Student Ethnicity Collection and Reporting at UC

UC and all other educational institutions that participate in federal student aid programs are required to submit race and ethnicity data to IPEDS. However, the current IPEDS definitions do not match the historical UC definitions because of changes that were introduced in 2010, making the collection of Hispanic ethnicity a separate question and introducing the concept of Two or More Races. More information on those changes is available at https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/Section/ana_Changes_to_25_2007_169.

Undergraduates
At the time of application, students are currently asked two sets of questions, one for U.S. Department of Education (IPEDS) Reporting and for UC Reporting.

U.S. Department of Education Collection
These categories were developed in 1997 by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) that are used to describe groups to which individuals belong, identify with, or belong in the eyes of the community. The categories do not denote scientific definitions of anthropological origins. First, individuals are asked, “Do you consider yourself Hispanic or Latino? Includes persons of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin.”

Second, individuals are asked “Which of the following groups best describes your racial background? Check as many categories as may apply.”
- African American or Black
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian
- White

U.S. Department of Education Reporting
IPEDS requires international students to be reported as nonresident aliens regardless of any race or ethnicity they may have indicated. If the student selected Hispanic or Latino, the student is reported as Hispanic/Latino. Otherwise, the student is reported according to the race category selected, or, if more than one was selected, the student is reported as “Two or More Races”.

UC Collection
Individuals are asked to provide “Which of the following groups best describes your background. Check as many categories as may apply”.

In the following list, the italicized headings indicate the reporting category. The bold headings represent the categories listed on the Undergraduate Application. The bullets represent the choices available.

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1 Nonresident aliens/International students are defined as students who are not: US citizens, permanent residents, refugees, amnesty recipients, approved petitioners, or political/religious asylees.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>African American / Black</th>
<th>Hispanic / Latino(a)</th>
<th>American Indian / Alaskan Native</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>White</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African American / Black</td>
<td>Hispanic American / Mexican American / Chicano</td>
<td>American Indian / Alaskan Native</td>
<td>Asian / Asian American</td>
<td>Southwest Asian and North African^</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• African American</td>
<td>• Cuban / Cuban American</td>
<td>• American Indian / Alaskan Native</td>
<td>• Asian Indian*#</td>
<td>• Afghan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• African*</td>
<td>• Latin American / Latino*</td>
<td>• Cambodian*</td>
<td>• Algerian</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Black Caribbean *</td>
<td>• Puerto Rican*</td>
<td>• Chinese / Chinese American (except Taiwanese)</td>
<td>• Armenian</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Other African American / Black*</td>
<td>• Other Hispanic, Latin American or of Spanish Origin</td>
<td>• Filipino / Filipino American</td>
<td>• Assyrian / Chaldean</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Hmong*</td>
<td>• Azerbaijani</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Indonesian*</td>
<td>• Bahraini</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Japanese / Japanese American</td>
<td>• Berber</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Korean / Korean American</td>
<td>• Circassian</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Laotian*</td>
<td>• Djiboutian</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Malaysian*</td>
<td>• Egyptian</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Other Asian (not including Middle Eastern)</td>
<td>• Emirati</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Pakistani*#</td>
<td>• Georgian</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Sri Lankan*</td>
<td>• Iranian</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Taiwanese / Taiwanese American*</td>
<td>• Iraqi</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Thai*</td>
<td>• Israeli</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Vietnamese / Vietnamese American</td>
<td>• Jordanian</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pacific Islander</td>
<td>• Kurdish</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Fijian*</td>
<td>• Libyan</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Guamanian / Chamorro*</td>
<td>• Mauritanian</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Hawaiian*</td>
<td>• Moroccan</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Samoan*</td>
<td>• Omani</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Tongan*</td>
<td>• Palestinian</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Other Pacific Islander*</td>
<td>• Qatari</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>White / Caucasian</td>
<td>• Saudi Arabian</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• European / European descent</td>
<td>• Somali</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Other White /Caucasian*</td>
<td>• Sudanese</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• White / Middle Eastern*</td>
<td>• Syrian</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• White/ North African*</td>
<td>• Tunisian</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Added in 2010
^ Added in 2014
+ Added in 2010, removed in 2014 and replaced with more detailed categories
# Collected as “East Indian/Pakistani” prior to 2010; some campuses continue to aggregate and report students into this category
UC Aggregated Reporting

Students who are International are reported as such regardless of race/ethnicity. A student’s primary race/ethnicity is determined by the left-most column in the table above of all the categories selected. For most UC current reporting (such as the Accountability Report and the UC Information Center), the italicized heading at the top of the column is considered the primary race/ethnicity.

Note that campuses are provided the initial race/ethnicity data from the UC application, but the race/ethnicity of students is reported for each registration file period (twice per quarter/semester, at the third week and the end of term). It is possible that a student may update their racial/ethnic identification in campus systems, and certain aggregation may also happen in campus systems.

Pre-2010 Collection and Reporting Precedence

Prior to 2010, the data system only allowed for the collection of a single race/ethnicity. The reporting precedence was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Undergraduates</th>
<th>Graduate Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Black</td>
<td>1. Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Other Spanish American/Latino</td>
<td>3. Other Spanish American/Latino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. American Indian/Alaskan Native</td>
<td>4. American Indian/Alaskan Native</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Filipino</td>
<td>5. Pacific Islander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Chinese</td>
<td>7. Filipino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. East Indian/Pakistani</td>
<td>8. Japanese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Pacific Islander</td>
<td>11. East Indian/Pakistani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Other Asian</td>
<td>12. Other Asian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Unknown</td>
<td>14. Unknown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduate Students/Health Science Residents

UC systemwide guidelines encourage the same collection scheme as for undergraduates, but graduate applications are decentralized. Campuses, and in many cases, individual graduate programs, operate their own application systems and have their own schemes for collecting data. Not all systems have been fully equipped to offer or capture all the choices provided to undergraduates. UCOP collects data according to the same categories as for undergraduates, but campuses and departments may have already applied their own processing to the data.

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2 See footnote 1.
3 One graduate program allows students to select “Other”.

3.1.17 IRAP