

A Demographic Exploration of Frederick County

Race and Origin Updates

Welcome to the September, 2006 edition of “A Demographic Exploration of Frederick County.” The 2005 data from the American Community Survey (ACS) has been released for Frederick County. This month we will discuss the updated information on race and origin that was released with this round of the ACS. For further information on the demographics and other statistics of Frederick County, please visit <http://www.co.frederick.md.us/planning/Demographics/Demographics.htm>

The 2005 American Community Survey (ACS) has recently released the data for Frederick County. This survey will replace the long form from the decennial US Census and will be updated annually. At this time, only data for Frederick County as whole has been released. Sometime within the next year, data for smaller geographic areas should be released. For more information on the ACS go to www.census.gov or view the Frederick County Division of Planning, July 2005 Demographic Newsletter.

According to the 2005 ACS, Frederick County is becoming more diversified in its’ racial make-up. From 2000 to 2005, the white race had the slowest growth of any other racial category, only a 5.6% increase. The white alone racial category went from 89.3% of the total Frederick County population in 2000 to 85.3% of the total population in 2005. The second slowest increase in racial category occurred in the Black or African American category. The increase within this racial group was 22.5% within the past 5 years. The Black/African American racial group made up 6.2% of the total Frederick County population in 2000 to 6.9% in 2005 (see Figure 1).

Racial Categories of Frederick County 2000 - 2005			
	2000	2005	Increase 2000 - 2005
White alone	174,293 (89.3%)	184,095 (85.3%)	9,802 (5.6%)
Black/African American alone	12,191 (6.2%)	14,928 (6.9%)	2,737 (22.5%)
American Indian/Alaska Native alone	466 (0.2%)	768 (0.4%)	302 (64.8%)
Asian Alone	3,327 (1.7%)	6,026 (2.8%)	2,699 (81.1%)
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander alone	45 (0.02%)	770 (0.4%)	725 (1,611.1%)
Some other race alone	1,863 (0.95%)	4,994 (2.3%)	3,131 (168.1%)
Two or more races	3,092 (1.6%)	4,296 (2.0%)	1,204 (38.9%)

Figure 1

The largest increase in a racial category from 2000 to 2005 occurred in the Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone category. This group had an increase of 1,611.1% within the past 5 years. In 2000, there were 45 Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander. In 2005, the ASC is stated there were 770 Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander. There does not seem to be a reason for such a dramatic increase within this population. The total estimates presented in the 2005 data from the ACS may be due to estimation errors or some other type of phenomena.

At this time, the 2005 ACS data does not breakdown the major racial categories any further than what is listed above. The minor group of two or more races is; however, broken down. There were 4,296 residents of Frederick County that claimed two or more races in the ACS. The majority (1,956 45.5%) of these people claimed they were White and Black/African American. The next largest two or more races were the White and Asian groups. 1,296 (30.2%) Frederick County residents are both White and Asian. The third largest two or more races group is the White and American Indian and Alaska Native. This segment of the population has 356 residents representing 8.3% of the two or more racial category.

The Hispanic or Latino community of Frederick County has also been on the rise. From 2000 to 2005, the Hispanic community increased by 115%. The ACS 2005 data claims there are 9,883 Hispanic or Latinos living in Frederick County. Since Hispanic/Latino is an origin and not a race, no racial breakdowns are given at this time for the community. In regards to origin, the largest segment of the Hispanic population in Frederick County is Mexican (15%) (see Figure 2.)

Origin of Frederick County's Hispanic or Latino Residents 2005		
Origin	Number	Percentage
Hispanic or Latino	9,883	100%
Mexican	1,481	15.0%
Puerto Rican	955	9.7%
Cuban	168	1.7%
Other Hispanic or Latino	7,279	73.7%

Figure 2

The community within Frederick County is becoming more diverse. From 2000 to 2005, the White alone racial category had the slowest rate of growth at only 5.6%. All other racial categories had much higher rates of growth. The Hispanic or Latino community also had a high rate of growth, 115%. This trend will most likely continue to occur as Frederick County enters into a new era of more diversity.