

# COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF PHILADELPHIA

*Demographic and Socio - Economic Profiles of Philadelphia  
ZIP Code Neighborhoods*  
Based on 1990 and 2000 Census Data

OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH  
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**Demographic and Socio-Economic Profiles of Philadelphia ZIP Code  
Neighborhoods  
Based on 1990 and 2000 Census Data**

*Introduction*

This report provides a demographic and socio-economic profile of Philadelphia neighborhoods based on ZIP Codes. There are two tables for each of the 47 city ZIP Codes as well as city-wide information. Table 1 contains demographic information, including population, gender, ethnicity and age counts. Table 2 contains socio-economic information, including transportation to work, education, occupation, income, and employment. Both 1990 and 2000 information and changes over the decade are contained in Tables 1 and 2.

The data for this report is based on U.S. Census Bureau figures. For more information visit the Bureau's website at <http://www.census.gov>. To enhance your understanding of the information in this report, background information has been provided, including Census definitions and geographic designations.<sup>1</sup>

*Geographic Designations*

A ZIP Code tabulation area (ZCTA), as defined by the Census Bureau, is a statistical geographic entity that approximates the delivery area for a U.S. Postal Service five-digit or three-digit ZIP code. ZCTAs are aggregations of census blocks that have the same predominant ZIP Code associated with the residential mailing addresses in the U.S. Census Bureau's Master Address File. Three-digit ZCTA codes are applied to large contiguous areas for which the U.S. Census Bureau does not have five-digit ZIP Code information in its Master Address File. ZCTAs do not precisely depict ZIP Code delivery areas, and do not include all ZIP Codes used for mail delivery. The U.S. Census Bureau has established ZCTAs as a new geographic entity similar to, but replacing data tabulations for ZIP Codes undertaken in conjunction with the 1990 and earlier censuses.

A word of caution is in order given shifting ZIP Code designations between 1990 and 2000. Even though the codes may appear the same, the addresses and areas covered by these areas may not be the same. We strongly advise data users who wish to compare 1990 and 2000 data to determine and evaluate any coverage differences that exist before making any comparisons. There are several reasons for this caution:

- The USPS has extensively modified ZIP Codes over the last ten years. Even though a 1990 ZIP Code matches a Census 2000 ZCTA code, there is no guarantee that these cover the same geographic area. Also, some ZIP Codes in the

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<sup>1</sup> For those who wish to view more detailed data related to the report, see Summary Tape File (STF) tables listed below (available on FactFinder portion of the Census Bureau website):

- 1990 tables used (STF3 data): P003, P007, P010, P012, P013, P029, P049, P051, P057, P071, P078, P107A, P114A, P117, P127, H061A.
- 2000 tables used (SF3 data): P3, P7, P8, P20, P30, P33, P37, P43, P50, P77, P82, P87, P92, H76.

1990 data products were discontinued by the USPS, and new ZIP Codes were created; (This was the case for Elkins Park – 19117, which does not exist in the 2000 Census data.)

- ZCTAs and the 1990 census ZIP Code areas were delineated using different methodologies and therefore may not have comparable coverage area or size; and
- The Census 2000 ZCTAs will include some dedicated PO box ZIP Codes. All dedicated PO box ZIP Codes were excluded as ZIP Code areas in 1990. The resulting 1990 areas include data for both PO box ZIP Codes and the ZIP Codes that provides street or rural route delivery to the surrounding area.

### Definitions

While some variables are self-explanatory, others require some clarifications. The following definitions should enhance your understanding.

- **Family**  
A group of two or more people who reside together and who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption.
- **Family household (Family)**  
A family includes a householder and one or more people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. All people in a household who are related to the householder are regarded as members of his or her family. A family household may contain people not related to the householder, but those people are not included as part of the householder's family in census tabulations. Thus, the number of family households is equal to the number of families, but family households may include more members than do families. A household can contain only one family for purposes of census tabulations. Not all households contain families since a household may comprise a group of unrelated people or one person living alone.
- **A household** includes all the people who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence.
- **Housing unit**  
A house, an apartment, a mobile home or trailer, a group of rooms, or a single room occupied as separate living quarters, or if vacant, intended for occupancy as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live separately from any other individuals in the building and which have direct access from outside the building or through a common hall. For vacant units, the criteria of separateness and direct access are applied to the intended occupants whenever possible.

- **The labor force** includes all people classified in the civilian labor force, plus members of the U.S. Armed Forces (people on active duty with the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard). The Civilian Labor Force consists of people classified as employed or unemployed
- **Employed** includes all civilians 16 years old and over who were either (1) "at work" -- those who did any work at all during the reference week as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession, worked on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a family farm or in a family business; or (2) were "with a job but not at work" -- those who did not work during the reference week but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation, or other personal reasons. Excluded from the employed are people whose only activity consisted of work around the house or unpaid volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations; also excluded are people on active duty in the United States Armed Forces. The reference week is the calendar week preceding the date on which the respondents completed their questionnaires or were interviewed. This week may not be the same for all respondents.
- **Unemployed**  
All civilians 16 years old and over are classified as unemployed if they (1) were neither "at work" nor "with a job but not at work" during the reference week, and (2) were actively looking for work during the last 4 weeks, and (3) were available to accept a job. Also included as unemployed are civilians who did not work at all during the reference week, were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off, and were available for work except for temporary illness.
- **Not in labor force** includes all people 16 years old and over who are not classified as members of the labor force. This category consists mainly of students, housewives, retired workers, seasonal workers interviewed in an off season who were not looking for work, institutionalized people, and people doing only incidental unpaid family work (less than 15 hours during the reference week).
- **Transportation to work** data is based on the population of workers 16 years and over.
- **Public transportation** includes the following: bus or trolley bus, street car or trolley car, subway or elevated, railroad, ferry boat, and taxicab.
- **Mean travel time to work** is based on the population of workers 16 years and over who did not work at home, including those who walk to work.
- **Educational attainment** is based on population 25 years and over.
- **Employment status** is based on population 16 years and over.

- **Occupation** information is based on the population of employed civilians 16 years and older. The Census Bureau used the 1980 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) to classify responses to its household surveys. The 1998 SOC was issued in September 1999. The revised SOC is used to classify responses to the 2000 Decennial Census and will be adapted for use with household surveys shortly thereafter. For more information, contact the Bureau of Labor Statistics SOC site (<http://www.bls.gov/soc/>). Occupation Tabulation Crosswalk, provided by the Census Bureau, was used to convert the 1990 data into the 2000 categories.
- **Median housing unit value** is based on owner-occupied housing units.

**Maps of Philadelphia  
ZIP Code  
Neighborhoods**