

Pennsylvania Community Foundations

A Statistical Snapshot



Community Foundation Research and Training Institute

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SUMMARY

In October of 2023, the Pennsylvania Area Community Foundation Association (PACFA) approached the Community Foundation Research and Training Institute (CFRTI) about preparing a statistical summary of all community foundations in Pennsylvania.

As will be shown on the following pages, 42 foundations with collective assets of more than \$4.6 billion serve Pennsylvania. In 2021 they received gifts totaling \$363 million and awarded grants and scholarships of about \$253 million.

Those community foundations employ 469 staff members and are governed by 576 board members.

Around 23% of community foundation assets across the state are held in donor advised funds. Those donor advised funds received \$165 million in gifts in 2021 (45% of all gifts received) and awarded \$98 million in grants (39% of all grants awarded).

We appreciate the ability to work with PACFA on this project and thank them for their support. Any errors are, of course, the responsibility of the Community Foundation Research and Training Institute.

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STATISTICAL SNAPSHOT OF PENNSYLVANIA COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

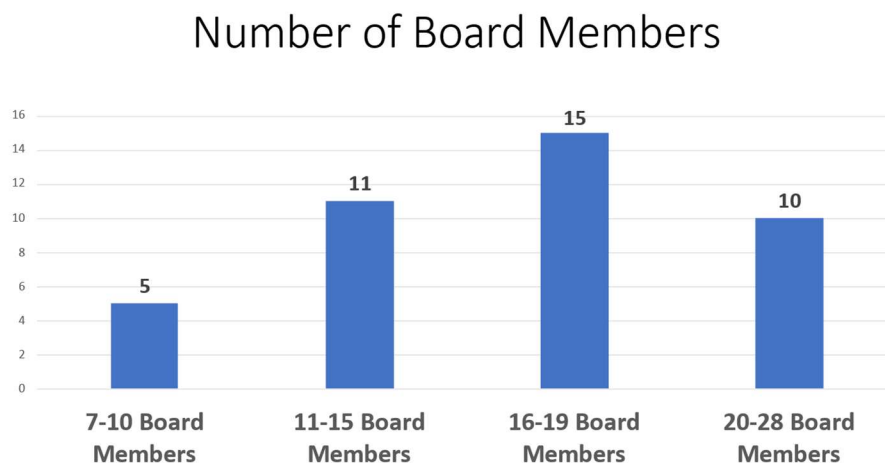
The State of Pennsylvania is served by more than 40 community foundations.

According to the Form 990 for each foundation, here is summary information for all community foundations:

- Number of Foundations: 41¹
- Number of Staff Members: 457
- Number of Board Members: 563

The number of board members per foundation can vary significantly – from seven board members (Community Foundation of Warren County) to a high of 28 board members (Bethel Park Community Foundation).

The distribution of board members for all Pennsylvania community foundations is shown below:



¹ For this study, we examined data from 41 foundations. 40 of those would meet the definition of a community foundation. One foundation in this study is a private foundation.

STAFFING PATTERNS AT COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

As might be expected, the number of staff at Pennsylvania community foundations is generally tied to asset levels – the higher the level of assets, the more staff. The following charts show staffing at all Pennsylvania community foundations, broken down by asset level. This information comes from the Form 990.²

For the information provided in this report, we have broken down the data by the size of the foundation. In each subject area, then, we provide not only aggregated data but also data based on the size of the foundation.

The chart below shows the category breakdown. The largest foundations (assets above \$100 million) are in category A; those in the middle (assets between \$30 million and \$100 million), Category B and the smaller foundations (assets below \$30 million) are in Category C.

On the following pages, then, are staffing patterns for community foundations broken down by category. Also shown is a calculation of assets per staff member.

Pennsylvania Community Foundations Categories, by Asset Size

Category Name	Asset Size	Number of Foundations
Category A	Above \$100 Million	10
Category B	\$30 Million to \$100 Million	12
Category C	Below \$30 Million	19

² Note that the Form 990 tends to overstate the number of staff members. Question #5 asks for “number of individuals employed in the calendar year”. Thus, if one position has turnover (one staff departs, a new one is hired) that would count as 2 staff, even though they served in only one position.

Staffing Patterns Category A

Foundation	# of Staff	Total Assets	Assets/Staff
Pittsburgh Foundation	78	\$ 1,518,120,169	\$ 19,463,079
Philadelphia Foundation	37	\$ 669,216,014	\$ 18,086,919
Erie CF	20	\$ 335,610,816	\$ 16,780,541
York County CF	17	\$ 208,424,639	\$ 12,260,273
Lancaster County CF	13	\$ 177,498,708	\$ 13,653,747
Berks County CF	13	\$ 134,302,616	\$ 10,330,970
Foundation for Enhancing Communities	24	\$ 134,056,837	\$ 5,585,702
First CF Partnership of Pennsylvania	17	\$ 133,727,811	\$ 7,866,342
CF of Western PA & Eastern Ohio	10	\$ 123,167,161	\$ 12,316,716
CF of Warren County	2	\$ 111,169,242	\$ 55,584,621

Staffing Patterns Category B

Foundation	# of Staff	Total Assets	Assets/Staff
CF for the Alleghenies	25	\$ 97,627,498	\$ 3,905,100
Chester County CF	18	\$ 91,764,111	\$ 5,098,006
Community Giving Foundation	9	\$ 84,175,286	\$ 9,352,810
Centre County CF	8	\$ 81,202,469	\$ 10,150,309
Lehigh Valley CF	14	\$ 80,747,413	\$ 5,767,672
Foundation for Delaware County	73	\$ 78,464,978	\$ 1,074,863
Scranton Area Foundation	9	\$ 60,897,206	\$ 6,766,356
Washington County CF	10	\$ 56,634,793	\$ 5,663,479
Luzerne Foundation	14	\$ 54,069,424	\$ 3,862,102
Schuylkill Area CF	4	\$ 38,860,346	\$ 9,715,087
Crawford Heritage CF	3	\$ 34,137,162	\$ 11,379,054

Staffing Patterns Category C*

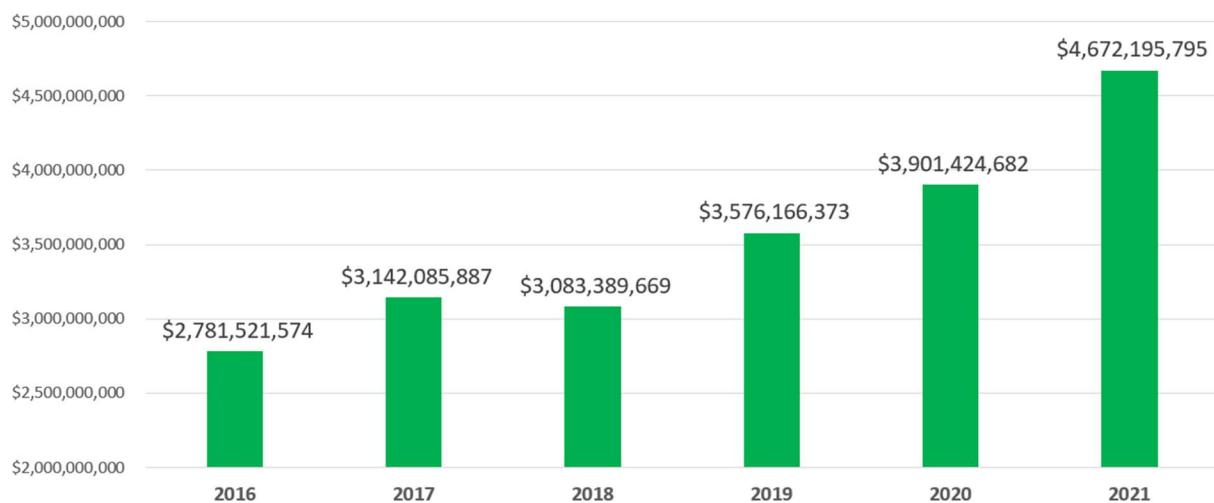
Foundation	# of Staff	Total Assets	Assets/Staff
Central Pennsylvania CF	5	\$ 28,583,715	\$ 5,716,743
CF of the Endless Mountains	8	\$ 27,658,427	\$ 3,457,303
CF of Fayette County	5	\$ 24,512,362	\$ 4,902,472
Adams County CF	5	\$ 22,715,420	\$ 4,543,084
Bridge Builders CFs	4	\$ 20,576,313	\$ 5,144,078
CF of the Northern Alleghenies	7	\$ 18,748,864	\$ 2,678,409
Armstrong County CF	3	\$ 18,051,448	\$ 6,017,149
Poise Foundation	19	\$ 17,239,498	\$ 907,342
Bucks County Foundation	2	\$ 16,590,883	\$ 8,295,442
Community's Foundation	5	\$ 15,998,397	\$ 3,199,679
Clinton County CF	2	\$ 14,305,405	\$ 7,152,703
CF for Twin Tiers	4	\$ 12,229,247	\$ 3,057,312
Beaver County Foundation	2	\$ 11,760,813	\$ 5,880,407
CF of Greene County, PA	4	\$ 8,896,150	\$ 2,224,038
Wayne County CF	2	\$ 8,364,895	\$ 4,182,448
Montgomery County Foundation	3	\$ 6,486,904	\$ 2,162,301
Mt. Lebanon Community Endowment	1	\$ 1,679,884	\$ 1,679,884

* Excludes 2 that reported no staff

ASSET LEVELS AND GROWTH

From 2016 to 2021, asset levels at community foundations in Pennsylvania grew from approximately \$2.8 billion to \$4.7 billion. This is an increase over that time period of about 68%. This growth was slightly less than the nationwide growth of community foundation over this time period, which was about 75%.

Assets of All Pennsylvania Community Foundations



When looking at assets of all Pennsylvania community foundations, the ten largest foundations are noted below. As shown in the chart, the Pittsburgh Foundation is the largest community foundation in Pennsylvania (\$1.5 billion in assets as of 2021). In 2021, the Pittsburgh Foundation was the 16th-largest community foundation in the country.

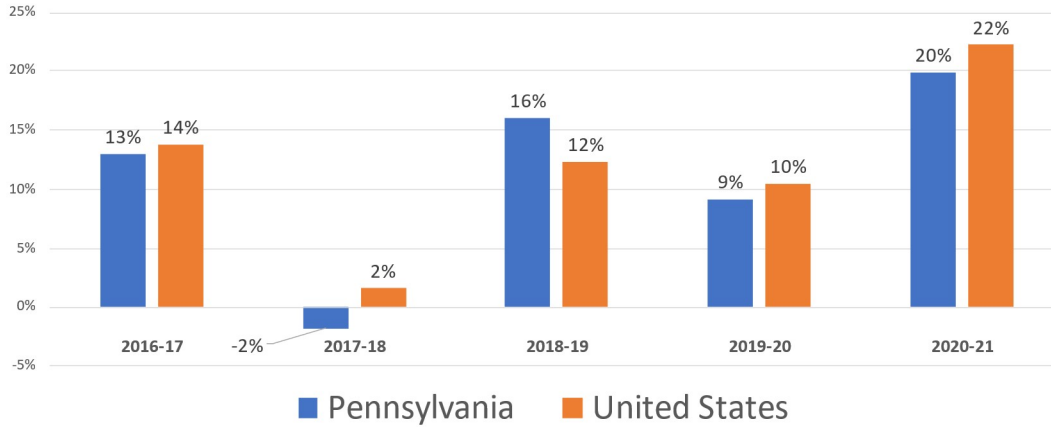
Following Pittsburgh, the largest community foundations in Pennsylvania are the Philadelphia Foundation (\$669 million in asset), Erie Community Foundation (\$335 million) and York County Community Foundation (\$208 million).

Ten Largest Pennsylvania Community Foundations

Foundations	Assets - 2021
Pittsburgh Foundation	\$ 1,518,120,169
Philadelphia Foundation	\$ 669,216,014
Erie Community Foundation	\$ 335,610,816
York County Community Foundation	\$ 208,424,639
Lancaster County Community Foundation	\$ 177,498,708
Berks County Community Foundation	\$ 134,302,616
Foundation for Enhancing Communities	\$ 134,056,837
First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania	\$ 133,727,811
Community Foundation of Western PA & Eastern Ohio	\$ 123,167,161
Community Foundation of Warren County	\$ 111,169,242

Growth in Assets

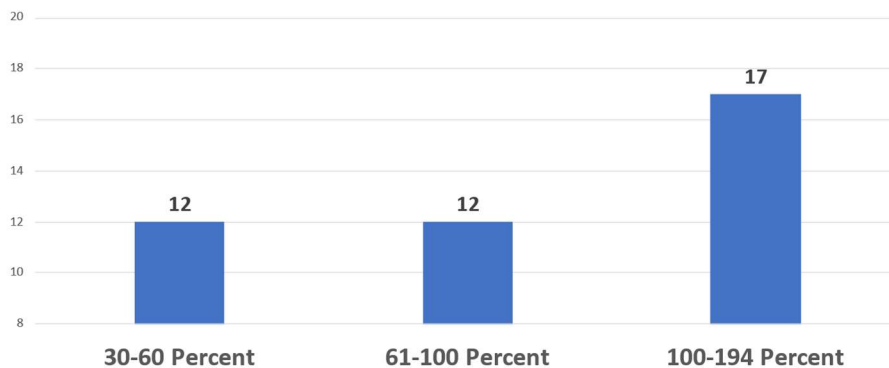
Pennsylvania CFs vs All US CFs



As noted previously, while the overall growth of Pennsylvania community foundations from 2016 to 2021 was 68%, the individual growth rates at different community foundations varied significantly. As shown below, 17 Pennsylvania community foundations doubled in size (or more) between 2016 and 2021.

Growth Rate of Assets

2016-21

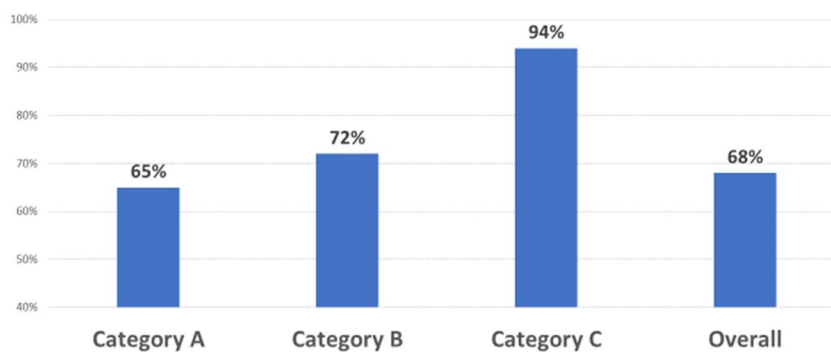


Fastest-Growing Community Foundations

Foundation	2016-21 Growth	Assets 2021	Assets 2016
Washington County CF	193%	\$ 56,634,793	\$ 19,307,226
Lancaster County CF	187%	\$ 177,498,708	\$ 61,950,405
Poise Foundation	182%	\$ 17,239,498	\$ 6,114,018
Mt. Lebanon Community Endowment	178%	\$ 1,679,884	\$ 603,423
Bridge Builders CFs	156%	\$ 20,576,313	\$ 8,040,447
Wayne County CF	155%	\$ 8,364,895	\$ 3,275,305
CF for Twin Tiers	134%	\$ 12,229,247	\$ 5,229,276
CF of the Endless Mountains	131%	\$ 27,658,427	\$ 11,973,826
Centre County CF	130%	\$ 81,202,469	\$ 35,297,337
Crawford Heritage CF	127%	\$ 34,137,162	\$ 15,054,077
Community Foundation of Greene County	125%	\$ 8,896,150	\$ 3,953,042

When we looked at comparisons of percentage growth in assets, some of the smaller Pennsylvania community foundations had the highest growth rates. While the largest community foundations in Pennsylvania grew at a rate of about 65% between 2016 and 2021, in the smallest category the average growth rate was 94%

Growth in Assets 2016-21



DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

A donor advised fund is a fund in which the donor or someone named by the donor can periodically recommend recipients of charitable grants. They have become a very popular giving vehicle in the last ten years.

As of 2021 Pennsylvania community foundations administered 3,816 donor advised funds with assets of nearly \$1.1 billion. This compares to 3,080 accounts in 2016, with assets of \$583 million. This represents a 24% growth in the number of accounts, and an 87% growth in assets in these types of funds.

This growth contrasts, however, with the growth in donor advised funds at commercial donor advised fund providers (such as Fidelity, Schwab, and Vanguard). Donor advised funds have soared at these types of providers – up nearly fivefold from 2016 to 2021.

Donor Advised Funds

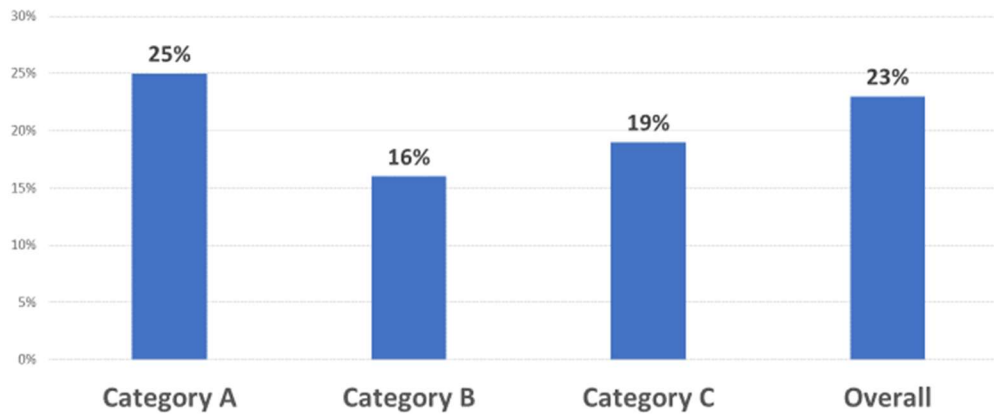
Pennsylvania Community Foundations

	Growth	2021	2016
# of Accounts	24%	3,816	3,080
Value of Accounts	87%	\$1.093 Billion	\$583 Million
Average Account Size	51%	\$286,441	\$189,471
<u>Commercial DAFs</u>			
DAF Accounts	493%	1,721,096	290,111
DAF Assets	232%	\$149.4 Billion	\$45 Billion
Average Fund Size	-44%	\$86,805	\$155,113

Interestingly, the average fund size of a donor advised fund at a commercial provider has dipped by nearly half, while the average fund size at a Pennsylvania community foundation is up by more than 50%.

The percentage of community foundation assets held in donor advised funds can differ significantly. Overall, about 23% of Pennsylvania community foundation assets are in donor advised funds. For some community foundations, however, they represent a much higher proportion of assets.

% of Assets in DAFs 2021



Highest DAF as % of Assets

Foundation	% Assets DAF	Assets
Greater Pike Community Foundation	96%	\$ 4,720,455
Lancaster County Community Foundation	59%	\$ 177,498,708
Armstrong County Community Foundation	49%	\$ 18,051,448
Central Pennsylvania Community Foundation	48%	\$ 28,583,715
Chester County Community Foundation	42%	\$ 91,764,111
Beaver County Foundation	40%	\$ 11,760,813
Washington County Community Foundation	34%	\$ 56,634,793
Luzerne Foundation	32%	\$ 54,069,424
Mt. Lebanon Community Endowment	31%	\$ 1,679,884
Pittsburgh Foundation	30%	\$ 1,518,120,169
Montgomery County Foundation	30%	\$ 6,486,904

DAF as % of Assets Category A

Foundation	DAF % Now	DAF % 2016	Total Assets
Pittsburgh Foundation	30%	27%	\$ 1,518,120,169
Philadelphia Foundation	20%	18%	\$ 669,216,014
Erie CF	22%	21%	\$ 335,610,816
York County CF	18%	15%	\$ 208,424,639
Lancaster County CF	59%	27%	\$ 177,498,708
Berks County CF	11%	16%	\$ 134,302,616
Foundation for Enhancing Communities	15%	20%	\$ 134,056,837
First CF Partnership of Pennsylvania	11%	3%	\$ 133,727,811
CF of Western PA & Eastern Ohio	25%	25%	\$ 123,167,161
CF of Warren County	15%	14%	\$ 111,169,242

DAF as % of Assets Category B

Foundation	DAF % Now	DAF % 2016	Total Assets
Community Foundation for the Alleghenies	9%	17%	\$ 97,627,498
Chester County Community Foundation	42%	41%	\$ 91,764,111
Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation	0%	0%	\$ 88,468,067
Community Giving Foundation	11%	6%	\$ 84,175,286
Centre County Community Foundation	19%	21%	\$ 81,202,469
Lehigh Valley Community Foundation	19%	22%	\$ 80,747,413
Foundation for Delaware County	3%	0%	\$ 78,464,978
Scranton Area Foundation	15%	6%	\$ 60,897,206
Washington County Community Foundation	34%	20%	\$ 56,634,793
Luzerne Foundation	32%	42%	\$ 54,069,424
Schuylkill Area Community Foundation	9%	14%	\$ 38,860,346

DAF as % of Assets Category C

Foundation	DAF % Now	DAF % 2016	Assets
Central Pennsylvania Community Foundation	48%	37%	\$ 28,583,715
Community Foundation of the Endless Mountains	14%	13%	\$ 27,658,427
Community Foundation of Fayette County	19%	13%	\$ 24,512,362
Adams County Community Foundation	13%	14%	\$ 22,715,420
Bridge Builders Community Foundations	4%	1%	\$ 20,576,313
Community Foundation of the Northern Alleghenies	25%	31%	\$ 18,748,864
Armstrong County Community Foundation	49%	55%	\$ 18,051,448
Poise Foundation	7%	16%	\$ 17,239,498
Bucks County Foundation	0%	0%	\$ 16,590,883
Community's Foundation	17%	0%	\$ 15,998,397
Clinton County Community Foundation	0%	0%	\$ 14,305,405
Community Foundation for Twin Tiers	1%	2%	\$ 12,229,247
Beaver County Foundation	40%	33%	\$ 11,760,813
Community Foundation of Greene County	5%	5%	\$ 8,896,150
Wayne County Community Foundation	15%	4%	\$ 8,364,895
Montgomery County Foundation	30%	26%	\$ 6,486,904
Greater Pike Community Foundation	96%	97%	\$ 4,720,455
Mt. Lebanon Community Endowment	31%	54%	\$ 1,679,884
Bethel Park Community Foundation	0%	0%	\$ 733,949

About the Author

David Bennett is the President of the Community Foundation Research and Training Institute.

From 1995 to 2018, David served as the Executive Director of the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne. During that time, assets grew from \$30 million to \$150 million, and annual grantmaking from \$1 million to \$10 million. David twice served as the chair of the Community Foundation Committee of the Indiana Philanthropy Alliance.

David earned his bachelor's degree in economics from Williams College, and Masters in Public Affairs from Princeton University.

David is the past president of the Fort Wayne Rotary Club and has been recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow.