

- IMPORTANT NOTICE -

Changes in Race/Ethnicity Coding Will Affect Categories and Percentage Distributions

Changes in the race/ethnicity coding have made getting accurate numbers much more complex and comparisons to previous years perilous. IRAP is working through these issues in conjunction with CIS and ARE. For the next several months, until you hear from me again, please be aware that **PeopleSoft procedures you use that include race/ethnicity will produce counts that differ from the "official" Fresno State counts.** The "official" Fresno State student race/ethnic distributions are posted on the IRAP website. These numbers are reported to the Chancellor's Office and the U.S. Department of Education. *If you are using race/ethnicity data for any external reporting purposes, especially grants, please use these or contact IRAP for assistance.*

These coding changes were implemented by the Chancellor's Office so that the way we collect students' race/ethnicity data will correspond to the U.S. Census. Rather than attempting to delineate the changes and their effects in a short paper, I will set up campus meetings to explain them for all who are interested.

It also has been called to our attention that U.S. Census race/ethnicity data are confusing. This is due to multi-race categories and a distinct question regarding Hispanic/Latino heritage. The two tables below show U.S. Census Bureau data for Fresno County and the State of California. These are provided for your convenience.

2009 Estimates of the Resident Population by Race and Hispanic Origin for Fresno County

Total	White	Black or African American	American Indian and Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	Two or More Races	Hispanic
915,267	317,011	46,138	7,085	79,138	913	14,185	450,797
100%	34.6%	5.0%	0.8%	8.6%	0.1%	1.5%	49.3%

2009 Estimates of the Resident Population by Race and Hispanic Origin for California

Total	White	Black or African American	American Indian and Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	Two or More Races	Hispanic
36,961,664	15,412,631	2,212,340	194,167	4,567,257	124,487	769,407	13,681,375
100%	41.7%	6.0%	0.5%	12.4%	0.3%	2.1%	37.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division (Release Date: June 2010)
 U.S. Census Bureau Race/Ethnicity Explanations can be found at:
<http://www.naphsis.org/NAPHSIS/files/ccLibraryFiles/Filename/000000001003/Race%20and%20Ethnicity.pdf>