

# Beyond Federal Reporting Categories: Racial Composition of WFU Undergraduate Students and Reynolda Campus Employees

Adam Shick, Associate Director of Institutional Research\*

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\*contact information: shickaw@wfu.edu, 336-758-5161

# 1 Background

The U.S. Department of Education requires a very specific methodology for collecting and reporting race/ethnicity information<sup>1</sup>.

This methodology, described in greater detail herein, allows a person to identify in multiple categories. Each person is reported, however, in only one category. Consequently, the federal reporting categories do not convey all of the race/ethnicity information that is collected.

For example, a student who identifies as “Black or African American” and also as “White” is reported in the “Two or more races” category, not in the “Black or African American” and not in the “White” category. So the “Black or African American” reporting category does not include *every* student who identifies as Black, and the “White” reporting category does not include *every* student who identifies as White, and the “Asian” reporting category does not include *every* student who identifies as Asian, and so on.

## 2 Purpose

As a supplement to the federal reporting categories which are widely used in higher education, **this paper provides a count of every person – students, faculty and staff – who identified with each race category.** This methodology, unlike federal methodology, counts some people more than once. The student in the example above, is counted in both of the categories “Black or African American” and “White.” This methodology will be referred to as “Maximum Counting” since it provides the largest possible count in each race/ethnicity category.

## 3 Federal Methodology

It is important to understand that the *collection* categories and the *reporting* categories are slightly different.

### 3.1 Collection Categories and Methodology

Institutions *must* use a 2-part question to *collect* race/ethnicity data<sup>2</sup>. The first part is often referred to as the “ethnicity” question, and the second part as the “race” question. The questions must be presented in this order:

1. Are you Hispanic or Latino?
2. Select one or more of the following races:
  - American Indian or Alaska Native
  - Asian
  - Black or African American
  - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
  - White

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<sup>1</sup>Federal Register / Vol. 72, No. 202 / Friday, October 19, 2007 / Notices. Retrieved from <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2007-10-19/pdf/E7-20613.pdf>

<sup>2</sup>National Center for Education Statistics. *Collecting Race and Ethnicity Data from Students and Staff Using the New Categories.* <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/report-your-data/race-ethnicity-collecting-data-for-reporting-purposes>

## 3.2 Reporting Categories and Methodology

Institutions are required to *report* each person in *one* of the following categories:

1. Nonresident Alien
2. Hispanic/Latino
3. American Indian or Alaska Native
4. Asian
5. Black or African American
6. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
7. White
8. Two or more races
9. Unknown race and ethnicity

A “trumping” scheme is used to place students and employees in the reporting categories.

- First, all nonresidents are reported in the “Nonresident Alien” category (regardless of how they answer the race and ethnicity questions).
- Then, any person who responded “Yes” to the Hispanic question is reported in the “Hispanic” category (regardless of which races are selected on the race question).
- Then, any person who chose two or more race categories on the race question is reported in the “Two or more races” category.
- Then, any person who chose exactly one race is reported in that category.
- Otherwise, the person is reported in the “Unknown race and ethnicity” category.

This methodology counts each person exactly once.

## 4 Maximum Counting Methodology

An Explanation of Maximum Counting Methodology

The Maximum Counting methodology counts a person in each of the race categories that the person “checked” (referring to check boxes on an application or data collection screen). This means that one person can be counted in multiple categories.

Example 1: If a person answered “Yes” on the Hispanic question, and then checked “Asian” and “White,” that one person is counted in each of those three categories.

Example 2: A “Nonresident Alien” who identified as “White” will be counted in both of those categories.

## 5 Data Tables

### 5.1 Undergraduate Students

The following tables reflect the official undergraduate enrollment on the census date of the Fall semester of the given year.

#### 5.1.1 Federal Reporting Methodology

Table 1: Federal Reporting Categories - WFU Undergraduates

|                | 2015         | 2016         | 2017         | 2018         | 2019         |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| AmInd/AlaskNat | 7 (0.1%)     | 8 (0.2%)     | 7 (0.1%)     | 6 (0.1%)     | 4 (0.1%)     |
| Asian          | 221 (4.5%)   | 204 (4.1%)   | 204 (4.0%)   | 195 (3.7%)   | 177 (3.3%)   |
| Black/AfAm     | 311 (6.4%)   | 325 (6.6%)   | 344 (6.7%)   | 337 (6.4%)   | 337 (6.4%)   |
| Hisp/Lat       | 320 (6.6%)   | 333 (6.7%)   | 349 (6.8%)   | 372 (7.1%)   | 395 (7.5%)   |
| NatHaw/PacIsl  | 3 (0.1%)     | 3 (0.1%)     | 2 (0.0%)     | 1 (0.0%)     | 1 (0.0%)     |
| NonRes         | 364 (7.5%)   | 437 (8.8%)   | 495 (9.7%)   | 521 (10.0%)  | 513 (9.7%)   |
| Unknown        | 7 (0.1%)     | 8 (0.2%)     | 7 (0.1%)     | 1 (0.0%)     | 1 (0.0%)     |
| Two or More    | 128 (2.6%)   | 140 (2.8%)   | 146 (2.9%)   | 180 (3.4%)   | 198 (3.7%)   |
| White          | 3510 (72.1%) | 3497 (70.6%) | 3548 (69.5%) | 3612 (69.1%) | 3661 (69.2%) |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>4871</b>  | <b>4955</b>  | <b>5102</b>  | <b>5225</b>  | <b>5287</b>  |

#### 5.1.2 Maximum Counting Methodology

Table 2: Maximum Counting Methodology - WFU Undergraduates

|                     | 2015         | 2016         | 2017         | 2018         | 2019         |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| AmInd/AlaskNat      | 36 (0.7%)    | 37 (0.7%)    | 46 (0.9%)    | 55 (1.1%)    | 69 (1.3%)    |
| Asian               | 613 (12.6%)  | 656 (13.2%)  | 692 (13.6%)  | 715 (13.7%)  | 691 (13.1%)  |
| Black/AfAm          | 370 (7.6%)   | 394 (8.0%)   | 419 (8.2%)   | 432 (8.3%)   | 445 (8.4%)   |
| Hisp/Lat            | 339 (7.0%)   | 357 (7.2%)   | 376 (7.4%)   | 401 (7.7%)   | 424 (8.0%)   |
| NatHaw/PacIsl       | 19 (0.4%)    | 17 (0.3%)    | 18 (0.4%)    | 19 (0.4%)    | 15 (0.3%)    |
| NonRes              | 364 (7.5%)   | 437 (8.8%)   | 495 (9.7%)   | 521 (10.0%)  | 513 (9.7%)   |
| White               | 3925 (80.6%) | 3956 (79.8%) | 4033 (79.0%) | 4166 (79.7%) | 4237 (80.1%) |
| <b>Undup. Count</b> | <b>4871</b>  | <b>4955</b>  | <b>5102</b>  | <b>5225</b>  | <b>5287</b>  |

*Note:*

Percentages in the Maximum Counting table are calculated by dividing the number who identified in the particular category by the unduplicated count for that term. The sum of the column percentages will be greater than 100%. Similarly, the sum of the counts in each column will be greater than the unduplicated count for that column.

## 5.2 Faculty (Instructional)

The following tables include all Reynolda Campus faculty (except contingent or temporary workers) employed on November 1 of the given year. "Faculty" here is defined to include all employees whose primary function includes instruction.

### 5.2.1 Federal Methodology

Table 3: Federal Reporting Categories - Reynolda Campus Faculty (Instructional)

|                | 2015        | 2016        | 2017        | 2018        | 2019        |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| AmInd/AlaskNat | 1 (0.1%)    | 1 (0.1%)    | 1 (0.1%)    | 2 (0.2%)    | 2 (0.2%)    |
| Asian          | 27 (3.7%)   | 35 (4.7%)   | 35 (4.4%)   | 38 (4.5%)   | 38 (4.5%)   |
| Black/AfAm     | 34 (4.6%)   | 32 (4.3%)   | 42 (5.3%)   | 48 (5.7%)   | 46 (5.4%)   |
| Hisp/Lat       | 29 (4.0%)   | 30 (4.1%)   | 30 (3.8%)   | 38 (4.5%)   | 39 (4.6%)   |
| NatHaw/PacIsl  | 0 (0.0%)    | 0 (0.0%)    | 0 (0.0%)    | 1 (0.1%)    | 1 (0.1%)    |
| NonRes         | 19 (2.6%)   | 20 (2.7%)   | 29 (3.6%)   | 29 (3.5%)   | 33 (3.9%)   |
| Two or More    | 1 (0.1%)    | 1 (0.1%)    | 1 (0.1%)    | 1 (0.1%)    | 3 (0.4%)    |
| Unknown        | 19 (2.6%)   | 19 (2.6%)   | 16 (2.0%)   | 22 (2.6%)   | 25 (2.9%)   |
| White          | 604 (82.3%) | 601 (81.3%) | 643 (80.7%) | 657 (78.6%) | 663 (78.0%) |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>734</b>  | <b>739</b>  | <b>797</b>  | <b>836</b>  | <b>850</b>  |

### 5.2.2 Maximum Counting Methodology

Table 4: Maximum Counting Methodology - Reynolda Campus Faculty (Instructional)

|                     | 2015        | 2016        | 2017        | 2018        | 2019        |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| AmInd/AlaskNat      | 5 (0.7%)    | 5 (0.7%)    | 4 (0.5%)    | 6 (0.7%)    | 6 (0.7%)    |
| Asian               | 37 (5.0%)   | 45 (6.1%)   | 47 (5.9%)   | 57 (6.8%)   | 60 (7.1%)   |
| Black/AfAm          | 35 (4.8%)   | 34 (4.6%)   | 46 (5.8%)   | 50 (6.0%)   | 51 (6.0%)   |
| Hisp/Lat            | 32 (4.4%)   | 33 (4.5%)   | 33 (4.1%)   | 40 (4.8%)   | 41 (4.8%)   |
| NatHaw/PacIsl       | 0 (0.0%)    | 0 (0.0%)    | 0 (0.0%)    | 1 (0.1%)    | 2 (0.2%)    |
| NonRes              | 19 (2.6%)   | 20 (2.7%)   | 29 (3.6%)   | 29 (3.5%)   | 33 (3.9%)   |
| White               | 615 (83.8%) | 614 (83.1%) | 664 (83.3%) | 692 (82.8%) | 700 (82.4%) |
| <b>Undup. Count</b> | <b>734</b>  | <b>739</b>  | <b>797</b>  | <b>836</b>  | <b>850</b>  |

*Note:*

Percentages in the Maximum Counting table are calculated by dividing the number who identified in the particular category by the unduplicated count for that term. The sum of the column percentages will be greater than 100%. Similarly, the sum of the counts in each column will be greater than the unduplicated count for that column.

### 5.3 Staff (Non-Instructional)

The following tables include all Reynolda Campus staff (except contingent or temporary workers) employed on November 1 of the given year. “Staff” here is defined to include all employees whose primary function does not include instruction.

#### 5.3.1 Federal Methodology

Table 5: Federal Reporting Categories - Reynolda Campus Staff

|                | 2015         | 2016         | 2017         | 2018         | 2019         |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| AmInd/AlaskNat | 3 (0.2%)     | 6 (0.3%)     | 6 (0.3%)     | 4 (0.2%)     | 5 (0.2%)     |
| Asian          | 35 (1.8%)    | 30 (1.5%)    | 26 (1.3%)    | 26 (1.3%)    | 32 (1.5%)    |
| Black/AfAm     | 292 (14.8%)  | 292 (14.7%)  | 303 (15.1%)  | 302 (14.6%)  | 296 (14.2%)  |
| Hisp/Lat       | 49 (2.5%)    | 45 (2.3%)    | 55 (2.7%)    | 60 (2.9%)    | 78 (3.7%)    |
| NatHaw/PacIsl  | 3 (0.2%)     | 3 (0.2%)     | 2 (0.1%)     | 2 (0.1%)     | 2 (0.1%)     |
| NonRes         | 12 (0.6%)    | 14 (0.7%)    | 16 (0.8%)    | 16 (0.8%)    | 20 (1.0%)    |
| Two or More    | 9 (0.5%)     | 9 (0.5%)     | 14 (0.7%)    | 15 (0.7%)    | 15 (0.7%)    |
| Unknown        | 17 (0.9%)    | 18 (0.9%)    | 21 (1.0%)    | 22 (1.1%)    | 19 (0.9%)    |
| White          | 1558 (78.8%) | 1573 (79.0%) | 1567 (78.0%) | 1621 (78.4%) | 1617 (77.6%) |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>1978</b>  | <b>1990</b>  | <b>2010</b>  | <b>2068</b>  | <b>2084</b>  |

#### 5.3.2 Maximum Counting Methodology

Table 6: Maximum Counting Methodology - Reynolda Campus Staff

|                     | 2015         | 2016         | 2017         | 2018         | 2019         |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| AmInd/AlaskNat      | 8 (0.4%)     | 10 (0.5%)    | 12 (0.6%)    | 9 (0.4%)     | 9 (0.4%)     |
| Asian               | 46 (2.3%)    | 42 (2.1%)    | 36 (1.8%)    | 38 (1.8%)    | 44 (2.1%)    |
| Black/AfAm          | 297 (15.0%)  | 297 (14.9%)  | 319 (15.9%)  | 317 (15.3%)  | 314 (15.1%)  |
| Hisp/Lat            | 54 (2.7%)    | 49 (2.5%)    | 60 (3.0%)    | 63 (3.0%)    | 82 (3.9%)    |
| NatHaw/PacIsl       | 4 (0.2%)     | 4 (0.2%)     | 3 (0.1%)     | 3 (0.1%)     | 3 (0.1%)     |
| NonRes              | 12 (0.6%)    | 14 (0.7%)    | 16 (0.8%)    | 16 (0.8%)    | 20 (1.0%)    |
| White               | 1584 (80.1%) | 1597 (80.3%) | 1605 (79.9%) | 1687 (81.6%) | 1695 (81.3%) |
| <b>Undup. Count</b> | <b>1978</b>  | <b>1990</b>  | <b>2010</b>  | <b>2068</b>  | <b>2084</b>  |

*Note:*

Percentages in the Maximum Counting table are calculated by dividing the number who identified in the particular category by the unduplicated count for that term. The sum of the column percentages will be greater than 100%. Similarly, the sum of the counts in each column will be greater than the unduplicated count for that column.