A STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF THE CPS SUPPLEMENT ON RACE AND ETHNIC ORIGIN

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ABSTRACT

The Office of Management and Budget (OBM) is reviewing possible changes to Statistical Directive No. 15 for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity. As part of the effort to conduct research needed to assess the effects of any changes, the Bureau of Labor Statistics devoted the May 1995 Supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS) to the measurement of race and ethnicity. The Supplement, a CATI-CAPI instrument, included four panels, which provided an initial test of questions incorporating a multiracial category and a combined race and Hispanic origin item. The Supplement also included questions about preferences for particular racial and ethnic terminology. The Supplement records were linked to personal characteristics in the initial CPS interview. Extensive analysis has been done with these data, and the paper summarizes the major findings.

KEYWORDS
Field Test, Log-linear model, complex designs

1. INTRODUCTION

In response to legislative and agency needs, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued in 1977 the "Race and Ethnic Standards for Federal Statistics and Administrative Reporting" contained in Statistical Policy Directive No. 15. The basic racial categories set forth in the Directive are: American Indian or Alaskan Native; Asian or Pacific Islander; Black, and White. The ethnic categories specified in the Directive are Hispanic origin, and Not of Hispanic origin. Although the standards in Directive 15 have been used for almost two decades throughout the Federal government for record keeping, collection, and presentation of data on race and Hispanic origin, they have come under increasing criticism from those who believe that the minimum categories do not reflect the increasing diversity of the nation's population. Some have also proposed changing the names of several categories.

In response to these concerns, OMB established an Interagency Committee for the Review of the Racial and Ethnic Standards (see OMB, 1995). The committee created a Research Working Group charged with developing a plan to investigate a number of the important issues relevant to the review of the racial and ethnic categories. The first project of the research agenda was a supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS), which was conducted in May 1995 and was designed to collect information on several of the key issues under review.

1.1 Design of the Supplement

The CPS is a monthly survey of the population using a scientifically selected sample of close to 60,000 households in May, representative of the civilian, noninstitutional population of the United States. Households selected in the sample are interviewed for 4 consecutive months, are not interviewed for 8 months, and then are interviewed again for 4 consecutive months. The survey is administered by interviewers, who conduct a majority of the interviews by telephone. Race and ethnic origin of household members are routinely collected during the first month's interview. A CPS supplement, a set of questions asked following the labor force survey, provides the opportunity to evaluate new panels of questions on race and ethnicity by comparing the results to answers given using the current CPS questions.

The English and Spanish versions of the supplement were prepared in consultation with questionnaire design experts and subject matter experts. All questions were pretested in several rounds of cognitive testing with respondents representing the major racial and ethnic groups and geographical regions of the United States. The supplement addressed the following important issues: (1) the effect of having a multiracial category among the list of races, (2) the effect of adding "Hispanic" to the list of racial categories, and (3) the preferences for alternative names for racial and ethnic

categories (e.g., African-American for Black, and Latino for Hispanic). The supplement was organized into four panels or versions representing a two-by-two experimental design for studying 1 and 2 above. Questions relating to issue 3 were the same for all panels. Each panel was given to one-fourth of the sample, or about 15,000, households. All respondents in a household received the same set of questions; household members 15 years and older were asked to respond for themselves, and parents answered for children too young to answer for themselves. The panels were:

Panel I: Separate race and Hispanic origin questions, no multiracial category;
Panel II: Separate race and Hispanic origin questions, with a multiracial category;
Panel III: A combined race and Hispanic origin question, no multiracial category;
Panel IV: A combined race and Hispanic origin question, with a multiracial category.

This design allows for a number of comparisons of the individual panels and pairs of panels. The effect of having a separate versus combined race and Hispanic origin question can be examined by combining panels 1 and 2 (separate Hispanic origin question) and comparing the results with the combination of panels 3 and 4 (combined race and Hispanic origin questions). Likewise, the effect of adding a multiracial category can be examined by combining panels 2 and 4 (both contain a multiracial category) and comparing them with the combination of panels 1 and 3 (no multiracial category). Further contrasts and comparisons between individual panels can also be done. For example, a comparison of reporting in panels 1 and 2 will identify the effects of adding a multiracial category to the separate race question; a similar comparison of panels 3 and 4 will identify these effects in the context of a combined race and Hispanic origin question.

1.2 Supplement Measures

In panels 1 and 2, the first question on the supplement is the Hispanic origin question and the next question is the race question. For panels 3 and 4 the first question is a combined race and Hispanic origin question. A listing of these and other major questions from the supplement are given in Appendix A.

All respondents who identified as Hispanic were asked to name their Hispanic origin group, e.g., Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban. In addition, respondents who identified as Hispanic were asked if they preferred to identify as Hispanic through a separate question on Hispanic origin or to choose Hispanic in the list of races, with the exact wording of the question depending upon the panel. In panels 3 and 4, Hispanic respondents, who answered a combined race and Hispanic origin question, were asked if they would have preferred separate questions on Hispanic origin and race to the combined version. In panels 1 and 2, Hispanic respondents, who answered separate Hispanic origin and race questions, were asked if Hispanic should be included as a racial category instead of a separate question.

Based on their racial identification in the Supplement, respondents other than Asian or Pacific Islanders were also asked to choose their preferred racial term from a list of terms for that group, or they could provide another term they preferred or indicate no preference for any of the terms.   These questions were the same across all panels. Respondents identifying as American Indian, Alaska Native, or Aleut were given the following terms to choose from: American Indian, Alaska Native, or Native American. Respondents identifying as Black were given the following terms to choose from: Black, African-American, Afro-American, Negro, or Colored. Respondents identifying as Hispanic were given the following terms to choose from: Hispanic, Latino, or of Spanish origin. Respondents who identified as multiracial were given the following terms to choose from: Multiracial, More than one race, Biracial, or Mestizo/Mestiza. Respondents who identified as White were given the following terms to choose from: White, Caucasian, European-American, or Anglo.

1.3 Race and Hispanic Origin from the CPS

During the first month's CPS interview, respondents are asked the race and origin of each member of the household. The actual CPS questions are also shown in Appendix A. In May, 1995, all CPS respondents were also asked the questions from the supplement on race and ethnicity. Most of the respondents had given their race and origin during a previous month's interview, but respondents who were in the sample for the first time in May, 1995 (1/8 of the sample) were asked the CPS race and origin questions and the supplement questions on race and ethnicity in the same interview (the supplement questions were asked after the basic CPS interview was completed).

2. STATISTICAL METHODS

The CPS had a 6.5% nonresponse rate in May. There was also a 10.6% nonresponse rate to the Race and Ethnicity Supplement, in addition to the nonresponse to the CPS. This level of nonresponse is typical of many CPS

supplements and did not differ by panel. Normally, CPS base weights go through an adjustment for household nonresponse. Because of a concern about the impact of the additional nonresponse on the Supplement, a further nonresponse adjustment was done to the weights to help compensate for the Supplement's nonresponse rate.

Normally, CPS final weights are inflated to independent estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States. The analyses of the May supplement did NOT include these adjustments because they are based on data collected in the basic CPS, including race and Hispanic origin, and would distort the effects of the supplement's experimental design. Therefore, racial and ethnic proportions from the supplement must be interpreted within the context of the experimental design. The percentages reported may not correspond with other sources and are only intended for comparisons among the four panels.

All statistical analyses on the effects of the different panels were conducted using CPLX, a program written by Robert Fay of the U. S. Bureau of the Census for log-linear model analysis of complex survey data that takes into account the complex sample design (Fay, 1989). This program uses a generalized replication method to calculate standard errors, and it also computes a jack-knifed chi-square statistic that is appropriate for the complex sample design. The four panels described earlier represent the effects of the presence or absence of a separate Hispanic question and the presence or absence of a separate multiracial category on respondents' choice of racial and ethnic categories. Log-linear analyses were conducted treating each of these effects as separate independent variables to isolate the impact of each one. To test the panel effects, a hierarchical series of log-linear models were tested for their fit to the data. The first model tested was always whether there were any differences among the panels. In all cases, the simplest model that adequately fit the data was accepted. The models of panel effects that were tested included: (1) the effect of a separate Hispanic question (compares panels 1 and 2 with 3 and 4); (2) the effect of a multiracial category (compares panels 1 and 3 with 2 and 4); (3) the effect of both a separate Hispanic question and a multiracial category (i.e., both of the previous effects showed significant differences); and (4) the effect of both a separate Hispanic question and a multiracial category and their interaction (differences across the four panels showed a more complex pattern such that the effect of having a separate Hispanic question differed depending upon whether or not there was a multiracial category, and vice versa). The findings and interpretation of the best-fitting model for each analysis are discussed below.

A particularly important preliminary analysis was to ensure that the four panels contained random subsets of the samples with respect to the variables of interest. Using the original measures of race and ethnicity from the CPS, an examination of panel differences was conducted and no significant differences among panels in their racial or ethnic composition were found. Thus, treatment effects should not be contaminated by systematic differences in the assignment of cases to the four panels.

3. RESULTS

3.1 Overview of Analyses of the Supplement

The analyses of the Supplement questions were conducted to examine how the different questions about race and ethnicity that were asked in different panels of the supplement affected: (1) the percentage of persons who identified as Hispanic; (2) the distribution of racial identification; (3) whether Hispanics prefer to indicate their ethnic origin through a separate question or in the race question; (4) what racial and ethnic terms are preferred by members of each group; (5) the agreement between identification of Hispanic origin in the CPS and in the supplement; (6) the agreement between racial identification in the CPS and the supplement; (7) the national origin of Hispanics; (8) how respondents with different Hispanic nationalities (as determined from the CPS) identified their race in the supplement; and (9) the differences in responses to the Hispanic origin and racial questions by demographic characteristics. Due to space limitations, not all of the details of the analyses of the supplement could be presented here. A more complete report that also includes additional analyses is available from the authors (Tucker et al., 1996).

3.2 Hispanic Origin from the Supplement

Table 1 shows the distribution of Hispanics and Non-Hispanics for each panel based on respondents' answers to this first question. As can be seen in Table 1, a higher percentage of people identified as Hispanic when they were asked a separate Hispanic question than when there was no separate question. A complex model including the effects of a separate Hispanic question and the interaction with a multiracial category was needed to explain this pattern of results; however, the largest effect was whether there was a separate Hispanic origin question or a combined race and ethnic origin question. Specifically, 10.60% of the respondents who received a separate Hispanic question (panels 1 and 2 combined) identified as Hispanic. In contrast only 8.06% of the respondents who were not asked a separate question (panels 3 and 4 combined) identified as Hispanic.

3.3 Racial Distribution from the Supplement

Table 2 shows the racial distribution based on respondents' answers to the race question they answered on the supplement and includes a further breakdown of those who identified themselves as multiracial in panels 2 and 4. Overall, the percentages of persons who identified as White ranged from 74.66% to 79.88%, depending upon the panel. Between 10.27% and 10.66% of the people identified as Blacks. The percentage of people who identified as American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleuts ranged from 0.73% to 1.06%, and the percentage of people identifying as Asian or Pacific Islanders ranged from 3.25% to 3.83%. As can be seen in the lower portion of Table 2, of the respondents who said they were multiracial and also identified more than one race (in panels 2 and 4), the most common second race was American Indian.

Log linear model analyses revealed that the percentage of people identifying with each racial category differed across the four panels, and these differences were statistically significant[1]. The simplest model that provided an adequate fit to the data included both the effects of the separate Hispanic question and the inclusion of a multiracial category. In other words, both of the factors that were experimentally manipulated across the four panels affected the overall race distribution. Separate models for each race were run as follow-up tests to determine the effect of the panels on the percentage of people identifying with each racial group. There were no significant differences across panels in the percentage of people identifying as Black or Asian or Pacific Islander. The percentage of people identifying as White was influenced only by whether there was a separate Hispanic question or not, with 75.22% of the respondents identifying as White when Hispanic was included in the list of races (panels 3 and 4 combined) compared to 79.81% who identified as White when Hispanic origin was a separate question (panels 1 and 2 combined). The percentage of people identifying themselves as American Indian/Alaska Native was influenced only by the presence of a multiracial category, with 0.76% of the respondents identifying as American Indian/Alaska Native when there was a multiracial category offered in the list of races (panels 2 and 4 combined) compared to 1.02% identifying as American Indian/Alaska Native when there was no multiracial category (panels 1 and 3 combined). These analyses show that including Hispanic as a category in the race question will likely lower the proportion of people currently identifying as White, and including a multiracial category will likely lower the percentage of people identifying as American Indian or Alaska Native.

There were no significant differences between panels 2 and 4 on the percentage of people identifying as multiracial (1.65% and 1.55% for panels 2 and 4, respectively), but there were significant differences between panels 2 and 4 in the percentage of people not choosing one of the racial categories (i.e., choosing "Something else," "Don't Know," or "Refused"). When Hispanic is offered as a race (panel 4), only 1.23% of the respondents did not identify themselves with one of the racial categories offered, while 3.97% did not identify with one of the racial categories offered when Hispanic was not one of the choices (panel 2). There was also a statistically significant effect for the presence of the multiracial category with only 3.97% of the respondents in panel 2 (multiracial category) not identifying themselves with one of the racial categories offered, compared to 5.03% of the respondents in panel 1 (no multiracial category) not selecting one of the racial categories.

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[1] Statistical tests conducted across all four panels utilized a racial distribution that collapsed respondents who chose Hispanic (from panels 3 and 4), and multiracial (from panels 2 and 4), as well as respondents who chose "Something else" (in all four panels) into the category of "All Other."

3.4 Preference for Including Hispanic as a Racial Category

Hispanics were asked whether they preferred to identify themselves from a list of races that included Hispanic or through a separate question asking whether they are Hispanic. Respondents who were given Hispanic in the list of races were asked if they wanted a separate question on Hispanic origin, and respondents who were asked a separate question were asked if they preferred that Hispanic be included in the list of races. For comparison purposes, respondents' answers were coded to reflect the percentage of Hispanics from each panel who wanted to have Hispanic listed as a racial category. As can be seen in Table 3, well over half of Hispanics (68.56% overall) preferred that Hispanic be included in the list of races. The percentage of people preferring that Hispanic be included as a racial category differed across the panels. Specifically, 73.71% of the respondents wanted Hispanic included with the list of races when they received the question that way (panels 3 and 4 combined) compared to 62.20% of the respondents preferring that Hispanic be included with the list of races when they received a separate Hispanic question (panels 1 and 2 combined).

3.5 Preferred Racial and Ethnic Terms

People who identified themselves as Hispanic, White, Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, or multiracial were given a list of terms describing their respective racial or ethnic group and were asked to choose which term they preferred, or whether they preferred a term not stated, or had no preference. These questions were identical across the four panels of the CPS Supplement, and there were no statistically significant differences in the distributions of responses across the different panels for any of the terms. It should be noted that all of the choices of preferred terms could have been influenced by the terms given in the race questions that were asked earlier.

The percentage of persons of each race (collapsed across all four panels) preferring each term can be seen in Table 4. Persons identifying as Hispanic were asked which of the following terms they preferred to describe themselves: Hispanic, Latino, Of Spanish Origin, Some other term, or No preference. The majority chose the term Hispanic as the one they preferred. Persons identifying as White were asked which of the following terms they preferred to describe themselves: White, Caucasian, European-American, Anglo, Some other term, or No preference. A majority chose the term White, but a sizable number had no preference. Persons identifying as Black were asked which of the following terms they preferred to describe themselves: Black, African-American, Afro-American, Negro, Colored, Some other term, or No preference. A large plurality chose the term Black, but about as many chose African-American or Afro-American (combined). Persons identifying as American Indians were asked which of the following terms they preferred to describe themselves: American Indian, Alaska Native, Native American, Some other term, or No preference. Over 50% chose the term American Indian or Alaska Native as the one they preferred, but a sizable number preferred Native American. Persons identifying as "multiracial" were asked which of the following terms they preferred to describe themselves: Multiracial, More than one race, Biracial, Mixed-race, Mestizo/Mestiza, Some other term, or No preference. A plurality chose the term "multiracial" as the term they preferred, but about the same number had no preference.

3.6 Hispanic Origin from the Supplement and the CPS

One might expect some small level of disagreement between the CPS classifications of Hispanic origin and those from the supplement because the questions are different. Hispanic origin is determined on the CPS by a general question that asks a respondent about his or her origin or descent (see Appendix A). Respondents who indicate that their origin was Mexican American,

Chicano, Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or Other Spanish are classified as Hispanic. In contrast, Hispanic origin in panels 1 and 2 is determined by asking respondents if they are Hispanic, Latino, or of Spanish origin in a separate question. Hispanic origin in panels 3 and 4 is determined by respondents selecting Hispanic from the list of races.

The agreement between persons identifying as Hispanic on the supplement and persons classified as Hispanic on the CPS are shown in Table 5. Although a complex model that included both the effects of having a separate Hispanic question and a multiracial category and their interaction were required to adequately explain this pattern of results, the use of a separate Hispanic question was by far the most important factor. Specifically, 94.26% of the people who were classified as Hispanic on the CPS identified themselves as Hispanic on the supplement in a separate Hispanic question (panels 1 and 2 combined). However, only 80.23% of the people who were classified as Hispanic on the CPS also identified themselves as Hispanic from the list of races (panels 3 and 4 combined). Clearly, measuring Hispanic origin using a category in the list of races misses a relatively large percentage of people who are currently classified as Hispanic on the CPS. There was much greater agreement between the CPS classification of Hispanic origin and the supplement identification of Hispanic origin when a separate Hispanic question was included.

3.7 Racial Distribution from the Supplement and the CPS

The level of disagreement between racial identification on the CPS and identification in the supplement may differ depending on the degree to which the Supplement questions differ from the original CPS ones. The race question from panel 1 of the supplement most closely resembles the CPS race question, but the race questions in the other panels included additional response categories such as Hispanic (in panels 3 & 4) and a multiracial category (in panels 2 & 4) and can be found in Appendix A.

The agreement between the CPS race question and the supplement race is shown in Table 6. There is generally high agreement (over 90%) between CPS race and the supplement race across all 4 panels for persons identifying as White and Black, and it is over 85% for those identifying as Asian or Pacific Islander. The percentage of respondents classified as American Indian on the CPS who also identified that way on the supplement was lower, ranging from 58.94% to 74.50%. Persons who identified as 'Other' on the CPS are most likely to be classified as "All Other" (i.e., they identified as "Something else,' said they didn't know their race, or refused to answer the question) on the supplement in panels 1 and 2 (65.21% and 55.82%, respectively); however, they are most likely to identify as Hispanic in panels 3 and 4 (72.03% and 75.36%, respectively).

A closer examination of Table 6 also reveals how respondents changed their identification from the CPS to the supplement race question(s) depending on the panel they were in. Persons who identified as White on the CPS but do NOT identify as White on the supplement are most likely to be classified as 'All Other" in panels 1 and 2, and are most likely to identify as Hispanic in panels 3 and 4. Persons who identified as Black on the CPS but do NOT identify as Black on the supplement are most likely to be classified as "All Other" in panels 1 and 3, and are most likely to identify as multiracial in panels 2 and 4. Respondents who said they were American Indian on the CPS but who do NOT identify as American Indian in the supplement are most likely to identify as White across all 4 panels. Respondents who identified as Asian or Pacific Islander on the CPS but who do NOT identify themselves that way in the supplement are most likely to be classified as "All Other" across all 4 panels.

An overall analysis was done to test if there were significant differences by panel for

agreement between the CPS race and the supplement race variable. A complex model with the effects of the separate Hispanic question and the multiracial category interacting was required to explain adequately the pattern of results. A series of follow-up statistical tests were conducted to contrast the percentage of persons choosing each race on both the CPS and the supplement across panels. There were no significant differences across panels for Blacks, American Indians, and Asian or Pacific Islanders, but there were significant differences across panels for Whites. In this later case the agreement on the response to the race question on the CPS and the supplement was influenced by having a separate Hispanic question. Over 95% (panels 1 and 2 combined) of the people who identified as White on the CPS also identified themselves as White in the supplement when there was a separate Hispanic question. This agreement drops to about 91% (panels 3 and 4 combined) when there was no separate Hispanic question. In other words, the presence of an Hispanic category in the list of races is drawing respondents who were identifying as White on the CPS.

An additional analysis was conducted across panels looking at respondents who identified as "Other" on the CPS and who did not identify with one of the racial categories (i.e., they identified as "Something else" or did not know or refused to answer the race question) and were classified as "All Other" on the supplement. There were significant differences across panels in agreement between CPS and the supplement for the "Other" and "All Other" categories that depended on the presence of a separate Hispanic origin question. Specifically, when there was a separate Hispanic origin question about 60% of the respondents (panels 1 and 2 combined) who chose "Other" on the CPS were also classified as "All Other" on the supplement; however, when Hispanic was included in the list of races only about 11% (panels 3 and 4 combined) were classified as "All Other" on the supplement. Thus, changing the race question from the current CPS version by adding an Hispanic category appears likely to lower the proportion of Whites and persons who are currently classified as "Other."

3.8 Hispanic Nationality From the Supplement

All respondents who indicated they were Hispanic on the Supplement were asked for their national origin. The breakdown of Hispanics by national origin for each panel in the Supplement is shown in Table 7. Analyses were conducted to test whether there were differences across panels in the distributions of the national origins of the Hispanic respondents. There were significant overall effects for a separate Hispanic question. Follow-up analyses were also conducted for each nationality separately to determine which groups demonstrated significant differences across panels. As can be seen in Table 7, the proportions of Mexican, Cuban, and Other Hispanic national origins were affected by having a separate Hispanic question. Specifically, the respondents who identify as Hispanic from the list of races are composed of a greater percentage of people with Mexican national origin (66% in panels 3 and 4 combined) than the respondents who identify as Hispanic in a separate question (about 60% in panels 1 and 2 combined). In contrast, the respondents who identify as Hispanic in a separate question are composed of a greater percentage of people with Cuban and Other Hispanic national origins (about 4% Cuban and 13% Other Hispanic in panels 1 and 2 combined) than the respondents who identify as Hispanic from the list of races (about 2% Cuban and 9% Other Hispanic in panels 3 and 4 combined). In other words, Hispanics of different national origins differ in terms of how likely they are to identify themselves as Hispanic depending upon whether they are asked a separate Hispanic question or Hispanic is a choice in a list of races. Some groups, such as Cubans and "Other Hispanic" are less likely to be included as Hispanics when Hispanic is included in the list of races.

3.9 Racial Identification in the Supplement and Hispanic Nationality from the CPS

The racial identification of Hispanics with different national origins was also examined by utilizing the measure of Hispanic national origin from the CPS and racial identification in the Supplement. As can be seen in Table 8, Hispanics of different national origins identify themselves differently in terms of race depending upon the panel of the Supplement they were in. Analyses were focused on the two most common racial identifications made by Hispanics: "White" and "All Other", and follow-up analyses were conducted to examine whether there were panel effects on how respondents with each different Hispanic national origin identified. Hispanics with a Mexican national origin were much more likely to identify as White when there was a separate Hispanic question (63% for panels 1 and 2 combined) than when Hispanic was available as a racial category (11% in panels 3 and 4 combined). Similarly, Hispanics with other Spanish national origins were more likely to identify as White when there was a separate Hispanic question (54% for panels 1 and 2 combined) than when Hispanic was available as a racial category (about 23% in panels 3 and 4 combined). A more complex model was required to explain the pattern of findings for Hispanics with Central or South American national origins identifying as White, but the effect of the separate Hispanic question was the largest effect with about 52% of Hispanics with Central or South American Origin identifying as White when there was a separate Hispanic question (panels 1 and 2 combined), and only about 16% identifying as White when Hispanic was available as a racial category (panels 3 and 4 combined). Although there were no statistically significant panel effects for Hispanics of Cuban origin because of the small sample size, they exhibited a pattern of identification that appeared to be distinctly different from other Hispanics in panels 3 and 4. A majority of Hispanics of Cuban origin in panel 3 and nearly 50% in panel 4 identified as White even though the Hispanic category was offered. When no Hispanic category was offered in panels 1 and 2, over 90% of Hispanics with Cuban Origin identified as White.

The only significant panel effect for Hispanics who were classified in the "All Other" race category was found for those with Central or South American origins. A complex model was required to explain the pattern of findings, but the effect of the separate Hispanic question was again the largest effect with about 38% of Hispanics with Central or South American Origin falling in the "All Other" category when there was a separate Hispanic question (panels 1 and 2 combined), and only about 3% being "All Other" when Hispanic was available as a racial category (panels 3 and 4 combined). These analyses provide further evidence that certain subgroups of Hispanics are more or less likely to change their racial identification depending on the way the race and ethnic origin questions are asked.

3.10 Differences in Response by Demographic Characteristics

The effects of various demographic characteristics of respondents on the differences found across panels in the racial and Hispanic origin distributions and also on the changes in racial and Hispanic origin identification from the CPS to the supplement panels were examined. The focus of these analyses was **not** on the association among race or Hispanic origin and a set of demographic characteristics (these associations are well documented elsewhere), but more specifically on how the different demographic groups responded to the questions in the panels of the supplement. In other words, how do the people who identified as Hispanic or White compare in one panel to the people who identified the same in another panel. The demographic characteristics chosen reflected the characteristics of the area in which the household was located, of the household as a whole, and of particular household members. Specifically, the area characteristics included: region of the country,

population of the area (Census place size), whether the area was urban or rural, whether the household was located within a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) or not, and the degree of poverty in the area. The characteristics of the household itself included family income, household size, and whether the household members owned or rented the housing unit. The characteristics of the household members included age, education, labor force status (employed/unemployed/not in the labor force), U. S. citizenship, length of time in the United States, nativity of the respondent, nativity of the respondent's mother and father, and the respondent's relationship to the reference person. Because of the complex nature of these analyses and space limitations, these findings will be discussed only briefly, and tables will not be presented. For details of these analyses, see Tucker et al. (1996).

The results of the analyses of demographic characteristics on Hispanic origin by panel revealed that the combined race and ethnicity question result in a higher percentage of persons born in Spanish-speaking countries and a higher percentage of persons with parents born in Spanish-speaking countries not identifying as Hispanic. The results of the analyses of demographic characteristics on racial identification by panel indicated that the panel differences appear to be largely due to the Hispanics who identified as White in panels 1 and 2, but identified as Hispanic in panels 3 and 4. For example, there were significantly more Whites who were born in a Spanish-speaking country in panels 1 and 2, where many Hispanics identified as White, than in panels 3 and 4, where Hispanic was included in the list of races.

4. CONCLUSIONS

Some of the findings from this CPS supplement seem clear while others are not as easy to interpret. In either case, the results should be considered in light of the way these data were obtained. The supplement followed an administration of a panel survey in which the respondents already had been asked about their race and ethnicity. The questions were administered by an interviewer, and most of the interviews were conducted over the telephone.

Given this context, it appears likely that the number of Hispanics would decline if "Hispanic" is included as a category on the race question. If this combined race/ethnic origin question is used, however, an "other" or "something else" category will not be chosen as frequently. The proportion of the population identifying as "multiracial" in this context was less than two percent, and the only racial group that might have been affected by the addition of the multiracial category was American Indian\Alaska Native. There does appear to be some question about how well the term "multiracial" is understood throughout the population. The multiracial category was chosen by some Hispanics who reject existing racial options, and by some non-Hispanics who report multiple ethnicities.

Although Hispanics favor the combined race and ethnic origin question format, they probably do so without the knowledge of the potential effect that this format may have on the overall count of Hispanics. Furthermore, the characteristics of the resulting Hispanic population may also differ depending on whether Hispanic origin is measured as a separate question or is combined with the race question. A substantial number of blacks prefer the terms "African-American" or "Afro-American," and a sizable minority of American Indians and Alaska Natives chose the more generic term "Native American." In both cases, however, the terms currently used were chosen more often. There is no way to know from these data how strongly these preferences are held.

This CPS Supplement represents only one in a series of studies to be conducted by the Federal government that will concern the measurement of race and ethnicity. The Bureau of the Census is currently conducting two studies—the National Content Survey and the Race and Ethnicity

Targeted Test—to prepare for Census 2000. Both of these studies test various ways of asking about race and ethnicity. The results of these efforts, along with the CPS supplement and other research will be evaluated carefully prior to any decision about Directive No. 15.

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Appendix A. Race and Ethnicity Supplement Questions and Race and Ethnicity Questions from the CPS

A.1 Supplement Questions

PANEL 1
SA1a First, are you one of the following: Hispanic,
   Latino, or of Spanish origin?
   <1> Yes
   <2> No

SA3a Which one of the following list are you?
      (READ ENTIRE LIST)
      <1> White
      <2> Black
      <3> American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut
      <4> Asian or Pacific Islander
      <5> Something else

PANEL 2
SB1a First, are you one of the following: Hispanic,
   Latino, or of Spanish origin?
   <1> Yes
   <2> No

SB3a Which one of the following list are you?
      (READ ENTIRE LIST)
      <1> White
      <2> Black
      <3> American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut
      <4> Asian or Pacific Islander
      <5> Multiracial
      <6> Something else
 (If Multiracial)

SB4a Which of the following list do you consider
yourself to be? (READ ENTIRE LIST.
ENTER ALL THAT APPLY.)
<1> White
<2> Black
<3> American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut
<4> Asian or Pacific Islander
<5> Something else

PANEL 3
SC1a First, which one of the following list are you?
(READ ENTIRE LIST.)
<1> White
<2> Black
<3> Hispanic, Latino, of Spanish origin
<4> American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut
<5> Asian or Pacific Islander
<7> Something else

PANEL 4
SD1a First, which one of the following list are you?
(READ ENTIRE LIST.)
<1> White
<2> Black
<3> Hispanic, Latino, of Spanish origin
<4> American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut
<5> Asian or Pacific Islander
<6> Multiracial
<7> Something else

(If Multiracial)
SD1c I will read the list again and ask you to tell me
which ones you consider yourself to be:
(READ ENTIRE LIST. MARK ALL THAT
APPLY.)
<1> White
<2> Black
<3> Hispanic, Latino, of Spanish origin
<4> American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut
<5> Asian or Pacific Islander
<6> Something else

Hispanic national origin question
The following question on Hispanic national origin appeared on all four panels:
(If Hispanic)
Which one of the following are you? (READ EACH ITEM TO THE RESPONDENT)
1. Mexican or Mexican-American or Chicano
2. Puerto Rican
3. Cuban
4. Central American or South American
5. Other Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin group

Questions on Hispanic as a racial category
The following question on Hispanic as a racial category / separate question appeared on Panels 1 and 2:

(If Hispanic)
Earlier, when I read you the list of White; Black; American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut; Asian or Pacific Islander; (Multiracial on Panel 2); and Something else, you told me that you are [Fill from response on racial category]. To best describe yourself, would you like to have had
"Hispanic, Latino, or of Spanish origin" added to this list?
1. Yes
2. No

The following question on Hispanic as a racial category / separate question appeared on Panels 3 and 4:

(If Hispanic)
To best describe yourself, would you have liked to have had two separate questions at the beginning, one where you could identify as Hispanic, Latino, or of Spanish origin, and another where you could also identify as White; Black; American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut; Asian or Pacific Islander; or Something else?

Questions on preferred racial and Hispanic-origin terms
The following questions on preferred racial and Hispanic origin terms were asked across all four panels:

(If White on race question)
Earlier you told me that you are White. Which one of the following terms do you prefer? (READ ALL TERMS)
1. White
2. Caucasian
3. European American
4. Anglo
5. Some other term

(If Black on race question)
Earlier you told me that you are Black. Which one of the following terms do you prefer? (READ ALL TERMS)
1. Black
2. African American
3. Afro-American
4. Negro
5. Colored
6. Some other term

(If American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut on race question)
earlier you told me that you are American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut. Which one of the terms do you prefer? (READ ALL TERMS)
1. American Indian
2. Alaskan Native
3. Native American
4. Some other term

(If Hispanic on race or Hispanic-origin question)
You told me that you are Hispanic, Latino, or of Spanish Origin. Which one of the following terms do you prefer? (READ ALL TERMS)
1. Hispanic
2. Latino
3. Of Spanish origin
4. Some other term

(If Multiracial on race question)
Earlier you told me that you are "Multiracial." Which one of the following terms do you prefer? (READ ALL TERMS)
1. Multiracial
2. More than one race
3. Biracial
4. Mixed race
5. Mestizo or Mestiza
6. Some other term

6.   *A.2 CPS Race and Ethnicity Questions*

Race

What is the race of each person in this household?
1. White
2. Black
3. American Indian, Aleut, Eskimo
4. Asian or Pacific Islander (Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Korean, Asian Indian, Vietnamese, Hawaiian, Guamanian, Samoan, other Asian)
5. Other - specify (not seen by respondent)

Origin or descent

What is the origin or descent of each person in this household?

01 German	12 Mexican
02 Italian	14 Puerto Rican
03 Irish	15 Cuban
04 French	16 Central or South American
05 Polish	17 Other Hispanic
06 Russian	20 Afro-American (Black, Negro)
07 English	26 Dutch
08 Scottish	27 Swedish
10 Mexican-American	28 Hungarian
11 Chicano	30 Another group not listed

Table 1. Hispanic or non-Hispanic Origin Identification by panel, May 1995

(Percent distribution)

	Panel			
	1	2	3	4
	Separate race and Hispanic-origin questions; no multiracial category	Separate race and Hispanic-origin questions with a multiracial category	A combined race and Hispanic-origin question; no multiracial category	A combined race and Hispanic-origin question with a multiracial category
Hispanic	10.79	10.41	7.53	8.58
Non-Hispanic	89.21	89.59	92.47	91.42
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table 2. Racial Identification by panel, May 1995

(Percent distribution)

	Panel			
	1	2	3	4
	Separate race and Hispanic-origin questions; no multiracial category	Separate race and Hispanic-origin questions with a multiracial category	A combined race and Hispanic-origin question; no multiracial category	A combined race and Hispanic-origin question with a multiracial category
Single race breakdown				
White	79.88	79.74	75.78	74.66
Black	10.29	10.66	10.60	10.27
Hispanic	-	-	7.53	8.20
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	0.97	0.73	1.06	0.79
Asian or Pacific Islander	3.83	3.25	3.25	3.30
Something Else	4.68	3.70	1.50	0.92
Don't Know / Not Applicable	0.34	0.26	0.28	0.32
Total Multiracial	-	1.65	-	1.55
Multi race breakdown				
No race/don't know/not applicable	-	0.02	-	0.00
Something else as only 1 race	-	0.51	-	0.22
Only 1 race	-	0.53	-	0.15
White-black / Black-white	-	0.09	-	0.16
American Indian + 1 race	-	0.20	-	0.28
Asian or Pacific Islander + 1 race	-	0.07	-	0.28
1 race + Something else	-	0.16	-	0.07
Other 2 races	-	0.00	-	0.20
3 or more	-	0.08	-	0.21
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Note: Detail may not add to totals due to rounding.

Table 3. Preference for Hispanic origin as a racial category by panel, May 1995

(Percent distribution)

	Panel			
	1	2	3	4
	Separate race and Hispanic-origin questions; no multiracial category	Separate race and Hispanic-origin questions with a multiracial category	A combined race and Hispanic-origin question; no multiracial category	A combined race and Hispanic-origin question with a multiracial category
Yes	63.62	60.69	73.60	73.81
No	36.38	39.31	26.40	26.19
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table 4. Preference for racial or ethnic terminology, all panels, May 1995

(Percent distribution)

Hispanics	Percent
Hispanic	57.88
Latino	11.74
Of Spanish Origin	12.34
Some Other Term	7.85
No Preference	10.18
Total	100.00
Whites	
White	61.66
Caucasian	16.53
European-American	2.35
Anglo	0.96
Some Other term	1.97
No Preference	16.53
Total	100.00
Blacks	
Black	44.15
African-American	28.07
Afro-American	12.12
Negro	3.28
Colored	1.09
Some Other Term	2.19
No Preference	9.11
Total	100.00

Table 4. Continued

American Indians	Percent
American Indian	49.76
Alaska Native	3.51
Native American	37.35
Some Other Term	3.66
No Preference	5.72
Total	100.00
Multiracials	
Multiracial	28.42
More than 1 race	6.03
Biracial	5.67
Mixed-race	16.02
Mestizo / Mestiza	2.25
Some Other Term	13.87
No Preference	27.76
Total	100.00

Note: Detail may not add to totals due to rounding.

Table 5. Comparison of Hispanic Origin identification from the supplement and the Initial CPS interview by panel, May 1995
(Percent distribution)

Panel 1 Separate race and Hispanic-origin questions; no multiracial category

Supplement	CPS	
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic
Hispanic	93.27	1.88
Non-Hispanic	6.73	98.12
Total	100.00	100.00

Panel 2 Separate race and Hispanic-origin questions with a multiracial category

Supplement	CPS	
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic
Hispanic	95.30	1.72
Non-Hispanic	4.70	98.28
Total	100.00	100.00

Panel 3 A combined race and Hispanic-origin question; no multiracial category

Supplement	CPS	
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic
Hispanic	79.21	0.48
Non-Hispanic	20.79	99.52
Total	100.00	100.00

Panel 4 A combined race and Hispanic-origin question with a multiracial category

Supplement	CPS	
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic
Hispanic	81.16	0.68
Non-Hispanic	18.74	99.32
Total	100.00	100.00

Table 6. Comparison of racial identification from the supplement and the initial CPS interview by panel, May 1995
(Percent distribution)

Panel 1 Separate race and Hispanic-origin questions; no multiracial category

Supplement	White	Black	CPS American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	Asian or Pacific Islander	Other
White	95.80	0.78	17.89	2.50	24.36
Black	0.19	95.02	0.64	0.22	3.71
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	0.36	0.78	74.50	0.27	1.53
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.25	0.01	0.70	90.91	5.19
All Other	3.39	3.41	6.27	6.10	65.21
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Note: Detail may not add to totals due to rounding.

Panel 2 Separate race and Hispanic-origin questions with a multiracial category

| | CPS | | | | |
	White	Black	American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	Asian or Pacific Islander	Other
Supplement					
White	95.64	1.23	22.10	1.09	25.85
Black	0.17	93.70	10.17	0.08	2.04
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	0.31	0.21	58.94	0.40	1.73
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.14	0.06	1.95	92.67	2.69
Multiracial	1.15	2.77	4.24	1.83	11.87
All Other	2.60	2.03	2.60	3.93	55.82
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Panel 3 A combined race and Hispanic-origin question; no multiracial category

Supplement	CPS				
	White	Black	American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	Asian or Pacific Islander	Other
White	91.28	0.63	14.24	1.63	3.91
Black	0.16	94.72	0.63	0.27	1.97
Hispanic	7.10	0.91	4.57	0.61	72.03
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	0.35	0.25	71.98	2.98	0.59
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.09	0.15	3.50	88.01	7.31
All Other	1.03	3.34	5.07	6.50	14.20
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Panel 4 A combined race and Hispanic-origin question with a multiracial category

Supplement	White	Black	American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	Asian or Pacific Islander	Other
White	90.15	0.57	14.44	1.44	3.06
Black	0.16	94.62	2.52	0.00	1.11
Hispanic	7.64	0.24	7.43	0.68	75.36
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	0.24	0.22	61.71	0.43	1.29
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.12	0.03	1.98	86.00	1.73
Multiracial	0.92	2.36	7.94	6.93	9.11
All Other	0.77	1.95	3.98	4.51	8.33
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table 7. Hispanic national origin from the supplement by panel, May 1995
(Percent distribution)

Hispanic Origin	Panel			
	1	2	3	4
	Separate race and Hispanic-origin questions; no multiracial category	Separate race and Hispanic-origin questions with a multiracial category	A combined race and Hispanic-origin question; no multiracial category	A combined race and Hispanic-origin question with a multiracial category
Mexican, Mexican-American, Chicano	59.45	60.49	67.06	65.21
Puerto Rican	9.66	9.33	10.04	10.46
Cuban	4.69	4.12	1.96	2.40
Central American, South American	13.00	10.61	11.93	11.78
Other Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish	11.82	13.89	8.73	9.58
Not really Hispanic, Latino, Spanish	0.85	1.29	0.20	0.42
Don't know / Not ascertained	0.54	0.28	0.07	0.15
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Note: Detail may not add to totals due to rounding.

Table 8. Racial identification in the supplement of Hispanics with different national origins from the initial CPS interview by panel, May 1995
(Percent distribution)

Panel 1 Separate race and Hispanic-origin questions; no multiracial category

	Mexican-American, Chicano, Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Central or South American	Other Spanish
White	64.67	61.21	93.30	42.91	59.82
Black	0.00	3.86	0.83	3.95	0.91
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	1.77	1.02	0.00	4.70	1.38
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.35	0.94	0.00	1.93	0.00
All Other	33.20	32.97	5.87	46.51	37.89
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Note: Detail may not add to totals due to rounding.

Panel 2 Separate race and Hispanic-origin questions with a multiracial category

	Mexican American, Chicano, Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Central or South American	Other Spanish
White	61.83	56.45	95.00	63.97	49.58
Black	0.00	3.60	0.00	3.85	5.03
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	1.30	0.00	0.00	2.05	0.50
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.15	0.41	0.00	1.20	2.40
Multiracial	2.98	7.00	1.17	3.03	7.15
All Other	33.75	32.54	3.83	25.91	35.34
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Panel 3 A combined race and Hispanic-origin question; no multiracial category

	Mexican American, Chicano, Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Central or South American	Other Spanish
White	10.85	21.62	57.95	19.20	18.90
Black	0.26	1.90	0.00	1.99	6.10
Hispanic	85.15	71.51	39.92	77.67	67.31
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	0.47	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.00
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
All Other	3.24	4.97	2.13	0.71	7.69
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Panel 4 A combined race and Hispanic-origin question with a multiracial category

	Mexican American, Chicano, Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Central or South American	Other Spanish
White	11.16	17.04	49.90	14.08	27.16
Black	0.06	1.35	2.23	4.09	0.59
Hispanic	84.04	77.30	46.40	75.42	65.67
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.41	0.11
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.56	0.00
Multiracial	1.96	2.50	1.46	1.05	4.61
All Other	2.71	1.80	0.00	4.38	1.86
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00