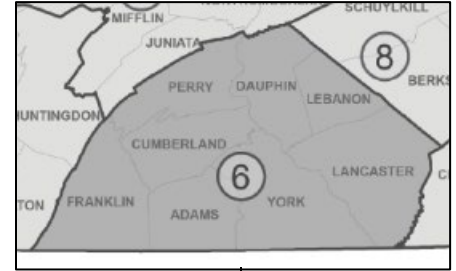
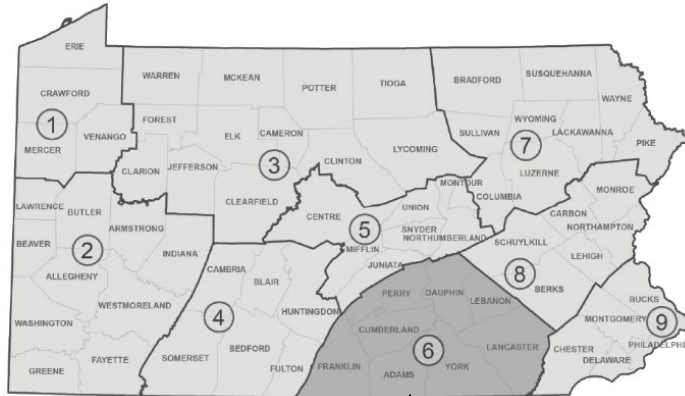




Focus Area 6

Adams
Cumberland
Dauphin
Franklin
Lancaster
Lebanon
Perry
York



Demographic Profile

Key Findings and Conclusions

- There are 316 municipalities in the focus area including four cities: Harrisburg, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York. The three largest municipalities are Lancaster, Lower Paxton Township, and Harrisburg.
- As the fastest growing focus area since 1960, the population has increased dramatically by 885,330 (79%). Though growth slowed between 2010 and 2020, it remains higher than other focus areas statewide at 6% during that ten-year period.
- The majority of the population is distributed amongst small communities, with 196 (62%) of municipalities having populations of 5,000 or less. 119 (38%) of those communities have populations of less than 2,500.
- The focus area's population is predominantly White/Caucasian, with White Alone (Non-Hispanic or Latino) representing 80% of the total focus area population, above the statewide average.
- Dauphin County is by far the most diverse county by non-white residents as a percentage of total population and in number of non-white residents. Dauphin County is 18% Black Alone.
- Cities typically have a higher proportion of nonwhite residents than boroughs or townships within the focus area.
- Poverty within this focus area (9%) is lower than the statewide average (12%). However, this poverty is not evenly distributed. Cities in the focus area have a very high poverty rate of 25%, while boroughs and townships have lower rates of 11% and 9%.
- Homeownership rates are mixed throughout the region. Historically, most of the region's municipalities have had homeownership rates slightly above the statewide average. This trend has continued into 2020.

Potential Implications for Historic and Cultural Resources

- Growth in traditionally rural townships is likely being fueled by new commercial and residential construction, which may impact open space, vistas, agricultural landscapes, villages, and archaeological resources.
- High numbers of ethnic and racial groups other than those that have been historically associated with the region may suggest that the established narratives of historical significance of communities and buildings may not carry the same meaning with these groups. It may also suggest that there are places that these groups consider significant and worthy of preservation that may not have been documented or considered previously.



- An aging population could have several implications for historic resources. The first is the impact of fixed incomes on the ability to maintain historic properties. Second is the mobility and access needs of individuals who wish to age-in-place and the changes that might necessitate to historic buildings and communities.
- Sustained population decline in the focus area’s cities suggests that some communities will contract in size and services. The region’s cities and boroughs are at greatest risk for declining population, which may lead to abandonment of housing and decline of institutional and commercial buildings. Strategies to assist communities make strategic decisions about how to best manage their built environment in the face of this trend should be considered.
- Lower homeownership rates suggest that residential landlords are increasingly significant stakeholders in how properties are maintained and rehabilitated.
- The relatively small size of some municipalities in the region may present challenges with matching funds, leadership and administrative capacity for preservation programs and projects.

Current Population

- The 2020 population of the 8-county region was 2,004,175, or 15% of the total population of Pennsylvania.
- There are 4 cities within the region: Harrisburg, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York.
- Lancaster County has the highest population in the focus area, while Perry County is the smallest county in the focus area. Perry County’s population is 8% the size of Lancaster County’s population.

Total Population:

| | Adams | Cumberland | Dauphin | Franklin | Lancaster | Lebanon | Perry | York |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>City</i> | <i>n/a</i> | <i>n/a</i> | 50,099 | <i>n/a</i> | 58,039 | 26,814 | <i>n/a</i> | 44,800 |
| <i>Borough</i> | 29,132 | 63,615 | 39,171 | 40,406 | 100,562 | 20,868 | 9,059 | 78,262 |
| <i>Township</i> | 74,720 | 197,017 | 197,017 | 114,363 | 394,405 | 95,575 | 36,783 | 333,376 |
| TOTAL | 103,852 | 260,632 | 286,401 | 154,769 | 553,006 | 143,257 | 45,842 | 456,438 |

- Some municipalities have small populations, with 196 (62%) having populations of 5,000 or less. However, many municipalities have larger populations. 50 municipalities have populations over 10,000, 20 municipalities have populations over 20,000, and three municipalities have populations over 50,000.
- The three largest municipalities in descending order are Lancaster, Lower Paxton, and Harrisburg. Lower Paxton is a large township located near Harrisburg.

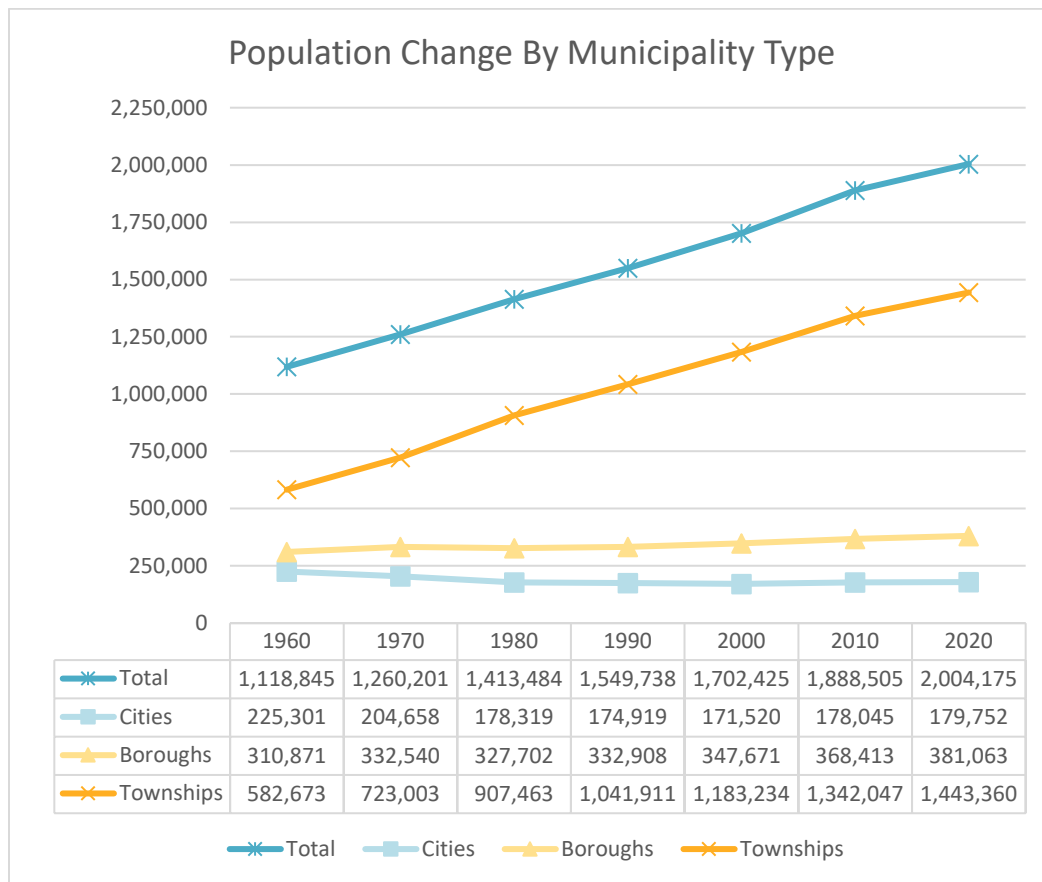
Number of Municipalities by Population:

| | Focus Area 6 | Adams | Cumberland | Dauphin | Franklin | Lancaster | Lebanon | Perry | York |
|----------------|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <2,500 | 119 | 16 | 11 | 20 | 8 | 4 | 8 | 24 | 28 |
| 2,500 to 4,999 | 77 | 13 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 19 | 8 | 5 | 17 |
| 5,000 to 9,999 | 66 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 19 | 7 | 1 | 15 |
| >10,000 | 54 | 0 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 18 | 3 | 0 | 12 |
| TOTAL | 316 | 34 | 33 | 40 | 21 | 60 | 26 | 30 | 72 |



Population Trends 1960-2020

- As the fastest growing focus area since 1960, the population has increased dramatically each year by a net 79%. Though growth slowed between 2010 and 2020, it remains higher than other focus areas statewide at 6%.
- While cities and boroughs have generally decreased across focus areas across Pennsylvania, cities in this focus area have remained stagnant after small decreases in population through the 1960s and 1970s. Boroughs, though stagnant for many decades, have shown modest growth since 1990.
- Population growth throughout the focus area has mostly been driven by townships. Since 1960 townships in the focus area have increased by a dramatic 147% increase.



Homeownership

- Overall, the focus area’s homeownership rate (71%) is slightly higher than the statewide average (69%).
- However, this varies by municipality. The homeownership rate is lowest in the focus area’s cities at 42%, higher within boroughs at 59%, and highest in townships, where it is 78%.
- Perry County has the highest county homeownership rate in the focus area at 81%. Dauphin County is by far the lowest. At just 64%, it is below the statewide average.

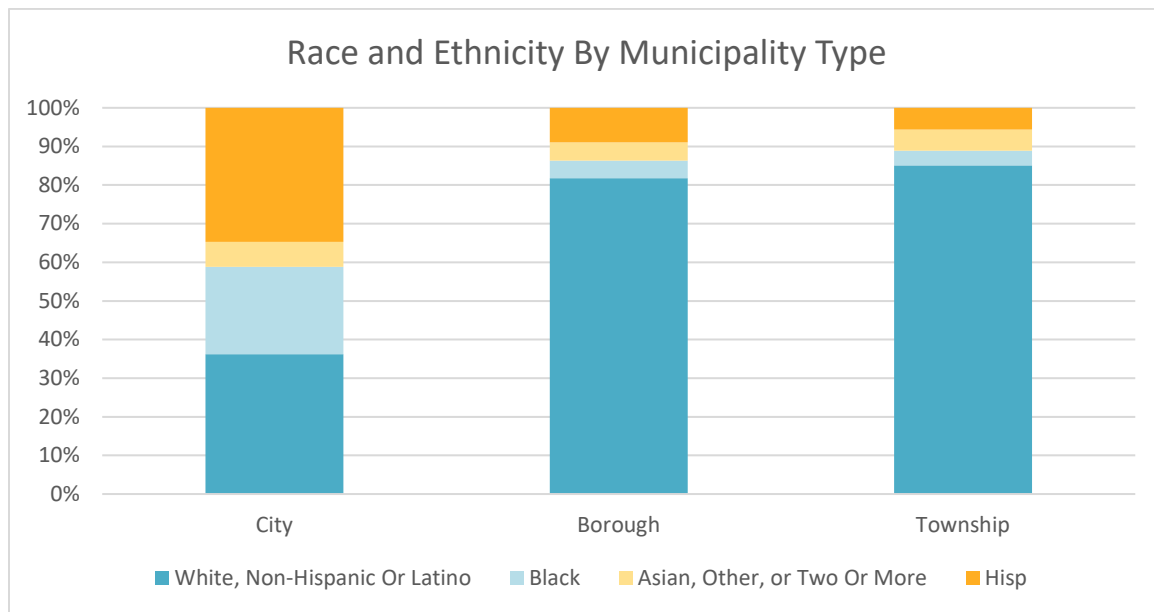
| | Focus Area 6 | Adams | Cumberland | Dauphin | Franklin | Lancaster | Lebanon | Perry | York |
|---------------------------|--------------|-------|------------|---------|----------|-----------|---------|-------|-------|
| <i>Homeownership Rate</i> | 71.1% | 78.0% | 70.9% | 63.9% | 72.0% | 69.7% | 70.4% | 80.7% | 75.1% |



Race and Ethnicity

- The focus area’s population is predominantly White/Caucasian, with White Alone (Non-Hispanic or Latino) representing 80% of the total focus area population. This is above the state average of 75% White Alone (Non-Hispanic or Latino).
- Dauphin County is the most diverse in the region. In 2021, White Alone (Non-Hispanic or Latino) made up 63% of the population, making it the only county in the focus area below the state average. Dauphin County has the largest Black population in the focus area at 17.5%. It also has the highest population identifying as Asian, Other Race, and Two or More Races. The Hispanic and Latino population (10.1%) is above the focus area average of 8.9%.
- Perry County is the least diverse with over 94% White Alone (Non-Hispanic or Latino), around 1% Black Alone, around 2% Hispanic or Latino, and under 3% Asian, Other or Two or More Races.
- Though this region is predominantly White, the focus area’s cities are more diverse. Among cities in the focus area, 23% of the population is black while across the entire focus area the population is only 9% black.

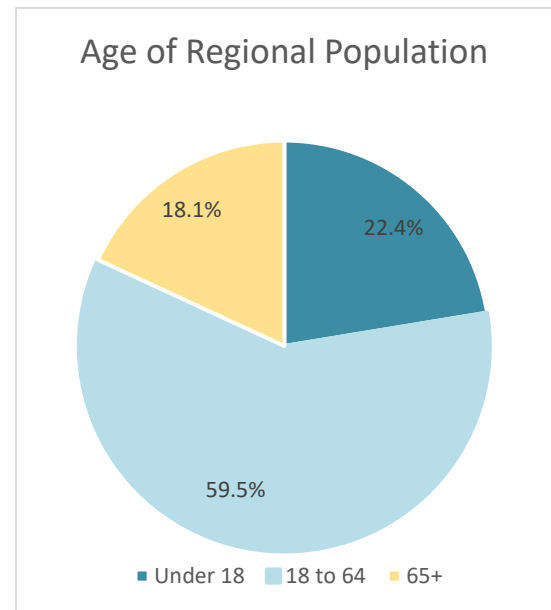
| | Focus Area 6 | Adams | Cumberland | Dauphin | Franklin | Lancaster | Lebanon | Perry | York |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| White, Non-Hispanic or Latino | 80.1% | 88.4% | 83.9% | 63.7% | 86.6% | 80.7% | 80.5% | 94.3% | 81.7% |
| Black | 5.6% | 1.4% | 3.9% | 17.5% | 3.4% | 3.3% | 1.9% | 0.9% | 5.4% |
| Hispanic or Latino | 8.9% | 7.3% | 4.4% | 10.1% | 6.3% | 11.1% | 14.1% | 2.3% | 8.2% |
| Asian, Other Race, or Two or More | 5.4% | 3.0% | 7.7% | 8.7% | 3.8% | 4.9% | 3.5% | 2.6% | 4.7% |
| TOTAL | 2,004,175 | 103,852 | 259,469 | 286,401 | 155,932 | 552,984 | 143,257 | 45,842 | 456,438 |





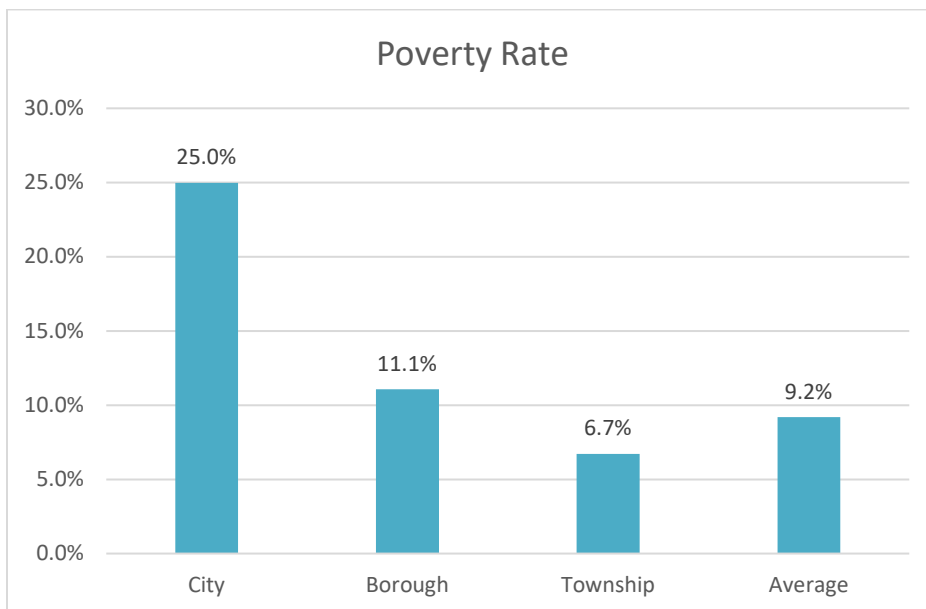
Age

- As of 2021, 59% of the focus area’s population was between 18-65; 22% was under 18, and 18% was over 65. The statewide averages are Under 18 (20%), 18-64 (61%) and over 65 (18%), so this focus area matches Pennsylvania averages closely, though it has a slightly higher population under 18.
- Cities within the focus area had an even higher proportion of residents under 18 (25%), and a very low proportion of residents over 65 (11%).
- Townships had a higher proportion of residents over 65 (19%). This is slightly above both the focus area and statewide average.
- The focus area’s population over 65 has grown from 16% of the population in 2014 to 18% in 2021. This mirrors growth in the statewide population over 65.
- The median age has been increasing since 2010 across all counties in the focus area. Most counties in the focus area are at or around the statewide median of 40.8, but Dauphin and Lancaster are the lowest at 39.5 and 38.7. The highest county median age in the focus area is Adams County at 44.0.



Poverty

- Poverty within this focus area (9.2%) is below than the statewide average (11.8%). However, this poverty is not evenly distributed. Cities in the focus area have a very high poverty rate of 25%. Boroughs and townships have lower rates of 11.1% and 9.5%.
- Poverty rates also vary widely across the counties. Poverty is highest in Dauphin County at 12.1%. This is likely due to a large proportion of Dauphin county’s population being in the Harrisburg, which has a high poverty rate of 28.2%. All other counties in the focus area are below the statewide poverty rate.





Survey Results

The following findings and survey results are from PA SHPO’s unscientific online public survey developed to inform the 2024-2034 statewide plan. It was available to the public, partners, stakeholders, and others from September 2023 through May 2024.

Key Findings

- In general, focus area respondents selected similar answers to statewide respondents, though with a few key differences.
- Focus area respondents, when asked which of the following are the most important contributions that historic places make, were less likely to select that historic places improve beauty and quality of life, and that these places are a big part of community and regional identity. Instead, focus area respondents selected most often that historic places protect Pennsylvania’s unique stories.
- One of the biggest discrepancies between the statewide responses and the focus area responses was around agricultural properties. When asked what types of historic places should be prioritized, 28% of focus area respondents selected this option as opposed to just 18% of statewide respondents. When asked which historic places they felt were most threatened, focus area respondents were also much more likely than statewide respondents to say that agricultural buildings and properties are threatened, at 39% selected by focus area respondents and 27% of statewide respondents.
- Like statewide respondents, focus area respondents were most likely to select development pressures as one of the biggest threats to historic places.

Focus Area Highlights

For this section, comparisons were drawn between statewide responses to survey question in contrast to focus area responses. Cells below are highlighted to show which responses are over or underrepresented by the focus area’s respondents. In total, this region had 588 respondents out of the 2,238 statewide respondents.

Legend:

| |
|---|
| Response rate 10%+ higher than statewide |
| Response rate 3%-9% higher than statewide |
| Response rate within 2% of statewide |
| Response rate 3%-9% lower than statewide |
| Response rate 10%+ lower than statewide |



| Q5. Which of the following are the most important contributions you think historic places make to your community or region? Select up to 2. | Focus Area Responses | Statewide Responses |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| They help sustain my community through heritage tourism. | 14% | 15% |
| They provide unique economic development opportunities. | 12% | 12% |
| They help teach and remind us about the past. | 44% | 40% |
| They protect Pennsylvania’s unique stories and heritage for future generations. | 69% | 64% |
| They encourage sustainable, walkable, ‘green’ communities. | 9% | 10% |
| They improve the beauty and quality of life of my community. | 21% | 25% |
| They are a big part of our community/regional identity. | 23% | 28% |
| Not sure / I haven't really thought about it before. | 1% | 0% |
| None of these / I don’t think they make valuable contributions. | 1% | 0% |
| Other (please specify) | 3% | 3% |

| Q6. Which of the following types of older and historic places would you prioritize for preservation in your community? Select up to 3. | Focus Area Responses | Statewide Responses |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| Cemeteries/burial places | 40% | 35% |
| Pre-historic archaeological sites | 22% | 18% |
| Historic archaeological sites | 38% | 36% |
| Sacred spaces/religious properties | 17% | 18% |
| Transportation infrastructure | 7% | 7% |
| Residential neighborhoods | 23% | 30% |
| Downtown commercial districts | 28% | 31% |
| Public buildings | 17% | 21% |
| Institutional buildings | 5% | 6% |
| Educational buildings | 4% | 7% |
| Agricultural properties | 28% | 18% |
| Industrial areas | 2% | 5% |
| Landscapes | 28% | 27% |
| Recreational places | 14% | 13% |
| None of these should be preserved | 0% | 0% |
| Other (please specify) | 7% | 9% |



| Q7. What types of places do you think are most threatened in your community? Select no more than 3. | Focus Area Responses | Statewide Responses |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Places that reflect local/regional history and culture | 37% | 43% |
| Buildings constructed from 1960 through the early 1980s | 9% | 10% |
| Archaeological sites | 15% | 14% |
| Places associated with underrepresented histories (for example, African American, LGBTQ+, specific ethnic/racial communities) | 29% | 24% |
| Recreational places (for example, amusement parks, swimming pools, etc.) | 11% | 11% |
| Older industrial areas | 14% | 15% |
| Traditional downtown shopping/commercial areas | 32% | 33% |
| Residential areas built before 1950 | 17% | 24% |
| Planned suburban housing developments/neighborhoods built after 1950 | 2% | 2% |
| Religious buildings/sacred spaces | 10% | 14% |
| Agricultural buildings/landscapes | 39% | 27% |
| Unusual and/or landmark buildings | 25% | 28% |
| Cemeteries/burial places | 15% | 14% |
| Other (please specify) | 4% | 6% |

| Q8. Thinking about your response to the above question, what do you think is threatening those places? Select all that apply. | Focus Area Responses | Statewide Responses |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Development pressures (rural, suburban, urban, etc.) | 72% | 65% |
| Gentrification | 16% | 19% |
| Changes in community demographics (aging populations, loss of population, etc.) | 33% | 39% |
| Vacancy/disinvestment/deferred maintenance | 45% | 50% |
| Lack of local protection/regulation | 38% | 43% |
| Local zoning practices | 24% | 24% |
| Little or no interest in historic preservation | 47% | 46% |
| Few or no preservation advocate(s) | 25% | 27% |
| Misguided or misinformed development (parking lots, housing density, widescale demolition) | 41% | 39% |
| Interest in preservation but don't know where to start | 9% | 14% |
| Other (please specify) | 9% | 11% |



| Q10. Choose up to 5 things that you think would encourage and/or assist historic preservation efforts where you live. | Focus Area Responses | Statewide Responses |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| Increased public funding for historic preservation. | 68% | 72% |
| Municipal employees with greater knowledge of local, state, and/or federal preservation programs. | 41% | 41% |
| Access to knowledgeable technical experts. | 18% | 18% |
| Access to qualified contractors and tradespeople. | 18% | 21% |
| Access to reputable and easy-to-understand online resources. | 27% | 23% |
| Local ordinances/regulation to protect older and historic places. | 47% | 48% |
| Informed elected officials knowledgeable about historic preservation. | 42% | 46% |
| Increased public awareness of the older and historic places in the community. | 60% | 59% |
| Adding more properties to the National Register of Historic Places. | 13% | 15% |
| Gathering and maintaining up-to-date information about older and historic places, including archaeological sites. | 30% | 28% |
| Identification and preservation of places associated with underrepresented history. | 28% | 25% |
| Connecting preservation with sustainability, economic development, and planning. | 50% | 52% |
| Other (please specify) | 4% | 4% |

| Q11. When you think about needing more funding/money for historic preservation, what 3 specific things would you like to have? | Focus Area Responses | Statewide Responses |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| Financial support for private residential property owners. | 27% | 30% |
| More money to history/preservation organizations and municipalities for construction projects. | 43% | 45% |
| Expand access the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Tax Credit for income-producing properties. | 24% | 28% |
| Funding for preservation plans to help manage change in communities. | 35% | 31% |
| Money for surveys to identify historic places in a community. | 16% | 18% |
| Funding to support or restart local preservation networks and advocates. | 26% | 26% |
| Financial support for municipalities interested in starting a historic preservation program. | 29% | 28% |
| Grant or other incentive to preserve specific threatened resources. | 51% | 52% |
| Funding for local training programs for municipal employees, tradespeople, contractors, etc. | 23% | 21% |
| Other (please specify) | 5% | 5% |



| Q12. If you think education about and greater awareness of historic preservation is important, what 3 tools do you think would be most useful? | Focus Area Responses | Statewide Responses |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| Specific and replicable examples of successful preservation construction projects. | 47% | 47% |
| Specific and replicable examples about community archaeology projects. | 12% | 12% |
| Case studies of successful preservation planning efforts or save a threatened resource. | 37% | 38% |
| User and resource guides for finding information, researching a historic property, using state or federal preservation programs, etc. | 61% | 58% |
| Toolkits for preserving specific types of historic places, like agricultural buildings or cemeteries. | 43% | 40% |
| Toolkit for talking about historic preservation and the importance of historic places. | 31% | 35% |
| 101-type information about historic preservation, including vocabulary, state and federal laws, etc. | 31% | 34% |
| 101-type information about archaeology, including vocabulary, types of sites, etc. | 9% | 9% |
| I don't think education/awareness is important. | 0% | 0% |
| Other (please specify) | 8% | 6% |

| Q14. Did you know that Pennsylvania has a state preservation agency, the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (PA SHPO)? | Focus Area Responses | Statewide Responses |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| Yes | 65% | 70% |
| I think so, but I'm not sure | 13% | 12% |
| No | 22% | 18% |
| Other (please specify) | 1% | 1% |

Themes & Issues Summary

Analysis of the data compiled through the statewide planning process:

- The three top historic preservation themes for Region 6 are: incentives, community, and planning.
- The three top historic preservation issues for Region 6 are: apathy, preservation trades, and funding.
- Residents in Focus Area 6 believe that there is an opportunity to change the narrative of what is history and preservation to represent a more comprehensive, inclusive story which includes all communities, including African American stories. Moving forward, preservation will be stronger when it is more inclusive.
- There is momentum within the region for preservation, but it needs additional incentives and planning to keep it moving as there is also a fair share of apathy.
- Success comes when preservation fosters new opportunities and standards that create economic opportunity, adaptive reuses, and housing stability. Historic places underly the basic elements of a community.