

Using Race and Ethnicity Data in Syndromic Surveillance

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Moderator: Amanda Smith, PhD, MPH – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Panelists:

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Jourdan DeVies, MS – Centers for Disease Control, National Syndromic Surveillance Program, ICF Contractor

Carla Britton, PhD – Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Rashon Lane, PhD – Centers for Disease Control, Division of Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention



Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists



Using Race and Ethnicity Data for Syndromic Surveillance Roundtable

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2021 CSTE Syndromic Surveillance Symposium

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Calculated Race and Ethnicity Fields in ESSENCE

ESSENCE Display Values for Original and Calculated Race and Ethnicity Fields

Original Race Fields	Calculated Race Fields
American Indian or Alaska Native	American Indian or Alaska Native
Asian	Asian
Black or African American	Black or African American
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
Other Race	Other Race
White	White
Refused to Answer	Refused to Answer
Unknown	Unknown
Not Reported	Not Reported or Null
	Not Categorized
	Multiracial

Original Ethnicity Fields	Calculated Ethnicity Fields
Hispanic or Latino	Hispanic or Latino
Not Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino
Unknown	Unknown
Not Reported	Not Reported or Null
	Refused to Answer
	Not Categorized

<https://www.cdc.gov/nssp/news/2021/06-june/technical-updates.html>

Race Flat Examples

Race Flat Field	Original Race Mapping	Calculated Race Category
;2054-5;2106-3;	Black or African American AND White	Multiracial
;2106-3;UNK;	White AND Unknown	Unknown
;Am Indian;	Not Mapped	American Indian or Alaska Native
;Patient Refused;	Not Mapped	Refused to Answer

Combined Race and Ethnicity Categories—Narrow

Calculated Race	Calculated Ethnicity	Calculated Race and Ethnicity Combined—Narrow
Any calculated race value including unknowns	Hispanic or Latino	Hispanic or Latino
American Indian or Alaska Native	Not Hispanic or Latino	American Indian or Alaska Native and non-Hispanic
Asian		Asian and non-Hispanic
Black or African American		Black or African American and non-Hispanic
Multiracial; Other Race		Multiracial/Other and non-Hispanic
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander and non-Hispanic
White		White and non-Hispanic
Refused to Answer; Unknown; Not Reported or Null; Not Categorized	Refused to Answer; Unknown; Not Reported or Null; Not Categorized	Race Unknown
American Indian or Alaska Native ; Asian; Black or African American ; Multiracial; Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ; Other Race White		Ethnicity Unknown
Refused to Answer; Unknown; Not Reported or Null; Not Categorized		Race and Ethnicity Unknown

Combined Race and Ethnicity Categories—Broad

Calculated Race	Calculated Ethnicity	Calculated Race and Ethnicity Combined—Broad
Any calculated race value including unknowns	Hispanic or Latino	Hispanic or Latino
American Indian or Alaska Native	Not Hispanic or Latino; Refused to Answer; Unknown; Not Reported or Null; Not Categorized	American Indian or Alaska Native and non-Hispanic
Asian		Asian and non-Hispanic
Black or African American		Black or African American and non-Hispanic
Multiracial; Other Race		Multiracial/Other and non-Hispanic
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander and non-Hispanic
White		White and non-Hispanic
Refused to Answer; Unknown; Not Reported or Null; Not Categorized	Refused to Answer; Unknown; Not Reported or Null; Not Categorized	Race and Ethnicity Unknown
Refused to Answer; Unknown; Not Reported or Null; Not Categorized	Not Hispanic or Latino	Race Unknown

When to use calculated race and ethnicity variables vs. original race and ethnicity variables?

What are some limitations of using calculated race and ethnicity fields?

What standard should be used when deciding how to report race and ethnicity data?

What are some considerations when using race and ethnicity data in NSSP?

Are there specific considerations around reporting data for racial and ethnic minority groups?

TO SITES: What are the biggest challenges with collecting, reporting, and validating race and ethnicity data, and what do you want end users to be aware of?

What further improvements would you like to see around race and ethnicity variables in ESSENCE?

For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

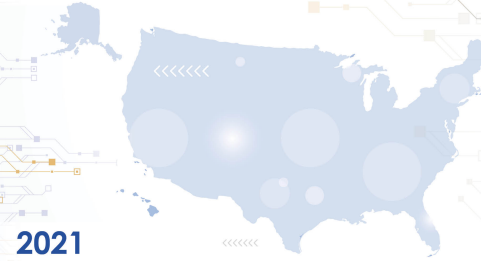
The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



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