

1950 CENSUS OF POPULATION

PRELIMINARY REPORTS

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CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION OF DELAWARE APRIL 1, 1950

(This is the first of a series of reports presenting final figures on selected characteristics of the population of the smaller States. In this series, reports are numbered alphabetically by States. Additional reports will be issued as final figures for other States become available. Preliminary sample data for the larger States, not covered in this series, will be found in Series PC-6)

Gains in the population of Delaware between 1940 and 1950 were most marked among young children and elderly persons, according to final figures from the 1950 Census of Population released today by Roy V. Peel, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. Although the total population of the State increased by 51,530, or 19.4 percent, during the decade, the number of children under 5 years of age increased by 13,759, or 70.6 percent, and the number of persons 65 years old and over increased by 28 percent. On the other hand, the number of persons 15 to 24 years old decreased by 7.4 percent. The 1950 Census was the first to record an excess of females over males in the population of the State. Between 1940 and 1950 the nonwhite population of the State increased by 22.9 percent as compared with an increase of 18.8 percent for the white population.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

Urban and rural residence.--Under the urban definition established for use in the 1950 Census, the urban population comprises all persons living in (a) places of 2,500 inhabitants or more incorporated as cities, boroughs, towns,¹ and villages; (b) the densely settled urban fringe, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas, around cities of 50,000 or more; and (c) unincorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more

¹ Except in New England, New York, and Wisconsin, where "towns" are minor civil divisions of counties are not necessarily densely settled centers like the towns in other States.

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outside any urban fringe. The remaining population is classified as rural. According to the definition used in previous censuses, urban population comprised all persons living in incorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more and areas (usually minor civil divisions) classified as urban under special rules relating to population size and density.

Farm and nonfarm residence.--The rural population is subdivided into the rural-farm population, which comprises all rural residents living on farms, and the rural-nonfarm population, which comprises the remaining rural population. However, the method of determining farm and nonfarm residence in the 1950 Census differs somewhat from that used in earlier censuses. In the 1950 Census, persons on "farms" who were paying cash rent for their house and yard only were classified as nonfarm; furthermore, persons in institutions, summer camps, and tourist courts were classified as nonfarm.

Color.--The group designated as "nonwhite" consists of Negroes, Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and other nonwhite races. Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry who are not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race are classified as white.

Age.--The age classification is based on the age of the person at his last birthday before the date of the census, that is, the age of the person in completed years. The median age may be defined as that age which divides the population into two equal groups--one-half being older and one-half younger than the median.

(over)

P R E L I M I N A R Y

Table 1.--COLOR BY SEX, FOR DELAWARE, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Color and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950	Percent distribution			
	1950	1940	Percent change, 1940 to 1950			The State		Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950
						1950	1940		
Total.....	318,085	266,505	19.4	199,122	118,963	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	273,878	230,528	18.8	173,581	100,297	86.1	86.5	87.2	84.3
Nonwhite.....	44,207	35,977	22.9	25,541	18,666	13.9	13.5	12.8	15.7
Male.....	157,344	134,333	17.1	96,817	60,527	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	135,030	115,806	16.6	84,224	50,806	85.8	86.2	87.0	83.9
Nonwhite.....	22,314	18,527	20.4	12,593	9,721	14.2	13.8	13.0	16.1
Female.....	160,741	132,172	21.6	102,305	58,436	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	138,848	114,722	21.0	89,357	49,491	86.4	86.8	87.3	84.7
Nonwhite.....	21,893	17,450	25.5	12,948	8,945	13.6	13.2	12.7	15.3

Table 2.--AGE BY SEX, FOR DELAWARE, URBAN AND RURAL: 1950 AND 1940

Age and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural nonfarm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950	Percent distribution				
	1950	1940	Per- cent change, 1940 to 1950				The State		Urban, 1950	Rural non- farm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950
							1950	1940			
Total population.....	318,085	266,505	19.4	199,122	84,738	34,225	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percent by residence .....	...	...	...	62.6	26.6	10.8	...	...	...	...	...
Under 5 years.....	33,237	19,478	70.6	19,989	9,802	3,446	10.4	7.3	10.0	11.6	10.1
5 to 14 years.....	48,719	41,034	18.7	28,056	14,202	6,461	15.3	15.4	14.1	16.8	18.9
15 to 24 years.....	44,050	47,565	-7.4	27,362	11,759	4,929	13.8	17.8	13.7	13.9	14.4
25 to 34 years.....	53,548	44,134	21.3	34,879	14,539	4,130	16.8	16.6	17.5	17.2	12.1
35 to 44 years.....	46,881	38,603	21.4	30,913	11,623	4,345	14.7	14.5	15.5	13.7	12.7
45 to 54 years.....	37,346	32,579	14.6	24,168	9,054	4,124	11.7	12.2	12.1	10.7	12.0
55 to 64 years.....	27,984	22,546	24.1	17,848	6,547	3,589	8.8	8.5	9.0	7.7	10.5
65 years and over.....	26,320	20,566	28.0	15,907	7,212	3,201	8.3	7.7	8.0	8.5	9.4
Median age.....years..	31.2	30.7	...	31.9	29.5	30.5	...	...	...	...	...
Male.....	157,344	134,333	17.1	96,817	42,554	17,973	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	16,970	9,989	69.9	10,150	5,033	1,787	10.8	7.4	10.5	11.8	9.9
5 to 14 years.....	24,948	20,820	19.8	14,247	7,338	3,363	15.9	15.5	14.7	17.2	18.7
15 to 24 years.....	21,228	23,902	-11.2	12,918	5,695	2,615	13.5	17.8	13.3	13.4	14.5
25 to 34 years.....	25,997	22,117	17.5	16,765	7,168	2,064	16.5	16.5	17.3	16.8	11.5
35 to 44 years.....	23,402	19,565	19.6	15,215	5,930	2,257	14.9	14.6	15.7	13.9	12.6
45 to 54 years.....	18,687	16,803	11.2	11,836	4,641	2,210	11.9	12.5	12.2	10.9	12.3
55 to 64 years.....	13,974	11,218	24.6	8,757	3,324	1,893	8.9	8.4	9.0	7.8	10.5
65 years and over.....	12,138	9,919	22.4	6,929	3,425	1,784	7.7	7.4	7.2	8.0	9.9
Median age.....years..	31.0	30.6	...	31.6	29.5	30.9	...	...	...	...	...
Female.....	160,741	132,172	21.6	102,305	42,184	16,252	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	16,267	9,489	71.4	9,839	4,769	1,659	10.1	7.2	9.6	11.3	10.2
5 to 14 years.....	23,771	20,214	17.6	13,809	6,864	3,098	14.8	15.3	13.5	16.3	19.1
15 to 24 years.....	22,822	23,663	-3.6	14,444	6,064	2,314	14.2	17.9	14.1	14.4	14.2
25 to 34 years.....	27,551	22,017	25.1	18,114	7,371	2,066	17.1	16.7	17.7	17.5	12.7
35 to 44 years.....	23,479	19,038	23.3	15,698	5,693	2,088	14.6	14.4	15.3	13.5	12.8
45 to 54 years.....	18,659	15,776	18.3	12,332	4,413	1,914	11.6	11.9	12.1	10.5	11.8
55 to 64 years.....	14,010	11,328	23.7	9,091	3,223	1,696	8.7	8.6	8.9	7.6	10.4
65 years and over.....	14,182	10,647	33.2	8,978	3,787	1,417	8.8	8.1	8.8	9.0	8.7
Median age.....years..	31.4	30.8	...	32.2	29.6	30.1	...	...	...	...	...