

## Vintage 2020 Release Notes

The Vintage 2020 population estimates reflect the following methodological changes since the release of the Vintage 2019 estimates. For more detail, please refer to the full Vintage 2020 methodology statement: <http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/technical-documentation/methodology.html>.

### Net International Migration Estimates

The net international migration component was adjusted for the 2020 estimates period (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020) to account for the impact of the COVID-19 global pandemic. At the time of estimates production, the latest American Community Survey (ACS) file available for estimating international migration contained data for 2019. To account for trends in 2020, we used current monthly data on international airline passenger traffic from the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), visas issued overseas from the Bureau of Consular Affairs, and internal-use entry data from Statistics Canada. The impact of the pandemic is concentrated in the last quarter of the 2020 estimates period. For the net Puerto Rico migration component, we combined BTS domestic airline passenger traffic data with 2019 1-year ACS and Puerto Rico Community Survey (PRCS) data.<sup>1</sup> The adjustment yielded lower in- and out-migration levels between Puerto Rico and the United States.<sup>2</sup> Overall, the adjustments continue the annual declines in net international migration for the nation.

For the net native-born migration component, we updated the foreign input data for measuring the US-born population living in Canada and Mexico. Canada's 2016 census replaces the 2011 census as the most recent input file for migration to Canada. Mexico's 2018 National Survey of Demographic Dynamics (Encuesta Nacional de la Dinámica Demográfica or ENADID) replaces Mexico's 2010 census as the most recent input file for migration to Mexico. For all other countries, the foreign input data remain the same as the previous vintage. The new input data reduced emigration of the native born for the entire decade, which resulted in slightly higher net international migration each year, excluding changes from all other components. The COVID-19 adjustments further reduce national-level net native-born migration for 2020.

### Domestic Migration Estimates

Medicare enrollment data, which form the basis of our net domestic migration estimates for the 65-and-older population, were not made available to the Census Bureau for vintage years 2018 and 2019. For those estimates products, county net rates and subnational migration by demographic characteristics from the 2016 to 2017 period were used in 2018 and 2019 for most counties. Exceptions were three counties that received adjusted net rates that account for elevated levels of out migration from natural disasters.<sup>3</sup> For the Vintage 2020 release, the Bureau received 2018 and 2019 Medicare enrollment data and revised the net rates and migration by demographic characteristics for the 65-and-older population using the new data for all counties.

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<sup>1</sup> For more detail, refer to the section on Puerto Rico Resident Population by Age and Sex in the full Vintage 2020 methodology statement.

<sup>2</sup> For statistical purposes, the United States is defined as the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

<sup>3</sup> Aransas County, TX; Bay County, FL; and Butte County, CA were adjusted using either tax return data from the Internal Revenue Service or year-to-year change in county Medicare enrollment totals.

## Vital Statistics Estimates

Several methodological changes have been made to the processing of vital statistics estimates in Vintage 2020. First, for subnational births, the creation of the Kidlink matrix used to assign race and Hispanic origin to newborns based on the characteristics of the mother and father has been improved. Instead of calculating the Kidlink matrix nationally and applying it to subnational births, Vintage 2020 implements a location-specific Kidlink matrix based on a county's Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA) or balance of state. This allows for Vintage 2020 Kidlink proportions to capture regional variation in race and Hispanic origin reporting.

The second major change made in Vintage 2020 was to adjust for the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in national deaths. This adjustment was made using provisional data provided by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)<sup>4</sup>, using provisional total deaths as controls for quarters 1 and 2 (January 1 to July 1) in 2020. Adjustments were also made to the proportion of deaths occurring in each quarter of 2020 by Hispanic origin, again by using provisional and excess mortality data provided by NCHS. The adjusted national deaths serve as controls for subnational deaths, resulting in an increase in deaths for numerous states and counties. However, other than the national control, no methodological change was made to the subnational death estimates.

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<sup>4</sup> See <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/covid-19.htm> for more information on COVID-19 provisional deaths data provided by the NCHS.