



The California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) contains rich and detailed racial and ethnic information about California's diverse population. This document provides details about the race/ethnicity variables available in CHIS, how each variable was constructed, and for which CHIS cycle/s each variable is available.

RACEHPR2 (RACE – UCLA CHPR DEFINITION, 2007 and later) CHIS 2007

RACEHPR2 was created with the release of CHIS 2007 as a new version of RACEHPR. The new variable (RACEHPR2) employs the same logic as the original variable, but is not comparable due to changes in the questionnaire. Beginning with CHIS 2007, OMB required a new question for respondents that identified with more than one racial/ethnic group. The new question asked multiple race/ethnic respondents whether or not they most identified with a single racial or ethnic group; only those that said yes were then asked which group they most identified with. This change results in a much larger proportion of the sample in the "Other Single/Multiple Race" category. The race/ethnic categories for RACEHPR2 and RACEHPR remain the same: Latino, Pacific Islander, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, African American, White and Other Single/Multiple Race. Rules for category assignment of RACEHPR2 can be found in *Appendix A*.

RACEHPR (RACE - UCLA CHPR DEFINITION, 2001 to 2005) CHIS 2001, 2003, 2005

In CHIS 2001, 2003 and 2005, the RACEHPR variable was created as a measure of race that takes into account which race/ethnicity the respondents most identify with if more than one race is reported. Respondents who reported more than one race/ethnicity were asked which group s/he most identified with and RACEHPR was assigned according to several criteria (see *Appendix B* for more details).

In CHIS 2007 the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) required a change to the CHIS questionnaire that prevents the identical construction of the RACEHPR variable. For respondents who identified with more than one race, CHIS was no longer allowed to ask which race the respondent most identified with. Instead, a new follow-up question was asked: "*Do you identify with any one race in particular?*" If the respondent indicated *yes*, then a follow-up question was asked about which particular race they most identify with. If the respondent indicated *no*, the respondent's race/ethnicity was assigned depending on several new criteria.

Due to this questionnaire change in 2007, 1) the RACEHPR variable can no longer be constructed as it had been in the past and is only available in cycles 2001 through 2005, 2) a new variable, RACEHPR2, is now available as a construct of race based on the 'most identified race' information; this new variable has a much larger "multiple race" category and is only available beginning in CHIS 2007.



RACECEN (RACE – CENSUS 2000 DEFINITION) CHIS 2001-2007

The RACECEN variable uses the Census SF1 definition/tabulation of race. According to the Census definition, 1) there is no separate category for Latinos since people who identify their origin as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino may be of any race, 2) race is considered a separate concept from Hispanic origin (ethnicity), and 3) wherever possible, separate questions should be asked on each concept. The Census race categories are: White, Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, Some Other race and Two or More Races. Respondents who solely identify themselves as Latino or Hispanic are assigned to the 'other' category. For more specific information on any of these race categories, please go to: <http://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/briefs.html>.

RACEDOF (Race – Former Department of Finance Definition) CHIS 2001-2007

The RACEDOF variable uses the former definition of race classification from the California Department of Finance's race categories (2001). Latino is considered to be a race category for this variable and is given priority. The categories for RACEDOF are: Latino, Non-Latino Pacific Islander, Non-Latino American Indian/Alaskan Native, Non-Latino Asian, Non-Latino African American, Non-Latino White, Non-Latino Other One Race, and Non-Latino Two or More Races.

OMBSRREO (OMB Self-Reported Race Ethnicity) CHIS 2001-2007

OMBSRREO is derived from the RACEDOF variable and follows the Office of Management and Budget-revised guidelines (1997) set forth in Statistical Policy Directive No. 15 and the Census modification of the OMB guidelines. OMB separates race and ethnicity, and recognizes five main racial categories: American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and White. Categories for the OMBSRREO variable are: Hispanic, Non-Hispanic White, Non-Hispanic African American, Non-Hispanic American Indian/Alaskan Native, Non-Hispanic Asian, Non-Hispanic Native Hawaiian, Other Pacific Islander and Non-Hispanic More than one race. Unlike RACEDOF, OMBSRREO does not contain a non-Hispanic other single race category. For more information, please go to: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg/race-ethnicity.html> and <http://www.omhrc.gov/templates/browse.aspx?lvl=2&lvlID=172>.



Table 1. Summary Race and Ethnicity Definitions

Race Variable	Description	CHIS Cycle			
		2007	2005	2003	2001
RACEHPR2	UCLA Definition of Race – Most identified with race (2007 and later)	✓			
RACEHPR	UCLA Definition of Race – Most identified with race (2001 to 2005)		✓	✓	✓
RACECEN	Census Definition of Race – No separate category for Latino/Hispanic	✓	✓	✓	✓
RACEDOF	Department of Finance Former Definition of Race –Latino is separate category and given priority	✓	✓	✓	✓
OMBSRREO	Office of Management and Budget Definition of Race –Separates race and ethnicity and follows RACEDOF	✓	✓	✓	✓

Additional Race and Ethnicity Variables

CHIS also offers several variables that provide detailed information on

- Latino/Hispanic ancestry/origin
- Detailed Latino and Asian subgroups
- American Indian Tribe identification
- Pacific Islander identification
- Self-reported race and ethnic subgroups

For more information, please visit <http://www.chis.ucla.edu/main/default.asp?page=puf> for questionnaires, documentation on CHIS constructed variables, and data dictionaries.

RACEHPR2 values are assigned in a hierarchical manner:

1. Adjustments for Non –Latino Respondents:

- If single race reported, then RACEHPR2 is assigned based on single race.
- If multiple races reported and:
 - Respondent identifies with one race in particular (AA5G, TI2F), then RACEHPR2 is assigned based on AA5F/TI2E.
 - Respondent does not identify with one race in particular, then RACEHPR2 is assigned in the multiple race category.

2. Adjustments for Latino Respondents:

- If single race reported and:
 - If Latino is imputed and race is not imputed, then RACEHPR2 is assigned based on single race.
 - If Latino is not imputed and race is imputed, then RACEHPR2 is assigned in the Latino category.
 - If Latino and race variables are not imputed and:
 - Respondent identifies with one race in particular (AA5G, TI2F), then RACEHPR2 is assigned based on AA5F/TI2E.
 - Respondent does not identify with one race in particular, then RACEHPR2 is assigned in the multiple race category.
 - Report single race as “other”, then use AA5AOS/TI2OS to assign RACEHPR2.
- If multiple races reported and:
 - If Latino is not imputed and race is imputed, then RACEHPR2 is assigned as Latino.
 - Others
 - Respondent identifies with one race in particular (AA5G, TI2F), then RACEHPR2 is assigned based on AA5F/TI2E.
 - Respondent does not identify with one race in particular, then RACEHPR2 is assigned in the multiple race category.

3. Adjustments for AIAN Respondents:

- If a respondent reported belonging to a California tribe (AA5C, TI2A) or identifies most with “American Indian or Alaska Native” in AA5F/TI2E, then RACEHPR2 is reassigned to the AIAN category.

4. Assignment of Race for Children Respondents:

- Child race assigned based on adult race (RACEHPR2).
 - If child-first case, and no adult race information is available then
 - Child race assigned according to adolescent race, mother/father’s country of birth, and/or language spoken at home.
 - If child-first case, and no other information is available then
 - Child race assigned through imputation.

Appendix B RACEHPR

RACEHPR values are assigned in the following hierarchical manner:

1. **The number of races reported for each case is counted using the race variables SRPI, SRAI, SRAS, SRAA, SRW, and SRO.**
2. **The non-Latino cases (if SRH=2) are assigned RACEHPR values.**
 - If only one race reported, then they are assigned to the appropriate single race category
 - If only SRPI=1, then assigned to Pacific Islander.
 - If only SRAI=1, then assigned to American Indian/Alaska Native.
 - If only SRAS=1, then assigned to Asian.
 - If only SRAA=1, then assigned to African American.
 - If only SRW=1, then assigned to White.
 - If only SRO=1, then assigned to Other Single/Multiple Race.
 - If more than one race, then they are assigned to one of the following RACEHPR categories depending on how they respond to the question about which group they most identify with in item AA5F/TI2E.
3. **The Latino cases (if SRH=1) are assigned RACEHPR values.**
 - If cases are statistically imputed to be Latino (if ISRH \geq 1), and race variables (**SRPI, SRAI, SRAS, SRAA, SRW, and SRO**) are not imputed, then they are assigned as follows, if only a single race is reported:
 - If only SRPI=1, then assigned to Pacific Islander.
 - If only SRAI=1, then assigned to American Indian/Alaska Native.
 - If only SRAS=1, then assigned to Asian.
 - If only SRAA=1, then assigned to African American.
 - If only SRW=1, then assigned to White.
 - If only SRO=1, then assigned to Other Single/Multiple Race.
 - If cases that are statistically imputed to be Latino (if ISRH \geq 1) and race variables (**SRPI, SRAI, SRAS, SRAA, SRW, and SRO**) are not imputed with multiple races reported, then they are assigned values depending on the group they most identify with in AA5F/TI2E.
 - If cases that are not statistically imputed to be Latino (if ISRH $<$ 1), and the race variables (**SRPI, SRAI, SRAS, SRAA, SRW, and SRO**) are imputed, then they are assigned to the Latino category.
 - If cases are not statistically imputed to be Latino (if ISRH $<$ 1), and not imputed to be white (if ISRW $<$ 0) with multiple races, then they are assigned depending on which group they most identify with in AA5F/TI2E.
4. **Adjustment 1:** All Latino cases (if SRH=1) with a single race reported to be “other” (if only SRO=1), and in which the race/ethnicity specified in item AA5OS is an identified nationality or skin color, are assigned to the Latino category.

Appendix B RACEHPR

Examples of these “other” or open specify responses include: Mexican, Chicano, Hispanic, Salvadoran, Moreno and Cuban.

5. **Adjustment 2:** The Latino cases (if SRH=1) with “none of these” specified (in AA5AOS), and in which the race/ethnicity the respondent most identifies with in item AA5F is unknown, are coded as Latino.
6. **Adjustment 3:** The Latino cases (if SRH=1) with multiple races, where the SRH variable and in which race variable are both imputed, are assigned to the other single/multiple race category for this variable.
7. **Adjustment 4:** The cases with RACEHPR~=3 that meet one of the following criteria are assigned to the American Indian/Alaska Native category (RACEHPR=3):
 - If identify themselves as an enrolled member in an AIAN tribe (if AA5C=1).
 - If single race, Non-Latino (if SRH~=1), and American Indian/Alaska Native (if SRAI=1).
 - If single race, American Indian/Alaska Native (if SRAI=1), and most identify with American Indian/Alaska Native.
 - If multiple race, American Indian/Alaska Native (if SRAI=1), and most identify with American Indian/Alaska Native.