

REGIONAL



ANALYSIS

POPULATION

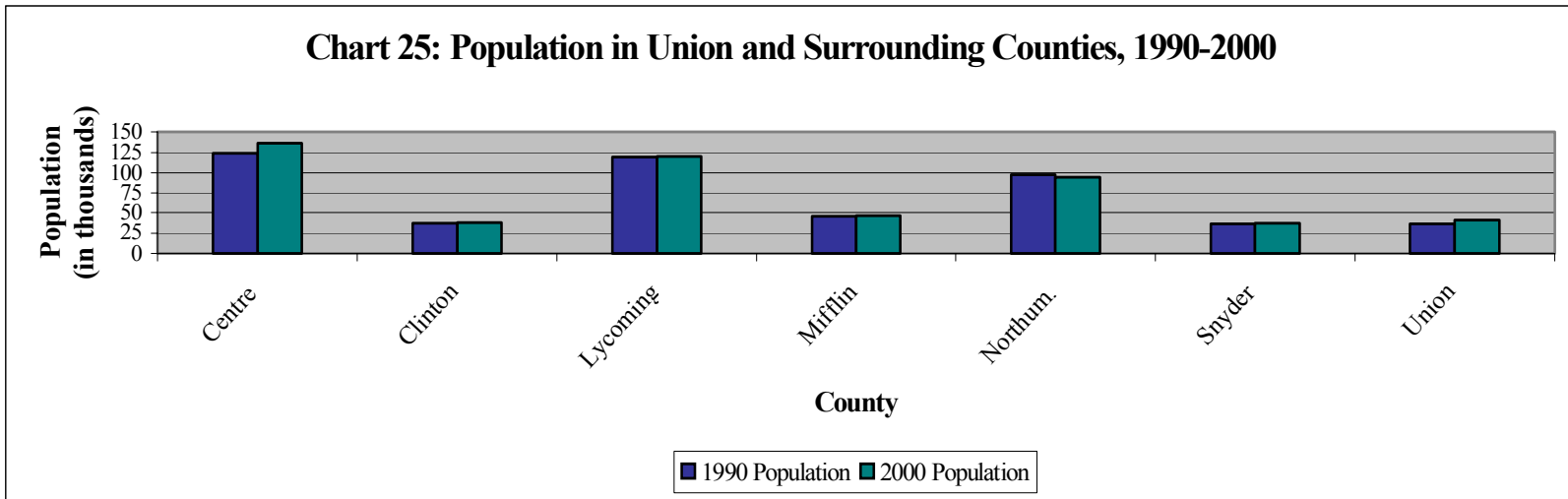
Excluding the increase of institutionalized persons in Gregg Township from the 1990 to 2000, Union County’s 4.9% population gain was at least double that of surrounding counties with the exception of Centre County and was 1.4% more than the statewide growth rate. When the institutionalized citizens of Gregg Township are included, the population increase jumps to 15.1%, making it the county with the largest population change in the region. Comparatively, Union and Snyder Counties are most similar in land area and population density than any of the surrounding counties. Centre, Clinton, and Lycoming Counties have far greater land area although Centre County’s population density is also similar to that of Union.

Table 24: Population in Union and Surrounding Counties, 1990-2000

	Centre	Clinton	Lycoming	Mifflin	Northum.	Snyder	Union ¹ without inmates	Union with inmates
1990 Population	123,786	37,182	118,710	46,197	96,771	36,680	36,176	36,176
2000 Population	135,758	37,914	120,044	46,486	94,556	37,546	37,945	41,624
Percent Change	9.7%	2.0%	1.1%	0.6%	-2.3%	2.4%	4.9%	15.1%
Land Area (square miles)	1,111.85	898.09	1,243.77	414.6	477.38	332.16	317.12	317.12
Population Density	122.6	42.6	97.2	112.9	205.6	113.4	119.7	131.3

¹ Calculation made by removing new inmates from Allenwood Federal Correctional Complex.

Chart 25: Population in Union and Surrounding Counties, 1990-2000



AGE AND EDUCATION

Union County has the second lowest median age and the second lowest percentage of the population under 18 years of age as compared to neighboring counties. The lower statistics in Centre County are most likely a result of the Pennsylvania State University. The population under 18 in Union County is also decreasing at a rate double that of most of the surrounding counties. This corresponds with the statistic that the child bearing segment of the Union County population has decreased between 1990 and 2000. The percentage of people over 65 years of age is the third lowest in the region, and is growing at about the same rate as the other counties, with the exceptions of Clinton and Snyder Counties.

Compared to the surrounding counties, Union County has the highest percentage of persons with a Bachelor's degree or higher, with the exception of Centre County, the location of Pennsylvania State University (See Chart 26). However, Union is also the county with the highest percentage of people without a high school diploma, a statistic that has likely been skewed by the large incarcerated population. (See Chart 27)

Table 25: Age Profile, Union and Surrounding Counties, 1990-2000

	Population	Median Age	% Under 18 1990	% Under 18 2000	% Change 1990-2000	% Over 65 1990	% Over 65 2000	% Change 1990-2000
<i>Union County</i>	41,624	35.8	22.9%	20.1%	-12.2%	12.6%	13.4%	6.6%
Pennsylvania	12,281,054	38.0	23.5%	23.8%	1.3%	15.4%	15.6%	1.3%
Centre County	135,758	28.7	18.3%	18.0%	-1.5%	9.0%	10.4%	15.9%
Clinton County	37,914	37.8	23.3%	21.5%	-7.7%	16.0%	16.8%	5.1%
Lycoming County	120,044	38.4	24.9%	23.3%	-6.4%	15.1%	16.0%	6.0%
Mifflin County	46,486	38.8	24.9%	24.6%	-1.2%	16.0%	17.0%	6.4%
Northumberland County	94,556	40.8	23.2%	21.9%	-5.6%	18.9%	19.0%	0.5%
Snyder County	37,546	36.7	25.4%	24.0%	-5.5%	12.6%	14.0%	11.3%

Chart 26: Population With a Bachelor's Degree or Higher

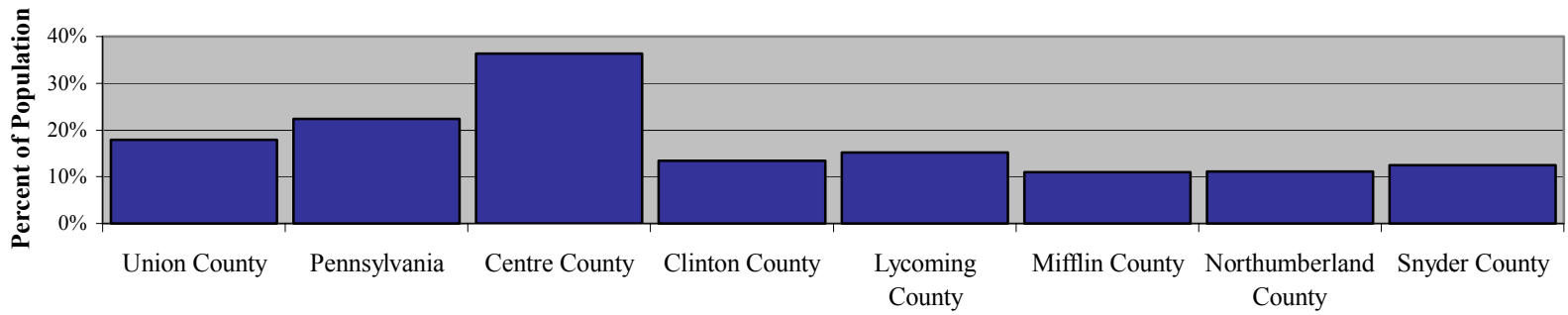
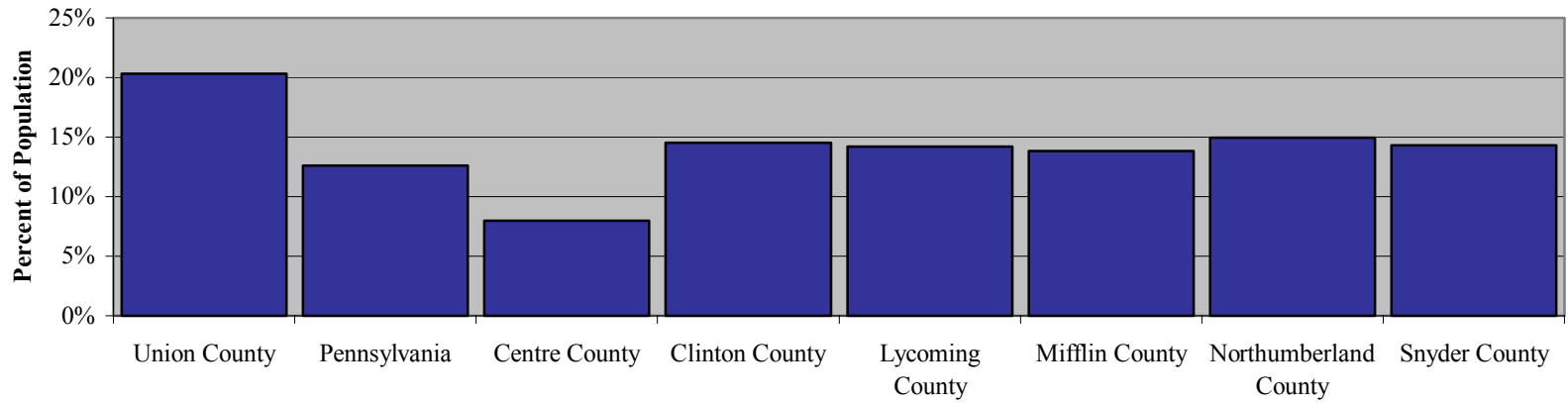


Chart 27: Population Without a High School Diploma

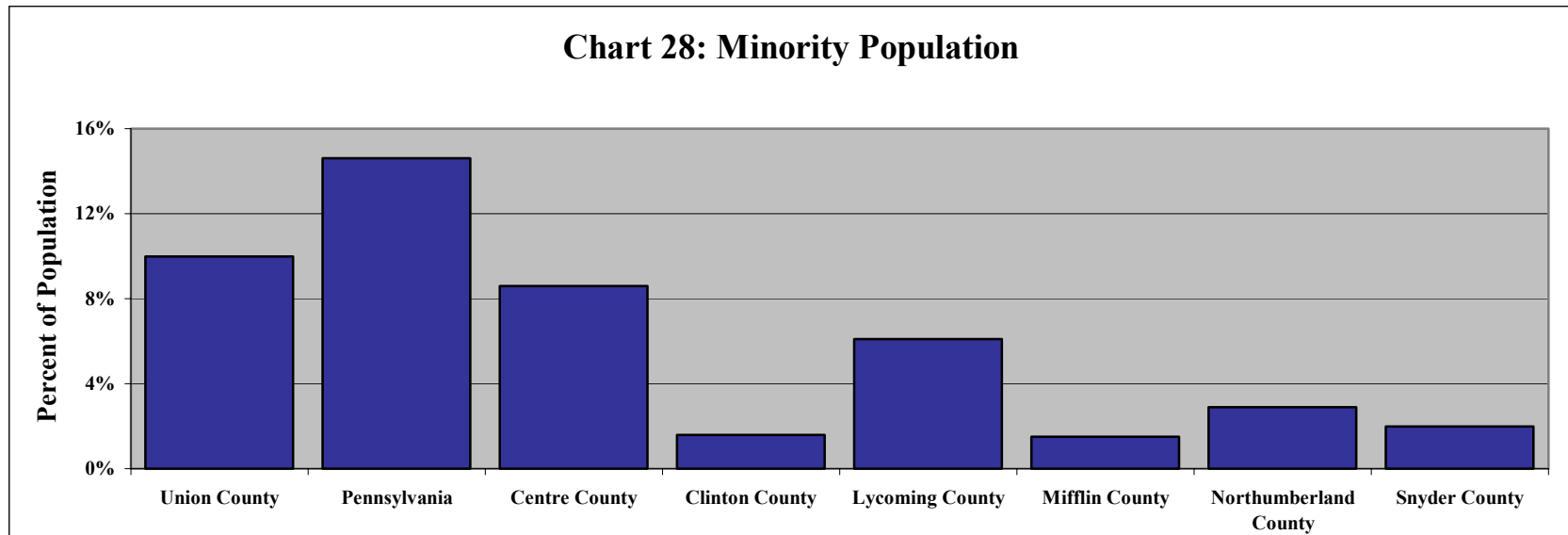


RACE AND ETHNICITY

Union County has the highest percentage of minorities and people of Hispanic origin than any of the surrounding counties. The county also has a higher percentage of Hispanics and people of mixed race than the state as a whole. These numbers are influenced by the large incarcerated population in Union County as compared to the surrounding counties. Not including those incarcerated, only 3% of the county is a minority, placing Union County third in the region, and only slightly above Northumberland County.

Table 26: Race and ETHNICITY, 2000

County	White Alone	Black	Other Race	Two or More Races	Hispanic Origin
<i>Union County</i>	87.6%	6.9%	1.7%	1.4%	3.9%
Pennsylvania	84.1%	10.0%	3.4%	1.2%	3.2%
Centre County	90.6%	2.6%	4.9%	1.1%	1.7%
Clinton County	97.9%	0.5%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%
Lycoming County	93.6%	4.3%	0.9%	0.9%	0.7%
Mifflin County	98.2%	0.5%	0.6%	0.4%	0.6%
Northumberland County	96.6%	1.5%	0.8%	0.6%	1.1%
Snyder County	97.4%	0.8%	0.7%	0.5%	1.0%



INCOME AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Union County has the lowest percentage of households earning less than \$25,000 annually in the six county region. The county has the highest percentages of households with income levels from \$50,000 to \$100,000 and levels above \$200,000, while coming in second for the percentage between \$100,000 and \$200,000. The county also has the highest median income of all the surrounding counties and has the second highest per capita income.

Union County has a lower poverty rate than all of the surrounding counties, the lowest poverty rate among families, and children under eighteen, as well as the second lowest poverty rate for elderly.

In 2000, the unemployment rate in Union County was lower than the majority of surrounding counties, and the state rate of 5.7 as well. All of the regional counties had an unemployment rate of over four percent, with the exceptions of Union and Snyder Counties.

Table 27: Household and Per Capita Income, 2000

COUNTY	Income (%)									Median Income	Per Capita Income
	Less Than \$10,000	\$10,000-\$14,999	\$15,000-\$24,999	\$25,000-\$34,999	\$35,000-\$49,999	\$50,000-\$74,999	\$75,000-\$99,999	\$100,000-\$199,999	\$200,000 or more		
<i>Union County</i>	9.4	6.5	13.7	13.9	18.7	20.9	8.9	6.3	1.7	\$40,336	\$17,918
Pennsylvania	9.7	7.0	13.8	13.3	16.9	19.5	9.6	8.4	1.9	\$40,106	\$20,880
Centre County	11.5	8.0	14.9	14.2	16.3	18.2	8.4	7.2	1.3	\$36,165	\$18,020
Clinton County	12.2	9.2	18.7	15.4	18.0	16.2	5.3	3.7	0.7	\$31,064	\$15,750
Lycoming County	10.1	8.5	17.1	15.5	19.4	17.2	6.5	4.7	1.0	\$34,016	\$17,224
Mifflin County	13.2	8.5	16.7	16.0	20.2	16.3	5.4	3.2	0.6	\$32,175	\$15,553
Northumberland County	11.8	10.6	17.4	15.6	18.5	17.1	5.4	2.8	0.7	\$31,314	\$16,489
Snyder County	8.8	7.8	15.5	16.5	19.3	20.3	6.5	4.0	1.3	\$35,981	\$16,756

Chart 29: Poverty Rate

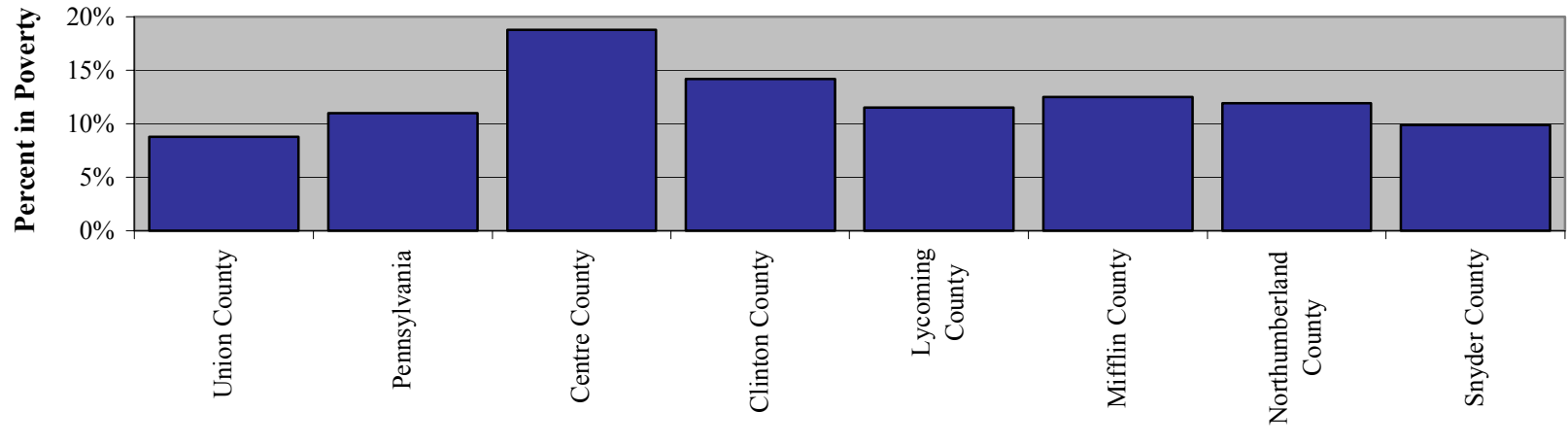
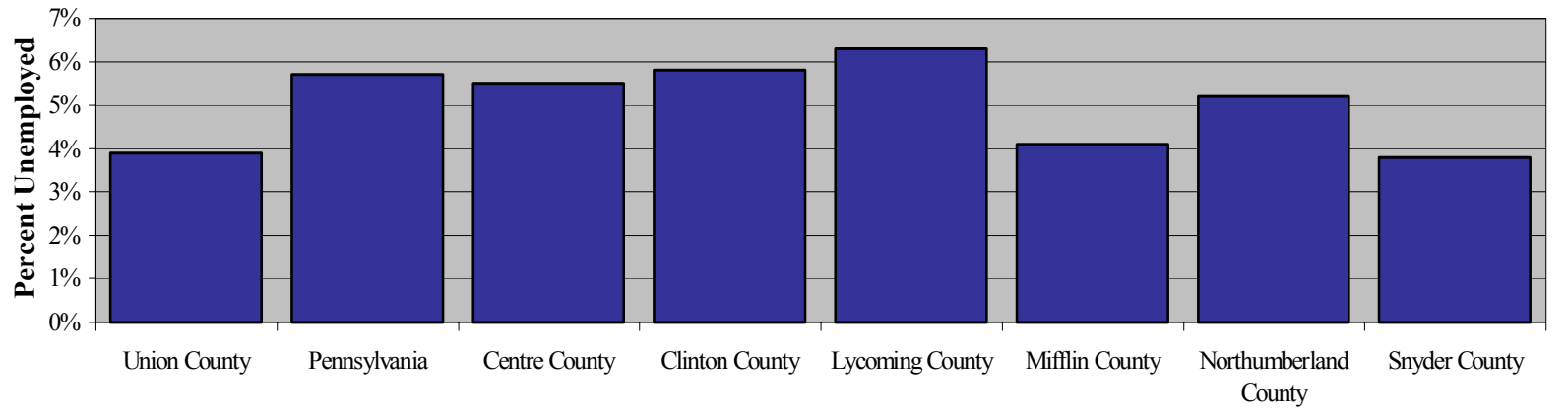


Chart 30: Unemployment Rate



HOME VALUES, MORTGAGE AND RENT

Since Union County has the highest median income in the region it is not surprising that the county is second only to Centre County for median home value in the region. The county also has the second highest median home mortgage and median rent values next to Centre County. The county median home value is slightly more than that for the Commonwealth while median mortgage and rent values are lower than the statewide figures. Refer to Table 28 below.

Table 28: Median Home Value, Mortgage and Rent

County	Median Home Value	Median Mortgage	Median Rent
Union County	\$97,800	\$908	\$473
Pennsylvania	\$97,000	\$1,010	\$531
Centre County	\$114,900	\$1,024	\$565
Clinton County	\$78,800	\$788	\$411
Lycoming County	\$86,200	\$848	\$449
Mifflin County	\$73,300	\$756	\$384
Northumberland County	\$69,300	\$739	\$389
Snyder County	\$87,900	\$823	\$439