

Notice to WIC Participants: Identifying Race and Ethnicity Categories

We need to ask all WIC participants to identify their ethnic group and race. This information has no part in the determination of WIC eligibility. The information will be used to produce reports and to monitor the fulfillment of the civil rights laws.

Ethnicity refers to a person of a particular country, culture, or origin, regardless of race. Are you Hispanic, Latino, or a person of other Spanish Culture?

Hispanic, Latino, or other Spanish Culture

Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin.

Note: Many WIC participants who formerly identified themselves as only Hispanic will now need to designate their racial category. Hispanics who can trace their ancestors back to Europe (Spain or Portugal) would be included in the White racial category. Other Hispanics may trace their ancestors to the original peoples of the Americas-Indian tribal groups who inhabited the Americas (North, Central or South America) before the Spanish discovered and explored the New World: for example, Aztec, Inca, and Mayan.

Race refers to persons having origins in any of the original peoples of a particular country or region. Choose one or more races.

Asian

Far East, Southeast Asian, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example: Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Black or African American

Any of the black racial groups of Africa.

American Indian or Alaskan Native

North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachments (pertaining mainly to Native American Indians).

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

White

Europe, Middle East, or North Africa.

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