

# Demographic Profile

## Town of Bloomsburg Comprehensive Plan

### Demographics by the Numbers

Residents of Bloomsburg (2000)	12,375
Estimated Residents of Bloomsburg (2006)	12,883
Percentage of established residents (same house 5 years or more) (2000)	37.2%
Residents enrolled in college for graduate school (2000)	5,360
Percentage of residents with bachelor's degrees (2000)	26.0%
Percentage of residents with graduate degrees (2000)	9.2%
Residents with disabilities (2000)	1,578
Percentage of non-family households (single householder or non-relatives)(2000)	56.1%

### Introduction

Population statistics were collected from the US Census Bureau and used to characterize Bloomsburg in terms of number of residents, distribution of age groups, education completion, race and ethnicity, and household composition. Demographic conditions and trends provide an indication of resident needs and enable projection of future growth and needs.

### Total Population

In 2000, the US Census Bureau reported 12,375 residents in Bloomsburg.

- Total population declined by 64 residents or -0.5% since 1990.
- Adjacent townships grew by 1.3% to 21.2%. Columbia County grew by 949 or 1.5%. These figures suggest that area residents are relocating within the county, but that there are relatively few new residents of the county.
- Pennsylvania grew by almost 400,000 or 3.4%—stronger than at the county level.

Bloomsburg's loss of population, 64 residents, from 1990 to 2000 was insignificant in light of slow to moderate growth rates at the county and state levels.

**Table 1: Population Change for Town of Bloomsburg, Region, County, and State, 1990-2000**

Geography	1990	2000	Change 1990-2000	
Pennsylvania	11,881,643	12,281,054	399,411	3.4%
Columbia County	63,202	64,151	949	1.5%
<b>Bloomsburg</b>	<b>12,439</b>	<b>12,375</b>	<b>-64</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>
Hemlock Township	1,546	1,874	328	21.2%
Montour Township	1,419	1,437	18	1.3%
Mount Pleasant Township	1,383	1,459	76	5.5%
Scott Township	4,423	4,768	345	7.8%

Source: U.S. Census Population Estimates and 1990 STF1, Table P001

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### Estimated Recent Population Change

In 2006, the US Census Bureau estimated 12,883 residents in Bloomsburg.

- This estimate indicated an increase of 508 Town residents or 4.1% from 2000 to 2006.
- Estimates for adjacent townships also suggested growth though at a slower pace for Hemlock, Montour, and Scott Townships and a faster pace for Mount Pleasant Township.
- Growth for the county was estimated at 1.3%, similar to 1990-2000.
- Growth for the state was estimated as slower for 2000-2006 than for 1990-2000.

Growth from 2000 to 2006 as estimated by the US Census Bureau has offset the population loss in the last decade. Net growth since 1990 is estimated at 444 new residents.

**Table 2: Population Estimate for Year 2006**

Geography	2000	2006 Estimate	Change 2000-2006	
Pennsylvania	12,281,054	12,402,817	121,763	1.0%
Columbia County	64,151	65,014	863	1.3%
<b>Bloomsburg</b>	<b>12,375</b>	<b>12,883</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>4.1%</b>
Hemlock Township	1,874	2,171	297	15.8%
Montour Township	1,437	1,441	4	0.3%
Mount Pleasant Township	1,459	1,553	94	6.4%
Scott Township	4,768	4,950	182	3.8%

Source: U.S. Census Population Estimates and 1990 STF1, Table P001

### Migration

Of 12,043 residents 5 years and older in 2000,

- 37.2% have remained in the same house in Bloomsburg since 1995
- 23.9% moved to Bloomsburg from elsewhere in Columbia County
- 39.0% moved to Bloomsburg from outside the County

Bloomsburg's residents are more transient than those of the county or state due to the presence of Bloomsburg University, which attracts a new class of undergraduate students and graduates another each year.

**Table 3: Residence in 1995 for Population 5 years and Over, 2000**

Residence in 1995	Bloomsburg		Columbia County		Pennsylvania	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Population 5 years and over	12,043	100.0%	61,028	100.0%	11,555,538	100.0%
Same house in 1995	4,475	37.2%	38,181	62.6%	7,333,591	63.5%
Different house in the U.S. in 1995	7,317	60.8%	22,375	36.7%	4,056,716	35.1%
Same county	2,881	23.9%	12,717	20.8%	2,513,167	21.7%
Different county	4,436	36.8%	9,658	15.8%	1,543,549	13.4%
Same state	3,623	30.1%	7,286	11.9%	874,796	7.6%
Different state	813	6.8%	2,372	3.9%	668,753	5.8%
Elsewhere in 1995	251	2.1%	472	0.8%	165,231	1.4%

Source: U.S. Census Population Estimates and 1990 STF3, Table P24

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### Age Distribution

Of Bloomsburg's 12,375 residents in 2000,

- 1,520 or 12.3% are school age children (17 years old or younger); this age group grew by 2 residents.
- 6,911 or 55.8% are young adults (18 to 34 years old); this age group grew by 141.
- 2,587 or 20.9% are mature adults (35 to 64 years old); this age group grew by 53.
- 1,357 or 11.0% are senior adults (65 years old or older); this age group declined by 260.

The age distribution of Bloomsburg's residents has not changed significantly from 1990 to 2000. The young adult group was the largest in 2000 and grew by the largest number. The senior adult group was the smallest after a 16.1% decline.

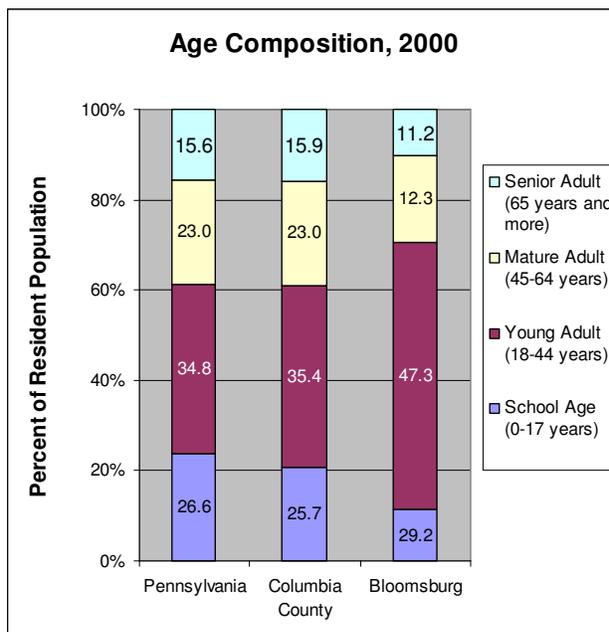


Table 4: Age Distribution, 1990-2000, Bloomsburg, PA

Age	1990		2000		Change 1990-2000	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Under 5	443	3.6%	407	3.3%	-36	-8.1%
5 to 14	812	6.5%	856	6.9%	44	5.4%
15 to 17	263	2.1%	257	2.1%	-6	-2.3%
<b>School Age Group</b>	<b>1,518</b>	<b>12.2%</b>	<b>1,520</b>	<b>12.3%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
18 and 19	2,111	17.0%	2,046	16.5%	-65	-3.1%
20 to 24	3,313	26.6%	3,583	29.0%	270	8.1%
25 to 29	721	5.8%	752	6.1%	31	4.3%
30 to 34	625	5.0%	530	4.3%	-95	-15.2%
<b>Young Adult Group</b>	<b>6,770</b>	<b>54.4%</b>	<b>6,911</b>	<b>55.8%</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>2.1%</b>
35 to 44	1,016	8.2%	1,020	8.2%	4	0.4%
45 to 54	722	5.8%	943	7.6%	221	30.6%
55 to 59	388	3.1%	323	2.6%	-65	-16.8%
60 to 64	408	3.3%	301	2.4%	-107	-26.2%
<b>Mature Adult Group</b>	<b>2,534</b>	<b>20.4%</b>	<b>2,587</b>	<b>20.9%</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>2.1%</b>
65 to 74	818	6.6%	596	4.8%	-222	-27.1%
75 to 84	611	4.9%	551	4.5%	-60	-9.8%
85 and over	188	1.5%	210	1.7%	22	11.7%
<b>Senior Adult Group</b>	<b>1,617</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>1,357</b>	<b>11.0%</b>	<b>-260</b>	<b>-16.1%</b>
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>12,439</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>12,375</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>-64</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>
18 to 22 years	10,921	87.8%	10,855	87.3%	-66	-0.6%

Source: U.S. Census 1990 STF 1, Table QT-P1A and 2000 STF 1, Table P12

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### Gender Distribution

Of Bloomsburg's 12,375 residents in 2000, 43.7% were male and 56.3% were female.

- Since 1990, the number of males increased by 10 and number of females declined by 174, resulting in a 1.2 percentage point adjustment in each gender's percentage of the population.

Bloomsburg's female population growth was weaker and losses stronger from 1990 to 2000 in 11 of the 18 age groups; females still outnumber males but by a smaller margin.

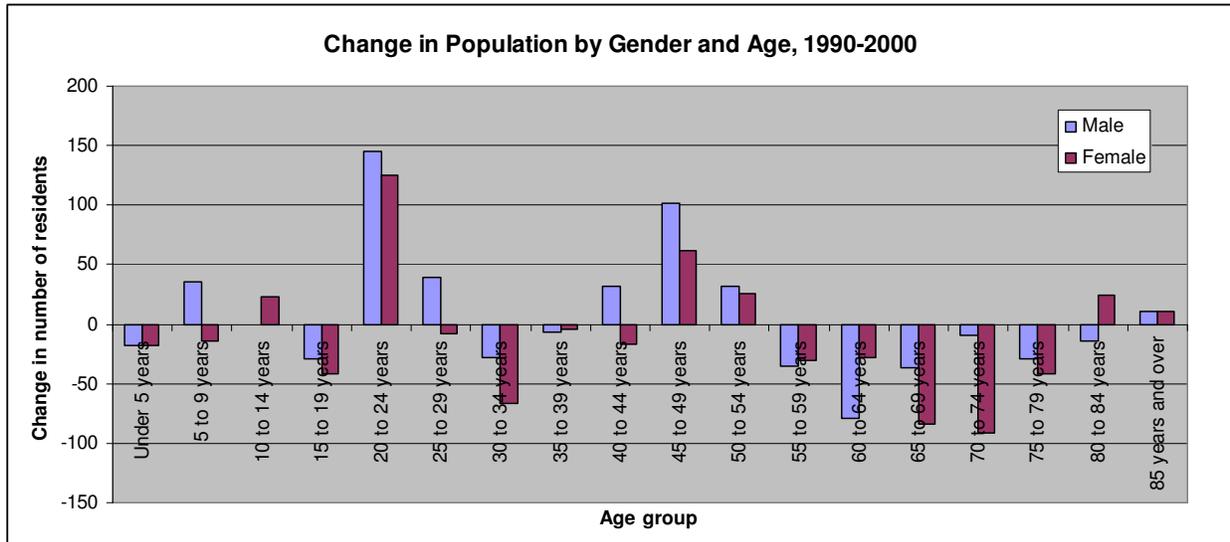


Table 5: Age and Sex for the Total Population, 1990-2000, Bloomsburg, PA

Age	1990			2000		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Under 5 years	443	214	229	407	196	211
5 to 9 years	398	193	205	420	229	191
10 to 14 years	414	207	207	436	206	230
15 to 19 years	2,374	898	1,476	2,303	869	1,434
20 to 24 years	3,313	1,393	1,920	3,583	1,538	2,045
25 to 29 years	721	369	352	752	408	344
30 to 34 years	625	305	320	530	277	253
35 to 39 years	538	263	275	527	256	271
40 to 44 years	478	217	261	493	249	244
45 to 49 years	359	155	204	522	256	266
50 to 54 years	363	153	210	421	185	236
55 to 59 years	388	180	208	323	145	178
60 to 64 years	408	200	208	301	121	180
65 to 69 years	417	166	251	296	129	167
70 to 74 years	401	145	256	300	136	164
75 to 79 years	347	110	237	276	81	195
80 to 84 years	264	87	177	275	73	202
85 years and over	188	37	151	210	48	162
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>12,439</b>	<b>5,292</b>	<b>7,147</b>	<b>12,375</b>	<b>5,402</b>	<b>6,973</b>

Source: U.S. Census 1990 STF 1, Table QT-P1A and 2000 STF 1, Table P12

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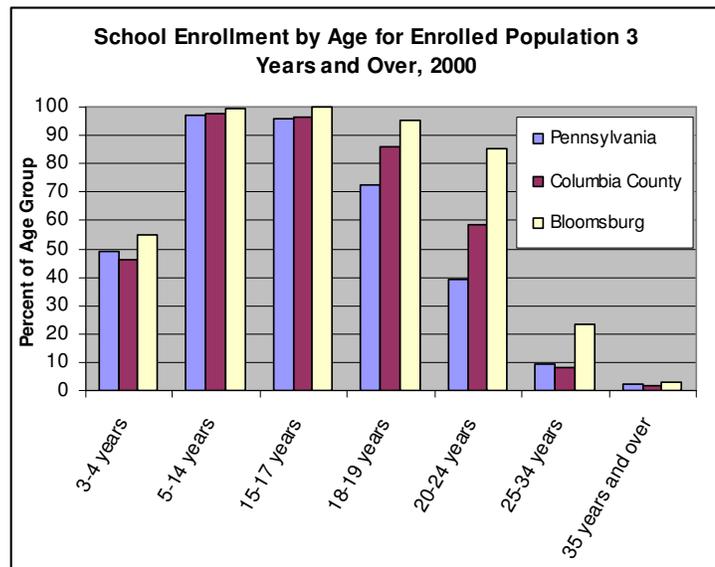
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### Educational Enrollment

Of the 6,676 residents 3 years and older enrolled in school in 2000,

- 2.0% were enrolled in nursery school/preschool;
- 17.7% were enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12;
- 80.3% were enrolled in higher education;

The significant number of college and undergraduate enrollees at Bloomsburg University distinguishes Bloomsburg from county and state enrollment patterns. Bloomsburg's enrollments by age group consistently exceed county and state figures.



**Table 6: School Enrollment and Type of School for Enrolled Population 3 Years and Over in 2000**

Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	Pennsylvania		Columbia County		Bloomsburg Town	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Nursery school, preschool	203,934	6.5	855	4.8	136	2.0
Kindergarten	159,146	5.1	805	4.5	86	1.3
Elementary: grade 1 to 8	1,379,671	44.0	6360	35.4	696	10.4
High school: grade 9 to 12	690,020	22.0	3,303	18.4	398	6.0
College, undergraduate	572,080	18.2	6,194	34.5	5,122	76.7
Graduate, professional school	131,083	4.2	446	2.5	238	3.6

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Table QT-P19

### Educational Attainment

Of the 5,252 residents 25 years and older in 2000,

- 84.6% attained a high school diploma, GED or higher; this percentage is 3.9% more than Columbia County and 2.7% more than Pennsylvania.
- 26.0% attained a bachelor's degree or higher Percentage is comparatively high; 10.2% more than Columbia County and 3.7% more than Pennsylvania.
- 9.2% attained a graduate or professional degree Percentage is comparatively high; 3.4% more Columbia County and 0.8% percent more than Pennsylvania.

The educational attainment levels of Bloomsburg's residents at levels higher than the county and state were reflective of the entry level requirements for undergraduate and graduate programs at Bloomsburg University as well as the advanced education of its faculty.

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**Table 7: Educational Attainment for Population 25 Years and Over in 2000**

	Pennsylvania		Columbia County		Bloomsburg Town	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
<b>Population 25 years and over</b>	<b>8,266,284</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>41,658</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5,252</b>	<b>100</b>
Less than 9th grade	452,069	5.5	2,322	5.6	196	3.7
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	1,044,036	12.6	5,753	13.8	615	11.7
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	3,150,013	38.1	19,326	46.4	2,076	39.5
Some college, no degree	1,284,731	15.5	5,784	13.9	842	16.0
Associate degree	487,804	5.9	1,905	4.6	157	3.0
Bachelor's degree	1,153,383	14.0	4,158	10.0	883	16.8
Graduate or professional degree	694,248	8.4	2,410	5.8	483	9.2
High school graduate or higher	6,770,179	81.9	33,583	80.7	4,441	84.6
Bachelor's degree or higher	1,847,631	22.4	6,568	15.8	1,366	26.0

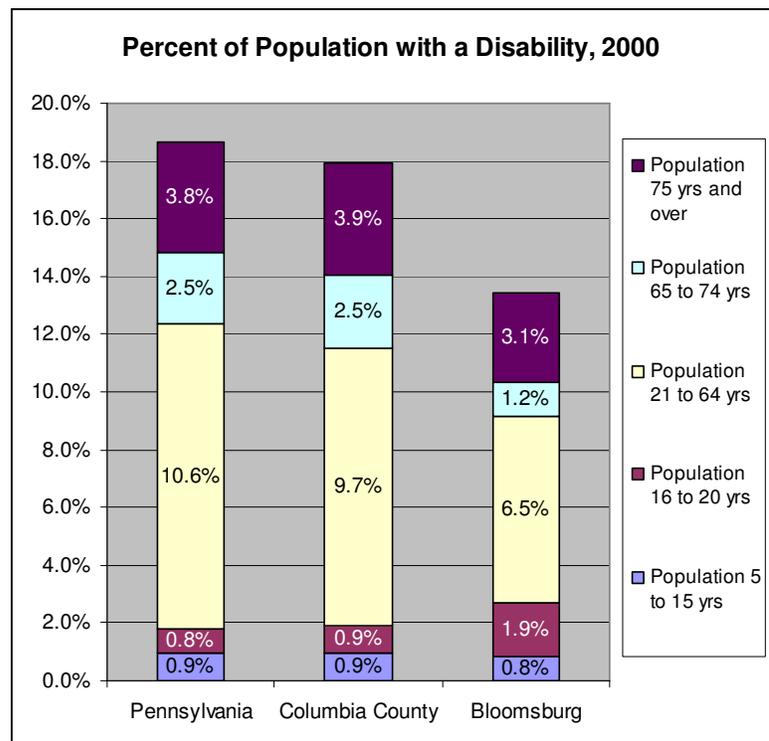
Source: U.S. Census 2000 STF3 Table QT-P20

### Disability

Of Bloomsburg's 12,375 residents in 2000, 1578 or 13.4% had a disability, a long-lasting physical, mental, or emotional condition.

- 315 disabled residents were 5 to 20 years old.
- 764 disabled residents were 21 to 64 years old; more than half of these were employed
- 499 disabled residents were 65 years and older.

These residents may require alternative access to public services such as recreation, mental health/mental retardation, and other programs



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### Race

Of Bloomsburg's 12,375 residents in 2000,

- 99.1% of residents of a single race
  - 94.4% are white
  - 322 or 2.6% are Black or African American; a near doubling from 179 in 1990.
  - 25 or 0.2% are American Indian or Alaskan Native; more than double from 11 in 1990.
  - 137 or 1.1% are Asian; specifically the Vietnamese population tripled from 7 to 21.
  - 5 or less than 1.0% are Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- 113 or less than 1% of residents were of two or more races

Bloomsburg's racial composition is largely reflective of its Western European ancestry. Increasing diversity is largely due to the diversity demographics of the student body at Bloomsburg University.

**Table 8: Population Composition by Race, 1990-2000, Bloomsburg, PA**

Race	1990		2000		Change 1990-2000	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
White	12,114	97.4	11,684	94.4	-430	-3.5
Black	179	1.4	322	2.6	143	79.9
American Indian and Alaska Native	11	0.1	25	0.2	14	127.3
Asian:	97	0.8	137	1.1	40	41.2
Chinese	24	0.2	28	0.2	4	16.7
Filipino	12	0.1	18	0.1	6	50.0
Japanese	5	0.0	7	0.1	2	40.0
Asian Indian	17	0.1	25	0.2	8	47.1
Korean	13	0.1	15	0.1	2	15.4
Vietnamese	7	0.1	21	0.2	14	200.0
Thai	0	0.0	1	0.0	1	N/A
Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories	19	0.2	22	0.2	3	15.8
Pacific Islander:	1	0.0	5	0.0	4	400.0
Native Hawaiian	1	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0
Samoan	0	0.0	3	0.0	3	N/A
Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Pacific Islander categories	0	0.0	1	0.0	1	N/A
Other Race alone, or two or more races combined	37	0.3	202	1.6	165	445.9

Source: U.S. Census 1990 STF1, Table P007 and 2000 STF1, Tables P7, PCT5, PCT8

### Ethnicity

Of Bloomsburg's 12,375 residents in 2000,

- 215 or 1.7% of residents of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity; a 60.4% increase; 98 are from places other than Mexico, Puerto Rico or Cuba

Increases in ethnic diversity are also largely due to the student body at Bloomsburg University.

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**Table 9: Population Composition by Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity, 1990-2000, Bloomsburg, PA**

Ethnicity	1990		2000		Change 1990-2000	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	134	1.1	215	1.7	81	60.4
Mexican	13	0.1	30	0.2	17	130.8
Puerto Rican	54	0.4	81	0.7	27	50.0
Cuban	4	0.0	6	0.0	2	50.0
Other Hispanic or Latino	63	0.5	98	0.8	35	55.6
Not Hispanic or Latino	12,305	98.9	12,160	98.3	-145	-1.2

Source: U.S. Census 1990 STF1, Table P009 and 2000 STF1, Table PCT11

## Households

Of the 4,080 households in 2000,

- 2,287 or 56.1% are non-family households; this increased from 1,879 in 1990 or 21.7%.
- family households declined by 280 to 1,793 or 43.9% of total households.
- less than one third, 1,271 or 31.2%, are married couple households; less than half of these have children under 18 years
- female householders without a spouse outnumber male householders without a spouse 3 to 1; the number of male headed households with children under 18 years increased from 5 to 73.
- single person households increased by 178 or 14.0%, while seniors living alone declined from by 54 or -9.5%.
- nearly one in four households, 969 or 23.8%, have a resident(s) 65 years and older.

**Table 10: Household by Type, 1990-2000, Bloomsburg, PA**

Household Type	1990		2000		Change 1990-2000	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
<b>Total Households</b>	<b>3,952</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4,080</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>3.2</b>
Family Households:	2,073	52.5	1,793	43.9	-280	-13.5
Married-couple Family:	1,657	41.9	1,271	31.2	-386	-23.3
With own children under 18 years	686	17.4	490	12.0	-196	-28.6
No own children under 18 years	971	24.6	781	19.1	-190	-19.6
Male householder, no wife present:	54	1.4	125	3.1	71	131.5
With own children under 18 years	5	0.1	73	1.8	68	1360.0
No own children under 18 years	49	1.2	52	1.3	3	6.1
Female householder, no husband present:	362	9.2	397	9.7	35	9.7
With own children under 18 years	209	5.3	242	5.9	33	15.8
No own children under 18 years	153	3.9	155	3.8	2	1.3
Nonfamily Households:	1,879	47.5	2,287	56.1	408	21.7
Householder living alone:	1,275	32.3	1,453	35.6	178	14.0
Householder 65 years and over	569	14.4	515	12.6	54	-9.4

Source: U.S. Census 1990 STF1, Tables P016, P019 and 2000 STF1, Tables P18, H17

## Findings

- In 2000, Bloomsburg was a community of 12,375 residents.
- By 2006, growth was estimated at 12,883. The 20-24 and 45-54 year old cohorts both increased more than 200 residents, while the 65-75 year old cohort declined by more than 200 residents.
- In 2000, Thirteen percent of residents had a physical, mental, or emotional disability; this is substantially less than Columbia County or Pennsylvania.
- The average household size was 2.30 persons while the average family size was 2.83 persons in 2000.
- Many of Bloomsburg's demographic figures were, and continue to be, influenced by the presence of Bloomsburg University.
  - The median age was 22.4 years, younger than that of Columbia County or Pennsylvania.
  - Forty-three percent to the resident population was enrolled in college or undergraduate education. A significant number of residents were new to the community since 1995 due to the regular turnover in the student body, yet the total number of student residents remained relatively stable.
  - Racial and ethnic diversity increased by small numbers yet large percentages. More households are comprised of non relatives than relatives.

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