

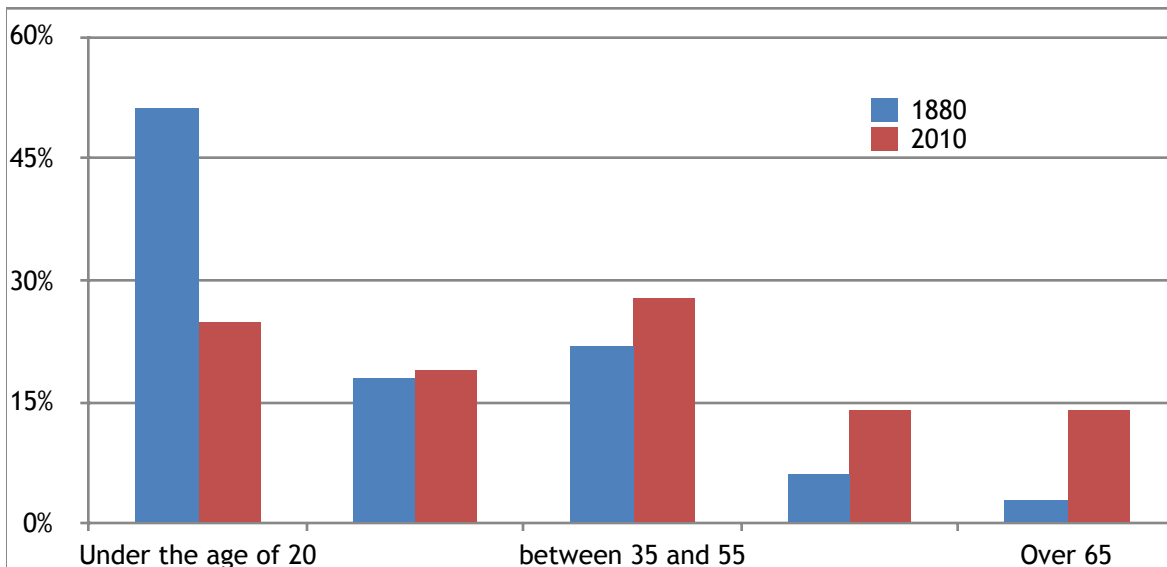
## Delran 1880

Delran Township was just a lot of farmland and a few small villages prior to 1880. In the mid-1800's Delran was part of Chester Township which encompassed all the land between the South Branch Pennsauken Creek and the Rancocas. To the east, Chester Township bordered Evesham Township. As the population grew, Cinnaminson Township was created in 1860 and carved out the area east of Moorestown between the North Branch of the Pennsauken Creek and the Rancocas Creek. On February 12, 1880 the New Jersey Legislature established Delran Township which included Riverside until 1895. Delran Township was established in time for the 1880 U. S. Census. In the first census, there were three districts - Delranco, Bridgeboro and Riverside.

**Housing Stock** - There were 166 homes in Delranco, 134 in Riverside and 102 in Bridgeboro. In both Delranco and Bridgeboro there were a few households living together. A married son and his family were living with the parents. As a result, there were 178 households in Delranco and 106 in Bridgeboro.

**Population** - There were a total of 1758 individuals living in the newly created Township of Delran. Delranco had 772, Bridgeboro had 400 and Riverside had 586. About half the population was men 598 and 574 were women. There were a total of 41 people that were listed as Black or Mullato with 25 living in Delranco, 4 in Bridgeboro and 12 in Riverside.

**Age** - There were 44 children under the age of 1 year and a total of 865 under the age of 20. There were a few more residents (49) over the age of 65 than under the age of 1 in 1880. In 1880, children represented 51% of the total and adults over



age 55 were only 9%. In 2010, children under 20 were only 20%, while adults over 55 make up almost 30%.

**Oldest Resident** - The oldest resident was Samuel Peak at the age of 85. Samuel Peak was living with his wife Margaret who was 80 years old in Delranco. He listed his occupation as a War of 1812 pensioner. During the war, he served with Captain Isaac Kelly's New Jersey Militia. Samuel was a member of the Westfield Friends and buried at least three children in the Westfield Friends cometary. Where he and his wife are buried remains unknown.

On November 19, 1851 he was awarded a land warrant by the Commissioner of Pensions. He was awarded 40 acres in Saint Joseph County, Indiana. His son, Elwood moved to Indiana in 1852 with his wife Adeline King and two children. His wife died in 1865 and he married Sarah Crane from Ohio. Samuel and Margaret's daughter Deborah married Isaac Hullings in 1845. They are both buried in Asbury Methodist Cemetery.

**Birthplaces** - Surprisingly, more than 50% were born in New Jersey and almost half of those born in New Jersey had parents that also were born in New Jersey. 13% emigrants from Germany with 60% living in Riverside most of the other Germans lived in Delranco. Only 6 people in Bridgeboro indicated they were born in Germany. 219 or about 17% indicated they were born in other places both countries and states.

**Marriage** - There were 7,963 marriages in New Jersey and there were three in Delran Township between June 1, 1879 and May 31, 1880. Joseph and Eve Forker lived in Delranco, E.S and Lotta Hunter lived in Riverside and Charles and Emma Mill lived in Bridgeboro.

**Education** - New Jersey adopted the compulsory schooling act in 1875 and a successor bill in 1885 but the laws were not enforced because of inadequate classroom accommodation. Burlington County had a total of 99 one room school houses and 22 schools with 2 or more classrooms. A total of 19 were classified as very poor condition. Libraries were just beginning and three schools had applied to create a library.

In 1880, there were 601 school age children and 414 were attending school. The highest percentage of eligible children attending school was in the Bridgeboro district with 75%.The Burlington County Atlas published in 1876 shows three schools - one located on Chester Avenue, one on Creek Road near Route 130 and

the third Chesterville School located on Bridgeboro Road in Chester Township. Students could attend high school but the closest was Moorestown Friends Academy. Schools were authorized to vaccinate students against Small Pox at public expense based on a law passed in March 1880.



**Occupations** - In 1880, there were 35 registered physicians and 1 veterinarian in Burlington County. The only requirement to practice medicine was a diploma and a small fee.