



**Centre County, Pennsylvania**  
**Population and Housing Narrative Profile: 2006**  
 Data Set: **2006 American Community Survey**  
 Survey: **American Community Survey**

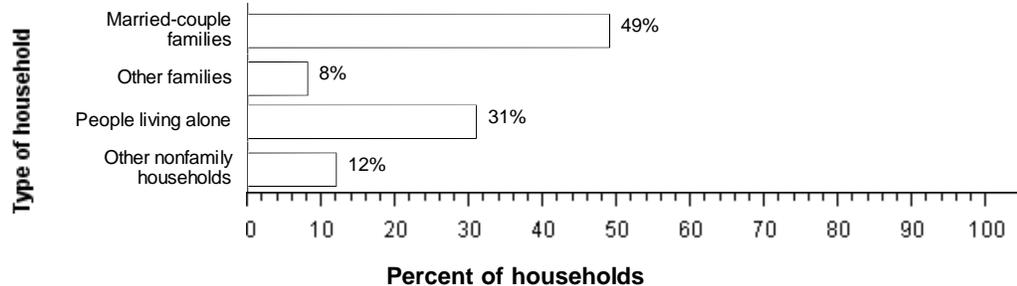
NOTE. Although the American Community Survey (ACS) produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, it is the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program that produces and disseminates the [official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns](#) and estimates of housing units for states and counties.

For more information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [Survey Methodology](#).

**HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES:** In 2006 there were 50,000 households in Centre County. The average household size was 2.5 people.

Families made up 57 percent of the households in Centre County. This figure includes both married-couple families (49 percent) and other families (8 percent). Nonfamily households made up 43 percent of all households in Centre County. Most of the nonfamily households were people living alone, but some were composed of people living in households in which no one was related to the householder.

**The Types of Households in Centre County, Pennsylvania in 2006**



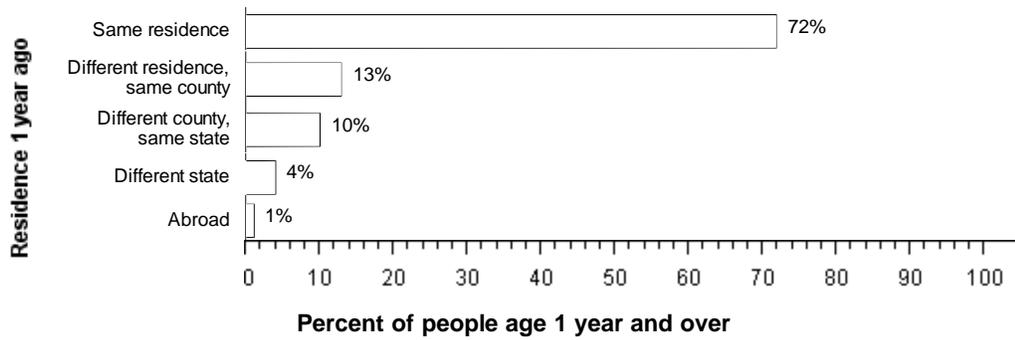
Source: American Community Survey, 2006

**NATIVITY AND LANGUAGE:** Seven percent of the people living in Centre County in 2006 were foreign born. Ninety-three percent was native, including 71 percent who were born in Pennsylvania.

Among people at least five years old living in Centre County in 2006, 9 percent spoke a language other than English at home. Of those speaking a language other than English at home, 19 percent spoke Spanish and 81 percent spoke some other language; 42 percent reported that they did not speak English "very well."

**GEOGRAPHIC MOBILITY:** In 2006, 72 percent of the people at least one year old living in Centre County were living in the same residence one year earlier; 13 percent had moved during the past year from another residence in the same county, 10 percent from another county in the same state, 4 percent from another state, and 1 percent from abroad.

**Geographic Mobility of Residents of Centre County, Pennsylvania in 2006**

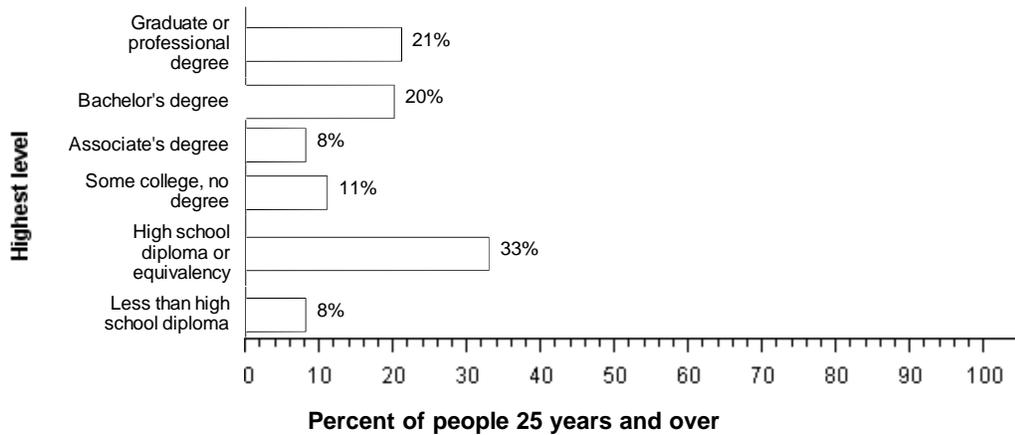


Source: American Community Survey, 2006

**EDUCATION:** In 2006, 92 percent of people 25 years and over had at least graduated from high school and 40 percent had a bachelor's degree or higher. Eight percent were dropouts; they were not enrolled in school and had not graduated from high school.

The total school enrollment in Centre County was 58,000 in 2006. Nursery school and kindergarten enrollment was 3,500 and elementary or high school enrollment was 15,000 children. College or graduate school enrollment was 39,000.

**The Educational Attainment of People in Centre County, Pennsylvania in 2006**

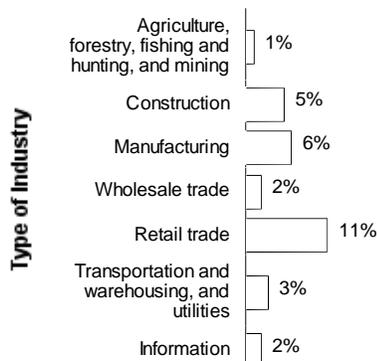


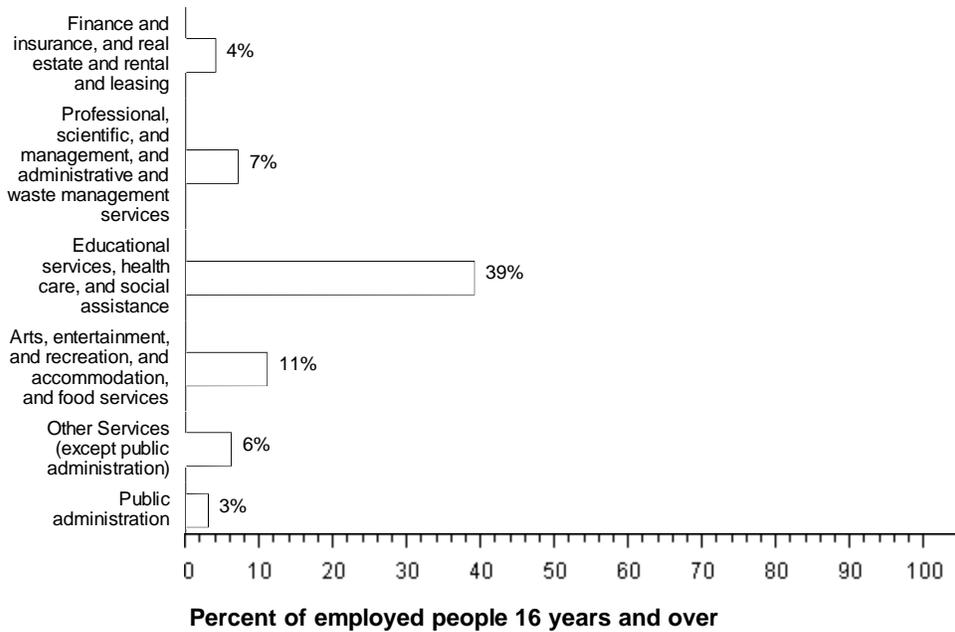
Source: American Community Survey, 2006

**DISABILITY:** In Centre County, among people at least five years old in 2006, 11 percent reported a disability. The likelihood of having a disability varied by age - from 5 percent of people 5 to 15 years old, to 9 percent of people 16 to 64 years old, and to 35 percent of those 65 and older.

**INDUSTRIES:** In 2006, for the employed population 16 years and older, the leading industries in Centre County were Educational services, and health care, and social assistance, 39 percent, and Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation, and food services, 11 percent.

**Employment by Industry in Centre County, Pennsylvania in 2006**





Source: American Community Survey, 2006

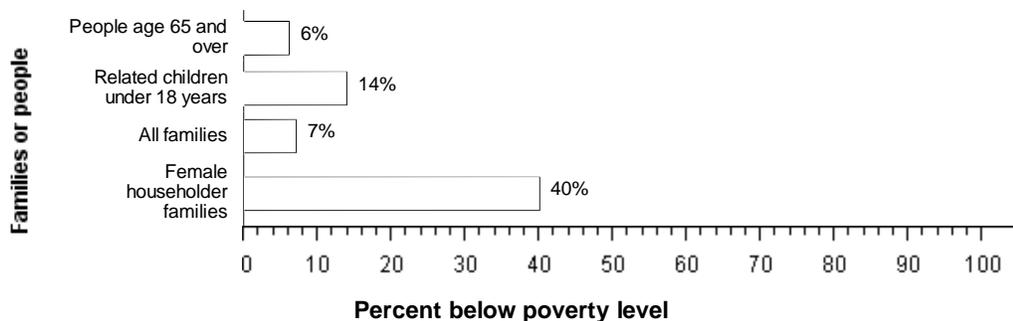
**OCCUPATIONS AND TYPE OF EMPLOYER:** Among the most common occupations were: Management, professional, and related occupations, 42 percent; Sales and office occupations, 24 percent; Service occupations, 19 percent; Production, transportation, and material moving occupations, 8 percent; and Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair occupations, 7 percent. Sixty-eight percent of the people employed were Private wage and salary workers; 25 percent was Federal, state, or local government workers; and 7 percent was Self-employed in own not incorporated business workers.

**TRAVEL TO WORK:** Sixty-six percent of Centre County workers drove to work alone in 2006, 11 percent carpoolled, 3 percent took public transportation, and 16 percent used other means. The remaining 4 percent worked at home. Among those who commuted to work, it took them on average 18.7 minutes to get to work.

**INCOME:** The median income of households in Centre County was \$40,886. Eighty-one percent of the households received earnings and 18 percent received retirement income other than Social Security. Twenty-six percent of the households received Social Security. The average income from Social Security was \$14,193. These income sources are not mutually exclusive; that is, some households received income from more than one source.

**POVERTY AND PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS:** In 2006, 20 percent of people were in poverty. Fourteen percent of related children under 18 were below the poverty level, compared with 6 percent of people 65 years old and over. Seven percent of all families and 40 percent of families with a female householder and no husband present had incomes below the poverty level.

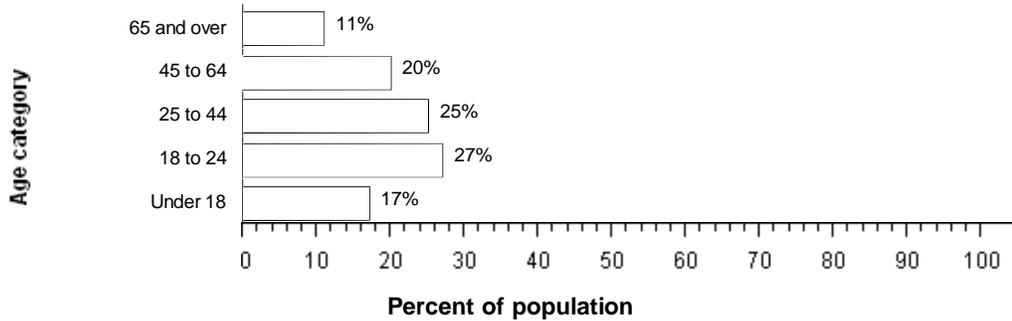
**Poverty Rates in Centre County, Pennsylvania in 2006**



Source: American Community Survey, 2006

**POPULATION OF Centre County:** In 2006, Centre County had a total population of 141,000 - 70,000 (49 percent) females and 71,000 (51 percent) males. The median age was 29.3 years. Seventeen percent of the population was under 18 years and 11 percent was 65 years and older.

**The Age Distribution of People in Centre County, Pennsylvania in 2006**

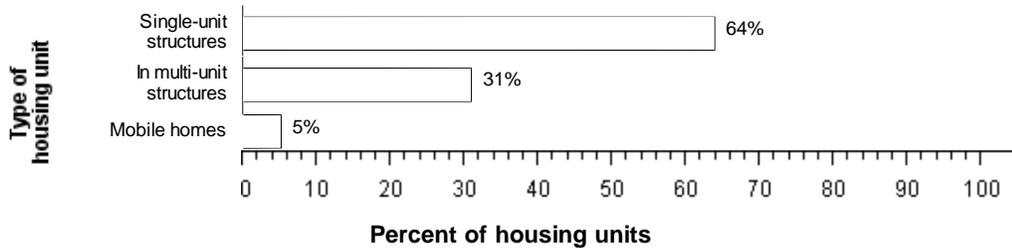


Source: American Community Survey, 2006

For people reporting one race alone, 91 percent was White; 3 percent was Black or African American; less than 0.5 percent was American Indian and Alaska Native; 5 percent was Asian; less than 0.5 percent was Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and 1 percent was Some other race. One percent reported Two or more races. Two percent of the people in Centre County was Hispanic. Eighty-nine percent of the people in Centre County was White non-Hispanic. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

**HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS:** In 2006, Centre County had a total of 58,000 housing units, 13 percent of which were vacant. Of the total housing units, 64 percent was in single-unit structures, 31 percent was in multi-unit structures, and 5 percent was mobile homes. Twenty-eight percent of the housing units were built since 1990.

**The Types of Housing Units in Centre County, Pennsylvania in 2006**

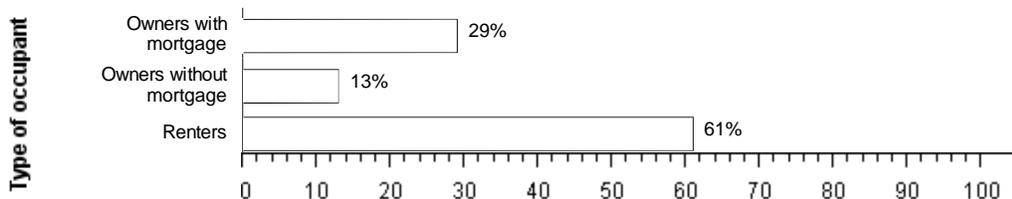


Source: American Community Survey, 2006

**OCCUPIED HOUSING UNIT CHARACTERISTICS:** In 2006, Centre County had 50,000 occupied housing units - 30,000 (60 percent) owner occupied and 20,000 (40 percent) renter occupied. Eight percent of the households did not have telephone service and 11 percent of the households did not have access to a car, truck, or van for private use. Multi Vehicle households were not rare. Thirty-seven percent had two vehicles and another 19 percent had three or more.

**HOUSING COSTS:** The median monthly housing costs for mortgaged owners was \$1,325, nonmortgaged owners \$398, and renters \$702. Twenty-nine percent of owners with mortgages, 13 percent of owners without mortgages, and 61 percent of renters in Centre County spent 30 percent or more of household income on housing.

**Occupants with a Housing Cost Burden in Centre County, Pennsylvania in 2006**



### Percent paying 30 percent or more of income for housing

Source: American Community Survey, 2006

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey

The U.S. Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program produces the [official population estimates for the nation, states, counties and places, and the official estimates of housing units for states and counties](#). The population and housing characteristics included above are derived from the American Community Survey.

Notes:

- Detail may not add to totals due to rounding.
- Percentages are based on unrounded numbers.