

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20208-5651

O.M.B. No.: 1850-0718
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**SCHOOL SURVEY ON RACIAL AND
ETHNIC CLASSIFICATIONS**

FAST RESPONSE SURVEY SYSTEM

This survey is authorized by law (20 U.S.C. 1221e-1). While you are not required to respond, your cooperation is needed to make the results of this survey comprehensive, accurate, and timely.

DEFINITIONS FOR THIS SURVEY:

Standard Federal Categories - The basic racial and ethnic classifications and labels for federal statistics and program administrative reporting are currently under review. The five standard federal categories that are currently used are:

American Indian or Alaskan Native - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliations or community recognition.

Asian or Pacific Islander - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands. This area includes, for example, China, India, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands, and Samoa.

Black, not of Hispanic origin - A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.

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

White, not of Hispanic origin - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East.

AFFIX LABEL HERE

IF ABOVE INFORMATION IS INCORRECT, PLEASE CORRECT DIRECTLY ON LABEL.

Name of person completing form: _____

Telephone: _____

Title: _____

Fax #: _____

Best days and times to reach you (in case of questions): _____

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT:

WESTAT
1650 Research Boulevard
Rockville, Maryland 20850
Attention: 900142

Nancy Carey
1-800-937-8281, Ext. 4467
Fax #: 1-301-517-4134
E-mail: CAREYN1@WESTAT.COM

The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather and maintain the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. **If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate or suggestions for improving this form, please write to** U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC 20202-4651.

1. When is information about the race or ethnicity of students at your school usually obtained? (Circle one.)

- Only upon initial registration at any school in the district..... 1
- Upon initial registration and when a student changes schools within the district..... 2
- On an annual basis..... 3
- Other. (Please specify)..... 4

2. How does your school collect information about the race or ethnicity of its student population? (Circle one.)

- Parents or guardians are asked to select one of the five standard federal categories of race and ethnicity (as defined on the cover page of this questionnaire)..... 1
- Parents or guardians are asked to select one of the classifications that this school district uses, including categories such as "other" or multiracial..... 2
- Parents or guardians are allowed to write in their own specification of their child's race or ethnicity..... 3
- A teacher or administrator assigns the student to a category based on observation..... 4
- Some other procedure is followed (Please specify)..... 5
- This information is not collected at the school, but at the central district office..... 6

3. In addition to the five standard federal categories (see cover page), what other categories does your school use to classify the race or ethnicity of its students? Please check as many categories as are used. We are also interested in the different labels schools are actually using. Please provide the specific labels your school uses, as needed.

- | | Label |
|---|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> One general "multiracial" category. Please write in the specific label your school uses..... | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Specific combinations of the five standard federal categories (e.g., "Asian/White"). Please write in any combinations your school uses..... | _____
_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional racial or ethnic categories. Please specify. (If more than 3, attach a list.)..... | _____

_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> An "unknown" category for undetermined race or ethnicity. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> An "other" or "undesignated" category for race or ethnicity not covered in the list your school uses, with space for race or ethnicity to be specified. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> An "other" or "undesignated" category for race or ethnicity not covered in the list your school uses, without space for specification. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> This school uses no additional categories (Skip to Question 5.) | |

4. How does your school report to the federal government racial or ethnic classifications that are not one of the five standard federal categories?

(Circle one.)

- a. For "other," "unknown," or "undesignated" classifications:
- Not applicable. These classifications are not used at this school..... 1
 - The students are prorated or otherwise distributed by some formula among the five standard federal categories..... 2
 - The students are distributed among the five standard federal categories based on school judgment about which category is most appropriate..... 3
 - All the students are put into one of the five standard federal categories.
(Please specify which one) _____ 4
 - The school ascertains the mother's race or ethnicity and assigns the student to the appropriate classification..... 5
 - Some other action is taken.(Please specify) _____ 6
 - The central district office handles this reporting..... 7

b. For "multiracial," combined (e.g., "White/Asian"), or alternative racial or ethnic classifications (such as "Filipino"): (Circle one.)

- Not applicable. These classifications are not used at this school..... 1
- The students are prorated or otherwise distributed by some formula among the five standard federal categories..... 2
- The students are distributed among the five standard federal categories based on school judgment about which category is most appropriate..... 3
- All the students are put into one of the five standard federal categories.
(Please specify which one) _____ 4
- The school ascertains the mother's race or ethnicity and assigns the student to the appropriate classification..... 5
- Some other action is taken.(Please specify) _____ 6
- The central district office handles this reporting..... 7

5. To help us understand the extent to which the five standard federal categories of race and ethnicity accurately describe your school's 1994-95 student population, please provide the following information.

- a. What is the total student enrollment?..... _____
- b. Does your school have students who are not accurately described by the five standard federal categories because of ethnicity not mentioned, or who are multiracial or biracial?..... Yes No (Skip to Question 6.)
- c. Can you estimate how many of these students your school has?..... Yes No (Skip to Question 6.)
- d. Approximately how many students are not accurately described by the five standard federal categories?..... _____

6. Below are listed several suggestions that the federal government has received about revising the five standard federal categories. For each suggestion, please indicate to what extent it would apply to children enrolled in your school. If your school **already** has implemented a listed change, or intends to do so soon, please indicate this by circling *(Circle one response on each row.)*

		Already included, or soon to be implemented	A significant issue	A moderate issue	A minor issue	Not an issue
a.	Adding a general "multiracial" category.....	1	2	3	4	5
b.	Adding an "other" category.....	1	2	3	4	5
c.	Adding specific combinations of current categories (e.g., "Asian/White.").....	1	2	3	4	5
d.	Changing the name of the "Black" category to "African American".....	1	2	3	4	5
e.	Changing the name of the "American Indian or Alaskan Native" category to "Native American".....	1	2	3	4	5
f.	Including Native Hawaiians as a separate category or as part of a "Native American" category.....	1	2	3	4	5
g.	Adding additional racial or ethnic designations, such as "Middle Eastern" <i>(Please list.)</i> _____	1	2	3	4	5
h.	Allowing individuals to write in a racial or ethnic designation.....	1	2	3	4	5
i.	Other <i>(Please describe.)</i> _____ _____	1	2	3	4	5

7. If you think there are any other issues related to race and ethnicity that are important to your school, please list them below.

THANK YOU!