Baseline Survey Census Research Warren County

The Federal population census is an important tool for understanding the history of a community and how that community has changed over time. The census provides data that can help us to better understand Pennsylvania's diverse racial and ethnic populations (referred to as underrepresented communities for purposes of this Baseline Survey effort), where these populations settled historically, and how they left their mark on the Commonwealth's landscape.

Pennsylvania has a history of being ethnically diverse in both the urban areas of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh and in the commonwealth's smaller cities and rural areas. Native Americans have called Pennsylvania's lands home for centuries. Dutch, Swedish, and Finnish settlers moved to Pennsylvania in the late 17th century, and were quickly followed by English, German and other Europeans by the turn of the 18th century. Both enslaved and free Africans and African Americans lived in Pennsylvania as early as 1690 and the commonwealth's Black communities grew exponentially with the First Great Migration in the early 20th century. By the mid-20th century, people from almost all racial and ethnic groups had settled in Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania's historical racial and ethnic diversity and the surviving older and historic places that embody that diversity is not well understood or well documented. By understanding what populations were present, when, and where they lived, the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (PA SHPO) can identify and document the older and historic places associated with these underrepresented communities through targeted survey work.

Once this information is collected and added to PA-SHARE, Pennsylvania's online database of older and historic places, this important information will be available to professionals and the public alike, providing everyone with data to support the need to tell broader and more inclusive stories.

It is important to note that census data is only one part of the extensive research that is necessary to understand Pennsylvania's varied and changing communities over the last four hundred years. The information collected, methods for collecting it, and categories and definitions changed from census taker to census taker and from year to year.

Warren County is one of the fifty-two counties in Pennsylvania where PA SHPO and its contractors will be working over the next two years to collect information about historic places that are underrepresented in Pennsylvania's statewide historic inventory.

It is important that PA SHPO collects information about the older and historic places that Pennsylvanian's value in their communities. PA SHPO welcomes public recommendations for places that should be documented in this survey. If you would like to provide your feedback, please fill out this short survey form.



Historic Postcard of Conewango Valley Country Club, Warren County

Learn More:

<u>Historic Resources Survey in Pennsylvania</u> <u>PA SHPO's Baseline Survey Project</u> PA-SHARE



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Warren County was formed in 1800 but not formally organized until October 1, 1819. It has 27 municipalities and as of the 2020 federal census, the total population was 38,587. The population of Warren County was first recorded in the 1800 US Census. A total of 230 inhabitants were recorded, all of whom were White. Total population growth in Warren County continued on a steady upward trend from 1800 to 1970.

The Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) population of Warren County have historically represented less than 1% of the total population from 1800 to 1970. The BIPOC population in Warren County from 1800 to 1900 were predominantly Black. From 1900 to 1970, Native Americans were more numerous except in 1920, 1960, and 1970. The Black population was at its largest in 1870, with 107 individuals.

Asians were documented as living in Warren County beginning in 1890 and were predominantly of Chinese descent until 1970. In 1970, the number of Filipino residents (7) exceeded the number of Chinese residents (2) and Japanese residents (3). Native Americans were recorded in Warren County in the 1870 to 1970 censuses. Two people of Hispanic descent were recorded in Warren County in the 1930 census. The "Other" category has been used to describe different groups through time. In 1790 and 1800, "Other" specifically noted BIPOC people, predominantly Black Americans, who were not enslaved. In later decades, it is inconclusive whether "Other" includes only mixed-race people or people of Black, Native American, Asian, or Hispanic descent during any given decade.

	White	Black	Native American	Asian	Hispanic	Other
1790	0	0	0	0	0	0
1800	230	0	0	0	0	0
1810	0	0	0	0	0	0
1820	1975	1	0	0	0	0
1830	0	0	0	0	0	0
1840	9238	40	0	0	0	0
1850	13593	78	0	0	0	0
1860	19139	51	0	0	0	0
1870	23787	104	6	0	0	0
1880	27784	103	94	0	0	0
1890	37504	75	5	1	0	0
1900	38806	52	85	3	0	0
1910	39412	75	85	1	0	0
1920	39949	39	35	1	0	0
1930	41380	24	46	0	2	0
1940	43705	31	52	0	0	0
1950	42648	28	20	2	0	0
1960	45438	69	54	12	0	9
1970	47548	73	33	12	0	16

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This graph shows the relationship between BIPOC populations (right side axis) and total population (left side axis) in Warren County from 1790 to 1970. Significant events that had a bearing on the population are included below the graph to show Warren County's total populations at these important points in time.

The 1810 federal census is not digitized and therefore there is no population data. The 1830 census only provided the total population, total number of free persons, and total number of enslaved persons. There were no enslaved people in Warren County in 1830 and no distinction of race among free people, therefore the BIPOC total for 1830 based on what is known is 0 people.



