
America's Most Diverse, Mixed-Income Neighborhoods



In a nation increasingly divided by race and economic status, some American neighborhoods are bucking the trend. These neighborhoods have high levels of racial, ethnic and income diversity—which research has shown reduces poverty and promotes economic mobility.

About: Passyunk Square/East Passyunk Crossing & Dickinson Square West

The intersection of three neighborhoods in South Philadelphia—Passyunk Square, East Passyunk Crossing and Dickinson Square West—is one of the nation's most diverse, mixed-income neighborhoods. Passyunk Square is a long established neighborhood in South Philadelphia.

This area has long sat at the seams of different neighborhoods in South Philadelphia. Early in the 20th Century, it straddled the boundary between Italian and Jewish neighborhoods. Much of the Italian influence remains, and as Jewish families moved away, the neighborhood became home to newer groups of immigrants.

Passyunk Square (census tract 28.01) is one of the most diverse, mixed income tracts in the nation; it ranks in the top 6 percent of all tracts nationally in measured racial/ethnic diversity and top sixth in income diversity. The neighborhood is 35 percent Asian, 29 percent white, 16 percent Latino and 12 percent black, the remainder mixed race or other. Nearly equal segments of its population are in each of the five income categories we examined.

The area is replete with distinctive ethnic businesses, including the Italian Market on 9th Street, Latino and Mexican businesses south of Washington Avenue, and a number of Vietnamese and Cambodian shops and markets.

According to local on-line magazine Flying Kite, the area around Passyunk Square is quickly becoming one of the hottest neighborhoods in Philadelphia.

The area boasts several great parks and recreation centers, and is a hub of dining and nightlife, plus easy transportation options to Center City. The neighborhood's diversity is reflected in its population and in the variety of cuisine, which ranges from tacos to pho and of course, famous Philly cheesesteak—both Geno's and Pat's are in the area.

America's Most Diverse, Mixed-Income Neighborhoods

COMPARING NEIGHBORHOODS:

Passyunk Square diversity index: 70.3

Passyunk Square has greater ethnic diversity than about 94 percent of all US urban neighborhoods.

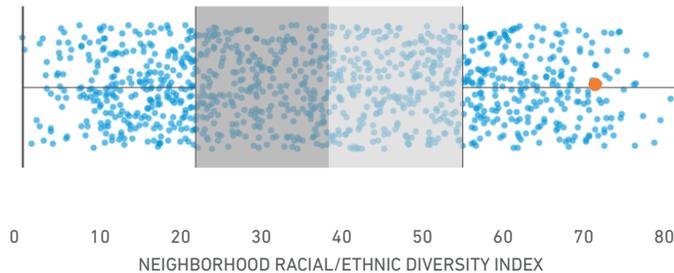
Passyunk Square income diversity index: 76.9

Passyunk Square has greater income diversity than 86 percent of all urban US neighborhoods.

Passyunk Square Walk Score: 95



Racial and ethnic diversity of Philadelphia neighborhoods



- Each circle corresponds to the racial/ethnic diversity index of one neighborhood
- Racial/ethnic diversity index of Passyunk Square

Income diversity of Philadelphia neighborhoods



- Each circle corresponds to the income diversity index of one neighborhood
- Income diversity index of Passyunk Square

METHODOLOGY

For purposes of this study, neighborhood populations are divided into five broad groupings: Asian, Black, Latino, White and all other. We also used an income diversity index—which measures how varied incomes are in an area—to identify which neighborhoods had the most mixed incomes.

This report is produced by City Observatory, a virtual think tank, contributing original data-driven research and regular commentary on what matters to city success, focused on how building great places to live can attract, develop and harness talent to create widely shared opportunity.