

**Proposed Crosswalk:  
NSF CISE REU Past Participant/Mentor Survey Race Categories → OMB  
Guidelines for Race Categories**

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**OMB Feedback Regarding Race Question:**

*Suggested Questions Phrasing and Precautions*

*While it might be desirable to have highly detailed race and ethnicity data, the number of categories should be kept to a manageable size, as determined by statistical concerns and data needs. The primary statistical concern is sample size. For small subpopulations, there may be too few people to generate statistically robust estimates (i.e., the uncertainty about such estimates will be so large as to render them of little value in making policy decisions). In addition, when there are too few people in a subgroup, the estimates cannot be made public (i.e., disseminated) without a major risk to the privacy of the survey subject and confidentiality of their data.*

*You may add sub-categories as long as these can be aggregated to one of the standard categories.*

**CERP Response:**

CERP proposes to collect race data using the categories shown in Table 1 below in order to enhance accuracy in responding. We anticipate that small numbers of responses in many of the individual categories will necessitate rolling the categories up into OMB standard categories. In all cases, no data about a particular respondent subgroup will be disseminated when small subgroup numbers risk compromising the privacy of those respondents. The table below provides a crosswalk from the survey categories to OMB standard race categories.

**Table 1. Crosswalk of Survey Race Data to OMB Race Roll-Ups**

| <b>Survey Race Category</b>                                    | <b>OMB Race Roll-Up Category</b>          |
|--|---|
| African American/African/Black                                 | Black or African American                 |
| American Indian/Alaska Native                                  | American Indian or Alaska Native          |
| Arab/Middle Eastern  | White                                     |
| Caucasian/European/White                                       | White                                     |
| East Asian (e.g., Chinese, Japanese, Korean)                   | Asian                                     |
| Southeast Asian (e.g., Cambodian, Vietnamese, Hmong, Filipino) | Asian                                     |
| South Asian (e.g., Indian, Pakistani, Nepalese, Sri Lankan)    | Asian                                     |
| Other Asian  | Asian                                     |
| Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander                               | Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander |