



# Philadelphia 2023

The State of the City



## About this report

The annual “State of the City” report is part of The Pew Charitable Trusts’ ongoing work in Philadelphia. Staff members Jun Ho Phue, Katie Martin, Maridarlyn Gonzalez, and Rishaun Hall gathered the data and assembled the report. Larry Eichel, senior adviser for Pew’s Philadelphia research and policy initiative, helped edit the publication, along with Erika Compart and Mabel Yu. Ned Drummond and Cara Bahniuk created the graphics and designed the report.

**Contact:** Elizabeth Lowe, communications manager

**Email:** [elowe@pewtrusts.org](mailto:elowe@pewtrusts.org)

**Phone:** 215-575-4812

**Project website:** [pewtrusts.org/philaresearch](http://pewtrusts.org/philaresearch)

---

Founded in 1948, **The Pew Charitable Trusts** uses data to make a difference. Pew addresses the challenges of a changing world by illuminating issues, creating common ground, and advancing ambitious projects that lead to tangible progress.

# Contents

1	The Big Picture
15	Demographics
23	Education
35	Government
43	Health
55	Housing
67	Jobs and the Economy
79	Public Safety
91	Transportation, Infrastructure, and the Environment
101	Photo Captions and Credits

## Foreword

### Reflections on The Pew Charitable Trusts' 75th Anniversary

The Pew Charitable Trusts was founded in Philadelphia in 1948 and operates with continuing innovation and keen attention to the challenges that hold people back, identifying problems and finding solutions. Over 75 years, Pew has grown and evolved into a global public policy nonprofit while maintaining a steadfast commitment to help Philadelphia, its residents, and its communities thrive.

Throughout the decades, Pew has partnered with government, civic, cultural, and community leaders on important investments in the city and the region. Pew continues to commit to the region's future through its grantmaking as well as through rigorous research and policy work to help local leaders address some of the biggest challenges facing the city.

The annual "State of the City" report is part of that commitment.

Since 2009, Pew has published the "State of the City" to benchmark how Philadelphia has changed over time, sharpening our understanding through comparisons with peer cities in areas such as education, health, public safety, and the economy.

Today, this comprehensive report has become the go-to data reference for Philadelphia's leaders and other stakeholders, helping create a shared understanding of the city's challenges and successes.

I am humbled to be leading Pew's Philadelphia work in this milestone year. Pew's 75th anniversary comes at a pivotal time for Philadelphia, as the city charts an uncertain post-pandemic course. Whatever shape that future takes, Pew's commitment to its hometown will endure, from providing investments that build a more vibrant city where residents and businesses can thrive to sharing information that guides the critical decisions to come.



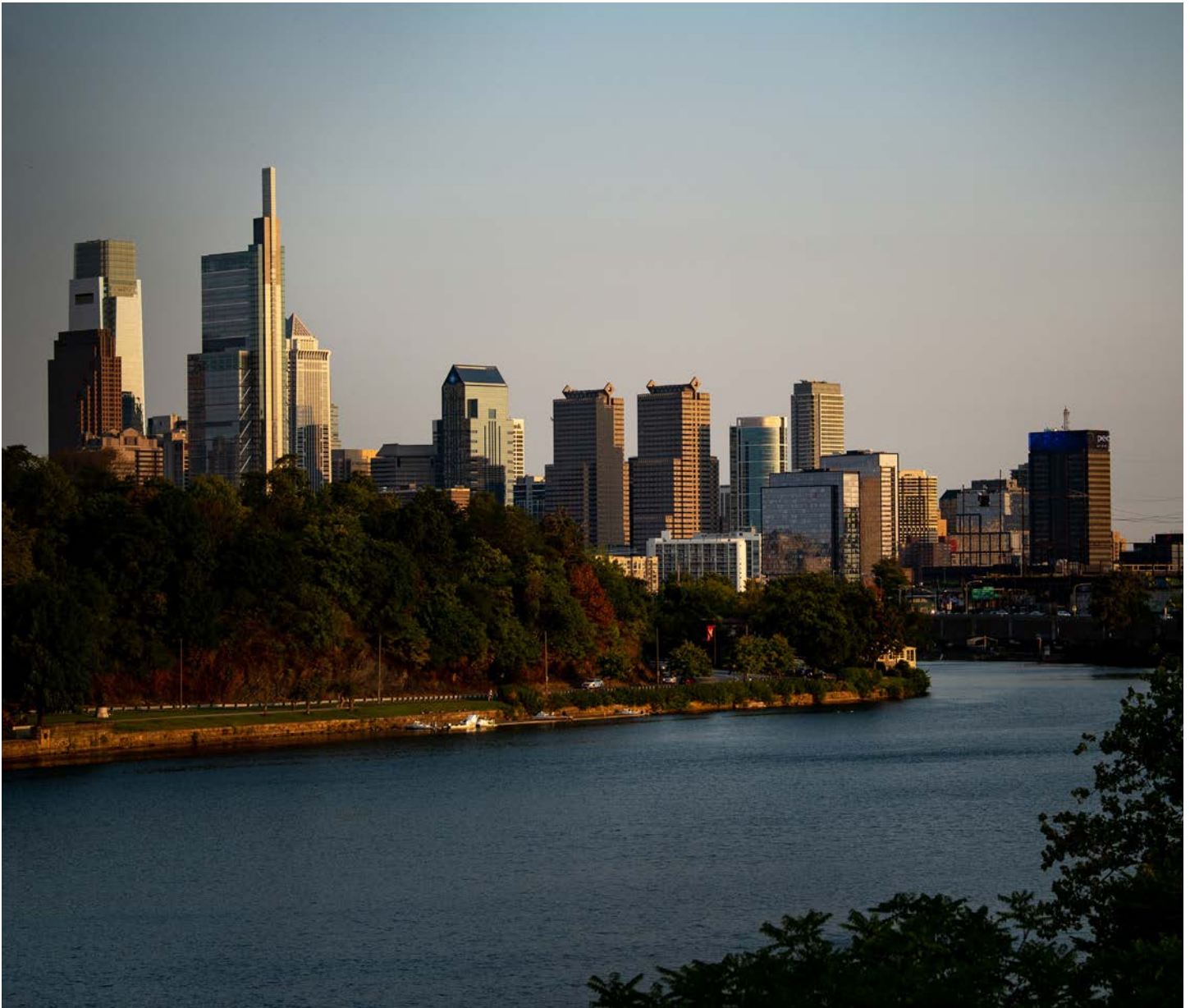
**Donna Frisby-Greenwood**

Senior Vice President, Philadelphia and Scientific Advancement  
The Pew Charitable Trusts

**Pew | 75**  
YEARS







# The Big Picture

**In 2022, increasing numbers of Philadelphians re-engaged in the more public aspects of urban life, commuting to their workplaces again, resuming indoor dining at area restaurants, and attending concerts and other events around town.**

There were some promising signs in that re-emergence. As COVID-19 concerns largely faded, many of the jobs that had disappeared in the early days of the pandemic returned, although the city still had fewer jobs than it had before. The unemployment rate—which had been over 12% in 2020 and around 9% in 2021—fell to 5.9%. Median household income rose to \$52,899 in 2021, the last year for which figures were available, up 11% from 2019, but with significant disparities by race and ethnicity.



Philadelphia's finances were in an unexpectedly strong position as well, ending fiscal year 2022 with a \$775 million fund balance driven by higher-than-expected revenue and several thousand unfilled city government jobs. And for the first time, the percentage of city residents age 25 or older with a college degree matched the national rate, at 35%, promising a workforce with more schooling. Nonetheless, Philadelphians had any number of worries on their minds, including a slowing economy, increasing housing costs, lingering inflation, and a stubbornly high poverty rate. Most of all, they worried about the rampant gun violence and high level of crime in the city, a couple of the pandemic's disturbing legacies.

In a January 2023 poll by The Lenfest Institute for Journalism, 88% of residents said that gun violence had a negative impact on the quality of life in their neighborhood, including 78% of Black residents who said they had heard gunshots in their neighborhood over the past year. Sixty-five percent of Philadelphians thought the city was going in the wrong direction. These findings tracked with similar results from Pew's Philadelphia Poll in January 2022, and they highlighted a 26-point increase from 2019, effectively reversing residents' views of the city's trajectory.

Considering the crime statistics for the year, the Lenfest Institute poll results were hardly a surprise. In 2022, Philadelphia recorded 516 homicides, down marginally from the previous year but still among the city's highest totals on record. Additionally, 2,255 people were shot, and 2,910 robberies with a gun were reported.

More broadly, the city's count of major crimes, which includes both violent crimes and property crimes, rose to the highest level since 2006. In a single year, auto thefts increased by 30%, commercial burglaries by 40%, and retail thefts by 52%.

Throughout Philadelphia, many residents struggled to find suitable housing at an affordable price. Nearly 49% of the city's households were spending at least 30% of their income on rent, making them "cost burdened" according to the standard set by the U.S. Census Bureau. Although housing costs in Philadelphia remained relatively low compared with other large cities in the Northeast, they were high for the nearly 23% of residents living below the poverty line (\$25,750 for a household of four) and the tens of thousands more living just above it. Households in parts of West and North Philadelphia had the highest share of cost-burdened renters.





Although city life returned to something akin to pre-2020 conditions in some respects, many office employees were still working from home at least part of the week throughout 2022. At the same time, many of the policies that helped support people and businesses during the pandemic were disappearing. City regulations that had allowed restaurants to operate “streeteries”—outdoor dining structures located in parking lanes—were changed in ways that eliminated many of them. The federal waiver allowing residents to receive Medicaid coverage without applying for it every year lapsed as well, meaning that all 136,000 newly enrolled Philadelphians who received it since 2020 have to reapply this year.

As 2023 began, the year had the feel of a pivot point, with many questions about Philadelphia’s outlook yet to be answered. Among them:

- Will the high level of homicides and gun violence drop? Concern about public safety dominated the public psyche, affecting the people directly involved in each deadly incident, their surrounding neighborhoods, and—increasingly—the city as a whole.
- How will the city’s economy continue to adjust to post-pandemic conditions, with labor shortages in some sectors, a marginally declining population, and fewer people in Center City each weekday as office workers continue to do their jobs from home? Will Philadelphia keep attracting new residents, particularly those born in other countries, helping to maintain the city’s vibrancy? As Philadelphia’s economy adjusts, will economic growth be shared equitably?
- With COVID-19 still posing a threat, albeit a diminished one, how well prepared is the city to resolve its remaining major public health challenges? In particular, with the city’s opioid epidemic as worrisome as ever, with an estimated 1,400 drug overdose deaths in 2022—the highest total recorded by the city—and with fentanyl and other dangerous substances permeating the drug supply, can Philadelphia’s public health systems get a handle on the crisis?

Amid unprecedented turnover in City Hall and in many civic and educational institutions, Philadelphia residents will be turning to a new crop of leaders to answer these and many other looming questions about the shape of post-pandemic Philadelphia in the months to come.

Figure 1.1  
Portrait of the City

<b>Population</b>	<b>1,567,258</b>	<b>Percentage of adults who are:</b>	<b>Total housing units</b>	<b>733,015</b>
<b>Percentage of residents who are:</b>		Married	<b>Percentage of units listed as:</b>	
Male	48%	Never married	Vacant	10%
Female	52%	Divorced or separated	Occupied	90%
Younger than 20	24%	Widowed	<b>Percentage of units built before 1939</b>	39%
Ages 20-34	25%	<b>Percentage of single-parent households among those with children under 18</b>	<b>Median monthly rent</b>	\$1,181
Ages 35-54	24%		<b>Percentage of units:</b>	
Age 55 or older	26%	<b>Median household income</b>	Owned by occupant	53%
Black or African American	39%	\$52,899	Rented	47%
Non-Hispanic White	33%	<b>Percentage of households with annual incomes of:</b>	<b>Where residents lived in the previous year:</b>	
Hispanic or Latino	16%	Less than \$35,000	Same house	87%
Asian	8%	\$35,000 to \$74,999	Different house in Philadelphia	8%
Members of other racial and ethnic groups	5%	\$75,000 to \$99,999	Somewhere else in the U.S.	3%
<b>Percentage of residents who:</b>		\$100,000 or more	Abroad	1%
Were born in Pennsylvania	64%	<b>Percentage of population below poverty level</b>	<b>Percentage of residents without health insurance</b>	7%
Were born in other states	18%	23%		
Were born in Puerto Rico or another U.S. territory	3%	<b>Percentage of households with:</b>		
Are foreign-born	15%	No vehicles available		
Speak a language other than English at home	24%	Two or more vehicles available		
<b>Percentage of adult residents who:</b>		A computer at home (including tablets and smartphones)		
Graduated from college	35%	Broadband internet service		
Did not graduate from high school	13%	<b>Percentage of workers employed by:</b>		
		Private sector		
		Government agencies		
		Their own businesses		

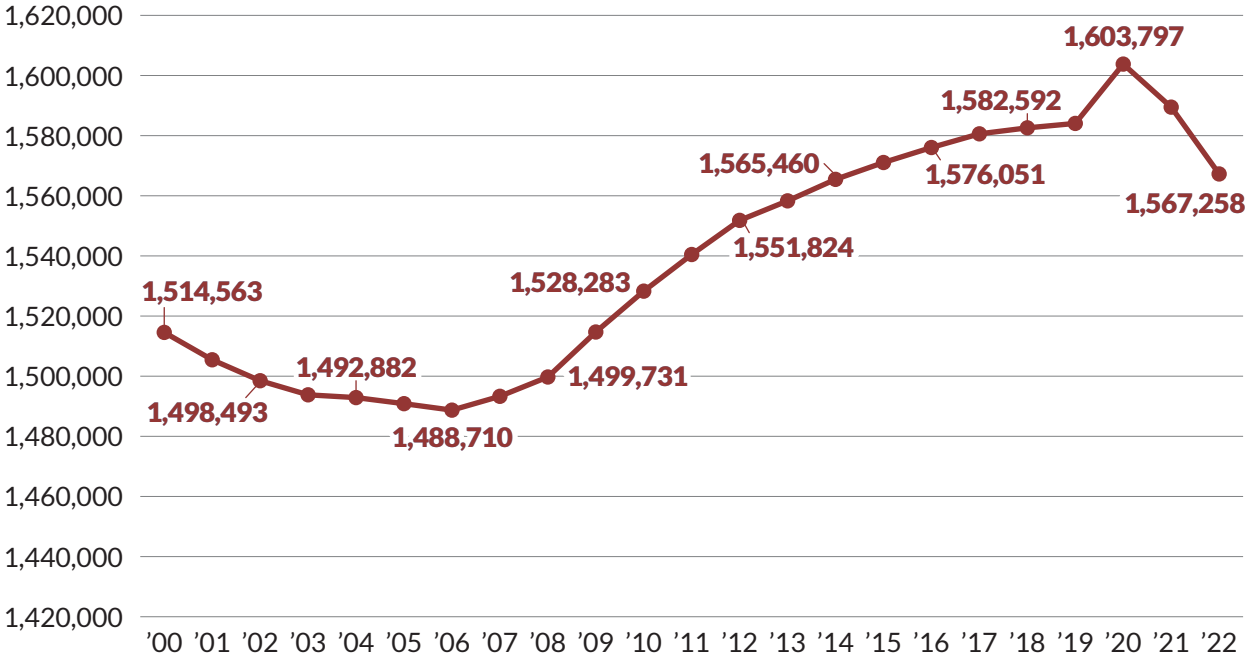
Note: Percentages may not add up precisely due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2021, <https://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



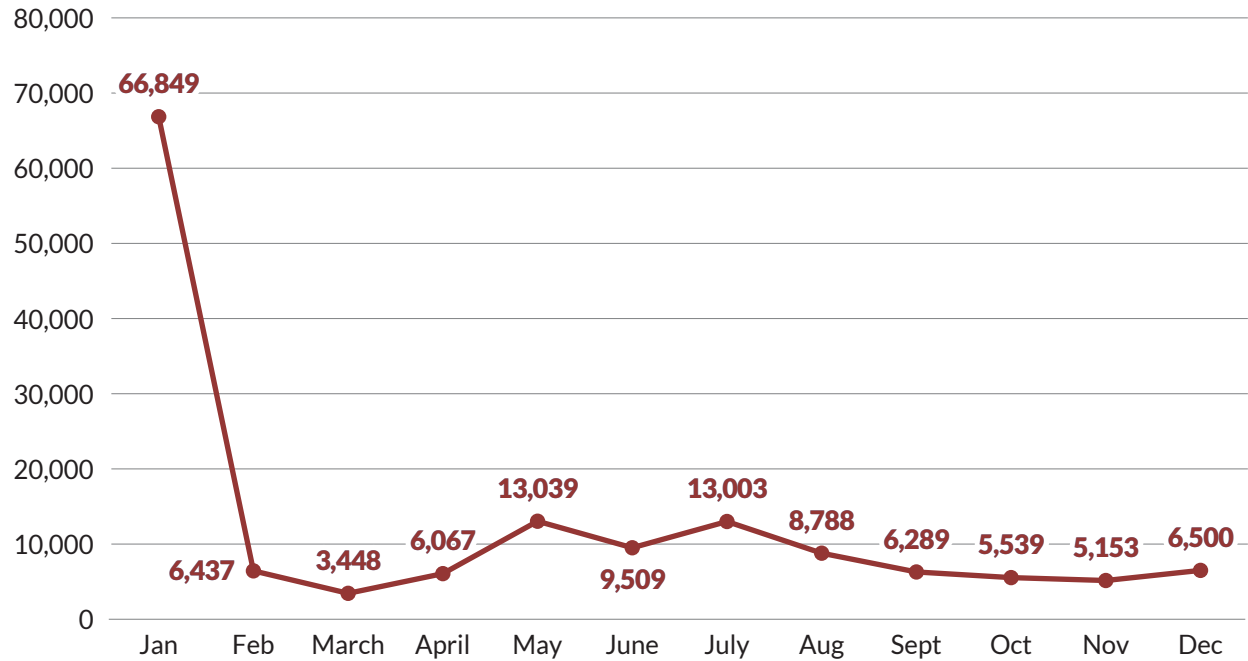
Figure 1.2  
**Philadelphia Population, 2000-22**



Philadelphia’s population rose every year from 2007 through 2020. But since the pandemic, its population has fallen, according to the census, because of fewer immigrants coming to the city and more residents leaving. In 2022, the numbers indicate that the trend has continued, with a drop of more than 22,000 residents from the previous year.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, “2000-2010 Intercensal Estimates,” <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/popest/intercensal-2000-2010-counties.html>; U.S. Census Bureau, “Population and Housing Unit Estimates,” 2011-19, <http://www.census.gov/popest>; U.S. Census Bureau, “County Population Totals: 2020-2022,” <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/data/tables.html>

Figure 1.3  
**COVID-19 Cases in Philadelphia, 2022**  
 By month



In January 2022, the city recorded nearly 67,000 COVID-19 cases. From then on, however, the numbers fell dramatically, with officials attributing the drop to many cases going unreported—due to an increase in at-home testing combined with more people being vaccinated and newer variants causing less severe illness. By December, Philadelphia had logged more than 380,000 reported cases of COVID-19 since the start of the pandemic, a case rate of 24,090 per 100,000 residents.

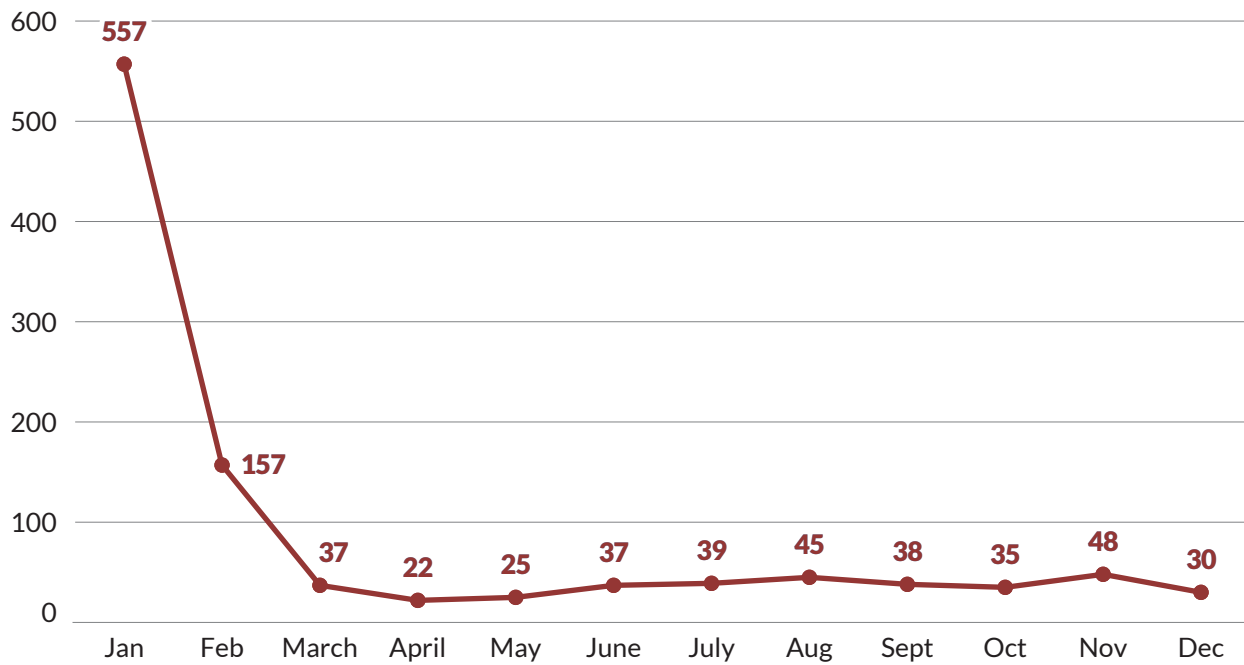
Source: Pennsylvania Department of Health, “COVID-19 Aggregate Cases: Current Weekly County Health,” accessed Jan. 8, 2023, <https://data.pa.gov/Covid-19/COVID-19-Aggregate-Cases-Current-Weekly-County-Hea/j72v-r42c>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts





Figure 1.4  
**COVID-19 Deaths in Philadelphia, 2022**  
 By month



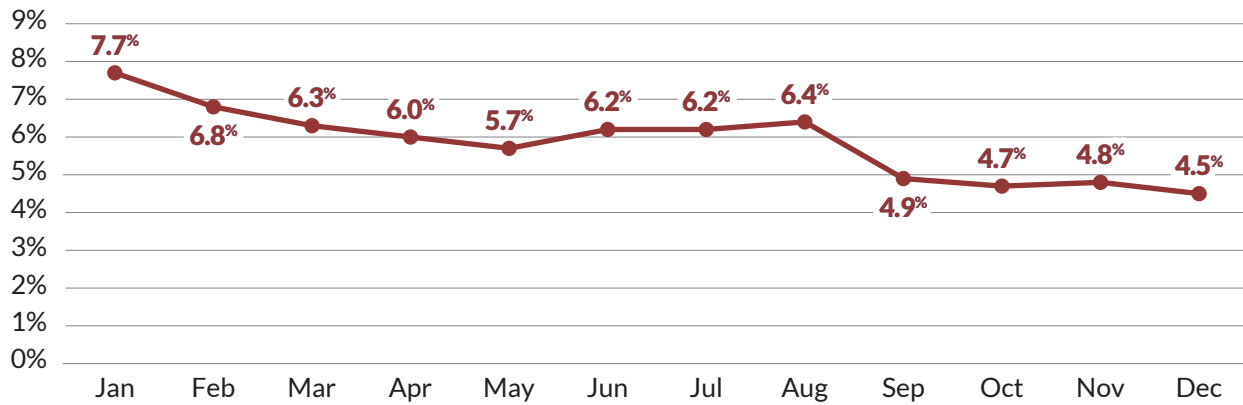
Philadelphia started 2022 with a spike in COVID-19 deaths, but the number of deaths declined sharply in February and March and remained comparatively low for the rest of the year. In May, the city moved from daily to weekly reporting on COVID-19 cases, testing, and deaths, citing the drop in hospitalizations and the increased availability of at-home testing. At year's end, Philadelphia had recorded more than 5,400 deaths from the virus since the onset of the pandemic.

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Health, "COVID-19 Aggregate Death Data: Current Weekly County Health," accessed Jan. 8, 2023, <https://data.pa.gov/Covid-19/COVID-19-Aggregate-Death-Data-Current-Weekly-Count/fbgu-sqgp>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 1.5

## Unemployment in Philadelphia by Month, 2022



Philadelphia's unemployment rate fell in 2022. After ranging between 6% and 11% in 2021, the city's unemployment rate remained below 8% throughout 2022. Unemployment was highest in January, at 7.7%. And after falling for the next few months, it increased slightly from May to August, likely tied to the national inflation surge during that period.

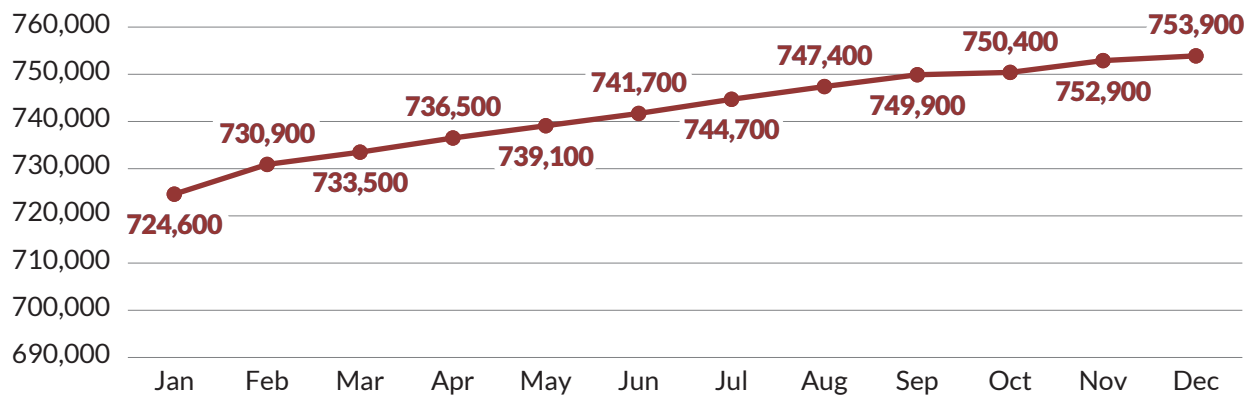
Note: The percentage for December 2022 is preliminary.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, <https://www.bls.gov/lau>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 1.6

## Jobs in Philadelphia by Month, 2022



Philadelphia's total number of jobs climbed throughout 2022, reaching its highest level in December—an increase of around 30,000 jobs from the beginning of the year.

Note: Employment totals are seasonally adjusted.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, State and Metro Area Employment, Hours, and Earnings, <https://www.bls.gov/sae>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 1.7

## Taxable Sales Reported by Philadelphia Businesses, 2021-22

Percentage change by sector relative to the fourth quarter of 2019

	Total (nonfarm)	Retail trade	Professional, scientific, and technical services	Administrative support and waste management	Educational services	Health care and social assistance
<b>Q4 2021</b>	3.8%	12.5%	16.4%	45.4%	-19.3%	-52.6%
<b>Q1 2022</b>	-6.2%	0.1%	9.2%	-2.5%	-23.4%	-48.7%
<b>Q2 2022</b>	10.8%	12.7%	23.5%	67.9%	10.4%	-42.2%
<b>Q3 2022</b>	3.2%	5.0%	1.4%	4.3%	16.4%	-44.9%

Compared with the fourth quarter of 2019, the last pre-pandemic period, sales by Philadelphia businesses were relatively strong in the last quarter of 2021 and the first three quarters of 2022. There was considerable variation throughout the period, with the first three months of 2022 generally the weakest and the next three months the strongest. Sales varied by sector as well, with the administrative support and waste management sector leading the pack and businesses related to health care and social assistance at the bottom.

Notes: Percentages reflect the change in the amount of taxes each industry sector owes the commonwealth of Pennsylvania on the reported value of goods and services sold in that quarter. The tax liability amount reflects just Philadelphia's 2% addition to Pennsylvania's 6% sales and use tax (SUT). The state releases data only for sectors that have five or more reporting companies, to prevent the identification of any individual company. Additional details are available in the methodology. Find more information on Pew's jobs and recovery dashboard: <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/data-visualizations/2021/pew-dashboard-tracks-philadelphias-economic-recovery-and-growth-in-the-age-of-covid>.

Source: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Revenue, Bureau of Research

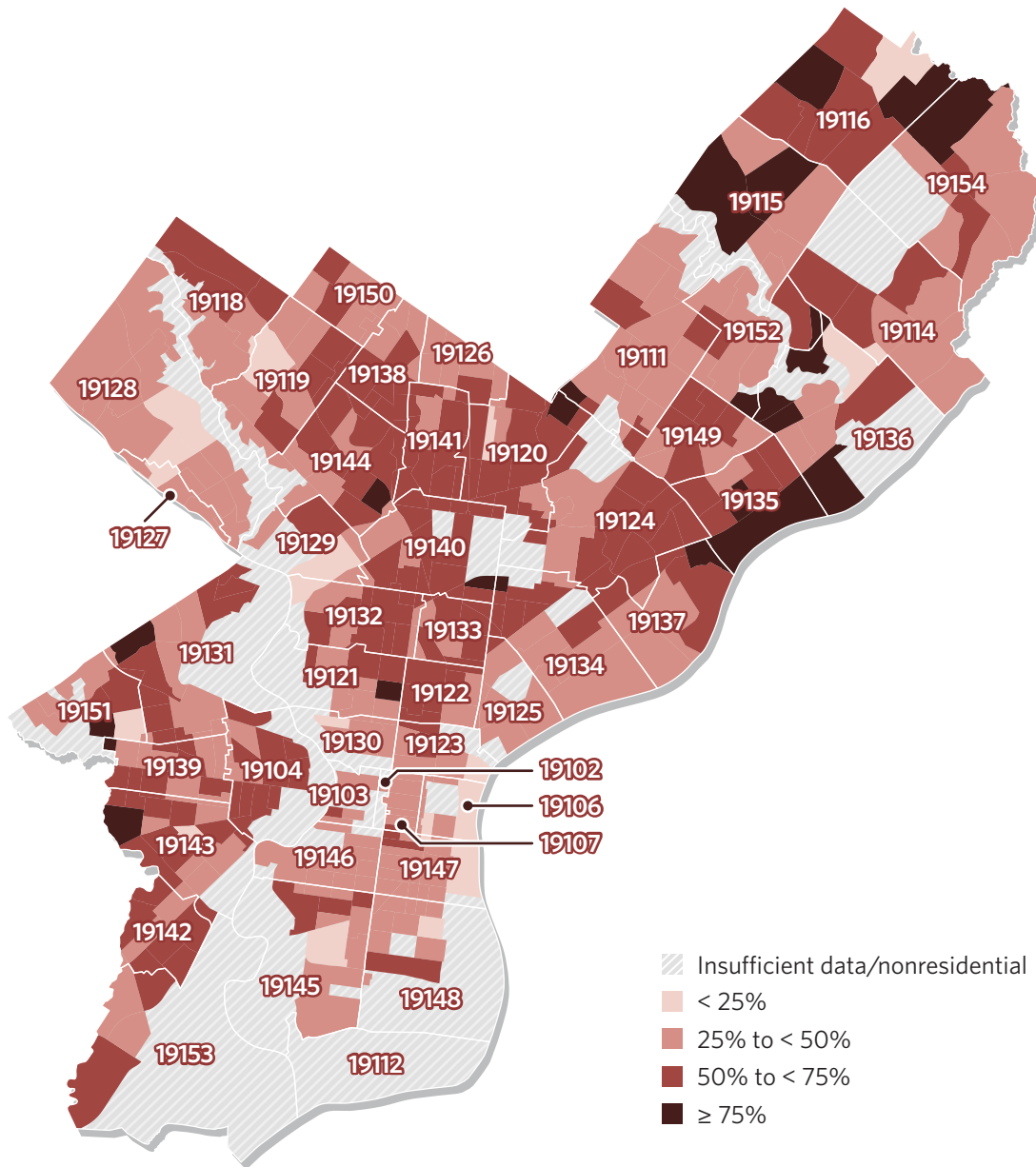
© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts





Figure 1.8

## Cost-Burdened Renters in Philadelphia by ZIP Code, 2021



As defined by the Census Bureau and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, cost burden occurs when a household spends 30% or more of its income on housing. By that definition, parts of West and North Philadelphia have the highest share of cost-burdened renters, while sections of Center City and Northwest Philadelphia have the lowest share. Over the past decade, Bridesburg and Eastern North Philadelphia (Yorktown) had the highest percentage increases in the number of cost-burdened residents, while Roxborough had the largest decrease.

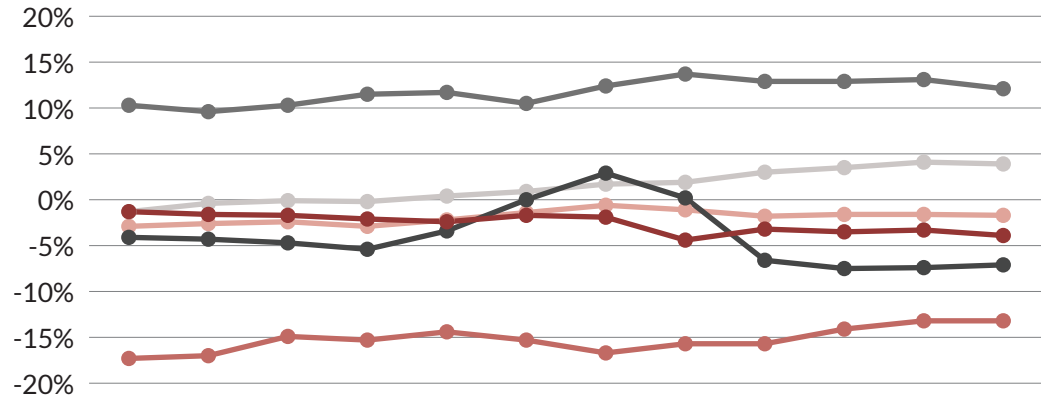
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, five-year estimates, 2017-21, Table DP04 (Selected Housing Characteristics), <http://data.census.gov>; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, five-year estimates, 2012-16, Table DP04 (Selected Housing Characteristics), <http://data.census.gov>

ZIP code	Neighborhood	Change in share of renters paying at least 30% of income in rent, 2012-16 to 2017-21	Share of renters paying at least 30% of income in rent, 2017-21	Share of renter-occupied housing units, 2017-21
19122	North Philadelphia—Yorktown	25%	60%	58%
19137	Northeast—Bridesburg	22%	68%	19%
19115	Northeast—Bustleton South	20%	56%	39%
19135	Northeast—Tacony	13%	63%	40%
19114	Northeast—Torresdale South	9%	56%	33%
19118	Chestnut Hill	7%	54%	52%
19102	Center City West	6%	37%	74%
19147	South Philadelphia—Bella Vista	5%	42%	43%
19104	West Philadelphia—University City	4%	64%	80%
19123	Northern Liberties/Spring Garden	4%	41%	69%
19132	North Philadelphia—West	2%	64%	50%
19124	Northeast—Frankford	0%	64%	38%
19116	Northeast—Bustleton North/Somerton	0%	60%	43%
19131	Wynnefield/West Park	-2%	59%	53%
19121	Fairmount North/Brewerytown	-3%	59%	68%
19143	Southwest Philadelphia—Kingsessing	-3%	57%	51%
19139	West Philadelphia—West Market	-3%	55%	60%
19141	Logan	-4%	59%	49%
19150	Northwest—Wadsworth	-4%	58%	22%
19153	Eastwick	-4%	52%	49%
19107	Center City—Washington Square	-4%	48%	82%
19144	Germantown	-5%	56%	64%
19136	Northeast—Holmesburg	-8%	46%	40%
19103	Center City West	-8%	42%	70%
19133	North Philadelphia—East	-9%	61%	59%
19142	Southwest Philadelphia—Paschall/Elmwood	-9%	61%	53%
19120	Olney	-9%	60%	37%
19151	Overbrook	-10%	51%	36%
19154	Northeast—Torresdale North	-10%	50%	23%
19140	Nicetown	-11%	63%	50%
19134	Port Richmond	-11%	62%	45%
19130	Fairmount South	-12%	35%	62%
19149	Northeast—Mayfair/Oxford Circle	-13%	52%	42%
19152	Northeast—Rhawnhurst	-17%	50%	41%
19111	Northeast—Fox Chase	-17%	48%	45%
19119	Mount Airy	-18%	45%	36%
19145	South Philadelphia—West	-19%	45%	41%
19138	Germantown East	-20%	56%	37%
19146	South Philadelphia—Schuylkill	-22%	38%	47%
19125	Kensington/Fishtown	-24%	35%	40%
19127	Manayunk	-28%	31%	58%
19148	South Philadelphia—East	-29%	42%	35%
19128	Roxborough	-30%	33%	43%
19129	East Falls	-31%	28%	51%
19106	Center City—Society Hill	-34%	25%	52%
19126	Oak Lane	-40%	45%	40%

Figure 1.9

## Job Sector Growth in Philadelphia, 2022

Percentage change since the same month in 2019



	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>Accommodation and food services</b>	-17.3%	-17.0%	-14.9%	-15.3%	-14.4%	-15.3%	-16.7%	-15.7%	-15.7%	-14.1%	-13.2%	-13.2%
<b>Government</b>	-1.3%	-1.6%	-1.7%	-2.1%	-2.4%	-1.7%	-1.9%	-4.4%	-3.2%	-3.5%	-3.3%	-3.9%
<b>Educational services</b>	-4.1%	-4.3%	-4.7%	-5.4%	-3.4%	0.0%	2.9%	0.2%	-6.6%	-7.5%	-7.4%	-7.1%
<b>Health care and social assistance</b>	-1.3%	-0.4%	-0.1%	-0.2%	0.4%	0.9%	1.7%	1.9%	3.0%	3.5%	4.1%	3.9%
<b>Professional, scientific, and technical services</b>	10.3%	9.6%	10.3%	11.5%	11.7%	10.5%	12.4%	13.7%	12.9%	12.9%	13.1%	12.1%
<b>Total (nonagricultural)</b>	-2.9%	-2.6%	-2.4%	-2.9%	-2.2%	-1.4%	-0.6%	-1.1%	-1.8%	-1.6%	-1.6%	-1.7%

In 2022, Philadelphia saw considerable job growth, but the city’s total number of jobs was still 1.7% below 2019 levels at year’s end. The strongest sector was professional, scientific, and technical services, which had 12.1% more jobs in December 2022 than in December 2019. Employment in accommodation and food services, meanwhile, finished the year 13.2% below its level from three years earlier.

Note: The occupational sectors chosen are the largest industry employers by type in the city of Philadelphia. To view job growth by sector in all industries within Philadelphia, please visit Pew’s jobs and recovery dashboard.

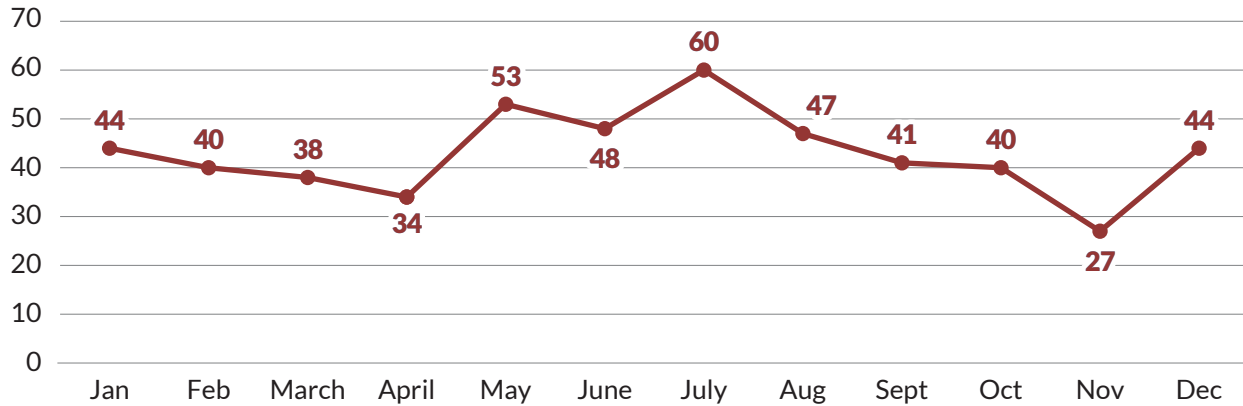
Source: The Pew Charitable Trusts, “Pew Dashboard Tracks Philadelphia’s Economic Recovery and Growth in the Age of COVID,” <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/data-visualizations/2021/pew-dashboard-tracks-philadelphias-economic-recovery-and-growth-in-the-age-of-covid>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 1.10

## Homicides in Philadelphia, 2022

By month



In 2022, Philadelphia recorded 516 homicides, an average of 43 per month. The highest total, 60, came in July, and the lowest, 27, in November. Both in Philadelphia and nationally, homicides generally increase during the summer months and decline in the winter.

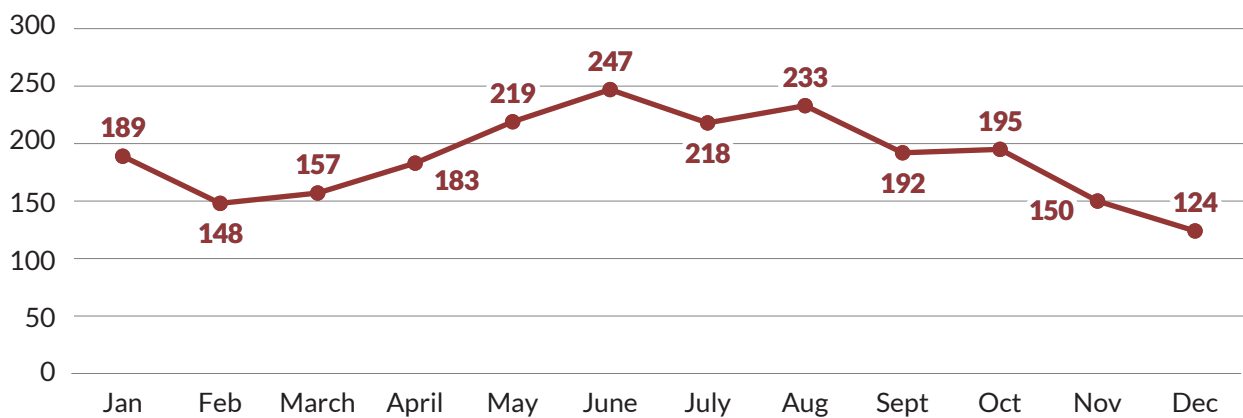
Source: Philadelphia Police Department

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 1.11

## Shooting Victims in Philadelphia, 2022

By month



A historically high number of people have been shot in Philadelphia since the start of the pandemic, with 2,255 shooting victims in the city last year alone. In 2022, the greatest number of shootings occurred in June (247). The numbers fell in the final months of the year, consistent with previous seasonal fluctuations.

Source: Philadelphia Police Department, "Crime Maps & Stats," <https://www.phillypolice.com/crime-maps-stats>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts





# Demographics

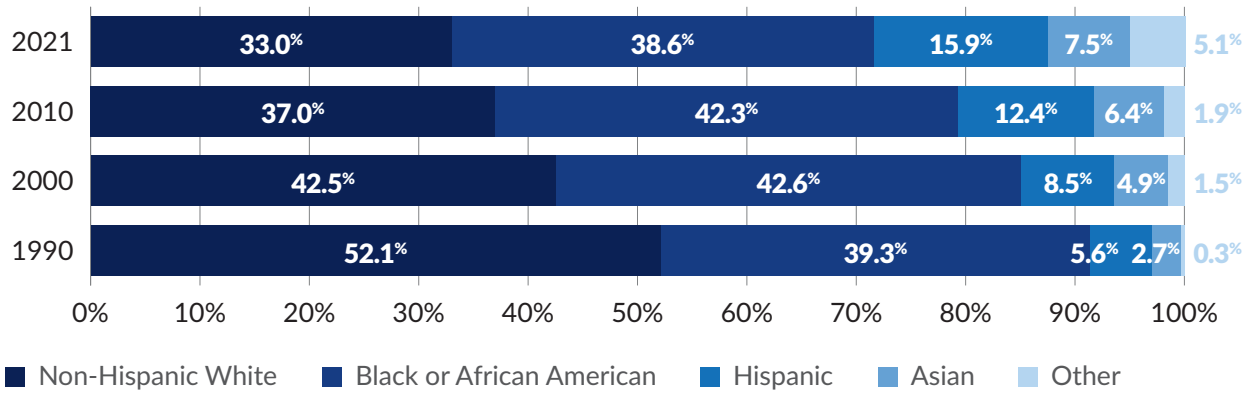
**Philadelphia continues to attract new residents, primarily immigrants, bringing fresh vitality to the city; nevertheless, persistent challenges—such as poverty—remain.**

Continuing a trend that predated the pandemic, the city's population is increasingly diverse, with nearly a quarter of residents speaking a language other than English at home—an increase of almost 2.5 percentage points since 2010. As of 2021, the percentage of Philadelphians identifying as Hispanic or Asian had nearly doubled over the previous 20 years, while the percentage of foreign-born residents increased to 15%, which was above the national average of 13.6%.

Poverty remained stubbornly high, at 22.8%, little changed from 2019 to 2021 despite the major influx of stimulus spending and the expanded federal child tax credit, which was discontinued after 2021.



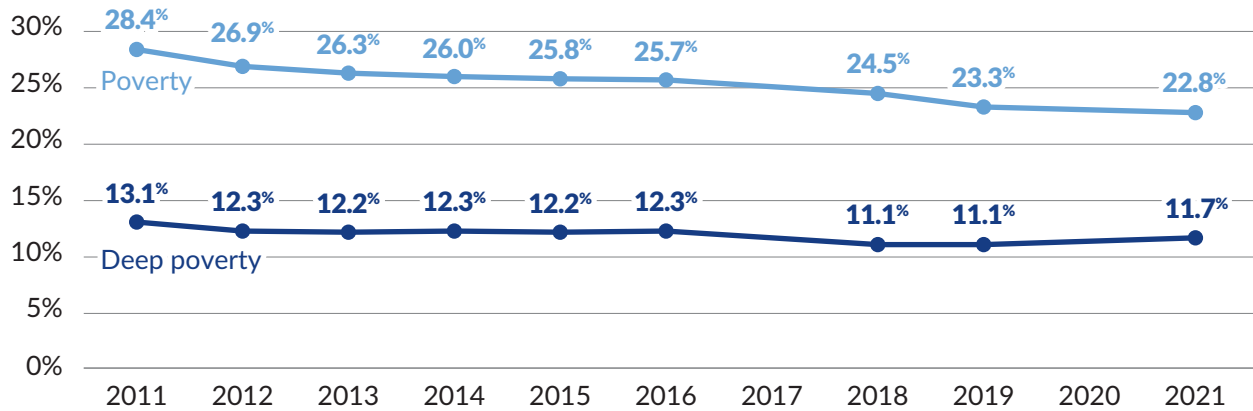
Figure 2.1  
**Racial and Ethnic Changes in Philadelphia**  
 1990-2021



Since 1990, Philadelphia’s ethnic and racial makeup has changed considerably. The most dramatic shift comes from the Hispanic and Asian shares of the city’s overall population, which have almost tripled. The non-Hispanic White share of the population has dropped from just over half in 1990 to roughly a third in 2021, and the Black or African American share has stayed relatively stable.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990, 2000, and 2010 decennial census, Table P2 (Hispanic or Latino, and not Hispanic or Latino by Race); U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2021, Table B03002 (Hispanic or Latino Origin by Race, 2021), <http://data.census.gov>

Figure 2.2  
**Poverty and Deep Poverty in Philadelphia**  
 2011-21



In 2021, Philadelphia’s poverty rate was at its lowest level since 2000 and well below its peak of 28.4% in 2011. Although the 2021 rate has changed slightly from the last pre-pandemic figure, city officials said they believed that the federal stimulus package and other programs, such as the child tax credit, helped keep the poverty rate from rising. Philadelphia’s deep poverty rate came in at 11.7%. A household of four was considered to be living in poverty in 2021 if its income was \$25,750 or less, and in deep poverty if its income was \$12,875 or less.

Note: Data for 2017 and 2020 is not included. Several years ago, the Census Bureau identified an error in some of its 2017 data for Philadelphia and recommended discontinuing its use. And the bureau did not release one-year American Community Survey data for 2020, citing the pandemic’s impact on data quality. Because the Census Bureau does not plan to update the data from either of these years, Pew is not using that data.

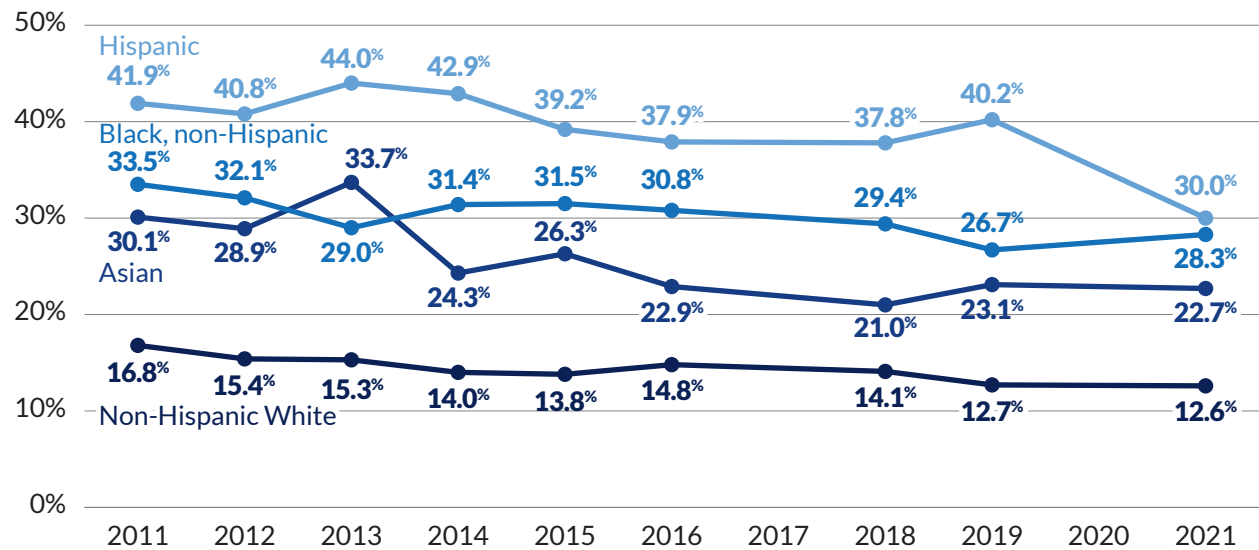
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2011-2021, Table S1701 (Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months), <http://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts





Figure 2.3  
**Poverty in Philadelphia by Race and Ethnicity**  
 2011-21



Among major racial and ethnic groups in Philadelphia, Hispanic residents had the highest poverty rate in 2021, at 30%—nearly 2.5 times the rate for non-Hispanic White residents. At the same time, census data showed poverty among Hispanic Philadelphians falling by more than 10 percentage points since before the pandemic. Short-term demographic changes of this magnitude are unusual and worth watching to see if the trend continues.

Note: Data for 2017 and 2020 is not included. Several years ago, the Census Bureau identified an error in some of its 2017 data for Philadelphia and recommended discontinuing its use. And the bureau did not release one-year American Community Survey data for 2020, citing the pandemic’s impact on data quality. Because the Census Bureau does not plan to update the data from either of these years, Pew is not using that data.

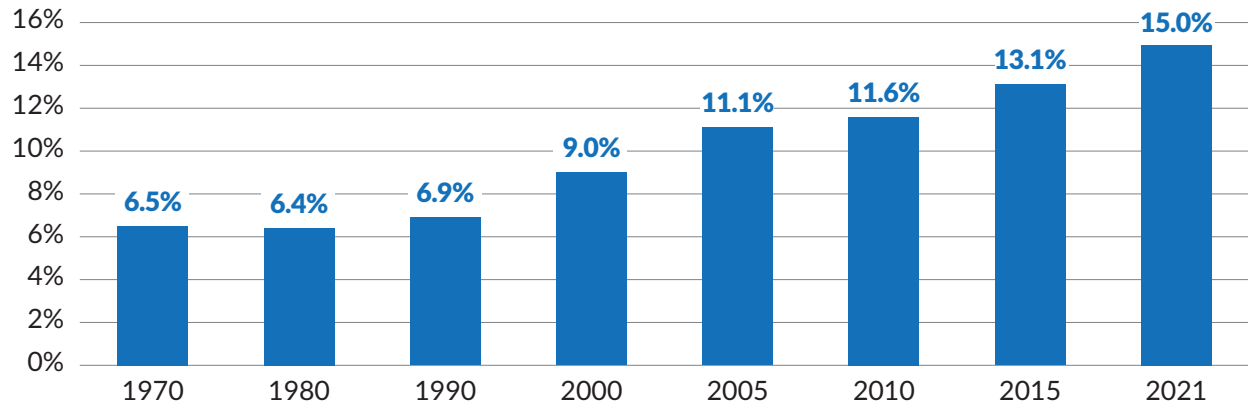
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2011-21, Table S1703 (Selected Characteristics of People at Specified Levels of Poverty in the Past 12 Months), <http://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



Figure 2.4

## Percentage of Foreign-Born Philadelphia Residents 1970-2021



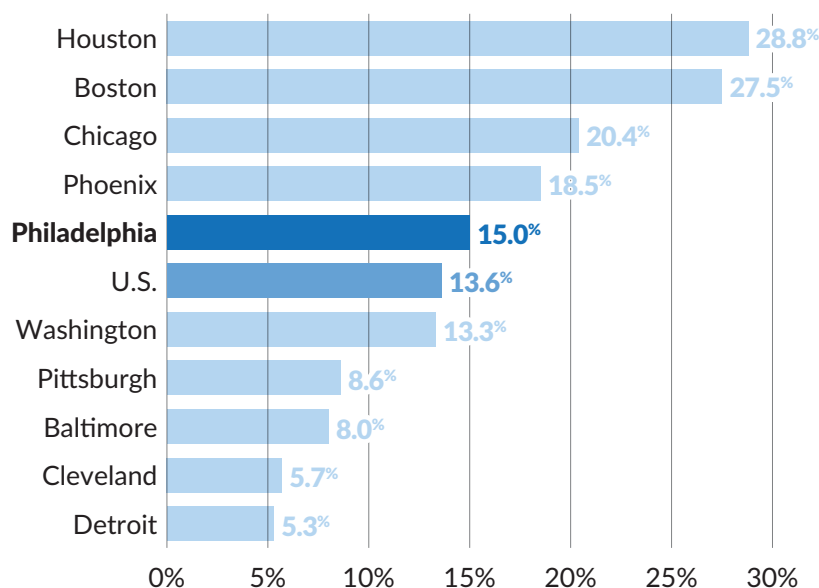
The percentage of foreign-born Philadelphians continued to grow, reaching 15% in 2021, 6 percentage points higher than in 2000. The largest percentages of the city's foreign-born residents have roots in Latin America (38%) and Asia (35%).

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, "Population of the 100 Largest Cities and Other Urban Places in the United States: 1790 to 1990," <https://www.census.gov/library/working-papers/1998/demo/POP-twps0027.html>; U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Decennial Census, Table DP2 (Profile of Selected Characteristics), <http://data.census.gov>; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2005, 2010, 2015, and 2021, Table B05002 (Place of Birth by Nativity and Citizenship Status), <http://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 2.5

## Percentage of Philadelphia Residents Born Outside the U.S., 2021 Compared with other major cities



In 2021, foreign-born residents accounted for 15% of Philadelphia's population, up from 13.8% before the pandemic. That 15% figure is slightly higher than the national average and ranks fifth among the comparison cities—much lower than Houston's 28.8% and considerably higher than Detroit's 5.3%.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2021, Table B05002 (Place of Birth by Nativity and Citizenship Status), <http://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



Figure 2.6  
**Top 10 Countries of Origin for Philadelphians Born Outside the U.S., 2021**

Country	Number of residents
China, excluding Hong Kong and Taiwan	23,893
Dominican Republic	19,662
India	12,529
Vietnam	11,719
Jamaica	11,091
Haiti	7,768
Mexico	7,544
Ukraine	6,473
Brazil	5,139
Cambodia	5,122

Fifteen percent of Philadelphia's population is foreign-born. China is the top country of origin among immigrants in the city, representing 10% of its approximately 228,800 foreign-born residents, followed by the Dominican Republic. Most immigrants in Philadelphia have origins in Asia and the Americas.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, five-year estimates, 2017-21, Table B05006 (Place of Birth for the Foreign-Born Population in the United States), <http://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 2.7

## Top 10 Languages Spoken at Home by Philadelphians, 2021 Not including English

Language	Number of residents
Spanish	159,664
Chinese (including Mandarin and Cantonese)	33,539
Arabic	17,111
Russian	14,074
Yoruba, Twi, Igbo, or other languages of Western Africa	13,531
Vietnamese	12,893
Malayalam, Kannada, or other Dravidian languages	11,055
Haitian	10,086
Portuguese	10,026
French (including Cajun)	8,951

In Philadelphia, 23.4% of residents speak a language other than English at home. Spanish is by far the most common; it is spoken by nearly 160,000 people, representing 45% of the approximately 353,745 total city residents who do not speak English at home. Other languages spoken by large numbers of Philadelphians include Chinese, Arabic, Russian, and Vietnamese.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2021, Table B16001 (Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5 Years and Over), <http://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts







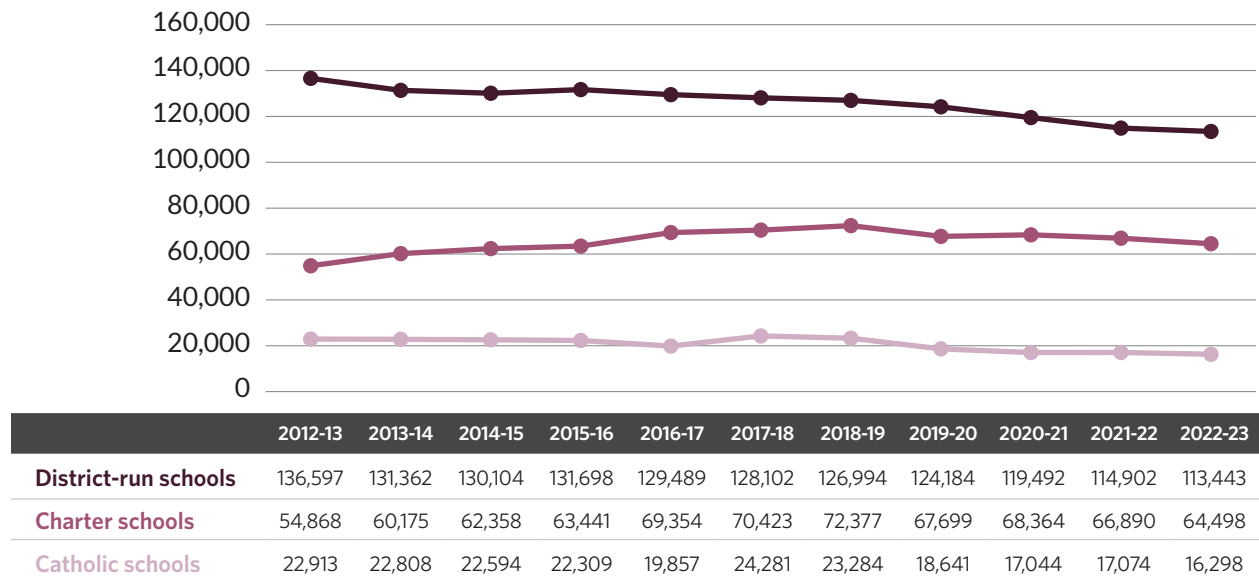
# Education

**After two years of disrupted and mostly virtual learning, Philadelphia students returned to the classroom full time in fall 2022. The long-term impact of these pandemic-related learning interruptions remains to be seen.**

But some preliminary data shows that preschool enrollment declined by 9 percentage points (or nearly 4,900 children), from 49.2% in 2019 to 40.1% in 2021. Enrollment in college, meanwhile, remained stable, with 48% of students who graduated from School District of Philadelphia-run high schools in 2021 enrolling in college that fall, a figure largely unchanged from 2020.

Census data for 2021 showed that 34.8% of Philadelphians age 25 or older held bachelor's degrees, essentially the same as the national rate of 35%. This is the highest percentage on record for the city and represents an increase of 11 percentage points since 2011.

Figure 3.1  
**K-12 Enrollment Trends, 2012-23**



Since the onset of the pandemic, the number of students in Philadelphia’s district, charter, and Catholic schools has declined. In the 2022-23 school year, schools in the three categories combined had more than 16,000, or nearly 8%, fewer students than they did in 2019-20, the last school year with pre-pandemic enrollment. Total enrollment in district-run and Catholic schools was lower than it had been a decade earlier; charter numbers were higher, despite declining in recent years.

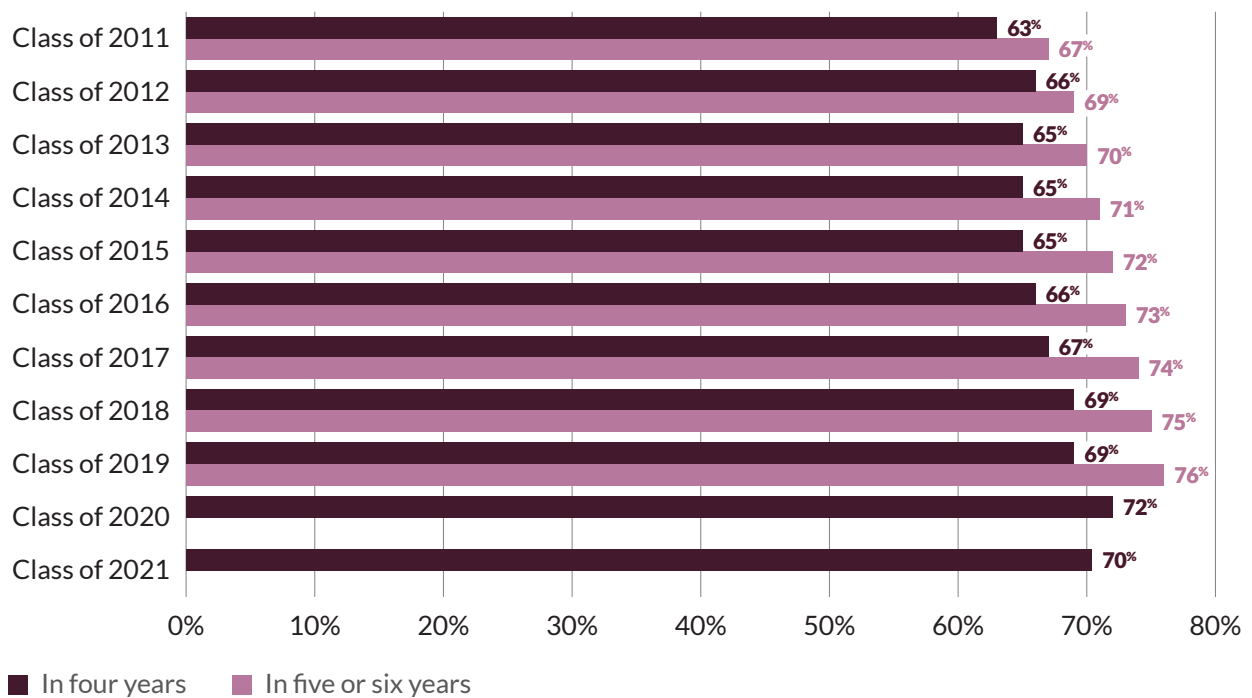
Sources: School District of Philadelphia, District Performance Office, “School Information,” accessed Jan. 17, 2023, <https://www.philasd.org/performance/programsservices/open-data/school-information> (district-run and charter school enrollment data); Archdiocese of Philadelphia (Catholic school enrollment data)

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts





Figure 3.2  
**High School Graduation Rates, 2011-21**  
 In Philadelphia's district-run schools



The four-year graduation rate in Philadelphia's district-run high schools declined for the first time since 2013, dropping to 70% for the class of 2021. And the five- or six-year graduation rate climbed through 2019, the latest year for which that data was available. Members of the class of 2021 finished their senior year of high school in remote learning because of the pandemic. Whether that accounts for the slight drop in the four-year graduation rate may become apparent in the years to come, now that students have returned to classrooms full time.

Source: School District of Philadelphia, District Performance Office: Open Data, <https://www.philasd.org/performance/programsservices/open-data>

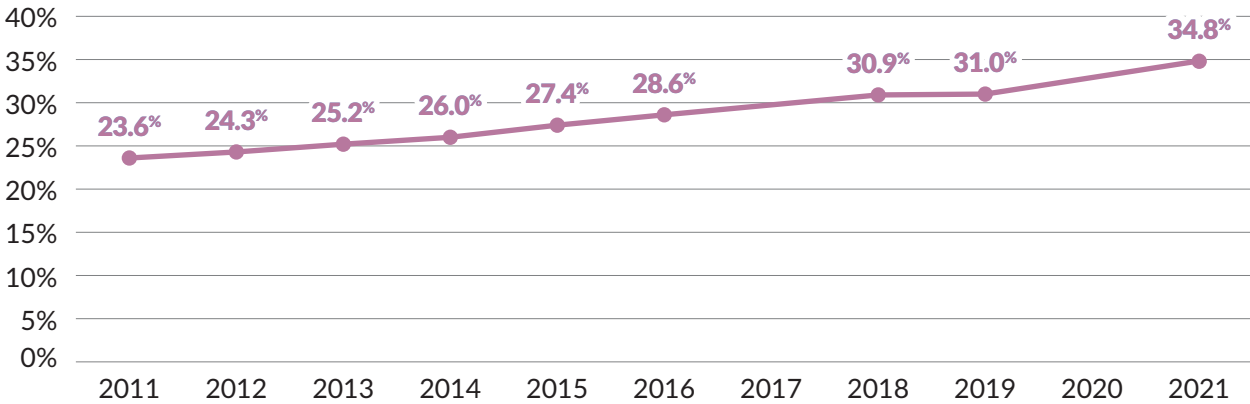
© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts







Figure 3.3  
**Percentage of Philadelphia Residents With a College Degree, 2011-21**  
 Adults 25 and older



For the first time, more than a third of Philadelphia residents age 25 or older have a bachelor’s degree or higher; the 34.8% rate is essentially the same as the national rate of 35%. The city’s college graduation rate has risen every year since 2011.

Note: Data for 2017 and 2020 is not included. Several years ago, the Census Bureau identified an error in some of its 2017 data for Philadelphia and recommended discontinuing its use. And the bureau did not release one-year American Community Survey data for 2020, citing the pandemic’s impact on data quality. Because the Census Bureau does not plan to update the data from either of these years, Pew is not using that data.

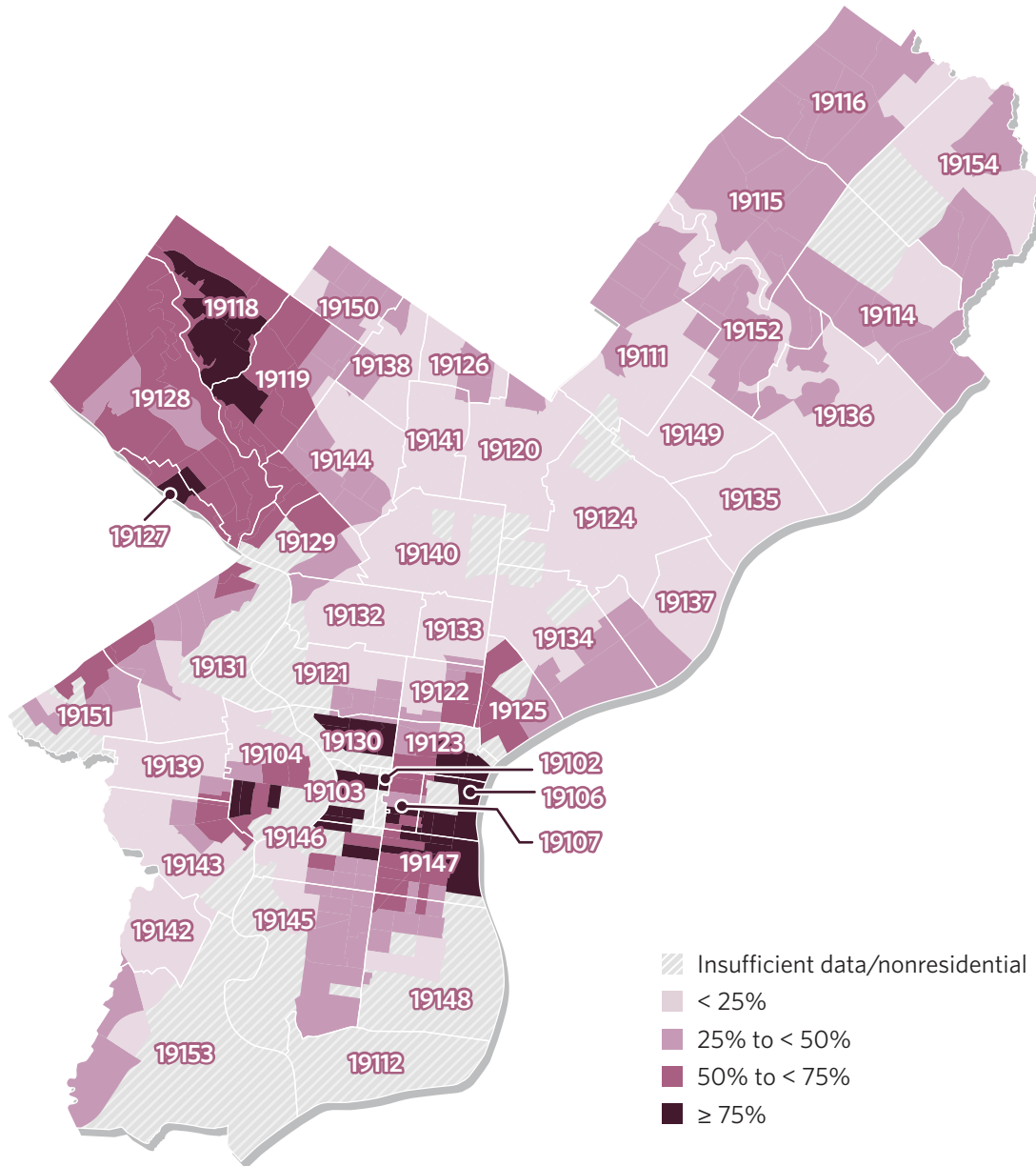
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2011-21, Table S1501 (Educational Attainment), <http://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 3.4

## Percentage of Philadelphia Residents Age 25 or Older With a Bachelor's Degree or Higher, 2021

By ZIP code



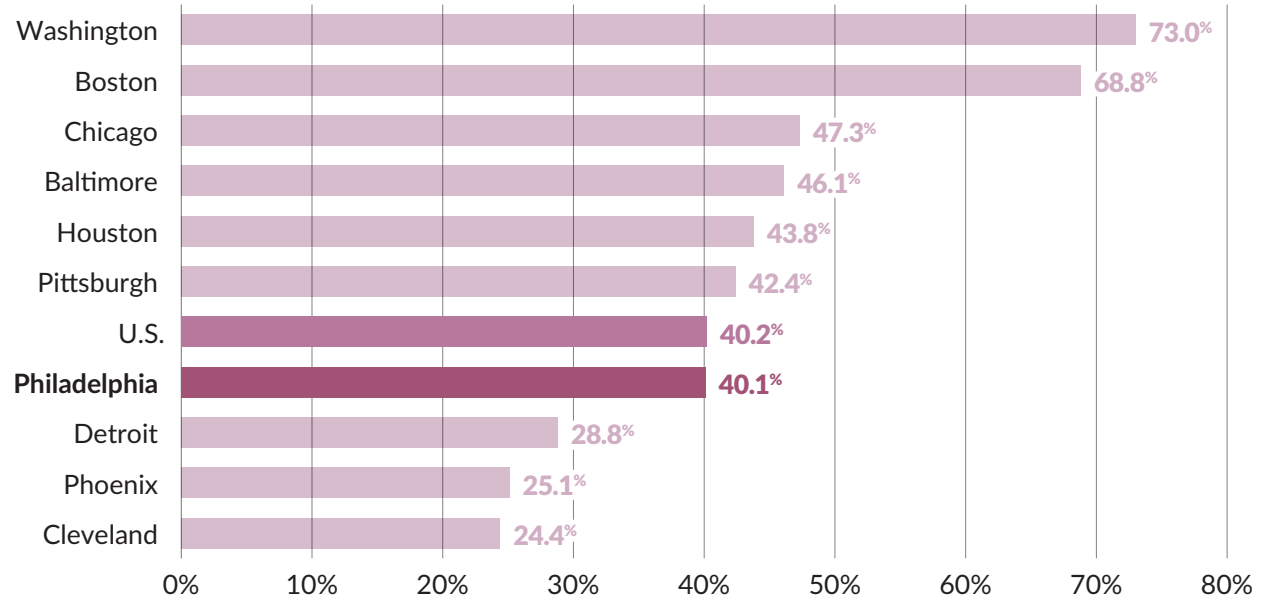
Although more than a third of Philadelphians age 25 or older had a bachelor's degree or more schooling in 2021, the level of educational attainment varied widely among city neighborhoods. In parts of Center City, more than 75% of adults held bachelor's degrees. But the share was below 25% in vast stretches of the city, including parts of Southwest, West, and North Philadelphia, as well as much of the Northeast.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, five-year estimates, 2017-21, Table S1501 (Educational Attainment), <http://data.census.gov>

ZIP code	Neighborhood	Percentage of residents age 25 or older with at least a bachelor's degree
19102	Center City West	91%
19103	Center City West	83%
19106	Center City—Society Hill	80%
19130	Fairmount South	77%
19127	Manayunk	77%
19118	Chestnut Hill	72%
19107	Center City—Washington Square	71%
19147	South Philadelphia—Bella Vista	66%
19129	East Falls	64%
19123	Northern Liberties/Spring Garden	64%
19125	Kensington/Fishtown	58%
19146	South Philadelphia—Schuylkill	58%
19128	Roxborough	53%
19119	Mount Airy	53%
19104	West Philadelphia—University City	44%
19116	Northeast—Bustleton North/Somerton	36%
19115	Northeast—Bustleton South	36%
19122	North Philadelphia—Yorktown	35%
19144	Germantown	33%
19148	South Philadelphia—East	33%
19131	Wynnefield/West Park	32%
19145	South Philadelphia—West	32%
19114	Northeast—Torresdale South	29%
19152	Northeast—Rhawnhurst	29%
19143	Southwest Philadelphia—Kingsessing	29%
19150	Northwest—Wadsworth	28%
19153	Eastwick	26%
19151	Overbrook	26%
19154	Northeast—Torresdale North	25%
19126	Oak Lane	25%
19111	Northeast—Fox Chase	25%
19121	Fairmount North/Brewerytown	23%
19136	Northeast—Holmesburg	19%
19137	Northeast—Bridesburg	19%
19139	West Philadelphia—West Market	18%
19138	Germantown East	16%
19134	Port Richmond	15%
19124	Northeast—Frankford	15%
19135	Northeast—Tacony	15%
19120	Olney	14%
19141	Logan	14%
19149	Northeast—Mayfair/Oxford Circle	13%
19142	Southwest Philadelphia—Paschall/Elmwood	12%
19132	North Philadelphia—West	12%
19140	Nicetown	8%
19133	North Philadelphia—East	5%

Figure 3.5

## Percentage of 3- and 4-Year-Olds Enrolled in School, 2021 In Philadelphia and comparison cities



At 40.1%, Philadelphia's share of children in nursery school or preschool was in line with the national average in 2021. But the percentage was down substantially from the pre-pandemic figure of 49.2% in 2019. Among the comparison cities, Washington had the highest percentage of 3- and 4-year-olds enrolled in nursery school or preschool.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2021, Table S1401 (School Enrollment), <http://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



Figure 3.6

## Philadelphians' Top 5 Occupations, 2021

By educational attainment

Educational attainment	Top occupations
<b>Less than high school (No diploma received)</b>  <b>(Median income: \$22,500)</b>	Manicurist and pedicurist
	Driver/sales workers and truck drivers
	Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers
	Home health aides
	Janitors and building cleaners
<b>High school or high school equivalent (Diploma received)</b>  <b>(Median income: \$29,700)</b>	Nursing assistants
	Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers
	Retail salespeople
	Home health aides
	Driver/sales workers and truck drivers
<b>Some college (No degree received)</b>  <b>(Median income: \$28,300)</b>	Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses
	Personal care aides
	Couriers and messengers
	Customer service representatives
	Cashiers
<b>Associate degree (Degree received)</b>  <b>(Median income: \$39,000)</b>	Fast food and counter workers
	Janitors and building cleaners
	Registered nurses
	Retail salespeople
	Customer service representatives
<b>Bachelor's degree or higher (Degree received)</b>  <b>(Median income: \$59,500)</b>	Lawyers and judges, magistrates, and other judicial workers
	Elementary and middle school workers
	Postsecondary teachers
	Physicians
	Registered nurses

This graphic shows the top five occupations held by Philadelphians in 2021 for five different levels of educational attainment, along with the median income for each cohort. Residents in the first two educational attainment levels—those with no more than a high school degree—had similar work profiles. Three occupations—laborers and freight, stock, and material movers; home health aides; and driver/sales workers and truck drivers—were among the top five for both groups. Many residents with some college education and those with associate degrees worked in customer service roles and nursing. Teaching and nursing were common professions for those with bachelor's degrees.

Note: Residents with an educational attainment and an occupation that did not have wages listed in the census microdata were excluded from the median income analysis.

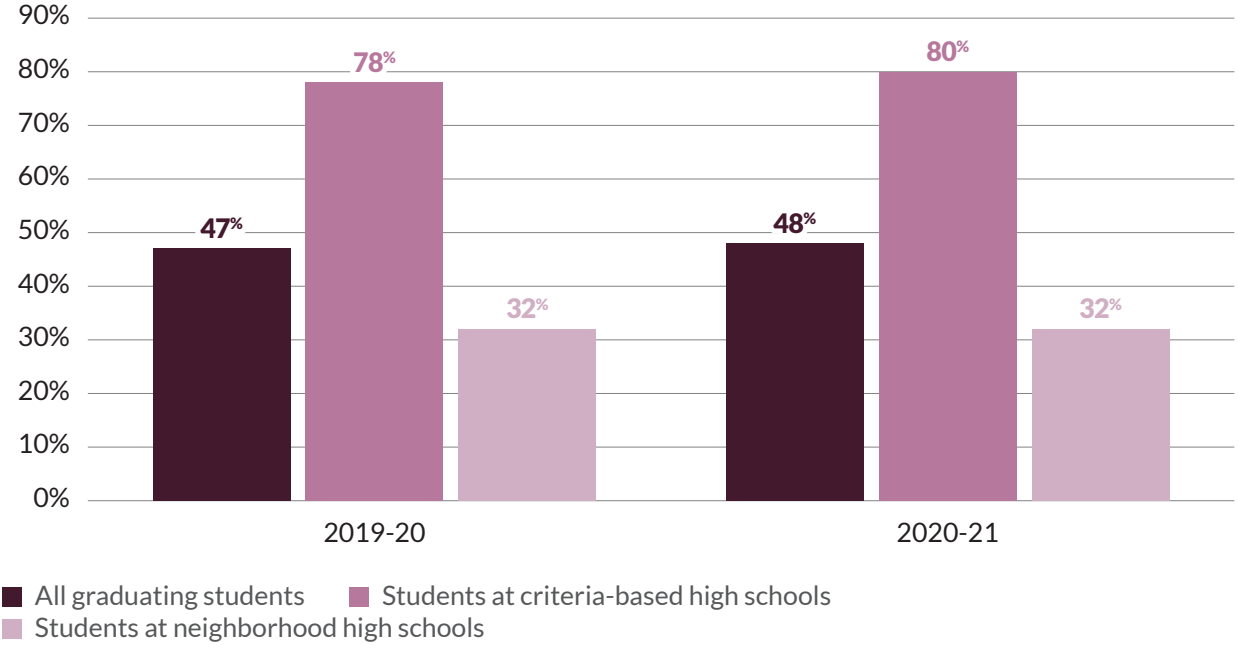
Source: Pew analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample (2021 one-year estimates)

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



Figure 3.7  
**College Matriculation Rate for School District of Philadelphia Students**

2019-20 and 2020-21 school years



In the pandemic-affected school years of 2019-20 and 2020-21, just under half of all graduating seniors in the School District of Philadelphia went on to attend college the following fall. At criteria-based schools—for which students must meet specific admissions criteria, such as minimum GPAs, prerequisite classes, and attendance records—roughly 4 out of 5 graduates went straight to college. At neighborhood high schools, which admit students based on where they live, only about a third did so.

Note: Criteria-based magnet schools include Academy at Palumbo, George Washington Carver High School of Engineering and Science, Central High School, Julia R. Masterman Laboratory and Demonstration School, and Parkway Center City Middle College.

Source: School District of Philadelphia, “District Performance Office: Open Data,” <https://www.philasd.org/performance/programsservices/open-data>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts







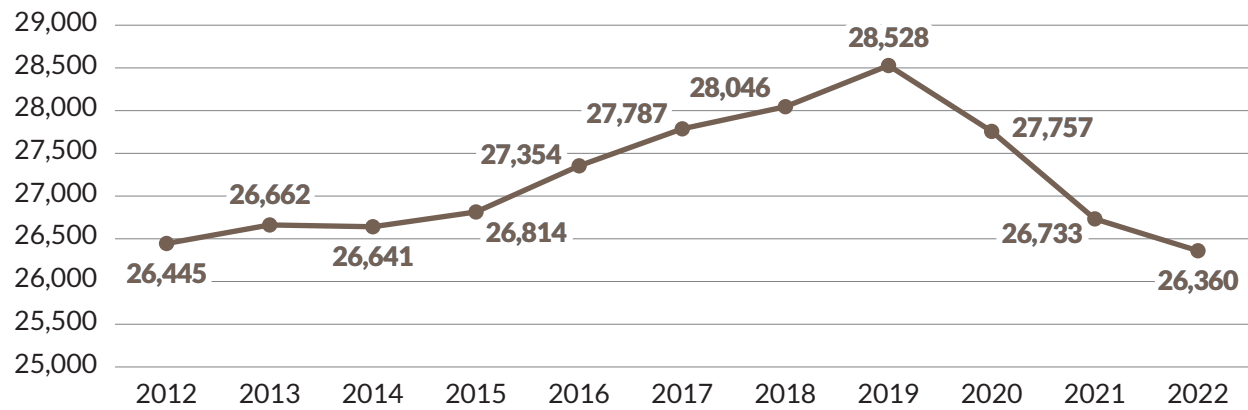


# Government

**In 2022, the number of people working in Philadelphia's city government dropped to the lowest level in more than a decade and was 8% lower than in 2019, the last full year before the pandemic. Because of the high number of vacancies, overtime spending reached 11.3% of the general fund, its highest level since 2008.**

Thanks to all those unfilled positions, as well as better-than-expected revenue, Philadelphia's fiscal health was strong. Tax revenue—especially for the real estate transfer tax and the business income and receipts tax—came in much higher than anticipated. As a result of those combined factors, the city ended fiscal 2022 with a \$775 million fund balance. Philadelphia's municipal pension fund balance was 57.6% funded, its highest level since 2004.

Figure 4.1  
**Philadelphia City Employees, 2012-22**

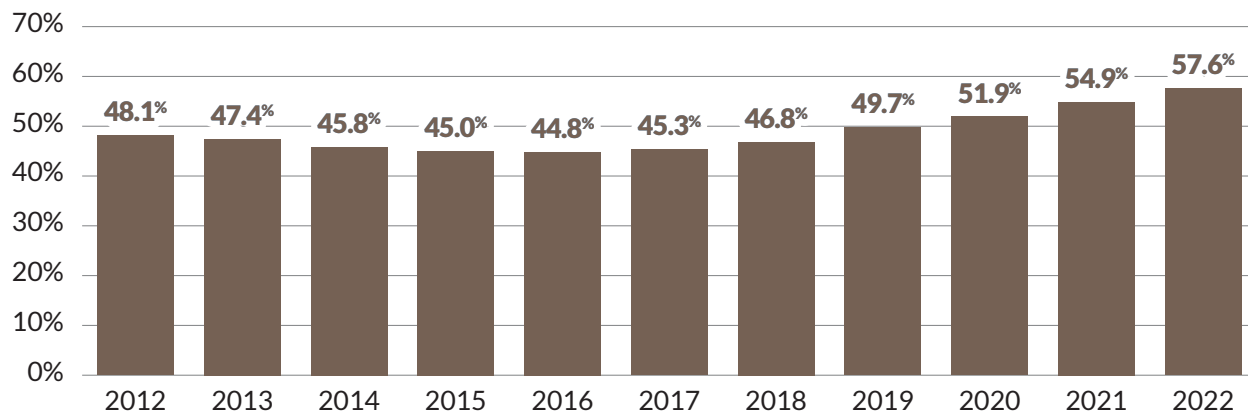


The number of employees in the city continued to fall in 2022 from its pre-pandemic peak and was nearly 8% lower than in 2019. By the end of 2022, the city had 26,360 workers on the payroll, fewer than at any other time in the past decade. As of December 2022, around 18% of all jobs in city government were unfilled.

Source: City of Philadelphia, Office of the Director of Finance, Quarterly City Manager’s Report for Dec. 31 of each year, <https://www.phila.gov/finance/reports-Quarterly.html>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 4.2  
**Funding Level for City of Philadelphia’s Pension Fund, 2012-22**



In 2022, the funding level for the city of Philadelphia’s pension fund continued to improve, reaching 57.6%, its highest level since 2004. The increase is widely attributed to the 2018 Revenue Recognition Plan—which called for both city government and municipal workers to increase contributions to the pension funds—as well as the 2019 introduction for most new employees of a stacked hybrid plan, which combines aspects of a 401(k) and a traditional defined benefit pension.

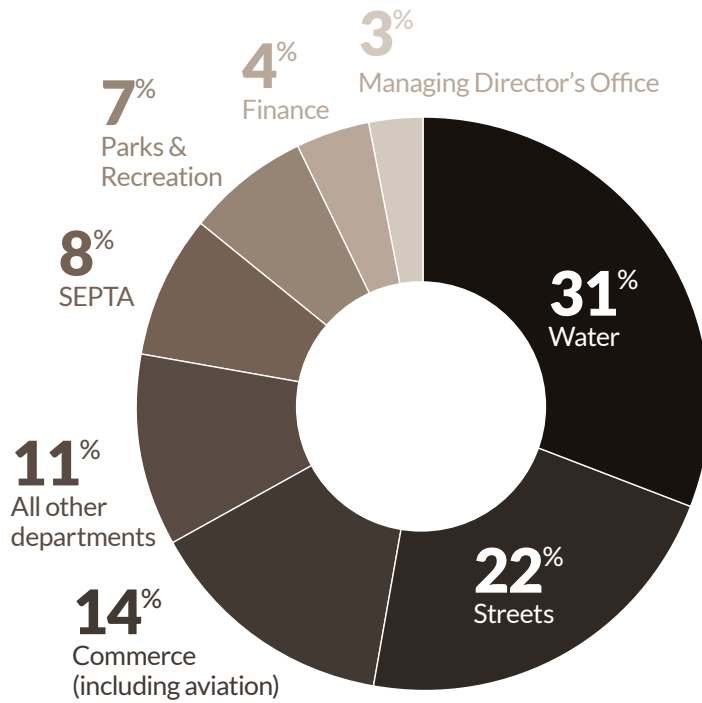
Sources: Philadelphia Board of Pensions, Municipal Retirement System Actuarial Valuation Report as of July 21, 2021, prepared by Cheiron, <https://www.phila.gov/media/20220420151740/Actuarial-valuation-report-2021.pdf>; “Preliminary Actuarial Valuation,” presentation of preliminary 2022 data to the Philadelphia Board of Pensions, Feb. 23, 2023

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 4.3

## Philadelphia City Government Capital Spending, FY 2023

By department



In fiscal 2023, Philadelphia allocated \$3.86 billion for capital projects. Nearly a third of that figure, about \$1.2 billion, was for the city's Water Department. The second-largest share, \$874 million, went to the Streets Department, much of it for improvements to sidewalks and accessible ramps throughout the city.

Source: Philadelphia Office of the Director of Finance, "Six-Year Capital Program for Fiscal Years 2023-2028: Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2023," July 1, 2022, through June 20, 2023, <https://www.phila.gov/media/20220815122346/Approved-FY2023-2028-Capital-Program-and-Budget.pdf>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

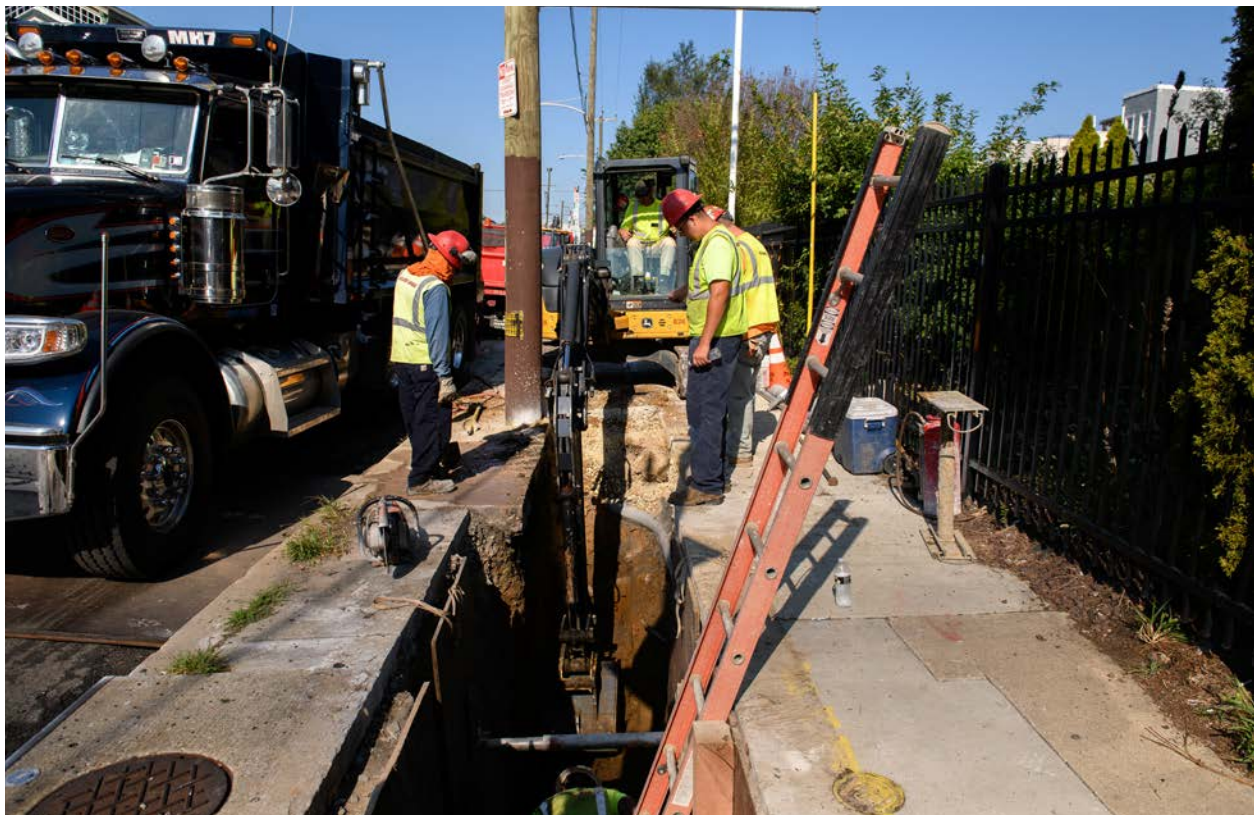
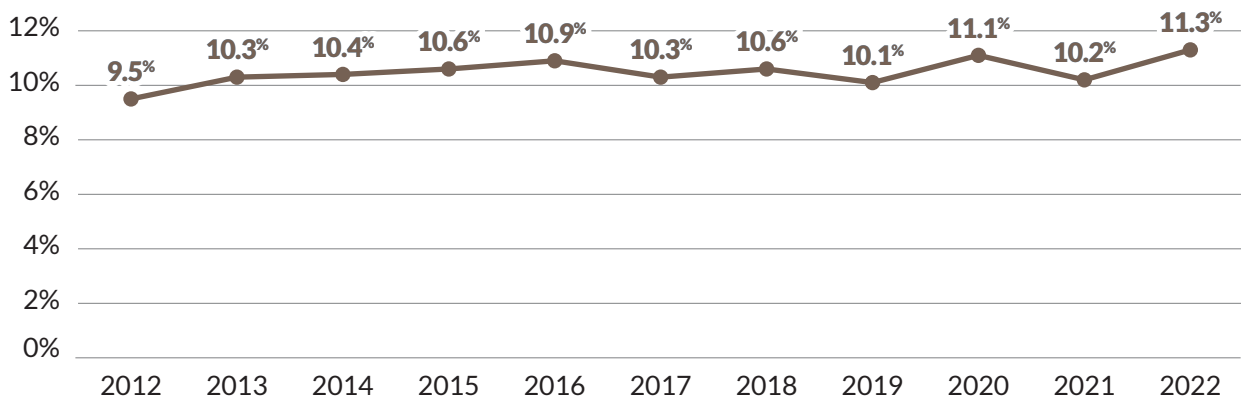




Figure 4.4  
**City of Philadelphia General Fund Overtime Spending, FY 2012-22**  
 Overtime as a percentage of salary and wage expenditures



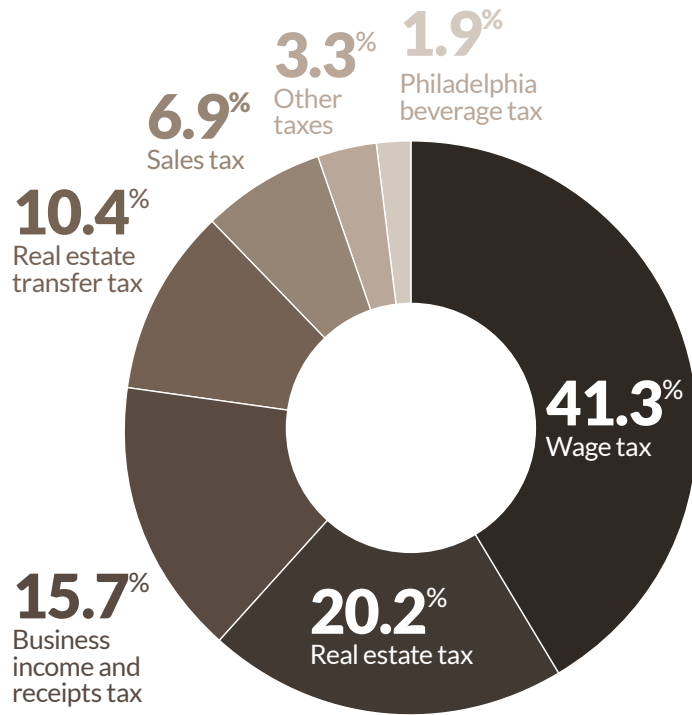
About \$215 million, or approximately 11.3% of Philadelphia’s general fund budget for salaries and wages, was spent on overtime in fiscal 2022—an increase of approximately \$30 million from the previous fiscal year. City officials said the higher overtime expenditures were due in part to the large number of vacant positions within city government.

Note: The 2022 figures are unaudited.

Source: Philadelphia Office of the Director of Finance, City of Philadelphia’s Quarterly City Managers Reports for the period ending Sept. 30 of each year, 2012-22, <https://www.phila.gov/media/20221117161849/Quarterly-City-Managers-Report-September-30-2022.pdf>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 4.5  
**Projected City Tax Revenue by Type**  
 For fiscal 2023



As more workers begin to transition into a hybrid work environment, it will be important to watch how that may affect the city's overall revenue structure. In order to fund essential services and local government operations, Philadelphia relies heavily on the wage tax, which was projected to account for 41.3% of locally generated tax revenue in fiscal 2023.

Source: Philadelphia Office of the Director of Finance, "The Mayor's Operating Budget In Brief for Fiscal Year 2023," <https://www.phila.gov/media/20220712100413/Mayors-Operating-Budget-in-Brief-for-FY2023-as-Approved-by-Council-June-2022.pdf>

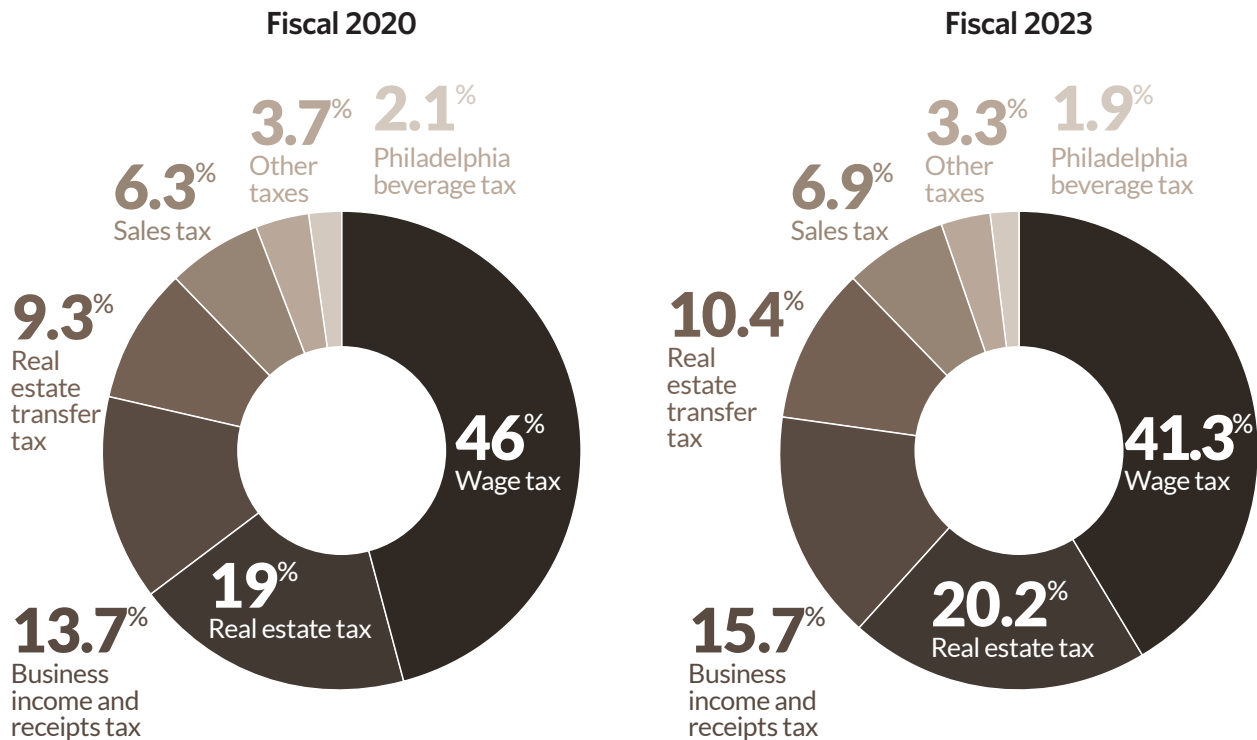
© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



Figure 4.6

## Percentage Change in City Tax Revenue by Source

Fiscal 2020 and fiscal 2023 projected budgets



The city wage tax is Philadelphia’s largest source of revenue. But it now accounts for a lower share of local tax dollars than it did before the pandemic. For fiscal 2020, the last budget drafted before the COVID-19 outbreak, the wage tax was slated to account for 46% of local revenue. For fiscal 2023—the current fiscal year, which began July 1, 2022—that share was down to 41.3%. Meanwhile, other revenue has assumed a greater role. For instance, projected revenue from the business income and receipts tax grew from 13.7% to 15.7%, and revenue from the property tax went from 19% to 20.2%.

Sources: Philadelphia Office of the Director of Finance, “The Mayor’s Operating Budget in Brief for Fiscal Year 2020,” <https://www.phila.gov/media/20201020113701/budget-in-brief-FY2020-approved.pdf>; Philadelphia Office of the Director of Finance, “The Mayor’s Operating Budget in Brief for Fiscal Year 2023,” <https://www.phila.gov/media/20220712100413/Mayors-Operating-Budget-in-Brief-for-FY2023-as-Approved-by-Council-June-2022.pdf>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts









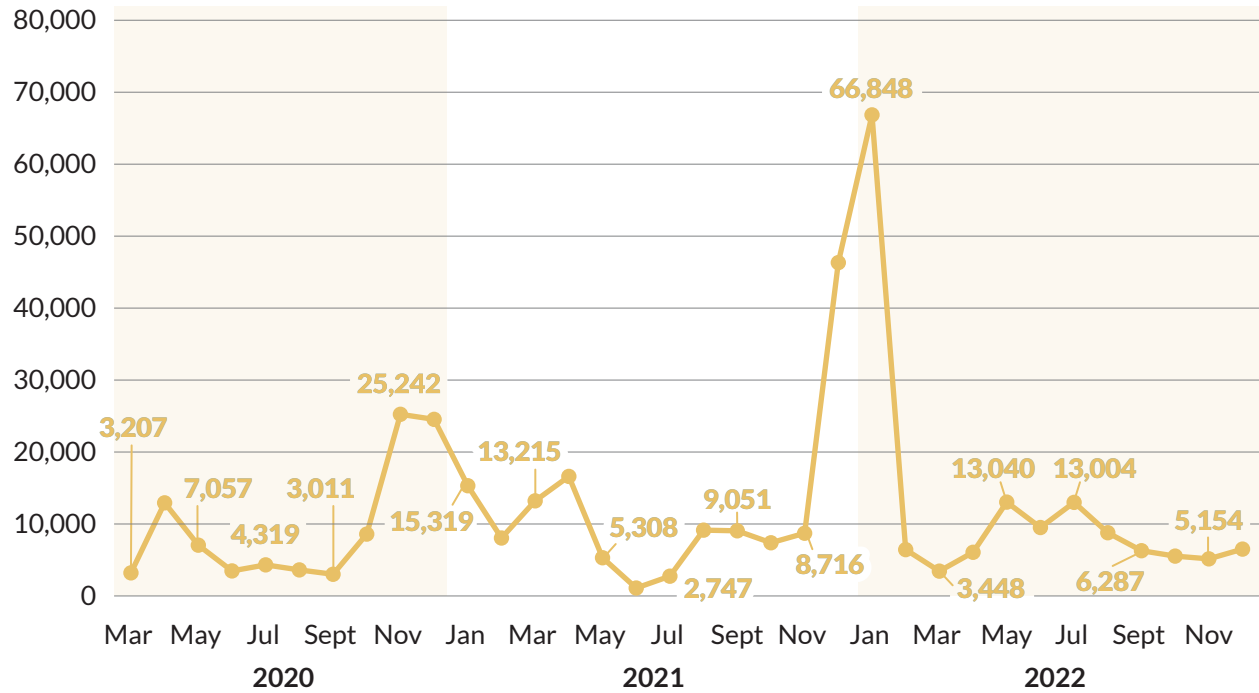
# Health

**As 2022 progressed, the pandemic stopped feeling like one of the major issues facing Philadelphia.**

For the year, the city reported more than 150,000 cases of COVID-19 and 1,000 deaths from the virus—but most were recorded early on. By the fall, most mask mandates had been dropped, more workers were returning to their offices, and Philadelphians were experiencing a nearly post-pandemic life.

Other health-related data showed an estimated 1,400 drug overdose deaths in Philadelphia in 2022—the most recorded in a single year by the city, and the highest overdose death rate among the 10 cities compared in this report. Meanwhile, 21% more Philadelphians were enrolled in Medicaid last year than in 2019, and the percentage of residents lacking health insurance, 7.2%, was the lowest since 2017. Infant mortality rates and births to mothers ages 19 and younger also continued their decades-long decline.

Figure 5.1  
**COVID-19 Cases in Philadelphia**  
 March 2020 through December 2022



Like much of the country, Philadelphia experienced a peak in COVID-19 cases in January 2022, as the easily transmissible omicron variant surged. Beginning in spring 2022, at-home tests became more readily available and fewer cases were reported to the state.

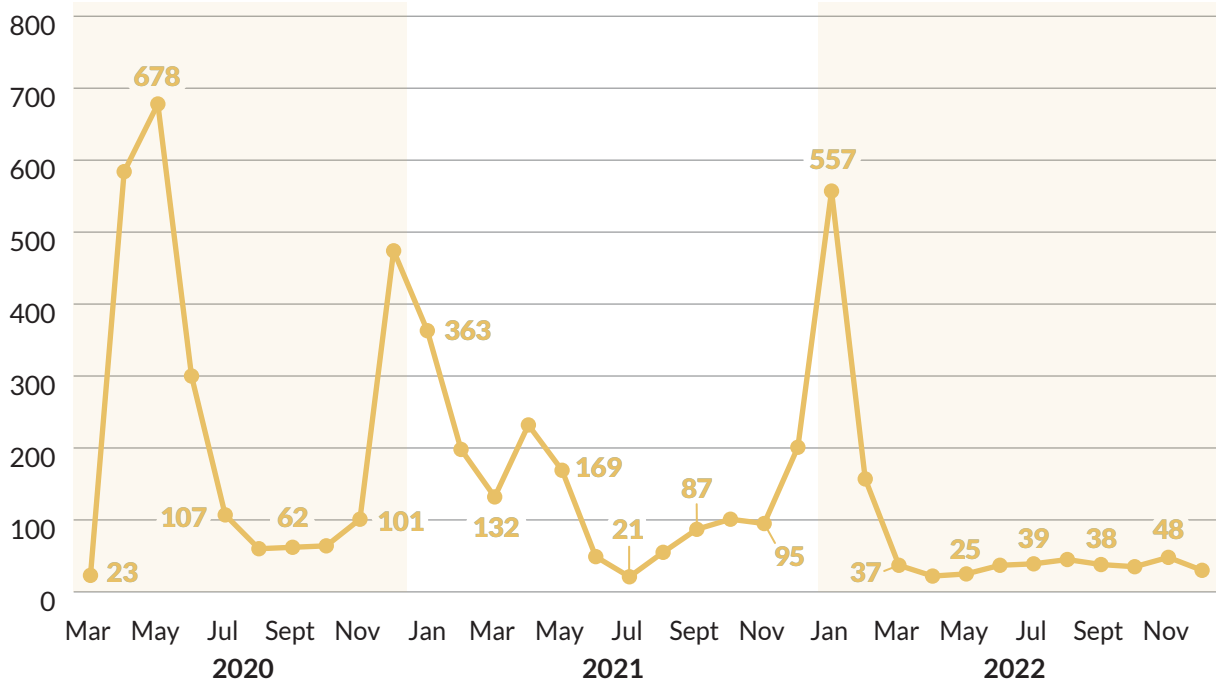
Source: Pennsylvania Department of Health, OpenDataPA, COVID-19 Aggregate Cases Current Weekly County Health, accessed Jan. 26, 2023, <https://data.pa.gov/Covid-19/COVID-19-Aggregate-Cases-Current-Weekly-County-Hea/j72v-r42c>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts





Figure 5.2  
**COVID-19 Deaths in Philadelphia**  
 March 2020 through December 2022



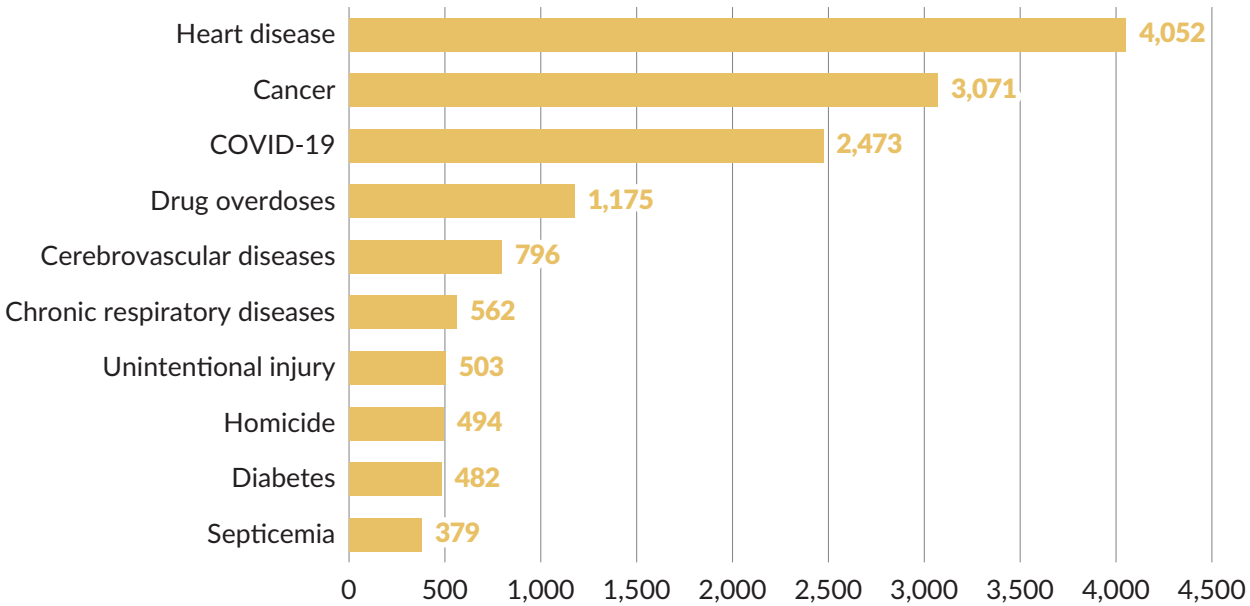
Philadelphia reported the most deaths from COVID-19 early in the pandemic, in May 2020, when 678 Philadelphians died from the virus. The city experienced two more spikes, in December 2020 and January 2022, during the delta and omicron variant waves, respectively.

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Health, OpenDataPA, COVID-19 Aggregate Death Data: Current Weekly County Health, accessed Jan. 26, 2023, <https://data.pa.gov/Covid-19/COVID-19-Aggregate-Death-Data-Current-Weekly-Count/fbgu-sqgp>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



Figure 5.3  
**Leading Causes of Death in Philadelphia, 2020**



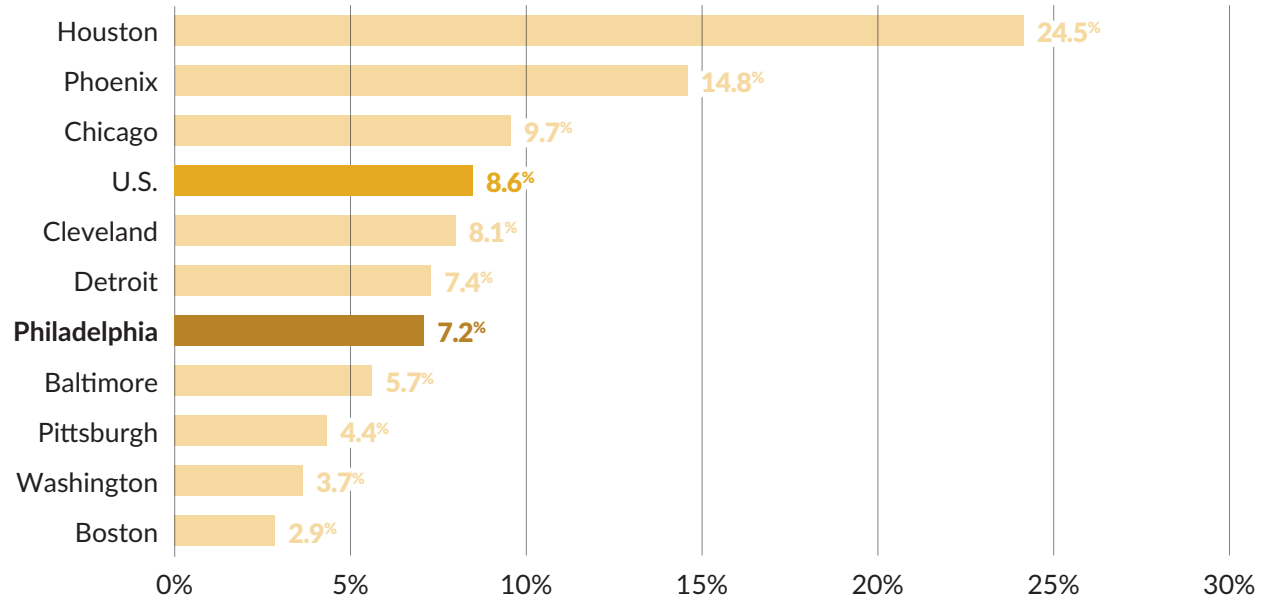
In 2020, the last year for which data was available, the leading causes of death in Philadelphia were heart disease, cancer, and COVID-19. According to the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, nearly 18,200 Philadelphians died in 2020, approximately 3,900 more deaths than in other recent years.

Source: Philadelphia Department of Public Health, "2021 Health of the City," <https://www.phila.gov/media/20220718132807/HealthOfTheCity-2021.pdf>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 5.4

## Residents Without Health Insurance, 2021 In Philadelphia and other large cities



The percentage of Philadelphians without health insurance stood at 7.2% in 2021, the lowest figure since 2017 (7.1%). Last year's figure was well below the national average of 8.6% and higher than the percentages in only four of the nine comparison cities.

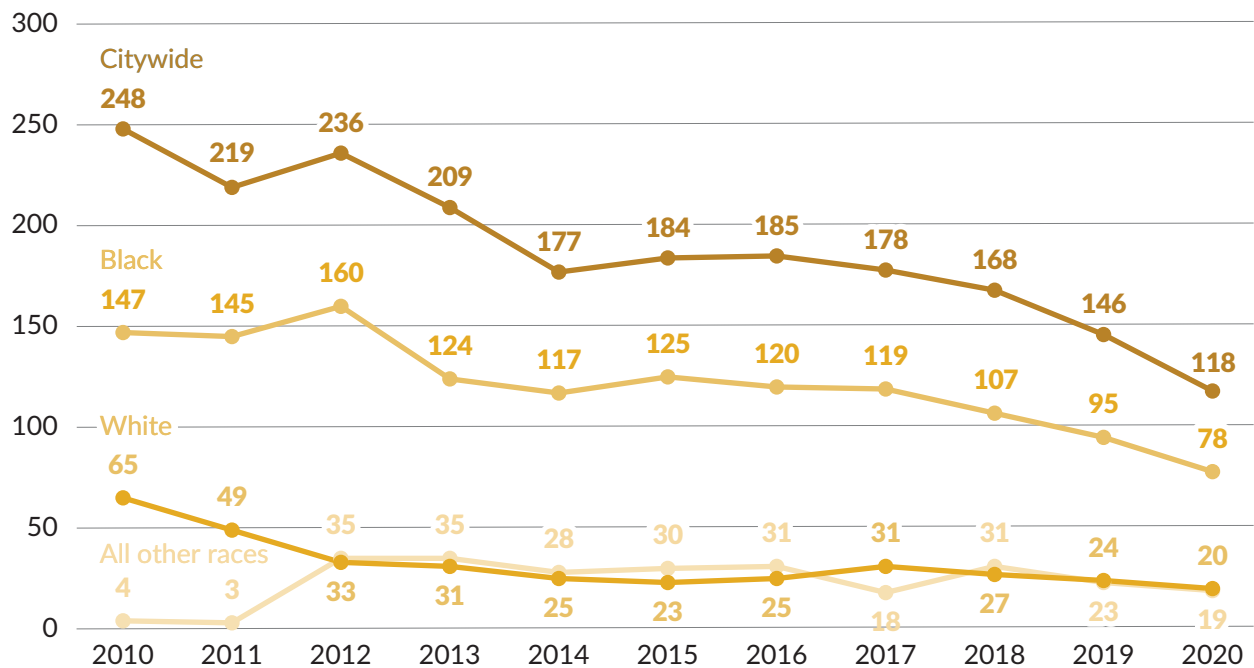
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2021, Table S2701 (Selected Characteristics of Health Insurance Coverage in the United States), <http://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts





Figure 5.5  
**Infant Mortality in Philadelphia, 2010-20**



The infant mortality rate in 2020 was 6.4 per 1,000 live births, continuing its decades-long decline. But the racial gap remained. Black infants were nearly four times as likely as infants of other races to die before the age of 1. Nonetheless, the number of deaths of Black infants had declined by more than 75% since 1990.

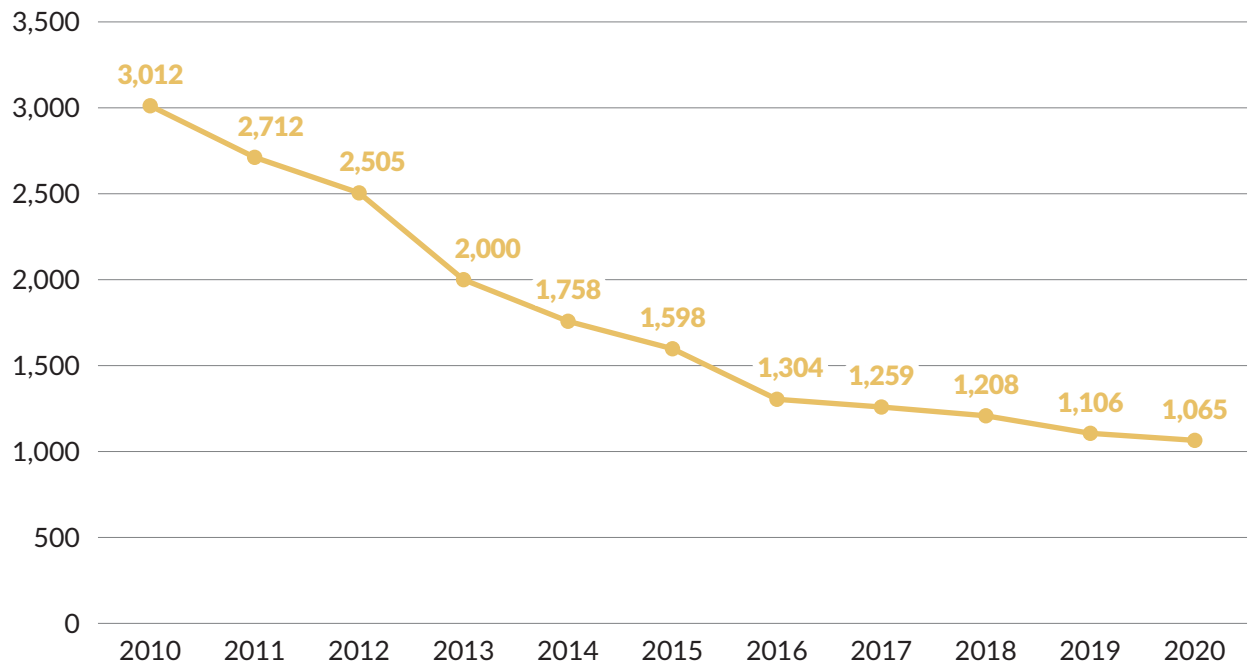
Note: Citywide total includes infants whose race is unknown. "All other races" includes multiracial infants.

Sources: Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of Health Statistics and Registries, "Resident Infant Deaths by Age, Sex, Race, and County (Single Year), Pennsylvania," <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/HealthStatistics/VitalStatistics/DeathStatistics/Pages/death-statistics.aspx>; Philadelphia Department of Public Health, "2021 Health of the City," <https://www.phila.gov/media/20220718132807/HealthOfTheCity-2021.pdf>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 5.6

## Births to Mothers Age 19 or Younger in Philadelphia, 2010-20



From 2010 through 2020, the number of births to mothers 19 or younger in Philadelphia declined by 65%. Over that period, the largest percentage decrease in births was to mothers age 14 or younger (78%).

Note: This data was provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Health, which specifically disclaims responsibility for any analyses, interpretations, or conclusions.

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of Health Statistics and Registries, "Resident Live Births by Age of Mother, Counties and Pennsylvania," 2010-20, <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/HealthStatistics/VitalStatistics/BirthStatistics/Pages/birth-statistics.aspx>

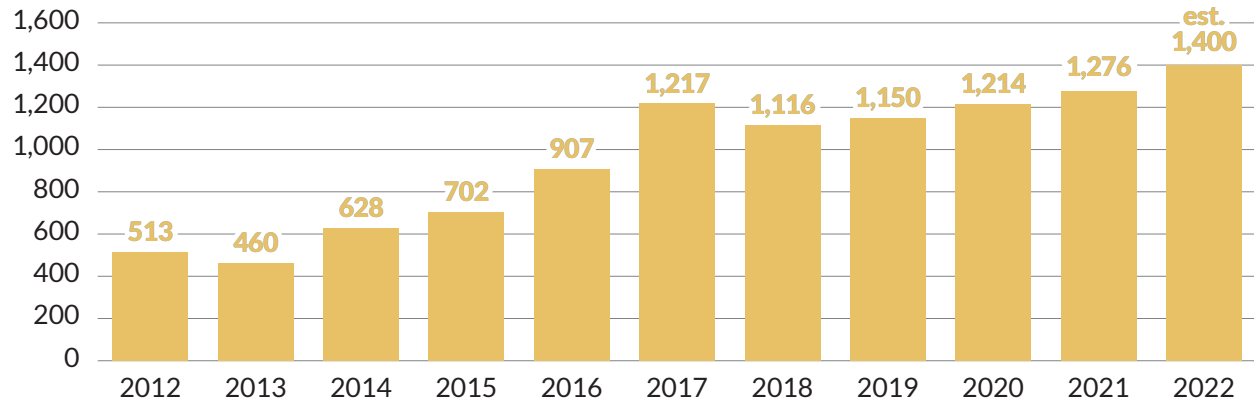
© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts





Figure 5.7

## Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths in Philadelphia, 2012-22



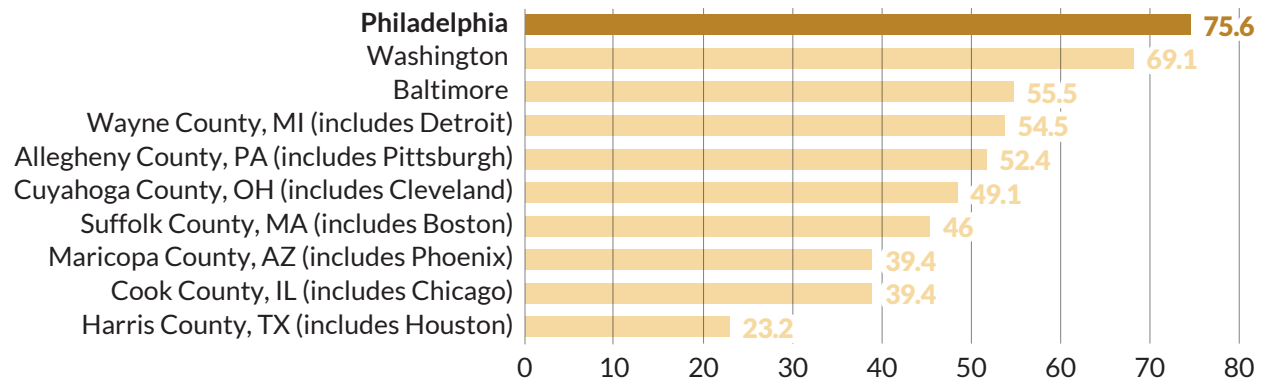
City officials estimate that Philadelphia experienced 1,400 unintentional drug overdose deaths in 2022, which would represent the largest number on record—and an increase of nearly 10% from the previous high of 1,276, recorded in 2021. It would also mark the sixth straight year in which the city had more than 1,100 such deaths.

Source: Philadelphia Department of Public Health

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 5.8

## Drug Overdose Deaths Per 100,000 Residents, 2021



Philadelphia reported 75.6 drug overdose deaths for every 100,000 residents in 2021—the highest figure among the comparison cities and the counties that include them, and up from 72.1 per 100,000 residents in 2020.

These statistics represent overdose deaths that occurred in each jurisdiction, regardless of where the deceased individual lived.

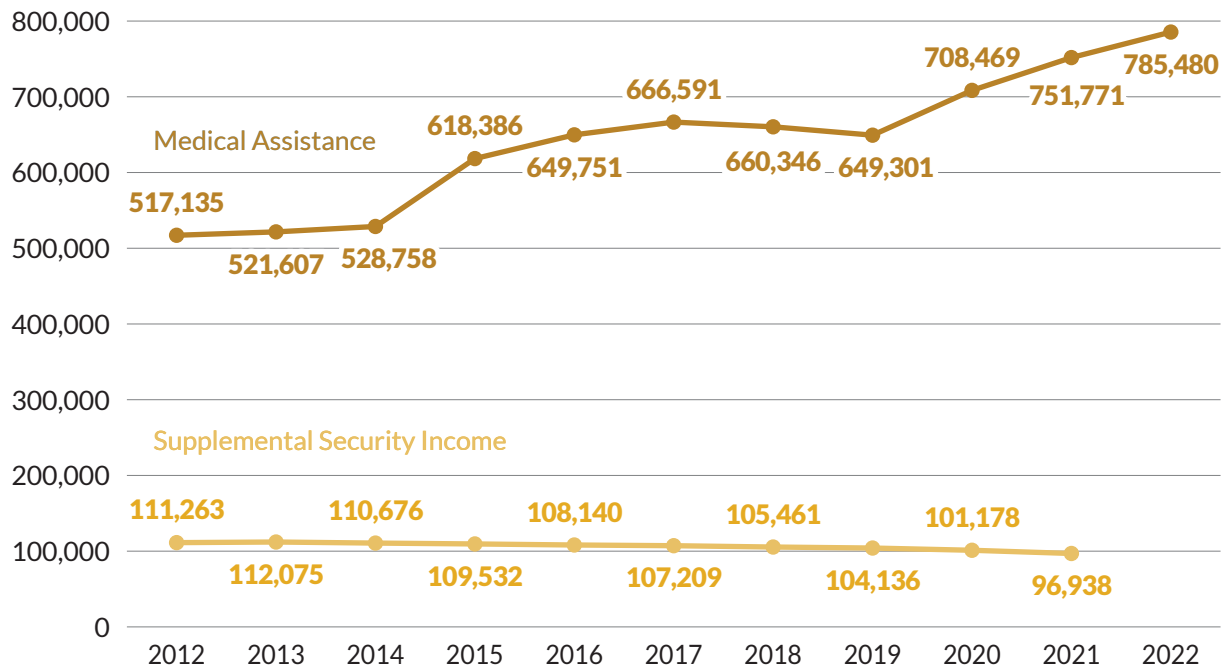
Note: Overdose data is collected at the county level. Data includes deaths considered unintentional or undetermined, and rates are age-adjusted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, allowing for fairer comparisons among populations in different jurisdictions.

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC WONDER Database, “Multiple Cause of Death Data,” <https://wonder.cdc.gov/mcd.html>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 5.9

## Public Benefit Enrollment Trends in Philadelphia, 2012-22



Philadelphians' enrollment in Medical Assistance, or Medicaid—the federal-state program that helps low-income individuals and families pay for health care—increased by 21% from 2019 to 2022, covering nearly half of the city's population. Due to pandemic-related federal relief efforts, states were permitted to allow recipients to retain coverage under Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program even if they no longer met most eligibility requirements. The expanded eligibility ended in April 2023, and all enrollees must resume participation in the annual eligibility process or lose coverage. It is likely that enrollment will decline as a result.

Note: Supplemental Security Income data is available only through 2021.

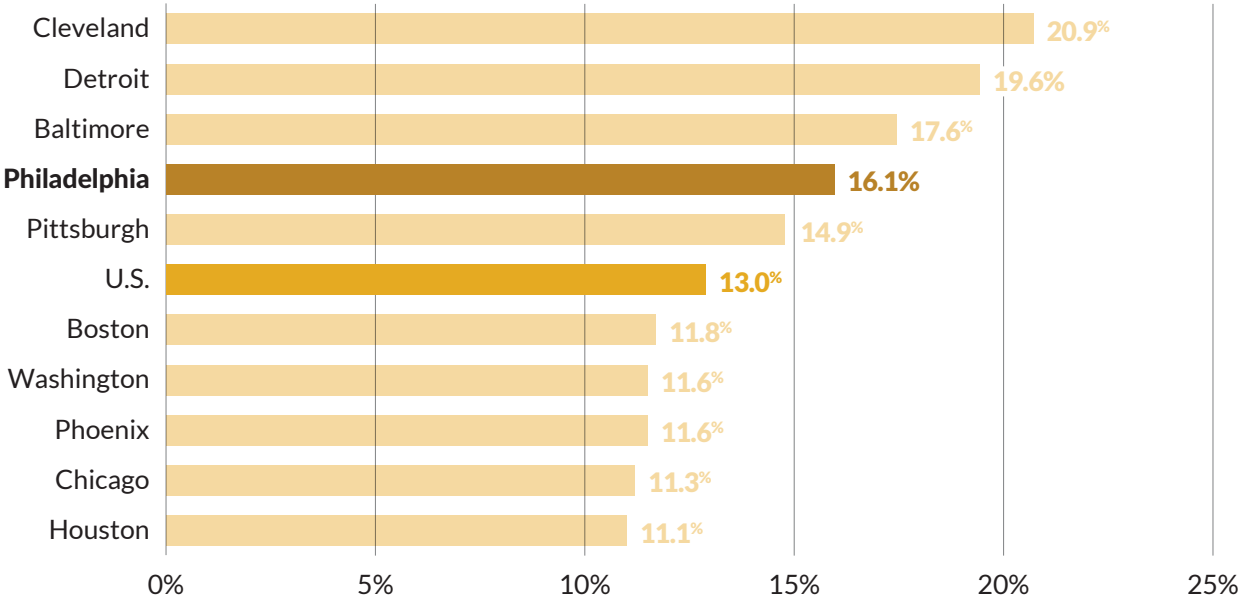
Sources: Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, "Medical Assistance, Food Stamps, and Cash Assistance statistics reports," <http://listserv.dpw.state.pa.us/ma-food-stamps-and-cash-stats.html> (Medical Assistance enrollment data); Social Security Administration, "SSI Recipient by State and County," [https://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/di\\_asr/2021/index.html](https://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/statcomps/di_asr/2021/index.html) (Supplemental Security Income data)

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts





Figure 5.10  
**Disability Rate, 2021**  
 In Philadelphia and other cities



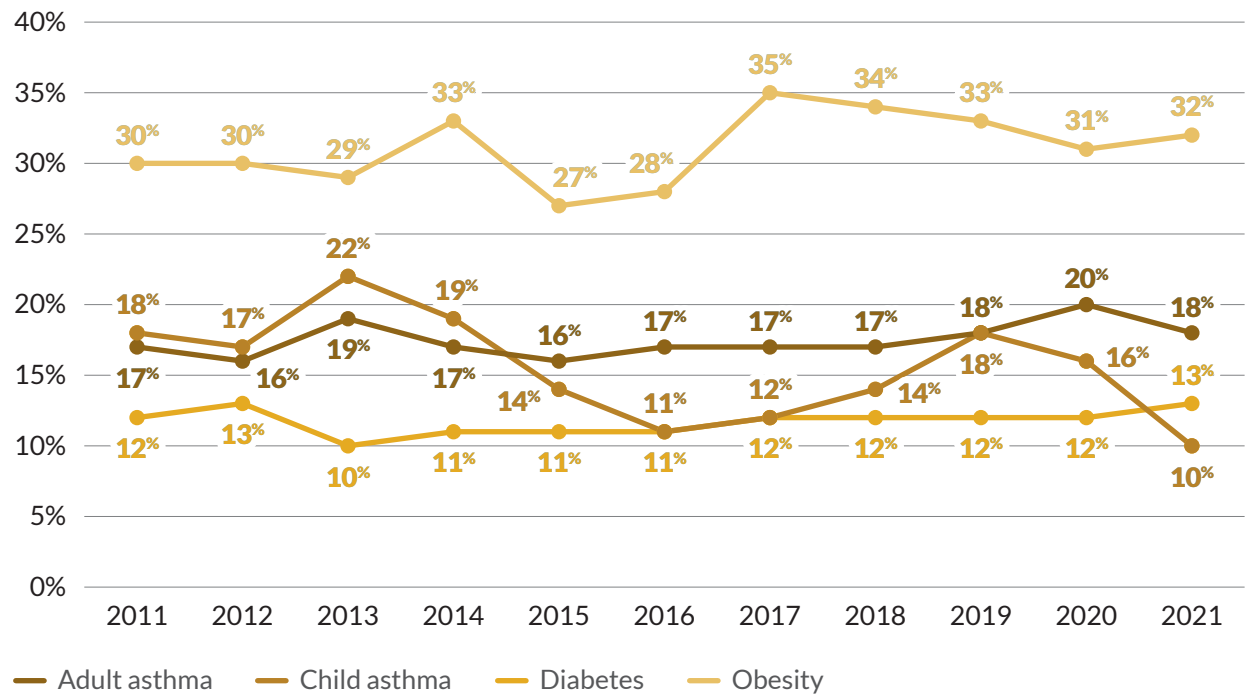
In 2021, 16.1% of Philadelphians reported having a physical or intellectual disability, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, down from 17.7% in 2019 but still well above the national average of 13%. Among the comparison cities, Cleveland had the highest rate, at 20.9%.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2021, Table S1810 (Disability Characteristics), <https://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 5.11

## Chronic Health Conditions in Philadelphia, 2011-21



Chronic health conditions often reduce people’s quality of life and may lead to disability and higher health care costs. In 2021, about one-third of adults in Philadelphia were obese, 18% of adults and 10% of children had asthma, and 13% of adults had diabetes. Diabetes and obesity rates increased slightly in 2021 but have remained relatively stable over the past decade, while the incidence of asthma among adults and children decreased in 2021.

Note: Adult asthma, diabetes, and obesity rates are expressed as a percentage of the city’s adult population; child asthma rates represent a percentage of Philadelphia’s population under age 18.

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Health, Pennsylvania Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2011-21, <https://www.phaim1.health.pa.gov/EDD/WebForms/BRFSSdistChrt.aspx>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts







# Housing

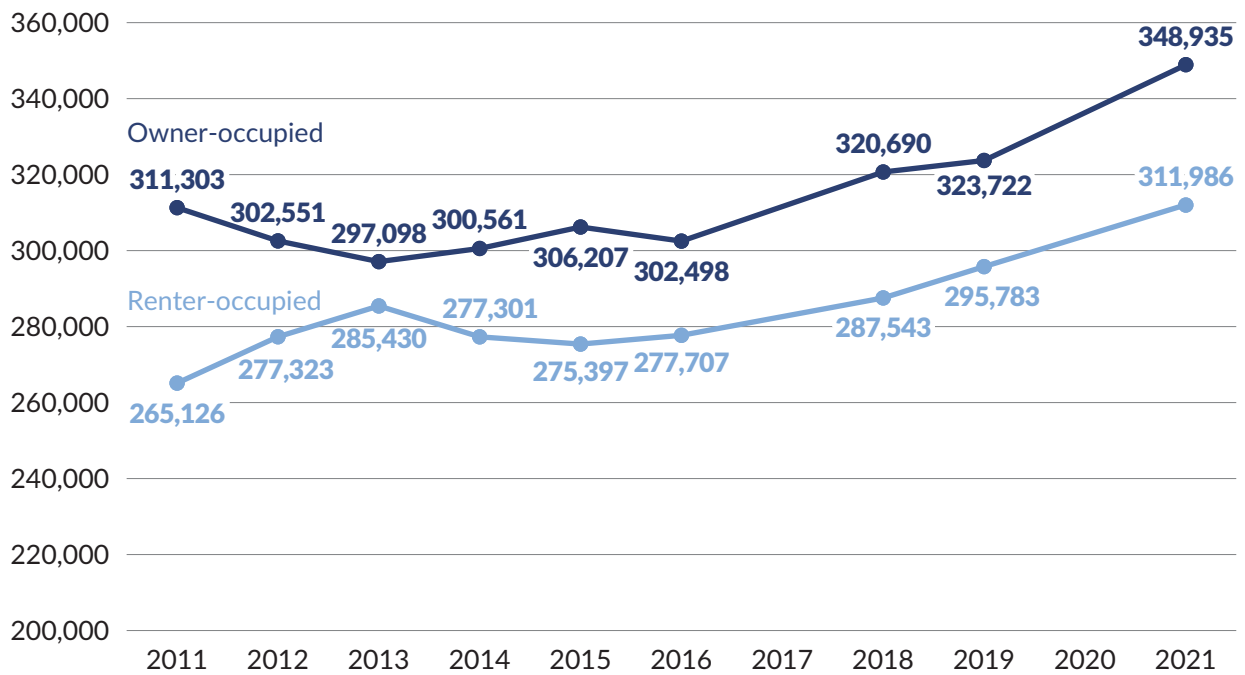
## **After years of rapidly rising prices, the housing market cooled in 2022.**

Although home sales increased by 33%, prices rose only 1.9% for the year as a whole and were declining in the second half of the year, according to a study from Drexel University's Lindy Institute for Urban Innovation. Additionally, the number of building permits fell by 88% because of several factors, including changes in the 10-year tax abatement program and higher interest rates.

Meanwhile, for renters, affordability remained a concern. The share of renters who paid 30% or more of their income in rent was still slightly higher than the national average. To address affordability concerns, the Municipal Court's Eviction Diversion Program was extended into 2024, and the Philadelphia Housing Authority has cleared the waitlist for its Housing Choice Voucher Program to accept new applicants.

Figure 6.1

## Homeownership in Philadelphia, 2011-21



In 2021, Philadelphia remained a city where homeowners outnumber renters, unlike other large northeastern U.S. cities, where the opposite is true. The 348,935 homeowning households represented nearly 53% of all households.

Note: Data for 2017 and 2020 is not included. Several years ago, the Census Bureau identified an error in some of its 2017 data for Philadelphia and recommended discontinuing its use. And the bureau did not release one-year American Community Survey data for 2020, citing the pandemic's impact on data quality. Because the Census Bureau does not plan to update the data from either of these years, Pew is not using that data.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2011-21, Table B25003 (Tenure), <https://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

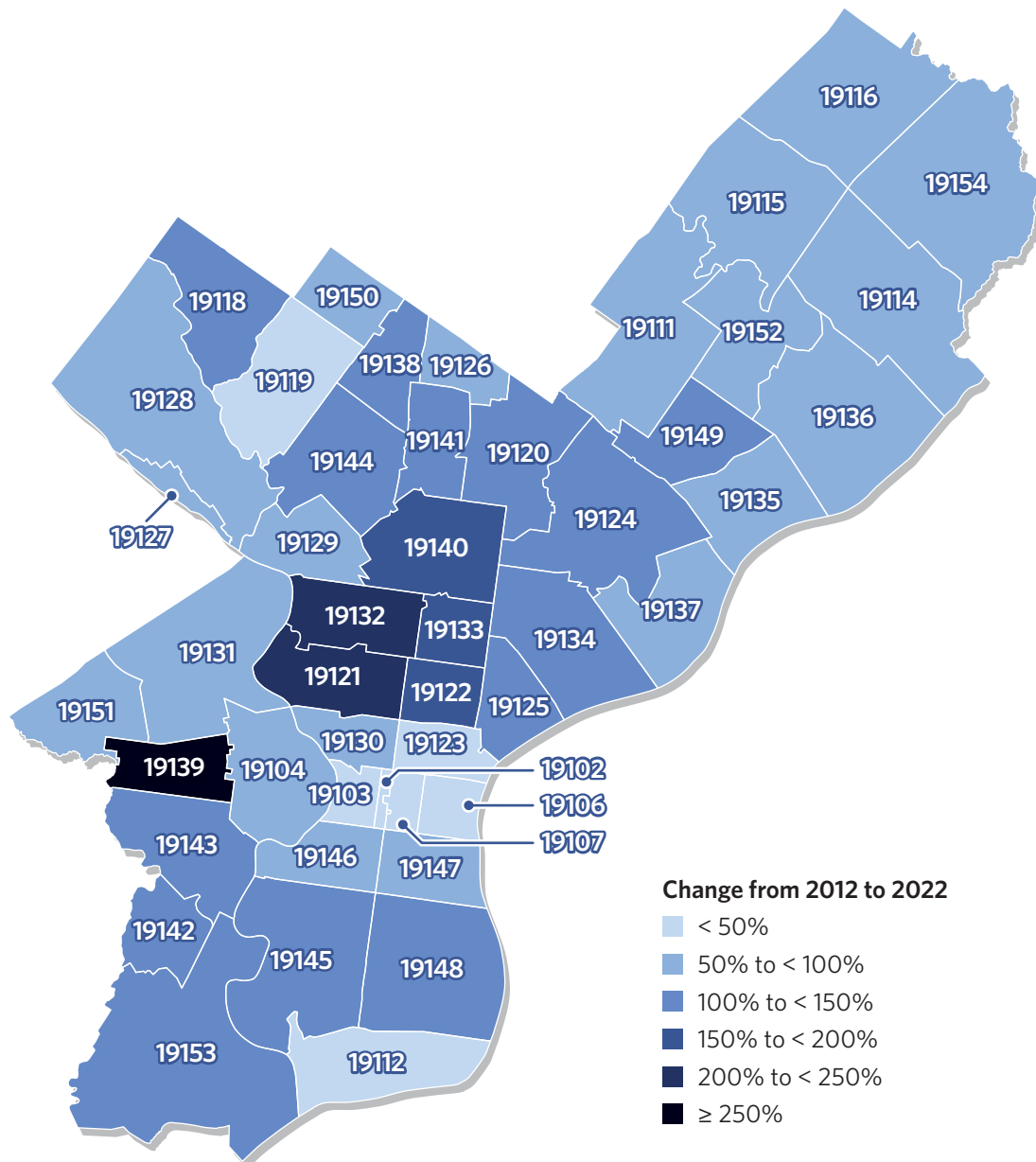






Figure 6.2

## Home Sale Prices in Philadelphia, 2012 and 2022



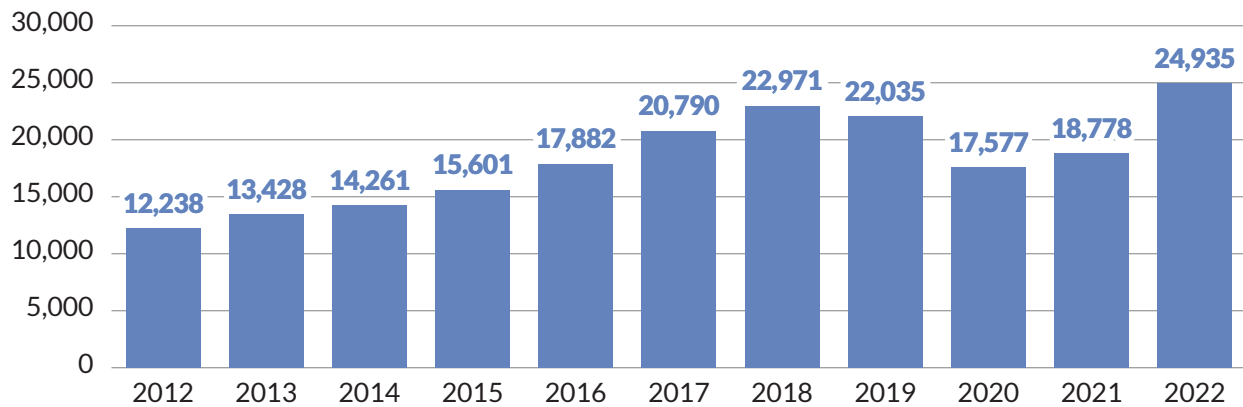
The median home sale price in Philadelphia has increased by 88% in the past 10 years, from \$120,000 to \$225,000. The most significant increases were in parts of West Philadelphia (19139) and North Philadelphia (19121). In Center City, where prices were already high in 2012, the increases were relatively modest in percentage terms, and prices fell in one of the ZIP codes (19102).

Source: Data from Kevin C. Gillen, senior research fellow at Drexel University's Lindy Institute for Urban Innovation

ZIP code	2012	2022	Percentage change from 2012 to 2022
19139	\$35,000	\$125,000	257%
19121	\$54,875	\$185,588	238%
19132	\$20,650	\$62,500	203%
19140	\$27,500	\$76,250	177%
19122	\$105,000	\$290,000	176%
19133	\$24,999	\$65,500	162%
19143	\$53,950	\$131,750	144%
19144	\$76,150	\$184,000	142%
19134	\$40,000	\$95,000	138%
19142	\$40,000	\$94,000	135%
19141	\$65,000	\$150,000	131%
19125	\$150,000	\$335,000	123%
19124	\$65,000	\$145,000	123%
19145	\$116,900	\$255,000	118%
19153	\$95,000	\$203,000	114%
19138	\$70,500	\$150,235	113%
19148	\$125,000	\$265,000	112%
19149	\$108,000	\$220,000	104%
19118	\$342,500	\$695,000	103%
19120	\$75,000	\$151,500	102%
19136	\$115,000	\$220,000	91%
19135	\$95,700	\$183,000	91%
19131	\$74,500	\$139,000	87%
19151	\$102,000	\$190,000	86%
19152	\$162,750	\$300,000	84%
19111	\$145,000	\$265,000	83%
19115	\$200,000	\$365,000	83%
19137	\$113,750	\$205,000	80%
19104	\$116,000	\$207,500	79%
19146	\$227,000	\$405,500	79%
19116	\$205,000	\$362,000	77%
19126	\$128,025	\$225,000	76%
19114	\$170,000	\$288,850	70%
19150	\$134,900	\$225,000	67%
19147	\$294,000	\$475,000	62%
19154	\$179,900	\$288,000	60%
19127	\$204,250	\$326,515	60%
19128	\$210,000	\$330,000	57%
19129	\$205,000	\$315,000	54%
19130	\$336,000	\$507,000	51%
19123	\$358,450	\$520,000	45%
19103	\$760,000	\$1,075,000	41%
19119	\$233,600	\$325,000	39%
19106	\$840,000	\$1,000,000	19%
19107	\$580,000	\$685,000	18%
19102	\$1,322,000	\$906,000	-31%
City median	\$120,000	\$225,000	88%

Figure 6.3

## Sales of Residential Units in Philadelphia, 2012-22



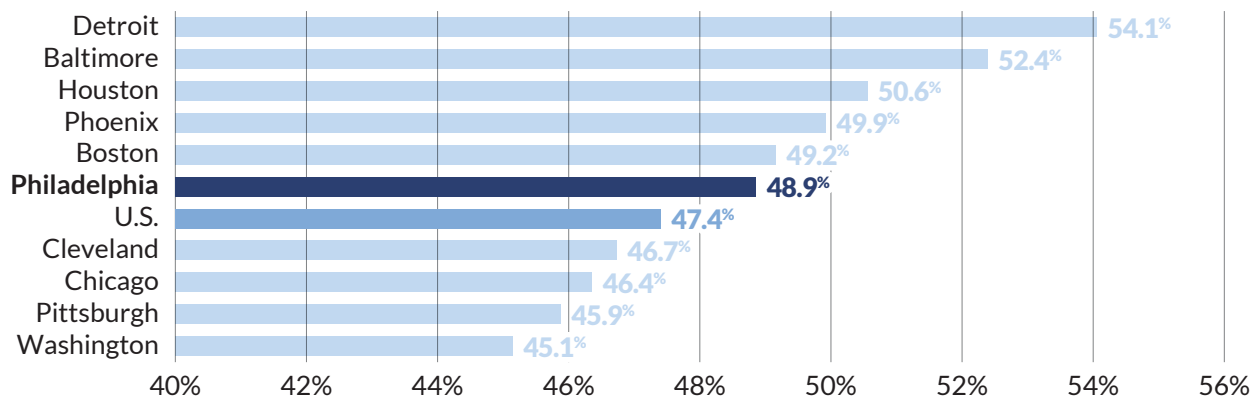
The number of residential units sold in Philadelphia in 2022 was nearly 33% higher than in 2021. The 2022 total represented the most sales and the biggest one-year jump in the past decade, following a decline during the pandemic. However, with the recent increase in mortgage interest rates, it remains to be seen whether sales will continue at a similar pace.

Source: Data from Kevin C. Gillen, senior research fellow at Drexel University's Lindy Institute for Urban Innovation

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 6.4

## Share of Renters Spending at Least 30% of Income on Housing, 2021 In Philadelphia and other large cities



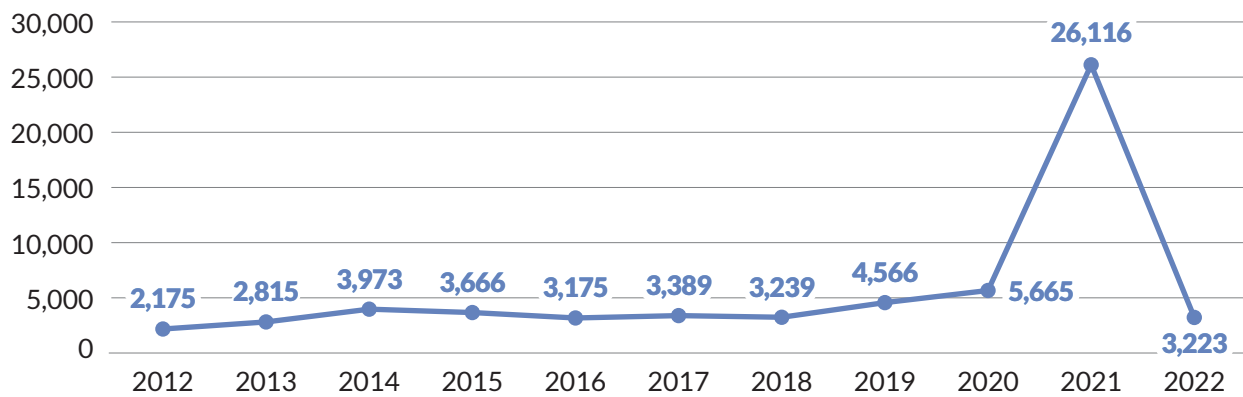
In 2021, 48.9% of renters in Philadelphia spent 30% or more of their income on rent and utilities, a threshold long used as a measure of housing affordability. That figure, although 3 percentage points lower than in 2019, was slightly higher than the national average of 47.4% but lower than the rates in several comparison cities.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2021, Table B25070 (Gross Rent as a Percentage of Household Income in the Past 12 Months), <http://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 6.5

## Residential Building Permits Issued in Philadelphia, 2012-22



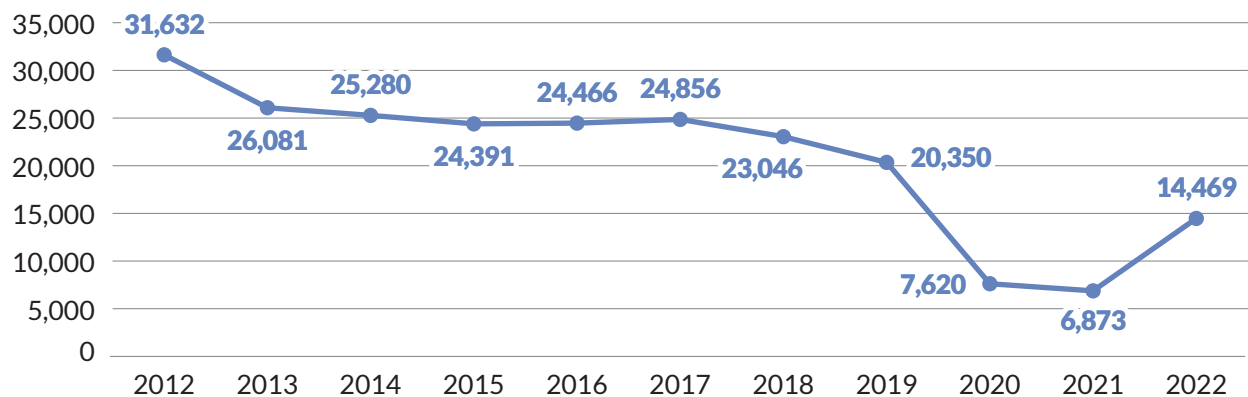
The number of residential building permits issued in 2022 declined by roughly 88% from 2021. That year saw a spike in permits mostly due to developers rushing to take advantage of the full 10-year tax abatement, which expired at the end of 2021. The number of building permits in 2022 was the lowest since 2016.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "Building Permit Survey," <https://www2.census.gov/econ/bps>, based on data from Philadelphia's Department of Licenses and Inspections

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 6.6

## Eviction Filings in Philadelphia Municipal Court, 2012-22



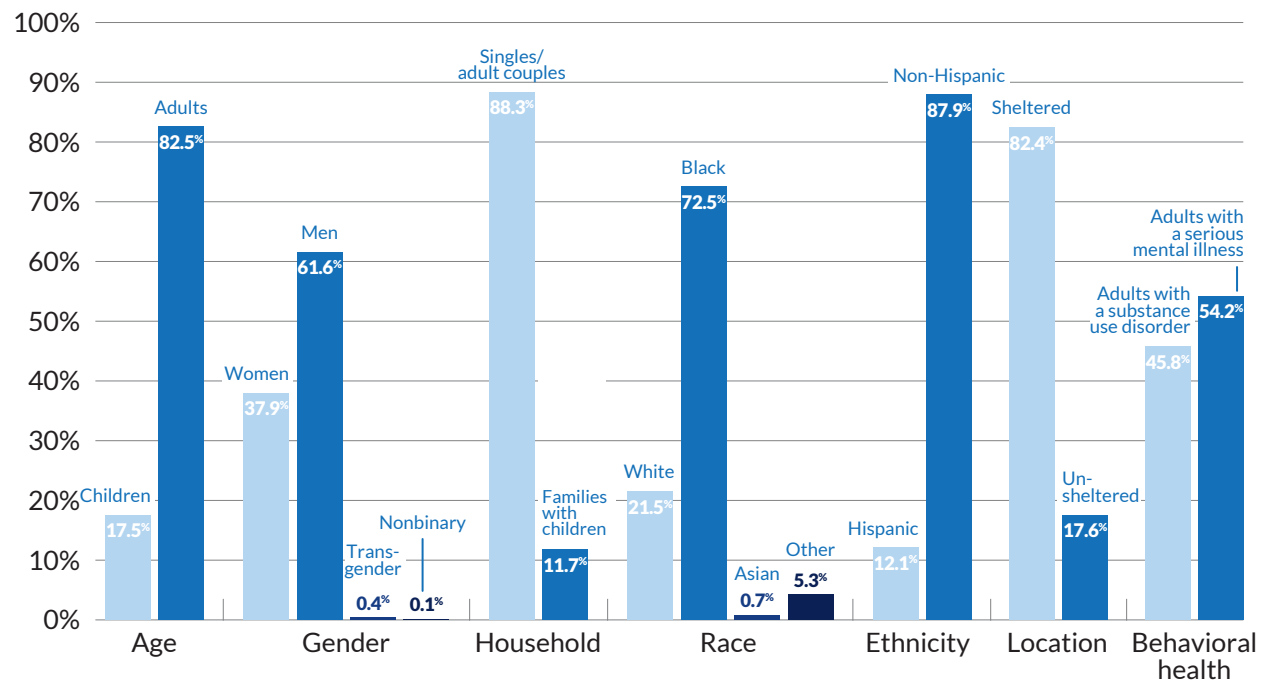
After two years of historically few eviction filings, the Philadelphia Municipal Court's Landlord and Tenant Court had a 111% increase in filings from 2021 to 2022. The numbers were down in 2020 and 2021 as a result of pandemic-related moratoriums, at both the local and national levels; the court reopened for hearings in the latter part of 2021. Before filing for an eviction, Philadelphia landlords are required to participate in the court's Eviction Diversion Program, which will be in place through June 2024.

Source: Philadelphia Municipal Court

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 6.7

## Profile of People Experiencing Homelessness in Philadelphia, 2022



In Philadelphia, 4,489 people were experiencing homelessness on Feb. 23, 2022, according to the Annual Point-in-Time Count of those living on the street and in emergency shelters, transitional housing, and temporary drop-in centers. City officials note that the opioid crisis has increased the number of people with mental illness who are experiencing homelessness, although the share of adults experiencing both homelessness and a substance use disorder stayed about the same: 45.7% in 2020 and 45.8% in 2022. The total share of adults with coincident homelessness and a serious mental illness increased from 34% to 54.2%.

Note: Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

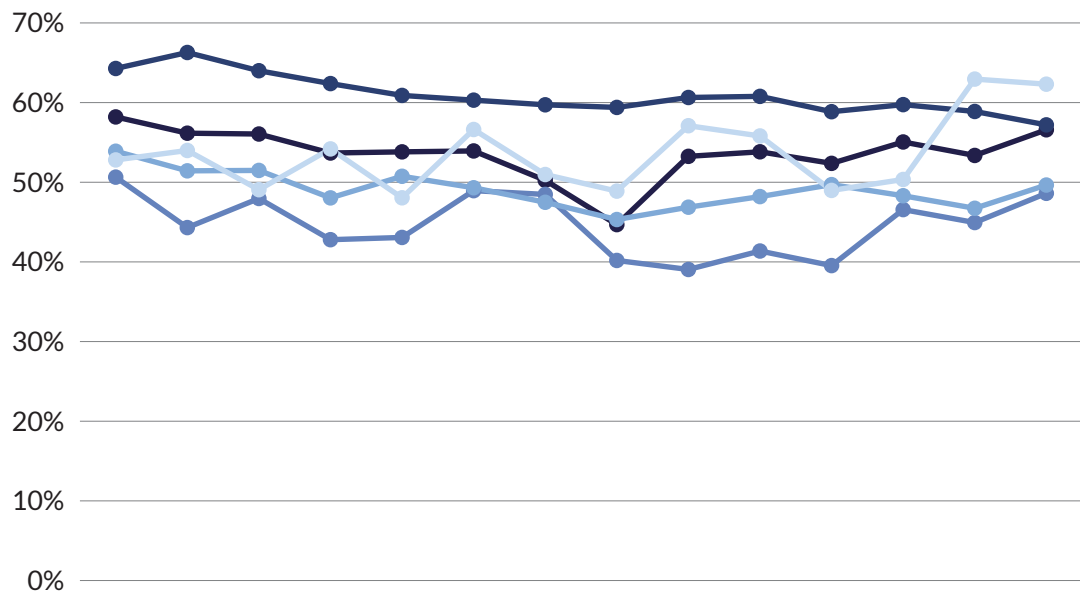
Source: City of Philadelphia, "Philadelphia Annual Point-in-Time Count," Feb. 23, 2022, <https://www.phila.gov/departments/office-of-homeless-services/documents/publications/#/?table=2022%20Point%20in%20Time%20%28PIT%29%20Count%20and%20Youth%20Count>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



Figure 6.8

## Homeownership in Philadelphia by Race and Ethnicity, 2006-21



	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2018	2019	2021
<b>Asian</b>	52.8%	54.0%	49.1%	54.2%	48.0%	56.6%	51.0%	48.9%	57.1%	55.8%	49.0%	50.3%	63.0%	62.3%
<b>Black or African American</b>	53.9%	51.4%	51.5%	48.0%	50.7%	49.3%	47.5%	45.3%	46.9%	48.2%	49.7%	48.3%	46.7%	49.6%
<b>Hispanic</b>	50.6%	44.3%	48.0%	42.8%	43.1%	48.9%	48.5%	40.2%	39.0%	41.4%	39.5%	46.6%	44.9%	48.6%
<b>Non-Hispanic White</b>	64.3%	66.3%	64.0%	62.4%	60.9%	60.3%	59.7%	59.4%	60.6%	60.8%	58.9%	59.7%	58.9%	57.2%
<b>All Philadelphians</b>	58.2%	56.2%	56.1%	53.7%	53.8%	53.9%	50.2%	44.7%	53.3%	53.8%	52.4%	55.1%	53.4%	56.6%

Philadelphia’s homeownership rate reached almost 57% in 2021, substantially higher than it had been in the middle of the last decade but slightly lower than in 2006. Asian households had the highest homeownership rate, at nearly 62%; Hispanic households had the lowest, at approximately 49%. Since 2006, non-Hispanic White households have recorded the biggest decrease, 7 percentage points, although their overall homeownership rate remained comparatively high.

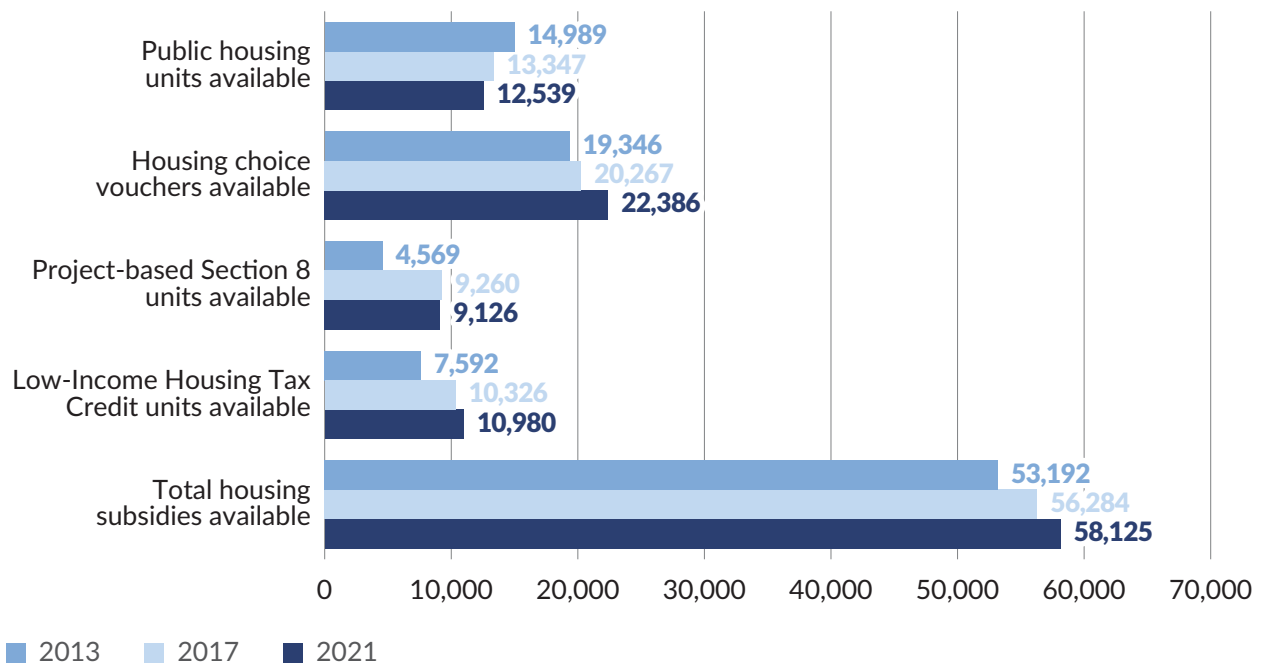
Note: Data for 2017 and 2020 is not included. Several years ago, the Census Bureau identified an error in some of its 2017 data for Philadelphia and recommended discontinuing its use. And the bureau did not release one-year American Community Survey data for 2020, citing the pandemic’s impact on data quality. Because the Census Bureau does not plan to update the data from either of these years, Pew is not using that data.

Source: Pew analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, IPUMS one-year estimates, 2006-21

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



Figure 6.9  
**Housing Subsidies Over Time in Philadelphia**  
 2013-21



From 2013 to 2021, the number of total housing subsidies in Philadelphia increased by 9%. In 2021, the last year for which data was available, 22,386 of the 58,125 subsidies available were housing choice vouchers, which qualifying residents can use to help pay rent in market housing. In recent years, more of these vouchers and more Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) units have been available. At the same time, the number of units owned by the Philadelphia Housing Authority has declined slightly, as have project-based Section 8 units.

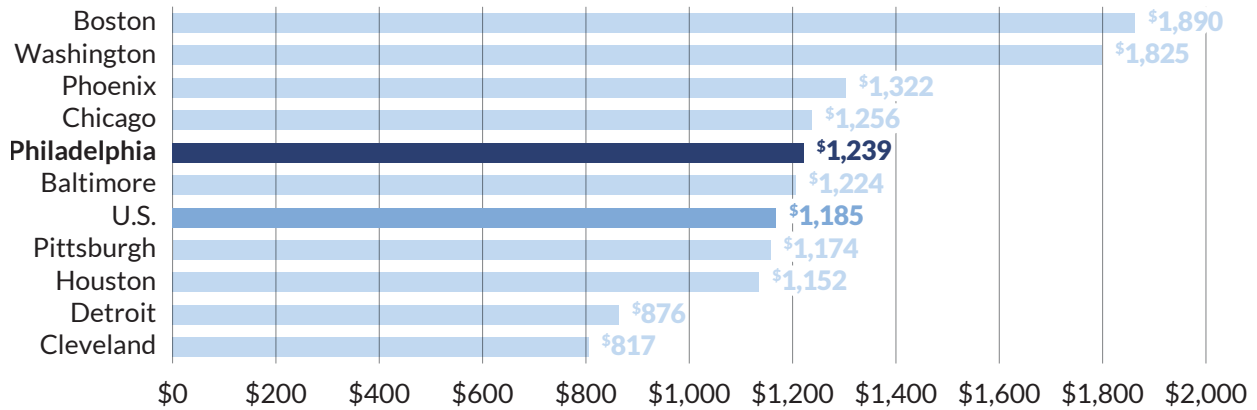
Note: "Total housing subsidies available" also includes other categories of housing, including Section 236 multifamily rental housing/below-market interest rate housing (S236/BMIR), Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program units (202/PRAC), Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons With Disabilities (811/PRAC), moderate rehabilitation program housing, and HOME tenant-based rental assistance units.

Sources: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, "Assisted Housing: National and Local—Picture of Subsidized Households," 2013-21, <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/assthsg.html#null>; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, "LIHTC Database Access," <https://lihtc.huduser.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 6.10

## Median Cost for a Two-Bedroom Unit, 2021 In Philadelphia and other large cities



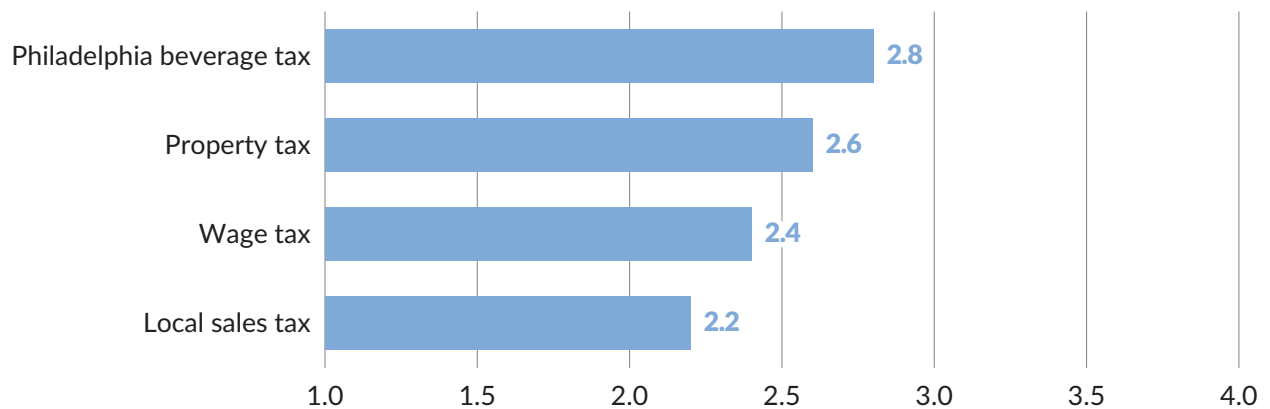
In 2021, Philadelphia ranked slightly above the national average for the median cost of a two-bedroom apartment, with a monthly rent of \$1,239. Although the city remained more affordable than both Boston and Washington, the median rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Philadelphia rose 9.5% from 2019.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2021, Table B25031 (Median Gross Rent), <http://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 6.11

## Philadelphians Rank Local Taxes by Fairness: Poll



In its 2022 Philadelphia resident poll, Pew asked Philadelphians to rank four local taxes by fairness on a scale of 1 to 4—with 1 being the most fair and 4 the least fair. Overall, Philadelphians rated the beverage tax the least fair, followed by property, wage, and sales taxes. Opinions varied a bit by age, however: Residents ages 18-29 gave these four taxes, as a group, the best ratings on fairness, while those ages 50-64 gave them the worst ratings.

Source: The Pew Philadelphia Poll, 2022

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts







# Jobs and the Economy

## **In a year of high inflation, Philadelphia's job market and the economy showed strong growth.**

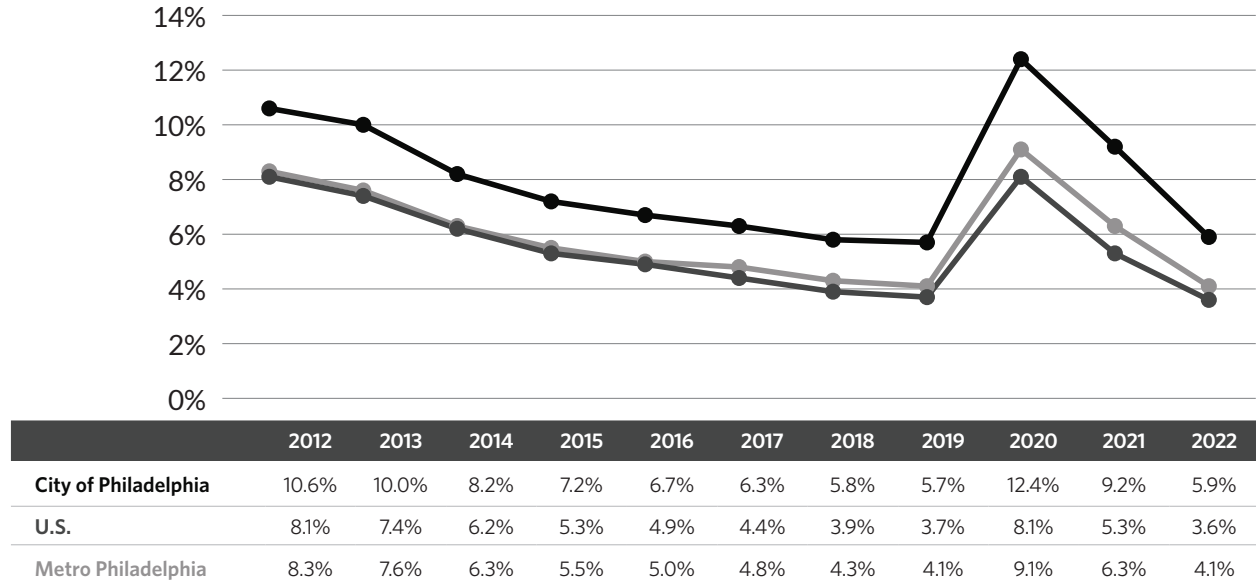
As of December 2022, Philadelphia had an estimated 753,900 jobs, an increase of about 30,000 from a year earlier. And in the final four months of 2022, Philadelphia had an unemployment rate below 5%, something that had not happened in at least a decade.

For the year, employment in every major sector of the local economy expanded, with the exception of government—whose number of occupied positions fell by 1%. The size of the leisure and hospitality sector continued its post-pandemic rebound, with 24% more jobs in 2022 than in 2021, although the numbers were still below pre-pandemic levels. And Philadelphians' median income increased to \$52,899 in 2021, the latest year for which data was available, up 11% since 2019.

Figure 7.1

## Unemployment Rate, 2012-22

In Philadelphia, the surrounding region, and nationwide



Philadelphia’s unemployment rate decreased from 2020 to 2022, more closely resembling pre-pandemic trends last year after spiking in 2020. Despite this promising trend, the city’s 5.9% unemployment rate was still higher than the national average of 3.6%.

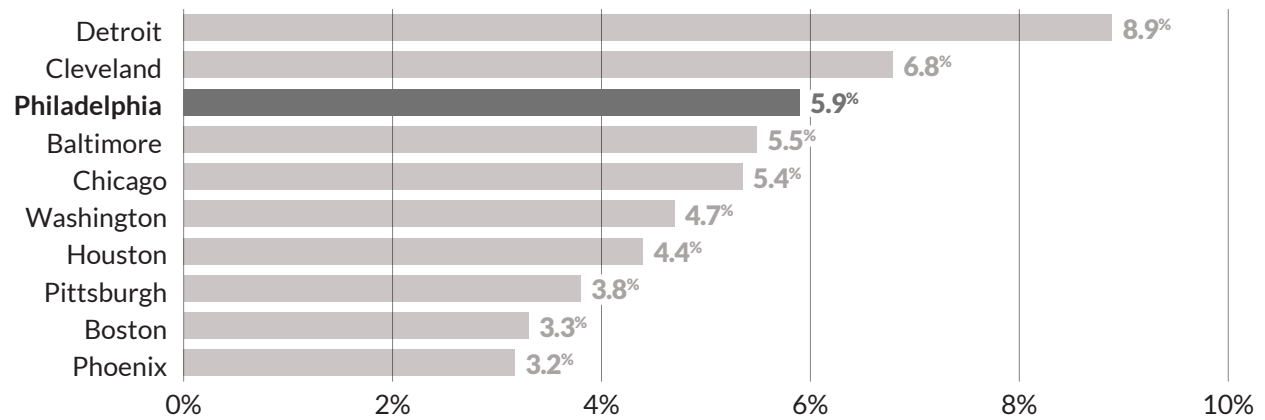
Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, <https://www.bls.gov/lau> (local data); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, <https://www.bls.gov/cps> (national data)

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



Figure 7.2

## Unemployment Rate in Philadelphia and Comparable Cities, 2022



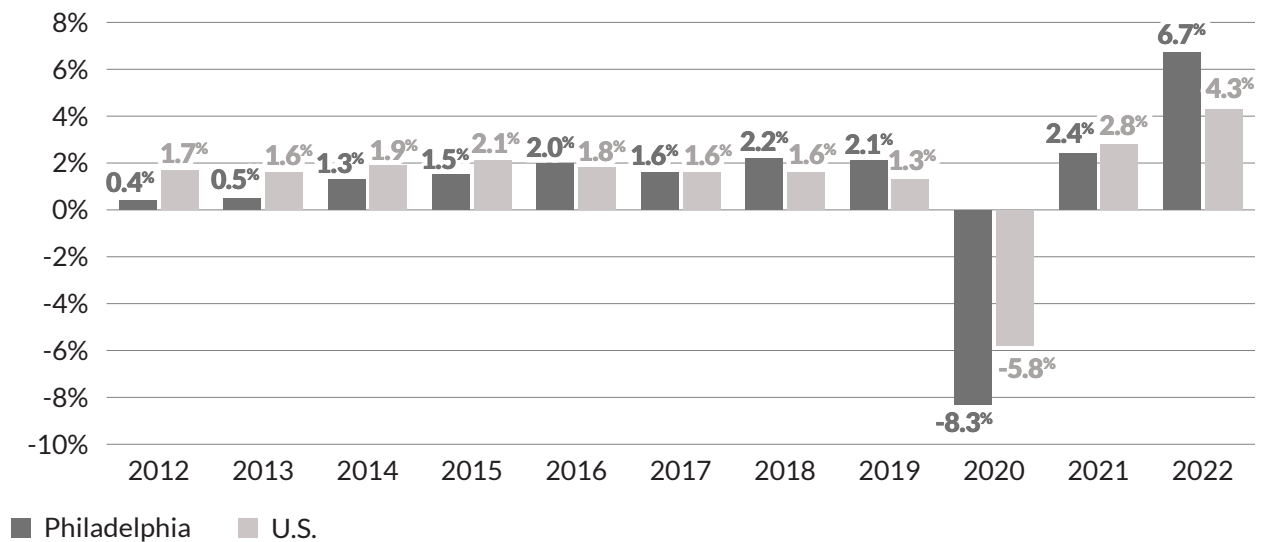
Philadelphia had the third-highest unemployment rate among the comparison cities in 2022. Although Philadelphia’s 5.9% unemployment rate ranked higher than those of several other comparable cities, including Chicago (5.4%) and Washington (4.7%), its rate has continued to trend downward, declining 3.3% from 2021.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, <https://www.bls.gov/lau>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 7.3

## Job Growth and Decline in Philadelphia and Nationwide, 2012-22



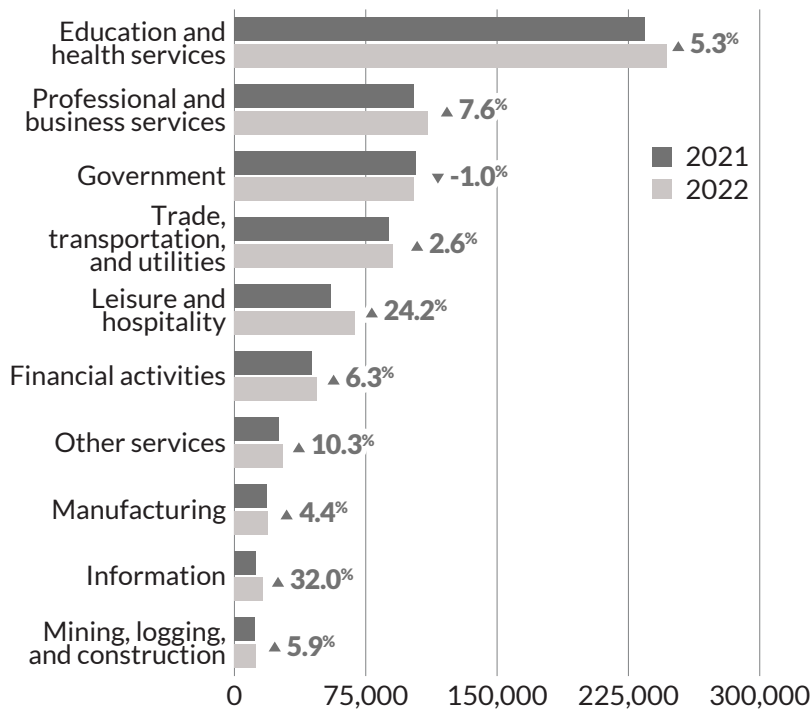
The number of jobs in Philadelphia continued to increase in 2022, with the city’s job growth more than 2 percentage points higher than the nation’s. Job growth in both Philadelphia and the U.S. in 2022 reached its highest level in the past 10 years.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, <https://www.bls.gov/ces> (national); Bureau of Labor Statistics, State and Metro Area Employment, Hours, and Earnings, <https://www.bls.gov/sae> (local)

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 7.4

## Philadelphia's Job Growth and Decline by Sector, 2021 and 2022



Most sectors in Philadelphia reported an increase in the number of jobs in 2022, except the government, which reported a 1% decrease. The hospitality industry—hit especially hard by the pandemic—experienced a major increase in jobs (24.2%). And compared with a 20% reduction from 2020 to 2021, information jobs increased by a whopping 32% from 2021 to 2022. Overall, employment has been growing for the city's nongovernmental sectors.

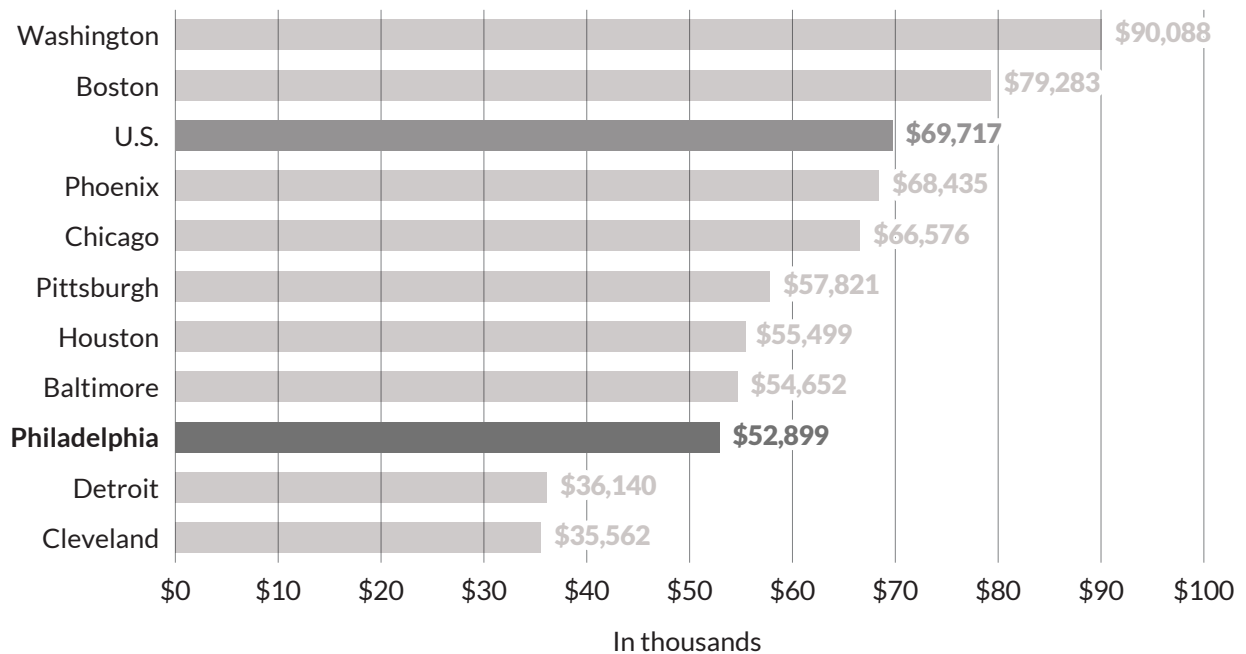
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, State and Metro Area Employment, Hours, and Earnings, <https://www.bls.gov/sae>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts





Figure 7.5  
**Median Household Income, 2021**  
 In Philadelphia and other large cities



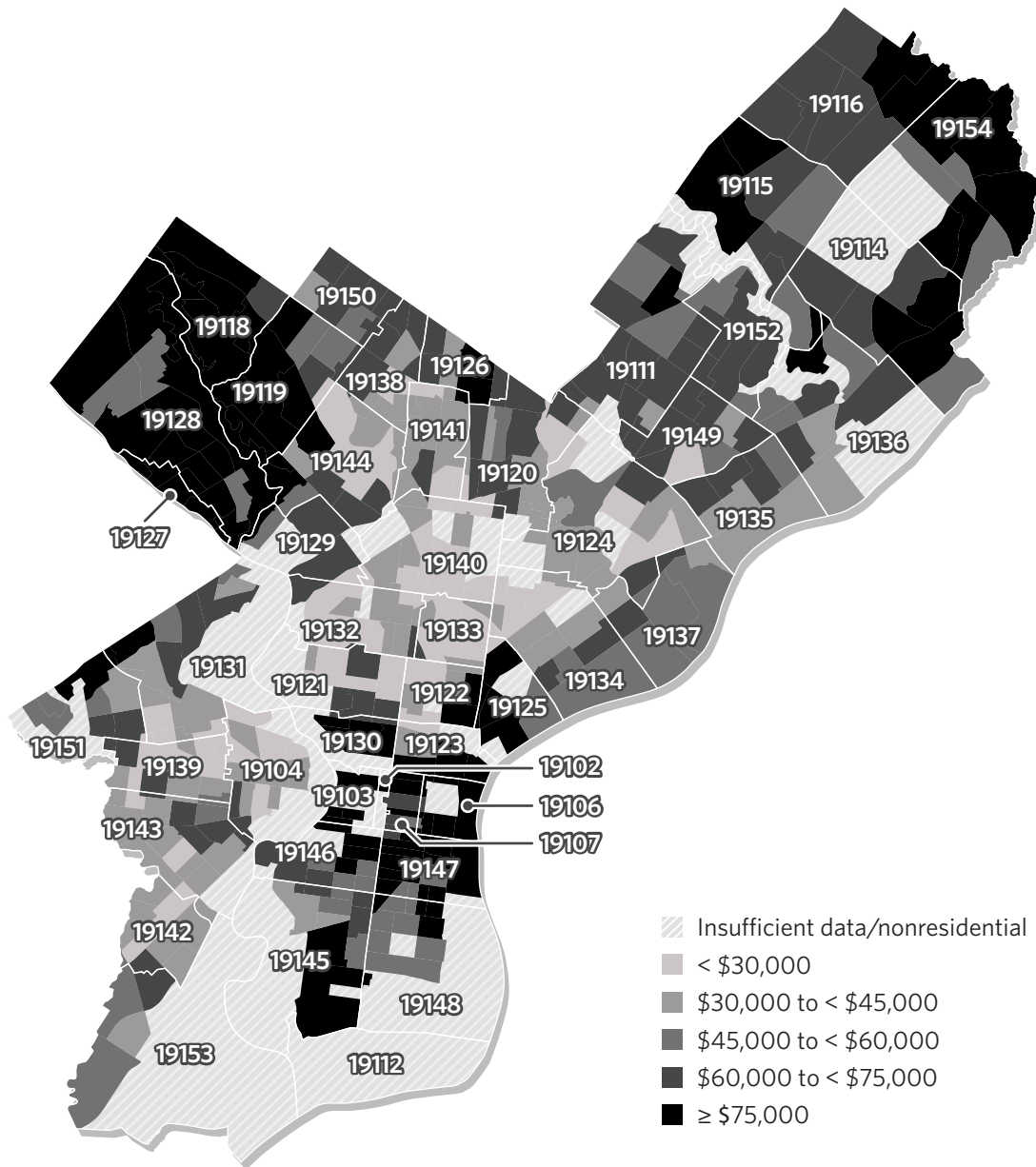
As has been the case for years, Philadelphia’s 2021 median household income was lower than those in all of the comparison cities except Cleveland and Detroit. From 2019 to 2021, Philadelphia’s median household income rose by \$5,425; only Phoenix did better, rising by \$7,504.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2021, Table S1903 (Median Income in the Past 12 Months in 2021 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars), <http://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 7.6

## Median Household Income in Philadelphia, 2021



As has been the case for many years, the city's lowest-earning areas in 2021 were in North and West Philadelphia; its highest-earning areas were in Center City and Northwest Philadelphia. The largest percentage increase in median household income, 51%, was recorded in the Kensington/Fishtown and East Falls areas.

Note: To convert 2016 American Community Survey five-year median income data to 2021 dollars, Pew used the Bureau of Labor Statistics' annual average consumer price index (CPI-U) value. The CPI-U value for 2016 is 240.007; and for 2021, it's 270.970. The multiplier to convert 2016 dollars to 2021 dollars is 1.129.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, five-year estimates, 2017-21, Table B19013 (Median Household Income in the Past 12 Months [in 2021 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars]), <http://data.census.gov>; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, five-year estimates, 2012-16, Table B19013 (Median Household Income in the Past 12 Months [in 2021 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars]), <http://data.census.gov>

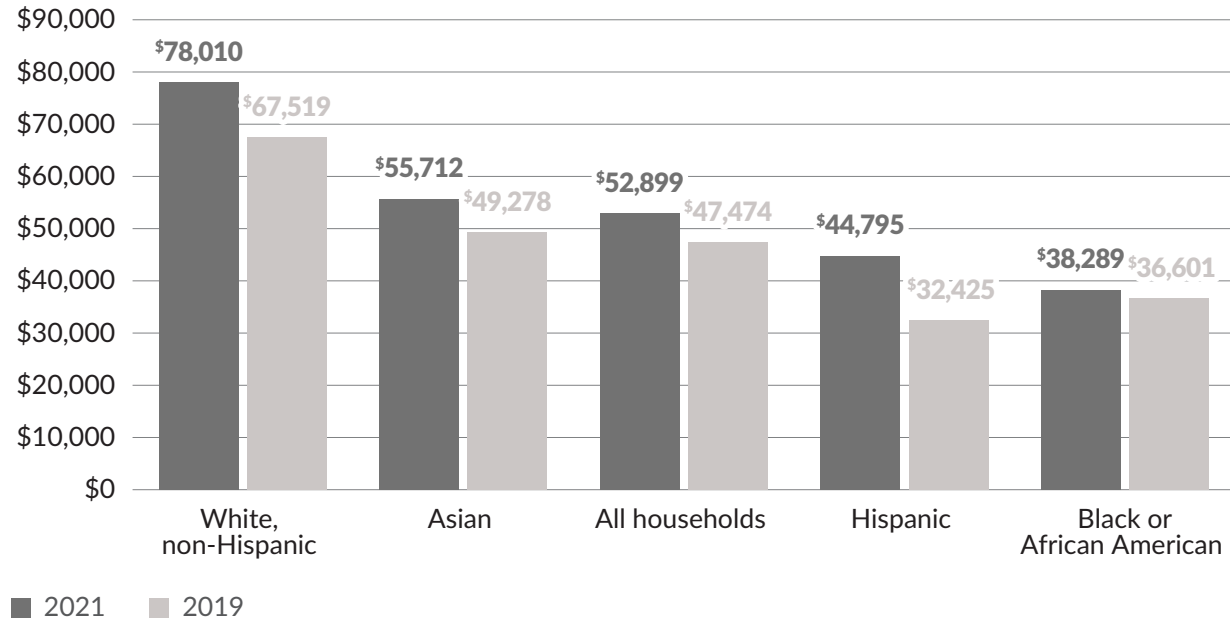
ZIP code	Neighborhood	Household median income, 2017-21	Percentage change from 2012-16 to 2017-21
19125	Kensington/Fishtown	\$89,505	51%
19129	East Falls	\$81,641	51%
19146	South Philadelphia—Schuylkill	\$86,372	46%
19121	Fairmount North/Brewerytown	\$29,691	39%
19126	Oak Lane	\$54,936	38%
19145	South Philadelphia—West	\$59,216	37%
19133	North Philadelphia—East	\$27,811	36%
19123	Northern Liberties/Spring Garden	\$83,008	27%
19153	Eastwick	\$57,830	25%
19104	West Philadelphia—University City	\$30,734	25%
19148	South Philadelphia—East	\$63,497	22%
19131	Wynnefield/West Park	\$42,309	20%
19134	Port Richmond	\$37,821	20%
19147	South Philadelphia—Bella Vista	\$93,996	19%
19144	Germantown	\$37,322	18%
19154	Northeast—Torresdale North	\$79,833	18%
19122	North Philadelphia—Yorktown	\$43,981	17%
19115	Northeast—Bustleton South	\$62,044	16%
19114	Northeast—Torresdale South	\$70,838	16%
19130	Fairmount South	\$92,097	15%
19116	Northeast—Bustleton North/Somerton	\$59,390	14%
19120	Olney	\$44,195	13%
19149	Northeast—Mayfair/Oxford Circle	\$50,592	12%
19124	Northeast—Frankford	\$38,293	12%
19143	Southwest Philadelphia—Kingsessing	\$38,928	12%
19119	Mount Airy	\$72,685	12%
19128	Roxborough	\$80,803	12%
19142	Southwest Philadelphia—Paschall/Elmwood	\$37,621	11%
19138	Germantown East	\$44,455	11%
19106	Center City—Society Hill	\$126,287	11%
19140	Nicetown	\$27,006	11%
19111	Northeast—Fox Chase	\$55,569	10%
19150	Northwest—Wadsworth	\$54,121	10%
19139	West Philadelphia—West Market	\$32,531	9%
19107	Center City—Washington Square	\$62,280	9%
19136	Northeast—Holmesburg	\$56,752	9%
19103	Center City West	\$83,988	5%
19141	Logan	\$34,651	5%
19102	Center City West	\$115,597	5%
19132	North Philadelphia—West	\$26,041	3%
19152	Northeast—Rhawnhurst	\$56,835	3%
19127	Manayunk	\$81,042	2%
19135	Northeast—Tacony	\$46,311	-2%
19151	Overbrook	\$49,337	-3%
19118	Chestnut Hill	\$86,475	-4%
19137	Northeast—Bridesburg	\$52,034	-9%



Figure 7.7

## Median Household Income in Philadelphia, 2019 and 2021

By race and ethnicity



Median household income in Philadelphia varied widely in 2021 by race and ethnicity. The figure for White, non-Hispanic households—\$78,010—was more than double the \$38,289 figure for Black households. The median income for Hispanic households, \$44,795, was 38% higher than it was in 2019, when its value was \$32,425—an unusually large spike over a two-year span. However, additional years of data are needed to assess whether this increase will hold up.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2021, Table S1903 (Median Household Income in the Past 12 Months), <http://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



Figure 7.8

## Largest Employers in Philadelphia, 2022

2022 rank	Employer
1	University of Pennsylvania
2	U.S. government
3	City of Philadelphia
4	School District of Philadelphia
5	The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia
6	Thomas Jefferson University Hospital
7	Temple University
8	Comcast Corp.
9	SEPTA
10	Temple University Hospital
11	American Airlines
12	Drexel University
13	Thomas Jefferson University
14	Allied Universal
15	Einstein Medical Center

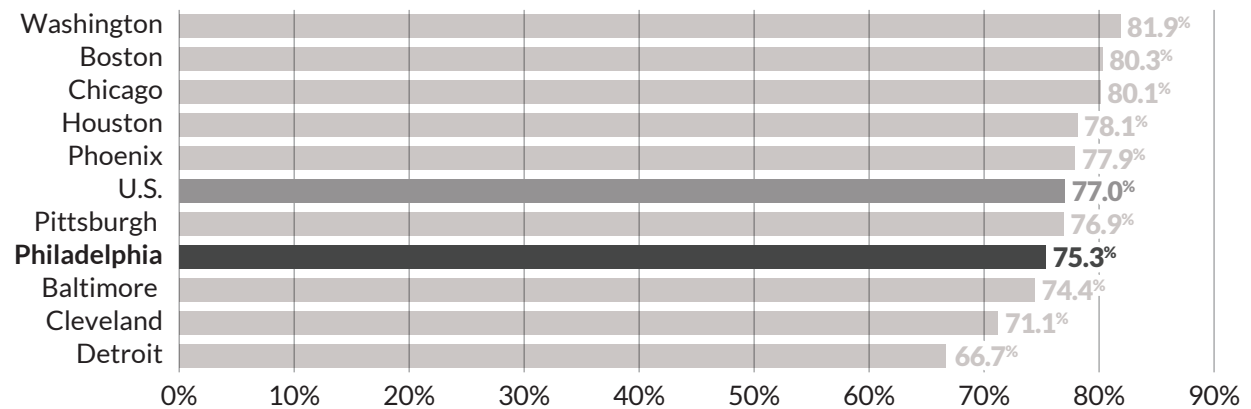
Of the 15 largest employers in Philadelphia in 2022, nine were in education and health care. Four were in the public sector: the U.S. government, the city of Philadelphia, the School District of Philadelphia, and SEPTA. The University of Pennsylvania, including its health system, is the city’s largest employer.

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry, Center for Workforce Information and Analysis, “Pennsylvania Top 50 Employers and Industries: Philadelphia County, 2nd Quarter, 2022,” <https://www.workstats.dli.pa.gov/Products/Top50/Pages/default.aspx>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 7.9

## Labor Force Participation Rate, 2021 In Philadelphia and other large cities



In 2021, Philadelphia had a labor force participation rate of 75.3% among residents ages 16-64, which was below the national average of 77% and below the rates in more than half of the comparison cities. This was a better showing than in 2019, when the city’s rate was only 71.5% and the national rate was nearly 4 points higher. The labor force consists of people who are employed or actively looking for work.

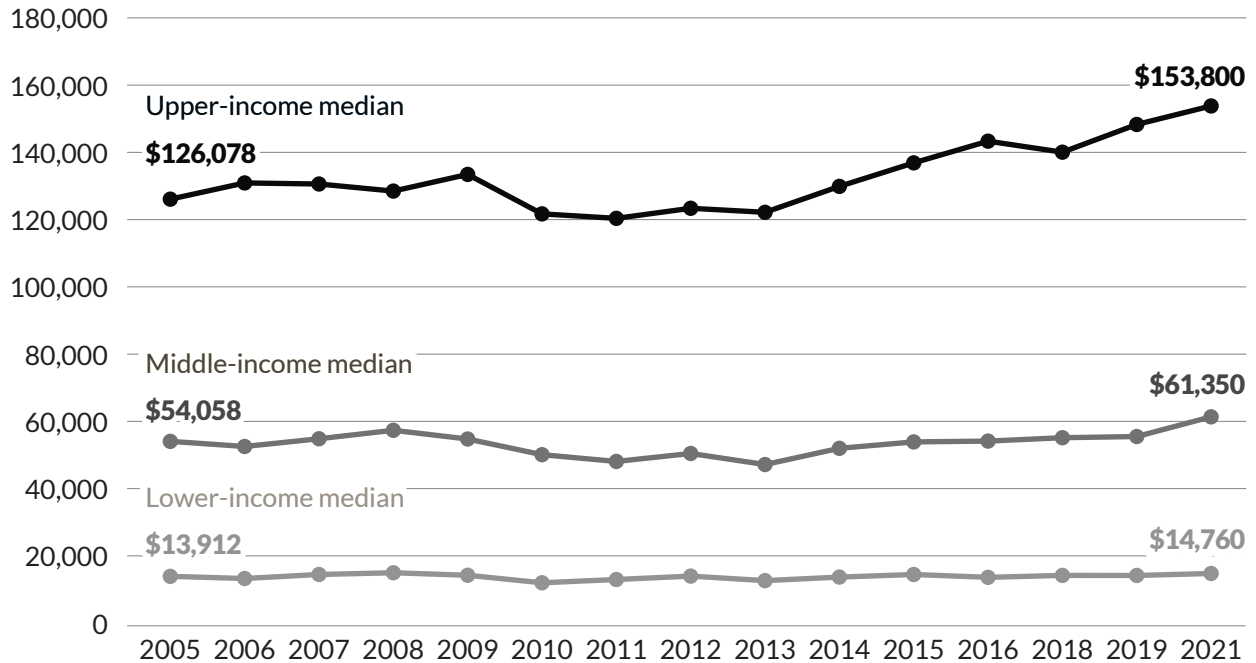
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2021, Table S2301 (Employment Status), <http://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 7.10

## Median Household Income in Philadelphia, 2005-21

Change shown in 2021 dollars

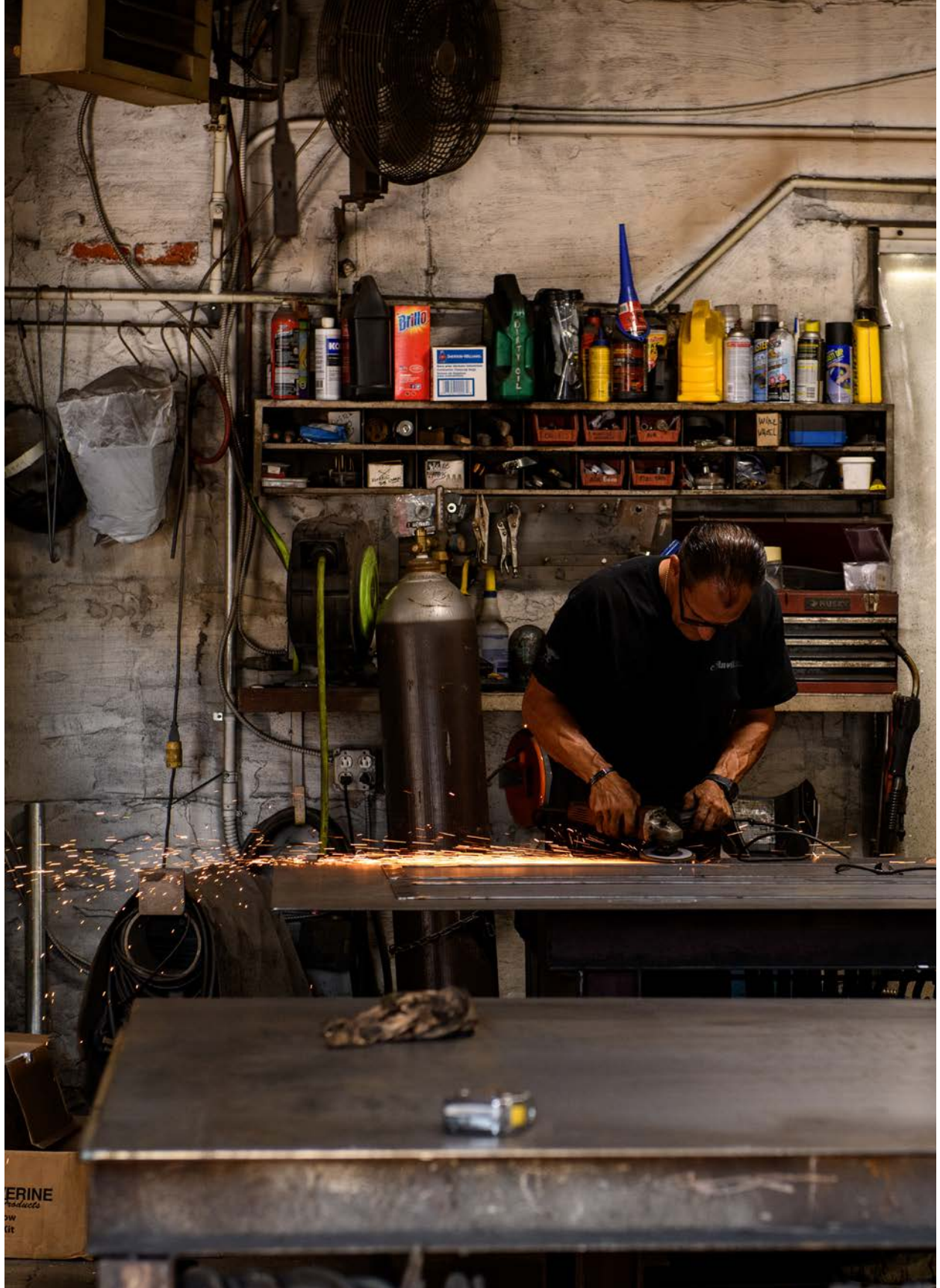


The median income for all Philadelphians was \$52,649, according to five-year census data from 2017 to 2021. When dividing residents into three income brackets, middle-income Philadelphians earned a median of \$61,350, a 13.5% increase over the past 15-plus years. However, the median income for Philadelphians in the upper-income bracket has increased by 22% from 2005 to 2021, adjusted for inflation. Among the lowest-income residents, income has remained relatively unchanged, increasing by only 6% over this period.

Notes: The Pew Research Center has divided American households into three economic categories: lower-income households (those with incomes less than two-thirds of the national median); middle-income households (those with incomes from two-thirds to double the median); and upper-income households (those with incomes more than double the median). Figure 7.10 applies that analysis to Philadelphia. Data for 2017 and 2020 is not included. Several years ago, the Census Bureau identified an error in some of its 2017 data for Philadelphia and recommended discontinuing its use. And the bureau did not release one-year American Community Survey data for 2020, citing the pandemic's impact on data quality. Because the Census Bureau does not plan to update the data from either of these years, Pew is not using that data.

Source: Pew analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, IPUMS (2005-21 one-year estimates)

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



ERINE  
Products  
20W  
Gt





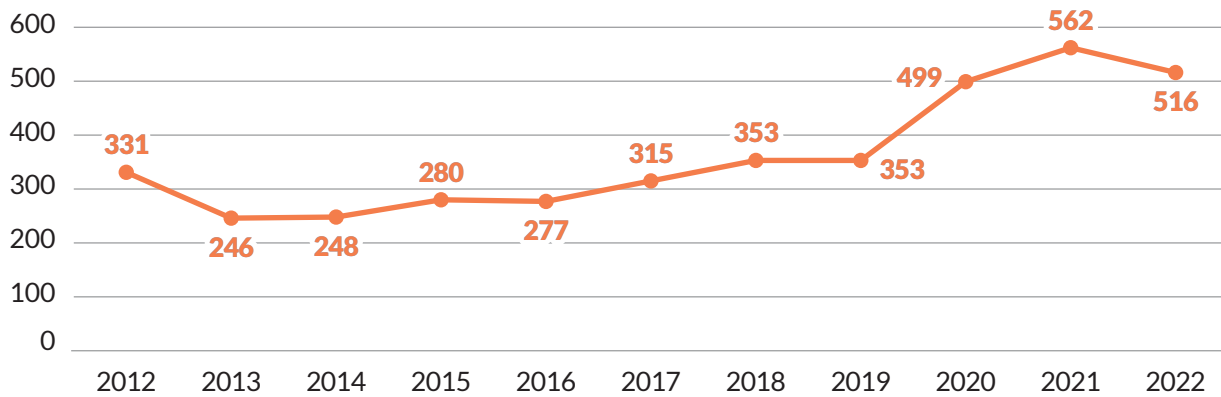
# Public Safety

**In 2022, violent crime and homicides declined slightly but remained at historically high levels.**

For the year, Philadelphia recorded 516 homicides, down from 562 in 2021 but still among the highest totals in its history. Never before had the city experienced two consecutive years with at least 500 homicides and 2,000 shootings.

While polls, such as the 2023 Lenfest Institute for Journalism survey, have shown crime and public safety to be Philadelphians' top concerns, the city's police department has been grappling with a large number of vacancies, struggling to find qualified candidates to fill those positions.

Figure 8.1  
**Homicides in Philadelphia, 2012-22**

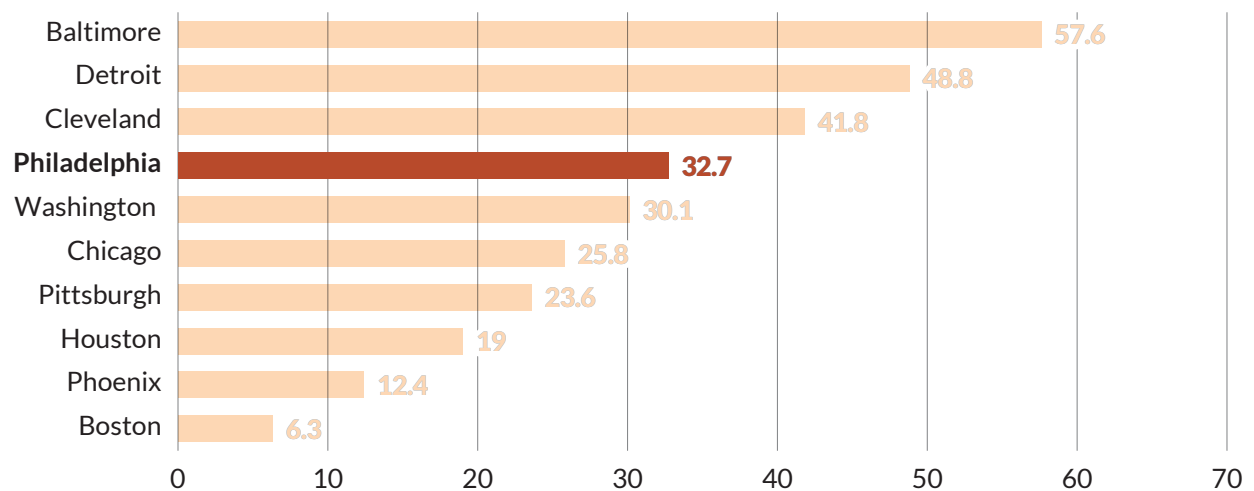


Philadelphia reported 516 homicides in 2022, an 8% reduction from the previous year but still one of the highest annual totals on record. According to the Philadelphia Police Department, arguments and drug-related confrontations were among the primary motives for most of these homicides.

Source: Philadelphia Police Department, "Crime Maps & Stats," <https://www.phillypolice.com/crime-maps-stats>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 8.2  
**Homicide Rates Per 100,000 Residents, 2022**

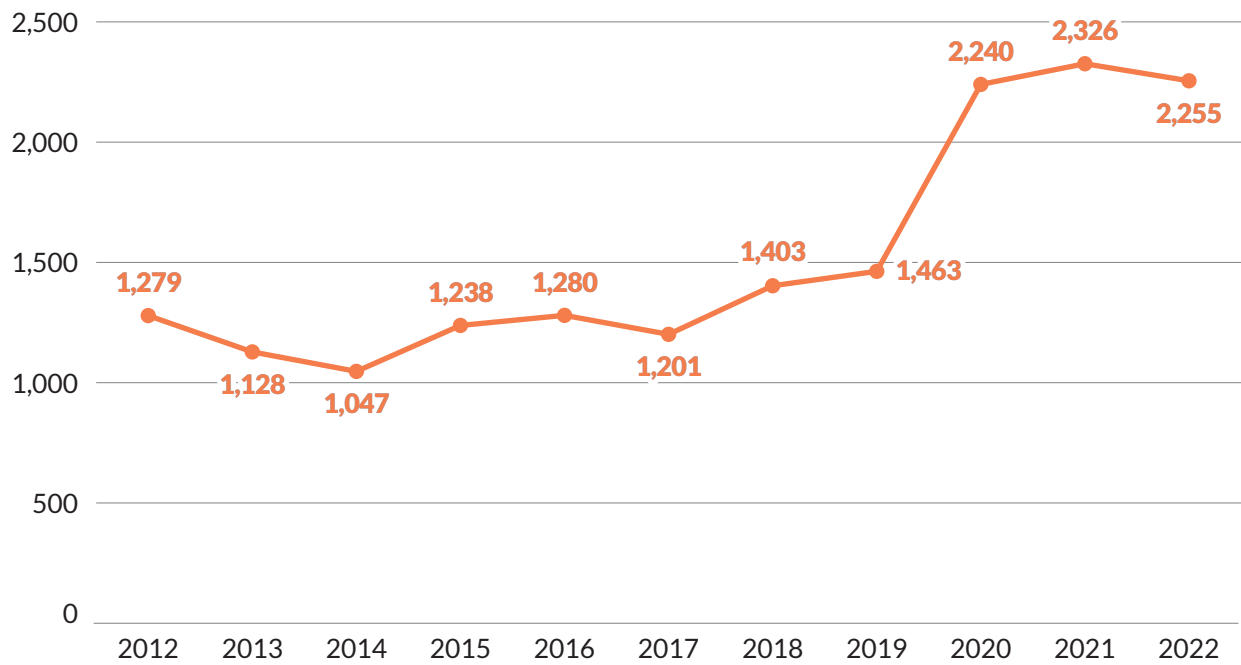


Although Philadelphia recorded its second-highest homicide total on record in 2022, the city's rate of 32.7 homicides per 100,000 residents was lower than those of several comparison cities. Baltimore had the highest rate, at 57.6, and Boston the lowest by far, at 6.3.

Sources: Police departments in all 10 cities; population numbers drawn from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Estimates of the Resident Population for Incorporated Places, July 1, 2021, <https://www.census.gov/data/datasets/time-series/demo/popest/2020s-total-cities-and-towns.html>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 8.3  
**Shooting Victims in Philadelphia, 2012-22**



The number of shooting victims in the city fell slightly in 2022, down to 2,255 from 2,326 in 2021. Even so, the total remained at historically high levels, up 54% from 2019, the last pre-pandemic year, with the levels recorded from 2020 to 2022 the highest they have been in 30 years.

Source: Philadelphia Police Department, "Crime Maps & Stats," <https://www.phillypolice.com/crime-maps-stats>

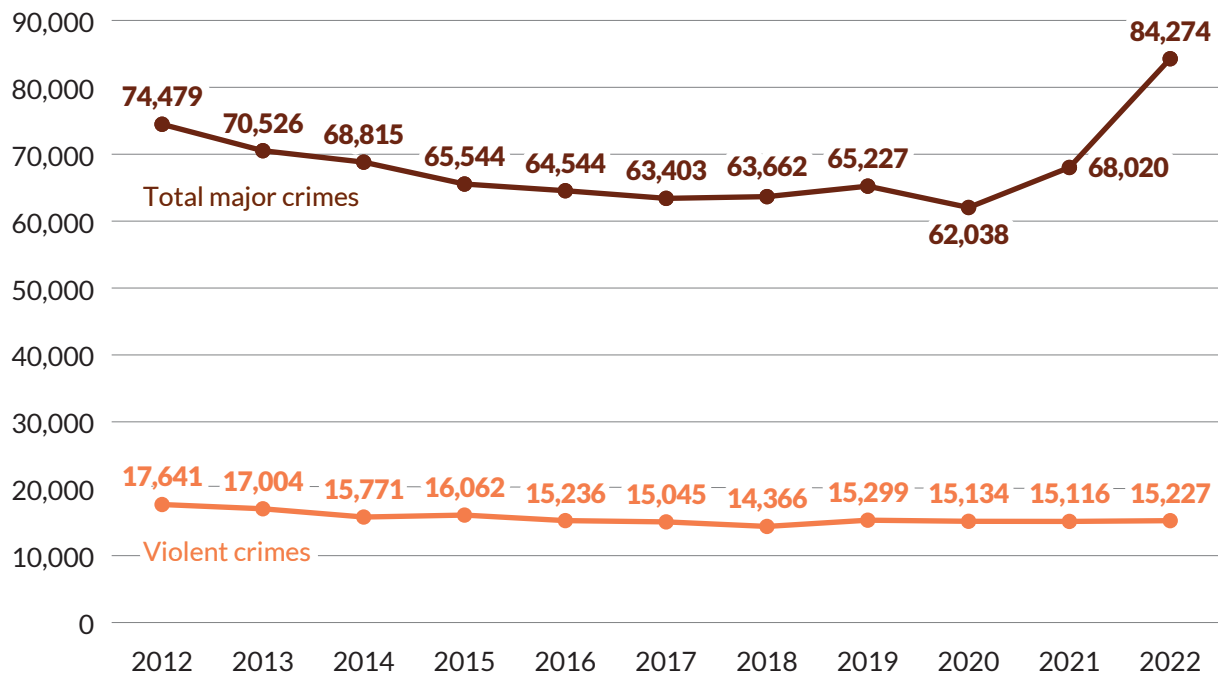
© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts







Figure 8.4  
**Major Crime in Philadelphia, 2012-22**

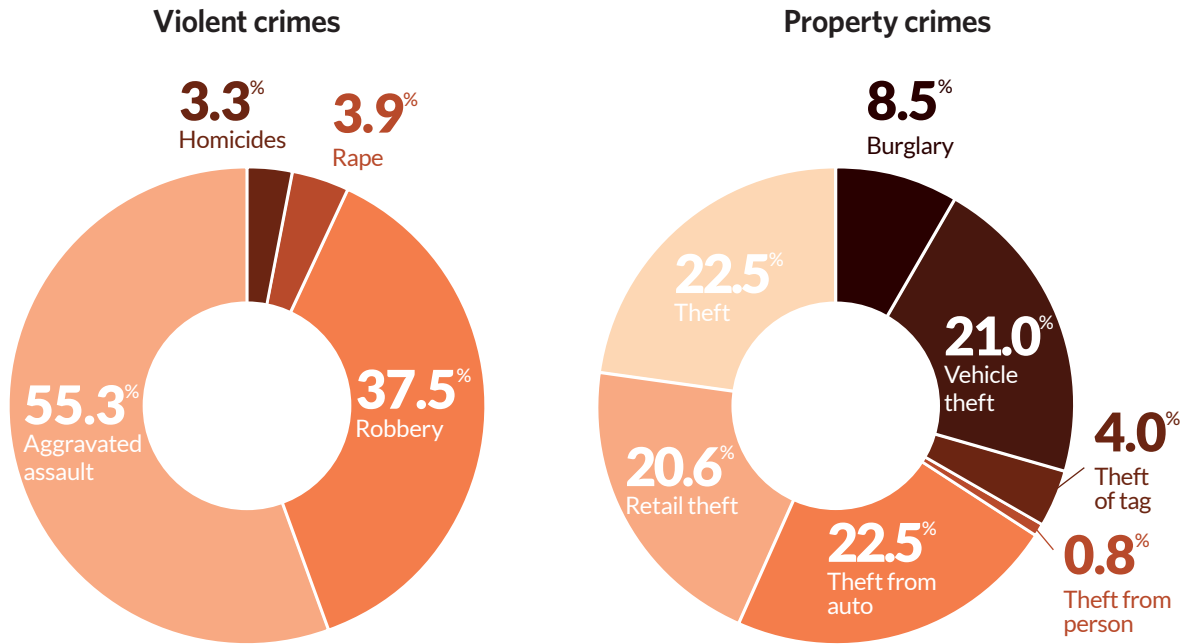


Total major crimes increased last year, driven by a spike in property crimes, which rose 47% since 2020. The rise in property crimes was driven by increases in auto thefts, commercial burglaries, and retail thefts. Among violent crimes, 2,910 robberies with a gun were reported in 2022, representing a 58% increase from 2020 to 2022. The incidence of other violent crimes, including rape and aggravated assault without a gun, remained about the same.

Source: Philadelphia Police Department

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 8.5  
**Major Crimes in Philadelphia, 2022**  
 By type



Robberies represented 37.5% of all violent crimes in 2022, increasing by 6.7 percentage points from 2020, driven by a surge in robberies with a gun. Theft from automobiles, theft, vehicle theft, and retail theft each accounted for approximately a fifth of all property crimes, which spiked in 2022. In a single year, auto thefts increased by 30%, commercial burglaries by 40%, and retail thefts by 52%.

Note: All figures are based on preliminary Philadelphia Police Department crime data and are subject to reclassification upon further investigation.

Source: Philadelphia Police Department

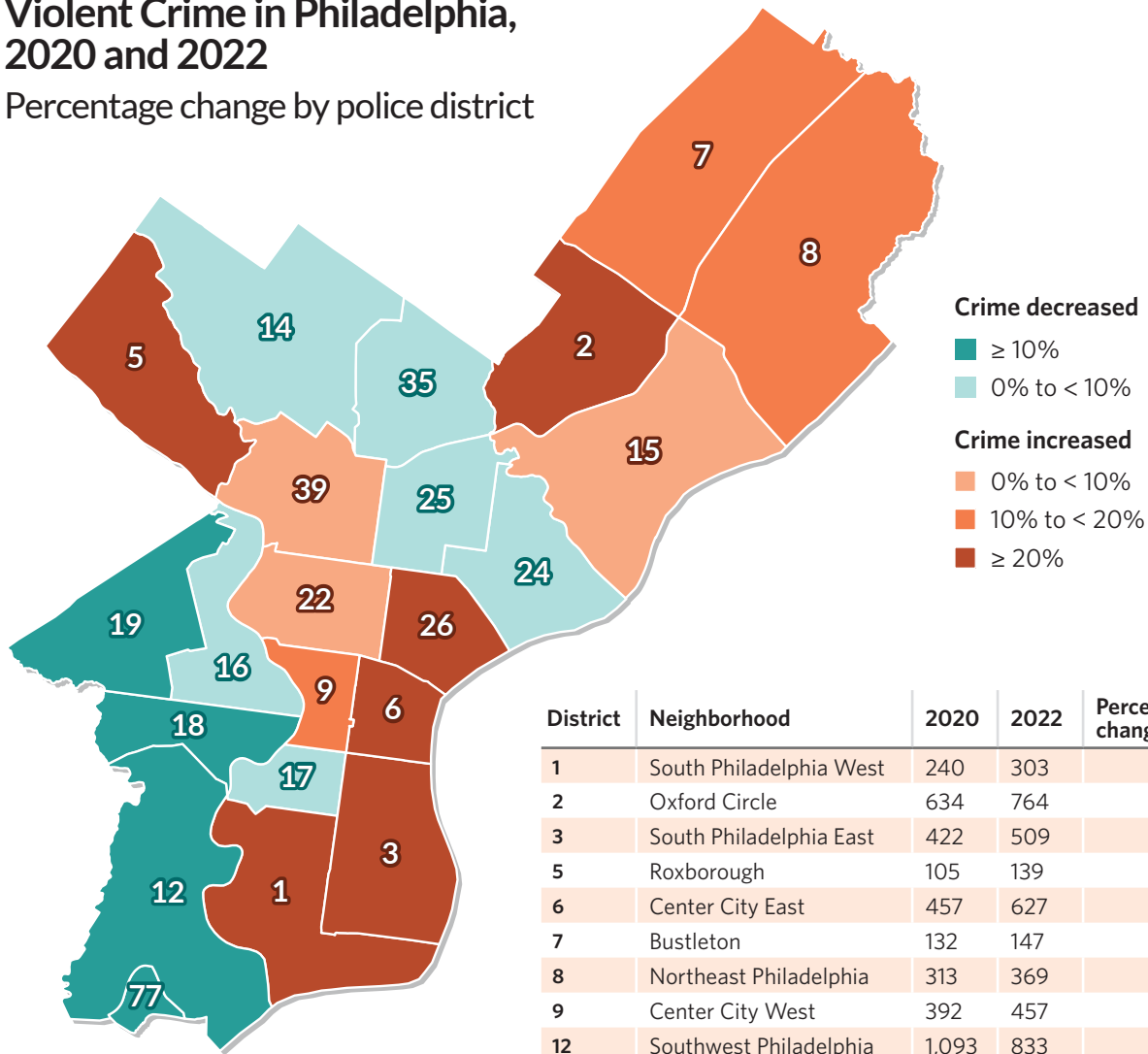
© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



Figure 8.6

## Violent Crime in Philadelphia, 2020 and 2022

Percentage change by police district



District	Neighborhood	2020	2022	Percentage change
1	South Philadelphia West	240	303	26%
2	Oxford Circle	634	764	21%
3	South Philadelphia East	422	509	21%
5	Roxborough	105	139	32%
6	Center City East	457	627	37%
7	Bustleton	132	147	11%
8	Northeast Philadelphia	313	369	18%
9	Center City West	392	457	17%
12	Southwest Philadelphia	1,093	833	-24%
14	Germantown	779	755	-3%
15	Frankford	1,157	1,198	4%
16	West Philadelphia—Mantua	533	494	-7%
17	Point Breeze	303	295	-3%
18	West Philadelphia—Cobbs Creek	871	740	-15%
19	West Philadelphia—Overbrook/Wynnefield	1,029	884	-14%
22	North Philadelphia West	1,303	1,352	4%
24	Kensington	1,417	1,299	-8%
25	Juniata Park/Feltonville	1,439	1,384	-4%
26	North Philadelphia East	517	660	28%
35	Olney	1,102	1,083	-2%
39	Allegheny West	958	998	4%
77	Philadelphia International Airport	10	8	-20%

Philadelphia recorded a 1% increase in violent crimes from 2020 to 2022, but the levels of violent crimes by police district varied greatly. Center City East had the largest percentage increase in violent crimes, and Roxborough had one of the lowest overall numbers of violent crimes, second only to the Philadelphia International Airport district. The Juniata Park/Feltonville neighborhood had the highest total, while Southwest Philadelphia experienced the most significant decrease, with the share of violent crimes there dropping 24% from 2020 to 2022.

Source: Philadelphia Police Department

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 8.7

## Homicide Motives in Philadelphia, 2022

Argument	36.2%
Retaliation	17.2%
Drugs	15.1%
Domestic	8.9%
Highway robbery	6.8%
Other	6.2%
Undetermined	5.8%
Child abuse	1.9%
Residential robbery	1.2%
Commercial robbery	0.4%
Sexual	0.2%

The Philadelphia Police Department cited arguments as the leading motive for homicides in the city in 2022, naming them as the cause in 36.2% of cases, followed by retaliation and drugs. Drugs—which had previously been the top motive for homicides in the city, accounting for 37% of cases in 2018—have dropped considerably as a factor, cited as a motive in 15.1% of homicides last year.

Note: All figures are based on preliminary Philadelphia Police Department crime data and are subject to reclassification upon further investigation. The department changed its protocols in 2018 to classify fewer motives as “undetermined.”

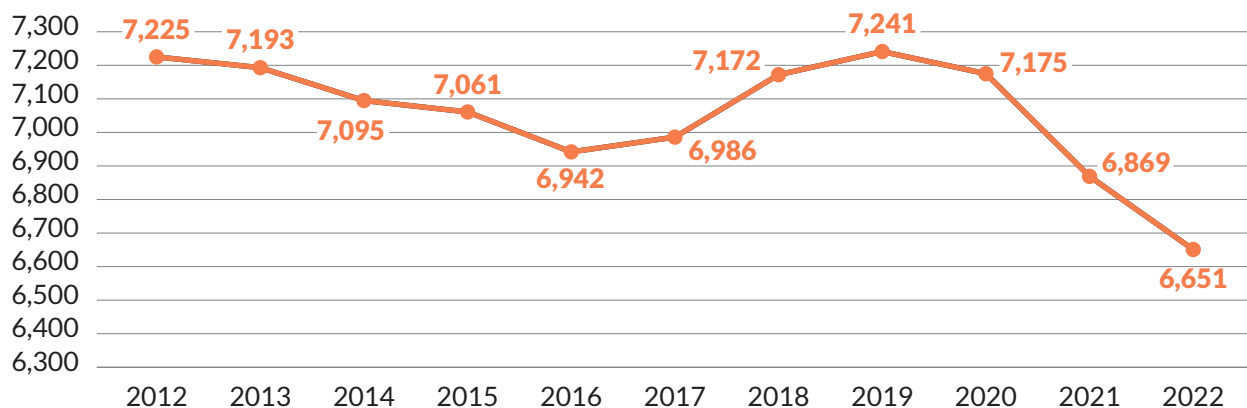
Source: Philadelphia Police Department

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 8.8

## Philadelphia Police Department Employment, 2012-22

As of June 30 each year



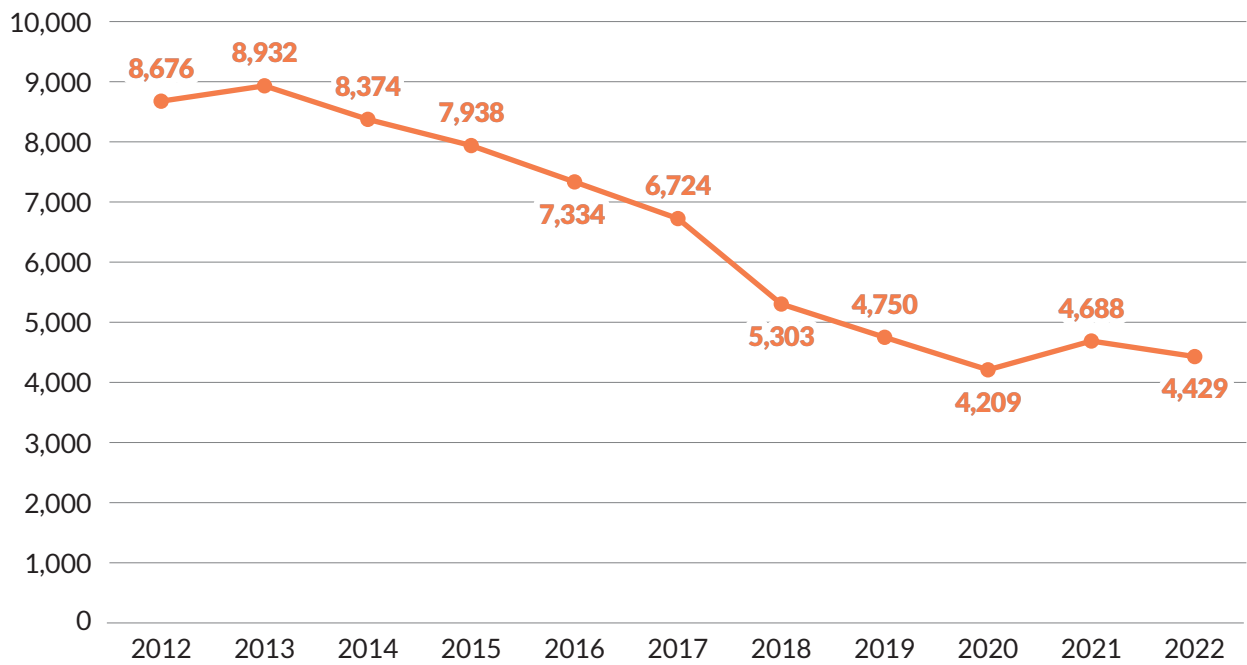
After rising during the early years of Mayor Jim Kenney’s administration, the number of filled full-time positions in the Philadelphia Police Department, both uniformed and civilian, fell by 8% from mid-2019 through mid-2022. As of June 30, 2022, the department had 660 open positions—about 9% short of full staffing. This department makes up the largest share of city employees and accounts for nearly a third of the municipal workforce.

Source: City of Philadelphia, Office of the Director of Finance, Quarterly City Manager’s Report for June 30 of each year, 2012-22, <https://www.phila.gov/departments/office-of-the-director-of-finance/financial-reports/#/quarterly-city-managers-report>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



Figure 8.9  
**Philadelphia Jail Population, 2012-22**



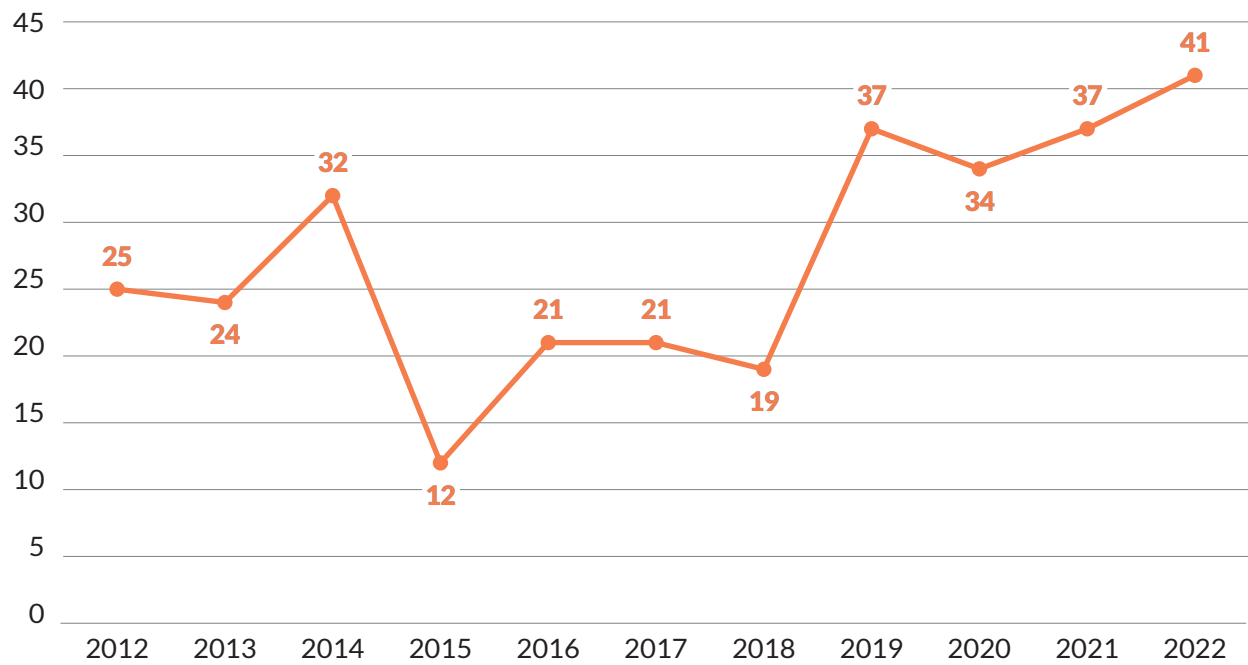
In 2022, Philadelphia jails had an average daily population of 4,429—a 50% reduction since 2013. The figure has been below 5,000 in each of the past four years. Aided by nearly \$10 million in grants from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation-supported Safety and Justice Challenge, the city has made a concerted and collaborative effort to reduce the jail population in recent years. As of December 2022, 36% of inmates were being held pretrial, compared with about 80% of the jail population before the grants.

Source: City of Philadelphia, “Philadelphia Jail Population Snapshot Report,” <https://www.phila.gov/media/20230119134723/Full-Public-Prison-Report-December-2022.pdf>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 8.10

## Fire Deaths in Philadelphia, 2012-22



In 2022, fire deaths in Philadelphia surpassed 40 for the first time since 2007, driven in part by two fires in particular—one in January that killed 12 people in Fairmount and another in April that took four lives in Kensington.

Source: Philadelphia Fire Department

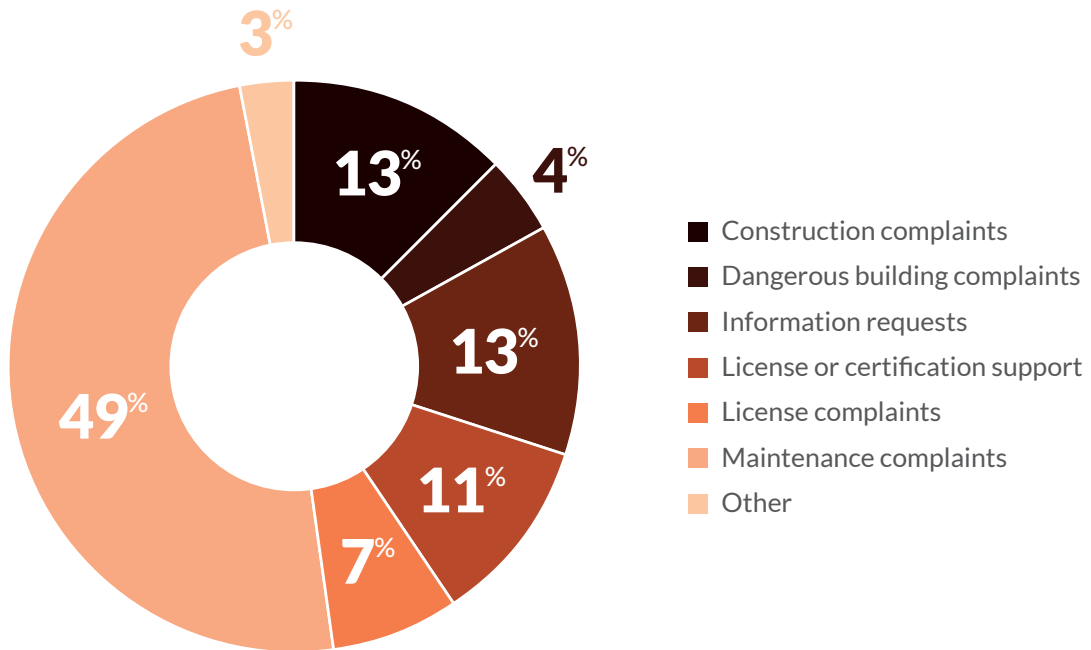
© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



Figure 8.11

## License and Inspection Requests for Action From Philly 311 in 2022

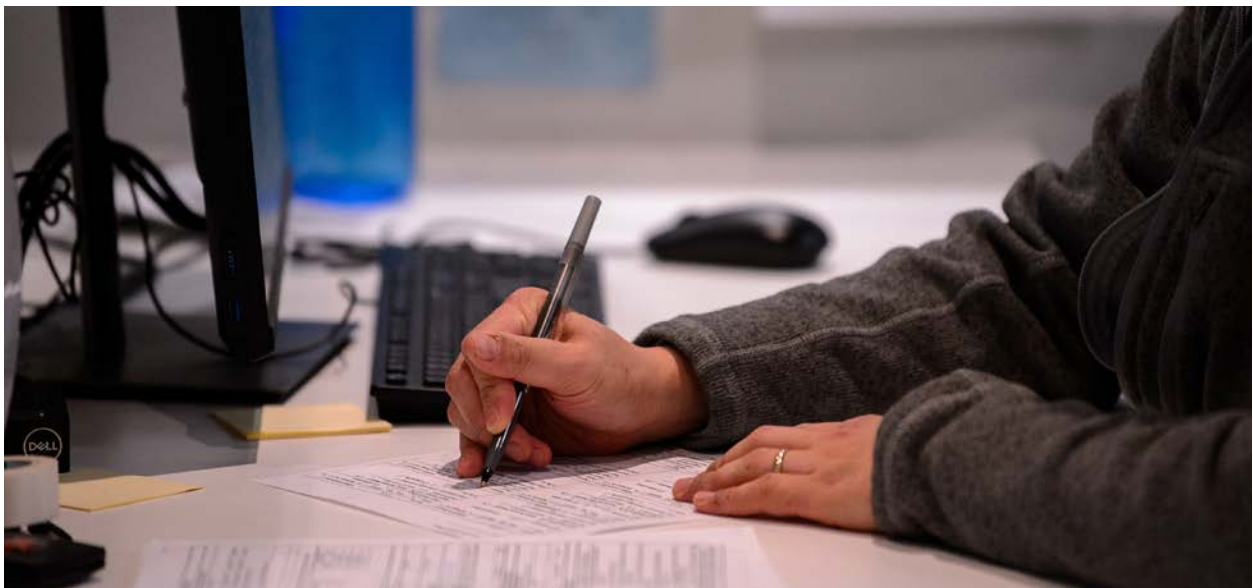
By service type

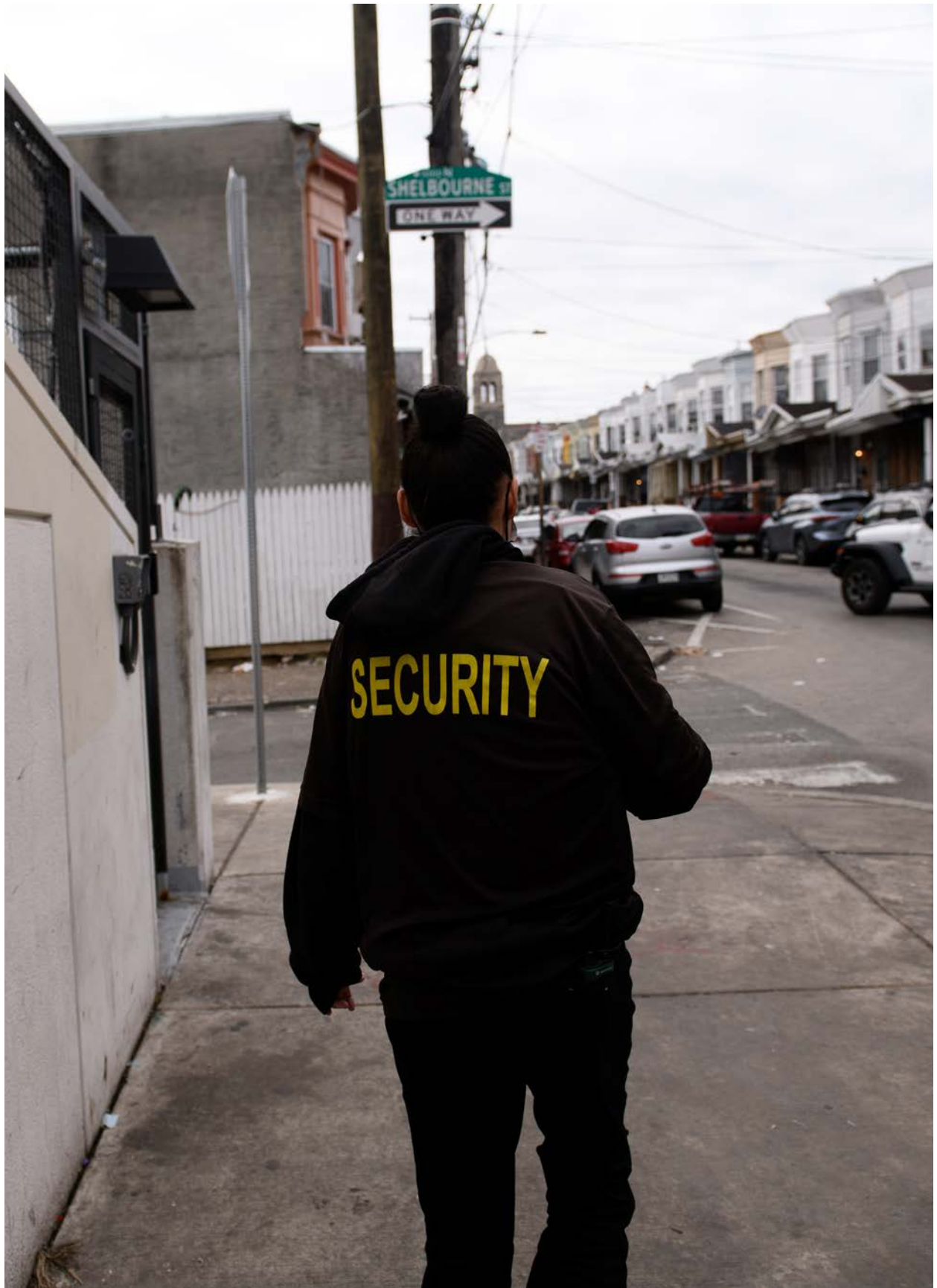


In 2022, Philadelphia's nonemergency 311 customer service system assigned more than 65,000 requests for action or information to the city's Department of Licenses and Inspections. About half of the requests were classified as maintenance complaints, dealing with concerns such as a lack of heat in an apartment. Other common topics included information requests, construction complaints, and license or certification support.

Source: Philly 311

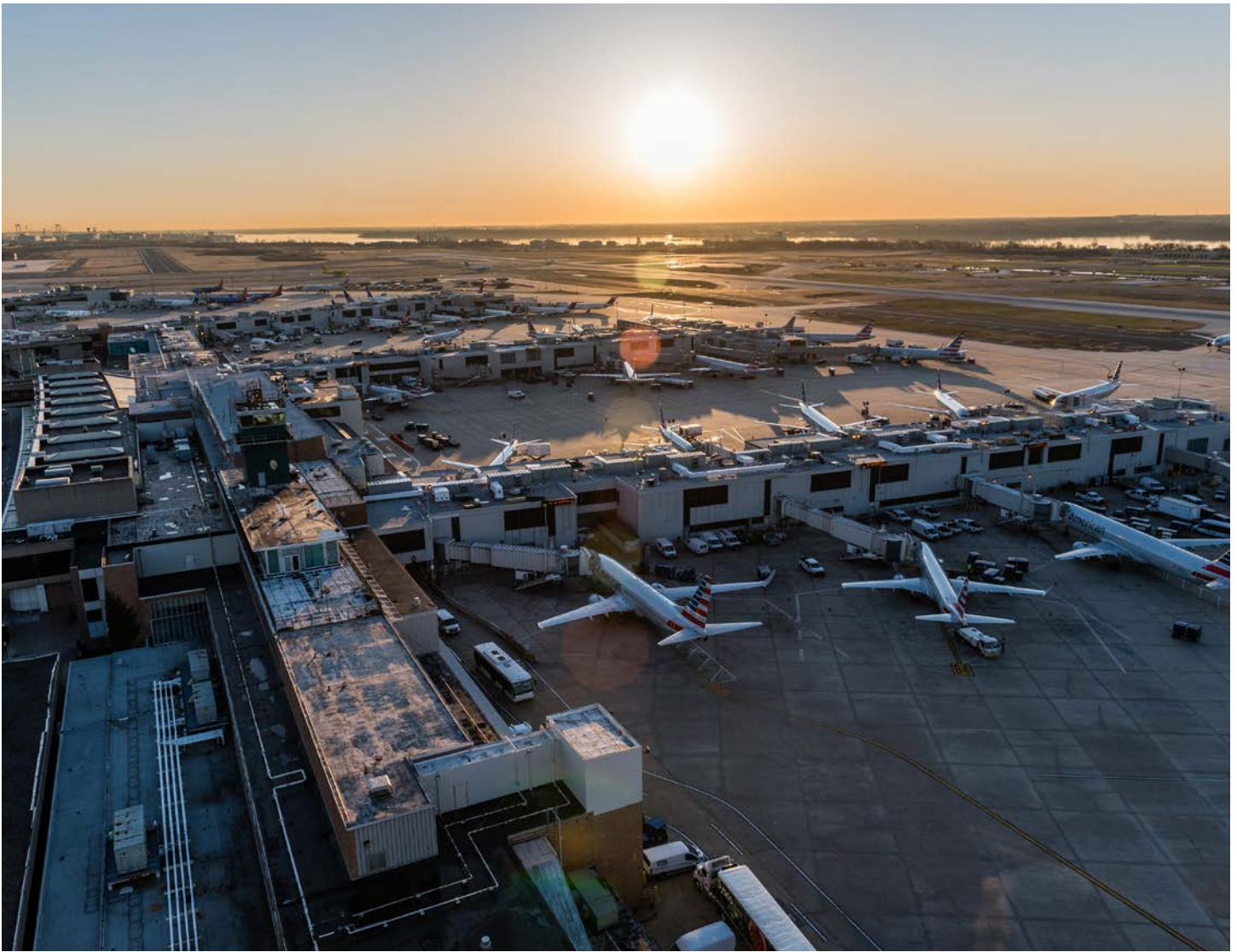
© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts











# Transportation, Infrastructure, and the Environment

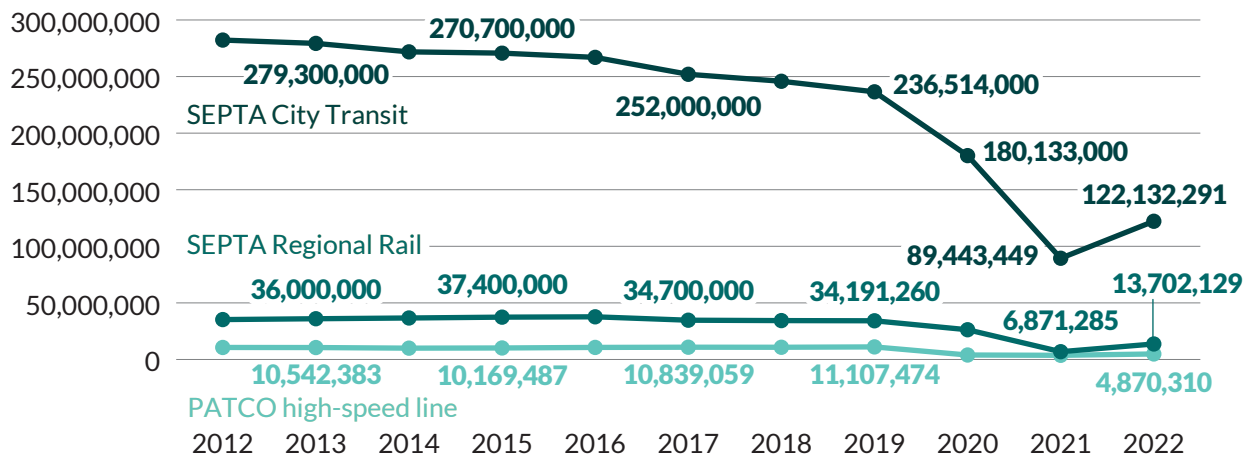
**Philadelphia's transportation sector continued to recover in 2022, although public transportation usage remained below pre-pandemic levels.**

SEPTA ridership rose by 37% for the City Transit division and by 99% on Regional Rail from 2021 to 2022. Even so, for the last six months of 2022, ridership throughout the system was only 52% of 2019 levels. Philadelphia International Airport, meanwhile, had 113% more passengers in 2022 than in 2020. Yet last year's passenger total was still 7.7 million short of pre-pandemic levels.

Philadelphia did not experience a single day with unhealthy air in 2022, a vast improvement from a decade ago, when 28 days of unhealthy air were recorded. The previous low had been two days, reported in 2021.

Figure 9.1

## Local Mass Transit Ridership, 2012-22



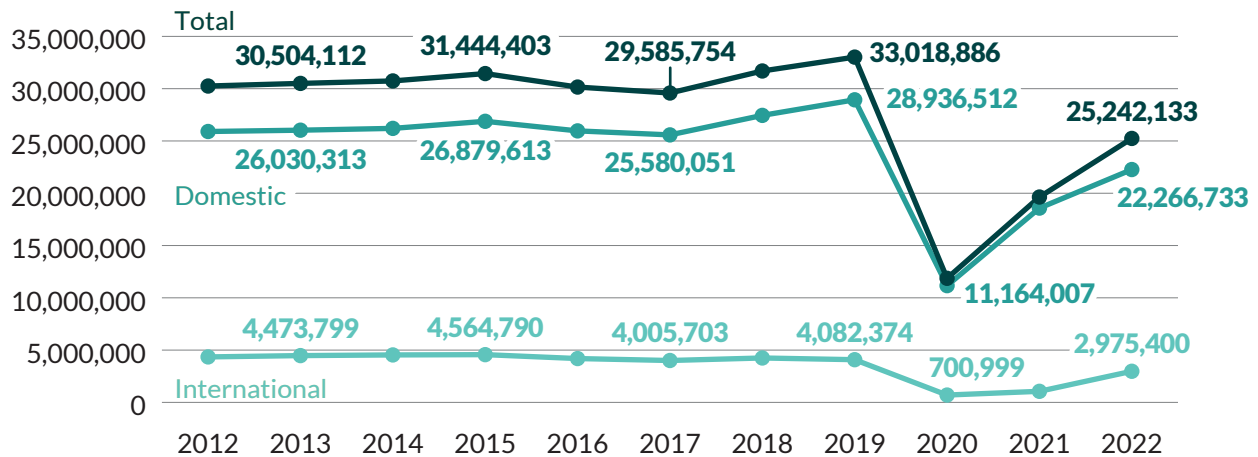
There was a sharp decline in mass transit use in 2020, as a result of pandemic-related closures and remote work policies. The change in ridership from 2019 to 2022 was -48.4% for SEPTA’s City Transit Division, -59.9% for SEPTA’s Regional Rail system, and -56.2% for the PATCO high-speed line.

Sources: SEPTA (City Transit and Regional Rail data); Delaware River Port Authority (PATCO high-speed line data)

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 9.2

## Passengers at Philadelphia International Airport, 2012-22



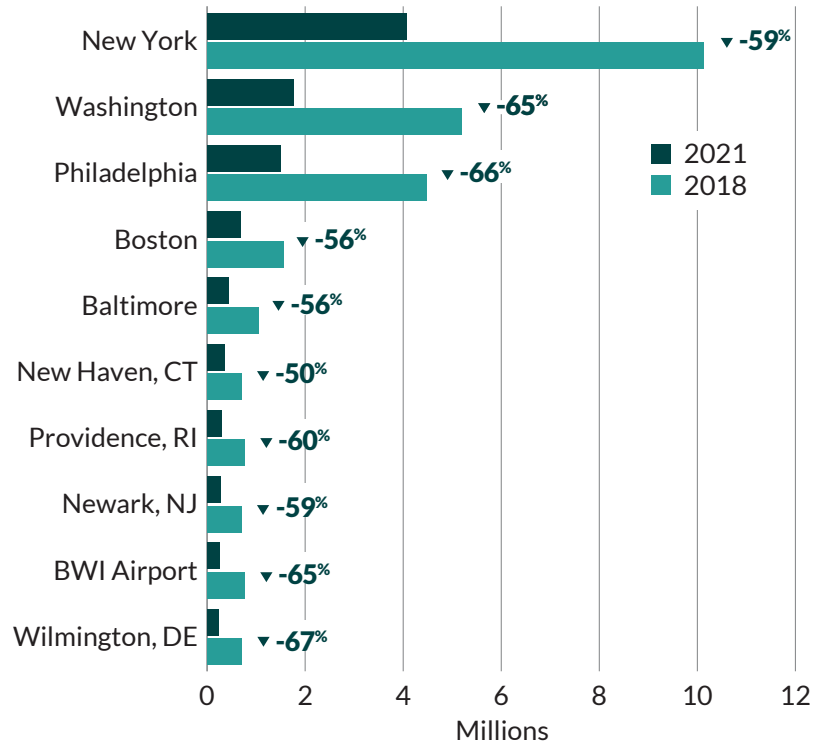
Philadelphia International Airport reported a stark decrease of more than 21 million passengers in 2020. Air travel started to rebound in 2021; and in 2022, the number of airline passengers increased by more than 13 million compared with 2020. Despite that increase, there was still a gap of over 7 million passengers compared with pre-pandemic figures from 2019.

Source: Philadelphia International Airport, aviation activity reports, <https://www.phl.org/business/reports/activity-reports>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 9.3

## Amtrak Ridership, Northeast Corridor Change from 2018 to 2021



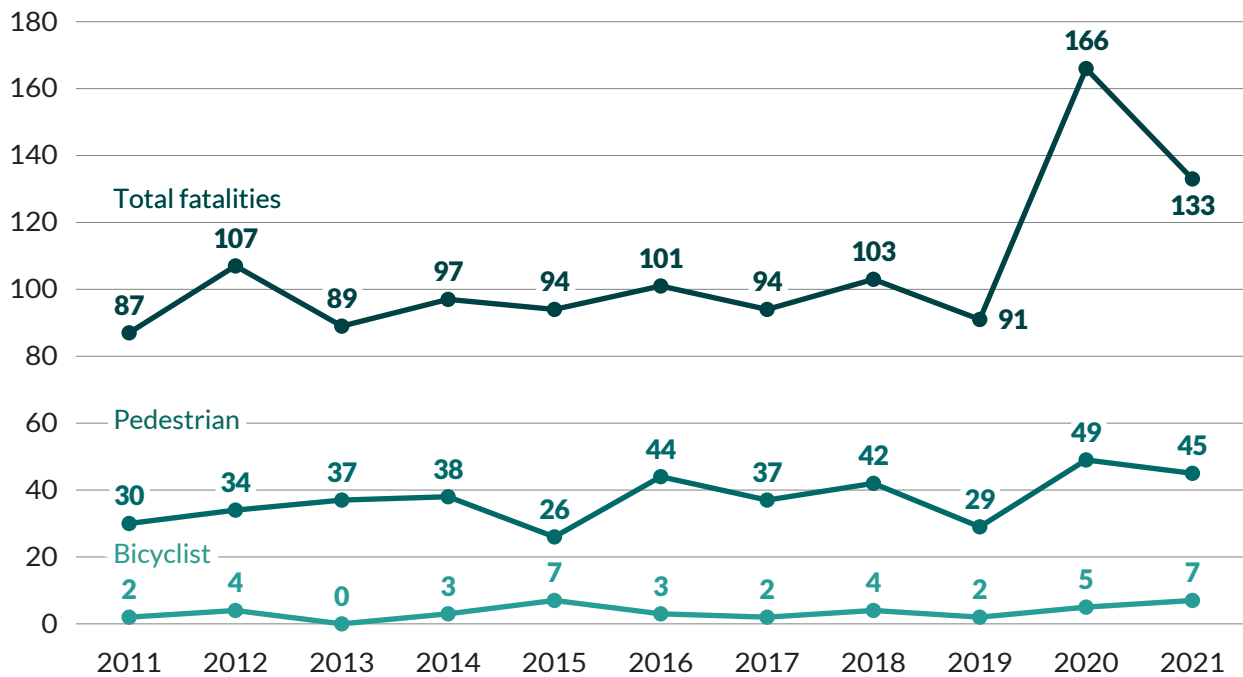
Like other cities along the Northeast Corridor, Philadelphia experienced an overall decrease in Amtrak ridership from 2018 to 2021. Second only to Wilmington, Philadelphia had one of the greatest percentage changes of -66%, or about 2.97 million fewer trips. New York and Washington experienced the greatest loss in total trips—approximately 6,070,000 and 3,438,000, respectively.

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, "Amtrak Ridership," <https://www.bts.dot.gov/browse-statistical-products-and-data/state-transportation-statistics/amtrak-ridership>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



Figure 9.4  
**Traffic Fatalities in Philadelphia, 2011-21**



In 2021, the most recent year for which data was available, Philadelphia recorded 133 traffic fatalities, the second-highest total in a decade, behind the 166 recorded in 2020—which was far and away the peak for recent years. From 2011 through 2021, overall traffic fatalities in the city increased by about 53%, and pedestrian deaths rose by 50%.

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, “Reportable Crash Fatality Statistics,” <https://crashinfo.penndot.gov/PCIT/welcome.html>

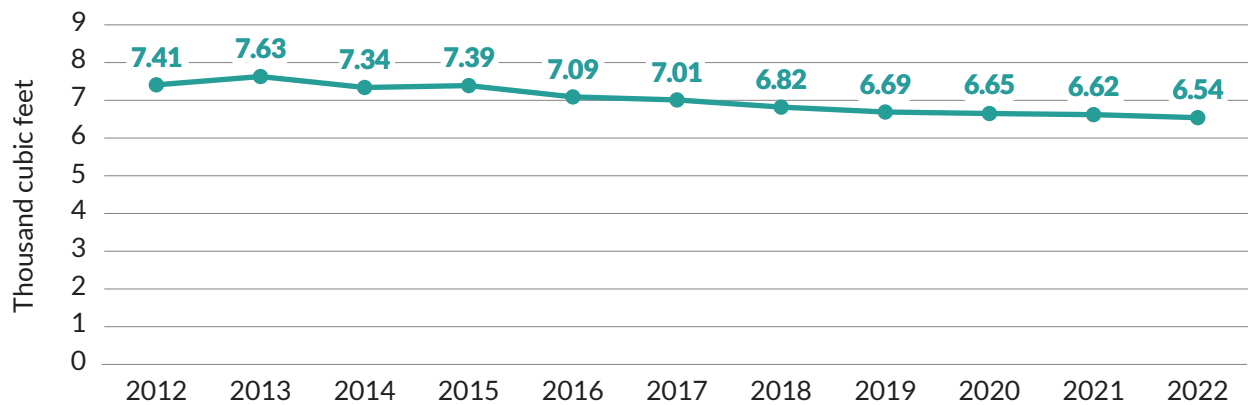
© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts





Figure 9.5

### Average Annual Water Consumption for Residents and Small Businesses in Philadelphia, 2012-22



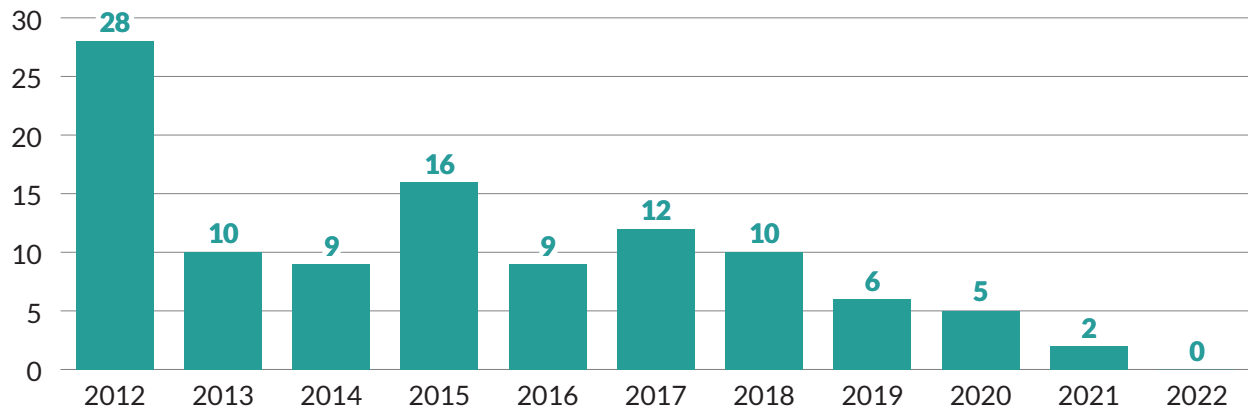
Residents' and small businesses' water usage has declined each year since 2015, flattening in recent years. The Philadelphia Water Department attributes this reduction to the fact that appliances are more water-efficient than they used to be.

Source: Philadelphia Water Department

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 9.6

## Days of Unhealthy Air in Philadelphia, 2012-22



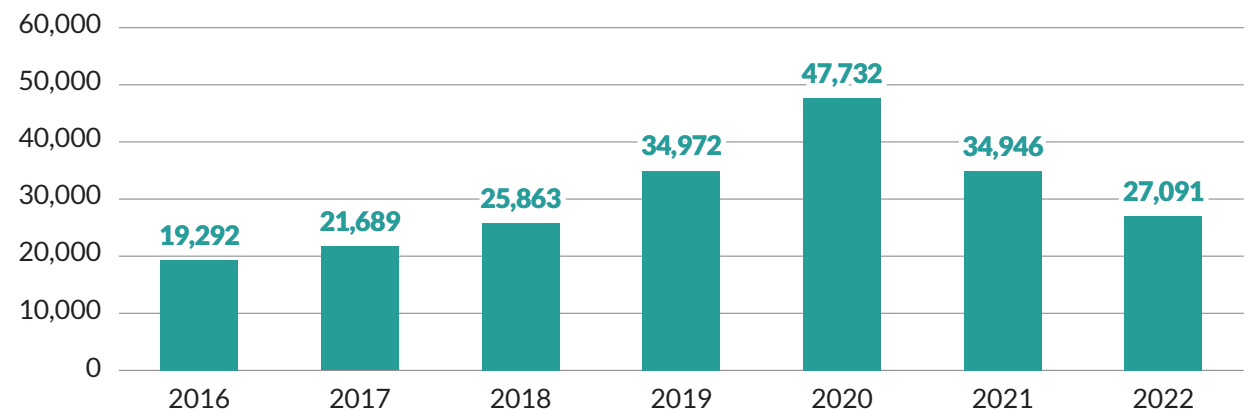
In 2022, Philadelphia had zero days with unhealthy air, the fewest in the past decade. This is a significant change from 2012's total of 28 days. Air pollution is weather-dependent and varies as meteorological trends change. The pandemic-related decline in travel may have also contributed to the city's improved air quality.

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, "Air Quality Index Report," <https://www.epa.gov/outdoor-air-quality-data/air-quality-index-report>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Figure 9.7

## Philadelphia 311 Service Requests for Trash/Recycling Collection, 2016-22



In 2022, the volume of complaints concerning trash and recycling collection fell for a second straight year, returning to more normal levels after peaking in 2020. The number of such complaints—submitted through Philly 311, the city government's nonemergency customer service system—was 27,091, down from 47,732 two years earlier. In 2020 and into 2021, trash and recycling collection was delayed at times as a significant number of sanitation workers took multiple sick days due to COVID-19.

Source: Philly 311

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



Figure 9.8  
**Traffic Volume Change From 2019 to 2022**  
 In Philadelphia and comparable cities

	Hours	Change from 2019
Chicago	155	7%
Boston	134	-10%
New York City	117	-16%
Philadelphia	114	-20%
Miami	105	30%
San Francisco	97	0%
Los Angeles	95	-8%
Washington	83	-33%
Houston	74	-9%
Atlanta	74	-10%

According to INRIX, a transportation analytics company, Philadelphia ranked fourth in the United States among major cities with the most congested roads. Motorists spent a total of 114 hours in snarled traffic during peak commute periods compared with off-peak conditions in Philadelphia. Despite that, 20% fewer hours were lost in the city's traffic last year than in 2019.

Note: Cities ranked by number of hours spent in traffic on congested roads.

Source: INRIX, "2022 INRIX Global Traffic Scorecard," <https://inrix.com/scorecard/#form-download-the-full-report>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts



Figure 9.9

## Where Philadelphians Worked and How They Got There, 2019 and 2021

The pandemic's impact on commuting

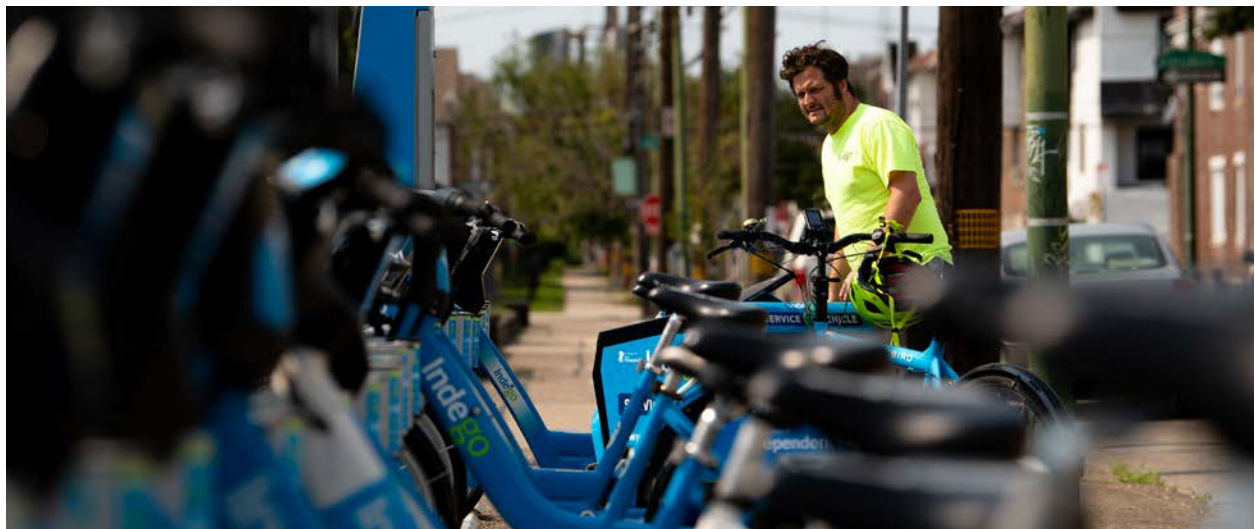
	2019	2021	Percentage change, 2019 to 2021
<b>Worked from home</b>	36,369	170,574	369%
<b>Mode of transportation</b>	2019	2021	Percentage change, 2019 to 2021
<b>Took public transit</b>	181,698	97,941	-46%
<b>Walked</b>	60,754	45,205	-26%
<b>Rode bicycle</b>	14,908	11,857	-20%
<b>Carpooled</b>	55,889	49,147	-12%
<b>Drove alone</b>	346,799	313,090	-10%
<b>Used taxi, motorcycle, or other mode of transportation</b>	14,847	13,891	-6%

In Philadelphia, as in the rest of the country, the pandemic disrupted traditional work-related travel patterns. In 2021, nearly 171,000 Philadelphians were working from home—almost five times as many as the over 36,000 who had done so two years earlier. With so many fewer people traveling to work, usage of all modes of transportation declined. The biggest drop was in public transit, with about 84,000 fewer people using it to get to their jobs.

Note: Data for 2020 is not included. The Census Bureau did not release one-year American Community Survey data for 2020, citing the pandemic's impact on data quality.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2019-21, Table B08301 (Means of Transportation to Work), <http://data.census.gov>

© 2023 The Pew Charitable Trusts





# Photo Captions

## Photographs by Kriston Jae Bethel for The Pew Charitable Trusts

Kriston Jae Bethel is a Philadelphia-based photographer and member of Diversify Photo, a group of BIPOC and non-Western visual creators helping to diversify media outlets.

- Cover Diners sit at tables during lunch at Center City's Reading Terminal Market.
- Intro Pedestrians walk past businesses along East Allegheny Avenue in Philadelphia's Kensington neighborhood.
- Page 2 Center City high-rises and skyscrapers sit behind the Schuylkill River.
- Page 3 Row houses line East Hilton Street in Kensington, with the taller Gloria Casarez Elementary School building in the background.
- Page 4 As part of a city response to the opioid epidemic, nurses with a mobile medical unit provide wound care in Kensington.
- Page 6 A couple strolls through the Italian Market in South Philadelphia.
- Page 7 Visitors dine, order, and walk the halls of Reading Terminal Market, one of the country's oldest public markets.
- Page 8 Doctors and nurses participate in a team huddle at Esperanza Health Center in North Philadelphia's Hunting Park neighborhood.
- Page 10 A worker prepares meat for a display at a Reading Terminal Market butcher.
- Page 16 A family gathers outside Los Vargas Mini Market in Hunting Park.
- Page 17 A couple browses a selection of plants at a curbside market in Center City.
- Page 18 People line up to receive Thanksgiving dinners at the Philabundance Community Kitchen in North Philadelphia.
- Page 19 A cyclist passes a Grays Ferry mural dedicated to health care workers.
- Page 21 Students from Hunting Park Christian Academy practice basketball skills during a gym class held at Esperanza Health Center in Hunting Park.
- Page 22 People walk down a Center City street.
- Page 24 A board welcomes students back to after-school programming at Marian Anderson Recreation Center in the Graduate Hospital neighborhood.
- Page 25 A gold cross tops the front of St. Paul Roman Catholic Church in South Philadelphia, near the Italian Market.
- Page 26 A recreation leader takes students downstairs during after-school care at Marian Anderson Recreation Center in the Graduate Hospital neighborhood.
- Page 27 A boy gives another student a helpful push on a swing at Marian Anderson Recreation Center.
- Page 28 Pedestrians cross at the intersection of 16th and Market streets in Center City.
- Page 31 A smiling young girl sits on a webbed rope swing in Lanier Park in Grays Ferry.
- Page 33 Students congregate on the steps of the Philadelphia High School for Creative and Performing Arts on South Broad Street.

# Photo Captions

## Photographs by Kriston Jae Bethel for The Pew Charitable Trusts

- Page 34 Students arrive for after-school care at Marian Anderson Recreation Center in the Graduate Hospital neighborhood.
- Page 36 City Hall overlooks Benjamin Franklin Parkway in Center City.
- Page 38 Workers contracted by the city of Philadelphia dig a trench beneath a sidewalk during maintenance.
- Page 39 A crossing guard stands at the intersection of 17th and Christian streets, near the entrance to the Edward M. Stanton School in Philadelphia's Graduate Hospital neighborhood.
- Page 40 The Comcast Center building towers above Center City, reflecting the One Liberty Place skyscraper in its glass facade.
- Page 44 A staff member pulls prescriptions from a shelf inside Esperanza Health Center's dispensary in Hunting Park.
- Page 45 Vials of blood samples sit on a table in Esperanza Health Center's phlebotomy lab in Hunting Park.
- Page 46 An exam room at Esperanza Health Center in Kensington.
- Page 47 Medical personnel walk past the entrance to Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Center City.
- Page 48 A patient has blood drawn at Esperanza Health Center in Hunting Park.
- Page 49 A woman meets with her doctor during a prenatal visit at Esperanza Health Center in Hunting Park.
- Page 50 A family meets with a doctor at Esperanza Health Center in Hunting Park.
- Page 52 A nurse sets up an EKG machine for a patient at Esperanza Health Center in Hunting Park.
- Page 53 Patients sit in Esperanza Health Center's waiting area in Hunting Park.
- Page 54 A staff member counts pills from a prescription bottle at Esperanza Health Center's dispensary in Hunting Park.
- Page 56 A new residential building is undergoing construction on the corner of 21st and Tryon streets in the city's Fitler Square neighborhood.
- Page 57 Homes line West Queen Lane in Philadelphia's East Falls neighborhood.
- Page 58 Row houses and cars line North Reese Street in Hunting Park.
- Page 63 A man walks past the "Heart of Kensington" mural painted on the side of SEPTA's Allegheny station in Kensington.
- Page 65 The tops of classic Philadelphia row homes.
- Page 68 Javier Rios, co-owner of Mole Poblano, serves a table outside his South Philadelphia restaurant.
- Page 69 Men sweep the sidewalk along Kensington Avenue in the city's Kensington neighborhood.
- Page 71 A doctor and nurse meet prior to seeing patients at Esperanza Health Center in Hunting Park.
- Page 72 An employee changes the television station inside All African Grocery in West Philadelphia's Spruce Hill neighborhood.
- Page 75 A patron takes a video call at Pret a Manger in Center City.
- Page 78 A worker uses a grinder at Anvil Ironworks in South Philadelphia.

# Photo Captions

## Photographs by Kriston Jae Bethel for The Pew Charitable Trusts, except where otherwise specified

- Page 80 A Philadelphia Police Department vehicle is parked at an intersection in Center City.
- Page 82 A view inside the gun archive room at the Philadelphia Police Department's Forensic Science Center.  
*Abdul Sulayman/The Philadelphia Tribune*
- Page 83 Pedestrians cross Kensington Avenue beneath SEPTA's Market-Frankford Line in Kensington.
- Page 84 A University City District safety ambassador walks his bike down Baltimore Avenue in Spruce Hill.
- Page 87 A Philadelphia Police Department vehicle drives down the 3000 block of 17th Street in North Philadelphia.
- Page 88 A firefighter cleans Philadelphia Fire Department Ladder 12 outside his station on Cambria Street in North Philadelphia's Glenwood neighborhood.
- Page 89 A staff member with Esperanza Health Center's behavioral health team in Kensington prepares paperwork.
- Page 90 A member of Esperanza Health Center's security team performs a regular check of the area surrounding the center in Kensington.
- Page 92 Philadelphia International Airport. *Courtesy of Philadelphia International Airport*
- Page 94 Regional Rail cars sit at the Roberts Yard SEPTA Railroad Facility in North Philadelphia's Nicetown neighborhood.
- Page 95 Children play on the 3200 block of Sydenham Street in North Philadelphia.
- Page 96 A couple sits at a table outside Alif Brew and Mini Mart in Spruce Hill.
- Page 98 The Schuylkill Expressway lines the bank of the Schuylkill River as it cuts through Philadelphia, separating University City (on the left) from Center City.
- Page 99 A repair technician for Indego, Philadelphia's bike share program, inspects a station in Grays Ferry.
- Page 100 A man gets off a SEPTA bus on Cheltenham Avenue in East Germantown.



