

Release Notes

Vintage 2012 Population Estimates

The Vintage 2012 population estimates reflect improvements in the estimates methodology and data inputs. Major improvements include changes in: 1) estimation of net international migration, 2) estimation of deaths to people age 70 and older by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin, 3) assignment of race and Hispanic origin characteristic detail to domestic migrants with 2010 Census data, 4) incorporation of 2010 Census Count Question Resolution Program corrections in the estimates base population, 5) incorporation of Post-2010 Census Group Quarters updates in the estimates base population, 6) resumption of component-based housing estimates, and 7) results from review of preliminary housing and population estimates by members of the Federal-State Cooperative for Population Estimates.

1. Estimation of Net International Migration for the Nation, States, and Counties

A. Estimation of Net Native Migration for the Nation, States, and Counties

The national-level estimate of net native migration is distributed to states and counties by demographic characteristics using information from the American Community Survey (ACS). In Vintage 2011, we applied the age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, state, and county distribution of the native-born population in the ACS to the native migration component. For Vintage 2012, native migrants were given the characteristics of the native-born civilian population in the ACS whose residence one year prior to the survey was either in another state or abroad.

B. Estimation of Foreign-born Immigration and Emigration for the Nation, States, and Counties

For Vintage 2012, we estimated foreign-born immigration and foreign-born emigration separately for migration between the United States and Mexico and migration between the United States and “All other countries.”

In both Vintage 2011 and Vintage 2012, the national-level estimate of foreign-born immigration was calculated using data from the American Community Survey and information on residence one year prior to the survey. In Vintage 2011, we calculated the national-level estimate of foreign-born immigration using information from the ACS on the foreign-born population whose residence one year prior was abroad. For Vintage 2012, we estimated foreign-born immigration from Mexico and “All other countries” separately. We calculated the national-level estimate of foreign-born immigration from Mexico using information from the ACS on the foreign-born population whose residence one year prior to the survey was in Mexico. The national-level estimate of foreign-born immigration from

“All other countries” was produced using information from the ACS on the foreign-born population whose residence one year prior to the survey was in a country other than Mexico.

In Vintage 2011, the national-level estimate of foreign-born immigration was given the age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, state, and county distribution of the foreign-born population in the ACS who entered the United States within five years of the survey year. In Vintage 2012, foreign-born immigrants from Mexico were given the characteristic and geographic distribution of the foreign-born whose place of birth was Mexico that entered the United States within 5 years of the survey year. Immigration from “All other countries” was distributed by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, state, and county using characteristics of the foreign-born population whose place of birth was not Mexico who entered the United States within 5 years of the survey year.

In both Vintage 2011 and Vintage 2012, the national-level estimates of foreign-born emigration were produced using a residual method with data from Census 2000 and the ACS. In Vintage 2011, foreign-born emigration was calculated for two period of entry cohorts using information on the foreign-born population in Census 2000 and the ACS. In Vintage 2012, estimates of foreign-born emigration to Mexico were produced by period of entry cohort using information from Census 2000 and the ACS on the population who was born in Mexico. Estimates of foreign-born emigration to “All other countries” were produced by period of entry cohort using information on the population born outside of the United States, outlying areas, and Mexico.

The national-level estimates of foreign-born emigration by period of entry cohort (entered in the past 10 years and entered more than 10 years ago) were distributed by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, state, and county using information from the ACS. In Vintage 2011, information from the ACS on the foreign-born population who entered the United States 10 years prior to the survey and the foreign-born population who entered the United States more than 10 years prior to the survey were used to distribute the national-level estimate by demographic and geographic characteristics. For Vintage 2012, the national-level estimate for recent arrivals from Mexico were given the characteristics of the foreign-born population in the ACS whose place of birth was Mexico and entered the United States within the past 10 years. Later arrivals from Mexico were given the characteristics of the foreign-born population in the ACS whose place of birth was Mexico and entered the United States more than 10 years prior to the survey year. Recent and later arrivals from “All other countries” were estimated using the same period of entry restrictions but place of birth includes all countries other than the United States, outlying areas, and Mexico.

2. Estimation of Deaths by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the Nation

In the Vintage 2011 estimates, we estimated the distribution of deaths by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin for the nation using death rates from the Social Security Administration

(SSA). We used period life tables generated by SSA for 2005, by sex, to calculate deaths for single years of age and sex among the population aged 70 years and older to the population being estimated. We applied the same death rates to all race-ethnic groups.

In the Vintage 2012 estimates, national-level death rates by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin were developed internally from the Calendar Year 2009 Mortality Microdata File from the National Center for Health Statistics and 2009 intercensal population estimates prepared by the Census Bureau. We produced life tables for males and females for five groups: Hispanic, non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic black, non-Hispanic American Indian and Alaska Native, and non-Hispanic Asian and Pacific Islander. We assigned rates from these tables to 31 race groups by Hispanic origin to calculate deaths for those aged 70 and over.

3. Assignment of Race and Hispanic Origin Characteristic Detail to Domestic Migrants with 2010 Census Data

In Vintage 2012, 2010 Census data were used to directly assign race and Hispanic origin characteristic detail to domestic migrants when it was available. If 2010 Census data were unavailable, Census 2000 data were used for the assignment. In the rare instances where neither 2010 Census nor Census 2000 data were available, we used modeled race and Hispanic origin data based on Census 2000 proportions. In Vintage 2011, all domestic migrants had modeled race and Hispanic origin characteristic data based on Census 2000 proportions.

4. Incorporation of 2010 Census Count Question Resolution Program corrections in the estimates base population

The Census Bureau established the Count Question Resolution (CQR) program, by which state, local, and tribal area elected officials could challenge their jurisdictions' 2010 Census counts. On June 1, 2011, the CQR program began accepting 2010 Census challenge submissions. In the Vintage 2012 estimates, the April 1, 2010 estimates base population reflects the first round of completed corrections to 2010 Census counts resulting from the CQR program. As of September 25, 2012, the CQR program had increased the U.S. population by 106 persons and corrected the 2012 estimates base counts for 110 governmental units.

Information about the CQR program is available at <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/about/cqr.php>.

5. Incorporation of Post-2010 Census Group Quarters updates in the estimates base population

The estimates base population for selected areas also included group quarters populations from sources other than the 2010 Census. After comparison with other Census Bureau data collection efforts, the Census Bureau determined that the 2010 Census enumeration of the

group quarters population in these areas was incomplete. Although not eligible for the CQR program, the Census Bureau concluded that including the additional group quarters population for these areas in the population estimates base would contribute to more accurate estimates. These areas include:

- Gadsden County balance (unincorporated area), FL
- Rockwell City city (Calhoun County), IA

6. Resumption of Component-based Housing Estimates

The Census Bureau resumed the use of housing components to develop the Vintage 2012 housing estimates. These components included building permits for reporting governmental units, estimates of non-permitted builds in areas where building permits were not used, estimates of mobile home shipments, and estimates of housing loss. Housing estimates are used as controls in Census Survey operations, such as the American Community Survey and the American Housing Survey, and as inputs into the subcounty population estimates method. Further details on the housing method are available from the methodology statement on this web site.

7. Results from review of preliminary housing and population estimates by members of the Federal-State Cooperative for Population Estimates (FSCPE)

FSCPE member agencies were provided a set of the preliminary housing and subcounty population estimates by the Census Bureau to review the housing estimate components. Some FSCPE members provided revisions to the housing unit estimates, in the form of alternative housing component data. These revisions were based on information compiled by the FSCPE member from the jurisdictions within their respective states. We reviewed their submissions, and those that we accepted replaced the original housing component data for those jurisdictions.

This represents a change from the Vintage 2011 housing and subcounty population estimates, which were reviewed by FSCPE members, but no overrides to the original estimates were accepted.