
Purpose To outline how the Nebraska WIC program, as required by Federal Statute, will complete collection and documentation of racial and ethnic data.

Client Notification All clients must be informed verbally:

- 1) that the collection of the racial and ethnic data is for use to identify populations served by the WIC program and to monitor compliance with Civil Rights laws; and
- 2) that the data has no effect on their WIC eligibility.

Identification of Race Self-identification by the client at the time of certification is the preferred method of obtaining data. After being told about the purpose of collecting the data, clients must be asked to self-identify their racial and ethnic categories.

Clients Who Choose Not To Identify Ethnicity or Race If a client chooses not to self-identify her/his racial and/or ethnic group, the staff member should make a determination based on visual observation.

Selection of one race is acceptable when WIC staff perform visual identification.

Ethnicity Options Each client must choose one of the two following options for ethnicity.

- **Hispanic or Latino:** A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central America, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- **Not Hispanic or Latino:** A person of any other ethnicity other than those listed above.

Racial Categories Clients must choose at least one, and may choose more of the following racial categories that they identify with.

- **American Indian or Alaska Native:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South American (including Central American), and who maintain tribal affiliation or community attachment.

Racial Categories (cont.)

- **Asian:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for

example Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.

- **Black or African American:** A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.
- **Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.
- **White:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, Middle East, or North Africa.

**Documentation of
Ethnic and Racial
Information**

Documentation of participant ethnic and racial categories is completed by staff entering the information in the appropriate fields of the computer system.