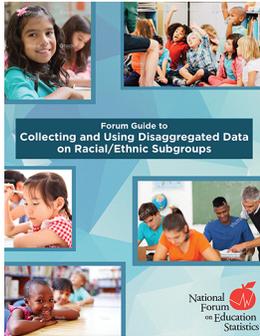


Publication Summary

Forum Guide to Collecting and Using Disaggregated Data on Racial/Ethnic Subgroups



The *Forum Guide to Collecting and Using Disaggregated Data on Racial/Ethnic Subgroups* discusses strategies for collecting data on more detailed racial/ethnic subgroups than the seven categories used in federal reporting. This guide is intended for staff in local, state, and federal education agencies who collect, maintain, or report data on their student populations. The discussion and recommendations in this guide will help state and district staff better understand the process of data disaggregation in the field of education, determine whether data disaggregation might be an appropriate analytical tool in their communities, and, if so, how they can successfully institute or advance a data disaggregation project in their agencies.

Access to and analysis of more detailed data—that is, disaggregated data—can be a useful tool for improving educational outcomes for small groups of students who otherwise would not be distinguishable in the aggregated data used for federal reporting. Disaggregating student data into subpopulations can help schools and communities plan appropriate programs; decide which interventions to implement; target limited resources; and recognize trends in educational participation, outcomes, and achievement.

The guide is organized into the following chapters and appendices:

- **Chapter 1: Introduction to Data Disaggregation in Education Agencies** explains the purpose of the document; describes the concept of data disaggregation for racial/ethnic subgroups; discusses why the issue is becoming increasingly important in many communities; refers to current U.S. population data; and provides a case study of why this type of data collection can be important and advantageous in a school district.
- **Chapter 2: Strategies for Disaggregating Racial/Ethnic Data Subgroups** recommends specific strategies for disaggregating data, including tasks undertaken during the two major phases of the effort: (1) needs assessment and (2) project implementation.
- **Chapter 3: Case Studies** offers an in-depth look at how the disaggregation of racial/ethnic subgroup data is already being implemented through a wide range of state and district case studies.
- **Appendix A: Issues to Consider** identifies emerging topics of interest in the field of data disaggregation in education agencies.
- **Appendix B: References and Related Resources**

The *Forum Guide to Collecting and Using Disaggregated Data on Racial/Ethnic Subgroups* is a product of the National Forum on Education Statistics and is available on the Forum website at <http://nces.ed.gov/forum>. The information and opinions published in the guide are the product of the National Forum on Education Statistics and do not necessarily represent the policies or views of the U.S. Department of Education or the National Center for Education Statistics.