

Appendix

The 2006 estimates in this publication are a slight modification of the Bridged-Race Postcensal Estimates produced for the National Center for Health Statistics by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The 2007 estimates published here are the NCHS/Census estimates with minor exceptions for one town and two unorganized places.

NCHS contracts with the Census Bureau to produce the Bridged-Race Postcensal Population estimates, which collapse the original estimates using the Census 2000 race and ethnicity categories into the categories in use prior to Census 2000, making trend analyses possible. For this reason, it was decided that the NCHS Bridged-Race estimates would be used as the starting point for the estimates which would be published by the Vermont Department of Health beginning with the 2003 estimates. Because the estimated populations for the under 5 age group were not consistent with VDH vital records (birth) data, the NCHS estimates were modified slightly from 2003 to 2006, resulting in the estimates published here. For 2007, no adjustments to the NCHS age group estimates were made. An explanation of the modifications for 2003-2006 follows.

The number of births in a given year should be a reasonably good estimate of the under 1 population for that year, but the Census Bureau estimates of the under 1 population have not been close to this number. For example, the number of Vermont resident births for the year ending July 1, 2003 was 6,506 while the Census/NCHS estimate of the under 1 population on July 1, 2003 was 5,861. This discrepancy prompted a closer look at the estimates for the youngest age categories and it was decided that VDH would estimate the under 5 population by county using vital records data. A detailed explanation of the methodology used for calculating the under 5 population is available from VDH by calling 802-863-7300. The methodology for the original Census/NCHS estimates is available on the internet at

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/dvs/popbridge/popbridge.htm>.

Because VDH estimates the under 5 population to be greater than the Census/NCHS estimate, some modifications were made to the estimates for 5-64 year age groups so that county and state totals would be consistent with those published by NCHS. Because the Census/NCHS data utilize Medicare data for the 65 and older population, these were assumed to be the most accurate of the age group estimates and were not modified.

The town estimates for 2006 and 2007 published here are those produced by the US Census Bureau, with a minor exception. The Census Bureau estimated that one person lived in each of Lewis and Avery's Gore in Essex County. These places have previously been uninhabited, and VDH has received no compelling evidence to suggest that this has changed, so VDH continues to estimate zero population in these places and added those people to the largest neighboring town, Brighton. Information about the Census Bureau's estimate methodology is available at www.census.gov.