UPDATING THE RACE/ETHNICITY CODE LIST FOR THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY & DECENNIAL CENSUS

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QUESTIONS?

Call 1-800-369-3163

Passcode: 6304032

Press *1 to ask a question

Background

- For the 2020 Census, we improved our code list to add new unique codes, especially for White, Black or African American, and Middle Eastern and North African groups, which enabled us to provide disaggregated data for more groups than ever before.

- 2020 Census improvements elicited much more reporting of detailed racial and ethnic identities:
    - 55 million write-ins in 2010 Census
    - 350 million write-ins in 2020 Census

- The code list is a key input for development of our race/ethnicity data products.

- Stakeholder input is a critical part of this process.

POLYNESIAN	7505-7604
Polynesian	**7505-7509**
Polynesian	7505
Cook Islander	**7510-7514**
Cook Islander	7510
Easter Islander	**7515-7519**
Easter Islander	7515
French Polynesian	**7520-7524**
French Polynesian	7520
Maori	**7525-7529**
Maori	7525
Native Hawaiian	**7530-7539**
Native Hawaiian (Detailed Checkbox)	7530
Native Hawaiian	7531
Hawaiian	7532
Part Hawaiian	7535
Niuean	**7540-7544**
Niuean	7540
Rotuman	**7545-7549**
Rotuman	7545

Excerpt of 2020 Census Code List

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Overview of the Race/Ethnicity Coding Improvement Project

- Goal is to ensure detailed race/ethnicity responses are accurately coded in the American Community Survey (ACS) and the 2030 Census.

- Provides a critical opportunity for the public to offer feedback on how detailed race/ethnicity and tribes are coded in the ACS and 2030 Census.

- All updates must meet three criteria:
  - There is strong Federal scientific research and evidence to support the update.
  - Stakeholder feedback supports the update.
  - The update aligns with the definitions of the minimum reporting categories in SPD 15.

What is a Code List?

Contents within the race/ethnicity code list

- **Major category headers –** these are the minimum race/ethnicity reporting categories (e.g., Asian)

- **Group headers –** Detailed racial or ethnic groups, such as Japanese and Korean

- **Code descriptions –** Descriptors for individual codes under each group header, such as Ainu and Okinawa

4000-4999 ASIAN

4040-4049 JAPANESE

    4040 JAPANESE (Checkbox)

    4041 JAPANESE
    4041 AINU
    4041 JAPAN
    4041 JAPONES(A)
    4041 RYUKYU (UAN)

    4042 OKINAWAN
    4042 OKINAWA
    4042 OKINAWENSE

4050-4059 KOREAN

    4050 KOREAN (Checkbox)

    4051 KOREAN
    4051 COREANO(A)
    4051 KOREA
    4051 NORTH KOREAN
    4051 SEOUL
    4051 SOUTH KOREAN

Excerpt of proposed 2030 Race/Ethnicity Code List

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What Types of Terms Are Included in the Code List?

- Nationalities (e.g., Chinese, Argentinean)

- Transnational groups (e.g., Roma, Hmong)

- Ethnoreligious responses (e.g., Sikh, Chaldean)

- Subnational ethnic groups (e.g., Igbo, Sicilian)

- Pan-ethnic terms (e.g., Arab, Latino)

- Broad geographic terms (e.g., European, African)

- Terms indicating Multiracial/Multiethnic responses (e.g., Mixed, Multiracial)

- Federally and state-recognized tribes and villages, unrecognized tribes, and general terms for tribes in the United States (e.g., Navajo Nation, Cherokee)

- Canadian First Nations and Central and South American Indian groups (e.g., Brokenhead Ojibway Nation, Maya)

What Types of Terms Are Not Included in the Code List?

There are many types of responses that people may report in the race/ethnicity question that are not coded as a race/ethnicity response. These include responses such as:

- Protest responses (e.g., "Why are you asking about race? We are all human!")
- Nonsensical responses (e.g., "Haunted skeleton")
- Responses that do not represent a race/ethnicity or tribal population (e.g., names)

Additionally, the race/ethnicity code list does not show terms that we assign invalid codes to, such as state names.

Excerpt from the Proposed Race/Ethnicity Code List

Terms	Codes
Coeur D'Alene Tribe	**5708**
CDA	5708
Coeur D Alene	5708
Coeur D'Alene Tribe	5708
Coeur D'Alene Tribe Of Indians	5708
Schitsu'umsh	5708
Skitswish	5708

Coeur D'Alene Tribe

- Federally recognized tribe coded within the American Indian and Alaska Native minimum reporting category.

- All variations of the tribe's name receive the same code.

- Terms coded to this tribe include variations of the tribe's name, including the native name of Schitsu'umsh.

Excerpt from the Proposed Race/Ethnicity Code List

Terms	Codes
Japanese	**4040-4049**
Japanese (Checkbox)	**4040**
Japanese	**4041**
Ainu	4041
Japan	4041
Japones(a)	4041
Ryukyu(uan)	4041
Okinawan	**4042**
Okinawa	4042
Okinawense	4042
Not used	**4043-4049**

Japanese

- Detailed race/ethnicity group coded within the Asian minimum reporting category.

- The detailed Japanese category includes codes 4040-4049.

- Responses of "Japanese" provided through a detailed checkbox (code 4040) or through a write-in response (code 4041) are included in the Japanese category.

- Responses of "Okinawan" (code 4042) receive a different code than responses of "Japanese," but they are included in the Japanese category.

- Codes 4043-4049 are not used.

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How Does a Write-In Response Get Tabulated?
Sometimes a group has one code, but lots of variation in terminology

Step 1: A response is provided to the race/ethnicity question	Step 2: The response is given a code from our code list that is used for tabulation	Step 3: Every term associated with the code is included in the count for that race/ethnicity group or AIAN tribe or village

Step 1:

X American Indian or Alaska Native — *Print, for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation of Montana, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, Aztec, Maya, etc.*

Schitsu'umsh

Step 2:

Terms	Codes
Coeur D'Alene Tribe	**5708**
CDA	5708
Coeur D Alene	5708
Coeur D'Alene Tribe	5708
Coeur D'Alene Tribe Of Indians	5708
Schitsu'umsh	5708
Skitswish	5708

Step 3:

Population group	Census Population
Coeur D'Alene alone	COUNT
Coeur D'Alene alone or in any combination	COUNT

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How Does a Write-In Response Get Tabulated?
Sometimes a group has multiple codes, but less variation in terminology

Step 1: A response is provided to the race/ethnicity question	Step 2: The response is given a code from our code list that is used for tabulation	Step 3: Every term associated with that entire code range is included in the count for that race/ethnicity group or AIAN tribe or village

X Asian — Provide details below.
☐ Chinese ☐ Asian Indian ☐ Filipino
☐ Vietnamese ☐ Korean ☐ Japanese
Print, for example, Pakistani, Hmong, Afghan, etc.
Okinawan

Terms	Codes
Japanese	**4040-4049**
Japanese (Checkbox)	4040
Japanese	4041
Okinawan	4042

Population group	Census Population
Japanese alone	COUNT
Japanese alone or in any combination	COUNT

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Key Phases of the Race/Ethnicity Coding Improvement Research Project

Phase 1
Jan. 2024 –
Fall 2024

Census conducts internal research and makes updates to code list

Phase 2:
Fall 2024 –
Winter 2025

Publish FRN seeking feedback on proposed Census Race/Ethnicity Code List; seek feedback from FC-SPD 15 and conduct related outreach

Phase 3:
Winter 2025 –
Spring 2025

Review feedback, make updates to code list

Phase 4:
Ongoing

Make updates as necessary

☑ **COMPLETED**

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Note: FC-SPD 15 = Federal Committee on Statistical Policy Directive 15.

Phase 2 - Federal Register Notice

- A Federal Register Notice (FRN) with a 90-day public comment period was released yesterday. The public comment period ends February 18, 2025.

- This FRN allows the public to provide feedback on the race/ethnicity code list that will be used in the ACS and the 2030 Census.

- The FRN includes a link to the proposed race/ethnicity code list for use in future ACS collections and the 2030 Census.

- The proposed code list includes updates that were made based on stakeholder feedback we have received since the 2020 Census and internal research conducted on responses provided in the 2020 Census.

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Phase 2 - Federal Register Notice

Seeking feedback from the public on the following questions:

- Are there any groups missing from the proposed code list? If so, please identify them and suggest how the groups should be classified and why.

- Are any groups on the proposed code list misclassified? If so, please identify them and suggest an alternative classification or indicate if the term should be removed.

- Are there alternative terms, abbreviations, or in-language terms people may use to identify with a specific group that should be added to the proposed code list? If so, please identify them and suggest a classification.

- How do you use the data produced for regional categories from the 2020 Census? Would removing regional categories from the code list and tabulated products impact your ability to use the detailed race/ethnicity data?

  - To find out how the Census Bureau classified regional categories for the 2020 Census, access the 2020 Census Race/Ethnicity Code List provided in the FRN

Screenshot of the Proposed Race/Ethnicity Code List

A13 | Published: 11/07/2024

Read Me Documentation for Proposed American Community Survey and 2030 Census Race/Ethnicity Code List

What is in this File?

This file contains the proposed race/ethnicity code list for the American Community Survey and the 2030 Census. It contains a series of tabs:

Read Me: The "Read Me" tab explains what this file contains, as well as what coding is, how to read the code list, and the importance of the code list.

White: The "White" tab includes the terms proposed to be coded as White responses. The codes used for this range are 1000-1999. White is defined by the Office of Management and Budget as: "Individuals with origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, including, for example, English, German, Irish, Italian, Polish, and Scottish."

Hispanic or Latino: The "Hispanic or Latino" tab includes the terms proposed to be coded as Hispanic or Latino responses. The codes used for this range are 2000-2999. Hispanic or Latino is defined by the Office of Management and Budget as: "Includes individuals of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Salvadoran, Cuban, Dominican, Guatemalan, and other Central or South American or Spanish culture or origin."

Black or African American: The "Black or African American" tab includes the terms proposed to be coded as Black or African American responses. The codes used for this range are 3000-3999. Black or African American is defined by the Office of Management and Budget as: "Individuals with origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa, including, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, and Somali."

Asian: The "Asian" tab includes the terms proposed to be coded as Asian responses. The codes used for this range are 4000-4999. Asian is defined by the Office of Management and Budget as: "Individuals with origins in any of the original peoples of Central or East Asia, Southeast Asia, or South Asia, including, for example, Chinese, Asian Indian, Filipino, Vietnamese, Korean, and Japanese."

American Indian or Alaska Native (AIAN): The "AIAN" tab includes the terms proposed to be coded as American Indian or Alaska Native responses. The codes used for this range are 5000-6999. American Indian or Alaska Native is defined by the Office of Management and Budget as: "Individuals with origins in any of the original peoples of North, Central, and South America, including, for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation of Montana, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, Aztec, and Maya."

Middle Eastern or North African (MENA): The "MENA" tab includes the terms proposed to be coded as Middle Eastern or North African responses. The codes used for this range are 7000-7499. Middle Eastern or North African is defined by the Office of Management and Budget as: "Individuals with origins in any of the original peoples of the Middle East or North Africa, including, for example, Lebanese, Iranian, Egyptian, Syrian, Iraqi, and Israeli."

Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI): The "NHPI" tab includes the terms proposed to be coded as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander responses. The codes used for this range are 7500-7999. Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander is defined by the Office of Management and Budget as: "Individuals with origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands, including, for example, Native Hawaiian, Samoan, Chamorro, Tongan, Fijian, and Marshallese."

Some Other Race and/or Ethnicity: The "Some Other Race Ethnicity" tab includes the terms proposed to be coded as Some Other Race and/or Ethnicity responses. The codes used for this range are 8000-8999. Some Other Race and/or Ethnicity is a category the U.S. Census Bureau is required to use on the American Community Survey and for the decennial census by the U.S. Congress.

Read Me | White | Hispanic or Latino | Black or African American | Asian | AIAN | MENA | NHPI | Some Other Race Ethnicity | Multicode Terms

Phase 3 – Review Feedback and Make Updates

- Throughout the comment period, our research team will thoroughly review all feedback.

- Updates to the code list will be made during this time period.

- All updates must meet the following criteria:
    1. There is strong Federal scientific research and evidence to support the update.
    2. Stakeholder feedback supports the update.
    3. The update aligns with the definitions of the minimum reporting categories in SPD 15.

Phase 4 – Make Updates to the Code List as Needed

- The code list will continue to undergo updates, specifically to ensure the names of AIAN tribes are listed in accordance with the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affair's annual Federal Register Notice, "Indian Entities Recognized by and Eligible To Receive Services From the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs."

Outreach and Engagement

- Updated Census Bureau's Tribal Relations Specialists – October 16

- Public Webinar – November 19 @ 2pm ET

- Virtual Tribal Consultations

  - December 11 @ 3pm ET

  - January 15 @ 3pm ET

- Random Samplings blog: <u>Updating the Race/Ethnicity Code List for the American Community Survey and the 2030 Census</u>

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Q&A Segment

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Race/Ethnicity Coding Improvement Project

- **Resources**
  - [Press kit](#)
  - [Federal Register notice (FRN)](#)
  - [Tip sheet](#)
  - Random Samplings Blog, *"[Updating the Race/Ethnicity Code List for the American Community Survey and the 2030 Census](#)"*
  - Webinar video recording
  - Slide deck

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Upcoming Releases

- **<u>December 5</u>**
  - ○ Geographic Area Statistics Update – 2022 Economic Census

- **<u>December 10</u>**
  - ○ 2019-2023 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates
    - ➢ Embargo begins

- **<u>December 12</u>**
  - ○ 2019-2023 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates
    - ➢ Public release

- **<u>December 19</u>**
  - ○ Vintage 2024 Population Estimates for the Nation and States and Puerto Rico, Components of Change and Voting Age Population
  - ○ Puerto Rico – 2022 Economic Census of Island Areas

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For Further Information

Media:

Public Information Office
pio@census.gov
301-763-3030/877-861-2010 (U.S. and Canada only)

General Public:

Customer Service Center
1-800-923-8282 or
301-763-INFO (4636)

Press Kit:

Go to **U.S. Census Bureau** at
Census.gov ▶ News ▶ Press Kits

Thank you

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