

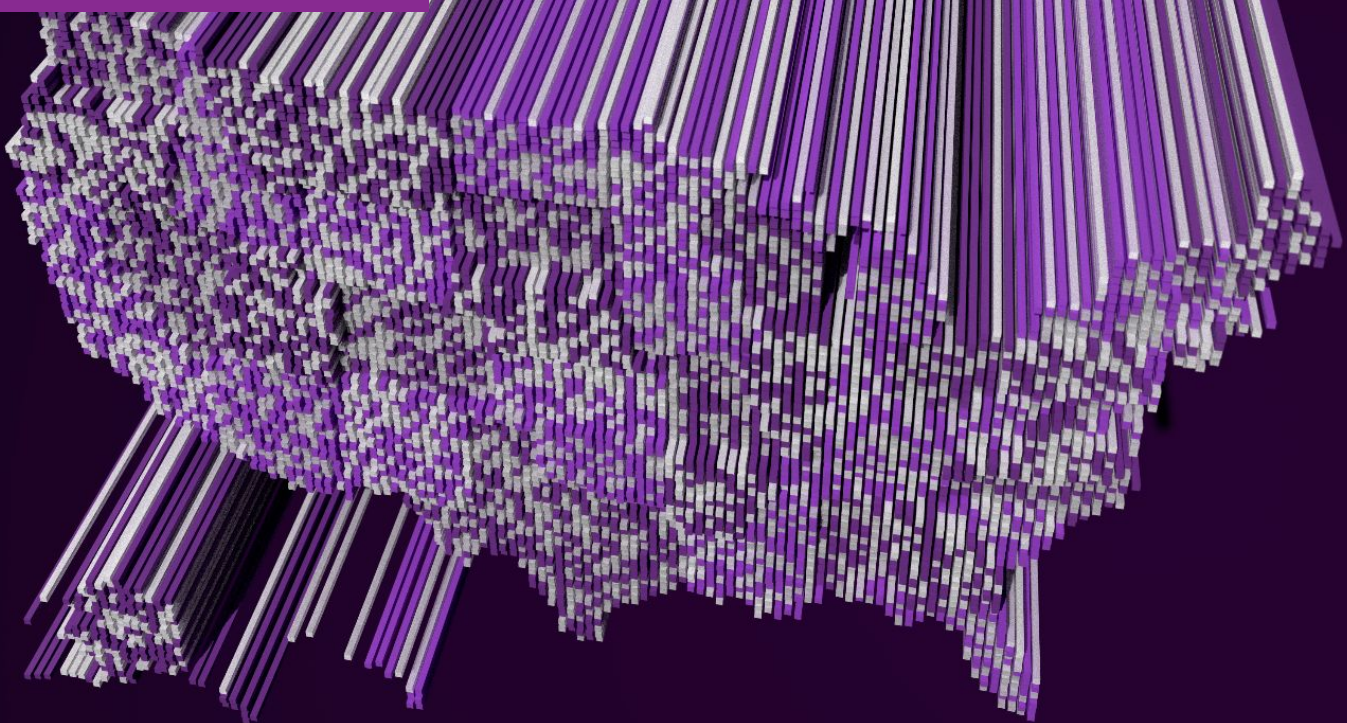


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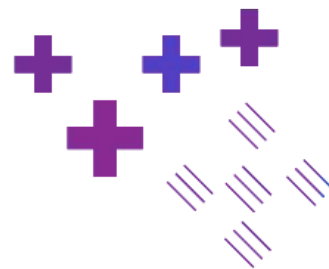


**Disaggregation Nation:
A Landscape Review
of State Race & Ethnicity
Data Collection**

December 2023



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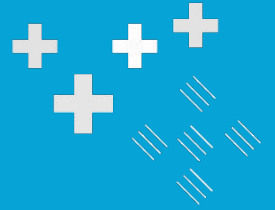
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Disaggregation Nation: A Landscape Review of State Race & Ethnicity Data Collection examines laws and pending legislation in 50 states and the District of Columbia to identify states that require disaggregation of race or ethnicity data beyond federal standards. Although most states do not have a law requiring disaggregation of race or ethnicity data, advocacy and legislative activity in many of these states may plant the seeds for further progress. We hope this report and its findings will assist advocates across the country in building a more equitable future for all of us.

The author and publisher are solely responsible for the accuracy of statements and interpretations contained in this publication.

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Executive Summary

Federal law (OMB Statistical Policy Directive No. 15, which was last updated in 1997) sets minimum categories for the federal government when collecting data on race and ethnicity data.¹ State and local health departments are not required to use the OMB categories when collecting race and ethnicity data, although many use it as a default standard. In fact, states have the authority to collect data on additional ethnic and racial subgroups, so long as this data can be aggregated into the standard categories when shared with the federal government.

Detailed data on race and ethnicity are necessary for public health to adequately identify, assess, and address health inequities and structural racism. Data disaggregation allows public health professionals to create appropriate, efficient, and equitable interventions to improve health outcomes. Having disaggregated data also enables public health agencies to evaluate programs and policies to ensure effectiveness.

This report reviews laws and pending bills in 50 states and the District of Columbia to identify states that require disaggregation of race or ethnicity data beyond federal standards. Research results are current as of September 2023.

Results

As documented in this report, 13 states currently have at least one law that requires disaggregation of race or ethnicity data beyond the OMB requirements (See Figure 1 and Tables 1, 2). Four of these laws were passed in 2023 — in Hawaii, Illinois, Massachusetts, and Nevada — indicating increased attention and support for data disaggregation laws.

Connecticut, Oregon, and Washington have the most expansive lists of race and ethnicity subgroups, with each state requiring collection of data on more than 35 race and ethnicity subgroups. Massachusetts' new law requires collection of a broad range of race and ethnicity data by all state agencies, rather than only those affiliated with health care or public health.

13 states require data disaggregation of race and ethnicity data beyond federal standards

CT, MA, OR, and WA have the most expansive laws

9 states require collection of disaggregated data for Asian and/or Pacific Islander groups: CA, CT, HI, MA, MN, NY, OR, RI, and WA

6 states require collection of disaggregated data for Black or African American groups: CA, CT, MA, MN, OR, and WA

5 states require collection of disaggregated data for Hispanic/Latino groups: CT, MA, MN, OR, and WA

5 states require a category for Middle Eastern and/or North African data: CT, IL, NV, OR, and WA

5 states require collection of some disaggregated tribal data: CT, MN, NM, OK, and OR

Table 1: Scope of State Laws Requiring Disaggregated Data by Race or Ethnicity²

State	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	White	Middle Eastern/ North African	Hispanic/ Latino	Scope
California		Yes	Yes	Yes				State agencies (Asian); State Controller's Office and Dept. of Human Resources (Black)
Connecticut	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	State data collected for public health or health care purposes
Hawaii		Yes		Yes				State agencies
Illinois						Yes		State agencies
Massachusetts		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	State agencies
Minnesota	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes	Certain school districts
Nevada						Yes		State agencies ³
New Mexico	Yes							Hospitals and health care facilities
New York		Yes		Yes				State agencies ⁴
Oklahoma	Yes							Board of Education
Oregon	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Health care providers
Rhode Island		Yes						Department of Education
Washington		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Hospitals
Total:	5	9	6	8	4	5	5	



Table 2: Summary of State Laws Requiring Disaggregated Data by Race or Ethnicity

California

State agencies must collect disaggregated data for major Asian groups and major Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander groups. [Government Code § 8310.5](#)

A 2022 law expands these requirements to include additional major Asian groups and additional major Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander groups. The requirements apply to State Department of Public Health, among other departments. [Government Code § 8310.7](#)

By 2024, state agencies must collect disaggregated data for applicants by including the following categories:

- African Americans who are descendants of persons who were enslaved in the United States;
- Black people who are not descendants of persons who were enslaved in the United States, including, but not limited to, “African Blacks, Caribbean Blacks, and other Blacks”; and
- Unknown or choose not to identify. [Government Code § 8310.6](#)

Connecticut

State agencies, boards, or commissions that collect data concerning the ancestry or ethnic origin, ethnicity, race, or primary language of residents of the state for health care purposes or for any public health purpose must ask patients to self-identify race and ethnicity from a list of more than 60 race and ethnicity categories. [Public Act \(PA\) 21-35 Sec. 11](#)

Hawaii

State agencies, boards, or commissions must use separate collection categories for specified Native Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific Islander groups. [SB811/HB1983](#)

Illinois

State agencies must include a category for Middle Eastern or North African when collecting race and ethnicity data. [HB3768](#), amending [20 ILCS 50/5](#).

Massachusetts

Starting January 2026, state agencies must collect demographic data on each major (1) Asian group; (2) Pacific Islander group; (3) other Asian or Pacific Islander group; (4) Black or African American group; (5) Latino group; and (6) White or Caucasian group, as reported by the U.S. Census Bureau. The requirement is part of the 2024 [state budget](#) based on language from [H.3003](#).

Minnesota

In certain school districts, the Commissioner of Education must report on: 7 of the most populous Asian and Pacific Islander groups; 3 of the most populous Native groups; 7 of the most populous Hispanic/Latino groups; and 5 of the most populous Black and African Heritage groups based on the most recent American Community Survey; and the Karen community (an ethnic minority from the nation of Burma, also known as Myanmar). [Sec. 120B.31 MN Statutes](#)



Nevada

Starting January 1, 2024, government agencies that collect demographic information on race or ethnicity must include a category for persons of Middle Eastern or North African descent. (The law exempts criminal justice agencies). [AB 139](#)

New Mexico

Hospitals and certain other health care facilities must collect data on tribal affiliation for 22 listed tribes. [71.4.7](#)

New York

State agencies, boards, departments, and commissions must use separate collection categories for Asian and Pacific Islander groups OR a category for “other Asian or Pacific Island group.” [NY EXEC 170-e](#)

Oklahoma

The Board of Education must collect data on tribal affiliation for students who have been identified as having American Indian heritage. [Oklahoma Statutes § 70-3-168](#)

Oregon

The “Race, Ethnicity, Language, and Disability Demographic Data Collection Standards” (REALD) law requires health care providers to ask respondents open-ended questions about race, ethnicity, and tribal affiliation from a list of 39 categories. [Oregon Health Authority 943-070-0030](#)

Rhode Island

The Department of Education must collect data for the following Asian ethnic groups: “Cambodian, Filipino, Hmong, Laotian, Vietnamese, and other Southeast Asian ethnic groups.” [R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-108-3](#)

Washington

Hospitals must collect discharge information on patient's ethnicity, race, preferred language, disability, gender identity, and sexual orientation including 69 race and ethnicity groups. [WA ST 246-455-025](#)

Another law requires the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to collect student data collected with additional subracial and subethnic categories. [RCW 28A.300.042](#)

.....

The underlying research for this project examined the existence of laws, not their implementation or effectiveness. However, some weaknesses are apparent on the face of the law. For example, New York requires disaggregation of named Asian and Pacific Islander groups OR allows a category for “other Asian and Pacific Island group.” Allowing an “other” category, rather than specifically naming Asian and Pacific Islander subgroups, is likely to lead to less robust data collection.

Legislative Activity

States with at least one law requiring disaggregated data are more likely to have a pending bill to expand data disaggregation requirements to other racial and ethnic categories. For example, New York, which already mandates disaggregated collection of Asian and Pacific Islander groups, introduced a bill in 2023 to require data collection for Middle Eastern/North African populations.

Two states that do not yet have data disaggregation laws related to race and ethnicity have bills pending on this topic in 2023. A New Jersey bill would require state agencies to use specified categories for collecting data on Asian, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern, North African, and South Asian and Indian Diaspora residents. A Texas bill would require additional data collection categories for individuals receiving health benefits. Subcategories are identified for Hispanic/Latino, African American, Native American, Pacific Islander, Asian, and Middle Eastern and North African.

Bright Spots in States without Data Disaggregation Laws

Although most states do *not* have a law requiring disaggregation of race or ethnicity data, advocacy and legislative activity in many of these states may plant the seeds for further progress. For example, some states have laws, pending bills, or advocacy efforts relevant to data disaggregation based on race and ethnicity, such as:

- *Requiring disaggregation of data on sexual orientation and gender identity* (e.g., D.C., Illinois, New Jersey, New Mexico). For additional information on this topic, please see the consensus report from the National Academies (NASEM) on [Measuring Sex, Gender Identity, and Sexual Orientation](#) and [OMB guidance](#) on best practices for sexual orientation and gender identity data collection in federal surveys.
- *Requiring data disaggregation in an educational setting* rather than public health. For example:
 - ◆ **Michigan:** The University of Michigan – Flint added Middle Eastern/North African as a separate question in its student [application](#).
 - ◆ **Maryland:** The Montgomery County Board of Education is required to adopt a data disaggregation policy that includes a category for each racial and ethnic group that constitutes at least 5 percent of the students enrolled in the Montgomery County public school system.
- *State laws declaring racism as a public health crisis or focusing on health equity* may indicate an underlying commitment to expanding data collection. For example, Connecticut passed a law declaring racism as a public health crisis; Utah created an Office of Health Equity; and Vermont created a Chief Racial Equity and Diversity Officer. For additional information on jurisdictions declaring racism as a public health crisis, see these resources from [APHA](#) and the Network for Public Health Law: [Eastern Region](#) and [Southeastern Region](#).



→ *State health department rules or guidance* that could indicate a willingness on the part of state agencies to expand data collection categories even in the absence of a law. For example:

- ◆ **Maine:** The state passed a law requiring the Maine Health Data Organization to develop a report on the best methods and definitions for collecting data to better understand racial and ethnic disparities in providing health care in the state.
- ◆ **Utah:** Guidance issued by the Department of Health and Human Services requires collection of the OMB categories, provides information for “additional granularity” in more than 25 subcategories, and recommends that the data collector consider feasibility and practicality of collection.

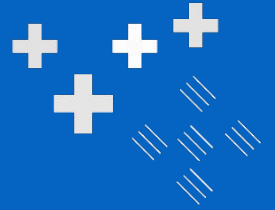
Information is provided in Section IV on the 25 states with laws, pending bills, or advocacy activity relevant to data disaggregation by race or ethnicity.

In 17 states, research conducted for this report uncovered no laws or bills relevant to data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity. (See Section III.)

Table 2: State Data Disaggregation Laws Related to Race or Ethnicity

States with Data Disaggregation Laws Related to Race or Ethnicity	
California*	New Mexico*
Connecticut	New York*
Hawaii	Oklahoma
Illinois	Oregon
Massachusetts	Rhode Island
Minnesota	Washington
Nevada	
States without a Law but with Relevant/ Related Bills, Laws, or Advocacy Activity	
Alabama	Missouri
Arizona	New Hampshire
Colorado	New Jersey
District of Columbia	North Carolina
Georgia	South Carolina
Indiana	Tennessee
Iowa	Texas
Kansas	Utah
Maine	Vermont
Maryland*	Virginia
Michigan*	
States with no Relevant Laws or Bills	
Alaska	Nebraska
Arkansas	North Dakota
Delaware	Ohio
Florida	Pennsylvania
Idaho	South Dakota
Kentucky	West Virginia
Louisiana	Wisconsin
Mississippi	Wyoming
Montana	





Introduction and Methodology

This research covers state laws and bills that expand data disaggregation requirements beyond the race and ethnicity categories established in OMB Directive No. 15 in 1997. This report summarizes findings for 50 states and the District of Columbia, including five states with community-based organization partners funded by The Leadership Conference Education Fund through its [Data Disaggregation Action Network](#) (California, Maryland, Michigan, New Mexico, New York — indicated with an * in the report).

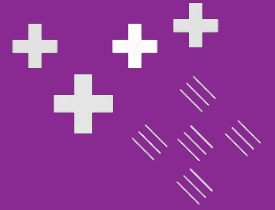
This report provides information on (1) existing laws and (2) recent bills (2022-2023) that require data disaggregation that is more granular than the OMB standards. State summaries include some bills and laws that are not directly related to public health disaggregation of race and ethnicity data but may be informative to organizations working to advance data disaggregation.

Methodology

To research existing laws and state policies that expand collection of public health data by race and ethnicity, the following search terms were used:

- Google search using “[Racial/Ethnic Umbrella Term Group] data disaggregation [state] law” or “[Racial/Ethnic Umbrella Term Group] data collection [state] law.” Terms: Hispanic, Latino, American Indian, Alaska Native, Asian, Black, African American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern and North African.

- A search on Westlaw (a legal research service) using the same terms.
- A search on state legislative websites using the terms above, as well as “demographic*” AND “data” for enacted laws and regulations.
- A search on individual state bill websites using terms such as: “demographic data” or “racial demographic data” for 2022-2023.

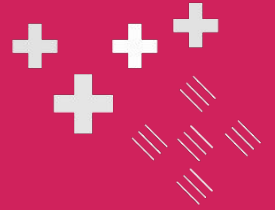


States with No Existing Laws or Bills

Based on this research, the following states have no laws or bills related to data disaggregation based on race and ethnicity.

1. Alaska
2. Arkansas
3. Delaware
4. Florida
5. Idaho
6. Kentucky
7. Louisiana
8. Mississippi
9. Montana
10. Nebraska
11. North Dakota
12. Ohio
13. Pennsylvania
14. South Dakota
15. West Virginia
16. Wisconsin
17. Wyoming





States with Laws, Bills, or Advocacy Efforts Related to Data Disaggregation Relevant to Race or Ethnicity

The following states have laws or bills related directly to data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity OR they have laws or bills that may be relevant to the topic.

Alabama

Laws

A state law does not require disaggregation but defines broad racial categories for purposes of minority business support. [AL Code § 41-4-177.10 \(2022\)](#).

Bills

No recent bills were found relating to data disaggregation by race or ethnicity.

Other

This [report](#) from 2003 on Hispanic health in Alabama by Alabama Public Health disaggregates the Alabama population by country of origin (see page 4).

Arizona

Laws

No laws were found relating to data disaggregation by race or ethnicity.

Bills

No recent bills were found that require the collection of disaggregated racial or ethnic data. However, two bills relate to race and health equity.

In 2020, [SCR 1040](#) was introduced, but not passed. It would have proclaimed racism as a public health emergency and resolved that

“the Members of the Legislature support policies that improve health in communities of color and local, state and federal initiatives that advance social justice.”

In 2023, [SB1305](#) was introduced and passed by the legislature but vetoed by the governor. The bill would have banned critical race theory in public schools. The bill received a lot of public attention; similar bills had been introduced in 2022. In 2021, a similar provision was written into the state budget, which the [Arizona Supreme Court](#) ruled to be unconstitutional.

Other

The State of Black Arizona included data disaggregation in their 2021 volume of “Driving Local Investment in Black Arizonans” [report](#).

California*

Laws

A 2012 state law requires collection of Asian and Pacific Islander demographic data in categories broader than the OMB requirements. The law states that a state agency, board, or commission that collects demographic data on ancestry or ethnic origin shall use separate collection categories and tabulations for:

- Each major Asian group, including, but not limited to, Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Korean, Vietnamese, Asian Indian, Laotian, and Cambodian.
- Each major Pacific Islander group, including, but not limited to, Hawaiian, Guamanian, and Samoan. [CA Government Code 8310.5](#)

A 2022 law expands the requirements for Asian and Pacific Islander categories. The law requires that the state Department of Public Health, whenever collecting demographic data on the ancestry or ethnic origin of persons for a report that includes rates for major diseases, leading causes of death, pregnancy rates, or housing numbers, shall collect and tabulate data for:

- Additional major Asian groups, including, but not limited to, Bangladeshi, Hmong, Indonesian, Malaysian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, and Thai.
- Additional major Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander groups, including, but not limited to, Fijian and Tongan.

The same requirements apply to the Departments of Industrial Relations and Civil Rights when collecting demographic data on the ancestry or ethnic origin of California residents. [California Government Code § 8310.7](#); see a summary of the law on the [CDPH](#) website.

A complementary law, adopted in 2015, requires all state forms to give the option to select one or more ethnic or racial designations. [California Government Code § 8310.9](#)

A new law, effective January 1, 2024, makes California the first state to collect data on Black populations by ancestry/lineage. [Government Code § 8310.6 \(AB 189\)](#). The law requires the state Controller's Office and Department of Human Resources, when collecting demographic information from applicants, to add categories for:

- “African Americans who are descendants of persons who were enslaved in the United States”;

- “Blacks who are not descendants of persons who were enslaved in the United States, including, but not limited to, African Blacks, Caribbean Blacks, and other Blacks”; and
- “Unknown or choose not to identify”.

The law provides the following definitions:

- “African Americans who are descendants of persons who were enslaved in the United States” means individuals who self-identify as Black, African American, or American Freedman who have at least one ancestor who was enslaved in the United States.
- “African Blacks” means individuals who self-identify as Black and who either immigrated directly from Africa to the United States or who are descendants of such a person and who have no ancestors who were enslaved in the United States.
- “American Freedmen” means persons who gained freedom from slavery in the United States or their descendants.
- “Caribbean Blacks” means individuals who self-identify as Black and who either left Africa for a Caribbean country before immigrating to the United States or who are descendants of such a person and who have no ancestors who were enslaved in the United States.
- “Other Blacks” means individuals who self-identify as Black and who either left Africa to a country not in the Caribbean before immigrating to the United States or who are descendants of such a person and who have no ancestors who were enslaved in the United States.

Bills

California has introduced several bills related to data disaggregation by race and ethnicity.

[SB 435](#) (Latino and Indigenous Disparities Reduction Act) (2023 - 2024) would have created requirements similar to the AAPI disaggregation law for Latino groups, Mesoamerican Indigenous nation, and Mesoamerican Indigenous language. The relevant state agencies would have been required to provide respondents the option of selecting one or more ethnicity or racial designations or languages on forms for all of the following:

- Each major Latino group, including, but not limited to, Mexican, Salvadoran, Guatemalan, Honduran, Nicaraguan, Costa Rican, Panamanian, Belizean, Puerto Rican, Dominican, Cuban, and South American;
- Each major Mesoamerican Indigenous nation, including, but not limited to, Maya, Aztec, Mixteco, Zapoteco, and Triqui; and
- Each major Mesoamerican Indigenous language group, including, but not limited to, Zapoteco, Chinanteco, K'iche, Nahuatl, Mixteco, Purépecha, Tzotzil, Mayan, Amuzgo, Ayuujk (Mixe), Mam, Popti, Q'anjob'al, Triqui, and Chatino.

The bill was passed by the Legislature but vetoed by the Governor. ([Bill status](#))

Another bill would expand data collection requirements for the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, which currently publishes

Asian, Pacific Islanders, and Indigenous people as “other.” [AB 943](#) would require the department to prepare and publish data disaggregated by race and ethnicity, including by 28 ethnicity types. The bill would require the department to use separate collection categories and tabulations for American Indian, Alaska Native, and each major Asian and Pacific Islander group when collecting voluntary self-identification information pertaining to the race or ethnic origin of people admitted, in custody, and released and paroled. ([Bill status](#))

Colorado

Laws

Colorado has a law requiring the health commissioner to analyze standardized health plan rules related to “health plan enrollment, health insurance affordability, and health equity. To the extent available, the analysis must include disaggregated data by race, ethnicity, immigration status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, and ability. If the data is not available, the analysis must note such unavailability.” [CO ST § 10-16-1304](#) (emphasis added).

Colorado has at least two laws ([CO ST § 24-49.5-105](#) and [CO ST § 24-103-1103](#)) addressing historic discrimination of minority communities, which define the race and ethnic groups. For example:

- Hispanic American, including but not limited to all persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish or Portuguese culture or origin, regardless of race;

- Asian American, including but not limited to persons whose origins are from Japan, China, Taiwan, Korea, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, the Philippines, Samoa, the United States territories of the Pacific, or the Northern Mariana Islands; and subcontinent Asian American, including but not limited to persons whose origins are from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, or Nepal; and
- Native American, including but not limited to persons who are American Indians, Eskimos, Aleuts, or Hawaiians of Polynesian descent.

Bills

No recent bills were found relating to data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Other

A [report](#) from 2017 indicates that there is no data disaggregation of AAPI data in the state.

Connecticut

Laws

A state law adopted in 2021 requires the [Office of Health Strategy](#) (OHS) to develop race, ethnicity, and language (REL) data collection standards to enable aggregation and disaggregation. [Public Act No. 21-35](#). In response to the law, the OHS produced Race, Ethnicity, and Language Standards, an Implementation Plan, and an Implementation Guide Report.

The [REL Data Collection Standards](#) report (pages 7-11) provides collection standards for state agencies, boards, or commissions that collect data concerning the ancestry or ethnic

origin, ethnicity, race, or primary language of residents of the state in the context of health care or for the provision or receipt of health care services or for any public health purpose. Effective January 1, 2022, patients will be asked to self-identify race and ethnicity from a list of more than 60 race and ethnicity categories in the OHS standards.

Hispanic/Latino/a/ Spanish

Argentinian	Nicaraguan
Chilean	Panamanian
Columbian	Peruvian
Cuban	Puerto Rican
Dominican	Salvadorian
Ecuadorian	Spaniard
Guatemalan	Spanish
Honduran	Uruguayan
Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano/a	Venezuelan Other Spanish

Not Hispanic/ Latino/a/Spanish American Indian or Alaska Native

Alaska Native	Mashantucket Pequot
Cherokee	Mohegan
Iroquois	Other American Indian or Alaska Native



Asian

Asian Indian	Laotian
Bangladeshi	Malaysian
Burmese	Nepalese
Cambodian	Pakistani
Chinese	Sri Lankan
Filipino	Taiwanese
Hmong	Thai
Indonesian	Vietnamese
Japanese	Other Asian

Korean

Black or African American

African	Jamaican
African American	West Indian
Dominican	Other Black or African American
Haitian	

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Guamanian or Chamorro
Native Hawaiian
Samoan
Other Pacific Islander

White

Arab
European
Middle Eastern or North African
Portuguese
Other White

Some other race

Some other race
Decline to identify
Unknown/unsure/not disclosed

Additionally, the state's maternal mortality review committee is required to submit a report of disaggregated data. [Section 19a-59j](#). Such report may include recommendations to reduce or eliminate racial inequities and other public health concerns regarding maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity in the state.

Bills

Two bills died in the legislature related to data disaggregation:

In 2018, [SB 395](#) (died in committee) would have *banned* the collection of disaggregated student data on specific ethnic subgroups unless such student data is required by federal law or collected uniformly across the entire population of students.

In 2022, [HB 5282](#) was introduced to include Asian American and Pacific Islander studies in the public school curriculum and to *prohibit the collection of disaggregated student data on*

specific ethnic subgroups unless such student data is required by federal law or collected uniformly across the entire population of students. The bill was tabled and never passed.

Other

Prior to the adoption of [Public Act No. 21-35](#), two reports were written about race/ethnicity data:

- The Connecticut Health Foundation wrote a blog post about race/ethnicity data: <https://www.cthealth.org/latest-news/blog-posts/lets-get-rel-health-equity-data/>
- The same author wrote a report on “Data to Promote Health Equity for Children and Families in Connecticut”: <https://ctvoices.org/publication/data-to-promote-health-equity-for-children-and-families-in-connecticut/>

District of Columbia

Laws

The District of Columbia has several laws that require demographic information to be collected for certain populations. None of these laws directly expand the federally required race and ethnicity categories, but information on these laws is provided for background. For example:

- A DC law requires data collection on human trafficking, including “[n]umbers of and demographic characteristics of victims, including age, race, sex, national origin, and current citizenship.” The law does not specifically require disaggregation by specified races, but it does require national origin and current citizenship information. DC Code 22-1841

- Another law requires data collection on demographic information of students in DC schools including (at a minimum) race and ethnicity, gender, status as an English learner, and sexual orientation. The law does not specifically require disaggregation by specified races. DC Code 38-2602
- A law regarding data collection on the homeless population requires: “The annual Point-in-Time survey conducted pursuant to regulations of the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall include data collection regarding the sexual orientation and gender identity of each individual counted, subject to the individual's discretion to decline to provide that information.” The law does not specifically require disaggregation by specified races. DC Code 4-753.01

Bills

No recent bills were found relating to data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Georgia

Laws

No laws were found relating to data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

In 1994, Georgia enacted [GA Code § 50-18-135](#), which requires “multiracial” to be included in all forms, applications, and written documents by or for any state agency that requests information on the racial and ethnic identification of a respondent.

Bills

In 2019 ([House Resolution 473](#)) and 2020 ([House Resolution 1299](#)), the Georgia legislature signed resolutions introduced in connection with Asian American Lobby Day that acknowledge the need for disaggregated data for AAPI communities.

However, no recent bills were found that require disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Hawaii

Laws

In 2023, the Hawaii state legislature passed a law requiring data collection categories for Asian and Pacific Islander groups. [SB811/HB1983](#). The law requires any state agency, board, or commission that collects demographic data as to ancestry or ethnic origin to use separate collection categories for the following:

- Native Hawaiian
- Each major Asian group, including but not limited to
 - ◆ Chinese
 - ◆ Filipino
 - ◆ Indo-Chinese
 - ◆ Japanese
 - ◆ Korean

→ Each major Pacific Islander group, including but not limited to

- ◆ Micronesian
- ◆ Samoan
- ◆ Tongan

Data collected must be included in every demographic report by the state on ancestry or ethnic origin by July 1, 2023. The bill follows findings/a [report](#) from the HI Budget and Policy Center and a Honolulu city council [resolution](#).

Some state education entities have been collecting disaggregated data for several years prior to this new policy. For example:

- “All state data collection processes, reporting requirements, and business rules [for the State Board for Career and Technical Education] shall support the collection of student-level data to include data that is disaggregated specifically for Hawaii's population, including but not limited to disaggregated data for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, of industry-recognized credential attainment.” 304A-304
- “The Department of Education shall implement a comprehensive system of educational accountability . . . include performance indicators related to: Student discipline, seclusion, and restraint information, in total and by unduplicated counts, disaggregated by subgroups consisting of race, including by Asian subgroup; ethnicity; national origin; gender; sex” 302A-1004

Bills

No other bills were found relating to data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Other

The state Department of Health collected disaggregated data during the pandemic. <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7037a1.htm>.

Illinois

Laws

A 2023 law requires state agencies to include a category for Middle Eastern or North African when collecting race and ethnicity data. [HB3768](#), amending [20 ILCS 50/5](#). The requirements do not apply to the collection of workforce or hiring data until July 1, 2025.

Additionally, the State Board of Education and various state departments may further define, by rule, the racial and ethnic classifications, including a classification of “No Race Specified”. [20 ILCS 65](#)

Bills

[HB610](#) does not require data disaggregation, but it defines what nationalities and specific origins are included in each aggregated category (i.e., Asian includes Chinese, Japanese, etc.).

Other

Illinois has numerous laws requiring the collection of data on sexual orientation and gender identity, which may be informative for advocates seeking disaggregation of race and ethnicity data. For example:

- The IL Commission on LGBTQ Aging must “examine statewide strategies for the collection of sexual orientation and gender identity data and the impact of these strategies on the provision of services to LGBTQ older adults, and conduct a statewide survey designed to approximate the number of LGBTQ older adults in the State and collect demographic information.” 20 ILCS 105/8.10 (emphasis added).
- Public Act 102-0543 requires the State Board of Education and Departments (including Healthcare and Family Services and Human Services) to collect data for program participants on sexual orientation and gender identity.
- The State Health Assessment must include “quantitative data, if it is available, on the demographics and health status of the population, including data over time on health by gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, age, socio-economic factors, geographic region, disability status, and other indicators of disparity.” 20 ILCS 5/5-565 (emphasis added).
- “On or before July 1, 2022 and each July 1 thereafter, the State Board of Education and [various state] Departments shall report statistical data on the racial, ethnic, age, sex, disability status, sexual orientation, gender identity, and primary or preferred language demographics of program participants for each major program administered by the Board or the Department.” 20 ILCS 65/20-15 (emphasis added).

Indiana

Laws

Indiana law requires the inclusion of multiracial as an option on documents used by public agencies that include racial or ethnic classifications ([Indiana Code 5-15-5.1-6.5](#), 1995). “Public agency” includes state and local government agencies and departments.

Bills

No recent bills were found that relate to disaggregation of racial or ethnic data. One bill, [HB 1390](#), introduced in 2019, would have established a task force to combat racism as a public health crisis. Although there is no discussion of data collection in this bill, if passed, such a task force would likely have been involved in enacting a relevant policy.

Iowa

Laws

No laws were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Bills

No recent bills were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Other

The Iowa Department of Human Rights has an [Office of Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs](#), which issued a 2015 State of AAPI [report](#) that recommended further collection and disaggregation of data on the AAPI population.

Kansas

Laws

No laws were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Bills

No recent bills were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Other

Childcare Aware of Kansas published an [article](#) in 2021 that emphasizes the need to disaggregate data related to children’s racial and ethnic groups to better assess the state of children in Kansas.

Additionally, the state department of education is required to submit an annual financial accountability report on school district funding to the governor and the legislature. The report must contain “demographic information, including, but not limited to, gender, race, ethnicity, students who are economically disadvantaged, migrants, English language learners and students with disabilities”. [KS ST 72-5171](#)

Maine

Laws

Several laws require collection of race and ethnicity data, but these laws do not specify subcategories beyond the federal requirements. For example:



- Data collection protocols for the syringe services program require collecting “demographic information of all Consumers including age, race, ethnicity, sex and gender.” ME ADC 10-144 Ch. 252, § 1
- The Department of Corrections must collect data on residents in a Supervised Community Confinement program, including “demographic data regarding age, gender, gender identity, race and ethnicity, and convictions leading to the resident's current imprisonment.” ME ADC 03-201 Ch. 10, Subs. 27.2, § VII
- The state’s “interpersonal violence climate survey” must collect “demographic information that could be used to identify at-risk groups including but not limited to gender, race and sexual orientation.” ME ST T. 20-A § 12984
- A state law — “Directing the Maine Health Data Organization to Determine the Best Methods and Definitions to Use in Collecting Data to Better Understand Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Provision of Health Care in Maine” — requires the Maine Health Data Organization (MHDO) to develop a report on the best methods and definitions to use in collecting data to better understand racial and ethnic disparities in the provision of health care in Maine.
https://mhdo.maine.gov/_pdf/MHDO%20Report_CollectionofDataRaceandEthnicityinHealthCareMaine_220304.pdf.

Bills

No recent bills were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Maryland*

Laws

State law requires the Montgomery County Board of Education to adopt a data disaggregation policy for data collection, reports, or internal documents that include a category for each racial and ethnic group that constitutes at least 5 percent of the students enrolled in the Montgomery County public school system. [MD Educ 4-141](#). This law *only applies* to the Montgomery County Board of Education and is not explicit in the types of racial and ethnic categories that need to be disaggregated (Montgomery County borders Baltimore).

Another state law relates to monitoring progress on the “Blueprint for Maryland’s Future.” The law requires the state Board of Education to gather and analyze data disaggregated by race and ethnicity; however, the law does not specify the racial or ethnic categories. [MD Educ 5-408](#)

Bills

No recent bills were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity. This news [article](#) includes an interview with a state senator saying that no bills related to data disaggregation for the Asian Pacific Islander community are planned at this time (2021).

Massachusetts

Laws

Effective January 2026, state agencies must collect demographic data on:

- Each major Asian group, as reported by the United States Census Bureau, including but not limited to, Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Korean, Vietnamese, Asian Indian, Laotian, Cambodian, Bangladeshi, Hmong, Indonesian, Malaysian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, Nepalese, Burmese, Tibetan, and Thai;
- Each major Pacific Islander group, as reported by the United States Census Bureau, including but not limited to, Native Hawaiian, Guamanian, Samoan, Fijian and Tongan;
- Other Asian or Pacific Islander group;
- Each major Black or African American group, as reported by the United States Census Bureau, including but not limited to, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Cape Verdean, and Somali;
- Each major Latino group, as reported by the United States Census Bureau, including but not limited to, Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Salvadoran, Dominican and Colombian;
- Each major White or Caucasian group, as reported by the United States Census Bureau, including but not limited to, German, Irish, English, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, and French.

Individuals may choose more than one subgroup, write in their own, or choose the aggregate category.

The law was passed as part of the 2024 [state budget](#) based on language from [H.3003](#). The Department of Administration and Finance is required to issue regulations for implementation of the law by January 1, 2025.

Additionally, in 2013, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health published a [guide for demographic data collection](#), which includes more than 35 race and ethnicity categories (see page 79). The guidance is not binding, but it may be used by local health departments or other agencies. The guidance will likely be updated given the adoption of the new state law.

Bills

Data disaggregation requirements regarding race and ethnicity were introduced in prior legislative sessions before passing in 2023, including [H.3115](#) and [H.5109](#) from the 2021-2022 session and [H.2681](#) from the 2019-2020 session.

A bill from the 2017-2018 legislative session ([H.3361](#)) would have required state agencies to collect data on the five largest Asian American and Pacific Islander ethnic groups residing in the commonwealth.

Other

The [Massachusetts API Civic Action Network](#) was involved in advocating for H.3115 (listed above) as well as increasing language access in locations of civic engagement (e.g., voting booths, government offices, etc.).

Michigan*

Laws

No laws were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Bills

No recent bills were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Other

The University of Michigan – Flint added Middle Eastern/North African as a separate question in its student [application](#).

Michigan’s Minority Health Law requires the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to document efforts to address racial and ethnic disparities (MCL [Section 333.2227](#)). The law does not specify how data needs to be collected or require racial disaggregation, but it does specify that data needs to be collected about health outcomes by race. The [2021 MDHHS Report](#) created for this law states that the law “focuses on five racial, ethnic and tribal populations in Michigan: African American, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, Asian American/Pacific Islander, and Arab/Chaldean American.”

Minnesota

Laws

Minnesota ([Sec. 120B.35 MN Statutes](#)) requires the Commissioner of Education to analyze and report on the following groups in certain school districts:

- The Karen community (an ethnic minority from the nation of Burma, also known as Myanmar);
- 7 of the most populous Asian and Pacific Islander groups;
- 3 of the most populous Native groups;
- 7 of the most populous Hispanic/Latino groups; and,
- 5 of the most populous Black and African Heritage groups based on the most recent American Community Survey.

The [2018 report](#) included data on Hmong, Chinese, Mexican, Nigerian, American Indian, Ethiopian-Oromo, and Cherokee. [Sec. 120B.31 MN Statutes](#)

Bills

No recent bills were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Missouri

Laws

No laws were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Bills

No recent bills were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Other

The [Missouri Center for Public Health Excellence](#) advocates for [data disaggregation](#) based on characteristics such as age, ethnicity, gender identity, income, location, race, and sex.



Nevada

Laws

Starting January 1, 2024, government agencies that collect demographic information on race or ethnicity must include a category for persons of Middle Eastern or North African descent. (Criminal justice agencies “may” include a category for persons of Middle Eastern or North African descent but are not required to do so.)

[AB 139](#)

Bills

No bills were found relating to data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

New Hampshire

Laws

No laws were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Bills

No recent bills were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity. However, [House Bill 596-FN](#) (2023 — prohibiting the use of racial profiling in law enforcement activities and in sentencing) defines a “nonwhite person” as “a person of African, Latino, American Indian, Pacific Islander, Arab, Alaska native, or Asian descent.” [Bill status](#).

New Jersey

Laws

On April 22, 2020, the state of New Jersey enacted a law requiring the state’s Department of Health to publish COVID-19 hospital patient

demographic data, including age, race, ethnicity and gender, on its website. [S2357, 2020 Sen. \(N.J. 2020\)](#). The law is significant because it requires publication of data elements by county and municipality — both of which are geographic subdivisions smaller than a state — and it would typically have to be removed under HIPAA’s Safe Harbor de-identification method. Note that the law expires when New Jersey’s state of emergency ceases.

A state law requires public colleges to “allow a student or a faculty or other staff member to identify his sexual orientation and gender identity on any form used by the institution to collect demographic information on gender, race, or ethnicity.” [NJ ST 18A:62-55](#)

Bills

A bill pending in the state legislature would require state agencies to update demographic data collection methods on “Asian, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern, North African, and South Asian and Indian Diaspora residents.” [A3092](#)

Specifically, the [bill](#) would require state agencies that collect demographic data as to the ancestry or ethnic origin of residents of the state of New Jersey to use separate collection categories and tabulations for the following:

- Each major Asian group, including, but not limited to, Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Korean, Vietnamese, Asian Indian, Laotian, Cambodian, Bangladeshi, Hmong, Indonesian, Malaysian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, Nepalese, Burmese, Tibetan, and Thai;
- Each major Pacific Islander group, including, but not limited to, Hawaiian, Guamanian, Samoan, Fijian, and Tongan;



- Each major Middle Eastern and North African group, including, but not limited to, Algerian, Bahraini, Egyptian, Jordanian, Kuwaiti, Lebanese, Libyan, Moroccan, Omani, and Tunisian;
- Each major South Asian and Indian Diaspora group, including, but not limited to, Guyanese, Trinidadian and Tobagonian, and Surinamese; and
- Other Asian, Pacific Islander, South Asian and Indian Diaspora, or Middle Eastern and North African group.

Another bill ([A2141](#)) would require hospitals to report to the Department of Health “demographic data, including the age, ethnicity, gender, and race of persons in this State who have tested positive for the coronavirus disease 2019 or who have died from the coronavirus disease 2019.” Hospitals shall report such data until the end of the state’s declared public health emergency related to COVID-19. [Bill Status](#). The same bill was also [introduced](#) in the 2020-2021 legislative session but did not make it past a committee referral.

New Mexico*

Laws

A 2008 state [law](#) requires inpatient and outpatient general and specialty health care facilities to collect race/ethnicity data. The racial categories are not disaggregated, although examples of the races included are provided:

- Asian (includes Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, and Vietnamese)

- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (includes Chamorro and Samoan)

The law also states that multiple races may be selected. The law *does* disaggregate data by New Mexico tribes (see 7.4.1.7.(FF)). Rules for employee collection of data are summarized in a [PowerPoint](#) (see p. 17) and on the DHHS [website](#).

Another law requires the Department of Health to “identify disparities in health care access and quality by aggregating the information collected . . . by population subgroups to include race, ethnicity, gender and age” (emphasis added). [HB18 \(2012\)](#); 4-14A-3 NMSA 1978. However, the law does not define specific subgroups. The Department of Health maintains [information](#) about implementation of the law, including a [2021 report](#).

A 2021 law requires collection of ethnic data in an educational initiative focused on Black students, but it does not define what ethnicities are included ([HB43](#)).

A 2023 law requires the Department of Health to disaggregate race and ethnicity data for employees that provide direct support to people with developmental disabilities; however, the law does not specify if it goes beyond the OMB categories ([HB395](#)).

A 2021 [executive order](#) requires state departments to collect voluntary self-identification information on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Bills

A bill introduced in 2023 would require the collection of data on sexual orientation and gender identity ([SB 350](#)). [Bill status](#).

Another bill introduced in 2023 would create a chief diversity officer for the state, who is required to conduct an evaluation of race as self-identified by applicants, candidates, and employees for state government jobs. The bill does not specifically mention data disaggregation for race or ethnicity ([SB226](#)). [Bill status](#).

Other

This AAPI voter organization has [disaggregated AAPI data](#) from New Mexico. The source is listed as American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS).

New York

Laws

A 2022 state law requires every state agency, board, department, or commission that directly collects demographic data as to the ancestry or ethnic origin of New York state residents to use separate collection categories and tabulations for the following Asian and Pacific Islander groups:

- Asian groups: Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Korean, Vietnamese, Asian Indian, Bangladeshi, Pakistani, all of the 10 most populous Asian groups in the most recent five-year American community Survey published by the United States Census Bureau;
- Pacific Islander groups: Native Hawaiian, Guamanian and Chamorro, Samoan;
- OR collection categories shall include a category for other Asian or Pacific Island group.⁵

“The requirements of this section shall not apply to the department of labor, the division of criminal justice services, the office of mental health or the office of temporary and disability assistance until two years after this section shall have become a law” ([July 1, 2024](#)). [NY EXEC 170-e*2](#) (S.6639-A/A.6896).

Bills

[A6219](#) (2023-2024 session) would expand the state’s existing data disaggregation law (170-e, described above) to include White North African and Middle Eastern groups OR a category for other Middle Eastern or Northern African group:

- Each Major Middle Eastern or North African group shall include Lebanese, Egyptian, Israeli, Turkish, Iranian, Syrian, Moroccan, Palestinian, and all of the 10 most populous Middle Eastern or North African groups in the most recent five-year American Community Survey published By the United States Census Bureau;
- OR a category for other Middle Eastern or Northern African group.

North Carolina

Laws

No laws were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity. Generally related to racial data collection, a 2017 law ([§ 130A-16](#)) requires all medical providers who report to the Division of Public Health to “collect and document patient self-reported race and ethnicity data and shall include such data in their reports to the Division [of Public Health].”

Bills

No recent bills were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Oklahoma

Laws

In 2021, Oklahoma amended the Student Data Accessibility, Transparency and Accountability Act of 2013 to require collection of “demographic data and program participation information, including tribal affiliation and other data associated with students who have been identified as having American Indian heritage.” [§70-3-168](#)

The Oklahoma Department of Human Services [published](#) the racial groups collected under federal regulations for recipients of SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program). Specifically, the rules state:

“The applicant is asked to provide ethnicity information first. The ethnicity question is ‘Are you Hispanic or Latino?’ The term ‘Spanish origin’ may be used in addition to ‘Hispanic’ or ‘Latino.’ Hispanic or Latino refers to a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

“The applicant is then offered the option of selecting one or more racial designations. Racial designations include:

- American Indian or Alaskan Native referring to a person with origins in the original peoples of North or South America, including Central America, and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment;

- Asian referring to a person with origins in 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, or Vietnam;

- Black or African American referring to a person with origins of the black racial groups of Africa. Terms, such as ‘Haitian’ or ‘Negro’ may be used in addition to ‘Black’ or ‘African American;’

- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander referring to a person with origins in the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

- White, referring to a person with origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.”

Bills

No recent bills were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Oregon

Laws

In 2021, Oregon adopted the “Race, Ethnicity, Language, and Disability Demographic Data Collection Standards” (REALD) law, codified at [943-070-0030](#). The law requires health care providers to collect REALD information. Individuals must be asked an open-ended question: “How do you identify your race, ethnicity, tribal affiliation, country of origin, or ancestry?” The law requires, at a minimum, the following race or ethnic identity data collection options. These categories are designed to aggregate to existing federal reporting categories.

- American Indian.
- Alaska Native.
- Canadian Inuit, Metis or First Nation.
- Indigenous Mexican, Central American or South American.
- Hispanic or Latino/a/x Mexican.
- Hispanic or Latino/a/x Central American.
- Hispanic or Latino/a/x South American.
- Other Hispanic or Latino/a/x.
- Asian Indian.
- Cambodian.
- Chinese.
- Communities of Myanmar.
- Filipino/a.
- Japanese.
- Korean.
- Laotian.
- Hmong.
- South Asian.
- Vietnamese.
- Other Asian.
- CHamoru (Chamorro).
- Communities of the Micronesia Region.
- Marshallese.
- Native Hawaiian.
- Samoan.
- Other Pacific Islander.
- African American.
- Afro-Caribbean.
- Ethiopian.
- Somali.
- Other African (Black).
- Other Black.
- Middle Eastern.
- North African.
- Western European.
- Slavic.
- Eastern European.
- Other White.
- Other.

A person or entity requesting data must:

- Instruct individuals, either in writing or verbally, that more than one racial or ethnic category may be chosen.
- If multiple categories of race or ethnicity are chosen, ask an individual an additional question regarding their primary racial or ethnic affiliation.

More information on the REALD law is available from the state of Oregon [website](#).

Bills

No recent bills were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Rhode Island

Laws

The All Students Count Act, passed in 2017, requires the Department of Education, when collecting racial data “for a report that includes educational proficiencies, graduation rates, attendance rates, and access to educational resources,” to “always include, but not be limited to, the following Asian ethnic groups: (i) Cambodian, Filipino, Hmong, Laotian, Vietnamese, and other Southeast Asian ethnic groups.” [R.I. Gen. Laws § 16-108-3](#)

Another law created a commission that will “make recommendations for the coordination by the department of health, other agencies, organizations and institutions as needed to design and implement a training curriculum for primary data collectors and disseminate best practices for collection of race, ethnicity, social

determinants of health and language data.” [R.I. Gen. Laws § 23-64.1-7](#). However, the law does not specifically require disaggregation of race or ethnicity data.

Bills

No recent bills were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

- The bill, as adopted, lists additional Asian categories not included in the law: Laotian, Cambodian, Hmong, Indonesian, Malaysian, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, Nepalese, Burmese, Tibetan, Thai; and additional Pacific Islander categories: Fijian, Tongan.

South Carolina

Laws

No laws were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity. However, South Carolina has laws related to data collection in education that could allow for, but do not require, disaggregation of race and ethnicity data. For example:

- A law related to gifted and talented students mentions disaggregation of data by demographics in the education context, but it does not say what demographics. SC ADC 43-220
- The Education Scholarship Trust Fund shall ensure that evaluation results are “disaggregated by grade level, gender, family income level, race, and English learner status.” SC ST § 59-8-150

Bills

No recent bills were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Tennessee

Laws

The director of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation shall report law enforcement related deaths annually to the Board of Health. [TN ST 38-10-104](#). The report shall contain demographic data, including the percentage of suspects, victims, and convicted offenders based on race, gender, age, nationality, and any other appropriate demographic, as determined by the director of the Tennessee bureau of investigation” (emphasis added). There are no additional details in the law about how race is categorized.

Bills

[HB 1221](#) (2023): “Notwithstanding another law to the contrary, each report that is required to be submitted to the general assembly that relates to procurement, unemployment, labor, or contracting with this state must contain a component that describes any relevant demographic information” (emphasis added). [Bill status](#).

Texas

Laws

No laws were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

The Texas Health and Human Services Handbook details their data collection categories at [B-1320](#). The racial and ethnic categories mirror the OMB categories. However, the law also states that if race or ethnicity information “is not voluntarily provided on the application form, the advisor must determine the category by asking an individual to self-identify the individual’s race.

The individual's racial identity is self-declared. If the individual does not want to provide the information, the individual's race is listed as 'unknown.'"

Bills

A 2023 bill ([House Bill 986](#)) would require collection of demographic information for individuals who receive benefits under a health benefits program administered by the commission or agency, as follows:

the race or ethnic origin of an individual, provide the individual the option to select or identify appropriate categories and subcategories of race and ethnic origin, including:

→ the category of Hispanic or Latino with the option to select or identify the following subcategories:

- ◆ Argentinian;
- ◆ Colombian;
- ◆ Cuban;
- ◆ Dominican (Dominican Republic);
- ◆ Ecuadoran;
- ◆ Guatemalan;
- ◆ Honduran;
- ◆ Mexican;
- ◆ Nicaraguan;
- ◆ Panamanian;
- ◆ Peruvian;
- ◆ Puerto Rican;
- ◆ Salvadoran;
- ◆ Spaniard;
- ◆ Venezuelan; and
- ◆ another subcategory written in by the individual;

→ the category of African American with the option to select or identify the following subcategories:

- ◆ Black American (born in the United States with African ancestry);
- ◆ African diaspora (born outside the United States with African origins); and
- ◆ another subcategory written in by the individual;

→ the category of Native American with the option to select or identify the following subcategories:

- ◆ Apache;
- ◆ Cherokee;
- ◆ Chickasaw;
- ◆ Choctaw;
- ◆ Mexican American Indian;
- ◆ Navajo; and
- ◆ another subcategory written in by the individual;

→ the category of Pacific Islander with the option to select or identify the following subcategories:

- ◆ Chamorro;
- ◆ Guamanian;
- ◆ Marshallese;
- ◆ Native Hawaiian;
- ◆ Samoan;
- ◆ Tongan; and
- ◆ another subcategory written in by the individual;

→ the category of Asian with the option to select or identify the following subcategories:

- ◆ Indian;
- ◆ Bangladeshi;
- ◆ Burmese;
- ◆ Cambodian;
- ◆ Chinese (except Taiwanese);
- ◆ Filipino;
- ◆ Iranian;
- ◆ Japanese;
- ◆ Korean;
- ◆ Laotian;
- ◆ Nepalese;
- ◆ Pakistani;
- ◆ Taiwanese;
- ◆ Thai;
- ◆ Vietnamese; and
- ◆ another subcategory written in by the individual; and

→ the category of Middle Eastern and North African with the option to select or identify the following subcategories:

- ◆ Egyptian;
- ◆ Iraqi;
- ◆ Jordanian;
- ◆ Lebanese;
- ◆ Palestinian;
- ◆ Syrian; and
- ◆ another subcategory written in by the individual;

The bill also would require collection of information about gender identity, sex, and sexual orientation. [Bill status](#).

Utah

Laws

No laws were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity. However, there are laws that empower the Department of Health and Human Services to collect a wide range of health data and to issue guidance on data collection.

The 2022 [guidance report](#) issued by the Department of Health and Human Services provides guidance for “all Utah state agencies, organizations receiving state funding, local health departments, healthcare organizations, other local government agencies, and all other organizations working across the state of Utah.”

The guidance requires collection of the OMB categories, and it also provides information for “additional granularity,” which recommends that the data collector consider feasibility and

practicality of collection and ensure the data can still be organized under the OMB categories. The “additional granularity standard” includes:

- American Indian/Alaska Native:
 - ◆ American Indian/Alaska Native
 - ◆ Canadian Inuit, Metis, or First Nation
 - ◆ Indigenous Mexican, Central American, or South American
 - ◆ Some other American Indian/Alaska Native (please specify):

- Asian/Asian American:
 - ◆ Asian Indian
 - ◆ Chinese
 - ◆ Filipino/a
 - ◆ Japanese
 - ◆ Korean
 - ◆ Vietnamese
 - ◆ Some other Asian/Asian American (please specify):

- Black/African American:
 - ◆ African American
 - ◆ Black African
 - ◆ Black Caribbean
 - ◆ Some other Black (please specify):

- Hispanic/Latino/a/x:
 - ◆ Central American
 - ◆ Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano/a
 - ◆ South American
 - ◆ Spanish/Spaniard
 - ◆ Some other Hispanic/Latino/a/x (please specify):

- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander:
 - ◆ Chamorro
 - ◆ Native Hawaiian
 - ◆ Samoan
 - ◆ Tongan
 - ◆ Some other Pacific Islander (please specify):

- White:
 - ◆ o White European
 - ◆ o Middle Eastern/North African
 - ◆ o Some other White (please specify):

- Some other race/ethnicity (please specify):
- Prefer not to answer

Additionally, state law establishes a Health Data Committee within the Department of Health and Human Services “to direct a statewide effort to collect, analyze, and distribute health care data to facilitate the promotion and accessibility of quality and cost-effective health care and also to facilitate interaction among those with concern for health care issue.” [Section 26B-1-413](#)

Another law establishes the Office of Health Equity within the Department of Health and Human Services, which may “promote and coordinate the research, data production, dissemination, education, and health promotion activities ... that relate to a multicultural or minority health issue.” [Section 26B-7-114](#)

Bills

No recent bills were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Vermont

Laws

A state executive order created a Chief Racial Equity and Diversity Officer and a Racial, Ethnic and Cultural Equity Advisory Panel within the executive branch “to identify and work to eradicate systemic racism and racial, ethnic and other cultural disparities within State government.” [Executive Order No. 3-87 \(No. 04-18\)](#). The officer must:

“manage and oversee the collection of race-based data across the Executive Branch to determine the nature and scope of racial discrimination within all Executive Branch State government systems...[and] collaborate with Executive Branch agencies, departments, boards, and commissions to gather relevant existing data and records necessary to carry out the purposes of this Executive Order, and to develop best practices for remediating systemic racial, ethnic and other cultural disparities throughout the Executive Branch of State government...”

A 2021 law related to health equity requires state agencies and departments that collect health-related data to include “data disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender identity, age, primary language, socioeconomic status, disability, and sexual orientation. Data related to race and ethnicity shall use separate collection categories and tabulations, disaggregated beyond non-White and White, in accordance with the recommendation made by the Executive Director of Racial Equity, in consultation with the Advisory Commission.” [18 V.S.A. § 253](#)

Bills

No recent bills were found requiring data disaggregation based on race or ethnicity.

Virginia

Laws

Virginia has laws related to data collection in the context of education, which includes language that could allow for disaggregation, but does not require it. For example, [VA ST § 22.1-279.10](#) (school resource officers): “Such data shall (i) be published in a manner that protects the identities of students and (ii) be disaggregated by local school division and by student age, grade, race, ethnicity, gender, and disability, if such data is available.”

Bills

[HJR 568](#) introduced in 2021 would have ordered a study on preventing young girls who are abuse victims from entering the juvenile justice system; it would have disaggregated data by sexual orientation and gender identity. The resolution did not pass.

Washington

Laws

State law requires hospitals to collect discharge information on a patient's ethnicity, race, preferred language, disability, gender identity, and sexual orientation. When requesting demographic information under this section, hospitals must inform patients that providing the information is voluntary. [WA ST 246-455-025](#)

“The Patient's race shall be identified by the patient and reported using one or more of the following categories. If the patient self-identifies more than one race, each race shall be reported.”

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Afghan; | Eritrean; |
| Afro-Caribbean; | Ethiopian; |
| Alaska Native; | Fijian; |
| American Indian; | Filipino; |
| Arab; | First Nations; |
| Asian; | Guamanian or Chamorro; |
| Asian Indian; | Hmong/Mong; |
| Bamar/Burman/
Burmese; | Indigenous-Latino/a or
Indigenous-Latinx; |
| Bangladeshi; | Indonesian; |
| Bhutanese; | Iranian; |
| Black or African
American; | Iraqi; |
| Central American; | Japanese; |
| Cham; | Jordanian; |
| Chicano/a or Chicanx; | Karen; |
| Chinese; | Kenyan; |
| Congolese; | Khmer/Cambodian |
| Cuban; | Korean; |
| Dominican; | Kuwaiti; |
| Egyptian; | Lao; |



Lebanese;	Samoan;
Malaysian;	Saudi Arabian;
Marshallese;	Somali;
Mestizo;	South African;
Mexican/Mexican American;	South American;
Middle Eastern;	Syrian;
Mien;	Taiwanese;
Moroccan;	Thai;
Native Hawaiian;	Tongan;
Nepalese;	Ugandan;
North African;	Ukrainian;
Oromo;	Vietnamese;
Pacific Islander;	White;
Pakistani;	Yemeni;
Puerto Rican;	Other race;
Romanian/ Rumanian;	Patient declined to respond; and
Russian;	Unknown to patient.

Another law requires collection of student data disaggregated by sub-racial and sub-ethnic categories, to be phased in beginning in 2017-18. [RCW 28A.300.042](#)

“[The OSPI](#) (Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction) must collect, and school districts must submit, student data using federal race and ethnicity guidelines, including subracial and subethnic categories, with the following additions:

- further disaggregation of the African American/Black category and Asian category;
- further disaggregation of the White category to include Eastern European nationalities with significant populations in Washington; and,
- reporting of students by their discrete racial categories if they report as multi-racial.”

Additionally, the OSPI must convene a task force to review the U.S. Department of Education guidelines to clarify why collection of race and ethnicity data is important and how students and families can help administrators properly identify them.

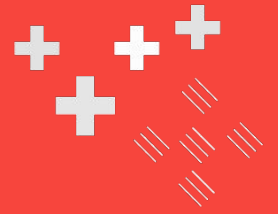
A number of statutes related to education refer to the disaggregated racial categories above, including [28A.183.030](#) (technical assistance program in language access services), [28A.300.507](#) (information on teachers and length of stay), [28A.320.211](#) (discipline policies), [28A.320.1241](#) (school safety and security staff), and [WA ST 28A.165.100](#) (entrance and exit performance data).

Bills

No recent bills were found that require the disaggregation of racial or ethnic data collection.

Other

The Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) started providing student applicants with expanded options for ethnic identifiers. The identifiers critically include Southeast Asian American (SEAA) ethnicities that are historically unacknowledged and underrepresented in educational and economic opportunities — Hmong and Mienh, in addition to Cambodian, Laotian, and Vietnamese. This change to disaggregate SBCTC's student data will ensure that SEAs are seen and supported by the 34 public community and technical colleges in Washington State, which is home to more than 126,000 SEAs. (As of Aug 2020) [SEARAC Washington State Postsecondary Education Moves to Disaggregate Data](#).



Conclusion

This report identified which states go beyond the federal standards articulated in 1997 in OMB’s Statistical Policy Directive No. 15 with respect to the collection of disaggregated race and ethnicity data — though the underlying research for this project examined the existence of laws, not their implementation or effectiveness. At the time of our research, 13 states had at least one law that requires disaggregation of race or ethnicity data beyond the federal OMB requirements, and four of these states — Hawaii, Illinois, Massachusetts, and Nevada — passed laws in 2023. Though most states do not currently have laws requiring disaggregation of race or ethnicity data, recent momentum in the states, and other ongoing advocacy and legislative activity, may ultimately lead to further progress in states across the country. Alongside federal efforts, this vital state-level work must and will continue and will be further bolstered by the revision of federal standards.

Endnotes

¹ The race categories are: (1) American Indian or Alaska Native; (2) Asian; (3) Black or African American; (4) Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander; and (5) White. The ethnicity categories are: (1) Hispanic or Latino; (2) Not Hispanic or Latino.

https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/omb/foia/dreg_1997standards.

² Different states require information to be collected about different racial and ethnic sub-categories. Please consult the state summaries in Section IV for more complete information.

³ The law does not require criminal justice agencies to collect this data.

⁴ The law provides a two-year extension (until July 1, 2024) for the Department of Labor, the Division of Criminal Justice Services, the Office of Mental Health, or the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance to comply.

⁵ [The bill](#), as adopted, lists additional Asian categories not included in the law: Laotian, Cambodian, Hmong, Indonesian, Malaysian, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, Nepalese, Burmese, Tibetan, Thai; and additional Pacific Islander categories: Fijian, Tongan.



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