

**User Notes and Errata, Small Area Estimates Program, Fall 2020**  
**Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting and Research Division**

Small Area Estimate Program (SAEP) data for 2020 are currently available. The SAEP estimates include both intercensal (2000-2009) and postcensal (2011-2020) estimates.

OFM recommends that end users limit their analysis to a specific SAEP data release (e.g., Fall 2020) because the historical estimate series may change: 1) if new or more accurate information becomes available after the release date and 2) if changes occur in the underlying spatial data. Please see the [SAEP User Guide](#) for additional information about the data and the methods behind the estimates as well as limitations in their use.

The SAEP Fall 2020 data release includes some important changes from the prior release. These changes affect the postcensal estimates from 2011-2020.

1. OFM is using assessor records rather than building permit data for Clark County. The building permit data that we used to rely on is no longer available. Data users should expect to see changes to population and housing in certain areas.
2. OFM is using 2010-2020 building permit data collected by the Spokane Regional Transportation Council for Spokane County. The benefit of this data source is we now have countywide coverage of building permits. Data users should expect to see changes to population and housing in certain areas.

OFM would like to thank all of the people who graciously provide support and data for the SAEP. We could not provide this information without their hard work.

Sincerely,

Mike Mohrman, State Demographer