

### Modified Race Data

Recently, the U.S. Census revised the race data for the nation's geographies (see <http://www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html#mrd> for the data), which means that the race distributions have changed. These revisions, however, are not reflected in American FactFinder, which is the Census 2000 data dissemination Web site, or DataFinder, since it bases its population statistics on the official Census 2000 statistics. This is a note to keep in mind when working with the data.

### Explanation of Reclassification

The 2000 Census short form (<http://www.census.gov/dmd/www/pdf/d61a.pdf>) asked people to choose the race that best described them, as shown in the figure on the right (Question #8). More than 16 million people who noted "Some Other Race" wrote that they were Hispanic, an ethnicity rather than a race. The Census Bureau revised the data, giving these responses primary race classifications.

What's the difference between race and ethnicity data? Check out our July 2004 User News, *The Trials and Tribulations of Comparing Race and Ethnicity Data*, at [http://www.cerc.com/pdfs/df\\_usernews7\\_04.pdf](http://www.cerc.com/pdfs/df_usernews7_04.pdf).

**Excerpt from the 2000 Census Short Form**

**7. Is Person 1 Spanish/Hispanic/Latino?** Mark  the "No" box if *not* Spanish/Hispanic/Latino.

No, not Spanish/Hispanic/Latino       Yes, Puerto Rican  
 Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano       Yes, Cuban  
 Yes, other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino — *Print group.* ↘

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**8. What is Person 1's race?** Mark  *one or more races* to indicate what this person considers himself/herself to be.

White  
 Black, African Am., or Negro  
 American Indian or Alaska Native — *Print name of enrolled or principal tribe.* ↘

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Asian Indian       Japanese       Native Hawaiian  
 Chinese       Korean       Guamanian or Chamorro  
 Filipino       Vietnamese       Samoan  
 Other Asian — *Print race.* ↘       Other Pacific Islander — *Print race.* ↘

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Some other race — *Print race.* ↘

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### Contact CERC

Need to brush up on your DataFinder skills? Forgot your password? Contact Alissa DeJonge (860-571-6206), Dale Shannon (860-571-6209) or [datafinder@cerc.com](mailto:datafinder@cerc.com) with any questions.