STANDARDS FOR THE CLASSIFICATION OF FEDERAL DATA ON RACE AND ETHNICITY

The racial categories below were first used by the Bureau of the Census in the 2000 decennial census. According to the standard, there are five minimum categories for data on race (American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and White) and one category for data on ethnicity (“Hispanic or Latino”).

Multiracial respondents have the option of choosing multiple responses to the race question by selecting all racial categories that apply to them. As mentioned previously, these racial categories were first used by the Bureau of the Census in the 2000 decennial census.¹ The purpose of the revised classification is to reflect the increasing diversity of the US population that has resulted primarily from growth in immigration and in interracial marriages. In light of this transition, we are collecting the classification on race and ethnicity in the ARL Annual Salary Survey on an optional basis.

To collect the information in this format from the library employees, a mini survey is included at the bottom of this note. Respondent self-identification is the preferred method and should be facilitated to the greatest extent possible according to the federal guidelines. By filling in the information below we will be able to collect some optional data about racial group membership as part of the 2017–2018 ARL Annual Salary Survey.

The minimum categories for data on race and ethnicity for Federal statistics are defined as follows:

1. Ethnicity:

-- Hispanic or Latino. A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
-- Not Hispanic or Latino.

2. Race:

-- American Indian or Alaska Native. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.

-- Asian. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.

¹ https://www.census.gov/topics/population/race/about.html

© 2017 Association of Research Libraries, Washington, DC
-- Black or African American. A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.

-- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

-- White. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

Please, fill in the following form using the above definitions:

Name: 

NOTE: Please answer BOTH Questions 1 and 2.

1. Ethnicity (Select one or more):

   ___ Hispanic or Latino
   ___ Not Hispanic or Latino

2. Race (Select one or more):

   ___ American Indian or Alaska Native
   ___ Asian
   ___ Black or African American
   ___ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
   ___ White