County of Chester
Organization and Services

Chester County Board of Commissioners:
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County of Chester
Facts & Demographics
County Facts

- Covers 760 square miles of Pennsylvania
- Founded in 1682
- One of three original Pennsylvania counties
- 15 Boroughs
- 57 Townships
- 1 City
- 14 Public School Districts
County Population

- 2010 Census is 498,886
- 2015 American Community Survey Census is 515,939
- Median age is 40
- The population has increased 63% since 1980
- The Chester County growth rate since 1980 has been higher than that of Pennsylvania and the nation
The County of Chester is projected to be the fastest growing in terms of population and jobs. In the 30 years from 2015 to 2045:

- Population increase of 30% - from 516,000 to 662,000
- Increase in jobs of 30% - 87,000 in 30 years
- Increase in housing units of 30% - 55,000 more dwellings in 30 years
County Facts

• Chester County is the **healthiest** county in PA – University of Wisconsin/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation top health outcomes

• Chester County is the **wealthiest** in the State with the highest per capita and median household income

• Chester County is the most **educated** in PA – more than 50% hold a bachelor’s degree or higher
County Facts

• Chester County’s diverse economy includes more than 15,000 businesses providing more than 252,000 jobs

• Chester County is top among PA counties in the value of agricultural crops – industry world leader for cultivated mushrooms, 1,730 farms

• Tourism in Chester County equals more than $760 million in spending, supports 7,400 jobs; tourism economic impact is more than $800 million, contributing to nearly 13,000 jobs
2018 Operating Budget Revenue by Source

$465,528,481

- Federal and State Grants: $192,051,080 (41%)
- Real Estate Taxes: $164,922,932 (36%)
- Appropriated Fund Balance: $10,871,035 (2%)
- Other Revenue: $7,549,284 (2%)
- Interfund Transfers: $18,245,985 (4%)
- Departmental Earnings: $61,431,860 (13%)
- Cost Recovery: $10,456,305 (2%)

Source: 2018 Budget
County Expenditures by Function

2018 Operating Budget Expenditures by Function
$465,528,481

- Human Services: 224,046,389 (48%)
- Debt Service: 50,975,069 (11%)
- Public Works: 1,078,286 (0%)
- Miscellaneous: 21,729,981 (5%)
- General Government: 40,849,053 (9%)
- Judicial: 44,991,192 (10%)
- Consrvation & Development: 6,075,267 (1%)
- Culture & Recreation: 12,889,220 (3%)
- Corrections: 43,504,955 (9%)
- Public Safety: 19,389,069 (4%)

Source: 2018 Budget
County Capital Expenditures

Total = $51.1 Million

Open Space & Community Revitalization
$28,424,998
56%

Facilities
$8,860,967
17%

Public Safety
$7,278,290
14%

Infrastructure
$1,637,000
3%

County Parks & Trails Development
$4,320,388
9%

Transfers & Other
$567,849
1%

Source: 2018 Budget
Major Services & Programs
Human Services
Public Health
Planning
Open Space
Community Development
Libraries
2018 Budget – $167 million
Direct services to over 35,000 citizens

The mission of the Department of Human Services is to protect vulnerable children and adults, promoting independence and well-being for the visitors and citizens of Chester County so that they may lead stable, safe and fulfilling lives.
**County Human Services**

**Department of Aging**
- Services that support older adults to maintain safe and fulfilling lives
- Protective services
- In-home supports
- Community supports – senior centers

**Children, Youth & Families**
- Services that protect children and support families to provide safety and well-being
- Protective services (Fostering)
- Family skill building
- Adolescent/Transition age youth services
- Adoption

601 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA  
610-344-6350

601 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA  
610-344-5800
## Drug & Alcohol
- Care for residents in need of treatment
- Support for communities to prevent substance abuse
- Prevention and education
- Full continuum of treatment
- Recovery support

## Mental Health, Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities
- Early intervention for children with developmental delays or disabilities, age 0-3
- Intellectual disability services to support independence and meaningful community inclusion
- Mental Health services and support to promote recovery, independence and community integration

601 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA  
**610-344-5360**  

601 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA  
**610-344-6265**
## County Human Services

### Veteran’s Affairs
- Support for veterans and spouses in understanding and applying for benefits

601 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA  
610-344-6375

### Youth Center
- Secure detention
- Supports balanced and restorative plans for youth in juvenile probation
- Shelter needs for girls involved in Children, Youth and Families

601 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA  
610-793-5910
The mission of the Chester County Health Department is to provide personal and environmental health services to residents and visitors so that they may grow, live and work in healthy and safe communities.

2018 Budget – $10 million
Chester County Health Department

Personal Health
- Maternal and Child Health
- Home Visiting
- Immunizations
- Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- Communicable Diseases

Environmental Health
- Food Protection
- Institutions
- Vector Control
- Sewage
- Water
- Healthy Homes

Population Health
- Health Education
- Disease Investigation & Surveillance
- Emergency Preparedness
• 2018 Budget – $8 million

The mission of the Chester County Library is to provide educational and cultural services to the residents of Chester County and member libraries so that they may be life-long learners.
Chester County Library System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chester County Library System</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• 18 Libraries</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 2 county-owned</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 16 “branch” system libraries</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Nearly 1.9 million visitors</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 2,600 Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 3.7 million items borrowed</td>
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The mission of the Chester County Planning Commission is to provide planning and information services to Chester County agencies, municipalities, citizens, and businesses so that a high quality of place, through smart growth, vibrant towns, protected open space, and efficient transportation can be maintained.
County Planning Commission

**Comprehensive Plan**
- Prepare and implement Landscapes2
- Update the Plan – Landscapes3

**Transportation**
- Highway, transit and trail studies – Chester Valley Trail, Schuylkill River Trail, Struble Trail
- Partnerships with PennDOT, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, CCEDC etc.

**Municipality Support**
- Vision Partnership Program – planning guidance
- Heritage preservation planning, town tours and village walks
- Pipeline information
- Urban Center revitalization
County Open Space Preservation

• 2018 Budget – $685 thousand
• 131,000 acres preserved
• 27 percent of Chester County

The mission of Chester County’s Open Space Preservation Department is to administer funds and preserve land for public benefit, operate in a manner that maximizes transparency, and provide technical assistance and information services.
County Open Space Preservation

**Farmland Preservation**
- Preserve farms by paying for development rights
- Farmer remains on the land

**Stewardship**
- Make sure preserved land stays in open space, park or farm use as required

**Conservancies and Land Trusts**
- Grants to establish preserves and help fund public access improvements

**Municipal Grants**
- Grants to help municipalities buy and build parks and trails
County Community Development

• 2018 Budget – $224 million

Funding sources include US Department of Housing and Urban Development, PA Department of Human Services, PA Department of Community and Economic Development, County Housing Trust Program and Community Revitalization Program

The mission of the Department of Community Development (DCD) is to provide housing, neighborhood improvement, workforce development, and social services to the citizens of Chester County so they can have the opportunity to successfully live and work in a safe, stable, diverse, and desirable community.
**Community Revitalization**
- Chester County’s urban centers – 15 Boroughs and the City of Coatesville
- More than $60 million in grants since 2002
- “Glamorous and not-so-glamorous” projects from streetscapes to sewage and water mains infrastructure

**Housing**
- Decades to Doorways – Chester County’s 10-year plan to end homelessness
- Community Development Block Grants, Community Services Block Grants
- Homeless Assistance Funds, Home Investment Partnership Program, Medical Assistance Transportation Program

**Workforce Development**
- PA CareerLink Chester County – numerous training and employment placement initiatives
- Partnerships with United Way Financial Stability Center, CCEDC
- Employment, Advancement and Retention Network (EARN) Program
County WalkWorks ChesCo!

- Healthiest Cities & Counties Challenge – sponsored by the Aetna Foundation, the American Public Health Association and the National Association of Counties

- Chester County selected as a Healthy Community 50 finalist

- A two-year competition developing a practical, evidenced-based strategy to demonstrate improved health outcomes

- **WalkWorks ChesCo!** Designed to get EVERYONE up and walking, or walking more – 1 billion steps goal in year one; 1.5 billion steps taken!

- Received $10,000 in seed money and in the running for a $500,000 prize

- chesco.org/walkworks
Questions & Answers