

**User Notes and Errata, Small Area Demographic Estimates, Release 20160422\_R01  
Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting and Research Division**

Small Area Demographic Estimates (SADE) data for 2015 are currently available. The SADE estimates include both intercensal (2000–2009) and postcensal (2011–2015) estimates.

OFM recommends that end users limit their analysis to a specific SAEP data release (e.g., 20160422\_R01) because estimates for prior years are updated if new or more accurate information becomes available.

The SADE model utilizes OFM county race estimates, county age sex estimates and Small Area Estimates Program (SAEP) data. The SADE model uses an iterative proportional fitting procedure to produce estimates of age, sex, race and ethnicity by small geographic area and year.

There are some important changes to the source data and codebase that affect SADE release 20160422\_R01. These changes are reflected the postcensal estimates from 2011–2015.

**SAEP Population Estimates**

In 2015 OFM was able to collect more geographically precise housing start data for several fast growing cities: Bellingham, Ferndale, Kennewick, Richland, West Richland and Pullman. Use of this data resulted in noticeable changes to the estimates in and around these areas.

There are also noticeable changes to the estimates in parts of unincorporated Snohomish County due to lags in the reporting of data to OFM and data updates and revisions. Please see the [SAEP User Guide](#) for additional information about the data and the methods behind the SAEP estimates as well as limitations in their use.

**County Race Estimates**

There were minor updates to the 2012 and 2013 estimates. There were some larger updates to 2014 estimates due to routine input data updates and revisions.

**County Age Sex Estimates**

There were minor updates to the 2014 estimates due to routine data updates and revisions.

**Changes to the SADE Model Code**

A change was made to the SADE codebase to address an allocation/raking issue that was identified in release 20141200\_R03. Starting with release 20160422\_R01, census blocks with small 2010 population counts that increased rapidly in size, have their demographic profile based the characteristics from a surrounding geography of at least 500 people in size. This change produces smoothed population characteristics in rapidly changing areas that more closely resemble local conditions.