

POULTNEY

Rutland County, Vermont

A Community Profile

Prepared for the Vermont Council on Rural Development Community Visit September 26, 2002

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Government and Civic Structure

As Poultney grew, a number of small population clusters emerged. Four areas in particular have Poultney in their designation. Poultney Village, the largest and contemporary commercial core, has been referred to as West Poultney. Then there are North, East and South Poultney, obvious references to neighborhoods differentiating one from another by their approximate location in areas of the town. Other neighborhoods include Gorhamtown and Clark, Fennel, Hampshire and Moss Hollows (see Table 1.1).

Table 1.1 - General Town Characteristics

Town Name	Poultney		
County	Rutland		
Date of Town Charter	September 21, 1761		
Incorporated Village(s)	Poultney Village		
Other Villages and Neighborhoods (past and present)	North, South, and East Poultney; Gorhamtown; the Hollows: Clark, Fennel, Hampshire, and Moss		
Sources: Center for Rural Studies / VCGI. 2002. Vermont Indicators Online. http://crs.uvm.edu/indicators			

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Section 2.

population of Poultney, like the rest of the population is continuing to age, and the next section takes us to some information on age distributions.

Age and Gender of Poultney's Citizens

Table 2.2 shows that Poultney reflects state trends toward a graying of the population. The effect of the baby boom is shown in the movement from the young middle aged to the older middle aged between 1990 and 2000. Similarly, the increases in numbers of people 65 and over mirror state and national trends. Town officials will want to look carefully at changes in the under-five-year-old cohort, an age range that is not growing nearly as rapidly as it has in previous decades.

	Poultney		Rutland County			
	1990	2000	1990	2000		
Total Population	3,498	3,633	62,142	63,400		
Percent 0-17 Years Old	20.9	21.1	24.1	23.2		
Percent 18-24 Years Old	21.5	17.6	10.8	8.3		
Percent 25-44 Years Old	27.7	25.0	32.3	27.7		
Percent 45-64 Years Old	16.9	20.3	19.1	25.8		
Percent 65+YearsOld	13.0	16.0	13.7	15.0		
Median Age	N.A.	35.9	N.A.	39.5		
Percent Male	48.7	49	48.1			

Table 2.2 – Age and Gender Demographic Comparisons

Literary Society of that institution is credited with having brought Ralph Waldo Emerson into Poultney's Joslin Hall in 1865 and having given him a tour of Poultney (Poultney Historical Society, 2002).

Richard H. Owens, retired Director of Program Control for NASA's (North American Aviation's) Saturn Rocket is a native of Poultney. Mr. Owens is also retired Director of Logistics at NASA's sites in California, Mississippi and the launch site at Cape Canaveral, Florida. He was also founder and President of the Ordrich Gold Mining Company located in central Nevada. He graduated from Green Mountain College in 1934 and the University of Michigan in 1936 and comes from one of the Welsh families drawn to the area (Poultney Historical Society, 2002).

Poultney Housing and Family Information

Table 2.3 depicts housing and family characteristics and shows that Poultney is following state trends in terms of family household size continuing to contract, while home values increase. Community leaders concerned with the quality and affordability of the community's housing will find more useful information currently being released in the more detailed Census 2000 materials.

	1990	2000
Number of Families	824	846
Number of Households	1,181	1,287
Average Family Size	N.A.	2.92
Average Household Size	2.51	2.39
Single-Mother Households	100	123
Total Children in Single-Parent Families	N.A.	118 (16.7%)
Total Housing Units	1,624	1,673
Number of Owner-Occupied Housing Units	851	924
Number of Renter-Occupie		

Table 2.3 – Poultney Housing and Family Characteristics

suggests that Poultney's proportions of those who have been to college and/or received associate's or bachelor's degrees are slightly lower than the county's numbers. However Poultney has a higher percentage of residents with master's and doctoral degrees, buoyed no doubt by the faculty and staff y

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Founded in 1834, Green Mountain College

Section 6. Sources

This Community Profile is an attempt to bring together information from many different sources.

The internet resources used include:

For data: The Center for Rural Studies. 2002.