Age

Figure 1 provides information regarding the median age of the population. At 44.9 years, the median age of the population of the Northeastern Pennsylvania region is higher than the United States (37.9 years) and Pennsylvania (40.7 years). Between April 1, 2010 and July 1, 2016, the percent change in median age was the highest in Pike County (9.4 percent) and it was followed by Monroe County (6.0 percent), Carbon County (5.0 percent) and Northeastern Pennsylvania (4.4 percent).

Figure 1. The Median Age of the Population in the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2016


In Figure 2, all areas experienced a decrease in the number of people who are under 18 years of age. Monroe County had the largest decrease (-7,002 people) and Pike County had the largest percent decrease (-22.2 percent). The nation had the smallest decrease in percent change (-0.7 percent), as compared to the state (-4.2 percent) and region (-8.5 percent).
Figure 2. Percent of the Total Population Who are Under 18 Years of Age for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2016


In Figure 3, the Pocono Mountain counties of Pike (9.3 percent), Wayne (4.3 percent) and Monroe (3.2 percent) had the largest percent increases in people who are between the ages of 18 and 24. On the other hand, Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne and Schuylkill counties had decreases of -5.9 percent, -11.5 percent, -6.8 percent and -4.1 percent, respectively. The overall increase in the Poconos of 829 people could be from migration from the New York City, Long Island, Northern New Jersey and Philadelphia areas.
In Figure 4, all of the Northeastern Pennsylvania counties had decreases in population who are between 25 and 44 years of age. Pike County (-13.9 percent) had the highest decrease and it was followed by Carbon County (-8.9 percent), Schuylkill County (-8.6 percent), Monroe County (-7.7 percent), and Wayne County (-6.9 percent). The smallest decreases occurred in Lackawanna (-1.2 percent) and Luzerne (-1.9 percent) counties. At the regional level, this decline could be attributed to people leaving for employment opportunities and this is being addressed through the efforts of several organizations.
Figure 4. Percent of the Total Population Who are 25 to 44 Years of Age for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2016


Figure 5 indicates that Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Pike, Schuylkill and Wayne counties had decreases in the number of people who are between the ages of 45 and 64. Monroe County had an increase of 705 people (1.4 percent). Overall, the region experienced a decrease of -6,361 people (-2.1 percent). As a result of the migration of people, many of whom could be people who had left when they were in their twenties and thirties, increases have occurred in the state and in some counties.
Figure 5. Percent of the Total Population Who are 45 to 64 Years of Age for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2016


Figure 6 indicates that there were percent increases in all areas in the number of people who are at least age 65. Monroe County had the greatest increase (4,977 people) and Pike County had the largest percent increase (30.1 percent). These increases occur as a result of migration of people into the region and some of them could be converting their vacation homes into primary residences.
Figure 6. Percent of the Total Population Who are 65 Years of Age and Over for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2016