



## Race and Ethnicity Data in IPEDS



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On behalf of the National Center for Education Statistics, NCES, and the Association for Institutional Research, AIR, welcome to this tutorial on Reporting Race and Ethnicity Data in IPEDS.

### Slide 2

Starting in the fall of 2008, new options for reporting race/ethnicity were implemented for IPEDS. These new options apply to the five IPEDS surveys that collect data on race/ethnicity categories – Fall Enrollment, Human Resources, Completions, 12-Month Enrollment, and Graduation Rates. The new categories were established by the Office of Management and Budget in 1997, for use by all federal agencies.

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For the 2009-10 IPEDS reporting cycle, institutions have 3 options for reporting race and ethnicity: using the new standards with 9 categories; using the old standards with 7 categories; or using a mixed approach with 14 different categories.

Next year, for the 2010-11 collection, the new race/ethnicity categories will be required for the Fall Enrollment and Human Resources surveys and will remain optional for Completions, 12-Month Enrollment, and Graduation Rates.

In 2011-12 IPEDS reporting, using the new categories will be mandatory for all IPEDS components.

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For each survey that collects race and ethnicity data, IPEDS reporters will be presented a screening question to determine the method that will be used to report race and ethnic for that survey.

The response determines which survey screens will be presented. Reporting methods can differ by survey during the optional years. For example, if the human resources department has already converted to the new categories but that information has not yet been collected from students, during the transition, keyholders may report the H-R data using the new categories and report student data using the old categories.

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The 9 new reporting categories are:

- ✓ Nonresident alien
- ✓ Hispanic or Latino
- ✓ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ✓ Asian
- ✓ Black or African American
- ✓ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- ✓ White
- ✓ Two or more races, and
- ✓ Race and ethnicity unknown

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Note that the new reporting categories are DIFFERENT from the categories used to collect the race and ethnicity information from individuals. To collect this information, the institution must use a 2-question format that first asks whether the individual is Hispanic or Latino, and then asks a second question that allows them to identify one or more races.

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The 7 OLD race/ethnicity categories are:

- ✓ Nonresident alien
- ✓ Black, non-Hispanic
- ✓ American Indian/Alaska Native
- ✓ Asian/Pacific Islander
- ✓ Hispanic
- ✓ White, non-Hispanic
- ✓ Race and ethnicity unknown

### Slide 7

Institutions that elect to use a mixture of old and new race/ethnicity categories will need to complete forms that show all 14 categories.

Some individuals would be reported under the old categories while others would be reported under the new categories.

The anticipation is that few institutions will select this option since it is the most complex.

Mapping, the process of converting the old categories to the new categories so that all individuals can be reported using only the new categories, is an alternative to this method.

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Resurveying students and staff is not required but is encouraged. However, mapping may be a more efficient and timely option.

### Slide 9

Using the table shown, all single-category old codes will map “reasonably” well except the Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders embedded in the current "Asian or Pacific Islander" category will be incorrectly assumed to be Asian.

### Slide 10

This has been a very brief overview of the new race/ethnicity reporting requirement in IPEDS. For more detailed information, please check out the IPEDS Race/Ethnicity Resources web page and the IPEDS section of the AIR Web site.

### Slide 11

Remember to begin submitting your IPEDS surveys early. During the last week of the collection period, the collection system becomes sluggish and the number of calls to the Help Desk significantly increases, resulting in longer wait times. Contact the IPEDS Help Desk with any questions or problems. Thank you.