

Race and Ethnicity Data

The following tables (7 and 8) are a slight modification of race and ethnicity estimates produced for the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) by the US Census Bureau. Census 2000 introduced a more detailed race and ethnicity categorization scheme than had been used previously, and subsequent estimates produced by the Census Bureau have used the new categories. NCHS contracted with the Census Bureau to produce estimates which bridge the new race and ethnicity categories back to the categories in use prior to Census 2000. In order to have consistent totals between these tables and the earlier tables in the publication, VDH modified the 2006 age group estimates in the original bridged estimates produced by the Census and NCHS. Estimates using the Census 2000 race and ethnicity categories are available from the US Census Bureau at www.census.gov.

While racial and ethnic minorities are only 3.6 % of the Vermont population (Figure 6) , in general, these populations are growing at a much faster rate than the non-Hispanic white population. The non-white population of Vermont was 15,617 in 2006, up 21.4% since July 2000. The number of persons of Hispanic origin was 7,135 in 2006, up 28.1% from July 2000. The white, non-Hispanic population of 601,706 is only an increase of 1.6% from 2000 to 2006 and is a slight decrease from 2005.

The American Indian, Eskimo and Aleut population was the only race category showing a decline since the Census, though this group does show an increase from 2005 to 2006. The Asian and Pacific Islander population has increased 25.8% since July 2000, and the Black population of Vermont has increased 37.2% in that time. Hispanic origin is an ethnic category, so persons of Hispanic origin are included in each race category. Figure 6 shows only the white Hispanic population, there are a small number of Hispanic people included in each of the three non-white race categories as well.

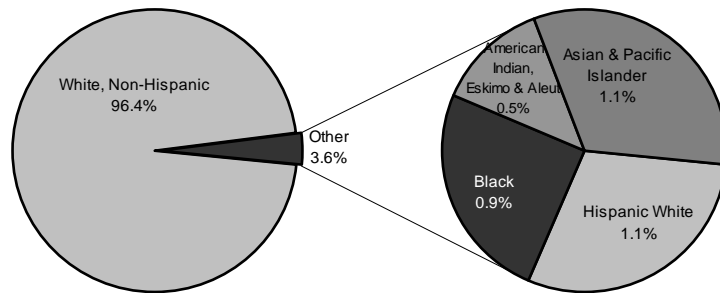


Figure 6. 2006 Distribution of Vermont Population by Race and Ethnicity

The racial and ethnic minority populations in Vermont are heavily concentrated in Chittenden County. While Chittenden County had 24.1% of the total population of Vermont, 43.3% of the non-white population and 31.3% of the Hispanic population resides in Chittenden County. The lone exception being the American Indian, Eskimo and Aleut population, where Franklin County has the largest population.

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It should be noted that the year 2000 populations presented in tables 7 and 8 are estimates as of July 1, 2000 and not the April 1 Census counts. Information regarding the methodology used in producing the bridged race and ethnicity estimates is available from the NCHS at www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/dvs/popbridge/popbridge.htm.