

EXCERPTS FROM THE STATE PLANNING CODE

"SECTION 3. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD. THE STATE PLANNING BOARD SHALL HAVE THE POWER TO

"(1) CONDUCT AND STIMULATE RESEARCH AND TO COLLECT, COMPILE AND ANALYZE DATA BEARING UPON ALL INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL, SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL FACTORS WHICH MAY INFLUENCE THE PRESENT AND FUTURE WELFARE OF THE STATE. . . ."

"(2) PREPARE AND, FROM TIME TO TIME, PERFECT PLANS OR PROGRAMS FOR THE PHYSICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE, BY THE STATE, ITS AGENCIES AND POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS. . . ."

"(3) ADVISE WITH THE VARIOUS STATE DEPARTMENTS AND BUREAUS AND WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND INDIVIDUALS WITH A VIEW TO THE COORDINATING OF ALL PHYSICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS, . . . AND SUCH OTHER THINGS AS ARE RELATED TO AN ORDERED AND COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE BY THE STATE, ITS AGENCIES, AND POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS."

SOME IMPLICATIONS OF PENNSYLVANIA'S CURRENT GROWTH PATTERN

Research reports and periodicals of national circulation make much of our national "population explosion", "the upswing of the national economy", and other subjects which must seem completely unrealistic to the residents of many Pennsylvania communities.

In accordance with its statutory responsibilities, the State Planning Board is studying Pennsylvania's current growth pattern, its relationship to national trends, and the implications from the point of view of the future welfare of the Commonwealth.

The National Growth Situation

The United States Bureau of the Census reports that:

1. Our national population has increased by

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25.8 million in the first nine years of this decade (150.5 million in 1950, 176.3 million April 1, 1959).

2. The increase (births minus deaths plus immigrants minus emigrants) is continuing at a current net rate of one additional citizen every 11 seconds (7855 per day, 235,636 per month, 2,868,900 per year) and the size of this growth increment is increasing.

3. Assuming continuation of current birth and death rates (a very conservative assumption in view of the continuous reduction of death rates) our national population will increase by 59 million in the next 16 years, by 84 million in the next 21 years (176 million in 1959, 235 million in 1975, 260 million in 1980).

4. Of current and foreseeable future growth, 97% is in metropolitan areas and, since central metropolitan areas are largely filled, most of the growth must be on the peripheries of the metropolitan areas, involving conversion each year of literally millions of acres of rural farm and woodland to residential, commercial and industrial use.

Pennsylvania's Growth vs. Growth of Other States

The United States Bureau of the Census reports further that:

1. For the period from 1950 to 1958 Pennsylvania's

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population grew by only 5.7% while the United States as a whole grew by 15.0%.

2. While Pennsylvania grew by 5.7% her neighboring states of

New York grew by 9.4%

Ohio grew by 17.6%

New Jersey grew by 18.9%

Maryland grew by 26.2%

Delaware grew by 42.7%

while only

West Virginia lost 1.8%.

(See accompanying map for records of all states)

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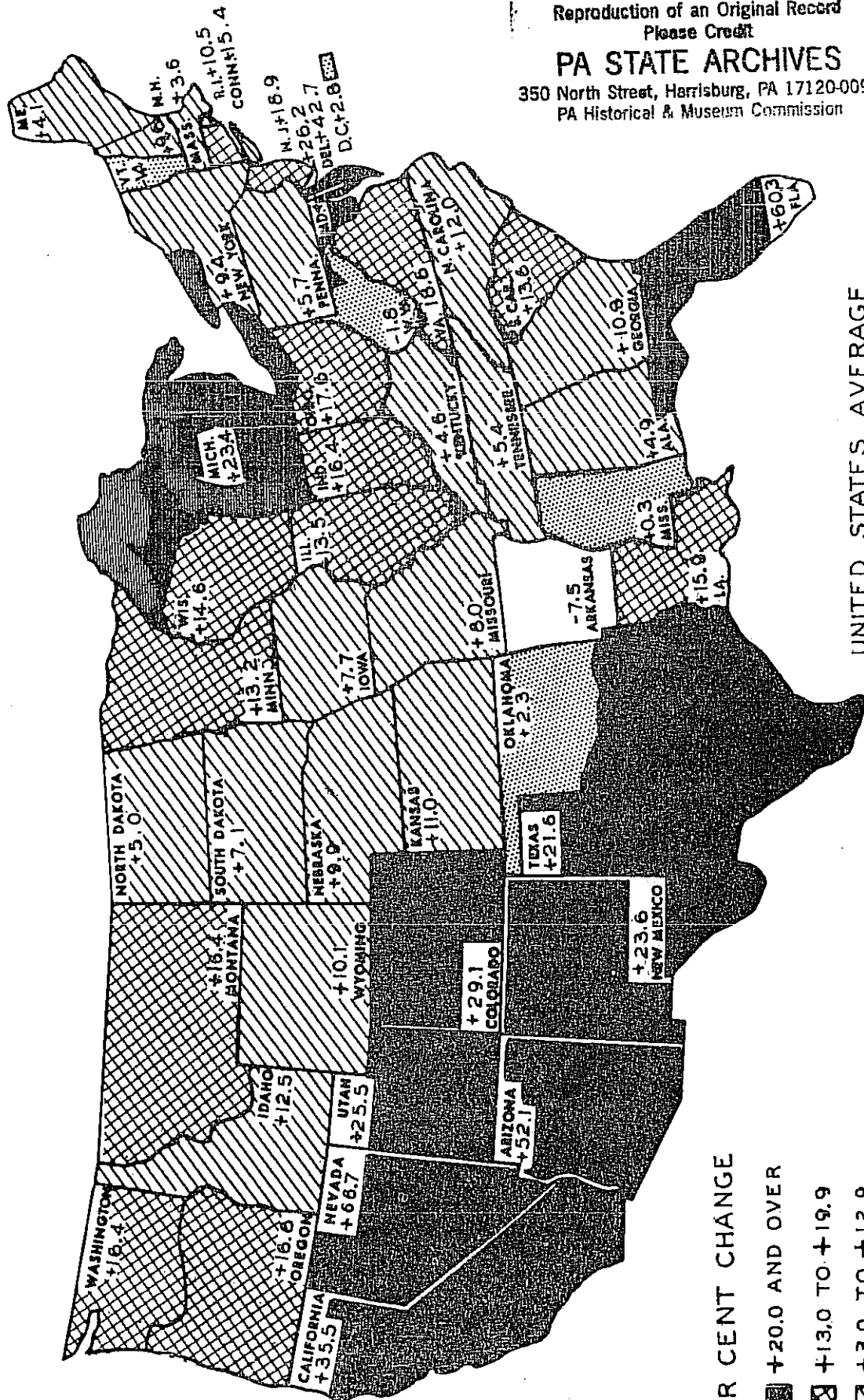
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UNITED STATES AVERAGE
15.0 PER CENT

POPULATION GROWTH — APRIL, 1950 TO JULY, 1958
SOURCE — U. S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

- PER CENT CHANGE
- +20.0 AND OVER
 - ▨ +13.0 TO +19.9
 - ▧ +3.0 TO +12.9
 - ▩ -3.0 TO +2.9
 - DECREASE ABOVE 3.0

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Pennsylvania, Statewide - Growth or Loss?

Inspection of birth and death data from the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Pennsylvania Department of Health, reveals that for the 1950-1958 period the excess of births over deaths indicated a natural growth for Pennsylvania of 9.8% yet net growth according to United States Bureau of the Census was only 5.7% Accordingly, out-migration or actual loss of population was 4.1%.

Migration - An Indicator of Citizen Satisfaction or Dissatisfaction

With current mobility of population, migration (whether intra-state or inter-state) is an automatic indicator of citizen satisfaction or dissatisfaction.

Primary element, almost certainly (particularly as related to the most energetic, ambitious and competent individuals), is employment opportunity.

Associated elements (of varying weights depending upon the interests, age, perceptiveness, etc. of the individual) may be lumped together under the general term "livability" of the community. Included are such factors as the adequacy, convenience, effectiveness and economy of:

- local street and regional highway system,
- provision for avoidance of undue traffic congestion,
- off-street parking facilities,
- public transportation facilities,
- water supply,

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provisions for sewage disposal, garbage and rubbish
collection and disposal,
schools,
recreation facilities - regional parks, community
center, parks, playgrounds and tot-lots,
measures for protection of property values and
neighborhood attractiveness - zoning, sub-
division control, etc.,
measures for elimination of present blight -
residential, commercial and industrial -
and prevention of growth of additional
blight (urban redevelopment, rehabilitation,
neighborhood conservation),
public library and other community facilities,
services and cultural assets.

Also involved from the point of view of many people are
such things as

Community appearance -

are private properties well maintained?

is there a Shade Tree Commission with effective
program?

is outdoor advertising limited to industrial
and commercial areas?

etc.

General citizen attitude -

will people work on civic projects?

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will high-grade people run for public office?
etc.

And general community reputation -

is the community generally regarded as
dead, dirty, corrupt, etc.?

or are people proud to claim it as their
home town?

Employment Opportunity

In recent years there has been a remarkable number of *new* industrial plants and expansions in Pennsylvania. From 1956 to 1958 inclusive 447 new manufacturing operations were established, 564 major industrial expansions occurred, 57 industrial research laboratories and engineering facilities were created, 138 distribution warehouses and factory storage facilities were constructed and 42 major facilities projects were constructed by public utilities, railroads and mining companies, making a total of 1248 new employment-creating facilities of major magnitude. In spite of this new activity, many parts of Pennsylvania are in serious trouble as to employment. The reasons, which are many and varied, have been studied and are reported on elsewhere, and in some instances corrective

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measures have been instituted, which are assisting in the solution of the problems.

Nonetheless, as of mid-January, 1959, the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry reported that -

1. Total unemployment in Pennsylvania was 508,000 or 11% of our labor force, while the national unemployment rate was down to 7%.
2. Of the 25 labor market areas into which the State is divided only three (Lancaster, Harrisburg and Reading) had an unemployment rate lower than the national average.
3. Sixteen of the areas had higher unemployment rates than the State average, ranging up to a high of 23.7% in the case of the Uniontown-Connellsville area.

(See accompanying tabulation for all areas.)

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Total Pennsylvania unemployment, mid-January, 1959 - 508,000

<u>Labor Market Area</u>	<u>Percent of Total Force Unemployed</u>	<u>Estimated Total Number Unemployed</u>
Uniontown-Connellsville	23.7	11,300
Johnstown	16.8	16,700
Altoona	16.6	8,900
Wilkes-Barre - Hazleton	15.9	21,700
Pottsville (Schuylkill County).	15.8	12,400
Scranton.	15.6	16,000
New Castle.	14.4	5,300
Erie.	14.1	14,000
Clearfield - DuBois	14.1	5,200
Butler.	13.1	4,600
Berwick - Bloomsburg.	12.5	2,700
Sayre - Athens - Towanda.	11.7	2,400
Lock Haven.	11.6	1,800
Sunbury - Shamokin - Mt. Carmel	11.5	7,300
Pittsburgh.	11.4	112,200
Lewistown	11.4	2,500
Oil City - Franklin - Titusville.	10.9	3,300
Williamsport.	10.0	4,200
Youngstown, Ohio(Sharon-Farrell Area in Pennsylvania)	8.7	20,000
Allentown - Bethlehem - Easton.	8.6	18,400
York.	7.5	7,800
Philadelphia.	7.0	128,100
Reading	6.4	7,600
Harrisburg.	5.3	8,800
Lancaster	4.1	4,700

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Variations in County Growth Rate

The over-all extent of unemployment and the variations of its impact in the individual regions of the State, together with dissatisfactions with other aspects of community 'livability' must account not only for the State's over-all growth record but also for the variations between counties.

According to State Planning Board estimates, in the period from 1950 to 1958

33 counties lost population

10 counties gained population, but at less than
the State average of 5.74%

17 counties gained at more than the State average
rate ^{but} ~~at~~ less than the National average of
15.0%

and only 7 counties gained at more than the National
rate.

(See accompanying tabulation of rates for all counties)

It is pertinent to note that some of the so-called "gains" indicated above really represent population losses, since any increase less than the natural increase (excess of births over deaths) for this period, which for the State as a whole was 11.9%, really indicated an out migration from that area. On this basis, 56 of our 67 counties lost population and only 11 counties held their natural increase and attracted new residents

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STATE PLANNING BOARD ESTIMATES
of POPULATION CHANGE
1950 to 1958

<u>Loss</u>	<u>Gain but less than State average of 5.74%</u>	<u>Gain - more than State average (5.74%) but less than National average 15.0%</u>	<u>Gain - more than National average - 15.0%</u>
Northumberland - -10.28	Perry - .67	Dauphin - 5.81	Lehigh - 15.21
Indiana - -9.21	Bedford - .98	Westmoreland - 6.21	Monroe - 16.53
Greene - -8.98	Columbia - 1.33	Lebanon - 6.70	Cameron - 19.07
Luzerne - -8.98	Philadelphia- 1.75	Berks - 6.89	Chester - 21.83
Sullivan - -8.90	Elk - 1.93	Northampton - 6.97	Delaware - 27.05
Fayette - -8.39	Lawrence - 2.06	Erie - 7.27	Montgomery- 31.22
Huntingdon - -8.20	Clinton - 2.97	Lycoming - 7.43	Bucks - 97.62
Schuylkill - -8.02	Warren - 3.66	Butler - 7.66	
Clarion - -7.31	Franklin - 4.23	Lancaster - 8.33	(7)
Jefferson - -7.24	Allegheny - 5.01	Adams - 8.96	
Potter - -6.94	(10)	Centre - 9.59	
Somerset - -6.40		Mercer - 10.31	
Lackawanna - -6.34		York - 11.54	
Clearfield - -6.25		Snyder - 12.69	
Carbon - -5.77		Beaver - 13.27	
Blair - -4.57		Cumberland - 14.15	
McKean - -4.44		Pike - 14.85	
Susquehanna - -4.07		(17)	
Crawford - -3.92			
Juniata - -3.17			
Venango - -3.15			
Mifflin - -3.12			
Fulton - -2.43			
Forest - -2.29			
Armstrong - -1.99			
Bradford - -1.86			
Montour - -1.79			
Cambria - -1.63			
Wyoming - -1.49			
Tioga - -.88			
Washington - -.55			
Union - .33			
Wayne - .18			

(33)

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from outside their borders.

The one county with exceptional growth record is Bucks County, in which the population has more than doubled in the first nine years of this decade. Growth of some local government units within that County is even more startling - Falls Township with a growth of 686.8% in seven years; Bristol Township with 362.2%; Upper Southampton Township with 227.0% and Lower Southampton Township with 221.6%. Similar rapid growth is found in limited suburban areas in the Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, Lancaster and a few other metropolitan areas, but not on a sufficiently extensive basis to raise the county growth rates to top level.

Variations in City Growth

The accompanying tabulation showing population estimates for ~~46~~⁴⁴ Pennsylvania cities indicates that for the period indicated 22 of these cities gained in population while ~~24~~²² lost population.

In a few instances the figures may be somewhat misleading inasmuch as the loss indicated for the central city may have been more than balanced by gains in the surrounding boroughs and townships. Even in these instances, however, there remain the disquieting facts that movement from the central city to the suburban areas is probably occasioned by the deterioration of older neighborhoods with accompanying loss of assessed valuations and corresponding problems of municipal finance. The need for urban redevelopment, rehabilitation and neighborhood conservation is clearly evident in such cases.

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PENNSYLVANIA STATE PLANNING BOARD
POPULATION ESTIMATE FOR FORTY-FOUR PENNSYLVANIA CITIES

	<u>Apr. 1, 1950 Census Population</u>	<u>July 1, 1958 Estimate</u>		<u>Apr. 1, 1950 Census Population</u>	<u>July 1, 1958 Estimate</u>
Allentown	106,756	113,056	*Lebanon	28,156	28,856
Altoona	77,177	70,964	Lock Haven	11,381	11,619
Arnold	10,263	11,152	McKeesport	51,502	46,319
Beaver Falls	17,375	17,494	Meadville	18,972	16,583
Bethlehem	66,340	77,073	Monessen	17,896	18,668
Bradford	17,354	15,355	Nanticoke	20,160	17,338
Butler	23,482	24,882	New Castle	48,834	51,689
Carbondale	16,296	13,845	New Kensington	25,146	25,057
Chester	66,039	65,165	Oil City	19,581	18,173
Clairton	19,652	20,343	Philadelphia	2,071,605	2,113,086
Coatesville	13,826	16,374	Pittston	15,012	13,346
Connellsville	13,293	13,693	Pottsville	23,640	22,219
DuBois	11,497	11,320	Reading	109,320	107,054
Duquesne	17,620	17,143	Scranton	125,536	116,712
Easton	35,632	37,187	Shamokin	16,879	13,007
Erie	130,803	133,781	Sharon	26,454	29,543
Farrell	13,644	15,034	Sunbury	15,570	15,510
Greensburg	16,923	18,661	Uniontown	20,471	16,708
Hazleton	35,491	32,547	Washington	26,280	25,079
Jeannette	16,172	18,457	Wilkes-Barre	76,826	65,192
Johnstown	63,232	61,832	Williamsport	45,047	46,848
Lancaster	63,774	69,257	York	59,953	65,188

*Population estimate for Lebanon makes no allowance for increase as a result of the annexation of Lebanon Independent Borough on January 1, 1951.

NOTE: The cities of Pittsburgh and Harrisburg were omitted from this estimate since great improvements in accuracy of determining residence of mother or decedent now exclude suburban births and deaths, many of which in earlier years were attributed to the central city. This improvement in local procedures has broken the statistical continuity essential for accurate results under this method of estimating population for intercensal periods.

The cities of Franklin, Titusville, Monongahela and Corry were omitted from this estimate as vital statistics are not available for places of less than ten thousand.