

## COMMUNITY PROFILE

### Tioga, Philadelphia County

#### REGIONAL SETTING

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The Tioga neighborhood of Philadelphia is an area that is located approximately three and one half miles north of Center City in Upper North Philadelphia. The Tioga community boundaries extend from the west side of Broad Street to the east side of 24<sup>th</sup> street and from the south side of Erie Avenue to the north side of Allegheny Avenue. The population of the Tioga neighborhood was 13,391 in 2000.

#### A BRIEF HISTORY

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##### Philadelphia

*(Team Pennsylvania Foundation Web Site)*

Philadelphia County was founded in 1682 by William Penn, an English Quaker, who received a land grant from King Charles II. The city was part of Penn's Holy Experiment in religious freedom and the name means "City of Brotherly Love." By the time of the American Revolution, the city grew to become the second largest English-speaking city in the world, after London. The first Continental Congress met here in 1774 and independence from the Crown was declared in 1776. Philadelphia served as the nation's capital from 1790 to 1800.

Philadelphia is the second largest city on the East Coast of the United States with a population of 1.6 million people. It is situated at the crossroads of the Middle Atlantic states and New England: 100 miles south of New York City and 55 miles west of the Atlantic Ocean. Major airlines operate from Philadelphia International Airport and Amtrak's Northeast Corridor provides rail service. A comprehensive system of public transportation provides regional rail lines reaching the suburban counties, as well as buses and subways within the city. Philadelphia is the employment center of the region with 687,000 jobs in 1993, and the downtown area has the greatest concentration of retail establishments in the region with nearly 2,000 stores in operation in 1991. The Pennsylvania Convention Center opened in 1993 and ranks as one of the largest on the East Coast; its spectacular Grand Hall is contained within the historic train shed of the Reading Railroad terminal. Many of the city's cultural treasures line a grand boulevard which links the city center to Fairmount Park, the largest landscaped urban park in the world. Along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway are found the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Franklin Institute Science Museum, the Academy of Natural Sciences and the Rodin Museum. The city is also home to the Philadelphia Orchestra which performs in the historic Academy of Music.

## **Tioga**

*(Taken from the Community's own profile)*

The Tioga neighborhood consists of a variety of single, twin, and row houses styles, which served as “home” to the many working families that selected this well-situated area admired for its tree-lined streets and manicured front lawns. Because of its close proximity to the Center City Philadelphia with immediate access to excellent public transportation options and a major highway that cuts through the area, Tioga attracted families seeking the convenience of moving from one part of the city to the other.

With the decline in the number of factories and other employers in the area, a downward trend in the other aspects of the neighborhood marked life for Tioga residents. Long-term homeowners migrated to other areas in and outside of the city. As children grew up and moved away to start new lives, many empty-nesters remained, and their retirement incomes often could not support living in older, large houses where repairs and upgrades were inevitable. Over time, the once active and civic-minded lifestyle of residents was curtailed, and the problems of urban communities including, but not limited to, crime, drug trafficking, graffiti, litter, a struggling public education system and other challenges began to take their toll. Unemployment and underemployment, closing of supermarkets, and an unmet need for retail establishments, restaurants, older adult and youth recreation facilities/services, and additional security measures were among the problems that manifested themselves. Tioga, a one time outstanding place to raise a family, waned in its strength as a neighborhood sought by families. Its raw potential was and remains intact, but it is awaiting the focus, concerted effort and other resources to be realized.

## **DEMOGRAPHICS**

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In order to enable an assessment of the present and future needs of the neighborhood of Tioga and its residents, a broad analysis of demographic factors is presented in this profile. Reviewing population trends and estimates, age distribution, and employment enables the neighborhood to better understand the needs and concerns of the community. This examination also helps to enable planning to occur relative to, for example, the amount and type of services that may be required. The data also provides an understanding of the community's future position within the County. All following data used in the profile is extracted from 1980, 1990 and 2000 Census. (U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau).

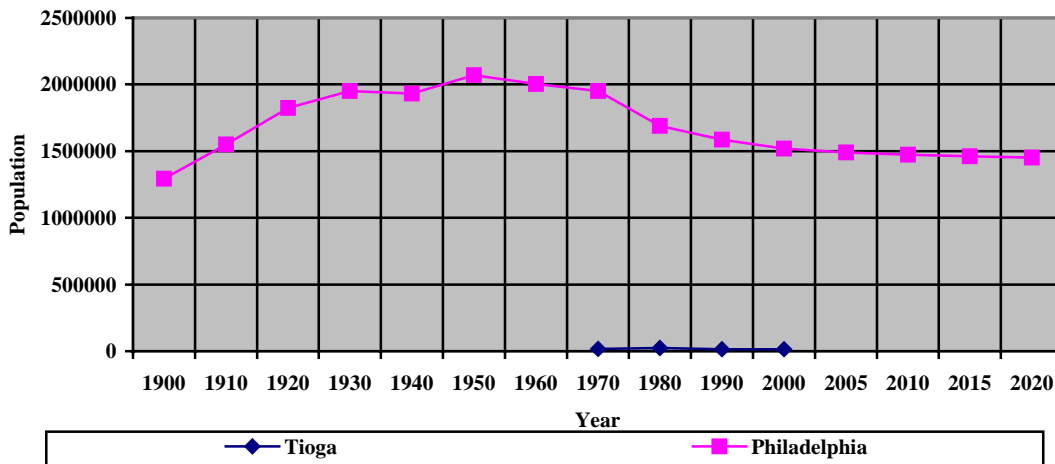
## Population

### Trends and Forecasts

Over the past hundred years, the population of Philadelphia and its neighborhoods has changed significantly. From 1900 to the 1950's, Philadelphia grew to one of the largest cities in the U.S., with an estimated 2,000,000 people. This growth has followed the same pattern as other urban areas of the United States. However, beginning around the 1970s, Philadelphia's population dropped to around that of its population in 1900. From 1970 to 2000, there was a population decrease of 28.5 percent in Philadelphia's population. Currently Philadelphia's population is predicted to decrease another 4.5% from 2000 to 2020.

Similarly, Tioga's population has fallen over the past thirty years from 24,065 in 1970 to 13,391 in 2000; a decline of 28.0 percent (See figure 2-1 – Population Trends and Forecasts). The extent to which the Tioga neighborhood population trend will mirror the projected future decline of Philadelphia is difficult to forecast. However, should that forecast hold also for Tioga, the projected 2020 population of Tioga would be an estimated 12,700.

Figure 2-1 - POPULATION TRENDS AND FORECASTS



## Racial Composition

Over the past twenty years, Tioga has been a predominantly Black populated neighborhood, with an average of around 95 percent – a pattern likely to continue. There are several small population changes over this period however. There was a decrease of 1.8 percent in the White population, an increase of 0.5 percent in the Black population, a decrease in the Latino population of 0.6 percent, and an increase of 2.6 percent in Other racial populations. There was greater change in the racial composition of Philadelphia over the last two decades. The White population decreased by 10.7%, and populations of other racial backgrounds decreased by 3.0%. There was a 6.8% increase in the Black population and a 6.9% increase in the Latino population of Philadelphia.

**TABLE 2-1  
RACIAL COMPOSITION, 1980-2000**

	White	Black	Latino	Other
<b>Tioga</b>				
1980%	3.9%	94.1%	1.3%	0.6%
1990%	1.7%	97.8%	0.4%	0.5%
2000%	2.1%	94.6%	0.7%	3.2%
Percent Change 1980-2000	-1.8%	0.5%	-0.6	2.6%
<b>Philadelphia County</b>				
1980%	57.1%	37.5%	1.6%	3.8%
1990%	53.5%	39.9%	5.6%	1.0%
2000%	46.4%	44.3%	8.5%	0.8%
Percent Change 1980-2000	-10.7%	6.8%	6.9%	-3.0%

## Age Distribution

The age distribution of a community can suggest the levels of service and infrastructure necessary to meet the future needs of the various age groups. It can help to forecast future educational, recreational, and elderly facilities that may be needed. Table 2-2 compares the age distribution of Tioga and Philadelphia County between 1990 and 2000. Based upon the aggregate data, the age distribution of the population of Tioga and Philadelphia County has remained fairly stable, with little evidence of any dramatic shifts from 1990 and 2000. However, when the age groups of those under 45 are considered, Tioga has a slightly higher percent (62.3) than Philadelphia County, which is 65.6 percent, based upon year 2000 data. On the other hand, the percent of those 60 years of age or older, Tioga has 21.1 percent compared to 17.9 percent in Philadelphia County. The median age in the Tioga neighborhood varies among the two Census Tracts. In Census Tract 201, the median age is 35.9 and in Tract 202, 39.2. In both cases, however, the median age is older than the Pennsylvania median age (in year 2000) of 32.1.

**TABLE 2-2  
AGE DISTRIBUTION, 1990 AND 2000**

	<b>Tioga</b>					<b>Philadelphia County</b>				
	1990 Pop.	Percent of Pop.	2000 Pop.	Percent of Pop.	Percent Change	1990 Pop.	Percent of Pop.	2000 Pop.	Percent of Pop.	Percent Change
00-04	1,180	8.4	913	6.8	-1.6	115,871	7.3	98,161	6.5	-0.8
05-09	902	6.4	1081	8.1	1.7	104,113	6.6	112,111	7.4	0.8
10-14	938	6.6	1115	8.3	1.7	100,472	6.3	112,726	7.4	1.1
15-19	841	6.0	922	6.9	0.9	107,408	6.8	110,701	7.3	0.5
20-24	1,066	7.5	774	5.8	-1.7	135,952	8.6	117,609	7.7	-0.9
25-34	2,100	14.9	1,451	10.8	-4.1	276,917	18.0	224,864	14.8	-3.2
35-44	1,467	10.4	2,085	15.6	5.2	213,327	14.0	219,910	14.5	0.5
45-54	1,610	11.4	1,666	12.4	1.0	147,923	9.0	182,530	12.0	3.0
55-59	529	3.7	574	4.3	0.6	68,766	4.3	67,280	4.4	0.1
60-64	951	6.7	580	4.3	-2.4	74,114	4.7	57,936	3.8	-0.9
65-74	1,570	11.1	1,103	8.2	-2.9	138,175	9.0	107,048	7.1	-1.9
75-84	720	5.1	858	6.4	1.3	79,738	5.0	79,335	5.2	0.2
85+	256	1.8	278	2.1	0.3	22,801	1.4	27,339	1.8	0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,130</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>13,400</b>	<b>100</b>		<b>1,585,577</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1,517,550</b>	<b>100</b>	

## Economics

### **Income and Education**

The U.S. Census Bureau records income in two categories. Household income is defined as the yearly earnings of a group of unrelated people or one person living alone. Family income comprises a group of two or more people residing together and who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption. As more residents obtain diplomas and degrees, their income earning potential improves, creating a direct positive correlation between the two. Table 2-3 shows that educational attainment in the Tioga neighborhood increased in several categories. For example, from 1980 to 2000, there was an increase of 20.1 percent in those with ‘some higher education or above’ in Tioga. However, there are wide disparities in educational attainment between the Tioga neighborhood and Philadelphia County.

Over the past twenty years, there have been increases in the median family income in Tioga. This is also true for Philadelphia County. Again, however, wide disparities in median household income exist between Tioga and Philadelphia County. In year 2000, the difference was approximately \$10,000 less in Tioga and this difference has held fairly constant over the past twenty years. In 2000, the median household income in Tioga was approximately \$20,500 (average of both Tracts), compared to Pennsylvania’s median household income of \$40,106 (2000).

In terms of poverty rate, the percent of those below the level in Tioga was 25.9, which was more than three times higher than the Pennsylvania poverty rate in 2000 of 7.8 percent and more than two times higher than the national rate of 9.2 percent.

**TABLE 2-3  
INCOME AND EDUCATION, 1980-2000**

<b>Income and Education</b>	<b>Tioga</b>	<b>Philadelphia</b>
<b>1980</b>		
Median Household Income	\$8,410	\$13,169
Median Family Income	\$10,997	\$16,388
NO DEGREE	60.7%	45.8%
High School Graduate	28.9%	33.9%
Some higher education	6.3%	9.3%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	4.1%	11.0%
Graduate or Professional Degree	n/a	n/a
<b>1990</b>		
Median Household Income	\$15,537 (Tract 201) \$15,911 (Tract 202)	\$24,603
Median Family Income	\$20,310 (Tract 201) \$25,435 (Tract 202)	\$30,140
NO DEGREE	43.3%	48.0%
High School Graduate	35.0%	33.0%
Some higher education	13.5%	12.0%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	8.1%	15.0%
Graduate or Professional Degree	3.5%	6.0%
<b>2000</b>		
Median Household Income	\$20,436 (Tract 201) \$20,709 (Tract 202)	\$30,746
Median Family Income	\$26,776 (Tract 201) \$28,274 (Tract 202)	\$37,036
NO DEGREE	40.8%	44.4%
High School Graduate	31.1%	33.3%
Some higher education	23.0%	37.8%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	7.5%	17.9%
Graduate or Professional Degree	2.1%	7.5%
<b>Percent Change from 1980-2000</b>		
Median Household Income	58.8% (Tract 201) 59.4% (Tract 202)	57.2%
Median Family Income	58.9% (Tract 201) 61.1% (Tract 202)	55.6%
NO DEGREE	-19.9%	55.6%
High School Graduate	2.2%	-0.6%
Some higher education	16.7%	28.5%
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	3.4%	2.9%
Graduate or Professional Degree	n/a	n/a

## Employment

Based upon the analysis of Table 2-4, several employment characteristics are evident. While the population of individuals 16 years and older in Tioga decreased by 35.7 percent, the civilian labor force increased by 2.6% over the last two decades. This notwithstanding, the percent of unemployment (1980-2000) in Tioga averaged 8.5, compared to a 5.9 percent average in Philadelphia County. It should be noted, however, that the ‘unofficial’ unemployment rate in Tioga may be higher due to failure to count those who have dropped out of the labor market or have become discouraged at the prospects of finding employment. The two decade analysis of employment status of Tioga suggests that considerable economic hardship may exist.

**TABLE 2-4  
EMPLOYMENT, 1980-2000**

	Tioga		Philadelphia County	
	No. of Persons	%	No. of Persons	%
<b>1980</b>				
Persons 16 years and Over	13,689	100.0%	1,310,583	100.0%
In labor Force	6,442	47.1%	709,812	54.2%
Civilian Labor Force	6,443	47.1%	705,248	53.8%
Employed	5,396	39.4%	624,706	47.7%
Unemployed	1,037	7.6%	80,599	6.2%
Armed Forces	9	0.0%	4,564	0.0%
Not in Labor Force	7,247	52.9%	600,771	45.8%
<b>1990</b>				
Persons 16 years and Over	10,900	100.0%	1,245,682	100.0%
In labor Force	5,669	52.0%	727,389	58.4%
Civilian Labor Force	5,669	52.0%	721,621	57.9%
Employed	4,703	43.1%	651,621	52.3%
Unemployed	966	8.9%	70,000	5.6%
Armed Forces	0	0.0%	5,768	0.5%
Not in Labor Force	5,231	48.0%	518,293	41.6%
<b>2000</b>				
Persons 16 years and Over	10,086	100.0%	1,174,798	100.0%
In labor Force	5,010	49.7%	656,935	55.9%
Civilian Labor Force	5,010	49.7%	656,539	55.9%
Employed	4,099	40.6%	584,957	49.8%
Unemployed	911	9.0%	71,582	6.1%
Armed Forces	0	0.0%	396	0.0%
Not in Labor Force	5,076	50.3%	517,863	44.1%
<b>Percent Change from 1980-2000</b>				
Persons 16 years and Over	-35.7%	n/a	-11.6%	n/a
In labor Force	2.6%	n/a	1.7%	n/a
Civilian Labor Force	2.6%	n/a	2.1%	n/a
Employed	1.2%	n/a	2.1%	n/a

Unemployed	1.4%	n/a	-0.1%	n/a
Armed Forces	0.0%	n/a	0.0%	n/a
Not in Labor Force	-2.6%	n/a	-1.7%	n/a

## Housing and Real Estate

Not unlike many older urban areas in Philadelphia County, the proportion of housing 30 years or older (89.0%) in Tioga is high, indicating that there has been relatively little new housing built in the last ten years. (See figure 2-2) The data further suggests that while the level of occupancy of existing housing has decreased 1.0% over the past decade, the percent of vacant units remains fairly high at 18.7 in 2000. The statistical data on housing values also indicates little change over the past ten years, with 87.2 percent of the units valued at less than \$50,000. While the exact level of affordability of rental housing cannot be fully determined, the data indicates that approximately 46.2% of the families spend less than 30 percent (the generally accepted threshold of affordability) or more of their household income for rent. This high percent of families spending 30 percent or more of their income for rent indicates a major housing affordability problem.

Figure 2-2 - AGE OF STRUCTURE, 1990 AND 2000

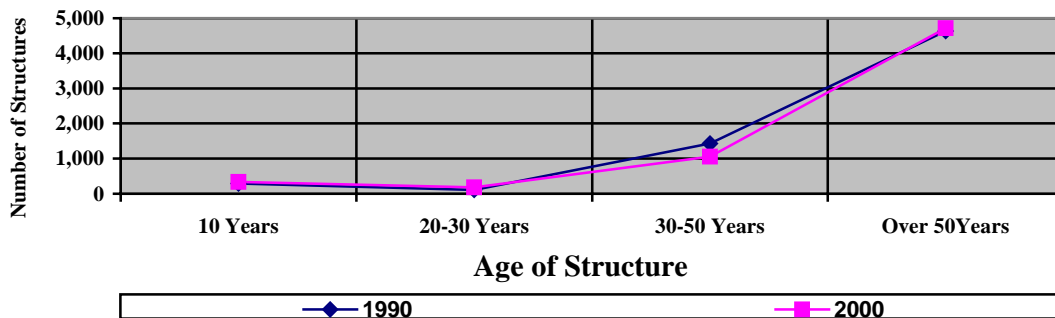


Figure 2-3 - VALUE OF STRUCTURE, 1990 AND 2000

