

Appendix D

Race and Nationality Descriptions

Race and Nationality Descriptions

Note: Use these lists only when race is not stated but other information is provided in the medical record.

References:

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics Systems, <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/revisions-of-the-us-standard-certificates-and-reports.htm>, accessed April 7, 2026
 - a. [Race Code List \(2011\)](#)
 - b. [Hispanic Origin \(2011\)](#)
2. 2020 Census: [Decennial Census of Population and Housing Technical Documentation](#): See section Detailed Demographic and Housing Characteristics File A (Detailed DHC-A), 2020 Census Hispanic Origin and Race Code List (Excel file)
3. *Instruction manual, part 4: Classification And Coding Instructions For Death Records, 1999-2001*, Division of Vital Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics, undated
4. Updates to OMB's Race/Ethnicity Standards, accessed April 7, 2026
 - a. [Updates to OMB's Race/Ethnicity Standards \(census.gov\)](#)
 - b. [Detailed Race and Ethnicity Groups, Tribes and Villages \(census.gov\)](#)

Key

- † Use this code unless patient is stated to be Native American
- * Terms listed in Reference 2, above.
- ‡ Description of religious affiliation rather than stated nationality or ethnicity; should be used with caution when determining appropriate race code.

Code 01 White

Afghanistani
Afrikaner
Albanian
Algerian*
Amish*
Anglo-Saxon*
Arab, Arabian
Argentinian*†
Armenian
Aryan*
Assyrian
Australian*
Austrian*
Azores*
Basque*
Bavarian*
Blanc*

Bolivian*†
 Bosnian
 Brava/Bravo*
 Brazilian†
 Bulgarian
 Cajun
 Californio
 Canadian*
 Caucasian*
 Central American†
 Chechnyan
 Chicano*
 Chilean†
 Colombian*
 Costa Rican*†
 Creole*
 Croatian
 Crucian*
 Cuban (unless specified as Black or African American)*
 Cypriot
 Czech
 Czechoslovakian
 Eastern European
 Ebian*
 Ecuadorian*†
 Egyptian
 English
 English-French*
 English-Irish*
 European
 Finnish*
 French
 French Canadian*
 Georgian*
 German
 Greek*
 Guatemalan*
 Gypsy*
 Hebrew*‡
 Hispanic*
 Honduran†
 Hungarian*
 Icelandic*
 Iranian
 Iraqi
 Irish
 Islamic*‡
 Israeli
 Italian
 Jew*‡
 Jordanian*
 Kosovian
 Kurd/Kurdish
 Kuwaitian*

Ladina/Ladino*
 Latin American*†
 Latino
 Latvian*
 Lebanese
 Libyan*
 Lithuanian*
 Maltese*
 Marshenese*
 Mauritian
 Moroccan*
 Mediterranean*
 Mexican*
 Middle East
 Moroccan*
 Moslem/Muslim*‡
 Near Easterner
 Nicaraguan†
 Nordic*
 North African
 Norwegian*
 Occidental*
 Other Arab
 Palestinian
 Panamanian
 Paraguayan
 Parsi*
 Persian*
 Peruvian*†
 Polish
 Portuguese
 Puerto Rican* (unless specified as Black or African American)
 Romanian*/Rumanian
 Russian
 Salvadoran
 Saudi Arabian*
 Scandinavian*
 Scottish, Scotch
 Semitic*‡
 Serbian*
 Servian*
 Shi'ite
 Sicilian*
 Slavic, Slovakian*
 South American*†/ Sudamericano
 Spanish*
 Sunni*‡
 Swedish*
 Syrian
 Teutonic*
 Tunisian*
 Turk*
 Ukranian
 United Arab Emirates

Uruguayan†
Venezuelan*†
Welsh*
White
White American (Wiam)*
Yemenite*
Yugoslavian*
Zoroastrian*

Code 02 Black or African American

African
African American
AfroAmerican
Bahamian
Barbadian
Bilalian
Black
Botswana
Cape Verde
Dominica Islander (unless specified as White)
Dominican*/Dominican Republic (unless specified as White)
Eritrean
Ethiopian
Ghanaian
Haitian
Hamitic
Jamaican
Kenyan
Liberian
Malawian
Mugandan
Namibian
Nassau
Nigerian
Nigritian
Nubian
Octaroon*
Other African
Quadroon*
Santo Domingo
Seychelloise
Somalian
Sudanese
Tanzanian
Tobago
Togolese
Trinidad
West Indies
Zaire

Code 03 American Indian and Alaska Native

For the most updated list of American Indian, Alaska Indian, Aleut, and Eskimo and tribes, refer to the Race Code List on the National Center for Health Statistics [website](#) (Reference 1.a). More general terms for American Indian and Alaska Native include:

Alaska Native
Alaska Indian
Aleut
American Indian
Central American Indian
Eskimo
Meso American Indian
Mexican American Indian
South American Indian
Spanish American Indian

Asian Race Codes

Code	Definition
96	Amerasian*
16	Asian Indian (Effective with 1/1/2010 dx.)
96	Asian (NOS)
96	Asiatic*
96	Bangladeshi
96	Bhutanese
96	Bornean
96	Bruneian
96	Burmese
13	Cambodian
96	Celebesian
96	Ceram
96	Ceylonese*
04	Chinese
96	Eurasian*
06	Filipino
12	Hmong
16	Indian (from India) (Effective with 1/1/2010 dx.)
96	Indo Chinese
96	Indonesian
05	Iwo Jiman
05	Japanese
96	Java*
13	Kampuchean
08	Korean
11	Laotian
96	Madagascar
96	Malaysian
96	Maldivian
96	Mien
96	Mongolian
96	Montagnard

Code	Definition
96	Nepalese
05	Okinawan
96	Other Asian
17	Pakistani (Effective with 1/1/2010 dx.)
96	Sikkimese
96	Singaporean
96	Sri Lankan
96	Sumatran
04	Taiwanese
14	Thai
96	Tibetan
10	Vietnamese
96	Whello
96	Yello

Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Codes

Code	Definition
20	Bikinian
20	Carolinian
21	Chamorro
20	Chuukese
25	Cook Islander
20	Eniwetok, Enewetak
31	Fijian
22	Guamanian
07	Hawaiian
20	Kirabati
20	Kosraean
20	Kwajalein
97	Maori*
20	Mariana Islander
20	Marshallese
30	Melanesian
20	Micronesian
07	Native Hawaiian
97	Nauruan
30	New Caledonian
30	New Hebrides
97	Other Pacific Islander
97	Pacific Islander
20	Palauan
32	Papua New Guinean
07	Part Hawaiian
20	Pohnpeian
25	Polynesian
20	Ponapean
20	Saipanese
27	Samoan
30	Solomon Islander
26	Tahitian
20	Tarawan

Code	Definition
20	Tinian
25	Tokelauan
28	Tongan
20	Trukese
25	Tuvaluan
30	Vanuatuan
20	Yapese

98 Other Race, Not Elsewhere Classified

Do not use this code for Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish, NOS. Refer to the Race Code List on the National Center for Health Statistics [website](#) (Reference 1) when not assigned to a code above. See the Other Race Descriptions section below.

99 Unknown

See Note in the Other Race Descriptions below.

Other Race Descriptions

Note: The following descriptions of ethnic origin cannot be coded to a specific race code. Look for other descriptions of race in the medical record. If no further information is available, code as 99 Unknown.

American
 Aruba Islander
 Azerbaijani
 Belizean
 Bermudan
 Biracial
 Brown
 Cayenne
 Cayman Islander
 Coe Clan
 French Canadian
 Guyanese
 Iberian
 Indian (not specified as Native American, Eastern Indian, Northern, Central, or South American Indian)
 Interracial
 Jackson White
 Malada
 Melungeon
 Mestizo
 Mexican
 Mixed
 Moor
 Morena
 Mulatto
 Multiethnic

Multinational
Multiple (some Other Race responses)
Multiracial
Octoroon
Other Race, NEC
Other Spanish
Quadroon
Ramp
South African
Spaniard
Surinam
Tejano
Trigueno
Wesort