wiki/United_States_Senate_Democratic_primary_election_in_Pennsylvania,_2010) and leaving office in January 2011. He was also the city's District Attorney from 1966 to 1974.

Philadelphia has hosted various [national conventions](/wiki/United_States_presidential_nominating_convention), including in [1848 (Whig)](/wiki/1848_Whig_National_Convention), [1856 (Republican)](/wiki/1856_Republican_National_Convention), [1872 (Republican)](/wiki/1872_Republican_National_Convention), [1900 (Republican)](/wiki/1900_Republican_National_Convention), [1936 (Democratic)](/wiki/1936_Democratic_National_Convention), [1940 (Republican)](/wiki/1940_Republican_National_Convention), [1948 (Republican)](/wiki/1948_Republican_National_Convention), [1948 (Progressive)](/wiki/1948_Progressive_National_Convention), and [2000 (Republican)](/wiki/2000_Republican_National_Convention). Philadelphia will host the [2016 Democratic National Convention](/wiki/2016_Democratic_National_Convention).[[128]](#cite_note-128) Philadelphia has been home to one [Vice President](/wiki/Vice_President_of_the_United_States), [George M. Dallas](/wiki/George_M._Dallas), and one Civil War general who won his party's nomination for president but lost in the general election: [George B. McClellan](/wiki/George_B._McClellan).

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

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

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) [thumb|right|](/wiki/File:Philadelphia_Police_Headquarters.jpg)[Philadelphia Police Department](/wiki/Philadelphia_Police_Department) Headquarters known as "The Roundhouse"

Like many American cities, Philadelphia saw a gradual yet pronounced rise in crime in the years following World War II. There were 525 murders in 1990, a rate of 31.5 per 100,000. There were an average of about 600 murders a year for most of the 1990s. The murder count dropped in 2002 to 288, then rose four years later to 406 in 2006 and 392 in 2007.[[129]](#cite_note-129) A few years later, Philadelphia began to see a rapid drop in homicides and violent crime. In 2013, there were 246 murders, which is a decrease of over 25% from the previous year, and a decrease of over 44% since 2007.[[130]](#cite_note-130) And in 2014, there were 248 homicides, up by one since 2013.[[78]](#cite_note-78) In 2006, Philadelphia's homicide rate of 27.7 per 100,000 people was the highest of the country's 10 most populous cities.[[131]](#cite_note-131) In 2012, Philadelphia had the fourth-highest homicide rate among the country's most populous cities. And in 2014, the rate dropped to 16.0 homicides per 100,000 residents placing Philadelphia as the sixth-highest city in the country.[[78]](#cite_note-78) In 2004, there were 7,513.5 crimes per 200,000 people in Philadelphia.[[132]](#cite_note-132) Among its neighboring Mid-Atlantic cities in the same population group, [Baltimore](/wiki/Baltimore) and Washington, D.C. were ranked second- and third-most dangerous cities in the United States, respectively.[[133]](#cite_note-133) [Camden](/wiki/Camden,_New_Jersey), New Jersey, a city across the Delaware River from Philadelphia, was ranked as the most dangerous city in the United States.[[133]](#cite_note-133) The number of shootings in the city has declined significantly in the last 10 years. Shooting incidents peaked in 2006 when 1,857 shootings were recorded. That number has dropped 44 percent to 1,047 shootings in 2014.[[78]](#cite_note-78) Similarly, major crimes in the city has decreased gradually in the last ten years since its peak in 2006 when 85,498 major crimes were reported. In the past three years, the number of reported major crimes fell 11 percent to a total of 68,815. [Violent crimes](/wiki/Violent_crime), which include homicide, rape, aggravated assault, and robbery, decreased 14 percent in the past three years with a reported 15,771 occurrences in 2014.[[78]](#cite_note-78) Based on the rate of violent crimes per 1,000 residents in American cities with 25,000 people or more, Philadelphia was ranked as the 54th most dangerous city in 2015.[[134]](#cite_note-134)

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

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

### Primary and secondary education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=23)]

[thumb|](/wiki/File:Penn_Charter.jpg)[William Penn Charter School](/wiki/William_Penn_Charter_School), established in 1689, is the oldest [Quaker](/wiki/Quaker) school in the nation

Education in Philadelphia is provided by many private and public institutions. The [School District of Philadelphia](/wiki/School_District_of_Philadelphia) runs the city's [public schools](/wiki/Public_school_(government_funded)). The Philadelphia School District is the eighth largest [school district](/wiki/School_district) in the United States[[135]](#cite_note-135) with 142,266 students in 218 public schools and 86 [charter schools](/wiki/Charter_schools) [Template:As of](/wiki/Template:As_of).[[136]](#cite_note-136) The city's K-12 enrollment in district run schools has dropped in the last five years from 156,211 students in 2010 to 130,104 students in 2015. During the same time period, the enrollment in charter schools has increased from 33,995 students in 2010 to 62,358 students in 2015.[[78]](#cite_note-78) This consistent drop in enrollment has led the city to close 24 of its public schools in 2013.[[137]](#cite_note-137) During the 2014 school year, the city spent an average of $12,570 per pupil, below the average among comparable urban school districts.[[78]](#cite_note-78) Graduation rates among district-run schools, meanwhile, have steadily increased in the last ten years. In 2005, Philadelphia had a district graduation rate of 52%. This number has increased to 65% in 2014, still below the national and state averages. Scores on the state's standardized test, the [Pennsylvania System of School Assessment](/wiki/Pennsylvania_System_of_School_Assessment) (PSSA) have trended upward from 2005 to 2011 but have decreased since. In 2005, the district-run schools scored an average of 37.4% on math and 35.5% on reading. The city's schools reached its peak scores in 2011 with 59.0% on math and 52.3% on reading. In 2014, the scores dropped significantly to 45.2% on math and 42.0% on reading.[[78]](#cite_note-78) Of the city's public high schools, including charter schools, only four performed above the national average on the [SAT](/wiki/SAT) (1497[[138]](#cite_note-138)) in 2014: [Masterman](/wiki/Julia_R._Masterman_School), [Central](/wiki/Central_High_School_(Philadelphia)), [Girard](/wiki/Girard_Academic_Music_Program), and [MaST Community Charter School](/wiki/MaST_Community_Charter_School). All other district-run schools were below average.[[78]](#cite_note-78)

### Higher education[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=24)]

[thumb|right|Quadrangle at the](/wiki/File:Quadrangle_Building_at_the_University_of_Pennsylvania.jpg) [University of Pennsylvania](/wiki/University_of_Pennsylvania) in the winter. [thumb|left|](/wiki/File:University_of_Pennsylvania_Medical_Hall_and_College_Hall_1842.png)[Perelman School of Medicine](/wiki/Perelman_School_of_Medicine_at_the_University_of_Pennsylvania), the oldest medical school in the United States

Philadelphia has the third-largest student concentration on the East Coast, with over 120,000 college and university students enrolled within the city and nearly 300,000 in the metropolitan area.[[139]](#cite_note-139) There are over 80 colleges, universities, trade, and specialty schools in the Philadelphia region. One of the founding members of the [Association of American Universities](/wiki/Association_of_American_Universities) is in city, the [University of Pennsylvania](/wiki/University_of_Pennsylvania), an [Ivy League](/wiki/Ivy_League) institution with claims to being the oldest university in the country.[[140]](#cite_note-140) The city's largest private school by number of students is [Temple University](/wiki/Temple_University), followed by [Drexel University](/wiki/Drexel_University).[[141]](#cite_note-141) Along with the University of Pennsylvania, Temple University and Drexel University make up the city's major research universities. The city is also home to five schools of medicine: [Drexel University College of Medicine](/wiki/Drexel_University_College_of_Medicine), [Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania](/wiki/Perelman_School_of_Medicine_at_the_University_of_Pennsylvania), [Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine](/wiki/Philadelphia_College_of_Osteopathic_Medicine), [Temple University School of Medicine](/wiki/Temple_University_School_of_Medicine), and the [Thomas Jefferson University](/wiki/Jefferson_Medical_College). Hospitals, universities, and higher education research institutions in Philadelphia's four congressional districts received more than $252 million in [National Institutes of Health](/wiki/National_Institutes_of_Health) grants in 2015.[[142]](#cite_note-142) Other institutions of higher learning within the city's borders include:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * [Saint Joseph's University](/wiki/Saint_Joseph's_University) * [La Salle University](/wiki/La_Salle_University) * [Peirce College](/wiki/Peirce_College) * [University of the Sciences in Philadelphia](/wiki/University_of_the_Sciences) * [The University of the Arts](/wiki/University_of_the_Arts_(Philadelphia)) * [Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Academy_of_the_Fine_Arts) * [Curtis Institute of Music](/wiki/Curtis_Institute_of_Music) * [Thomas Jefferson University](/wiki/Thomas_Jefferson_University) | * [Moore College of Art and Design](/wiki/Moore_College_of_Art_and_Design) * [The Art Institute of Philadelphia](/wiki/List_of_The_Art_Institutes_locations) * [The Restaurant School at Walnut Hill College](/wiki/The_Restaurant_School_at_Walnut_Hill_College) * [Philadelphia University](/wiki/Philadelphia_University) * [Chestnut Hill College](/wiki/Chestnut_Hill_College) * [Holy Family University](/wiki/Holy_Family_University) * [Community College of Philadelphia](/wiki/Community_College_of_Philadelphia) * [Messiah College Philadelphia Campus](/wiki/Messiah_College) |

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

[Template:Details](/wiki/Template:Details) [thumb|The](/wiki/File:Inquirerbldgfull.jpg) [Inquirer Building](/wiki/Inquirer_Building) on North [Broad Street](/wiki/Broad_Street_(Philadelphia))

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

Philadelphia's two major [daily newspapers](/wiki/Newspaper) are [*The Philadelphia Inquirer*](/wiki/The_Philadelphia_Inquirer), which is the eighteenth largest newspaper[[143]](#cite_note-143) and third-oldest surviving daily newspaper in the country,[[144]](#cite_note-144) and the [*Philadelphia Daily News*](/wiki/Philadelphia_Daily_News). Both newspapers were purchased from [The McClatchy Company](/wiki/The_McClatchy_Company) (after buying out [Knight Ridder](/wiki/Knight_Ridder)) in 2006 by [Philadelphia Media Holdings](/wiki/Philadelphia_Media_Holdings) and operated by the group until the organization declared bankruptcy in 2010.[[145]](#cite_note-145) After two years of financial struggle, the two newspapers were sold to [Interstate General Media](/wiki/Interstate_General_Media) in 2012.[[145]](#cite_note-145) The two newspapers have a combined circulation of about 500,000 readers.[[143]](#cite_note-143) The city also has a number of other, smaller newspapers and magazine in circulation such as the [*Philadelphia Tribune*](/wiki/Philadelphia_Tribune), which serves the [African-American](/wiki/African-American) community, the [*Philadelphia*](/wiki/Philadelphia_(magazine)), a monthly regional magazine; [*Philadelphia Weekly*](/wiki/Philadelphia_Weekly), a weekly-printed alternative newspaper; [*Philadelphia City Paper*](/wiki/Philadelphia_City_Paper) another weekly-printed newspaper; [*Philadelphia Gay News*](/wiki/Philadelphia_Gay_News), which services the [LGBT](/wiki/LGBT) community; [*The Jewish Exponent*](/wiki/The_Jewish_Exponent) a weekly-printed newspaper servicing the [Jewish](/wiki/Jewish) community; [*Philadelphia Metro*](/wiki/Philadelphia_Metro), free daily newspaper; and [*Al Día*](/wiki/Al_Día_(Philadelphia)), a weekly newspaper servicing the [Latino](/wiki/Latino) community.

In addition, there are several student-run newspapers including [*The Daily Pennsylvanian*](/wiki/The_Daily_Pennsylvanian), [*The Temple News*](/wiki/The_Temple_News), and [*The Triangle*](/wiki/The_Triangle_(newspaper)).

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

The first experimental radio license was issued in Philadelphia in August 1912 to [St. Joseph's College](/wiki/Saint_Joseph's_University). The first [commercial broadcasting](/wiki/Commercial_broadcasting) radio stations appeared in 1922: first [WIP](/wiki/WTEL_(AM)), then owned by [Gimbel's department store](/wiki/Gimbels), on March 17, followed the same year by [WFIL](/wiki/WFIL), WOO, [WCAU](/wiki/WPHT) and WDAS.[[146]](#cite_note-146) The highest-rated stations in Philadelphia include [soft rock](/wiki/Soft_rock) [WBEB](/wiki/WBEB), [KYW Newsradio](/wiki/KYW_(AM)), and [urban adult contemporary](/wiki/Urban_adult_contemporary) [WDAS-FM](/wiki/WDAS-FM). Philadelphia is served by three major non-commercial [public radio](/wiki/Public_broadcasting) stations, [WHYY-FM](/wiki/WHYY-FM) (NPR), [WRTI](/wiki/WRTI) (jazz, classical), and [WXPN-FM](/wiki/WXPN-FM) (adult alternative music), as well as several smaller stations.

Rock stations [WMMR](/wiki/WMMR) and WYSP had historically been intense rivals. However, in 2011, WYSP switched to sports talk as [WIP-FM](/wiki/WIP-FM), which broadcasts all [Philadelphia Eagles](/wiki/Philadelphia_Eagles) games. WMMR's *The* [*Preston and Steve*](/wiki/Preston_and_Steve) *Show* has been the area's top-rated morning show since [Howard Stern](/wiki/Howard_Stern) left broadcast radio for satellite-based [Sirius Radio](/wiki/Sirius_Radio).[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

Four [urban](/wiki/Urban_contemporary) stations ([WUSL](/wiki/WUSL) ("Power 99"), [WPHI](/wiki/WPHI) ("Hot 107.9"), [WDAS](/wiki/WDAS-FM) and [WRNB](/wiki/WRNB) ("Old School 100.3")) are popular choices on the FM dial. [WBEB](/wiki/WBEB) is the city's [Adult Contemporary](/wiki/Adult_Contemporary) station, while [WZMP](/wiki/WZMP) ("Wired 96.5") is the major Rhythmic Top 40 station.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed)

In the 1930s, the experimental station [W3XE](/wiki/KYW-TV), owned by [Philco](/wiki/Philco), became the first television station in Philadelphia; it became [NBC's](/wiki/NBC) first affiliate in 1939, and later became [KYW-TV](/wiki/KYW-TV) ([CBS](/wiki/CBS)). [WCAU-TV](/wiki/WCAU), [WPVI-TV](/wiki/WPVI-TV), [WHYY-TV](/wiki/WHYY-TV), [WPHL-TV](/wiki/WPHL-TV), and [WTXF-TV](/wiki/WTXF-TV) had all been founded by the 1970s.[[146]](#cite_note-146) In 1952, WFIL (now WPVI) premiered the television show *Bandstand*, which later became the nationally broadcast [*American Bandstand*](/wiki/American_Bandstand) hosted by [Dick Clark](/wiki/Dick_Clark).[[147]](#cite_note-147) Today, as in many large metropolitan areas, each of the commercial networks has an affiliate, and call letters have been replaced by corporate IDs: CBS3, 6ABC, NBC10, Fox29, Telefutura28, Telemundo62, Univision65, plus My PHL 17 and [CW Philly 57](/wiki/WPSG-TV). The region is served also by [public broadcasting](/wiki/Public_broadcasting) stations [WYBE-TV](/wiki/WYBE-TV) (Philadelphia), WHYY-TV (Wilmington, Delaware and Philadelphia), [WLVT-TV](/wiki/WLVT-TV) (Lehigh Valley), and [NJTV](/wiki/NJTV) (New Jersey). In September 2007, Philadelphia approved a [Public-access television](/wiki/Public-access_television) cable TV channel.

Until September 2014, Philadelphia was the only media market in the United States with [owned-and-operated stations](/wiki/Owned-and-operated_stations) of all five English-language major broadcast networks (NBC – WCAU, CBS – KYW-TV, [ABC](/wiki/American_Broadcasting_Company) – WPVI-TV, [Fox](/wiki/Fox_Broadcasting_Company) – WTXF-TV and [The CW](/wiki/The_CW) – WPSG); three of the major Spanish-language networks ([Univision](/wiki/Univision), [UniMas](/wiki/UniMas) and [Telemundo](/wiki/Telemundo)) also have O&Os serving the market (respectively, [WUVP-DT](/wiki/WUVP-DT), [WFPA-CD](/wiki/WFPA-CD) and [WWSI](/wiki/WWSI)).

The city is also the nation's fourth-largest consumer in [media market](/wiki/Media_market), as ranked by the [Nielsen Media Research](/wiki/Nielsen_Media_Research), with over 2.9 million TV homes.[[148]](#cite_note-148)

## Infrastructure[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=28)]

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

[thumb|](/wiki/File:30th_Street_Station_20120728.jpg)[30th Street Station](/wiki/30th_Street_Station), with [Cira Centre](/wiki/Cira_Centre) in the background [Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article)

Philadelphia is served by the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority ([SEPTA](/wiki/SEPTA)), which operates buses, trains, rapid transit, trolleys, and trackless trolleys throughout Philadelphia, the four Pennsylvania suburban counties of [Bucks](/wiki/Bucks_County,_Pennsylvania), [Chester](/wiki/Chester_County,_Pennsylvania), [Delaware](/wiki/Delaware_County,_Pennsylvania), and [Montgomery](/wiki/Montgomery_County,_Pennsylvania), in addition to service to [Mercer County, New Jersey](/wiki/Mercer_County,_New_Jersey) and [New Castle County, Delaware](/wiki/New_Castle_County,_Delaware). The city's subway, opened in 1907, is the third-oldest in America.

[thumb|left|](/wiki/File:MarketFrankfordLineTrain.jpg)[Market–Frankford Line](/wiki/Market–Frankford_Line) train departing [52nd Street](/wiki/52nd_Street_(SEPTA_station)) station. In 1981, large sections of the [SEPTA Regional Rail](/wiki/SEPTA_Regional_Rail) service to the far suburbs of Philadelphia were discontinued due to lack of funding. Several projects have been proposed to extend rail service back to these areas, but lack of funding has again been the chief obstacle to implementation. These projects include the proposed [Schuylkill Valley Metro](/wiki/Schuylkill_Valley_Metro) to Wyomissing, PA, and extension of the Media/Elwyn line back to Wawa, PA. SEPTA's [Airport Regional Rail Line](/wiki/Airport_Line_(SEPTA)) Regional Rail offers direct service to the [Philadelphia International Airport](/wiki/Philadelphia_International_Airport).

Philadelphia's [30th Street Station](/wiki/30th_Street_Station) is a major railroad station on Amtrak's [Northeast Corridor](/wiki/Northeast_Corridor), which offers access to Amtrak, SEPTA, and [NJ Transit](/wiki/NJ_Transit) lines.

The [PATCO Speedline](/wiki/PATCO_Speedline) provides rapid transit service to [Camden](/wiki/Camden,_New_Jersey), [Collingswood](/wiki/Collingswood,_New_Jersey), [Westmont](/wiki/Westmont,_New_Jersey), [Haddonfield](/wiki/Haddonfield,_New_Jersey), [Woodcrest (Cherry Hill)](/wiki/Cherry_Hill,_New_Jersey), [Ashland (Voorhees)](/wiki/Voorhees,_New_Jersey), and [Lindenwold](/wiki/Lindenwold,_New_Jersey), New Jersey, from stations on Locust Street between 16th and 15th, 13th and 12th, and 10th and 9th Streets, and on Market Street at 8th Street.

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

Two airports serve Philadelphia: the [Philadelphia International Airport](/wiki/Philadelphia_International_Airport) (PHL), straddling the southern boundary of the city, and the [Northeast Philadelphia Airport](/wiki/Northeast_Philadelphia_Airport) (PNE), a general aviation reliever airport in [Northeast Philadelphia](/wiki/Northeast_Philadelphia). Philadelphia International Airport provides scheduled domestic and international air service, while Northeast Philadelphia Airport serves general and corporate aviation. In 2013, Philadelphia International Airport was the 15th busiest airport in the world [measured by traffic movements](/wiki/World's_busiest_airports_by_traffic_movements) (i.e. takeoffs and landings).[[149]](#cite_note-149) It is also the second largest hub and primary international hub for [American Airlines](/wiki/American_Airlines).[[150]](#cite_note-150)

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

[William Penn](/wiki/William_Penn) initially planned a Philadelphia that had [numbered streets](/wiki/Numbered_street#Philadelphia) traversing north and south and "tree" named streets traversing east and west, with the two main streets [Broad Street](/wiki/Broad_Street_(Philadelphia)) and [High Street](/wiki/Market_Street_(Philadelphia)) converging at [Centre Square](/wiki/Philadelphia_City_Hall). The plans have since expanded to include major highways that span other major sections of Philadelphia.

[thumb|left|Aerial view showing the major highways circumscribing Philadelphia](/wiki/File:Philadelphia_Aerial.JPG) [Interstate 95](/wiki/Interstate_95_in_Pennsylvania) runs through the city along the Delaware River as a main north-south artery known as the Delaware Expressway. The city is also served by the [Schuylkill Expressway](/wiki/Schuylkill_Expressway), a portion of [Interstate 76](/wiki/Interstate_76_(east)) that runs along the [Schuylkill River](/wiki/Schuylkill_River). It meets the [Pennsylvania Turnpike](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Turnpike) at King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, providing access to [Harrisburg, Pennsylvania](/wiki/Harrisburg,_Pennsylvania) and points west. [Interstate 676](/wiki/Interstate_676), the [Vine Street Expressway](/wiki/Vine_Street_Expressway), was completed in 1991 after years of planning. A link between I-95 and I-76, it runs below street level through Center City, connecting to the [Ben Franklin Bridge](/wiki/Ben_Franklin_Bridge) at its eastern end.

[Roosevelt Boulevard](/wiki/Roosevelt_Boulevard_(Philadelphia)) and the [Roosevelt Expressway](/wiki/Roosevelt_Expressway_(Philadelphia)) ([U.S. 1](/wiki/U.S._Route_1_in_Pennsylvania)) connect [Northeast Philadelphia](/wiki/Northeast_Philadelphia) with Center City. Woodhaven Road ([Route 63](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Route_63)), built in 1966, and Cottman Avenue ([Route 73](/wiki/PA_Route_73)) serve the neighborhoods of [Northeast Philadelphia](/wiki/Northeast_Philadelphia), running between [Interstate 95](/wiki/Interstate_95_in_Pennsylvania) and the Roosevelt Boulevard ([U.S. 1](/wiki/U.S._Route_1_in_Pennsylvania)). The Fort Washington Expressway ([Route 309](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Route_309)) extends north from the city's northern border, serving [Montgomery County](/wiki/Montgomery_County,_Pennsylvania) and [Bucks County](/wiki/Bucks_County,_Pennsylvania). [U.S. 30](/wiki/U.S._Route_30_in_Pennsylvania), extending east-west from West Philadelphia to [Lancaster](/wiki/Lancaster,_Pennsylvania), is known as [Lancaster Avenue](/wiki/Lancaster_Avenue) throughout most of the city and through the adjacent [Main Line](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Main_Line) suburbs.

[thumb|The](/wiki/File:BenjaminFranklinBridgeAtNight.jpg) [Ben Franklin Bridge](/wiki/Ben_Franklin_Bridge), viewed at night from [Center City](/wiki/Center_City,_Philadelphia) toward [Camden, New Jersey](/wiki/Camden,_New_Jersey) [Interstate 476](/wiki/Interstate_476), commonly nicknamed the "Blue Route" through [Delaware County](/wiki/Delaware_County,_Pennsylvania), bypasses the city to the west, serving the city's western suburbs, as well as providing a link to [Allentown](/wiki/Allentown,_Pennsylvania) and points north. Similarly, [Interstate 276](/wiki/Interstate_276), the [Pennsylvania Turnpike's](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Turnpike) Delaware River Extension, acts as a bypass and commuter route to the north of the city as well as a link to the [New Jersey Turnpike](/wiki/New_Jersey_Turnpike) to New York.

However, other planned freeways have been canceled, such as an [Interstate 695](/wiki/Interstate_695_(Pennsylvania)) running southwest from downtown; two freeways connecting [Interstate 95](/wiki/Interstate_95_in_Pennsylvania) to [Interstate 76](/wiki/Interstate_76_(east)) that would have replaced Girard Avenue and South Street; and a freeway upgrade of [Roosevelt Boulevard](/wiki/Roosevelt_Boulevard_(Philadelphia)).

The [Delaware River Port Authority](/wiki/Delaware_River_Port_Authority) operates four bridges in the Philadelphia area across the [Delaware River](/wiki/Delaware_River) to [New Jersey](/wiki/New_Jersey): the [Walt Whitman Bridge](/wiki/Walt_Whitman_Bridge) (I-76), the [Benjamin Franklin Bridge](/wiki/Benjamin_Franklin_Bridge) (I-676 and [US 30](/wiki/U.S._Route_30_in_Pennsylvania)), the [Betsy Ross Bridge](/wiki/Betsy_Ross_Bridge) ([Route 90](/wiki/New_Jersey_Route_90)), and the [Commodore Barry Bridge](/wiki/Commodore_Barry_Bridge) ([US 322](/wiki/U.S._Highway_322)). The [Tacony-Palmyra Bridge](/wiki/Tacony-Palmyra_Bridge) connects [PA Route 73](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Route_73) in the [Tacony](/wiki/Tacony,_Philadelphia,_Pennsylvania) section of [Northeast Philadelphia](/wiki/Northeast_Philadelphia) with New Jersey's [Route 73](/wiki/New_Jersey_Route_73) in [Palmyra](/wiki/Palmyra,_New_Jersey), [Camden County](/wiki/Camden_County,_New_Jersey), and is maintained by the [Burlington County Bridge Commission](/wiki/Burlington_County_Bridge_Commission).

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

Philadelphia is also a major hub for [Greyhound Lines](/wiki/Greyhound_Lines), which operates 24-hour service to points east of the [Mississippi River](/wiki/Mississippi_River). Most of Greyhound's services in Philadelphia operate to/from the [Philadelphia Greyhound Terminal](/wiki/Philadelphia_Greyhound_Terminal), located at 1001 Filbert Street in Center City Philadelphia. In 2006, the Philadelphia Greyhound Terminal was the second busiest Greyhound terminal in the United States, after the [Port Authority Bus Terminal](/wiki/Port_Authority_Bus_Terminal) in New York. Besides Greyhound, six other bus operators provide service to the Center City Greyhound terminal: Bieber Tourways, Capitol Trailways, [Martz Trailways](/wiki/Trailways_Transportation_System), [Peter Pan Bus Lines](/wiki/Peter_Pan_Bus_Lines), Susquehanna Trailways, and the [bus division for New Jersey Transit](/wiki/New_Jersey_Transit_Bus_Operations). Other services include [Megabus](/wiki/Megabus_(United_States)) and [Bolt Bus](/wiki/Bolt_Bus).

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

[Template:Main article](/wiki/Template:Main_article) [thumb|left|](/wiki/File:Suburban_Station_Facade.jpg)[Suburban Station](/wiki/Suburban_Station) with [art deco](/wiki/Art_deco) architecture

Since the early days of [rail transport in the United States](/wiki/Rail_transport_in_the_United_States), Philadelphia has served as hub for several major rail companies, particularly the [Pennsylvania Railroad](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Railroad) and the [Reading Railroad](/wiki/Reading_Railroad). The Pennsylvania Railroad first operated [Broad Street Station](/wiki/Broad_Street_Station_(Philadelphia)), then [30th Street Station](/wiki/30th_Street_Station_(Philadelphia)) and [Suburban Station](/wiki/Suburban_Station_(Philadelphia)), and the Reading Railroad operated out of [Reading Terminal](/wiki/Reading_Terminal), now part of the [Pennsylvania Convention Center](/wiki/Pennsylvania_Convention_Center). The two companies also operated competing commuter rail systems in the area, known collectively as the Regional Rail system. The two systems today, for the most part still intact but now connected, operate as a single system under the control of the [SEPTA](/wiki/Southeastern_Pennsylvania_Transportation_Authority), the regional transit authority. Additionally, the [PATCO Speedline](/wiki/PATCO_Speedline) subway system and [NJ Transit's](/wiki/NJ_Transit) [Atlantic City Line](/wiki/Atlantic_City_Line) operate successor services to southern [New Jersey](/wiki/New_Jersey).[[151]](#cite_note-151) Philadelphia, once home to more than 4,000 [trolleys](/wiki/Tram) on 65 lines,[[152]](#cite_note-152) is one of the few North American cities to maintain [streetcar](/wiki/Streetcar) lines. Today, SEPTA operates five "subway-surface" trolleys that run on street-level tracks in West Philadelphia and subway tunnels in [Center City](/wiki/Center_City,_Philadelphia). SEPTA also recently[Template:When](/wiki/Template:When) reintroduced trolley service to the [Girard Avenue Line](/wiki/Route_15_(SEPTA)), Route 15.

Today, Philadelphia is a regional hub of the [federally owned](/wiki/Government_corporation) [Amtrak](/wiki/Amtrak) system, with 30th Street Station being a primary stop on the Washington-Boston [Northeast Corridor](/wiki/Northeast_Corridor) and the [Keystone Corridor](/wiki/Keystone_Corridor) to [Harrisburg](/wiki/Harrisburg,_Pennsylvania) and [Pittsburgh](/wiki/Pittsburgh). 30th Street also serves as a major station for services via the Pennsylvania Railroad's former [Pennsylvania Main Line](/wiki/Main_Line_(Pennsylvania_Railroad)) to Chicago. 30th Street is Amtrak's third-busiest station in numbers of passengers as of [fiscal year](/wiki/Fiscal_year) 2013.<ref name=busiest>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref>

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

A 2015 study by [Walk Score](/wiki/Walk_Score) ranked Philadelphia the fourth most walkable major city in the United States.[[153]](#cite_note-153)

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

[thumb|](/wiki/File:Fairmount_Water_Works_LOC_314409cu.jpg)[Fairmount Water Works](/wiki/Fairmount_Water_Works), Philadelphia's second municipal waterworks. Historically, Philadelphia sourced its water by the [Fairmount Water Works](/wiki/Fairmount_Water_Works), the nation's first major urban water supply system. In 1909, Water Works was decommissioned as the city transitioned to modern sand filtration methods.[[154]](#cite_note-154) Today, the [Philadelphia Water Department](/wiki/Philadelphia_Water_Department) (PWD) provides [drinking water](/wiki/Drinking_water), [wastewater](/wiki/Wastewater) collection, and [stormwater](/wiki/Stormwater) services for Philadelphia, as well as surrounding counties. PWD draws about 57 percent of its drinking water from the [Delaware River](/wiki/Delaware_River) and the balance from the [Schuylkill River](/wiki/Schuylkill_River).[[155]](#cite_note-155) The public wastewater system consists of three water pollution control plants, 21 pumping stations, and about 3,657 miles of sewers.[[155]](#cite_note-155) A 2007 investigation by the [Environmental Protection Agency](/wiki/United_States_Environmental_Protection_Agency) found elevated levels of [Iodine-131](/wiki/Iodine-131) in the city's [potable water](/wiki/Potable_water).[[156]](#cite_note-156)[[157]](#cite_note-157) In 2012, the EPA's readings discovered that the city had the highest readings of I-131 in the nation. The city campaigned against an [Associated Press](/wiki/Associated_Press) report that the high levels of I-131 were the results of local gas drilling in the Upper Delaware River.[[158]](#cite_note-158) [PECO Energy Company](/wiki/PECO_Energy_Company), founded as the Philadelphia Electric Company in 1881,[[159]](#cite_note-159) provides electricity to over 1.6 million customers in the southeastern Pennsylvania.[[160]](#cite_note-160) The company has over 500 power substations and 29,000 miles of distribution of transmission lines in its service making it the largest combination utility in the state.

[Philadelphia Gas Works](/wiki/Philadelphia_Gas_Works) (PGW), overseen by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, is the nation's largest municipally owned natural gas utility. It serves over 500,000 homes and businesses in the Philadelphia area.[[161]](#cite_note-161) Founded in 1836, the company came under city ownership in 1987 and has been providing the majority of gas distributed within city limits. In 2014, the Philadelphia City Council refused to conduct hearings on a $1.86 billion sale of PGW, part of a two-year effort that was proposed by the mayor. The refusal led to the prospective buyer terminating its offer.[[162]](#cite_note-162)[[163]](#cite_note-163) Southeastern Pennsylvania was assigned the [215](/wiki/Area_code_215) [area code](/wiki/Area_code) in 1947 when the [North American Numbering Plan](/wiki/North_American_Numbering_Plan) of the "[Bell System](/wiki/Bell_System)" went into effect. The geographic area covered by the code was split nearly in half in 1994 when [area code 610](/wiki/Area_code_610) was created, with the city and its northern suburbs retaining 215. [Overlay area code](/wiki/Area_code_overlay) 267 was added to the 215 service area in 1997, and 484 was added to the 610 area in 1999. A plan in 2001 to introduce a third overlay code to both service areas ([area code 445](/wiki/Area_code_445) to 215, [area code 835](/wiki/Area_code_835) to 610) was delayed and later rescinded.[[164]](#cite_note-164) An effort was approved on 2005 to provide low-cost, citywide [Wi-Fi](/wiki/Wi-Fi) service to the city. Wireless Philadelphia would have been the first municipal internet utility offering in a large US city, but the plan was abandoned in 2008 as [EarthLink](/wiki/EarthLink) pushed back the completion date several times. Mayor Nutter's administration closed the project in 2009 after an attempt to revitalize it failed.[[165]](#cite_note-165)

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

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

## Twin towns – Sister cities[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=37)]

[thumb|](/wiki/File:PhilaChinaArch.jpg)[Chinatown](/wiki/Chinatown,_Philadelphia) Gate at 10th and Arch, a symbol of Philadelphia's friendship with [Tianjin](/wiki/Tianjin). Philadelphia has eight official [sister cities](/wiki/Twin_towns_and_sister_cities), as designated by the Citizen Diplomacy International – Philadelphia:[[166]](#cite_note-166){| class="wikitable sortable" |- ! City ! Country ! Date |- | [Florence](/wiki/Florence)[[167]](#cite_note-167)| [Template:Flagu](/wiki/Template:Flagu) | 1964 |- | [Tel Aviv](/wiki/Tel_Aviv)[[168]](#cite_note-168)|[Template:Flagu](/wiki/Template:Flagu) | 1966 |- | [Toruń](/wiki/Toruń)[[169]](#cite_note-169)| [Template:Flagu](/wiki/Template:Flagu) | 1976 |- | [Tianjin](/wiki/Tianjin)[[170]](#cite_note-170)| [Template:Flagu](/wiki/Template:Flagu) | 1980 |- | [Incheon](/wiki/Incheon)[[171]](#cite_note-171)| [Template:Flagu](/wiki/Template:Flagu) | 1984 |- | [Douala](/wiki/Douala)[[172]](#cite_note-172)| [Template:Flagu](/wiki/Template:Flagu) | 1986 |- | [Nizhny Novgorod](/wiki/Nizhny_Novgorod)[[173]](#cite_note-173)| [Template:Flagu](/wiki/Template:Flagu) | 1992 |- | [Frankfurt](/wiki/Frankfurt)[[174]](#cite_note-174)| [Template:Flagu](/wiki/Template:Flagu) | 2015 |}

Philadelphia also has three partnership cities or regions:[[166]](#cite_note-166){| class="wikitable sortable" |- ! City ! Country ! Date |- | [Kobe](/wiki/Kobe)[[175]](#cite_note-175)| [Template:Flagu](/wiki/Template:Flagu) | 1986 |- | [Abruzzo](/wiki/Abruzzo)[[176]](#cite_note-176)| [Template:Flagu](/wiki/Template:Flagu) | 1997 |- | [Aix-en-Provence](/wiki/Aix-en-Provence)[[177]](#cite_note-177)| [Template:Flagu](/wiki/Template:Flagu) | 1999 |}

Philadelphia has dedicated landmarks to its sister cities. Dedicated in June 1976, the Sister Cities Plaza, a site of [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) located at 18th and Benjamin Franklin Parkway, honors Philadelphia's relationships with [Tel Aviv](/wiki/Tel_Aviv) and [Florence](/wiki/Florence) which were its first sister cities. Another landmark, the Toruń Triangle, honoring the sister city relationship with [Toruń](/wiki/Toruń), Poland, was constructed in 1976, west of the [United Way](/wiki/United_Way_of_America) building at 18th Street and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. In addition, the Triangle contains the Copernicus monument. Renovations were made to Sister Cities Park in mid-2011 and on May 10, 2012, SCP was reopened and currently features an interactive fountain honoring Philadelphia's ten sister and friendship cities, a café and visitor's center, children's play area, outdoor garden, and boat pond, as well as pavilion built to [environmentally friendly](/wiki/Environmentally_friendly) standards.[[178]](#cite_note-178) The Chinatown Gate, erected in 1984 and crafted by artisans of [Tianjin](/wiki/Tianjin), stands astride the intersection of 10th and Arch Streets as an elaborate and colorful symbol of the sister city relationship. The CDI of Philadelphia has participated in the [U.S. Department of State's](/wiki/U.S._Department_of_State) "Partners for Peace" project with [Mosul, Iraq](/wiki/Mosul,_Iraq),[[179]](#cite_note-179) as well as accepting visiting delegations from dozens of other countries.[[180]](#cite_note-180)

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

<gallery mode=packed> File: National Constitution Center-exterior.jpg|[National Constitution Center](/wiki/National_Constitution_Center) File: CarpentersHall00.jpg|[Carpenters' Hall](/wiki/Carpenters'_Hall) File: Congress Hall exterior.jpg|[Congress Hall](/wiki/Congress_Hall) File: Betsy Ross House 239 Arch Street.jpg|[Betsy Ross House](/wiki/Betsy_Ross_House) File: Philadelpia merchant exchange.jpg|[Merchants' Exchange Building](/wiki/Merchants'_Exchange_Building_(Philadelphia)) File: 2ndBankofUSSouthFacade.JPG|[Second Bank of the United States](/wiki/Second_Bank_of_the_United_States) File: 2014 Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church graveyard.jpg|[Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church](/wiki/Gloria_Dei_(Old_Swedes')_Church) graveyard File: Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier-27527.jpg|[Tomb of the Unknown Revolutionary War Soldier](/wiki/Tomb_of_the_Unknown_Revolutionary_War_Soldier) File: 8608 Chestnut Hill SEPTA.JPG|[Chestnut Hill](/wiki/Chestnut_Hill,_Philadelphia) File: Independence2.JPG|Governor's Council Chamber, [Independence Hall](/wiki/Independence_Hall) File: Philly (45).JPG|[Lincoln Financial Field](/wiki/Lincoln_Financial_Field) File: Headhouse Philly am.JPG|[Head House Square](/wiki/Head_House_Square) File: Washington Square northeast entrance.jpg|[Washington Square](/wiki/Washington_Square_(Philadelphia)) File: Washington Monument-Philadelphia-27527.jpg|The Washington Monument at [Eakins Oval](/wiki/Eakins_Oval) File: A\_street\_in\_Philadelphia.jpg|[Manayunk](/wiki/Manayunk,_Philadelphia) File: St. Peter's Church, Philadelphia, PA.JPG|[St. Peter's Church](/wiki/St._Peter's_Episcopal_Church,_Society_Hill,_Philadelphia) File: USS Olympia 2.jpg|[USS Olympia](/wiki/USS_Olympia_(C-6)) at the [Independence Seaport Museum](/wiki/Independence_Seaport_Museum) File: Mifflin Hospital03.png|Hospital at [Fort Mifflin](/wiki/Fort_Mifflin) </gallery>

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

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

* [Largest metropolitan areas in the Americas](/wiki/Largest_metropolitan_areas_in_the_Americas)
* [List of companies based in the Philadelphia area](/wiki/List_of_companies_based_in_the_Philadelphia_area)
* [List of people from Philadelphia](/wiki/List_of_people_from_Philadelphia)
* [National Register of Historic Places listings in Philadelphia](/wiki/National_Register_of_Historic_Places_listings_in_Philadelphia)
* [United States metropolitan areas](/wiki/United_States_metropolitan_areas)

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

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

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

## References[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=41)]

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

## Further reading[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=42)]

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

* Abigail Perkiss, *Making Good Neighbors: Civil Rights, Liberalism, and Integration in Postwar Philadelphia.* Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2014.

## External links[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=43)]

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

* [City of Philadelphia government](http://www.phila.gov/)
* [Encyclopedia of Greater Philadelphia](http://philadelphiaencyclopedia.org/), Historical Encyclopedia in progress
* [Historic Philadelphia Photographs](http://www.phillyhistory.org/PhotoArchive/)
* [Greater Philadelphia GeoHistory Network](http://www.philageohistory.org/rdic-images) – historical maps and atlases of Philadelphia
* [philly.com – Local news](http://www.philly.com/)
* [Visitor Site for Greater Philadelphia](http://www.gophila.com/)
* [Official Convention & Visitors Site for Philadelphia](http://www.philadelphiausa.travel/)

[Template:Geographic location](/wiki/Template:Geographic_location) [Template:Navboxes](/wiki/Template:Navboxes)

[Template:Authority control](/wiki/Template:Authority_control)

[Category:Philadelphia, Pennsylvania](/wiki/Category:Philadelphia,_Pennsylvania) [Category:1682 establishments in Pennsylvania](/wiki/Category:1682_establishments_in_Pennsylvania) [Category:Cities in Pennsylvania](/wiki/Category:Cities_in_Pennsylvania) [Category:Consolidated city-counties in the United States](/wiki/Category:Consolidated_city-counties_in_the_United_States) [Category:County seats in Pennsylvania](/wiki/Category:County_seats_in_Pennsylvania) [Category:Former capitals of the United States](/wiki/Category:Former_capitals_of_the_United_States) [Pennsylvania](/wiki/Category:Former_state_capitals_in_the_United_States) [Category:Planned cities in the United States](/wiki/Category:Planned_cities_in_the_United_States) [Category:Populated places established in 1682](/wiki/Category:Populated_places_established_in_1682) [Category:Populated places on the Schuylkill River](/wiki/Category:Populated_places_on_the_Schuylkill_River) [Category:Port cities and towns of the United States Atlantic coast](/wiki/Category:Port_cities_and_towns_of_the_United_States_Atlantic_coast) [Category:World Digital Library related](/wiki/Category:World_Digital_Library_related) [Category:Ukrainian communities in the United States](/wiki/Category:Ukrainian_communities_in_the_United_States)