

SUMMARY

This report contains Vermont census counts of population for 2000, and population estimates for 2004 and 2005. Population totals for counties and towns are presented (Tables 2 and 3, Figures 2 and 4). A listing of towns ranked in order of decreasing 2005 population is provided (Table 4). In addition, the age-sex distributions for the state and counties are given (Tables 5,6). Historical population data for Vermont counties are provided in Table 1. Housing unit estimates are no longer available in this report.

The population of Vermont was estimated to be 623,050 on July 1, 2005 (Table 1), up from the census count of 608,827 on April 1, 2000. This is an increase of 14,223 people, or 2.3 percent from the census. Net migration in Vermont from 2000 to 2005 indicates an overall in-migration of 6,768 people (Table 2). Net migration is calculated as the difference between population change and natural increase (births minus deaths). The highest growth rates occurred in Grand Isle, Franklin and Lamoille Counties (Table 2, Figure 3). In Grand Isle County the large percentage increase is in part a reflection of the small population. Growth was slowest in the southern part of the state, Bennington and Rutland Counties showing only slight increases, and Windham County showing a small decline in population since 2000.

Of the 255 towns and cities in Vermont, nine had total populations that exceeded 10,000 (Tables 3 and 4, Figure 2). These nine places accounted for 25.2 percent of the state's population. Ninety-one towns had resident populations less than 1,000 people, and three unorganized places in Essex County had no permanent residents (Avery's Gore, Lewis and Warner's Grant). Due to limitations in the data available for many towns, estimates may vary substantially from year to year. Observing the population trend for several years gives sense of the true population picture.

The fastest growing segment of the Vermont population is the 45-64 year old age group (Figure 5, Table 5). There has been a slight decline since the Census in the under 15 population, as well as in the 30-39 age group.

Population estimates by race and ethnicity for Vermont for 2005 are included in tables 7 and 8. These estimates are for the race and ethnicity categories used prior to the 2000 Census. Estimates utilizing the Census 2000 race and ethnicity categories are available from the US Census Bureau at www.census.gov.

The 2004 and 2005 estimates are a slight modification of estimates produced for the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) by the United States Census Bureau. An explanation of the modifications made to the Census/NCHS estimates is given in the appendix.