

# Collecting and Tabulating Ethnicity and Race Responses for the 2020 Census

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**Population Division**

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United States<sup>®</sup>  
**Census**  
**2020**

# U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Standards for Race and Ethnicity (1997)

## **OMB Ethnicity Categories:**

Hispanic or Latino

Not Hispanic or Latino

## **OMB Race Categories:**

American Indian or Alaska Native

Asian

Black or African American

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

White

The Census Bureau is also required to use the category “Some Other Race”

Source: [www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-1997-10-30/pdf/97-28653.pdf](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-1997-10-30/pdf/97-28653.pdf)

# U.S. Office of Management and Budget Standards for Race and Ethnicity (1997)

OMB minimum categories for data on race and ethnicity for Federal statistics, program administrative reporting, and civil rights compliance reporting are defined as follows:

**American Indian or Alaska Native** - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains 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.

**Black or African American** - A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.

**Hispanic or Latino** - A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

**Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander** - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

**White** - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

Source: [www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-1997-10-30/pdf/97-28653.pdf](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-1997-10-30/pdf/97-28653.pdf)

# Update on 2020 Census Race Question Design

## Improvements for 2020 Census

- Detailed Asian and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander responses collected via write-in area
  - Up to 200 characters are recorded
  - Up to six detailed groups are collected

### 7. What is this person's race?

Mark  one or more boxes AND print origins.

- White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc. ↴

- Black or African Am. – Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc. ↴

- American Indian or Alaska Native – Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc. ↴

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese  | <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese   | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Filipino   | <input type="checkbox"/> Korean   | <input type="checkbox"/> Samoan          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian   | <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese   | <input type="checkbox"/> Chamorro        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian –<br>Print, for example,<br>Pakistani, Cambodian,<br>Hmong, etc. ↴ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Pacific Islander –<br>Print, for example,<br>Tongan, Fijian,<br>Marshallese, etc. ↴ |  |

Hawaiian, Tokelauan, Ni-Vanuatu, Papua  
New Guinean

- Some other race – Print race or origin. ↴

# Race and Ethnicity Code List Improvements for 2020 Census

- In the 2010 Census code list, because there were no write-in lines for the White and Black categories in the 2010 Census, many White and Black groups did not receive unique codes in 2010
- For the 2020 Census, we have conducted extensive research and consulted with experts to improve our code list, adding many new White and Black groups
- Enhancements were made to the code list using stakeholder feedback and data from the 2015 National Content Test (NCT), the 2010 Census, and American Community Survey (ACS) Ancestry data
- In 2020, many MENA groups will have unique codes within the White code range
- Unique codes provide the ability to create tabulations for individual groups, but no decisions have been made for 2020
- We also conducted an extensive review of the other groups (Asian, NHPI, AIAN, SOR, and Hispanic) in our code list and updated them for the 2020 Census

## Selected Native Hawaiian Terms

Native Hawaiian

Kanaka Maoli

Hawaiian

Hawaiian Islander

Part Hawaiian

Hawaii

Honolulu

# 2020 Census

## Hispanic Origin Question

### Common Response Scenarios

- Most respondents will mark, “No, Not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin”
- Most Hispanic respondents will select one of the three detailed checkbox categories (i.e., Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban)
- Additional detailed Hispanic origin responses are collected via “Yes, another Hispanic...” write-in response area (e.g., Salvadoran, Dominican, Peruvian, Spaniard)

→ NOTE: Please answer BOTH Question 6 about Hispanic origin and Question 7 about race. For this census, Hispanic origins are not races.

### 6. Is this person of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

- No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin
- Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano
- Yes, Puerto Rican
- Yes, Cuban
- Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin – *Print, for example, Salvadoran, Dominican, Colombian, Guatemalan, Spaniard, Ecuadorian, etc.* ↴

Guatemalan Honduran



# 2020 Census

## Race Question

### Common Response Scenarios

- Most respondents will mark “White” box
- Detailed White responses are collected via write-in area (e.g., Irish, German, Lebanese)
- Many respondents will mark “Black or African Am.” box
- Detailed Black responses are collected via write-in area (e.g., African American, Nigerian, Jamaican)
- Detailed American Indian tribes, Alaska Native villages, and indigenous Central and South American groups are collected via write-in area

### 7. What is this person's race?

Mark  one or more boxes **AND** print origins.

- White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc. ↴

- Black or African Am. – Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc. ↴

- American Indian or Alaska Native – Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc. ↴

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|---|-------------------------------------|--|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Filipino   | <input type="checkbox"/> Korean     | <input type="checkbox"/> Samoan  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian   | <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese   | <input type="checkbox"/> Chamorro  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian –<br>Print, for example,<br>Pakistani, Cambodian,<br>Hmong, etc. ↴ |                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Pacific Islander –<br>Print, for example,<br>Tongan, Fijian,<br>Marshallese, etc. ↴ |

- Some other race – Print race or origin. ↴

# 2020 Census

## Race Question

### Reporting Asian or Pacific Islander Responses

- Many Asian respondents will mark detailed Asian checkboxes (e.g., Filipino, Vietnamese, Korean)
- Additional detailed Asian responses are collected via “Other Asian...” write-in area (e.g., Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong)
- Many Pacific Islanders will mark detailed NHPI checkboxes (e.g., Native Hawaiian, Samoan)
- Additional detailed Pacific Islander responses are collected via “Other Pacific Islander...” write-in area (e.g., Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese)

### 7. What is this person's race?

Mark  one or more boxes **AND** print origins.

- White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc. ↴

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- Some other race – Print race or origin. ↴

# Proposed Design for 2020 Census

## Separate Race Question

### Reporting “Multiple” Responses

- Some respondents will report **multiple race groups** (e.g., White **and** Black)
- These represent the reporting of two or more responses **across** major race categories. Also applies to reporting of detailed responses across major race categories (e.g., German **and** African American)
- Some respondents will report **multiple detailed groups** (e.g., Native Hawaiian **and** Samoan)
- These represent the reporting of two or more responses **within** major race categories (e.g., Marshallese **and** Fijian)

### 7. What is this person’s race?

Mark  one or more boxes **AND** print origins.

- White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc. ↴

- Black or African Am. – Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc. ↴

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- Some other race – Print race or origin. ↴

# 2020 Census

## Race Question

### Additional Response Scenarios

- Responses to “Some Other Race” write-in response area are coded to an OMB race category if they can be classified within the OMB race category definitions (e.g., Iranian, Sudanese, Filipino)
- Some responses remain as “Some Other Race” because they cannot be classified within the OMB race category definitions (e.g., Brazilian)
- Some respondents only mark the checkbox for “Some Other Race”
- Reporting **uncodable** responses

### 7. What is this person's race?

Mark  one or more boxes **AND** print origins.

- White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc. ↴

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- Some other race – Print race or origin. ↴

# Questions?

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