

RACE/ETHNICITY

As a subrecipient of federal CDBG funds, you are required to keep statistical data on the race/ethnicity of the clients you serve, and provide a summary each quarter that includes this data. The U.S. Census Bureau updated the racial and ethnic categories for the 2000 census, and it is most important that you update your forms to reflect all the new categories. Your intake forms will be reviewed during our monitoring of your program to ensure proper data collection.

Below you will find some interesting information about the categories that will help you in your work. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census of Population, Public Law 94-171 Redistricting Data File. Updated every 10 years. <http://factfinder.census.gov>.*

Definition

The concept of race as used by the Census Bureau reflects self-identification by people according to the race or races with which they most closely identify. These categories are sociopolitical constructs and should not be interpreted as being scientific or anthropological in nature. Furthermore, the race categories include both racial and national-origin groups.

The racial classifications used by the Census Bureau adhere to the October 30, 1997, Federal Register Notice entitled, "Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity" issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

- **White.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa. It includes people who indicate their race as "White" or report entries such as Irish, German, Italian, Lebanese, Near Easterner, Arab, or Polish.
- **Black or African American.** A person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa. It includes people who indicate their race as "Black, African American, or Negro," or provide written entries such as African American, Afro American, Kenyan, Nigerian, or Haitian.
- **American Indian and Alaska Native.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) and who maintain tribal affiliation or community attachment.
- **Asian.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam. It includes "Asian Indian," "Chinese," "Filipino," "Korean," "Japanese," "Vietnamese," and "Other Asian."
- **Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands. It includes people who indicate their race as "Native Hawaiian," "Guamanian or Chamorro," "Samoan," and "Other Pacific Islander."
- **Other Multi Racial.** Includes all other responses not included in the "White", "Black or African American", "American Indian and Alaska Native", "Asian" and "Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander" race categories described above. Respondents providing write-in entries such as

multiracial, mixed, interracial, Wesort, or a Hispanic/Latino group (for example, Mexican, Puerto Rican, or Cuban) in the "Some other race" category are included here. **For the purposes of the Contra Costa Consortium, please try to choose a more appropriate racial category than Other for those of Hispanic ethnicity (see Hispanic Origin below). Appropriate categories may be White if they are primarily of Spanish descent, or Native American if they are primarily of Indian/Mayan descent.**

- **Two or more races.** People may have chosen to provide two or more races either by checking two or more race response check boxes, by providing multiple write-in responses, or by some combination of check boxes and write-in responses. **For the purposes of the Contra Costa Consortium, include these responses under “Other Multi Racial.”**

Hispanic Origin

The concept of race is separate from the concept of Hispanic origin. Under OMB 1997 standards, “Hispanic” is not a race category, but an ethnic category that cuts across all races. Those who are White, Black, Asian, Pacific Islander, American Indian, or a multi-race may also be counted as being of Hispanic ethnicity. **Percentages for the various race categories add to 100 percent, and should not be combined with the percent Hispanic.**

When asking the individual/household to select a race category, the individual/household must also check whether or not they are of Hispanic ethnicity. **One of the 10 race categories must always be selected. A check mark cannot be entered under the Hispanic Column without the corresponding Race Category being checked.**

Sample Table

Your intake forms must contain the categories to ensure accurate data collection of racial/ethnic information

RACE CATEGORIES			ETHNICITY
	<i>Race</i>	Check Only One Race Category	Check if also Hispanic
1	American Indian or Alaska Native		
2	Asian		
3	Black or African American		
4	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		
5	White		
6	American Indian or Alaska Native <i>and</i> White		
7	Asian <i>and</i> White		
8	Black or African American <i>and</i> White		
9	American Indian or Alaska Native <i>and</i> Black or African American		
10	Balance/Other		