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*Union County Demographic Digest 2002*



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## SOURCE OF DATA

All of the data presented is from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Summary File 1, Summary File 2, Summary File 3 and Demographic Profiles for Union County and the individual municipalities within the county. Several potential errors in the Census Bureau data have been found, including the number of housing units in Buffalo, Hartley, and Kelly Townships and Hartleton Borough, and in group quarters population in the county. These errors have been mitigated where possible.

## DEFINITIONS

Age – The age of the person in complete years as of April 1, 2000

Baby Boom Generation—The generation that includes all persons born between the years of 1946 and 1965; 35 to 54 year olds as of the 2000 Census.

Citizenship – There are two categories of citizens in the United States. A native born citizen is a person who was born in the United States or who was born outside of the United States but one or both parents are American citizens. A naturalized citizen is a person who was not born in the United States and is not the child of an American citizen, but has become an American citizen. A person who was not born in the United States, whose parents are not American citizens, and who has not been naturalized is not a citizen.

Generation X— The generation that includes all persons born between the years of 1966 and 1982; 18 to 34 year olds as of the 2000 Census.

Generation Y—The generation that includes all persons born between 1983 and the present; 0 to 17 year olds as of the 2000 Census.

Group Quarters Population – The group quarters population includes all people not living in households. Two general categories of people in group quarters are recognized: 1) the institutionalized population which includes people under formally authorized, supervised care or custody in institutions at the time of enumeration (such as correctional institutions, nursing homes, and juvenile institutions) and 2) the non-institutionalized population which includes all people who live in group quarters other than institutions (such as college dormitories, military quarters, and group homes).

Household – A household includes all of those people who occupy a housing unit. Those not living in households are classified as living in Group Quarters

Household lacking complete kitchen – Those housing units, occupied and vacant, lacking at least one of the following: a sink with piped water, a range or stove, or a refrigerator.

Household lacking complete plumbing facilities – Those housing units, occupied and vacant, lacking at least one of the following: hot and cold piped water, a flush toilet, or a shower or bathtub.

Households not using heating fuel – Those occupied housing units identified as using no fuel to the question of what fuel is used most for heating the house, apartment, or mobile home; this includes units that either do not use any fuel or who do not have heating equipment.

Households with no telephone service – Those occupied housing units that lack telephone service from which the occupants can both make and receive calls.

Hispanic – Hispanic is not considered a race but rather an ethnicity by the U.S. Census Bureau. The Hispanic population is the population of people who identified themselves as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino.

Income - Sum of the amounts reported separately for wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, or tips; self-employment income from own nonfarm or farm businesses, including proprietorships and partnerships; interest, dividends, net rental income, royalty income, or income from estates and trusts; Social Security or Railroad Retirement income; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); any public assistance or welfare payments from the state or local welfare office; retirement, survivor, or disability pensions; and any other sources of income received regularly such as Veterans' (VA) payments, unemployment compensation, child support, or alimony. Household income is the sum of the income of all residents in the household.

Industry - Industry refers to the employing firm's product and occupation refers to the employee's job type. For example, for all firms engaged in manufacturing, all employees will be listed in the manufacturing industry.

Labor Force – Includes all civilians over the age of 16 who are employed and unemployed as well as members of the Armed Forces on active duty. The labor force does not include incarcerated populations.

Median Age – The central age; half of all individuals are older than that age and half are younger than that age.

Median Income – The central value for household income; half of all households have an income higher than this figure and half have a lower income.

Minority – Any person whose race is not white or who is of two or more races. This does not include those of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino origin.

Occupation – Occupation refers to the employee's job type. For example, employees for a manufacturing firm are distributed among management, production, sales, etc. occupations.

Per Capita Income – The average income computed for every man, woman, and child. It is derived by dividing the aggregate income by the population.

Population Density – The average number of persons per square mile.

Poverty Level – Families or unrelated individuals whose income falls below the poverty threshold specified by the size of the family.

Residency – Residency refers to the where a person lives.

Unemployment Rate – Percentage of the civilian labor force made up of persons not currently employed but actively seeking work.

Vacant Housing – Housing unit that is for rent, for sale, rented or sold though not occupied, housing for migrant workers, or that is used only occasionally, seasonally, or recreationally.

White Alone – Those persons who identified themselves as white and are not of Hispanic origin.

## INTRODUCTION

This Demographic Digest has been published to serve as a quick reference guide for individuals and organizations that have an interest in and utilize data derived from the United States Decennial Census. It is also intended to aid local government and private sector decision makers in their planning and provision of services to the public.

The information in this document is presented at the county, municipal, and regional level and is organized into chapters that address population, housing, the economy, and how Union County compares to neighboring counties. The 14 municipalities and the county are examined based upon the 2000 Census with many comparisons made to the 1990 data. The population section addresses the total number of people, the changes in that total—both historical and projected into the future—the distribution of that total population based on attributes which include age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin among others. The housing chapter provides an overview of the number of housing units (current and projected), types of units, housing tenure, housing values, and household characteristics. The economic portion of the report examines industry and occupation, income, poverty and unemployment, and education. The final section reviews how Union County measures against the neighboring counties of Centre, Clinton, Lycoming, Mifflin, Northumberland and Snyder in terms of population growth and density, age and education, racial composition, income, employment, and poverty.

All data projections, analysis and interpretation were conducted by staff of the Union County Planning Department. It is important for readers to understand that the authors made certain assumptions about the future given past trends and based upon current available knowledge and data. Caution should be used when utilizing projected data since these figures are simply a prediction or an educated guess of what will occur at a particular future point in time. Unforeseen local, regional, or global circumstances could cause trends to change and render estimates inaccurately high or low. Therefore the Union County Planning Department implies no guarantee as to the accuracy of such projections and the analyses based thereon contained within this publication.

The majority of the data used to compile this document is available from the U.S. Census Bureau at [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov) and from the Pennsylvania State Data Center at <http://psdc.hbg.psu.edu>. The Union County Planning Department also maintains paper copies of frequently requested Census information.