

New Data Collection on Race/Ethnicity

Are persons from Spain considered to be of Hispanic ancestry?

For federal data reporting some years ago, persons from Spain were counted as European under the "White" race, not as a Hispanic ethnicity. However, that policy has changed. The following is not exhaustive but the results are consistent on the coding of persons from Spain: definitions and directions call for persons from Spain to be categorized as Hispanic. See highlighted text for the direct reference.

From the AIR blog:

Question: **Are folks from Portugal and Spain to be considered among "white europeans" or Hispanics?**

The IPEDS definition of Hispanic/Latino is "A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race." **Although it doesn't specifically mention people from Spain, it does include them** ('other Spanish culture or origin'). It does not include Portugal. Basically, it's up to the individual to self-identify.

<http://www.airweb.org/page.asp?page=1467&topic=Are%20folks%20from%20Portugal%20and%20Spain%20to%20be%20considered%20among%20'white%20europeans'%20or%20Hispanics?>

From IPEDS

Hispanic (old definition)	A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
Hispanic or Latino (new definition)	A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/glossary/?charindex=H>

From the Census State and County QuickFacts:

Hispanics or Latinos are those people who classified themselves in one of the specific Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino categories listed on the Census 2000 questionnaire -"Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano," "Puerto Rican", or "Cuban" -as well as those who indicate that they are "other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino." Persons who indicated that they are "**other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino**" **include those whose origins are from Spain**, the Spanish-speaking countries of Central or South America, the Dominican Republic or people identifying themselves generally as Spanish, Spanish-American, Hispanic, Hispano, Latino, and so on.

http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/meta/long_RHI725200.htm

Documentation for the 1990 Census

Hispanic or Latino origin

For Census 2000, American Community Survey: People who identify with the terms "Hispanic" or "Latino" are those who classify themselves in one of the specific Hispanic or Latino categories listed on the Census 2000 or ACS questionnaire - "Mexican," "Puerto Rican," or "Cuban" - as well as those who indicate that they are "other Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino." Origin can be viewed as the heritage, nationality group, lineage, or country of birth of the person or the person's parents or ancestors before their arrival in the United States. People who identify their origin as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino may be of any race.

1990 Census of Population and Housing: A self-designated classification **for people whose origins are from Spain**, the Spanish-speaking countries of Central or South America, the Caribbean, or those identifying themselves generally as Spanish, Spanish-American, etc. Origin can be viewed as ancestry, nationality, or country of birth of the person or person's parents or ancestors prior to their arrival in the United States.

http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/epss/glossary_h.html

From the findings on Questions on Race and Hispanic Origin Tested in the 1996 National Census Content Survey

7. Is this person of Spanish/Hispanic origin? Mark [X] the "No" box if not Spanish/Hispanic.

- No, not Spanish/Hispanic
- Yes, Mexican, Mexican-Am., Chicano
- Yes, Puerto Rican
- Yes, Cuban
- Yes, other Spanish/Hispanic - Print one group, for example: Argentinean, Colombian, Dominican, Nicaraguan, Salvadoran, Spaniard, and so on.

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/documentation/twps0016/report.html#background-omb>

From an EEO FAQ for "Census 2000 Special EEO Tabulation Files"

HISPANIC OR LATINO

The data on the Hispanic or Latino population, which was asked of all people, were derived from answers to long-form questionnaire Item 5, and short-form questionnaire Item 7. The terms "Spanish," "Hispanic origin," and "Latino" are used interchangeably. Some respondents identify with all three terms, while others may identify with only one of these three specific terms. Hispanics or Latinos who identify with the terms "Spanish," "Hispanic," or "Latino" are those who classify themselves in one of the specific Hispanic or Latino categories listed on the questionnaire — "Mexican," "Puerto Rican," or "Cuban" — as well as those who indicate that they are "other Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino." People who do not identify with one of the specific origins listed on the questionnaire but indicate that they are "other Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino" are those whose origins are from Spain, the Spanish-speaking countries of Central or South America, the Dominican Republic, or people identifying themselves generally as Spanish, Spanish-American, Hispanic, Hispano, Latino, and so on. All write-in responses to the "other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino" category were coded.

<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/eoindex/dscrvar.pdf>